Public Document Pack

To: All Members of the Council

Town House,
ABERDEEN, 6 December 2016

COUNCIL

The Members of the **COUNCIL** are requested to meet in Council Chamber - Town House on **WEDNESDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2016 at 10.30 am.**

FRASER BELL
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

B U S I N E S S

1 Admission of Burgesses

2 Determination of Exempt Business

3 Requests for Deputations

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

4(a) Minute of Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 6 October 2016 - for approval (circulated separately)

4(b) Minute of Special Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 24 October 2016 - for approval (circulated separately)

4(c) Minute of Meeting of Urgent Business Committee of 1 November 2016 - for approval (Pages 5 - 8)

4(d) Minute of Meeting of Urgent Business Committee of 14 November 2016 - for approval (Pages 9 - 12)

BUSINESS STATEMENT, MOTIONS LIST AND OTHER MINUTES

5(a) Business Statement (Pages 13 - 16)

5(b) Minutes of Meetings of the Appointment Panel of 4 October and 3 and 8 November 2016 - for approval (Pages 17 - 22)

5(c) Minute of Meeting of Guildry and Mortification Funds Sub Committee of 1 September 2016 - for approval (Pages 23 - 28)

REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 36(3)

6(a) Finance, Policy and Resources Committee - 1 December 2016 - Memorandum of Understanding for Additional £254m Investment (Pages 29 - 42)

GENERAL BUSINESS

7(a) National Cremation Investigation - Update (Pages 43 - 64)

7(b) Governance Review - Interim Revisions to Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation (Pages 65 - 68)

7(c) Education and Children's Services Committee - External Appointments (Church of Scotland, Teacher and Parent Representatives) (Pages 69 - 72)

7(d) Bond Financing Strategy - Implications for the Council (Pages 73 - 102)

7(e) Leaving the European Union (Pages 103 - 128)

7(f) Aberdeen City Integration Joint Board (Pages 129 - 144)

7(g) Community Planning Update (Pages 145 - 162)

7(h) Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2015-16 (Pages 163 - 172)

7(i) Adoption of Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 (Pages 173 - 688)

7(j) Proposed Supplementary Guidance and Non-Statutory Planning Guidance to Accompany Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 (Pages 689 - 748)

The documents relating to Appendices 1 and 3 to the report have been made available to members separately - in electronic format via the shared drive, and in hard copy to each of the groups and in the Members' Library.

7(k) Berryden Corridor Improvements Scheme, Compulsory Purchase Order (Pages 749 - 758)

7(l) Shaping Aberdeen Housing LLP Business Plan Update (Pages 759 - 764)

7(m) Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Aberdeen and Mokpo, South Korea (Pages 765 - 770)

7(n) Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report (Pages 771 - 846)

MOTIONS

8(a) Councillor Flynn

"Council:-

1) Instructs officers to remove, with immediate effect, section 3.16 of the Student Accommodation Technical Advice Note (TAN), which states that "Purpose built student accommodation is not required to contribute to affordable housing".

2) Notes that Aberdeen City Council has the power to request an affordable housing component from student housing, and therefore instructs officers to seek to obtain an affordable housing component in relation to all future student accommodation applications."

8(b) Councillors Greig and Boulton

"That this Council:

1. Condemns unequivocally racism, xenophobia and hate crimes and believes these have no place in this, or any other, country.
2. Takes pride that Aberdeen is a vibrant, diverse, tolerant and multicultural city in which everyone can contribute to the local community and economy, irrespective of race, religion or social background.
3. Believes that the best way to promote peace and harmony in the world is to build cultural, academic and economic bridges.
4. Rejects any attempts to drive individuals, families and legitimate businesses away from Aberdeen on grounds of race, religion or country of origin and condemns any organisation that pursues such a policy.
5. Commits itself to:
   (i) continue to work with others to tackle and prevent racism, xenophobia and hate crimes.
   (ii) maintain Aberdeen as a welcoming and friendly international destination."

8(c) Councillor Flynn

"1) Council regrets that almost 3 years ago Newlands Crescent was chosen as the name for a new street in the Charleston development in Cove, mirroring the name of a long-established street in the Broomhill area.
2) Council notes that a system has now been put in place to prevent such duplication arising again in the future.
3) Further notes that there are, however, numerous streets across our city which share the same name.
4) Council acknowledges that a majority of residents of Newlands Crescent, Cove, are firmly against the name of their street being changed for a variety of reasons.
5) Council therefore instructs officers not to proceed with a name change in relation to Newlands Crescent, Cove."

8(d) Councillor Hutchison

"That the Council supports the Royal British Legion's 'Count Them In' campaign which aims to see questions about service in our armed forces included in the 2021 Census. Notes that there is currently very limited information about where our veterans now live and what support they may need. Believes that by gathering this information through the Census it will allow for an improved understanding of this unique community and ensure that the Council, alongside others, can ensure we are fully meeting the needs of our serving personnel, veterans and their families. Instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Royal British Legion and Poppy Scotland to offer our support to their campaign."

BUSINESS THE COUNCIL MAY WISH TO CONSIDER IN PRIVATE

9(a) Social Work Complaints Review Committee - 23 November 2016 (Pages 847 - 856)

Website Address: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk

To access the Information Bulletins for full Council please use the following link:
http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13013&path=13004

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URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 1 November 2016. Minute of Meeting of the URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Laing, Convener; and Councillors Allan (as substitute for Councillor Donnelly for items 1 and 2 only), Boulton (for items 3 and 4 only), Cameron, Cooney, Crockett, Dickson, Jackie Dunbar, Flynn, Graham (as substitute for Councillor Taylor for items 3 and 4 only), Grant (as substitute for Councillor Donnelly for items 3 and 4 only), Len Ironside CBE (as substitute for Councillor Boulton for items 1 and 2 only), Jean Morrison MBE (as substitute for Councillor Taylor for items 1 and 2 only), Townson, Young and Yuill.

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be found at:-
http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=334&MId=4509&Ver=4

Please note that if any changes are made to this minute at the point of approval, these will be outlined in the subsequent Council minute and this document will not be retrospectively altered.

The press and public were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following two items which dealt with confidential information in terms of Section 50A 3(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

DETERMINATION OF URGENT BUSINESS

1. The Convener explained that the meeting had been brought forward to consider a particularly urgent matter in connection with the Financing Strategy for the Capital Programmes, and proposed that the Committee thereafter adjourn until the original scheduled time to consider the report it had originally been called to consider.

In terms of Standing Order 28(6)(vi), and in accordance with Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Committee was informed that it had to determine (1) that the item on the Financing Strategy for the Capital Programmes was of an urgent nature; and (2) that the Committee required to consider the item and take a decision thereon.

The Committee resolved:-
to agree that the item was of an urgent nature due to the imminent deadline that had been set, and required to be considered this day.

FINANCING STRATEGY FOR THE CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

2. With reference to Article 26 of the minute of the meeting of Council of 17 August 2016, the Committee received an oral update by the Head of Finance regarding the issue of the Bond and the offers that been received.

URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE
1 November 2016

The Head of Finance advised that the Council decision had given him authorisation to issue up to £350million in nominal value of Bonds to assist in the funding of the Capital Programmes, however the offers that been received were in excess of £350million, therefore a higher level of authorisation was required if the Committee was willing to grant it.

The Committee resolved:-
to suspend Standing Order 22(1) and authorise the Head of Finance to issue up to £400million in nominal value of Bonds to assist in the funding of the Capital Programmes in accordance with the Heads of Terms set out in Appendix 1 of the report to Council on 17 August 2016.

At this juncture the Committee adjourned and agreed to reconvene at the original time it had been called for.

DETERMINATION OF URGENT BUSINESS

3. In terms of Standing Order 28(6)(vi), and in accordance with Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Committee was informed that it had to determine (1) that the item of business was of an urgent nature; and (2) that the Committee required to consider the item and take a decision thereon.

The Committee resolved:-
to agree that the item was of an urgent nature due to the imminent deadline that had been set, and required to be considered this day.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW - POLLING PLACE CHANGES - OCE/16/037

4. The Committee had before it a report by the Chief Executive which sought approval for changes to polling place allocations following the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland's Fifth Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements.

The report recommended:-
that the Committee agree the changed allocations outlined in the report.

The Council resolved:-
to agree the changed allocations outlined in the report, namely:-
(a) in relation to Ward 1 (Dyce/Bucksburn/Danestone) and Ward 2 (Bridge of Don), to merge the part of polling district DG0106 (Danestone North) with polling district DG0201 (Jesmond);
(b) in relation to Ward 6 (Tillydrone/Seaton/Old Aberdeen) and Ward 8 (George Street/Harbour), that polling district CN0606 (Pittodrie North) be renumbered CN0809; and

URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE
1 November 2016

(c) in relation to Ward 9 (Lower Deeside) and Ward 10 (Hazlehead/Queens Cross/Countesswells), to merge parts of polling districts SS0904 (Bieldside) and SS0906 (Cults East) with polling district SS1001 (Hazlehead).

- JENNIFER LAING, Convener.

URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE
1 November 2016

URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 14 November 2016. Minute of Meeting of the URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Laing, Convener; and Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Cooney, Crockett, Dickson, Donnelly, Jackie Dunbar, Flynn, Graham (as substitute for Councillor Young), Greig (as substitute for Councillor Yuill), Taylor and Townson.

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be found at:-
http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=334&MId=4522&Ver=4

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DETERMINATION OF URGENT BUSINESS

1. The Convener explained that she was not accepting item 3 (Festive Weekend Car Parking) onto the agenda as the proper process had not been followed in terms of Standing Orders.

In terms of Standing Order 28(6)(vi), and in accordance with Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Committee was informed that it had to determine (1) that the remaining items on the agenda were of an urgent nature; and (2) that the Committee required to consider the items and take decisions thereon.

The Committee resolved:-
to agree that items 2 (City Region Deal) and 4 (Memorandum of Understanding) were of an urgent nature due to the imminent deadlines involved, and required to be considered this day.

It was agreed that the following item be brought forward to allow the confidential report on the City Region Deal to be considered as the last item of business.

FUEL CELLS AND HYDROGEN JOINT UNDERSTANDING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - CHI/16/294

2. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure which sought approval for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be signed between Aberdeen City Council (ACC) and the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU).

The report recommended:-
that the Committee grant approval to sign the MOU between ACC and FCH JU.

URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE
14 November 2016

The Committee resolved:-
(i) to approve the recommendation; and
(ii) to delegate authority to the External Funding and Policy Executive Officer to sign the MOU between ACC and FCH JU.

The press and public were excluded from the meeting for consideration of the following item which contained confidential information in terms of Section 50A 3(a) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

ABERDEEN CITY REGION DEAL FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

3. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure which presented the Financial Agreement of the Aberdeen City Region Deal and sought agreement for the delegation of authority for the Agreement to be signed.

The Council resolved:-
to approve the recommendations contained within the report subject to minor alterations to recommendations (iv) and (v).
- JENNIFER LAING, Convener.

URGENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE
14 November 2016

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COUNCIL

BUSINESS STATEMENT

14 DECEMBER 2016

Please note that this statement contains a note of every report which has been instructed for submission to Council. All other actions which have been instructed by the Council are not included, as they are deemed to be operational matters after the point of decision.

Reports which are overdue are shaded

No.	Minute Reference	Council/Committee Decision	Update	Lead Officer(s)	Report Due
1.	Council 17.08.16 Article 24	**Berryden Corridor Improvements** The Council adopted option 5 as the preferred option for the Caroline Place junction and instructed officers to progress the detailed design on this basis to enable the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to come to the October meeting of the Council.	A report is on the agenda.	Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure	06.10.16
2.	Council 02.03.16 Article 13	**Integration Joint Board (IJB) for Health and Social Care** The Council instructed the Chief Executive to provide an update report to members on matters relating to the IJB that she considered to be of interest to them at the Council meetings of 17 August and 14 December 2016 and quarterly thereafter, such reports including financial monitoring information in relation to the IJB.	A report is on the agenda.	Chief Executive	14.12.16

No.	Minute Reference	Council/Committee Decision	Update	Lead Officer(s)	Report Due
3.	Council 31.10.13 Article 17	**Community Planning Aberdeen - Development Plan** The Council agreed to receive six monthly updates on progress with the implementation of the Development Plan.	The Council received the last six month progress report on 29 June 2016. A report is on the agenda.	Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure	14.12.16
4.	Finance and Resources 12.11.09 Article 22	**Community Planning Partnership - Fairer Aberdeen Fund** The Finance and Resources Committee instructed the Director of Corporate Governance to provide twice yearly updates in February and October to the Aberdeen City Alliance (now Community Planning Aberdeen) and the Corporate Policy and Performance Committee on the outcomes achieved through the investment of the Fairer Scotland Fund (now Fairer Aberdeen Fund).	The Council received the last six month progress report on 29 June 2016. A report is on the agenda.	Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure	14.12.16
5.	Council 17.08.16 Article 20	**Affordable Housing Delivery** The Council instructed the Chief Executive to develop specific actions to accelerate the delivery of housing in the city and report any actions which need agreement by Council to its meeting in December 2016.	A report is on the agenda.	Chief Executive Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure	14.12.16

No.	Minute Reference	Council/Committee Decision	Update	Lead Officer(s)	Report Due
6.	Council 06.10.16 Article 12	**Legacy Report** The Council instructed the Chief Executive to bring forward to the Council's budget meeting in 2017 a legacy report on the work of the Council for the period May 2012 until the present, providing a 12 page A4 magazine for public information; this magazine to be included in the Council tax bills for 2017/18, the content of the magazine complying with statutory requirements.		Chief Executive	22.02.17
7.	Council 17.08.16 Article 16	**Corporate Parenting** The Council considered the annual report on progress with the implementation of the corporate parenting responsibility and instructed officers to report back on the further implementation of the corporate parenting responsibility to Council in 2017.		Director of Education and Children's Services	23.08.17
8.	Council 06.10.16 Article 9	**UNISON Ethical Care Charter** The Council (1) agreed to sign up to UNISON's Ethical Care Charter; (2) agreed that the Leader of the Council sign the Charter on behalf of the Aberdeen City Council; (3) noted that the Integration Joint Board had remitted to the Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board the task of developing an action plan and timescales for implementing the Charter; and (4) agreed that a report be brought back to Full Council on progress by August 2017.		Interim Director of Corporate Governance Chief Officer, Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership	23.08.17

No.	Minute Reference	Council/Committee Decision	Update	Lead Officer(s)	Report Due
9.	Council 24.06.15 Article 13	**Local Authority Community Covenant** The Council agreed to receive a report at a future meeting once the Scottish Government had reviewed the Scottish Veterans Commissioner's report *Transition in Scotland* and decided how it wishes to take its recommendations forward.		Chief Executive	Upon review by the Scottish Government
10.	Council 06.03.13 Article 16	**Welfare Reform** The Council, amongst other things, approved the steps taken by officers to develop a policy and practice response and agreed to receive further reports in due course as measures were implemented.	A progress report was noted by the Council on 21 August 2013. Further reports were contained within the Information Bulletin for the Council meetings on 14 May 2014 and 16 December 2015. The final outcome of discussions between the Scottish and UK Governments regarding the devolution of decisions around welfare reform is awaited. Once this is clear an update will be provided in the Information Bulletin.	Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure	As and when required

APPOINTMENT PANEL

ABERDEEN, 4 October 2016. Minute of Meeting of the APPOINTMENT PANEL. Present:- Councillor Young, Convener; and Councillors Boulton, Corall, Dickson, Malik, Milne, Nicoll and Yuill (substituting for Councillor Jennifer Stewart).

Also in attendance:- Marc Cole, Interim Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure; Jeff Capstick and Mike Lawson, Human Resources and Customer Service; Ken Dalgleish and Catriona Mackie, Aspen People; and Martyn Orchard, Legal and Democratic Services.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Panel had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 1 September 2016.

The Panel resolved:-
to approve the minute.

JOB PROFILE

2. The Panel had before it the job profile for the post of Head of City Planning.

The Panel resolved:-
to note the job profile.

APPLICATIONS FOR POST OF HEAD OF CITY PLANNING

3. The Panel had before it (1) a list of applicants; (2) copies of each application form; and (3) an initial assessment of the candidates against the job criteria.

The Panel resolved:-
(i) to agree that none of the candidates be shortlisted for interview; and
(ii) to request that the Chief Executive report to the Council meeting on 6 October 2016 in terms of the options available.

- WILLIAM YOUNG, Convener.

APPOINTMENT PANEL
4 October 2016

APPOINTMENT PANEL

ABERDEEN, 3 NOVEMBER 2016. - Minute of Meeting of the APPOINTMENT PANEL. Present:- Councillor Young, Convener; and Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Dickson, Lesley Dunbar, Flynn, Malik and Taylor.

Officers in Attendance:- Angela Scott, Chief Executive; Mike Lawson and Lindsay MacInnes (part of the meeting), Human Resources and Customer Service; and Karen Rennie (part of the meeting), Legal and Democratic Services.

Also in Attendance:- Ken Dalgleish, Aspen People.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Panel resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the press and public from the meeting so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in paragraph 1 of Schedule 7(A) to the Act.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Panel had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 4 October 2016.

The Panel resolved:-
to approve the minute.

POST OF DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE)

2. With reference to the minute of its meeting of 4 October 2016, the Appointment Panel met to interview candidates for the post of Depute Chief Executive (Director of Corporate Governance).

The Panel interviewed the candidates that had been short-leeted for the post, following which the outcomes of the full range of assessment information relevant to each applicant were considered.

The Panel resolved:-
(i) to make no appointment; and
(ii) to note that the Chief Executive would assess the various options relating to the current structure and report to the relevant committee.

- WILLIAM YOUNG, Convener.

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APPOINTMENT PANEL

ABERDEEN, 8 November 2016. - Minute of Meeting of the APPOINTMENT PANEL. Present:- Councillor Young, Convener; and Councillors Boulton, Cooney, Dickson, Delaney, Jackie Dunbar, Graham, Grant and Hutchison.

Also in attendance:- Jeff Capstick, Human Resources and Customer Service, Marc Cole, Interim Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure, Catriona Mackie, Aspen Pople, Marie Smith, Human Resources and Customer Service (part of meeting); and Emma Parr, Legal and Democratic Services (part of meeting)

EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Panel resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the press and public from the meeting so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in paragraph 1 of Schedule 7(A) to the Act.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Panel had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 4 October 2016.

The Panel resolved:-
to approve the minute as a correct record.

JOB PROFILE

2. The Panel had before it the job profile for the post of Head of Communities and Housing.

The Panel resolved:-
to note the job profile.

POST OF HEAD OF COMMUNITIES AND HOUSING

3. With reference to the minute of its meeting of 4 October 2016, the Appointment Panel met to interview candidates for the post of Head of Communities and Housing.

Prior to the interviews, the Panel were advised that three candidates had withdrawn. The Panel interviewed the candidates that had been short-leeted for the post, following which the outcomes of the full range of assessment information relevant to each applicant were considered.

The Panel resolved:-

(i) to offer the post of Head of Communties and Housing to Derek McGowan subject to satisfactory checks being undertaken, including references; and

(ii) in the event that Derek McGowan did not accept the post that it be offered to the second preferred candidate; and

(iii) to note that the secondment arrangement would have to be looked at by Human Resources should the post be offered to the second preferred candidate.

- COUNCILLOR YOUNG, Convener.

GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS SUB COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 1 September 2016. Minute of Meeting of the GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS SUB COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Finlayson, Master of Mortifications, Chairperson; and Councillor George Adam, the Lord Provost; and Mr Colin G Taylor, Lord Dean of Guild.

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be found at:- http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=419&MId=4189&Ver=4

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MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Sub Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 21 April 2016.

The Sub Committee resolved:
to approve the minute.

LORD DEAN OF GUILD REPORT

2. The Sub Committee had before it a paper by the Lord Dean which updated the Sub Committee on various ongoing projects.

The Lord Dean advised that item 4 – Lands of Torry should be removed as the Burgesses had no interests in the Lands of Torry.

The Sub Committee resolved:
to note the paper.

At this juncture the Chairperson intimated that the next two items of business be brought forward and that the Review of Allowances be considered immediately thereafter.

MATTER OF URGENCY

The Chairperson intimated that he had directed in terms of Section 50(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the following item of business be considered as a matter of urgency to enable a decision to be taken without delay.

GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS SUB COMMITTEE
1 September 2016

GOVERNANCE REVIEW - GUILDRY TRUST DEED - CG/16/116

3. The Sub Committee had before it a report by the Interim Director of Corporate Governance which provided an update on progress in the preparation of a revised constitution for the Guildry and recommended that an application be made to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regular (OSCR) seeking the adoption of the revised constitution which was appended to the report.

The Sub Committee was advised that the intention was to broaden the scope of the constitution to free up funding allowed by the Trust which would need to be approved by OSCR.

With reference to Appendix B to the report, the Sub Committee was advised that under current regulations spending was limited (a) to Trust purposes only; and (b) to interest earned on capital only which limited the financial assistance available. The ability to spend both capital and interest was being pursued and the Sub Committee was advised that such spending would continue to need approval by Council as a safeguard and that the requirement to reflect the Trust's purpose would be maintained.

The report recommended:
(a) that an application to reorganise the Guildry by the adoption of a new constitution be submitted to OSCR; and
(b) that officers be instructed to continue to work with OSCR on the reorganisation of the charitable trusts.

The Sub Committee resolved:
(i) to approve the recommendations contained within the report; and
(ii) to thank officers for their work to date.

MATTER OF URGENCY

The Chairperson intimated that he had directed in terms of Section 50(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the following item of business be considered as a matter of urgency to enable a decision to be taken without delay.

TRUST FUNDS - CG/16/115

4. The Sub Committee had before it a report by the Interim Director of Corporate Governance which provided a breakdown of funds held by trusts managed by Aberdeen City Council and guidelines on the use of such funds.

GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS SUB COMMITTEE
1 September 2016

Ms Catriona Gilmour, Accountant, advised that the Bridge of Don and Bridge of Dee trusts had been updated for the 'Advancement of Heritage' to allow funds to be used in the maintenance of the historic bridges and surrounding areas under current OSCR regulations. OSCR's approval was being sought to amalgamate the two trusts.

Reference was made to the wider governance review being undertaken which included a review of all trusts supported by the Council. Some fifty trust funds had been reviewed and where applicable, transferred or amalgamated into other trusts.

The report recommended:
that the Sub Committee note the content of the report.

The Sub Committee resolved:
(i) to approve the recommendation; and
(ii) to thank officers for their work to date.

REVIEW OF ALLOWANCES

5. The Sub Committee had before it a paper by the Head of Finance which (a) provided information concerning (1) the amount of allowances paid from the Guildry fund to Burgesses of Guild, widows and widowers of Burgesses and children of Burgesses from 1995 to 2015; and (2) the number of people receiving allowances for the same period; and (b) proposed that the allowances be increased by either 3% or 5% rounded up to the nearest £10, backdated for 2016/17.

The Sub Committee resolved:
to recommend to Council that the following increases (5%) in annual allowances be approved backdated from 1 May 2016:-

Guildry Fund Allowance	Present Allowance	Proposed Allowance
Burgesses	£1,950	£2,050
Widows / Widowers of Burgesses	£1,950	£2,050
Children of Burgesses	£1,815	£1,905

AOCB

6. The Sub Committee discussed the possibility of a permanent display for the Burgesses as part of the Mither Kirk project.

The Sub Committee was advised that Guildry funds would not be available to fund a display board due to the constitution, however Mr Alan Thomson, Solicitor, advised that

he would check the OSCR website to see whether any other funding option could be made available under the current constitution.

The Chairperson advised that he would arrange a meeting between Councillor Boulton and the Lord Dean to follow up on the matter.

The Sub Committee resolved:
to note the information provided.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7. The Sub Committee noted that the next scheduled meeting would be held on 1 March 2017.
- ANDREW FINLAYSON, Master of Mortifications, Chairperson.

GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS SUB COMMITTEE
1 September 2016

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FINANCE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

1 DECEMBER 2016

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR ADDITIONAL £254M INVESTMENT – CHI/16/275

1. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure which presented the Memorandum of Understanding for the £254m additional investment from the Scottish Government, which was announced in addition to the joint UK Government and Scottish Government funding of the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

The report recommended:-
that the Committee –

(a) approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Aberdeen City Region Deal Additional Investment (Appendix 1), subject to:-
    (i) approval of the MOU by Aberdeenshire Council; and
    (ii) approval of the MOU by the Scottish Government;

(b) delegate authority to the Chief Executive following consultation with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Head of Finance to agree non-material amendments as required due to any changes requested by other parties to the agreement or any amendments which would improve or further safeguard the Council's position, all prior to its signature by a proper officer.

The Convener moved, seconded by Councillor Malik:-
that the Committee:-

(1) note the content of the report;
(2) note that Keith Brown MSP, Cabinet Secretary for the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work indicated at the announcement of the City Deal in January 2016 that the additional funding was to improve journey times and increase capacity on key rail links between Aberdeen and the Central Belt, upgrading the rail line in the Montrose Basin;
(3) instruct the Chief Executive to write to the First Minister seeking clarification around the proposed £200m rail link fund seeking confirmation if it is still the Scottish Government's intention to upgrade the rail line in the Montrose Basin and if not ask the First Minister to confirm if any of the £200m will be spent within Aberdeen and/or Aberdeenshire; and
(4) agree that a further report be brought to the next Finance, Policy and Resources Committee along with any amended Memorandum of Understanding following receipt of clarification from the First Minister.

Councillor Yuill, seconded by Councillor Dickson moved as an amendment:-
that the Committee :-

(1) approve the recommendations contained within the report;

(2) note that Keith Brown MSP, Cabinet Secretary for the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work indicated at the announcement of the City Deal in January 2016 that the additional funding was to improve journey times and increase capacity on key rail links between Aberdeen and the Central Belt, upgrading the rail line in the Montrose Basin;

(3) instruct the Chief Executive to write to the First Minister seeking clarification around the proposed £200m rail link fund seeking confirmation if it is still the Scottish Government's intention to upgrade the rail line in the Montrose Basin and if not ask the First Minister to confirm if any of the £200m will be spent within Aberdeen and/or Aberdeenshire; and

(4) agree that a further report be brought to the next Finance, Policy and Resources Committee on the response received from the Scottish Government.

On a division, there voted:- for the motion (9) – The Convener and Councillors Allan, Crockett, Grant, Ironside, Laing, Malik, Milne and Taylor; for the amendment (7) Cameron, Dickson, Jackie Dunbar, Flynn, Nicoll, Townson and Yuill.

The Committee resolved:
to adopt the motion.

In terms of Standing Order 36(3), Councillor Flynn intimated he would like this matter to be referred to full Council in order for a final decision to be taken. Councillor Flynn was supported by Councillors Cameron, Dickson, Jackie Dunbar, Nicoll, Townson and Yuill.

COMMITTEE	Finance, Policy and Resources
DATE	1 December 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Memorandum of Understanding for Additional £254m Investment
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/16/275
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present the Memorandum of Understanding for the £254 million additional investment from the Scottish Government, which was announced in addition to the joint UK Government and Scottish Government funding of the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee:

i. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Aberdeen City Region Deal Additional Investment (Appendix 1), subject to:

   a. approval of the MOU by Aberdeenshire Council;
   b. approval of the MOU by the Scottish Government;

ii. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive following consultation with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Head of Finance to agree non-material amendments as required due to any changes requested by other parties to the agreement or any amendments which would improve or further safeguard the Council's position, all prior to its signature by a proper officer;

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Alongside the Heads of Terms agreement signed by Scottish Government, UK Government, Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire Council and Opportunity North East (ONE) in January 2016, the Scottish

Government made a commitment to invest a further £254 million in the North East over the same 10 year period as the City Region Deal. The Scottish Government have proposed a Memorandum of Understanding with Aberdeenshire Council and Aberdeen City Council which is appended in Appendix 1.

The investment comprises:

- An initial £200 million additional funding to help improve journey times and increase capacity on key rail links between Aberdeen and the Central Belt.

- £24 million of funding for the trunk roads' programme to support improvements to the key A9/A937 south junction at Laurencekirk.

- £10 million for extension of digital infrastructure in the Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire area in addition to the commitment through the City Region Deal.

- £20 million in infrastructure funding to unlock housing sites that are of strategic importance to the local authorities.

- 5 year certainty on £130 million of affordable housing grant.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

This funding from the Scottish Government is additional to the £250 million UK Government and Scottish Government support to the City Region Deal. The City Region Deal is an agreement between Scottish Government, UK Government, Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire Councils and ONE. Its management and governance structure includes a joint committee to oversee delivery of the City Region Deal comprising three representatives each from the administrations of Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and the Board of ONE.

The Joint Committee will have sight of progress with the additional Scottish Government package of investment. This proposed memorandum of understanding provides a means to manage communications between those undertaking the City Region Deal measures and those undertaking the additional investment. The objective is to ensure the City Region Deal Joint Committee has an overview of the prioritisation, scope of the work and aggregate investment package in order to identify any local challenges and/or deliver additional local opportunities.

The Scottish Government's Region and City Partnerships Team holds the lead Scottish Government responsibility for the City Region Deal. Updates will be provided at least twice a year.

Currently the City Region Deal Joint Committee has a remit to cover the City Region Deal. The additional investment by the Scottish Government is separate to the powers and remit of the Joint Board however, the information provided in relation to the work of the Scottish Government will aid the Joint Committee to exercise their powers to best utilise the aggregate investment package in order to identify any local challenges and/or deliver additional local opportunities.

£200 million Rail Link Funding
NESTRANS are in dialogue with Transport Scotland over the options to deliver the journey time savings on the Aberdeen to Central Belt route.

NESTRANS provided the following update from their meeting on 7th November with Transport Scotland and Network Rail:

Network Rail advised that they are now developing options for providing benefits following their timetabling study. It is anticipated that the options will be generated by Spring 2017 following which decision could be made on the works to be included in CP6 (2019-2024).

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –
The existing City Region Deal governance will be extended to cover the programme of work covered under the Memorandum of Understanding, ensuring that all the stakeholders and partners continue to work closely with the private sector and other stakeholders to support delivery of the business cases and implementation plans of projects to secure the long-term economic wellbeing and prosperity of the Aberdeen City Region.

Improving Staff Experience –
This agreement will contribute to the existing collaboration and leadership, across the Council's services, and collaborating across the two government and Councils, other public and private sectors, to support delivery of the commitments in the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

Improving our use of Resources –
This agreement will help ensure the most effective and efficient use of resources that align to the overall economic priorities of the Council and the wider region, and provides the opportunity for other public and private sector investment and a regional approach to delivery.

Corporate -
The Council's role on the Joint Committee will ensure it provides a key leadership role in monitoring the programme of work under the Memorandum of Understanding and maximises opportunities to contribute to the long term economic growth of the City and the Region.

Public –
The programme of work covered under the Memorandum of Understanding will have an impact on Aberdeen's citizens as it will contribute to key areas of investment and development over the next 10 years.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The additional investment funding will be administered directly by the Scottish Government and will not expose the Council to financial risk.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT FOR THE ABERDEEN CITY REGION

between

Aberdeen City Council

and

Aberdeenshire Council

and

Scottish Government

1. Background

Alongside the Heads of Terms agreement signed by Scottish Government, UK Government, Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire Councils and Opportunity North East (ONE) in January 2016, Scottish Government made a commitment to invest a further £254million in the North East over the same 10 year period as the City Region Deal. The investment comprises:

- An initial £200 million additional funding to help improve journey times and increase capacity on key rail links between Aberdeen and the Central Belt.
- £24 million of funding for the trunk roads' programme to support improvements to the key A9/A937 south junction at Laurencekirk.
- £10 million for extension of digital infrastructure in the Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire area above and beyond the commitment through the City Region Deal.
- £20 million in infrastructure funding to unlock housing sites that are of strategic importance to the local authorities.
- 5 year certainty on £130 million of affordable housing grant.

This paper sets out how these additional commitments will be delivered and the mechanisms to ensure that the Aberdeen City Region Joint Committee is kept informed so as to be able to maximise synergies with the City Region Deal investments.

2. Protocol Arrangements/considerations

This funding from the Scottish Government is additional to the £250 million UK Government and Scottish Government support to the City Region Deal. The City Region Deal is an agreement between Scottish Government, UK Government, Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire Councils and ONE. Its management and governance structure includes a joint committee to oversee delivery of the City Region Deal comprising three representatives each from the administrations of Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and the Board of ONE.

The Joint Committee seeks sight of progress with the additional Scottish Government package of investment, and in particular the investment in housing, digital connectivity and the Laurencekirk Junction, so that it better identify opportunities to maximise the impact of the City Region Deal and vice versa. This memorandum of understanding provides a means to manage communications between those undertaking the City Region Deal measures and those undertaking the additional investment. The objective is to ensure the City Region Deal Joint Committee has an overview of the prioritisation, scope of the work and aggregate investment package in order to identify any local challenges and/or deliver additional local opportunities.

The Scottish Government's Region and City Partnerships Team holds the lead Scottish Government responsibility for the City Region Deal and is the conduit for the information exchange. Alongside a series of bilateral engagements on individual aspects of the additional investment package, the Region and City Partnerships Team commit to providing updates to the Aberdeen City Region Deal Joint Committee on progress with delivering the additional investment. Updates will be provided at least twice a year, and more frequently if warranted. In addition, the Region and City Partnerships Team provides a conduit back into the wider Scottish Government for any opportunities and/or issues of concern that the joint committee have been unable to resolve by other means.

The Scottish Government will provide regular updates on the additional investment to the Head of Economic Development at Aberdeen City Council and the Head of Economic Development & Protective Services at Aberdeenshire Council ("the Heads of Service").

The Heads of Service will report to the Joint Committee with the updates provided by the Scottish Government in terms of the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

The Heads of Service will act as the point of contact between the Scottish Government's Region and City Partnerships Team and the Joint Committee.

In addition, details of each individual element of the additional investment package and the relevant relationships are set out in the attached annexes.

Annex 1 – Housing
Annex 2 – Transport
Annex 3 – Digital

Signed for Aberdeen City Council
Name
Position
Date

Signed for Aberdeenshire Council
Name
Position
Date

Signed for Scottish Government
Name
Position
Date

Housing

The housing commitment that forms part of the package of additional Scottish Government investment alongside the City Region Deal equates to £130m over the 5 year period 2016/17 – 2020/21. The key advantages associated with this arrangement will be:

- Facilitation of a joint approach towards planning for meeting housing needs across the City Region
- Certainty of resource availability over the 5 year period will allow for more definite forward planning within and across the two LA areas and encourage innovation and efficiencies in utilisation of the subsidy available
- Budgetary flexibility within each financial year across the two LA areas will facilitate a joint approach to delivery of affordable housing and ensure, as much as possible, that resources are invested and retained across the area.
- Additional resources through the Infrastructure Fund to facilitate a joint approach to support acceleration of new development sites within the wider Aberdeen Housing Market Area. Acceleration of the programme to deliver affordable housing and the associated links to economic growth and competiveness in the City Region area.

Protocol Arrangements/considerations

Protocol for the housing element commits partners to the following:

- Collaboration between both Local Authority housing and planning departments around future allocation of land for housing (as set out in the Strategic Development Plan) and the potential to streamline the planning approval process.
- Early identification of infrastructure projects which will facilitate future housing delivery within the 5 year period of the agreement
- Collaboration between both Local Authorities on SHIP (Strategic Housing Investment Plan) development – this is particularly important to identify potential pinch points in forward programmes and in planning for slippage mitigation
- Resource Planning Assumptions will be allocated on an annual basis to each individual Local Authority - these combined will make up the City Region housing allocation.
- Strategic Local programmes will be issued to each Local Authority based upon Strategic Housing Investment Plan and programme discussions
- Agreement of process and timeline to discuss budgets jointly with Scottish Government and Local Authorities on a regular basis within each financial year. This will focus on identifying issues and trigger

points for spend flexibility between the Local Authorities (4 x per year – April, June, September, December)

- Any potential spend slippage to be notified to SG immediately
- Where possible, slippage in spend within one LA area will be re-allocated to the other LA where it can assure spend will be achieved within the same financial year
- Should slippage within one financial year be re-allocated to the partner City Region LA, then agreement should be reached between the two LAs, and with Scottish Government, on the timeline for any agreed repayment to the originating LA.

Contact Points

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Annex 2

Transport

The transport commitment that forms part of the package of additional Scottish Government investment alongside the City Region Deal is:

- An initial £200 million additional funding to help improve journey times and increase capacity on key rail links between Aberdeen and the Central Belt; and
- £24 million of funding for the trunk roads programme to support improvements to the key A9/A937 south junction at Laurencekirk.

There is value in ensuring that the Aberdeen City Region Joint Committee is kept informed of progress with these projects so that it can maximise synergies with the City Region Deal investments.

Protocol Arrangements/considerations

This annex proposes a protocol for the transport investments that would be agreed by all of the partners involved. The transport protocol:

- Commits Transport Scotland to providing progress updates on these projects through the City Region Deal Transport Working Group as and when the project specific Partnership Group or Key Stakeholders are updated. Given the nature of the projects there is no fixed reporting timescales or format but these will be based around relevant milestones, decision points and/or opportunities for synergies.
- Commits the Aberdeen City Region Joint Committee to early and on-going engagement with Transport Scotland where plans or projects might have a bearing on the strategic transport network and to the provision of updates on emerging projects based around relevant milestones, decision points and/or opportunities for synergies.

Contact Points

The key contacts within Transport Scotland for liaison on Aberdeen City Region Deal and related projects are:

Alison Irvine, Head of Strategic Transport Planning, Transport Scotland
alison.irvine@transport.scot.gov
0141 222 7590

David Torrance, Major Transport Infrastructure Projects, Transport Scotland
david.torrance@transport.scot.gov
0141 222 7587

Annex 3

Digital

The digital commitment that forms part of the package of additional Scottish Government investment alongside the City Region Deal is:

- £10 million for extension of digital infrastructure in the Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire area above and beyond the commitment through the City Deal.

Within the Heads of Terms Agreement for City Region Deal itself, the digital commitment states:

18. Improving the region's digital infrastructure is key to the long term future of the local economy. It will drive innovation through the better use of our physical and digital assets to enhance public and private service delivery, to tackle inequality and to improve social outcomes.

19. COMMITMENT - local partners will perform a gap analysis, and then explore with both Governments the digital needs for the region. This is with view to creating a digital infrastructure fund which will address the digital challenges of both the city and shire and underpin enhanced service delivery across private and public sectors.

Scottish Government is prepared to use the additional £10m investment to complement the City Region Deal project once the findings from the gap analysis are known and specific digital infrastructure propositions have been developed and agreed.

The Aberdeen City Region Joint Committee will be kept informed of progress with the overall digital project so that it can maximise synergies with the rest of the City Region Deal investments.

Protocol Arrangements/considerations

This annex proposes a protocol for the digital investment that would be agreed by all of the partners involved. The digital protocol:

- Recognises that the additional investment is designed to augment the City Region Deal investment
- Notes that any investments in digital infrastructure as part of the City Region Deal should complement and add value to existing infrastructure and initiatives in a way that reduces the potential for duplication. To that end, partners have agreed that the Scottish Government will work closely with local partners to help shape and design the city deal digital project(s), involving key partner organisations, including Scottish Futures Trust.
- Commits the Scottish Government to sharing the latest information on SG-funded infrastructure deployment and planning and playing a proactive role to help shape City Deal digital projects.
- Commits the Aberdeen City Region Deal partners to initiate and oversee appropriate governance arrangements that ensure all parties

are sighted on key scoping work, such as infrastructure gap analysis, and involved in the design of specific project propositions.

Contact Points

Robbie McGhee, Acting Head of Broadband Policy, SG:
0141 278 8834 / 07805 848 960

Neil Rutherford, Senior Associate Director, Scottish Futures Trust:
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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14th December 2016
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Executive
TITLE OF REPORT	National Cremation Investigation – Update
REPORT NUMBER	OCE/16/041
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

At its meeting on 17th August 2016 the Council resolved that the Chief Executive would continue to monitor the completion of the remaining actions to be undertaken by the Council following the National Cremation Investigation led by Dame Elish Angiolini and the Infant Cremation Commission led by Lord Bonomy, as well as the actions arising from the recent inspection undertaken by the Inspector of Crematoria Scotland and to provide further reports to the Council as necessary.

The Council also instructed the Chief Executive to constitute formally the Inter-Agency Bereavement Services Working Group with formal terms of reference and to assume the chairmanship of the group.

This report provides an update of the above actions to date.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council resolves:

i) To note the update of actions contained within the report;

ii) To note that the Chief Executive has formally constituted the Bereavement Services Inter-Agency Working Group with formal terms of reference and assumed the chairmanship of the group;

iii) To note that a number of claims have been made against the Council and that these claims are in the hands of the Council's insurers.

iv) To note that, in light of the legal framework being due to change considerably following the work of the Infant Cremation Commission, briefing sessions have been delivered to inform elected members of the statutory duties which will be placed on the Council once the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016 (and any regulations made thereunder) comes into force;

v) To instruct the Chief Executive to continue to monitor the completion of the remaining actions to be undertaken by the Council as detailed within this report and that future update reports will be submitted to the Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee;

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from the recommendations. However, claims made against the Council may carry financial implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications arising directly from the recommendations.

5. BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting on 29th June 2016, I advised members that I had received the final report from the National Cremation Investigation on 27th June 2016. I advised members that I had formally instructed the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Head of Human Resources to review the report fully and to advise me what further action I required to take. I reported the findings of my review to Council on 17 August 2016 and was instructed to continue to monitor the completion of the remaining actions arising.

MAIN ISSUES

The following provides an update of actions taken:

5.1 National Cremation Investigation

Within Appendix 1 and 2 I have provided an update on the current situation relating to the Council's implementation of the outstanding work associated with the Investigation's conclusions pertaining to Aberdeen.

5.2 Infant Cremation Commission Report

The ICC report has 64 recommendations, all of which the Scottish Government has accepted. Of these, 33 are not for the Council specifically to action. To date 26 recommendations have been implemented and 7 recommendations are still to be completed. Of these, 6 are awaiting changes to legislation and 1 is currently being progressed by the City Council and relates to a memorial. Appendix 3 provides a status update on all actions arising from the Commission's Report.

5.3 Inspector of Crematoria Scotland

Following the publication of the report of the National Cremation Inspection, I requested the Inspector of Crematoria to undertake a full independent inspection of Aberdeen Crematorium. A full copy of the inspection report and management responses were included in my report to Council on 17 August.

Within the inspection report the Inspector of Crematoria stated that the Crematorium's Operational Procedure document "is a credit to the authors and is one of the most comprehensive and useful guidance and training aids seen by the Inspector at any of the other 28 crematoria in Scotland". The Scottish Government team working on the new Burial and Cremation Regulations have requested a copy of this document to help develop the regulations. A copy of our Operational Procedures has been provided.
With regard to the inspection report, there were 8 recommendations/suggestions made of which 6 are complete with 2 suggestions being actively considered.

Of the two suggestions, the first involves considering the co-location of Bereavement Services at Aberdeen Crematorium. This is currently being reviewed and will be reported to the Communities, Housing and Infrastructure committee.

The second involves considering arranging specific chapel services for shared pregnancy loss cremations. NHS Grampian currently book quarterly (ie four) chapel services per year for parents where the hospital have made funeral arrangements. NHS Grampian have been informed that Aberdeen Crematorium can facilitate additional chapel services. NHS Grampian are reviewing and discussing this matter with other NHS Trusts. The decision on this matter is ultimately one for NHS Grampian.

The details of the 8 recommendations/suggestions are included in Appendix 4.

5.4 Bereavement Services Inter-Agency Working Group

I made a commitment to Council on 17 August 2016 to set up a new Bereavement Services Inter-Agency Working Group. My purpose in setting up the group is two-fold. Firstly, to ensure that all the practices described in Dame Elish's chapter on Aberdeen are never repeated and, secondly, to ensure that our practice locally becomes known for its excellence in terms of the quality of care and service we provide.

The Bereavement Services Inter-Agency Working Group was formally constituted on 21 November 2016 with formal terms of reference agreed at the first meeting. Membership of the group include representatives from Aberdeen City Council Bereavement Services, NHS Grampian, hospital chaplain, local funeral directors, registrar services and local voluntary sector bereavement support organisations.

This working group will continue to meet regularly as per the terms of reference with the aim to improve communication, joint training and the development of seamless local processes between health boards, funeral directors and bereavement service providers. The draft Terms of Reference is included in Appendix 5.

5.5 Claims

The Council has received a number of claims in connection with historical practices at Aberdeen Crematorium. These claims are confidential and are in the hands of the Council's insurers.

At the time of writing this report, a public notice was scheduled to be issued to advise of a date when any further claims required to be lodged with the Council.

5.6 Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

The Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016 ("the Act") was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 22 March 2016 and received Royal Assent on 28 April 2016. The key provisions of the Act are not yet in force. It is anticipated that they will come into force in around May or June 2017.

The Act will repeal and replace the current legislation relating to burial and cremation in Scotland (principally the Burial Grounds (Scotland) Act 1855, the Cremation Act 1902 and the Cremation Act 1952).

Although the Act has been passed by the Scottish Parliament, there are still various pieces of secondary legislation which need to be laid before Parliament before individual sections of the Act can be brought into force. Much of the detailed policy and procedural elements will be

in future regulation rather than the Act itself. The Act should be viewed as establishing a basis for future detailed regulation, statutory guidance and Codes of Practice.

In light of the legal framework being due to change considerably, briefing sessions for elected members on the Act were delivered on 8th and 16th November 2016. All elected members were sent a briefing document prior to the sessions describing the implications for local authorities. The briefing sessions were attended by 17 elected members.

5.7 Service at Kirk of St. Nicholas

A service was held on Sunday 6 November 2016 at the Kirk of St. Nicholas for all those affected by the past practices at Aberdeen Crematorium. The service was hosted by Aberdeen Churches Together and supported by Aberdeen City Council.

The service, led by Rev Hugh Wallace, involved readings, prayers, singing from the choral group from St Andrew's Episcopal Church Choir, an opportunity to light a candle in a meditation led by Rev Stephen Taylor, and a reflection given by Rev Dr John McNeill. The service was concluded with a Celtic blessing.

The service was attended by the Lord Provost and Chief Executive who read a small poem. Refreshments were provided after the service and the Lord Provost and Chief Executive spoke to a number of parents and families affected by past practices at the crematorium.

5.8 Memorial

A meeting will now take place with all those affected by the past practices at Aberdeen Crematorium to discuss plans for a local memorial. Invitations will be sent out within the next 4 weeks to all those that have contacted the Council. Bereavement charities SANDS (Stillbirth and neonatal death charity) and Cruse Bereavement Care have been invited to help support families.

6. IMPACT

This report will be of interest to the public as it is an update of the actions to be taken as a result of historical practices at Aberdeen Crematorium.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The recommendations made in this report will ensure all actions resulting from the National Cremation Investigation, the Infant Cremation Commission and the recent inspection undertaken by the Inspector of Crematoria Scotland will be monitored and progress reported to committee appropriately.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report of the Infant Cremation Commission June 2014
Aberdeen City Council Report to CH& I Committee Infant Cremation Commission Report (CH/14/079) 18 March 2015
Report of the National Cremation Investigation, The Rt Hon Dame Elish Angiolini DBE QC June 2016
Inspector of Crematoria Scotland Investigation report on Hazlehead Crematorium June 2016
Aberdeen City Council Report to Council Committee National Cremation Investigation Report (OCE/16/032) 17 August 2016
Aberdeen City Council Report to Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee Aberdeen Crematorium Performance Indicators Report (CHI/16/251) 1 November 2016

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Chief Executive
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Appendix 1 Annotated NCI Conclusions for Aberdeen Crematoria with note of Actions to date.

Conclusion number	Conclusion/ Comments	ACC response to Council on 17 August 2016	ACC updated response
1	There was no evidence of any joint training with Funeral Directors or NHS midwives working in this area.	**Comment** – Accept the finding There was A practical demonstration of procedures took place on the 8/10/14, including information sheet for distributing to clients. Advised in meeting notes of the 20/2/14 that any changes of procedures would be advised by email. Further changes to procedures were advised by email, these emails can be seen on request. Through the development of formal terms of reference for the inter-agency Bereavement Services Group, it is intended that a cohesive and comprehensive training programme will be developed in partnership with NHS Grampian, Funeral Directors and Aberdeen Crematorium staff. The training package will inform all those involved at each stage of bereavement about what happens and the requirements on each person involved in informing and caring for those who are bereaved. A bespoke training programme will be developed with assistance from the Council's Organisational Development team.	The Inter-Agency Working Group has been set up and will co-ordinate all on going shared training programmes.
2	It is incumbent on all those professional agencies involved in the cremation of these babies to ensure that they communicate effectively with each other and have appropriate joint training and	**Comment** – Accept the findings All professional agencies were immediately informed of the re-introduction of an infant tray in 25/11/13 and have been constantly kept updated in any change to our	The Inter-Agency Working Group has been set up and will ensure communication is effective.

	joint understanding of their obligations to the parents of these babies	procedures. The NHS Agreement provides each parties obligation and we understand that this was of the one of the few in the country at the time. Examples of updates circulated can be provided on request. It is intended that the formal terms of reference for the inter-agency Bereavement Services Group will be developed. These terms of reference will cover matters such as joint training, communications and associated literature and changes in legislation and guidance.	
3	The most senior level of management at Aberdeen must provide strong leadership and now take full responsibility for the effective management of the crematorium. It must also ensure that immediate and appropriate training takes place and that effective and ethical practices are maintained. This relates not only to a change of working practices but to an assurance that the culture of the organisation and the knowledge and understanding is such as to prevent any future abuse of the trust of those families who have placed the remains of their loved ones in their care.	**Comment** – Accept the findings The CEO has asked the Head of Service to develop a suite of compliance measures which will be routinely reported to service committee to evidence continued compliance by the crematoria service as well as a set of performance measures with external benchmarks where available. For example, the crematorium manager should report to the service committee, in addition to the inspector of crematoria Scotland in the event that the service is unable to recover ashes following a cremation Bereavement customer care training was held in 04/09/14 and 14/01/15. All training verified as appropriate by three recent Audits (including FBCA and Inspector of Crematoria). There are now assurance audits checking cremations against bookings in place. Knowledge and understanding of processes by Senior Managers is now very comprehensive. A training matrix is currently being developed to ensure that all staff receive re-fresher training, particularly on	The Inter-Agency Working Group has been set up and will co-ordinate all on going shared training programmes

		infant cremation as part of normal operations, as appropriate. In addition, through the development of formal terms of reference for the inter-agency Bereavement Services Group, it is intended that a cohesive and comprehensive training programme will be developed in partnership with NHS Grampian, Funeral Directors and Aberdeen Crematorium staff. The training package will inform all those involved at each stage of bereavement about what happens and the requirements on each person involved in informing and caring for those who are bereaved. A bespoke training programme will be developed with assistance from the Council's Organisational Development team.	
4.	Although the inaccuracy was identified no steps had been to correct the accuracy of the Register. This casual and careless approach to a statutory obligation is of considerable concern.	**Comment – Accept the findings** ACC have taken advice from our Legal team with regard to these discrepancies and the likelihood of records being inaccurate. The advice given is not to change a record based on likelihood or because an unofficial record (on the Daily Schedule) contradicts the record. The better approach in these sensitive circumstances, where absolute certainty may be lacking, would be to add a note to the relevant record as mentioned below. This should serve to provide the fullest picture possible. It has been decided that a note should be added alongside the record to show any discrepancies and this has been completed were discrepancies are known. It is believed that this is the correct course of action as we	The Inspector of Crematoria has confirmed that our current course of action is the most appropriate for this situation. The SIRO has scheduled a review of the information governance arrangements to ensure compliance with Crematoria and Public Records legislation within the crematoria during November /December 2016.

		have received a number of enquiries from families asking for a copy of the records. We understand that this is a nationwide issue. ACC will seek advice from the Inspector of Crematoria for the best way forward on this matter. The CEO has instructed the SIRO to independently review the present public records arrangement and information governance arrangements within the crematoria to ensure they are appropriate.	

Appendix 2 Annotated Generic Conclusions / Recommendations to the NCI Report

Conclusion number	Conclusion/ Comments	ACC response (if applicable) to Council on 17 August 2016	ACC updated response
1	The Chief Executives and Senior Management of the Councils and organisations responsible for crematoria and funeral care in Scotland must take full responsibility for securing a forward looking and proactive approach to the management of their businesses and duties. This should include responsibility for ensuring a caring and sensitive culture in their operations and a renewed focus on customer service and standards of care. The parents of many of the families involved in this Investigation have been failed by both crematoria and funeral	**Comment** – Accept the recommendations Independent external inspection of the service will be undertaken by the Inspector of Crematoria annually and periodic audits undertaken by the FBCA. Reports from both these bodies will be submitted to committee for scrutiny. In addition, independent inspection will be undertaken by the Chief Internal Auditor as directed by the audit committee. The CEO has directed the Head of Service to develop a set of compliance measures as well as performance measures (with external benchmarks where available) and for both sets of measures to be reported to service committee. The CEO has directed each directorate as part of the cultural change programme with its focus on customer, to	A Performance and Benchmarking Framework has been developed and was reported to the Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee on 1 November 2016. The re-location of the Bereavement Services Registrar from Marischal College to Aberdeen Crematorium is currently being investigated.

	care organisations over many decades.	undertake its own baseline against the recently developed customer standards and for the service to develop its plans for improving its customer service. The CEO has directed the Director of Corporate Governance to the explore scope for co-location of the registrar service at the crematorium.	
2	Minimum standards of training and joint training should be introduced for the cremation of foetuses, stillborn and infant babies. Chief Executives should take responsibility for ensuring all staff are trained and certified to those standards, which should be periodically re-assessed. Such staff should be given opportunities to develop best practice along with funeral professionals and NHS staff.	**Comment** – Accept the recommendation **<u>Training</u>** Crematoria staff have now carried out visits to other Crematoria, we were proactive in seeking ICC guidance, asking questions, comparing Forms, APSE benchmarking, FBCA guidance, management consulting group for best practice comparisons, checking out infant cremators, learning from recommendations from all reports, commissions and investigations. Joint working with Funeral Directors and NHS commenced with a practical demonstration of procedures 8/10/14, including information sheet for distributing to clients. Advised in meeting notes of the 20/2/14 that any changes of procedures would be advised by email. Further changes to procedures were advised by email, these emails can be seen on request. Bereavement customer care training was held in 04/09/14 and 14/01/15. All training verified as appropriate by three recent Audits (including FBCA and Inspector of Crematoria). There are now assurance audits checking cremations against bookings in place. Knowledge and understanding	The Inter-Agency Working Group has been set up and will co-ordinate all on going shared training programmes. A training matrix is in place with further development taking place.

		of processes by Senior Managers is now very comprehensive. Recently further training session were arranged in July 2016 to reinforce the crematorium teams current knowledge. This training through the FBCA includes training about the cremation of infants and is carried out at another Crematorium. A training matrix is currently being developed to ensure that all staff receive re-fresher training as part of normal operations, as appropriate. In addition, through the development of formal terms of reference for the inter-agency Bereavement Services Group, it is intended that a cohesive and comprehensive training programme will be developed in partnership with NHS Grampian, Funeral Directors and Aberdeen Crematorium staff. The training package will inform all those involved at each stage of bereavement about what happens and the requirements on each person involved in informing and caring for those who are bereaved. A bespoke training programme will be developed with assistance from the Council's Organisational Development team.	
3.	It was clear that the quality of communication between NHS staff, crematoria staff and Funeral Directors also varied considerably across the country and was subject to confusion and disagreement between the organisations. While the Investigation	**Comment – Accept the findings; Action for NHS, Funeral Directors and Council.** ACC has joint working with Funeral Directors and NHS and this commenced with a practical demonstration of procedures 8/10/14, including information sheet for distributing to clients. Advised in meeting notes of the	The Inter-Agency Working Group has been set up and will ensure communication is effective.

	was told that some crematoria would warn Funeral Directors that ashes could not be guaranteed, this had been understood by Funeral Directors that no ashes were available for foetuses or babies and parents had been advised as much. As with the findings in the Mortonhall Investigation Report, the whole process of communication with bereaved parents about cremation was generally unsatisfactory and muddled, with a small number of notable exceptions.	20/2/14 that any changes of procedures would be advised by email. Further changes to procedures were advised by email, these emails can be seen on request. It is intended that the formal terms of reference for the inter-agency Bereavement Services Group will be developed. These terms of reference will cover matters such as joint training, communications and associated literature and changes in legislation and guidance.	
4	This Report identifies incidences where babies have been cremated with an unknown, unrelated adult and/or their ashes have been disposed of without the knowledge of parents. Steps should be taken by the Chief Executives of organisations responsible for such crematoria to consult affected parents about an appropriate memorial.	**Comment** – **Action for CEO's.** The Council has commenced discussions with several organisations about facilitating consultations with affected parents about an appropriate memorial. The Council will be contacting those parents affected who are known to it with further details.	A service was held on 6 November 2016 for all those affected by historic practices at the crematorium. After the 6 November, the Council will be contacting those parents affected to facilitate consultations on an appropriate memorial.

Appendix 3
summary action plan of the 7 outstanding ICC Recommendations that ACC has responsibility to address and implement:-

Appendix 4

Commentary of Inspector of Crematoria inspection report
Recommendations are given in bold and answers to these, with other comments, are given in the ACC response columns.

ICC Recommendation	ACC Action	Current Status
19, 22, 23, Statutory Application Forms	Await statutory forms and legislation As legislation and statutory forms may take some time to implement, we have updated our current application forms as per ICC Recommendations where possible.	Awaiting statutory forms and legislation
33 Medical certificate for all non-viable babies	Await legislation. Already procedure for single at ACC but not for shared cremations.	Awaiting legislation
35 Additional entries required to Cremation Register from future legislation	ACC has implemented but awaits legislation to finalise	Awaiting legislation
41 Notice issued confirming the disposal of cremated remains	Awaiting clarification from legislation. ACC has added a request notice to current application for cremation forms for non-viable babies.	Awaiting legislation
55 Where invited to do so by affected parents, local councils should facilitate discussion for plans for local memorials	Commence discussions with affected parents on their wishes for an appropriate local memorial.	A service was held on 6 November 2016 for all those affected by historic practices at the crematorium. After the 6 November, the Council will be contacting those parents affected to facilitate consultations on an appropriate memorial.

Area **Commentary**	**Inspector Observations/ Recommendations**	**ACC Response to Council as at 17 August 2016**	**ACC Updated Response**
1. Office Management • Majority of administration and	• Administration procedures and processes were found to be of a good standard and in compliance with the	• To date communication with other Scottish Crematoria shows that some refer to	• ACC and NHS Grampian will no longer use the term

record keeping done at Marischal College, recorded on the BACAS system. Regular runs between MC and the crematorium. • Whole administration procedure and process was examined	crematorium Operational Procedures. • Noted the in-built safeguards to ensure that the process minimised the risk of human error • **The Inspector suggests that a more appropriate term is used to record the receptacles that contain pregnancy loss. Term 'boxes' is currently in use** • **Inspected noted the delay in some final information being inputted and suggests consideration the co-location of office and crematorium to speed up process.** However it is also noted that this isn't an issue.	the receptacle as a box while others simply refer to a number and do not refer to the receptacle as any form of container. A consistent approach is to be adopted by Aberdeen City Council Bereavement Services. Further advice is being sought prior to formulising an appropriate term. • Consideration is being given to the practicality of co-locating Bereavement Services within the crematorium at Hazlehead. A business case will be developed for consideration by CMT.	'box' with regard to receptacles that contain pregnancy loss. • The re-location of the Bereavement Services Registrar from Marischal College to Aberdeen Crematorium is being considered.
2. Recovery of ashes • Not applicable as all ashes recovered	• Good practice observed when witnessing a demonstration of cremulation of infant ashes. A variation of the 'pestle and mortar' process was adapted to produce a more effective and sensitive method of grinding. But the Operational Procedure document had not been amended to reflect this. • Good practice observed regarding the storage and dispersal of ashes	• The infant cremulation practice has proven to be an effective means of reducing the recovered remains to a fine granular consistency. This practice is currently being included in the Operation Procedures.	• The crematorium's Operational Procedures have been updated to reflect this new good practice.

3. Use of baby tray • Introduced November 2013 with extended use introduced in July 2014 to include card coffins for NVFs.	• **Suggestion that Option 2* on the use of the Infant Tray, the yellow card which accompanies the coffin throughout the process should be inserted into the holder on the cold cremator whenever the tray is introduced therefore ensuring that the cremator is seen to be in use and will not be turned on whilst the ashes are cooling.**	• Option 2 has never been required however, Operational Procedures are currently being updated to clarify this part of the process	• The crematorium's Operational Procedures have been updated to clarify this part of the process.
4. Pregnancy loss policy / procedure • ACC has a contract with NHS Grampian for regular shared cremation of NVFs – includes no stipulation of the number, only that there are no more than three a day. Collective ashes usually scattered within seven days of cremation • Individual cremations also covered under contract with NHS, policies and procedures are the same as those of infant cremations.	• All relevant documentation that was examined was found to be in order by the Inspector. • **Noted that both the NHS contract and the Operational Procedure document refer to the 'applicants wishes' , this should be changed to 'applicants instructions' and made clear that this is an instruction not a wish** • **Observed that attendants who carry out the cremation of shared NVFs are unaware of the number of NVFs that are contained within each coffin (i.e. four coffins, not that each coffin contains 12 NVFs, therefore there are a total of 48 NVFs contained). Suggests that consideration is given to providing staff with the total number of NVFs**	• Operational Procedures are currently being updated to refer to 'applicants instructions' instead of 'applicants wishes' • The paperwork submitted to Bereavement Services, in respect of the cremation, details the contents of the coffin. Consideration is being given to how the numbers of NVFs in each coffin received from NHS is included in the relevant documentation to inform cremation staff. It is uncertain what benefit could be gained by informing the cremating technician of the contents of the coffin.	• The crematorium's Operational Procedures have been updated to refer to 'applicants instructions' instead of 'applicants wishes'. • A process is now in place that informs the attendant of the number of NVFs that are contained within each shared coffin. This process has been added to the Operational Procedures.
5. Metal extraction • Metal extracts are sensitively re-	• **A ceramic ball joint was amongst the metal extracts awaiting**	• Ceramic joints are now separated and are being	• A process is in place with regard to the

cycled in accordance with the Cremation Authority policy unless it is otherwise requested by applicant. • Operational Procedures Manual states that any surplus money from recycling scheme is donated to a bereavement charity of ACC's choice. • Observed that a ceramic surgical ball joint was amongst metal awaiting collection for recycling	**cremation; this has been seen in a number of crematoria. Until guidance is given at national level, consideration should be given getting instruction from applicants regarding this issue prior to disposal**	accumulated with the intention of being cremulated in the old cremulator which is capable of cremulating more resilient materials. To date there have only been two ceramic ball joints. The relevant documentation is currently being reviewed to determine the most appropriate method of getting instruction from the applicants in regard to the disposal of ceramic ball joints.	disposal of ceramic ball joints. This process has been added to the Operational Procedures
6. Code of practice, Cremation practice guidance and policy statement (on website / displayed) • Policy statement on Infant Cremations is publically available • Staff have access to all relevant hard copy documentation and required to sign acknowledgement when seen • Number of key documents are obviously displayed within the crematorium	• Confirmed from observation and examination that a number of documentation and computer records (from the current/recent period) are in accordance with Crematorium's procedures • Crematorium Operation Procedure document is a 'credit to the authors and is one of the most comprehensive and useful guidance and training aids seen by the Inspector at any of the other 28 crematoria in Scotland' • **Although the website provides lots of information about cremation, the Inspector suggests that there is more positive answers included in**	• The Q&A's regarding stillbirth, baby and NVF cremation are currently being reviewed.	• The Q&A's in the Council's website have been updated with more positive answers.

	the Q&A regarding stillbirth, baby and NVF cremation		
7. Overall assessment • Report has come after a one day inspection in June 2016 at request of Chief Executive. The focus was examining the current procedures and working practices in place at the crematoria to assess what changes have been implemented. • Number of positive and good practice was observed by the inspector – these have mostly been noted in the respective categories outlined above in the observation columns where applicable. • The inspector found no evidence of the working practices outlined in the NCI report	• Report found that the operational procedures were of a good standard with no evidence of current working practices which are comparable to those described in the NCI report • **Inspector has noted that a service is not facilitated to allow family to attend a shared cremation. Other crematoria do this across Scotland, and he suggests it is considered**	• Currently there are two memorial services per year which are facilitated by NHS Grampian. Parents are advised that an individual service can be held for their loss. Information is being sought from other Crematoria to ascertain "best practice" in this matter. Following which there will be discussions with NHS Grampian and other stakeholders with a view to increasing the number of memorial services held at the Crematoria.	• NHS Grampian currently book quarterly (ie four) chapel services per year for parents where the hospital have made funeral arrangements. NHS Grampian have been informed that Aberdeen Crematorium can facilitate additional chapel services. The decision on this matter is one for NHS Grampian who are considering this along with colleagues from other NHS Trusts

Appendix 5 - Draft Terms of Reference for Bereavement Services Inter-Agency Working Group

BEREAVEMENT SERVICES INTER-AGENCY WORKING GROUP

Draft Terms of Reference

1. Scope and Remit

The Bereavement Services Inter-agency working group aims to ensure that the highest standards are provided to those who are bereaved.

The remit of the group is to provide leadership and direction for all agencies working with families across Aberdeen City Council's Bereavement Services area. This leadership will include:

- **Continuing professional development:** Overseeing local education for all involved staff to ensure that they have current knowledge, confidence and skills to provide a high quality service.

- **Parent information:** Ensuring that all information provided to families at the time of any loss gives up to date and appropriate information about bereavement services and choices for them. This will include information about cremations, burials and associated bereavement services.

- **Care pathways**: Developing robust and seamless local processes to ensure good transitions for families between services and locations. This will include the development of service level agreements/memoranda of understanding between health boards and local funeral and cremation and bereavement service providers, the development of multi-agency care pathways that follow the journey of a pregnancy loss, infant remains and the woman and family from the loss to longer term follow up bereavement care.

- **Quality improvement:** Establishing systems to engage with parents and receive their feedback about their experiences of care at the time of a pregnancy loss, stillbirth or infant death in order to ensure continuous quality improvement.

- **Multi-agency communication and coordination:** Developing positive working relationships and open communication between different staff

groups and service providers in order to support the provision of the highest quality care.

2. Duration and Timeframes

The working group is a permanent group. There will be periods where regular meetings are required to establish new systems or key changes. It is likely that for its first 18 months, the group will meet quarterly. Once key changes have been implemented, meetings may be reduced to six monthly or annually when well established.

3. Reporting Chain and Structure

Council Committee

Chief Executive/Head of Service lead
Working Group

4. Working group members, deputies and meetings

Representation is drawn from the following organisations and professions. Should the main representative be unable to attend, a deputy will be arranged. Membership will be reviewed and revised accordingly over the life of the Working Group.

- Aberdeen City Council Bereavement Services lead
- Aberdeen City Council's Registrar lead
- NHS midwife/gynaecologist representative
- Hospital Chaplain
- NHS Mortuary/Pathologist representative
- Representative of Local funeral directors involved in infant funeral provision
- NHS Grampian's current Funeral Service provider
- Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society, other service user or local voluntary sector bereavement support organisations

Where a group member cannot attend a meeting, it is recommended that they nominate a suitable deputy to attend who has been briefed on the work of the group and progress to date.

Meetings will be held quarterly initially. Meetings will be facilitated, administered and chaired by Aberdeen City Council. Meetings will be held at Marischal College.

5. Roles and Ways of Working

Aberdeen City Council's Chief Executive will initially chair the working group and thereafter a chair and vice chair will be chosen by the working group. Aberdeen City Council will provide administrative and facilitation support to the working group during its lifetime.

The working group will take responsibility for leading the implementation of the recommendations from the Bonomy report, as well as any other relevant Scottish Government policies and guidance.

Working group members are likely to need to undertake tasks relating to the work of the group between meetings and to respond to electronic consultations and communication.

6. Communications and Transparency

Minutes and action notes will be produced from each meeting.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14th December, 2016
DIRECTOR	Richard Ellis
TITLE OF REPORT	Governance Review – Interim Revisions to Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation
REPORT NUMBER	CG/16/155
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To propose amendments to the Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council agrees:

(1) to amend Standing Order 44 (Signing of Deeds) by adding to those officers so authorised, the holders of the posts of Team Leader in Legal Services who are solicitors; Head of Commercial and Procurement Services and Team Leader, Legal Team, Commercial and Procurement Services; and

(2) to amend the Scheme of Delegation by authorising the Chief Executive:
   (i) To take any action on behalf of the Council which s/he considers necessary in the event of an emergency on the basis that any such action shall be reported to the next meeting of the Council or relevant committee or sub-committee for information; and
   (ii) To implement the provisions of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Contingency Planning (Scotland) Regulations 2005).

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are none.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Approval of recommendation 1 will lead to deeds being signed quicker. It will also facilitate the 'one stop shop' that is envisaged by the Council's Procurement Regulations. It will also ensure that any delay in deeds being signed is mitigated in the event that any of the current proper officers are unavailable.

4.2 Recommendation 2 will give the Chief Executive the authority to take any action on behalf of the Council where such action would ordinarily require council approval and where it is not possible to convene a Council meeting, including an Urgent Business Committee, urgently. This delegation will be used in exceptional circumstances only.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Two issues have arisen during the Governance Review which can be addressed quickly to improve service delivery and the Council's response to emergencies. The first will improve the speed with which Legal Services can sign deeds by increasing the number of authorised signatories set out in Standing Order 44; there have been operational delays arising from reducing the number of service manager posts from two to one. A significant amount of time is taken up with the Head of Service and Service Manager reviewing and signing fairly routine deeds, and this task could be shared with the Team Leaders who are solicitors and who are well supported by the staff presently authorised.

5.2 The second improvement will provide the Chief Executive with emergency powers under the Scheme of Delegation which can be used when urgent decisions are required in special circumstances, such as the flooding experienced during the last winter. Given that winter is again here, this will allow the Council to respond to any emergency using powers common to most other local authorities; only two Scottish Councils other than Aberdeen City do not have such a provision in their delegated powers. Another reason for having emergency powers is to help ensure the Council meets its statutory duties under the Civil Contingency Act. It is important that the Council is able to respond quickly and with flexibility to discharge its duties when responding to emergency situations along with other partners. In this regard, it should be noted that the Chief Executive is chair of the Local Resilience Partnership and sits on the Regional Resilience Partnership. In view of this capacity, the Chief Executive should be able to commit Council resources as required in the case of an emergency. In the rare circumstances that these powers may be exercised, the Chief Executive will be expected to provide a full report to Council outlining the decision making process she went through and the justification for any expenditure.

5.3 The recommendations of the Governance Review will be submitted to Council during 2017, but these two have been advanced given the distinct benefits which would accrue from their approval.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –
Both proposals identified in this report will improve the speed with which the Council can respond. Deeds will be signed quicker and the Chief Executive will be given clear authority to take urgent decisions where special circumstances warrant this.

Improving Staff Experience –
Services requiring deeds signed will be provided with quicker response times and the Chief Executive will be able to give clear direction to officers when urgent action is required in times of necessity.

Improving our use of Resources –
Both proposed amendments will permit quicker action and so decision making and accountability will be improved.

Corporate -
Both proposals are essentially of a housekeeping nature in that they relate to changes to Standing Orders and the Scheme of Delegation but they will both permit faster responses to the particular circumstances they are intended to address.

Public –
In relation to the amendment to the signing of deeds, the public are only likely to see benefit to the extent that any deeds awaiting signature may affect them; however, the authorisation of the Chief Executive in times where urgent decisions are needed could have a significant beneficial effect on the public under a number of special circumstances, particularly in times of emergency.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

7.1 Both of the proposals set out in this report will reduce the Council's exposure to risk.

7.2 The amendment to Standing Orders minimises the current risk caused by delays to the signing of deeds due to the unavailability of the authorised officers. Although this means that the signature of Council documents will sit with a wider pool of officers, appropriate training of relevant staff will be put in place to ensure that any documents signed are done so appropriately with clear parameters set.

7.3 In respect of the proposed authorisation of the Chief Executive in times of special circumstances, the main benefit will be the reduction of risk as that officer will be able to take urgent decisions to react quickly to

any emergency arising during winter. Consultation with senior councillors may be possible where practicable at certain times and in all case where the authority is exercised, a report will be submitted to Council.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none.

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14 December 2016
LEAD OFFICER	Interim Director of Corporate Governance
TITLE OF REPORT	Education and Children's Services Committee – External Appointments (Church of Scotland, Teacher and Parent Representatives)
REPORT NUMBER	CG/16/157
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report brings before the Council details of nominations from (1) the Church of Scotland for a replacement Church of Scotland representative on the Education and Children's Services Committee following the resignation of Reverend McKenna; (2) the Teachers' Consultative Forum for a replacement teacher representative on the Education and Children's Services Committee following the resignation of Mr Duncan; and (3) Aberdeen City Parent Councils Forum for a parent representative for primary school and ASN provision following the resignation of Mrs Bowyer.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the following external member appointments to the Education and Children's Services Committee –

- Reverend Hutton Steel as the Church of Scotland representative;
- Ms Pamela Scott as the second teacher representative; and
- Mrs Louise Bruce as the primary school and ASN provision parent representative.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications associated with this report are minimal. Each external member requires to undertake a PVG Scheme check. Each application to the PVG Scheme costs £59 for new members and £18 if they are existing members staying within the same group. Checks for external members will be processed by HR in line with the procedure for dealing with PVG checks for Elected Members.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The Council has a statutory obligation to appoint three religious representatives to the Education and Children's Services Committee, the purposes of which include advising the authority on any matters relating to the discharge of their function as education authority. If the Council fails to appoint a Church of Scotland representative, it will be in breach of a statutory duty.

The Council has agreed that the Education and Children's Services Committee membership contain two teacher and two parent representatives with full voting rights. If the Council fails to appoint a parent and teacher representative, it will be negating a previous decision.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (as amended by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994) requires local authorities, in appointing a Committee whose purposes include advising the authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions as education authority, or discharging any of those functions of the authority on their behalf, to appoint one representative of the Church of Scotland, one representative of the Roman Catholic Church, and one representative of other churches and denominational bodies, in the selection of whom, the authority shall have regard (taking account of the representation of the churches referred to above) to the comparative strength within their area of all the churches and denominational bodies having duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship there.

Reverend McKenna has resigned his position as the Church of Scotland representative on the Education and Children's Services Committee. The Church of Scotland has advised that Reverend Hutton Steel has been nominated as the replacement representative for this Committee. The Council is asked to agree the appointment of Reverend Steel.

The Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (as amended by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994) also enables local authorities to appoint people who are not elected members of the authority to be members of the committee, and it is in exercising this discretion that the Council has appointed two teacher and two parent representatives. This is reflected in the Council's Standing Orders.

One of the teacher representatives Mr Stewart Duncan has resigned and the Teachers' Consultative Forum (TCF) has nominated Ms Pamela Scott as the replacement teacher representative. The Council is asked to agree the appointment of Ms Scott.

Mrs Angela Bowyer the parent representative for primary schools and ASN provision has resigned and Aberdeen City Parent Councils Forum has selected Mrs Louise Bruce as the replacement representative. The Council is asked to agree the appointment of Mrs Bruce.

6. IMPACT

Appointing religious representatives on the Education and Children's Services Committee is the Council complying with its statutory duty.

The appointment of the replacement Church of Scotland religious representative has links with the Council's commitment to progress equalities work in relation to religion/belief.

The appointment of the replacement teacher and parent representatives enhances teacher and parent involvement and helps to support community engagement with local communities and to develop a strong partnership with parents.

Beyond this the proposal has no specific impact on customer experience, staff experience or the Council's use of resources.

An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment is not required as the proposal does not disproportionately impact on persons with protected characteristics compared to persons without such characteristics

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

If the Council fails to appoint a replacement Church of Scotland representative, it will be in breach of a statutory duty.

If the Council fails to appoint replacement teacher and parent representatives, it will be in breach of its previous decision that the two external teacher and parent members be full members of the Education and Children's Services Committee.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14 December 2016
DIRECTOR	Richard Ellis
TITLE OF REPORT	Bond Financing Strategy – Implications for the Council
REPORT NUMBER	CG/16/152
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update members on the implications of the award of a credit rating by Moody's Investor Services and the bond issuance by the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Council:

i) Notes that the Bonds are admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange;

ii) Notes that the Council must act in a manner capable of maintaining its Credit Rating;

iii) Notes that the Council must comply with the Market Abuse Regulations, the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, the Listing Rules and the continuing obligations set out in the London Stock Exchange Admission and Disclosure Standards;

iv) Instructs the Head of Finance to review the Council's financial management systems, processes and routines taking into account the requirements and expectations of holding and maintaining a suitable credit rating and being an Issuer of Bonds and to report back to the Finance, Policy & Resources Committee and Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee as required;

v) Instructs the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to ensure that any proposals arising from the Governance Review are aligned to the requirements and expectations of holding and maintaining a suitable credit rating and being an Issuer of Bonds.

vi) Instructs the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to develop and maintain the Insider List(s) on behalf of the Council; and

vii) Instructs the Depute Chief Executive (Director of Corporate Governance) to develop proposals for a Fiscal Policy Panel as described in section 5.9.1 of the report and to report back to the appropriate committee.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Whilst there are no financial implications arising directly from the recommendations set out in this report, it is important to note that the issue of the bond places a financial commitment on the Council until 2054. The purpose of the bond was to put in place capital financing for the Council's two capital programmes – namely the Non Housing Capital Programme and Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme, which would normally be done through other forms of long term borrowing.

3.2 Detailed financial implications were covered in a previous report to Council on 17th August 2016, including consideration of: Best Value; Affordability; Investment Strategy; Counterparty List; Prudential Indicators; and Credit Rating.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 *London Stock Exchange Rules and Regulations*

While the Council's bonds are trading on the London Stock Exchange (LSE), the Council is required to comply with the Market Abuse Regulations, the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, the Listing Rules and ongoing obligations as set out in the LSE Admission and Disclosure Standards. These are more particular set out and summarised in the Briefing Note prepared by the Council's legal advisors as set out in Appendix 1.

4.2 A high level summary of key points are detailed below although this summary is not intended to substitute reading the Briefing Note in full:

4.2.1 *Public Disclosure of Inside Information*

Inside information comprises information of a precise nature that has not been made public, relating directly or indirectly to one or more issuers or to one or more financial instruments, and which if it were made public would be likely to have a significant effect on the prices of those financial instruments or on the price of related derivative financial instruments and information that a reasonable investor would be likely to use as part of the basis for investment decisions.

Information is of a precise nature if it indicates a set of circumstances which exists or which may reasonably be expected to come into existence or an event which has occurred or which may reasonably be expected to occur where the information is specific enough to enable a conclusion to be drawn as to the possible effect of that set of circumstances or event on the prices of the financial instruments or the related derivative financial instrument.

Market Abuse Regulations require the Council, as an issuer, to inform the public as soon as possible of inside information that directly concerns the issuer. This is essential to avoid insider dealing and ensures investors are not misled.

In practical terms Council Officers will be required to consider all matters to determine whether this would constitute inside information. Once the Council is in a position to release this information then there will be an announcement through a Regulation Information Service as detailed in 4.2.4 below.

4.2.2 *Insider Lists*

Market Abuse Regulations requires issuers to:-

- Draw up a list of all persons who have access to inside information;
- Promptly update the insider list;
- Provide the insider list to the appropriate authority (i.e. The Financial Conduct Authority) as soon as possible upon its request.

Insider lists must be retained for at least 5 years.

Insider lists must be kept in electronic form and the format must ensure:-

- Confidentiality of the information included by ensuring that access to the insider list is restricted to clearly identified persons;
- Accuracy of the information contained in the list; and
- Access to and retrieval of previous versions of the list.

In practical terms there will be two types of insider list one which is permanent and another which is project specific. The permanent insider list will be those Officers and Members of the Council who will have access to any inside information. The project specific lists may also include contractors and/or partners of the Council.

As part of the Market Abuse Regulations an “Insider List” must be compiled with this being led by Head of Legal and Democratic Services and work continues to be undertaken on this with a view to having a first draft list completed prior to the end of December. It is highly likely that all elected members will be on this list;

Any person on the insider list will be required to keep the information confidential until it is disclosed by the Council and is deemed public

information even if they have ceased to be part of the project (this will include contractors or other external organisations that the Council may work with one a particular project) or the Council.

4.2.3 *Sanctions*

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) can suspend trading of a financial instrument, including bonds, where it considers it necessary, under Market Abuse Regulations.

If the FCA is satisfied that a person has contravened Market Abuse Regulations, it can (but is not limited to):-

- Impose a financial penalty on the person for insider dealing and unlawful disclosure of inside information/market manipulation. Instead of a penalty, it can publish a statement censuring the person - maximum of 15million Euros or 15% of the gross annual turnover/gross annual spend. By way of background, the forecasted gross expenditure for Aberdeen City Council in 2016/2017 exceeds £800million.

To suspend, for such period as deemed appropriate, any permission which the person has to carry on a regulated activity and/or to impose limitations/restrictions on a regulated activity by the person. FCA regulated activities are fully detailed in Part 2 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and include but are not limited to: accepting deposits; dealing in or managing investments (as a principal or agent), arranging investment deals, safeguarding and administering investments, operating a multilateral trading facility; and setting up stakeholder pensions schemes; units in a collective investment scheme; shares; Debt Instruments; and Government Securities.

4.2.4 *Disclosure and Transparency Rules*

An issuer that discloses regulated information, such as inside information, must, at the same time, file that information with the Financial Conduct Authority. An issuer must entrust a Regulation Information Service (RIS) (such as Regulated News Service (RNS)) with the disclosure of regulated information.

5. BACKGROUND

5.1 During this process the Council has been required to prepare and develop new financial information and documentation. In order to continue with obligations arising from the Bond this information and documentation requires to be maintained and updated on an ongoing basis.

5.2 *Securing and Retaining a Credit Rating*

Before the Council was able to issue its bond on the London Stock Exchange, it had to secure a credit rating from a recognised credit rating agency. Having secured the rating, the Council was then able to issue the bond. In determining a credit rating, the agency considered the strength of the institutional framework within which a Scottish local authority operates as well as considering the performance of the economy within which the local authority operates. A summary of Moody's rating methodology can be found at Appendix 2.

5.3 Financial Information

The Council was required to submit detailed financial information to the ratings agency in order to demonstrate its stewardship. This included:

- 3 years Annual Accounts
- Analysis of income and expenditure by category for the previous financial year
- Budgetary performance information for the previous 5 years
- Breakdown analysis of main income streams:- Council Tax, Non Domestic rates, General Revenue Grant, Other Fees and Charges
- Funding projections for the next five years, including projected savings
- Analysis of planned Capital programmes and major projects over the next five years
- Overview of the Housing Revenue account
- Analysis of reserves and balances, past five years and projections
- Treasury Management Policy & Strategy, including the Debt Maturity profile, liquidity policy and prudential borrowing limits
- Credit Metrics – 10 year projections for the following:- Gross operating balance against operating revenue, interest payments against operating revenue, Direct & indirect debt against operating revenue and short term direct debt against total direct debt
- Income Statement – detailed for the past three years and forecasts for the next 35 years (but focussing on the next 3 financial years)
- Cashflow Statement– detailed for the past three years and forecasts for the next 35 years (but focussing on the next 3 financial years)
- Balance Sheet – detailed for the past three years and forecasts for the next 35 years (but focussing on the next 3 financial years)

5.4 Institutional Framework and Local Governance

The Council was also required to submit detailed information outlining the institutional framework in which Scottish local authorities operate. This was particularly important, with this being the first time a Scottish Council had been publically rated. The information supplied on the institutional framework included:-

- The Local Government in Scotland Act 2003
- Total Revenue Support
- Local Authority Self-Financed Expenditure
- Statutory & Budgetary Controls of Local Authorities
- The Prudential Code
- Local Authority access to the PWLB

Information was also provided to the agency describing the Council's local governance framework, the political make-up, the committee structure, the executive structure, the decision making process and its key functions and responsibilities.

5.5 Economic Information & Performance

The Council was also required to submit a variety of economic information about the city and the city region outlining both its economic performance and potential.

The economic information supplied included:-

- Analysis of GVA income (gross value added) per head
- Productivity, prosperity and employment levels
- Statistics on the diversified economy, with a range of high-value sectors
- Details of City region's past contributions to the UK exchequer
- Information on the City Region Deal
- Details of the City Centre Masterplan
- Current and future demographic profiles
- Information on the local housing market

5.6 Management Presentation

Having supplied the credit rating agency with the above information, the final step was for key Council officials to make a management presentation to Moody's at their London offices. This was undertaken in late July.

5.7 Credit Rating Outcome

In early October Aberdeen City Council received a credit rating score from Moody's Investor Services ("Moody's") of Aa2, and was placed on negative

outlook. The 'negative outlook' mirrors the negative outlook on the UK sovereign rating, following the vote to leave the European Union.

This rating is one notch below UK government, and a high-grade investment rating. It is the third highest rating out of the 21 that Moody's award.

5.8 *Retaining a Credit Rating*

A credit rating will be required to be maintained during the term of the bond. In order to maintain a credit rating, Moody's will be required to conduct reviews at least once every twelve months. Officers will be required to provide any information requested during such reviews promptly.

The Governance Review is developing proposals to ensure that the Council's governance arrangements are aligned with the CIPFA principles of good governance as required under The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 which specify that annual accounts must include an Annual Governance Statement. Aberdeen City Council is the first local authority in Scotland, to obtain a credit rating and issue bonds. The Governance Review Programme Board will therefore work closely with the key regulators, including the London Stock Exchange, to ensure that the outcomes of the Governance Review are aligned not only to the principles of good governance, but to the requirements and expectations of holding and maintaining a suitable credit rating and being an Issuer of Bonds to protect the Council, elected members and officers. For example, maintaining a credit rating places an increased emphasis on the need for caution by officers and members in discussing and/or disclosing information on major projects not in the public domain. Disclosure of information not in the public domain could cause an adverse impact not only on the individual project but also on the overall position of the Council in relation to its credit rating and the issued bonds. There may also be severe personal consequences for any individual officer or elected member as set out in section 4.2.3 of this report. Processes in respect of the handling of confidential information will need to be robust.

5.9 MAIN ISSUES

5.9.1 SUPPORTING THE ANNUAL CREDIT RATING RE-ASSESSMENT - ECONOMY

In support of the annual credit rating reassessment, officers are considering the development of an independent panel of experts that could comment on the performance of the Aberdeen economy, the outlook for the economy in relation to global economies and financial markets and the sustainability of the Council's finances.

A number of models are being considered including the Jersey Fiscal Policy Panel. The State of Jersey is the parliament and government of the British Crown dependency of Jersey. An Assembly passes legislation, approves the

annual budget and taxation and appoints ministers. Executive powers are exercised by a Chief Minister (and nine ministers) through the Council of Ministers.

While the legislative context is not directly comparable to Aberdeen City, there are a number of lessons relating to the Panel that could be adapted in an Aberdeen City context in relation to the Council's issue of bonds. Jersey issued bonds in 2014 to fund social housing which was and, like Aberdeen, dependent on a credit rating. The State's credit rating was directly influenced by:

- The assurance provided by the Fiscal Policy Panel;
- Transparency of a strong balance sheet position including a robust framework around reserves;
- Stability around Medium/Long Term Financial Planning including underlying business cases on specific large projects within the overall capital Programme.

The Panel was established before the bond issue, but is now an indirect part of the credit rating process. It produces an annual 'state of the economy' report, and this, and the Panel's work, provides an independent assessment to the credit ratings agency six-monthly report. In this sense the ratings process is informed by and benefits from an independent and credible validation of policy and the 'state of the nation' with regard to the economy.

It was established to provide Jersey's Treasury & Resources Minister with independent economic advice on matters relating to tax and spending policy. It is an independent and advisory body accountable to the Minister of Treasury & Resources, and does not make policy decisions.

In this sense its sphere of influence is indirect, and relies on the robustness and independence of its analysis and advice, in a fully transparent process. It publishes its report, annually, in August each year. This usually covers the strength of the local economy and outlook; comments on the State's financial position; recommends policy on a Stabilisation Fund

A strategic reserve has been kept aside with the capital value used in exceptional circumstances to insulate the island from structural economic decline (eg industry collapse); a stabilisation fund applies to the Island's fiscal policy with proposals for tax and spending, withdrawals from/ payments to lying with the Treasury. When the Stabilisation Fund is at sufficient levels, the panel decides when payments are made to the Reserve.

The Fiscal Policy Panel's work is guided by five key principles:

1 Economic stability is at the heart of sustainable prosperity;
2 Fiscal policy needs to be focused on the medium-term;
3 Policy should aim to be predictable, with flexibility to adapt to economic conditions to assist in creating a more stable economic environment;
4 Supply in the economy is as important as demand; and

5 Low inflation is fundamental to the competitiveness of the economy.

It is a group of three independent and professional economists with extensive experience in policy making. The Panel is guided by its understanding of the preferences of islanders in making its recommendations. They believe that islanders want the States to be prudent and create the conditions for economic growth while respecting the island's cultural heritage, maintaining the competitiveness of the economy and keeping inflation low. The work of the Panel is directly supported by an Economic Adviser and team of economists that undertake the analysis for the work of the Panel. Panel Members themselves undertake quarterly visits to the islands to meet with businesses and stakeholders to corroborate the work of the economist team.

The development of an 'independent panel of experts' for Aberdeen City could provide an annual reporting system on the performance of the place to support the ongoing monitoring of Aberdeen's performance in UK and international financial markets. It could also support the annual credit rating process provide independent commentary on some of the policy effects around securing new fiscal powers to the Council. Other benefits of the Panel may include the independent scrutiny and added value to the overall governance process and decision-making. The Panel could provide advice on how public funds are utilised to drive economic growth and the use of strategic reserves.

Discussions with the State of Jersey's Economic Development officials also indicate that critical to the success of the Panel, as well as its independence, is the resource (Panel Members) and the support behind it. If the Council wanted to develop the consideration of an independent Fiscal Panel for Aberdeen City, expertise in the following areas could be sought:

- Oil & Gas economics
- Institutional investment
- Higher education
- Government economic adviser

5.9.2 SUPPORTING THE ANNUAL CREDIT RATING RE-ASSESSMENT – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Moody's described the financial management of the Council as having a "strong track record on financial performance" and Audit Scotland in its 2015/16 external audit report also described the Council's financial management as "sound financial management". The Council will be expected to continue to strengthen it financial management arrangements as they are an important feature of the annual credit re-assessment. In addition, the Council will also need to present some of its existing financial information in different ways in light of the new interest from the credit rating agency and the bond investors.

Financial Planning (Budgeting)

Changes to the Council's Financial Planning will include:

- The annual budget will need to be presented showing the gross expenditure (as opposed to net);

- The budget statements will pay due cognisance to the Council's Balance Sheet;

- The Council requires to report on it's key financial metrics (over and above the prudential indicators) and these will be developed as Key Performance Indicators;

- The budget will also cover the key Treasury Policies, strategies and statements for the forthcoming medium term; and

- The budget now requires to include both the short, medium and long term aligned with delivery outcomes to ensure the Council has a long term sustainable balanced position as required by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

Financial Monitoring

The Council traditionally has reported it's financial position to the relevant service committees followed by a report showing the overall financial position. In order to comply with the new regulatory framework a review is ongoing to determine if this continues to be appropriate. It is likely that the following (which is unlikely to be exhaustive) will be required:

- The Council should now report on a quarterly basis to Finance Policy and Resources on the financial position of the Council;

- Reporting to service committee's is likely to be after reporting to FP&R. That is, the council position will be reported first and then subsequent reporting to service committees will follow to ensure that the financial position can be reported to the London Stock Exchange;

- Such financial reporting will include financial statements showing the Income and Expenditure position as well as the Council's Balance Sheet;

- The Council's key financial metrics used for the annual credit re-assessment will also need to be disclosed; and

- The financial reporting will need to examine the key projects which the Council is undertaking to understand any potential risk that the committee should be made aware of.

Financial Reporting

In moving to a new financial reporting methodology and system the Council will need to:

- Review its current year end processes and procedures to enable quarterly "Accounts" to be reported and considerably shorten the time it currently takes to complete the year end accounts;

- Determine how meaningful International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) is compliant/assists in the annual credit rating re-assessment – in addition to IFRS compliant accounts, the Council will need to consider whether non-IFRS compliant accounts would be a useful tool in financial reporting;

- The Council will also need to consider what additional information should be disclosed within the Annual Accounts; and

- Note that any changes to our in year and end of year accounts closedown approach will have potential Implication's for both internal and external audit.

Finance for Decision-Making

- All decision making reports to council and/or committees require officers to identify the financial implications associated with the proposed decision. Notices of motions and member amendments to officer recommendations are also reviewed in order to consider the financial implications of proposed actions. Processes for reviewing such notices and amendments, together with officer recommendations, will now need to be considered in light of the requirements and expectations of holding and maintaining a suitable credit rating and being an Issuer of Bonds.

Financial Governance

Under the regulatory framework the Council will need to review its Financial Regulations and wider financial governance arrangements. This will be done as part of the wider Governance Review that is ongoing but there will need to be in the short term the following actions to be undertaken:

- Undertake a review of any Person Discharging Managerial Responsibilities (PDMR) although it is unlikely that this will identify any individual within the Council given the unique nature and scale of the Bonds;

- Given that the Council is now required to comply with the LSE regulations consideration will need to be given to the need for an "LSE Compliance Officer".

5.9.3 THE NORTH EAST PENSION FUND – INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

There are legal restrictions which apply to any proposed investment ("NESPF") which is due to the fact that NESPF administers the Pensions for the Council and therefore investment in the Council's Bonds would be considered to be an employer related loan in the bonds by North East Scotland Pension Fund. These restrictions (referred to as the 'self-investment restrictions') are in section 40 of the Pensions Act 1995 and the Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment) Regulations 2005. This legislation was put in place by the UK government to regulate the economic exposure that occupational pension schemes have to the employer group. This legislation was developed to impose a regime of good governance on pension schemes. Prior to this, the general law which applied was in some respects unclear and there were incidents whereby pension funds were utilised to shore up financially unstable organisations which were unable to repay the funds.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –
The bond provides a source of financing which allows part of the Capital Programme to be funded while diversifying the financial portfolio of borrowing to allow an element of long term flexibility within the portfolio.

Improving Staff Experience –
The ongoing requirements in relation to the credit rating and LSE listing requires that the governance around decision making and the processes that the Council adopts remains clear. This will allow employees and citizens to have a greater confidence in the decision making and actions of the Council.

Improving our use of Resources –
The index linked public bond provides the optimal solution as it delivers the lowest net present cost of debt service over the terms of the finance (38 years). The proposal allows a diversified financial portfolio of borrowing to allow an element of long term flexibility within the portfolio.

Corporate -
The bond allows the Council to part fund the Capital Programme and assist the Council in moving forward to achieve its objectives in line with the strategic infrastructure, Smarter City. Carrying out this funding places Aberdeen City Council at the forefront of creative lending solutions and drives Aberdeen City forward as a Council for the future.

Public –
This report may be of interest to the public as it explains part of the Council's proposed strategy to finance the Capital Programme which the Council wishes to pursue. It also explains the rationale for the Council obtaining a credit rating.

An Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) has not been undertaken as this is not relevant to this project

A Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) has not been undertaken as none of the proposed projects should impact on the privacy of any individual

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Maintaining Credit Rating

7.1. The Council must endeavour to maintain a suitable credit rating and insofar as within the Council's control that the Credit Rating is maintained at Aa2, which is one notch below the UK Government. Should the credit rating fall the liquidity of the Bonds in the secondary market will drop. Bondholders if concerned may call a meeting which would analyse the Council's financial position and the Council are obliged to respond honestly to all questions. Further, if the credit rating falls so that it is three notches below the UK Government then the Bondholders may request repayment of their proportion of the Bonds held.

7.2. In addition if the Credit Rating falls then the Council's ability to obtain other financial products in the market place may become more expensive and/or difficult to access. This is due to the perceived risk in investing in a lower Credit Rated body with some investors such as pension funds having mandates to invest within certain credit rating bands (which represent the perceived risk of the investment). In addition while a local authority the Credit Rating will be examined by other lenders and if they consider that there is an increased risk in lending then the availability/cost of lending may be negatively impacted.

7.3. These issues may be mitigated by the Council putting in place and maintaining robust governance around capital projects and price sensitive information to ensure that the Council is able to react promptly to commercial situations arising from the various capital projects and address these promptly to ensure that these projects are delivered in a timely and cost efficient manner. This can be achieved by incorporating the additional requirement from the Credit Rating and London Stock Exchange into the Corporate Governance Review which will require among other things a full review of the Financial Regulations.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

CG/16/150 - Financing Strategy for the Capital Programmes

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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BRODIES LLP www.brodies.com

To: **Aberdeen City Council (ACC)**

Subject: **Overview of continuing obligations: Market Abuse Regulation, the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, the Listing Rules and LSE Admission and Disclosure Standards**

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Date: **23 September 2016**

1 Introduction

While ACC's bonds are admitted to trading on the main market of the London Stock Exchange, ACC is required to comply with the Market Abuse Regulation, the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, the Listing Rules and the continuing obligations set out in the LSE Admission and Disclosure Standards.

We have summarised these rules and regulations below. The purpose of this note is to make ACC aware of its obligations (and so it can put appropriate internal procedures in place to assist compliance) and to recognise when to contact us prior to proceeding with any action which may be regulated by these rules. It is important that ACC understands its obligations. Please contact us if you have any queries or would like to discuss any of the obligations in more detail.

2 Market Abuse Regulation (MAR)

Market abuse encompasses unlawful behaviour in the financial markets and, for the purposes of MAR, consists of insider dealing, unlawful disclosure of inside information and market manipulation (and

attempted market manipulation). Such behaviour prevents full and proper market transparency. MAR does not require the person engaging in the behaviour in question to have intended to commit market abuse.

The scope of MAR includes any financial instrument, such as the ACC bonds, traded on a regulated market (such as the London Stock Exchange), a multilateral trading facility or an organised trading facility, and any other conduct or action which can have an effect on such a financial instrument irrespective of whether it takes place on a trading venue.

2.1 **Insider dealing**

MAR prohibits a person from engaging or attempting to engage in insider dealing and recommending that another person engage in insider dealing or inducing another person to engage in insider dealing.

Insider dealing arises where a person who is in possession of inside information takes unfair advantage of the benefit gained from that information by entering into market transactions in accordance with that information by acquiring or disposing of, by attempting to acquire or dispose of, by cancelling or amending, or by attempting to cancel or amend, an order to acquire or dispose of, for his own account or for the account of a third party, directly or indirectly, financial instruments to which that information relates. The essential characteristic of insider dealing consists in an unfair advantage being obtained from inside information to the detriment of third parties who are unaware of such information.

Inside information comprises information of a precise nature that has not been made public, relating directly or indirectly to one or more issuers or to one or more financial instruments, and which if it were made public would be likely to have a significant effect on the prices of those financial instruments or on the price of related derivative financial instruments and information that a reasonable investor would be likely to use as part of the basis for investment decisions.

Information is of a precise nature if it indicates a set of circumstances which exists or which may reasonably be expected to come into existence or an event which has occurred or which may reasonably be expected to occur where the information is specific enough to enable a conclusion to be drawn as to the possible effect of that set of circumstances or event on the prices of the financial instruments or the related derivative financial instrument.

An intermediate step in a protracted process can be inside information, for example information relating to the state of contract negotiations.

Insider dealing for the purposes of MAR applies to any person who possesses inside information as a result of, for example, being a member of the administrative, management or supervisory bodies of the issuer, having access to the information through the exercise of an employment, profession or duties or being involved in criminal activities. It also applies to any person who possesses inside information under other circumstances where that person knows or ought to know that it is inside information.

ACC should put in place effective procedures for identifying inside information and to deny access to inside information to persons other than those who require it for the exercise of their functions within ACC, including procedures that effectively ensure that neither the natural person who made the decision on ACC's behalf to acquire or dispose of financial instruments to which the information relates, nor another

natural person who may have had an influence on that decision, was in possession of the inside information (legitimate behaviour protection). Appropriate procedures are outlined in this note.

2.2 **Unlawful disclosure of inside information**

MAR prohibits a person from unlawfully disclosing inside information. Unlawful disclosure of inside information arises where a person possesses inside information and discloses that information to any other person, except where the disclosure is made in the normal exercise of an employment, a profession or duties. However see section 2.4 below on 'public disclosure of inside information.' Disclosure in the normal course of employment, a profession or duties may trigger the requirement for a public announcement unless the person receiving the information owes a duty of confidentiality.

The onward disclosure of recommendations or inducements amounts to unlawful disclosure of inside information where the person disclosing the recommendation or inducement knows or ought to know that it was based on inside information.

Disclosure of inside information made in the course of a market sounding (i.e. the communication of information, prior to the announcement of a transaction, to gauge the interest of potential investors in a possible transaction and the conditions relating to it) is deemed to be made in the normal exercise of a person's employment, profession or duties where the disclosing party complies with certain specified conditions. ACC should contact us if it intends to conduct any further market soundings.

ACC should also contact us if it is unsure whether information comprises inside information.

2.3 **Market manipulation**

MAR prohibits market manipulation and attempted market manipulation.

The offence is committed where a person:

- Enters into a transaction, places an order to trade or carries out any other behaviour that:
    - gives or is likely to give false or misleading signals as to the supply of, demand for, or price of, a financial instrument, a related spot commodity contract or an auctioned product based on emission allowances; or
    - secures or is likely to secure the price of one or several financial instruments, a related spot commodity contract or an auctioned product based on emission allowances at an abnormal or artificial level;

  unless the person entering into a transaction, placing an order to trade or engaging in any other behaviour establishes that such transaction, order or behaviour has been carried out for legitimate reasons and conforms with an accepted market practice that has been established in accordance with MAR (Manipulating transactions).
- Enters into a transaction, places an order to trade or carries out any other activity or behaviour which affects or is likely to affect the price of one or several financial instruments, a related spot commodity contract or an auctioned product based on emission allowances, which employs a fictitious device or any other form of deception or contrivance (Manipulating devices).

- Disseminates information through the media, including the internet or by any other means, which gives, or is likely to give, false or misleading signals as to the supply of, demand for, or price of, a financial instrument, a related spot commodity contract or an auctioned product based on emission allowances or secures, or is likely to secure, the price of one or several financial instruments, a related spot commodity contact or an auctioned product based on emission allowances at an abnormal or artificial level, including the dissemination of rumours, where the person who made the dissemination knew or ought to have known that the information was false or misleading (Dissemination and misleading behaviour and distortion).
- Transmits false or misleading information or provides false or misleading inputs in relation to a benchmark where the person who made the transmission or provided the input knew or ought to have known that it was false or misleading to any other behaviour which manipulates the calculation of a benchmark (Misleading information or inputs in relation to benchmarks).

2.4 **Public disclosure of inside information**

MAR requires an issuer to inform the public as soon as possible of inside information that directly concerns that issuer. This is essential to avoid insider dealing and ensure investors are not misled.

The issuer must:

- Ensure that the inside information is made public in a manner which enables fast access and complete, correct and timely assessment of the information by the public.
- Not combine the disclosure of inside information to the public with the marketing of its activities.
- Post and maintain on its website for a period of at least five years all inside information it is required to disclose publicly.

The obligations apply to issuers who have requested or approved admission of their financial instruments to trading on a regulated market in a Member State, such as the London Stock Exchange.

The information must be notified via a Regulatory Information Service (RIS). The communication must contain certain details therefore before ACC discloses inside information to the public please contact us.

Where inside information is posted on a website the website must have technical features so that access is non-discriminatory and free of charge, users can locate the inside information in an easily identifiable section of the website and disclosed inside information clearly indicates the date and time of the disclosure and is organised in chronological order.

Improper disclosure of inside information constitutes market abuse.

Where an issuer or a person acting on their behalf or for their account discloses any inside information to any third party in the normal course of the exercise of an employment, profession or duties, such persons must make complete and effective public disclosure of that information, simultaneously in the case of an intentional disclosure and promptly in the case of an non-intentional disclosure. However, they do not need to make public disclosure if the person receiving the information owes a duty of confidentiality, regardless of whether such duty is based on a law, regulations, articles or association or a contract.

Depending on the circumstances, the issuer may be justified in disclosing inside information to certain categories of recipient in addition to those employees of the issuer who require the information to perform their functions. The categories of recipient may include the issuer's advisers and advisers of any other persons involved in the matter in question, persons with whom the issuer is negotiating or intends to negotiate any commercial, financial or investment transaction (including prospective placees of the issuer's financial instruments), employee representatives or trades union acting on their behalf, any government department, the Bank of England, the Competition Commission or any other statutory or regulatory body or authority, the issuer's lenders and credit rating agencies. However the wider the group of recipients of inside information the greater the likelihood of a leak triggering the need for public disclosure under MAR.

An issuer may delay disclosure to the public of inside information provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- immediate disclosure is likely to prejudice the legitimate interests of the issuer (for example, ongoing negotiations or related elements where the outcome or normal pattern of those negotiations would be likely to be affected by public disclosure);
- delay of disclosure is not likely to mislead the public (for example, inside information is likely to mislead the public where the inside information that the issuer intends to delay disclosing is materially different from the previous public announcement of the issuer on the matter to which the inside information refers to or regards the fact that the issuer's financial objectives are not likely to be met, where such objective were previously publicly announced. In such circumstances immediate and appropriate disclosure is necessary and mandatory); and
- the issuer is able to ensure the confidentiality of that information.

Issuers are expected to have in place a minimum level of organisation and process to conduct a prior assessment of whether the information is inside information, decide whether the disclosure needs to be delayed and for how long and appoint a person or persons within the issuer who is or are responsible for making these decisions (they should be clearly identified and given the necessary decision making power).

There are certain procedures which must be followed if disclosure to the public of inside information is being delayed, therefore ACC should contact us as soon as possible if it intends to delay disclosure.

Where disclosure of inside information has been delayed and the confidentiality of that inside information is no longer ensured the issuer is required to disclose that inside information to the public as soon as possible.

There is a statutory liability for an issuer of securities where it dishonestly delays publication of information relating to securities. Please see the section below on sanctions.

2.5 **Insider lists**

MAR requires issuers who have requested or approved admission of their financial instruments to trading on a regulated market in a Member State or any person acting on their behalf or on their account to:

- draw up a list of all persons who have access to inside information and who are working for them under a contract of employment, or otherwise performing tasks through which they have access to inside information, such as advisers, accountants or credit rating agencies;
- promptly update the insider list (for example, where there is a change in the reason for including a person already on the insider list, there is a new person who has access to inside information and needs to be added to the insider list and where a person ceases to have access to inside information. Each update should specify the date and time when the change triggering the update occurred); and
- provide the insider list to the competent authority (i.e. the Financial Conduct Authority (the FCA)) as soon as possible upon its request. Insider lists must be retained for at least 5 years from the date on which it is drawn up or updated.

Issuers or any person acting on their behalf or on their account must take all reasonable steps to ensure that any person on the insider list acknowledges in writing the legal and regulatory duties entailed and is aware of the sanctions applicable to insider dealing and unlawful disclosure of inside information. Where another person acting on behalf or on the account of the issuer assumes the task of drawing up and updating the insider list the issuer remains fully responsible for complying with MAR.

The lists must follow a prescribed format and must be updated in a particular way. We can provide ACC with the template together with instructions on how to update it.

The list should be used by ACC to control the flow of inside information and help it to manage its confidentiality issues.

Insider lists must be kept in electronic form and the format must ensure:

- The confidentiality of the information included by ensuring that access to the insider list is restricted to clearly identified persons from within the issuer or any person acting on their behalf or on their account that need that access due to the nature of their function or position.
- Accuracy of the information contained in the insider list.
- Access to and retrieval of previous versions of the insider list.

The insider list regime relies on an issuer's ability to identify matters giving rise to inside information and ensure that appropriate procedures are put in place. Access to inside information is not defined but it is likely that it relates to actual access by a person in the performance of their employment duties. As a result ACC should have internal procedures dealing with accessibility of sensitive documents and should manage access to inside information by ensuring that inside information is not disclosed in internal publications to all employees and consider whether it needs to adopt closed access and password requirements in its IT systems to restrict access as well as ensure that systems for circulation and storage of hard copy documents are adequate.

Where any enforcement action demonstrates that an issuer had inadequate systems and controls in place to operate its insider lists effectively this may lead to a breach of obligations under the FCA's Listing Rules and particularly the requirement to take reasonable steps to establish and maintain adequate procedures,

systems and controls to enable it to comply with its obligations. Please also see the section below on sanctions.

2.6 **Persons Discharging Managerial Responsibilities (PDMR)**

A person discharging managerial responsibilities means a person within an issuer who is a member of the administrative, management or supervisory body of that entity or a senior executive who is not a member of the administrative, management or supervisory body of that entity, who has regular access to inside information relating directly or indirectly to that entity and power to take managerial decisions affecting the future developments and business prospects of that entity.

A PDMR or a person closely associated must notify (once a total amount of EUR 5,000 has been reached in a calendar year, although transactions can be notified to the FCA on a voluntary basis if this threshold has not been met) the issuer and the relevant competent authority (the FCA) in respect of every transaction conducted on their own account relating to the shares or debt instruments of that issuer, or to derivatives or other financial instruments linked to those shares or debt instruments.

A PDMR within an issuer must not conduct any transactions on its own account or for the account of a third party, directly or indirectly, relating to the shares or debt instruments of the issuer or to derivatives or other financial instruments linked to them during a closed period of 30 calendar days before the announcement of an interim financial report or a year-end report that the issuer is obliged to make public according to either the rules of the trading venue where the issuer's shares are admitted to trading or national law.

A person closely associated means a spouse, or a partner considered to be equivalent to a spouse in accordance with national law, a dependent child in accordance with national law, a relative who has shared the same household for at least one year on the date of the transaction concerned or a legal person, trust or partnership the managerial responsibilities of which are discharged by a PDMR or by a person which is directly or indirectly controlled by such a person which is set up for the benefit of such a person or the economic interests of which are substantially equivalent to those of such a person.

We are highlighting these types of transactions because ACC needs to make its PDMRs aware of them and their responsibilities. These types of transactions are probably not going to be that common given the denomination of the bonds. However, ACC should contact us if it has any concerns and we can discuss whether a securities dealing policy should be prepared and implemented.

2.7 **Sanctions**

The FCA can suspend trading of a financial instrument where it considers it necessary for the purpose of the exercise by it of its functions under MAR. The issuer, any PDMRs and any connected person must continue to comply with all applicable disclosure requirements during the suspension.

The FCA can if it is satisfied that a person has contravened MAR:

- Impose a penalty of such amount as it considers appropriate on the person (maximum fine of at least EUR 15,000,000 or 15% of the gross annual turnover for insider dealing and unlawful

disclosure of inside information and market manipulation) or instead of imposing a penalty publish a statement censuring the person.

- Impose a temporary or permanent prohibition on the individual holding an office or a position involving responsibility for taking decisions about the management of an investment firm and/or a temporary prohibition on the individual acquiring of disposing of financial instruments whether on his or her own account or the account of a third party and whether directly or indirectly.
- To suspend, for such period as it considers appropriate, any permission which the person has to carry on a regulated activity and/or to impose, for such period as it considers appropriate, such limitations or other restrictions in relation to the carrying on of a regulated activity by the person as it considers appropriate.

The FCA may issue a private warning in less serious cases.

The FCA can also require information from issuers, PDMRs and persons closely associated with PDMRs for the purpose of protecting the users of financial markets and exchanges in the UK or the orderly operation of financial markets and exchanges in the UK or any information or explanation the FCA reasonably requires to verify whether Article 17 (public disclosure of inside information) or Article 19 (manger's transactions) of MAR is being or has been complied with.

The FCA may by notice in writing require a person to provide specified information or information of a specified description or to produce specified documents or documents of a specified description that the FCA reasonably requires for the purpose of the exercise by it of its functions under MAR. It is a criminal offence to provide information which the person knows to be false or misleading in a material particular or to recklessly provide information which is false or misleading in a material particular.

The FCA can also require the publication of information and corrective statements by issuers.

The FCA may apply to the court for an injunction restraining (or an interdict prohibiting in Scotland) the contravention of the prohibition of insider dealing and of unlawful disclosure of inside information or market manipulation offences in MAR and a restitution order against a person who has contravened those prohibitions. It also has an administrative power, without the need for an application to the court, to require restitution.

It is a criminal offence under section 89 of Financial Services Act 2012 to make a statement known to be or being reckless as to whether it is false or misleading in a material respect or dishonestly conceal material facts with an intention of inducing or is reckless as to whether making it or concealing them may induce another person (whether or not to whom the statement is made) to enter into or offer to enter into or to refrain from entering or offering to enter into a relevant agreement or to exercise or refrain from exercising any rights conferred by a relevant instrument. There are defences, for example the statement was made in conformity with price stabilising rules. The failure to comply with the obligations in MAR may be evidence of dishonest concealment of material facts for the purpose of section 89.

There is statutory liability for an issuer of securities (trading on any securities market located or operating in the UK) under which it is liable to pay compensation to persons who have suffered loss as a result of a

misleading statement or dishonest omission in certain published information relating to the securities or a dishonest delay in publishing such information.

3 Criminal Justice Act 1993

Any individual who receives information and deals with ACC's bonds should have regard to the insider dealing offences under Part V of the Criminal Justice Act 1993 (CJA) (which is completely separate to the insider dealing offence under MAR. The CJA extends to England and Wales only but it is still relevant).

Under the CJA a criminal offence is committed if:

- an insider deals in price-affected securities when in possession of inside information (the dealing offence);
- an insider encourages another to deal in price-affected securities when in possession of inside information (the encouraging offence); or
- an insider discloses inside information otherwise than in the proper performance of his employment, office or profession (the disclosing offence).

These three offences can only be committed by an individual.

The offences may only be committed where an individual holds "inside information" as an "insider".

An individual holds information as an insider if it is, and he knows that it is, inside information and he has it, and knows that he has it, from an inside source.

A person has information from an inside source if:

- he has it through being a director, employee or shareholder of an issuer of securities (not necessarily the company whose securities are the subject of the insider dealing);
- he has access to the information by virtue of his employment, office or profession (for example, because he works for an adviser to the company); and
- the direct or indirect source of his information is a person within the previous two categories (for example, a spouse of a director who acquires inside information from that director).

Under the CJA "inside information" means information which:

- relates to particular securities or to a particular issuer or issuers and not to securities or issuers of securities generally;
- is specific or precise (not defined);
- has not been made public; and
- if it were made public, would be likely to have a significant effect on the price of any securities.

The CJA contains several general defences and a list of special defences. An individual has a defence to the dealing and/or encouraging offences if he is able to prove any of the following: no advantage was gained; adequate disclosure was made; or he would have traded anyway. An individual has a defence in

relation to the disclosing offence, if he is able to prove he did not expect dealing to occur or he did not expect a profit to result or a loss to be avoided. The CJA includes three further special "market" defences to the dealing and encouraging offences. These relate to activities carried on by market makers, the dissemination of market information and permitted price stabilisation activities.

The maximum sentence for insider dealing under the CJA is 7 years imprisonment or a fine or both.

The Fraud Act 2006 creates a general offence of fraud which may be committed in three ways, by false representation, by failing to disclose information and by abuse of position. The penalty for this general offence is up to 10 years imprisonment and/or a fine.

4 Disclosure and Transparency Rules (DTR)

The purpose of the transparency rules is to implement the Transparency Directive and to make other rules to ensure there is adequate transparency of and access to information in the UK financial markets.

The DTR is to be read in conjunction with MAR. Most of the disclosure requirements applicable for a local authority and the sanctions have been covered in the section above on MAR. Below are some additional rules which ACC should be aware of.

An issuer or a person that discloses regulated information must, at the same time, file that information with the FCA.

An issuer or person must entrust a RIS with the disclosure of regulated information to the public and must ensure that the RIS complies with the minimum standards contained in DTR 6.3.4R to DTR 6.3.8R, for example:

- Regulated information must be communicated to the media in a manner which ensures the security of the communication, minimises the risk of data corruption and unauthorised access and provides certainty as to the source of the regulated information. Security of receipt must be ensured by remedying as soon as possible any failure or disruption in the communication of regulated information. An issuer or person is not responsible for systemic errors or shortcomings at the media to which the regulated information has been communicated.
- Regulated information must be communicated to a RIS in a way which:
    - makes clear that the information is regulated information;
    - identifies clearly the issuer concerned, the subject matter of the regulated information and the time and date of the communication of the regulated information by the issuer or the person.
- Upon request an issuer or other person must be able to communicate to the FCA in relation to any disclosure of regulated information:
    - the name of the person who communicated the regulated information to the RIS;
    - the security validation details;
    - the time and date on which the regulated information was communicated to the RIS;
    - the medium in which the regulated information was communicated; and
    - details of any embargo placed by the issuer on the regulated information, if applicable.

An issuer or person must not charge investors any specific cost for providing regulated information.

The FCA may, at any time, require an issuer to publish such information in such form and within such time limits as it considers appropriate to protect investors or to ensure the smooth operation of the market. If an issuer fails to comply with such a requirement the FCA may itself publish the information (after giving the issuer an opportunity to make representations as to why it should not be published).

The DTR also provides that an issuer of debt securities must ensure that all holders of debt securities ranking pari passu are given equal treatment in respect of all the rights attaching to those debt securities.

5 Listing Rules

The Listing Rules are published by the FCA and relate to admission of securities to the Official List.

The FCA may suspend the listing of the securities where it appears to it, for example, that the issuer has failed to meet its continuing obligations for listing. It may also cancel the listing of securities in certain situations.

The Listing Rules require a listed company (or body corporate) to take reasonable steps to establish and maintain adequate procedures, systems and controls to enable it to comply with its obligations, including the timely and accurate disclosure of information to the market.

A local authority issuer must comply with the following rules in the Listing Rules:

- Its securities must be admitted to trading on a recognised investment exchange's market for listed securities at all times.
- It must inform the FCA in writing without delay if it has:
  - requested a recognised investment exchange to admit or re-admit any of its listed securities to trading; or
  - requested a recognised investment exchange to cancel or suspend trading of any of its listed securities; or
  - been informed by a recognised investment exchange that the trading of any of its listed securities will be cancelled or suspended.

6 London Stock Exchange (LSE) Admission and Disclosure Standards

The Standards set out the rules and responsibilities in relation to, amongst other things, an issuer's, who is admitted to trading on the LSE, ongoing disclosure obligations.

It requires issuers to comply with the disclosure obligations of the issuer's securities regulator to give investors dealing in those securities proper information for determining the current value of the securities and confidence that the market is well-regulated.

ACC will have identified a contact (who will be responsible for communication between the LSE and the issuer) and a designated representative at the time of admission. Any changes require to be notified in writing to the LSE. ACC's contact needs to be able to respond to requests and day-to-day market enquiries from the LSE and in particular, be available before its markets are open each morning to resolve any

issues which could impact on the market's orderly operation. The contact should be fully conversant with the issuer's responsibilities under the Standards.

The LSE has a responsibility to ensure that it operates proper and orderly markets. In order to achieve this it is essential that issuers on its markets publish price sensitive information on a timely basis and in accordance with the rules of their securities regulator which impose a general obligation on issuers whose securities are admitted to trading on a regulated market or prescribed market to release information of this type (please see the sections above). Where such information is published on an internet site the issuer must provide details of the internet address via a RIS.

An issuer must be open, honest and co-operative in all dealings with the LSE.

In order for the securities to be admitted to trading and to remain on the LSE's markets, issuers must be in compliance with:

- the requirements of any securities regulator by which it is regulated (i.e. the FCA for ACC); and/or
- the requirements of any stock exchange on which it has securities admitted to trading; and
- the provisions set out in the Standards, including any modification to the application of the Standards which has been notified via the LSE website.

Issuers must notify the LSE without delay of any change of status of the information provided in respect of the listing or admission to trading (or cancellation from trading) of the issuer's securities on any other exchange or trading platform, where such admission or cancellation is at the application or agreement of the issuer.

Where relevant a statement of the number of securities which were in fact issued and, where different from the number which was the subject of the application, the aggregate number of securities of that class in issue must be lodged with the LSE as soon as it becomes available.

Issuers and their designated representatives must provide to the LSE without delay any information or explanation that the LSE may reasonably require for the purpose of verifying whether the Standards are being or have been complied with or which relates to the integrity or orderly operation of the LSE's markets.

An issuer should reasonably satisfy itself that all information provided by it to the LSE is correct, complete and not misleading. If it comes to the subsequent attention of the issuer that the information provided does not meet this requirement the issuer should advise the LSE as soon as practicable.

Issuers must inform the LSE in advance of any notification of the timetable for any proposed action affecting the rights of its existing holders or its securities traded on its markets. Any proposed amendments to a timetable, including amendment to the publication details of any announcement must be immediately notified to the LSE.

The LSE requires that the securities continue to be eligible for electronic settlement.

The LSE will ordinarily suspend or cancel the admission to and trading of any securities on its markets if a listing of such securities is suspended or cancelled. The LSE may suspend trading of such securities with effect from such time as it may determine and in such circumstances as it thinks fit where the ability of the

LSE to ensure the orderly operation of its markets is or may be jeopardised even if only temporarily. Where trading has been suspended the LSE may impose such conditions as it considers appropriate prior to resumption of trading. An issuer must continue to comply with the Standards even when admission of its securities to trading is suspended unless the LSE agrees otherwise. The LSE will not exercise its powers of suspension or cancellation if an issuer's securities would, in the LSE's determination, be likely to cause significant damage to the interests of investors or the orderly functioning of the financial markets.

If an issuer has contravened the Standards one or more of the following actions may result in addition to the suspension or cancellation of the admission and trading of the securities as mentioned above:

- Censure of the issuer and, in addition, publication of such censure
- A fine
- The LSE may commence disciplinary action against an issuer. The LSE may issue a warning notice and/or refer disciplinary matters to either the Executive Panel or the Disciplinary Committee. Other than as set out in the Standards and other than as between a party and its advisers, each party shall keep confidential any matters relating to any proceedings save where disclosure is permitted or required by law. The LSE reserves the right to publish, without disclosing the identity of any party concerned, in part, in summary or in full, the findings of the Executive Panel, Disciplinary Committee or Appeals Committee where the LSE believes that to do so would be of assistance to the market.

There are a number of factors which the LSE takes into account when considering what disciplinary action to take in relation to a rule breach. These are:

- The seriousness, size and nature of the rule breach.
- How the rule breach came to light.
- The actual or potential market impact of the rule breach and any likely repercussions.
- The general compliance history of the issuer and specific history regarding the rule breach in question.
- Consistent and fair application of the rules (and precedents of previous similar rule breaches).
- The responsiveness and conduct of the issuer in relation to the matter under investigation.

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Moody's Rating System Methodology

Introduction

Moody's Investors Service is a leading provider of credit ratings, research and risk analysis. Moody's ratings and analysis track debt covering more than 130 countries, 11,000 corporate issuers, 21,000 public finance issuers and 76,000 structured finance obligations.

Moody's Rating Scale

The rating scale, running from a high of Aaa to a low of C, comprises 21 notches. It is divided into two sections, investment grade and speculative grade. The lowest investment-grade rating is Baa3. The highest speculative-grade rating is Ba1.

Moody's Long-term Debt Ratings (maturities of one year or greater)

INVESTMENT GRADE

- Aaa – highest rating, representing minimum credit risk
- Aa1, Aa2, Aa3 – high-grade
- A1, A2, A3 – upper-medium grade
- Baa1, Baa2, Baa3 – medium grade

SPECULATIVE GRADE

- Ba1, Ba2, Ba3 – speculative elements
- B1, B2, B3 – subject to high credit risk
- Caa1, Caa2, Caa3 – bonds of poor standing
- Ca – highly speculative, or near default
- C – lowest rating, bonds typically in default, little prospect for recovery of principal or interest

Rating Methodology

Aberdeen City Council falls under Moody's rating methodology for regional and local governments (known to them as RLG's). Their methodology considers RLG ratings are comprised of 2 factors

- the government's Baseline Credit Assessment (BCA); and
- the likelihood of extraordinary support in the event of acute liquidity stress

Moody's uses a BCA scorecard, a matrix, and a support scorecard as part of their rating process. Once the standalone credit profile (BCA) of an RLG is assessed, they then incorporate an estimate of the likelihood of extraordinary support from a higher-tier government. The support scorecard uses a set of metrics which their rating committee uses to evaluate the likelihood & degree of support.

Baseline Credit Assessment

The steps taken by Moody's to determine a BCA for an RLG:-

a) Assess idiosyncratic risk score from scorecard

This score is assessed using four categories of metrics:-

- economic fundamentals (20%),
- institutional framework (20%),
- financial performance & debt profile (30%),
- governance & management (30%).

b) Assess systemic risk based on sovereign rating

Systemic risk of the RLG's operating environment and sovereign government bond rating.

c) Determine BCA score based on matrix combining 1) and 2)

This matrix provides consistency to the BCA making it comparable across countries.

d) Consider additional relevant factors and assign BCA

Events or particular circumstances which require to be factored into the BCA score (e.g. shrinking population, high debt ratios, history of default, political risk/interference etc).

Support Scorecard

This scorecard assesses the probability of extraordinary support from a higher-tier government. Support could take different forms, such as a one-time cash payment, facilitating negotiations with lenders etc.

When determining extraordinary support, Moody's account for:-

a) the supporting government's rating
b) an estimate of the default correlation between the 2 entities
c) an estimate of the likelihood of extraordinary government support

The estimate of the likelihood of extraordinary government support is determined by the following :-

a) Institutional framework
b) Legal requirements or barriers
c) Government policy stance
d) Degree of oversight
e) Reputation risk
f) Moral hazard
g) Historical behaviour

DRAFT

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14th December 2016
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Executive
TITLE OF REPORT	Leaving the European Union
REPORT NUMBER	OCE16/044
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	YES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report provides the Council with an early assessment of possible local implications of the vote to leave the European Union.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:-

i. note the detail of the report;

ii. instruct officers to review the Regional Economic Strategy and consider what adjustment, if any, is required to the Strategy in the light of the emerging economic implications highlighted in this report. Any adjustments to focus on mitigation of potential harm and exploitation of potential opportunities;

iii. to note that officers are reviewing the Council's approach:-

- to overseas trade development in the light of the potential change to our trade relations; and
- to external funding in light of changes to EU funding.

iv. note the Scottish Government's projection that the decision to leave the UK could reduce Scottish tax revenues by between £1.7bn and £3.7bn by 2030, resulting in a budget reduction to the Scottish Government of between 6% and 13% and to instruct the Head of Finance to keep Council briefed as the financial picture becomes clearer.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report does not make recommendations with financial implications. Possible financial implications of the vote to leave the EU are given consideration.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Implications are described throughout the report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 At their meeting on 17th August, 2016, the Council considered a detailed report on the short, medium and long term implications for Aberdeen City Council, its ALEOs and partner organisations of the vote to leave the European Union. The report was presented only a short period after the referendum vote and the Council agreed that further reports would be submitted on a regular basis as required.

5.2 The ongoing level of uncertainty around likely outcomes of negotiations to leave the EU make assessing implications difficult. It seems likely that the UK will be obliged to comply with many EU directives in order to gain access to European markets. It is unclear which areas will see policy continuities and which areas will be significantly changed.

5.4 In the light of this uncertainty, local government, including Aberdeen City Council, must closely monitor the situation and make preparations to, both, respond to developments and feed into new policy and negotiations.

Potential Impacts on the City of Aberdeen

A. National and Regional Impact: Aberdeen City & Shire and Scotland

Whilst there is a relatively broad consensus that there will be a negative economic impact on both the Scottish and the North East of Scotland economies, the impact of Brexit on the Scottish economy will, in part, depend on type of alternative trade agreement negotiated. This is expanded upon below.

"Soft Brexit"

This note describes a ""Soft Brexit"" scenario where the UK leaves the EU, retaining access to the single market and remaining within the European Economic Area. Under this "Soft Brexit" scenario, Scottish GDP is projected to be 2%-3% less and the equivalent of £3bn-£5bn less in 2016 terms over the next ten years (Fraser of Allander Institute).[1] Real wages are projected to fall between 3%-4% with average full-time earnings reduced by £800-£1,200 per annum. A 1%-2% reduction in total employment is projected over a ten year period, representing 30,000 jobs. Scottish exports are expected to reduce by 12% in Goods and 8% in Services within the next ten years.

"Hard Brexit"

Two other harder Brexit scenarios are described in this note. Where the UK negotiates bilateral agreements from within the single market like Switzerland, or the UK World Trade Organisation rules, projections are for further lost productivity, wages and employment over a ten year period. Forecasts expect that, depending on the terms of new trade arrangements, Scottish GDP could decline by up to £11.2 billion per year by 2030.[2] In these harder Brexit scenarios, there may be as many as 80,000 fewer jobs in Scotland as a result of leaving the EU. Scottish exports of goods could reduce by between 12% and 25% and the exports of services by between 18% and 25% over a ten year period.

Table 1 - Estimated Long Term Impact of a European Economic Agreement on GDP

Organisation	Estimated Impact on UK GDP (%)	Implied Impact on Scottish GDP	Implied Impact on Scottish GDP Per Person
Centre for Economic Performance (dynamic analysis) – midpoint of estimates	-7.9%	-£11.2 billion	£2,100
HM Treasury	-3.8%	-£5.4 billion	£1,000
National Institute of Economic and Social Research (static analysis)	-1.8%	-£2.6 billion	£500
Centre for Economic Performance (static analysis)	-1.3%	-£1.8 billion	£300

Note: Estimates are relative to a counterfactual where Scotland/UK remains a member of the EU. CEP analysis reports impact on GDP per capita rather than total GDP. Scottish figures are expressed in terms of 2015 GDP and using 2015 population estimates for Scotland. Implied GDP impact on Scotland is assumed to be proportionate to the corresponding estimated impact on the UK.

Source: The Scottish Government: Potential Implications of the UK Leaving the EU on Scotland's Long Run Economic Performance. August 2016.

[1] Fraser of Allander Institute: Long-term Economic Implications of Brexit. October 2016.

[2] The Scottish Government: Potential Implications of the UK Leaving the EU on Scotland's Long Run Economic Performance. August 2016.

Foreign Direct Investment

The UK is by far the largest benefactor of (Foreign Direct Investment) FDI within the European Union (47%) and the impact on the decision to leave the EU on this is unknown. Scotland is the region with the highest proportion of FDI in the UK after London and the ramifications of leaving the EU on foreign investment in Scotland could be substantial. Early indications on this have been mixed, with the UK government mitigating deals with car manufacturers to maintain investment confidence.

Import Price Pressures

There has been pressure on costs in supply chains in the aftermath of the UK vote to leave the EU, with this initially showing in the price of manufacturing goods and sale of food and drink.[3] This has been attributed to the fall in the value of Sterling and the resultant increased cost of imports. Goods bought in euros or dollars have become more expensive for many manufacturers, as a result of the fall of sterling against these currencies by almost 15%. This has also been experienced by clothing manufacturers and, although many have seen export sales rise, the result could be higher prices for UK consumers domestically.[4]

Table 1: Impact of various post-Brexit scenarios on Scotland's exports

	Estimated reduction in total exports	
	Goods	Services
Norway scenario		
Optimistic	-12%	-8%
Pessimistic	-18%	-11%
Switzerland scenario		
Optimistic	-12%	-18%
Pessimistic	-18%	-22%
WTO scenario	-26%	-25%

Source: Fraser of Allander (2016a)

The contribution of EU workers to the Scottish economy is estimated at approximately £7.3 billion.[5] EU workers represent 4.8% of the Scottish financial workforce and 8.7% of the hospitality workforce, amounting to 42,000 EU workers employed in the Scottish hospitality sector.[6] EU workers in the Scottish economy contribute more in terms of value-added activity than anywhere else in the UK except London.[7]

The Scottish Government has projected that by 2030, leaving the EU could cost the Scottish economy £11.2 billion per year, as much as £2,100 per person every year. The result could be a reduction of Scottish tax revenues by between £1.7bn and £3.7bn per year by 2030, equivalent to a budgetary reduction of between 6% and 13% (Scottish Government)[8].

The Fraser of Allander Institute substantially downgraded Scottish GDP growth forecasts for 2017 and 2018 as a result of the decision to leave the EU. Scottish GDP growth forecasts for 2016 were 1.6%, 1.8% in 2017 and 2.0% in 2018.[9] According to Mackay Consultants, GDP Growth projections

[3] The Guardian. Cost of British grocery brands to rise due to fall in value of sterling. November 2016.
[4] The Guardian. November 2016.
[5] The Independent. Brexit: EU workers 'adding £7.3bn to Scottish economy'. November 2016.
[6] The Independent. 2016.
[7] The Independent. 2016.
[8] The Scottish Government. 2016.
[9] Fraser of Allander Institute. 2016

for the North East economy sit below these estimates, at 1.4% in 2016, 1.3% in 2017 and 1.6% in 2018.[10] Over the next three years, Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire has been projected to have the lowest level of economic growth in all of Scotland.

Aberdeen City's regional economy is one of the most productive regions in the UK, with the highest GVA per capita output in Scotland in 2014. The result of Brexit in the short to medium-term in Scotland is estimated to be a substantial downward revision of gross value added across all economic sectors, with the forecast that lost GVA growth resulting from Brexit could be as high as -1.3 percentage points by 2018 from the whole economy. It has also been projected that this represents a permanent growth loss as a result of leaving the EU.

More recently, the UK government's Autumn Statement has signalled that government bowering would increase and growth forecasts have been downgraded as a result of leaving the EU. The government forecasts for growth within the life of the current parliament have been downgraded by 2.4% as a result of leaving the EU.

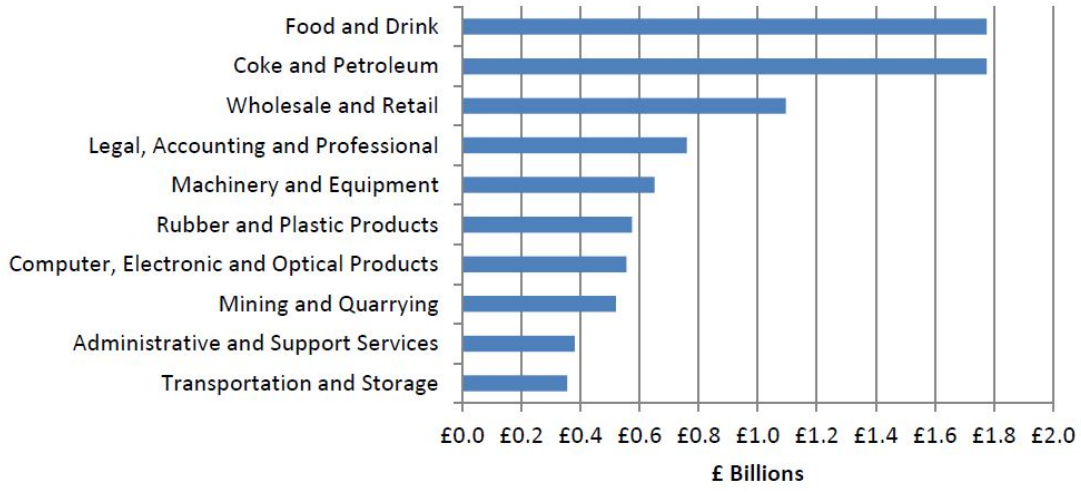
The Office for Budgetary Responsibility (OBR) has forecast that Brexit will result in a decade-long slowdown in trade growth and immigration. The OBR's revised economic growth projections as a result of the decision to leave the EU are 1.4% in 2017, recovering to 2.1% in 2021. There is an estimate £59 billion negative impact on the government's budget as a result of Brexit, with this having an impact on Scotland's budget.

Industry Sector impact

The Fraser of Allander Institute, based at the University of Strathclyde, was recently commissioned by the Scottish Parliament's European and External Relations Committee to conduct long-term economic modelling based on the decision of the UK to leave the EU. The following sector based projections are the first to be based on the Scottish economy. The analysis considers three scenarios which encompass three scenarios for future trading relationships with the EU. The economic forecasts extend to the ten year period following the UK's exit from the EU. The conclusion of the analysis is that although proportionally Scotland is less affected by the UK's departure from the EU than the UK as a whole, the effects on the Scottish economy are substantially negative in terms of GDP, employment and incomes. The Fraser of Allander Institute concluded that based on modelling assumptions, Scottish GDP would be between 2% and 5% lower than would have been the case tens after leaving the EU.

[10] Mackay Consultants. North East Scotland: Monthly Economic Report. September 2016.

Chart 1: Top 10 Scottish Exports to the EU (2014)



Source: Calculated from Export Statistics Scotland 2014

‘Soft-Brexit’ Scenario:

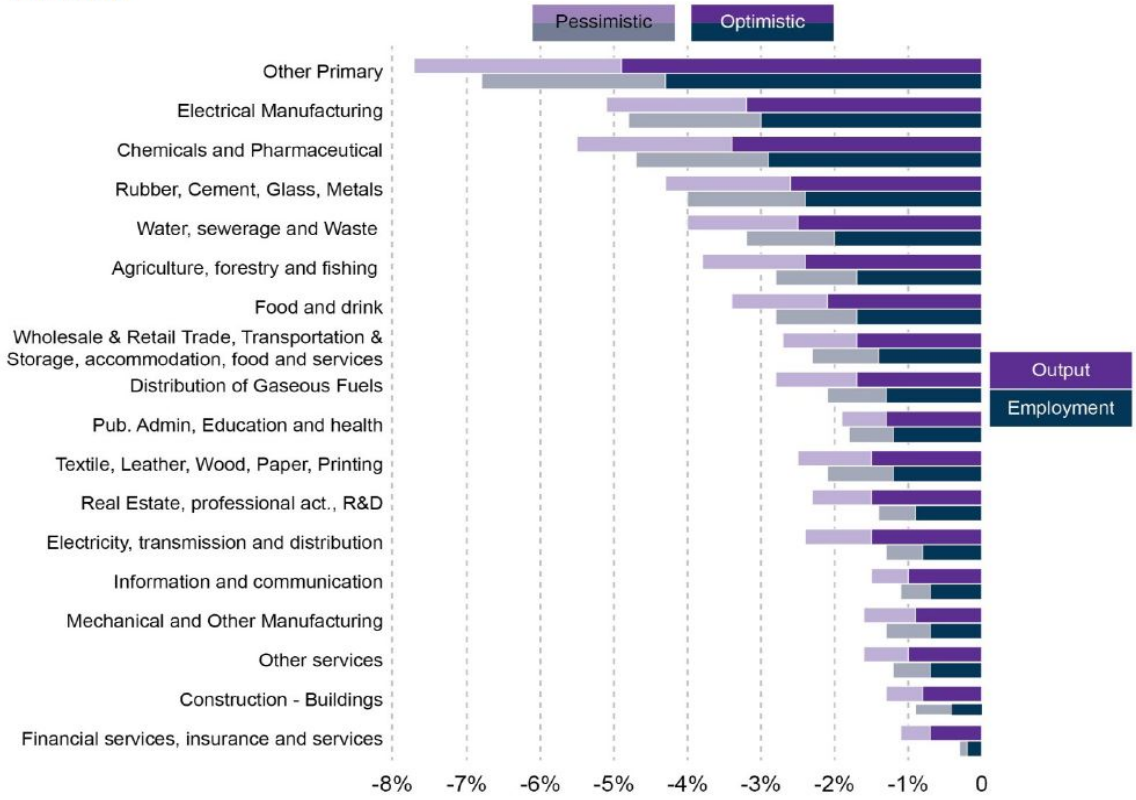
Figure 1 (below) presents projections of output and employment under a ““Soft Brexit””. ‘Other Primary’ sectors have been estimated to experience the largest percentage contraction, with 3%-8% less employment and 4%-5% less output after around ten years than would have otherwise have been the case.

Under a ““Soft Brexit”” scenario, ‘Whole Retail Trade; Transportation and Storage etc.’ GVA in Scotland is expected to be almost £300 million less than would have otherwise been the case in a ten year period after leaving the EU. GVA from ‘Professional Activities & R&D’ is expected to decline by £275 million and ‘Other Primary’ industries (Mining, Refined Petroleum, Onshore Oil & Gas activities) GVA is expected to decline by £200 million over the next ten years as a result of leaving the EU.[11]

Under the “Soft Brexit” scenario, within the Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals industry, both employment and output are projected to be between 3%-5% lower ten years after leaving the EU. Employment within the Electrical manufacturing sector is also projected to be between 3%-5% lower than would have been and the rubber, cement, glass and metals manufacturing sector is projected to have 2%-4% lower employment and 3%-5% lower output.[12]

[11] Fraser of Allander Institute. 2016.
[12] Fraser of Allander Institute. 2016.

Figure 1: long-term % changes in output and employment relative to baseline (Norway scenario)

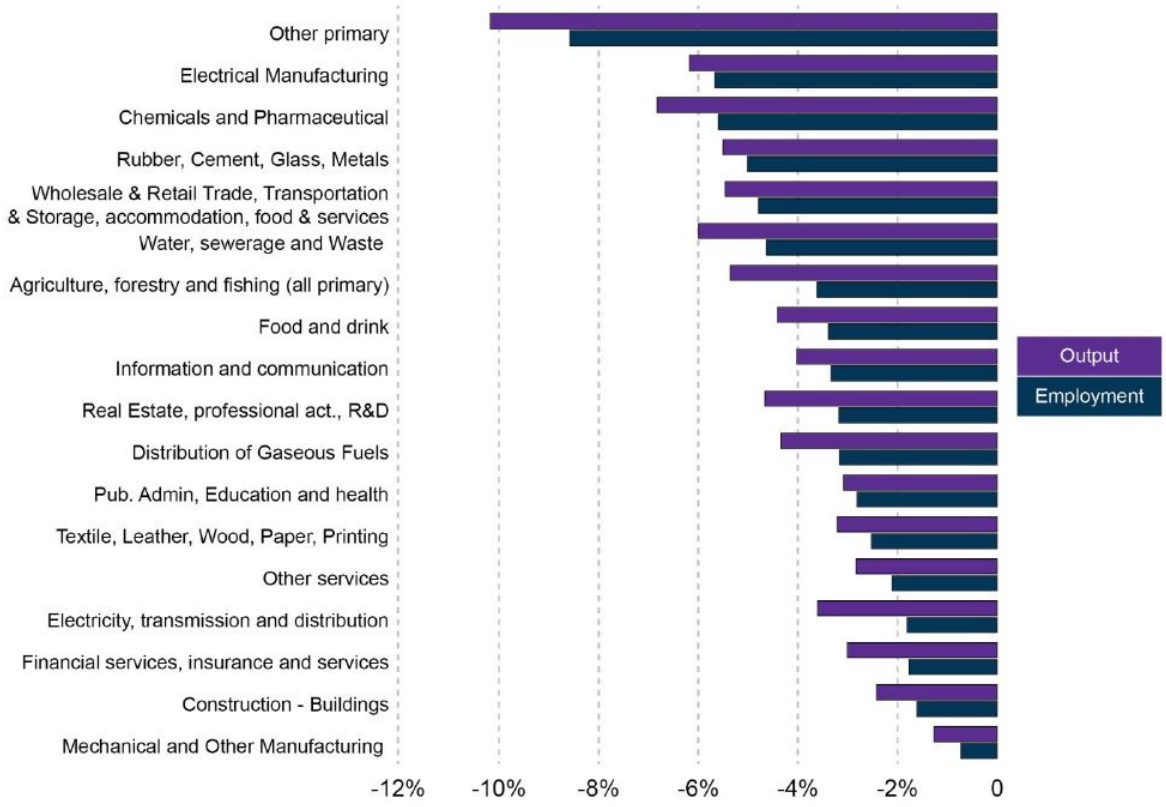


Source: The Scottish Parliament Information Centre: The Economic Implications of Brexit. October 2016.

Hard-Brexit Scenario:

Figure 3 (below) presents projections of output and employment under a ""Hard Brexit"" scenario. 'Other Primary' employment is projected to be 8.6% lower than would have been the case after Brexit, with output 10.2% lower.

Figure 3: long-term % changes in output and employment relative to baseline (WTO scenario)



Source: The Scottish Parliament Information Centre: The Economic Implications of Brexit. October 2016.

In a "Hard Brexit" scenario, after a ten year period, Scottish exports of Goods are projected to contract by 26% and Services are expected to contract by 25%.

The Wholesale and Retail, Transportation and Storage etc. sector is projected to have the largest contraction in value added, losing more than £900mn ten years after leaving the EU. Professional Services, R&D etc. in Scotland is also projected to loose almost £900mn value added in the same period. In terms of employment, Other Primary sectors employment is projected to be 9% less in ten years after leaving the EU, with output 10% lower.

Under the WTO model, even with fiscal policy compensation (EU rebate/Scottish budget increase), the effect of tariffs and the loss of access to the single market would be negative on the Scottish economy. Scottish GDP would be approximately 5% lower ten years after leaving the EU than would otherwise have been the case.[13]

Labour productivity is also projected to contract as a result of leaving the EU. In the ten years after the UK leaving the EU, the Scottish employment rate will be 0.6% less and real wages will be 2.3% less than otherwise.[14]

Under a "Hard Brexit" scenario, Scottish 'Other Primary' industry sectors are expected to

[13] Fraser of Allander Institute. 2016.
[14] Fraser of Allander Institute. 2016.

experience the largest negative impact, with output forecast to be 10% less and employment 8.5% less in the ten year period after leaving the EU.

Scottish Industry Sectors: Economic Projections

Wholesale, Retail & Trade:

In 2015, Wholesale, Retail and Repairs & Transportation and Storage (G & H) industries in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire had an annual turnover of £11,715 million, representing 14.8% of total sector turnover in Scotland in 2015. Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire had 3,230 enterprises and 10.8% of Scotland's enterprises in this sector and 47,500 employees and 10.4% of Scotland's total within this sector (Businesses in Scotland, 2015).

Wholesale & Retail Trade; Transportation and Storage Industries are projected to lose £275 million in exports and between £300 million and £450 million in gross value added to the economy. In 2015 terms. This would represent a 4.5% contraction within total gross value added in the sector and in 2014 terms, a 15.4% contraction in the total value of international exports. This may have disproportional effects on the Aberdeen regional economy. Given that 19.6% of all Scottish Wholesale, Retail & Trade international exports are attributed to Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire, it is likely that this sector contraction would have a higher proportional effect in the North East regional economy.

Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities:

In 2015, Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire had 7,825 Professional, Scientific and Technical (M) enterprises, with 34,140 employees and turnover of £8,252. Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire had 24.0% of enterprises, 22.9 of employment and 42.9% of total turnover of Professional, Scientific and Technical (M) enterprises in Scotland in 2015.

In a scenario in which the UK retains access to the single market (Norway model), gross value added from Professional Activities & R&D industries has been projected to be £275-£425 million less in ten years following the decision to leave the EU. In 2014, the total international export value of Scientific Research and Development and Other Professional, Scientific and Technical activities from Scotland was £785 million. In 2014, 8.8% of Scientific Research and Development international exports were attributed to Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire. This is another sector where the Aberdeen regional economy has a high degree of specialism and may be disproportionately impacted by the decision to leave the EU. Al scenarios for new trade relationships with the EU have identified that Professional Activities & R&D will be one the most impacted sectors, which may have a larger negative impact in Aberdeen City than the rest of Scotland.

Construction:

In 2015, there were 2,090 Construction (F) enterprises in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire, with approximately 14,940 employees and an annual turnover over £1,945 million. Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire had 10.9% of Construction enterprise, 11.8% of Construction employment and 11.4% of Construction turnover in Scotland in 2015.

Many building materials used in the Construction industry are imported from Europe (bricks; timber). The disruption of these as a result of the renegotiation of trade arrangements has been

identified by the sector as threat. The fall in value of Sterling has impacted the Construction industry by increasing the cost of building materials.

Manufacturing:

In 2015, there were 1,225 Manufacturing (C) enterprises in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire, with a workforce of approximately 26,290 people and an annual turnover of approximately £5,767 million. In total, 13.6% of enterprises, 14.4% of employment and 15.4% of turnover from Scottish Manufacturing was attributed to Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire.

Manufacturing accounted for 190,000 employees in Scotland and for 52% of all Scottish international exports. The sector will be highly affected by the new trade deal negotiated with the EU.

In 2014, the total value of international export manufacturing for Scotland was £14,270 million, with £3,105 million attributed to Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire. 21.8% of Scotland's international manufacturing exports were attributed to Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire in 2014 and this proportionally large share makes international manufacturing in the North East more vulnerable than the rest of Scotland as a result of leaving the EU.

The input costs of raw materials for manufacturing may increase as a result of leaving the single market and has been evidenced early for some sectors. In a "Soft Brexit" scenario, enterprise will be outside the EU customs union, subject to 'rules of origin' that require exporters to obtain certificates to prove the domestic content of their exports. The cost of these can be significant, particularly for smaller firms and businesses that rely on complex cross-border supply chains.

Aviation:

Uncertainties regarding post-Brexit trade deal negotiations are already affecting companies within the industry. The air transport industry will be affected by access to a fully deregulation aviation market, with the sector requiring this to continue operating as they currently do. It has been estimated by the International Air Transport Association that British air-passenger numbers could fall by 3-5% over the next four years as a result of leaving the EU.[15]

Against this uncertainty, Easyjet have taken the decision to set up a separate airline based on the European mainland to ensure operations.[16] The organisation cited regulatory uncertainties and complications as a key reason for establishing an EU mainland base of operations.

Public Sector: Public Administration & Defence

The Scottish Government has projected that the decision of the UK to leave the EU could reduce Scottish tax revenues by between £1.7 billion and £3.7 billion by 2030. This would be the equivalent in a reduction of the Scottish Government's budget by between 6% and 13%. The impact of this on local authorities is thought to be substantial, with a large reduction in block funding projected in this scenario.

Oil & Gas Sector:

[15] International Business Times. UK aviation industry faces post-Brexit challenges despite likely increase of tourists. July 2016.

[16] BBC News. Easyjet profits tumble after year of 'challenges'. November 2016.

In 2014, there were 72,000 people directly employed within Energy (including Renewable) industries in Scotland. In Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire, there were 41,900 people directly employed within Energy (including Renewable) industries, representing 58.2% of all employees within the sectors in Scotland in 2014.[17]

The uncertainty of the full impact of Brexit may further discourage future investment in the UK Continental Shelf. Although a global industry, the rate of North Sea oil-field shutdowns has and may continue to increase as a result of this uncertain environment. Although production in the UKCS increased 10% in 2015, declining project investment is expected to result in a 24% decrease in revenue in 2016. The decision to leave the EU is projected to have a negative effect on investor confidence which amplifies the current pressure on the industry downturn.[18] Loss of access to EU labour markets is considered to have a negative impact on Oil & Gas companies.[19]

The weakening value of Sterling may have some positive benefits in terms of exports for Oil & Gas companies, but it may also boost cost reduction efforts for UK projects. Companies may consider pausing prospective investments whilst assessing uncertainties around commodity prices, foreign exchange and potential tariffs.[20]

The political fallout and high uncertainty affects the North Sea oil & Gas industry in terms of potential investment, compounded by an environment of long-term lower oil prices. The constitutional crisis which may unfold, with the prospect of another Scottish independence referendum, will factor into this investment uncertainty. The original question of the division of resources for an independent Scotland, may concern Oil & Gas companies. This constitutional uncertainty, a secondary result of Brexit, may have an impact on the industry and investment If only in terms of further increasing uncertainty.

Renewable Energy:

In 2013, there were an estimated 21,000 employees within Renewable energy in Scotland.[21]

As a result of the decision to leave the EU, the UK may have disassociated itself from the EU Renewable Energy Directive. The UK will no longer be obliged to meet the EU climate and clean energy targets and the absence of this is a threat to the renewables sector. The current government had introduced energy policies which have countered renewable energy incentivisation, which may predict their future policy preferences, with negative impacts for the sector in the future (Solar Feed in Tariffs/Fracking/Cuts to Subsidy)[22]. Renewable energy industries may also be vulnerable from investment uncertainty from foreign companies.[23]

The UK has been a large benefactor of EU renewable energy funds, having received 24% of all funding from the European Investment Bank, totalling 7.2 billion Euros since 2007. When the UK is outside of the EU, it could potentially loose of billions of pounds of renewable energy projects.[24]

[17] The Scottish Government. Growth Sector Statistics. 2015
[18] Bloomberg. North Sea Oil Faces Worsening Investment Drought after Brexit. June 2016.
[19] Offshore Energy Today. Effects of Brexit on Oil & Gas Industry in UK. June 2016.
[20] Energy Voice. Brexit: Dark Days for the UK Energy Industry? July 2016.
[21] Scottish Renewables. Renewables in Numbers. 2013. (
[22] The Guardian. UK cuts to renewable energy make mockery of its Pledge at Paris climate talks. December 2015.
[23] Renewable Energy World. Brexit: A Hard or Soft Landing for Renewables? August 2016.
[24] Mongoose Energy. What Would Brexit Mean for UK Renewables? 2016.

Fishing:

The Scottish Fishing Industry holds a very positive view of leaving the EU. The current framework for fisheries management is complex and defined by the Common Fisheries Policy and disentanglement from it will require lengthy negotiations with the final outcome unknown.

Between 2000 and 2010 the industry, following intensive and sometimes excessive fishing efforts, endured high levels of regulation in an effort to secure stock recovery. The Scottish fleet in particular saw many fishing boats decommissioned in an effort to reduce fishing capacity.

Effective fisheries management has at last seen substantial improvement in stock recovery especially within our 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone, one of the richest marine environments in the world. Leaving the EU should allow the UK to regain control of this zone and thereby control, which nations can fish within it. This provides an opportunity for the Scottish fleet to have a right to harvest much greater quotas bringing prosperity to both fish sectors and the wider supply chain.

Bertie Armstrong, CEO, the Scottish Fishermen's Federation has stated:
"There will, of course, be challenges but we believe the balance is unmistakably on the side of opportunity," he said. "If the right deal is reached on Brexit, it will turn us into a world-class seafood harvesting and exporting country.

Negotiations are at an early stage with both governments being fully aware of this opportunity and it potential economic impact, particularly in the North East of Scotland.
If this opportunity is to be realised it will require substantial onshore investment and the training of employees to ensure there is a competitive environment for the purchase of fish landings

Growth Sectors: Food & Drink:

Excluding agriculture and fisheries, there were 16,600 workers directly employed within Food and drinks industries in Aberdeen City & Shire in 2014, representing 13.9% of the total Scottish workforce within these sectors.[25]

The Scottish Food & Drink sector is worth £14.4bn a year, is Scotland's largest manufacturing industry and directly employs around 34,000 people. Scottish Food & Drink exports to the EU in 2014 were valued at approximately £1,775 million, representing approximately 15.4% of all Scottish exports to the EU. Under a "Soft Brexit" scenario, the Scottish Food & Drink sector is projected to be would be £270 million worse off after ten years.[26]

The import cost of ingredients ae also projected to rise and remain high in the period of leaving the EU. Food manufacturing may face increased production costs because of this and it is not clear that this will be offset by increased output and new international trade arrangements. Key raw materials for this industry are likely to cost manufacturers more, although a weakened sterling may offset this as products become more competitive. International trade will be more competitive but it is not clear if this will offset the import pressure caused by a weakening of sterling.

The Scottish Food & Drink sector is the joint largest Scottish export sector to the EU, with a high

[25]The Scottish Government. Growth Sector Statistics. 2015
[26] Fraser of Allander Institute. 2016.

level of integration within the single market.[27] It has been forecast that here will be almost 1,000 less people employed within the Scottish Food & Drinks industry in the ten year period following leaving the EU and in the event of a ""Hard Brexit"", as many as 1,500 jobs could be at risk.[28]

However, a survey of Scottish food manufacturers conducted by the Bank of Scotland from September 2016 found that the sector is looking to increase total employment by 14,000 in the next five years. The survey also found that the sector believed that on average the turnover of the sector would increase by 24% within the next five years.

Despite negative projections, there exists a feeling confidence within some in the Food & Drink sector that Brexit will not have an adverse impact, with a feeling of opportunity for potential new markets. A recent survey of the sector found that 50% of food and drink businesses raised growth estimates as a result of the referendum.[29]. Given the international appeal of many of the products of the industry, there is optimism amongst some in the sector that new markets can be unlocked as a result of leaving the EU.

Life Sciences:

In 2014, there were approximately 16,900 people directly employed within the Life Sciences sector in Scotland, with approximately 1,000 people employed within the sector in Aberdeen City & Shire, representing 5.9% of total Scottish employment within the sector.[30]

The loss of EU research funding provides a large threat to Scotland's life sciences sector.

EU nationals comprise 17% of researchers and academics in higher education in the UK, compounded with the future guarantee of EU research funding, pose a direct risk to the sector.

Financial & Business Services:

In 2014, there were 226,700 people in employment within Financial & Business Services in Scotland. In Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire in 2014, there were 27,300 people employed within the Financial and Business Services sector, representing 12.0% of total Scottish employment within these sectors in 2014. In 2015, 7.8% of Aberdeen City employment was within these sectors.[31]

This sector has a high level of integration within the EU. Loss of access to the EU single market will have a large negative impact to these services industries. The Financial sector also employs large numbers of skilled foreign staff and the question of access to this potential labour force is negatively impacted by leaving the EU.

Creative Industries:

In 2014, there were approximately 71,800 people in Scotland directly employed within Creative Industries. In Aberdeen City, direct employment within the Creative Industries sector in 2014 was approximately 4,600, with employment in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire within this sector at approximately 6,300, representing 8.8% of the total Scottish workforce within these industries.[32] In 2014, GVA from Arts, Entertainment and Recreation industries in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire

[27] Fraser of Allander Institute. 2016.
[28] Fraser of Allander Institute. 2016.
[29] The Scotsman. Scots Food and Drinks Sector Unshaken by Brexit. September 2016.
[30] The Scottish Government. 2015
[31] The Scottish Government. 2015
[32] The Scottish Government. 2015

was worth £250.5 million.[33]

Restrictions in the freedom of movement have been identified by the sectors has having a potentially large impact. Long-standing skill shortages already exist within the sector, with the loss of EU labour, particularly EU students, being identified by sector officials as a major challenge.[34] A skills-gap has been projected to impact the sector in the future as a result of leaving the EU. Losing access to EU funding has also been projected to be a significant challenge for the sector moving forward.[35]

Sustainable Tourism:

In 2014, there were 196,000 employed within Sustainable Tourism industries in Scotland. In Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire, there were 18,000 people directly employed within the Sustainable Tourism industries, representing 9.2% of the total Scottish workforce within these sectors.[36]

In 2015, there were approximately 246,535 people employed within Sustainable Tourism industries. Employment within Sustainable Tourism in Aberdeen City in 2015 was approximately 13,650.[37]

In the short-term, the devaluation of the pound benefits the tourism industry, which actually saw a spike in visitor numbers in Scotland following the EU referendum, due in part to advantageous exchange rates and 'staycations'. The ability to attract and retain overseas staff has been identified as a large threat to the sector. There is also a fear that the UK may have suffered a decline in its attractiveness as a destination as a result of leaving the EU. It is feared that economic decline and barriers may deter tourism from Europe.[38]

[33] The Socottish Government. Scottish Annual Business Statistics. 2014..
[34] Goldfinch Entertainment. How Will Brexit Affect out UK Creative Industries? June 2016.
[35] Goldfinch Entertainment. How Will Brexit Affect out UK Creative Industries? June 2016.
[36] The Scottish Government. 2015
[37] The Scottish Government: Businesses in Scotland, 2015.
[38] The Guardian. Brexit and Tourism: We Have Devalued the Union Jack as a Tourism Brand. August 2016.

Potential Impacts on Aberdeen City Council

B. Workforce Impact

The government has confirmed that the proposed Great Repeal Bill will 'convert existing EU law into domestic law, wherever practical'[39]. If this is the case then it is increasingly likely that employment laws will remain largely untouched in the short to medium term as per the previous guidance.

With approximately 3.5% of the current Council workforce from the EU, and with the government stating that there are no plans to repatriate current employees, the short term effect on the workforce is still predicted to be minimal. In the medium to long term EU nationals may choose to return to their countries of origin. As such, consideration should be given to workforce planning in service areas with high ratios of EU nationals.

The government has announced that there will be a pan UK approach to immigration[40] with speculation that this will take the form of a work permit scheme.[41] The impact of this in terms of workforce planning for the Council may be a reduced labour pool to recruit from. This would be due to the inability for those from out with the UK to move to the area and apply for posts, instead being required to apply from abroad and awaiting the offer of an actual job. Given the limited number of Council posts likely to be granted a work permit this route is unlikely to address recruitment concerns.

C. Legal implications

The EU referendum result has no immediate impact on UK or Scottish legislation: the law remains as it was on 23 June 2016. On withdrawal from the EU, under Article 50 the UK would no longer be formally required to comply with EU law and could repeal or amend domestic laws that give effect to EU law. Any new deal with the EU might involve agreeing to continue to respect EU laws.

There has been debate about whether, as a matter of UK constitutional law, the UK Government is able to issue a declaration under Article 50 – triggering withdrawal from the European Union without reference to Parliament. It was held in the recent High Court case of R(Miller) v Secretary of State for Existing in the European Union 2016 EWHC 2768 (Admin) that the UK Government does not have the legal authority to trigger Article 50 by exercise of the Crown's prerogative powers without first getting the approval of Parliament. The UK Government argued that the power to make and break treaties, including the treaties that made the UK a member of the EU, is part of the royal prerogative. The UK Government argued that Parliament must have intended that, when the European Communities Act 1972 was enacted, that the Crown would retain its prerogative power to effect a withdrawal from the Community Treaties. The general rule is that the prerogative powers cannot be used to change domestic law and the High Court agreed with the claimants that this rule prevents the Government from exercising Article 50 without Parliament authorising it to do so. Following this decision the UK Government are appealing to the UK Supreme Court and a date of 5th

[39] *https://whitehall-admin.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/speeches/exiting-the-eu-next-steps-ministerial-statement-10-october-2016*

[40] *http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-37720650*

[41] *http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-37271420*

December has been set (which is before Council meets to consider this report). Therefore it is still not clear, at the time of writing, whether the UK Parliament needs to be consulted before the UK Government can trigger Article 50.

Triggering Article 50 starts the two year clock. There are only two possible outcomes that both lead to exit from the EU i) negotiating a deal within 2 years or ii) exit upon expiry of 2 years without a deal. Any extension to two years is within the gift of the EU. Notice once properly given cannot be revoked.

The EU bloc cannot negotiate a separate trade deal with one of its own members, hence the Commissioner's insistence that the UK must first leave. This suggests the issue is not that the EU will not negotiate with the UK prior to triggering Article 50…it cannot. It is also contrary to EU law for a member to negotiate its own trade deals with "outsiders"…there can be talks (about negotiation) but nothing can be concluded until after the UK has actually left the EU (i.e no negotiation whilst in the process of leaving the EU.)

In terms of specific areas of law, the following is worth noting:

- The law on **State Aid**, governing when public funds and resources can be used to support commercial enterprises, is entirely EU-based. If the UK withdraws from the EU then it will no longer be bound by the EU State Aid regime. The UK may wish to create domestic rules on State Aid and any new deal with the EU may involve agreement by the UK to respect the EU State Aid regime.
- A new EU General **Data Protection** Regulation (GDPR) was finalised in May 2016. The Brexit vote does not mean that preparations for its introduction will stop. The UK is unlikely to leave the EU before the GDPR comes into force on 25 May 2018. The GDPR's terms will still be relevant to the UK. Firstly, the GDPR requires non-EU organisations to comply with the GDPR's terms when processing the personal data of EU citizens for the purposes of offering goods and services (or monitoring activities). Secondly, assuming the UK will want to make it easy for personal data to be transferred from the EU to the UK, the UK will likely need to adopt the GDPR or similar that the EU will recognise as giving adequate protection to personal data.
- Many of the UK's **consumer protection** rules come from the EU, including large parts of the Consumer Rights Act 2015. Subject to any future UK-EU trade deal, a post-Brexit UK will have greater flexibility to modify or repeal national consumer protection legislation. However, change in those areas is not inevitable. There are several areas where the UK has gone further than the minimum requirements of EU law.
- **Workforce** and **procurement** legislation is dealt with in other sections of this report.

At the time of writing this report, there is further speculation on whether the UK remains inside the single market after it has left the EU. An organisation, "British Influence", has indicated that it will seek a formal judicial review of the Government's position, stating that there is no provision in the European Economic Area Agreement for UK membership to lapse if the UK withdraws from the EU.

D. Procurement Regulations and Supply Chain Implications

As stated in the August report to Council, prior to triggering Article 50 and during the 2 year period which follows, there should be no change to EU or domestic law including financial thresholds that govern whether a contract is required to be published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 and Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016 (all statutory guidance; utilities/concession regulations) still apply and are in full force. Contracting authorities need to continue to comply with the rules and bidders can continue to enforce their existing rights. Although the value of sterling has dropped against the Euro, the exchange rate for procurement purposes is fixed and not due for revision until 1st January 2018.

Beyond actual exit from the EU, an unequivocal assurance has been given by the Prime Minister that all EU legislation enshrined (and gold plated) into domestic legislation continues to apply and will apply post Brexit.

If, at this time, the UK government does not join the EEA, then the World Trade Organisation's Agreement on Government Procurement is likely to apply by default. The principles within the Public Procurement Regulations are internationally accepted and therefore the procurement regime is unlikely to change substantially. The WTO's Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) is already compatible with basic treaty principles and sets out many of the basic procurement principles such as the rules on technical specifications and advertisement. Many other jurisdictions which are not part of the WTO have similar rules. WTO rules restrict the circumstances in which countries can discriminate in favour of each other in trade - otherwise, they must apply to each other the tariffs they apply against the rest of the world.

Procurement reform is likely to be a low priority in the broader political and legislative agenda. Rather than de-skilling procurement, this is likely to make procurement more vital and more demanding as European and global trading requirements will have to be absorbed. The principles of equal treatment/non discrimination, transparency and mutual recognition are unlikely to be absent from any new regime to follow.

Officers are continuing to monitor, and participate, in Brexit research and analysis. Some examples, with particular relevance to procurement, are:-

i. **Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS)**

The head of procurement law at Pinsent Masons reported to the CIPS annual conference that it is "business as usual"[42] now, post Article 50 and post Brexit. The main points were:

- Buyers wanting to stay ahead of the Brexit curve should familiarise themselves with other regulatory environments including the World Trade Organisation agreements; and
- "Whatever agreement is reached, we will have a regime for ensuring value for money is delivered for the public purse... The names of certain things might change but ultimately the demand for consistency and transparency and non-

[42] https://www.cips.org/supply-management/news/2016/september/the-law-is-the-law-no-sudden-changes-to-public-procurement-post-brexit/

discrimination will probably remain in some guise."

A "Health Check" has been produced by CIPS to help firms navigate their way in the post Brexit procurement world i.e. assess risks, prioritise resources.

ii. CIPFA[43]

As well as reiterating the anticipated position on procurement as set out above, Cipfa have commented that "Buy local" protectionist measures will not be possible (without infringing WTO rules) post Brexit in terms of reserving contracts to domestic/regional enterprises only.

They also state that WTO rules on subsidies are, by comparison, less draconian and provide for a dispute-settlement procedure. One obvious advantage of the WTO system, from the UK government's perspective, is that it would be for the UK government to take a view as to whether or not a proposed subsidy measure would be consistent with WTO rules – rather than having to apply to the WTO or some other third party for clearance before the implementation of the measure.

E. Finance Implications

It appears that the UK economy has got over the initial shock of the Brexit decision, though there is still a great deal of uncertainty as to what it will mean for the future. The value of sterling remains lower and the internationally recognised "Big 3" credit agencies have retained the sovereign rating at negative outlook.

Implications for the Council

Generally, in the immediate term the impact will be insignificant. The EU referendum and its immediate consequences coincided with the Council taking the step to seek its own credit rating, and the lowering of the UK's sovereign rating will have had a knock on impact on the rating secured by the Council. That said the Aa2 rating that we were awarded was sufficient to then enable the successful launch of the £370m Bond.

In issuing the Bond, additional "change of status" clauses were added to cover the event of Scottish independence. Whilst this may have been an issue raised by the investors in any case it was, possibly, a consequence of the Brexit decision having heightened speculation over a further independence referendum.

With the value of sterling falling sharply exports become cheaper and imports more expensive. The Council is not exposed directly to either of these markets to any great level. However it does impact on our supply chain. For example, suppliers buying goods from Europe which we in turn buy from the supplier. These costs are likely to increase if there is a sustained period of low sterling value in a floating exchange (FX) environment depending on how the suppliers have hedged against sterling in the FX market.

[43] http://cjc.cipfa.org.uk/news/view.asp?content=19311

Share prices will not directly impact on the Council, but would potentially impact on the North East of Scotland Pension Fund. After early falls in share values the FTSE100 has rallied and due to its more international nature, assisted by the reduction in interest rates and the fall in sterling value, is at the time of writing some 10% above the levels prior to the EU referendum. The more UK-centric FTSE250 is however some 5% lower over the same period.

Access to Liquidity

The Council accesses liquidity (cash) from a number of sources to enable us to cash flow our finances through a number of mechanisms. Primarily, we have over recent years strengthened the Balance Sheet and the level of reserves and provisions which provides us with immediate access, and control of, cash.

However, we also rely on the ability to raise capital financing through PWLB and this could be impacted upon by the reduction in the UK's sovereign credit rating. Generally speaking as your credit rating moves down your cost of borrowing, conversely, goes up. This will potentially lead to an increase in the price of borrowing from the UK Government. That said, the measures taken by the Bank of England appear to have stabilised the PWLB borrowing rates and Capita's current forecasts are for slightly lower rates on shorter term money over the next 2 years with a gentle rise in borrowing costs after that.

The sovereign credit rating being changed to negative watch could potentially impact on the Council, by making liquidity more difficult to purchase and more costly to access than we have experienced recently. However, the intervention measures that the Bank of England has put in place and the cut in base rates has reduced liquidity costs in the short term.

Potentially this would also have implications for the capital programme. If the cost of borrowing increases the Council may need to consider deferring or stopping capital projects going forward.
In the short term, the bond issue has reduced our requirement for liquidity, due to receipts from the Bond providing us with liquidity until we incur the related expenditure on the capital projects. From this perspective, the Bond receipts are projected to be fully utilised within 2 years.

The availability of funding in the housing rental market has improved as a direct result of the referendum vote. This is due to the greater degree of certainty in respect of housing need and demand as demonstrated in the massive under supply of all tenures in Scotland and the UK as a whole. This was demonstrated in the Places for People bond issue of (£400m) which was twelve times oversubscribed.

Demand pressures

The impact of Brexit on demand for council services is unpredictable and may complicate the management of spending reductions in the coming years. The longer term impact on demand will depend on how well the local economy fares.

Medium Term (2 to 5 years)

Looking at the medium term it becomes more difficult to predict what impact this may have on the Council.

Potentially the vote to leave the EU means that the UK no longer makes contributions to the EU budget, offering choices on the pace of deficit reduction. However, any deal made to continue to trade with EU countries may still involve some contribution to the EU, similar to the Norwegian or Swiss models. The availability of any reduction in contributions to the EU budget to support Local Government funding will be a matter for the UK and Scottish Governments, but the scope will be affected by any impact on the general economy and the level of tax receipts. This will impact the Council directly but the nature of that impact is unknown at this stage.

As outlined elsewhere in this report, leaving the EU could potentially impact on a number of policy areas that have been effected through EU legislation e.g. waste collection and disposal, energy efficiency, trading standards, procurement and state aid. Largely speaking these have also been achieved via EU Legislation and Directives then being transposed directly into UK Law. Whilst it would be possible for the UK Government to then repeal some of these laws this seems unlikely in the short term, although some relaxation of such laws may provide financial benefits to Local Government. However, negotiations over future trade agreements might involve a continuing commitment to maintaining EU laws in these areas.

Longer Term

The impact in the longer term is very difficult to predict and over time the impact of other events affecting the global economy will make it difficult to attribute changes directly to Brexit. The impact on the Council over the longer term will be influenced mostly by the state of the general economy and the impact that has on the level of funding for Local Government and the cost of labour, goods and services.

Responding to the uncertainty

Precipitate action is unlikely to be wise when the levels of uncertainty are so high. To ensure that any action is thought through and proportionate, officers will continue to:

- establish the Council's exposure to the different financial risks identified above and any others that are locally relevant;
- engage with local partners to understand how Brexit affects their risks and any shared risks;
- review risk appetite across the major categories of risk;
- review significant policies relevant to the management of these risks (e.g. investment policy) to ensure they are fit for purpose in the new environment;
- assess any impact of the risk assessment on the assumptions used to generate the medium term financial plan;
- report the emerging picture from this work to the Council and Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Committee on a regular basis; and
- update strategic and operational plans as decisions are made.

EU Funding

The table below outlines the EU grant secured for projects which will not be completed before the end of 2018. These projects were identified as being at risk however the UK and Scottish Governments have announced a guarantee that all UK projects which are approved before the UK officially leaves the EU will receive the funding which they were awarded. As such, all the projects listed below, and all future EU funded projects approved before the UK officially leaves the EU will have no additional financial risk attached to them as a result of Brexit.

The Projects, Partnerships and Funding team within Economic Development has secured in excess of twenty five million pounds of EU funding in the last five years, therefore it is important that we plan ahead for the future funding landscape to ensure that we can continue to enable project delivery through external funding in the future.

In attracting these sums of EU funding to enable project delivery it is important that the Council engages and cooperates with other EU regions to attract the funding. These networks are outlined within the previously approved External Funding Plan, and this will be revised in early 2017 to ensure that we continue to maximise the benefits of these partnerships in delivering on Council strategy.

It is also important to highlight that the External Funding team are not limited only to EU funds and have drawn in funding from a range on non-EU sources.

The team work within networks such as Scottish Local Authority Local Economic Development (SLAED), Scottish Lottery Officer Group (SLOG) and the Scottish Cities Alliance to ensure that officers are aware of all potential funds which may be of interest to the Council and the wider region.

Examples of some of the non-EU funds accessible to the Council include, but are not limited to:

Big Lottery Funding (Awards for All), Heritage Lottery Fund, Local Energy Challenge Fund, Innovate UK, Ministry of Defence (Armed Forces Day), Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK), Coastal Communities Fund, CARES (Renewable energy), Office of Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV), Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle Fleet Support scheme, Historic Scotland, Regeneration Capital Grant fund (Scotland), Resource Efficient Scotland.

In addition to accessing these funds the team have also secured approval from Committee to launch a Crowdfund Aberdeen platform which will be live by end of the year and will enable the team to offer much more support to external organisations seeking to gain funding to enable their projects to be delivered. This will be particularly helpful for community groups, and will streamline and vastly improve coordination of the support which the Council offers them

Project	Total Cost	EU Grant	End Date	Programme
Employability Pipeline	£2,140,000	£856,166	Dec 2018	ESF
CIVITAS	€3,816,460	€2,768,275	Sept 2020	Horizon 2020
New Bus Fuel	€30,820	€30,820	Jan 2017	Horizon 2020
FCH train	€49,145	€39,316	Sept 2018	Erasmus +
Poverty & Social	£1,290,900	£516,360	Dec 2018	ESF

Inclusion				
Hytrec2	€1,579,662	€789,831	Oct 2021	INTERREG North Sea
Icope	€1,091,159	€545,579	Mar 2019	INTERREG North Sea
Heat Net	€1,014,142	€608,485	Mar 2020	INTERREG North West
ACE Retrofitting	€404,388	€242,632	Mar 2020	INTERREG North West
Use IT	€360,300	€180,150	Oct 2019	INTERREG North Sea
SCORE	€500,000	€250,000	Dec 2020	INTERREG North Sea
BEGIN	€600,000	€300,000	July 2020	INTERREG North Sea
Low Carbon Transport (ERDF)	£10,000	£4,000	Pre Dec 18	ERDF
Open Data (ERDF)	£215,000	£76,000	Pre Dec 18	ERDF
Smart Infrastructure (ERDF)	£1,249,351	£499,351	Pre Dec 18	ERDF
Warm Connected homes (ERDF)	£585,766	£234,306	Pre Dec 18	ERDF

F. Political

At the time of writing, the UK Government has maintained its commitment to trigger Article 50 by 31st March 2017. However, the High Court has ruled that this must be done with the agreement of Parliament and not through Royal Prerogative. The Government have appealed to the UK Surpreme Court and a date of 5th December has been set (which is before Council meets to consider this report). Scotland's Lord Advocate, James Wolffe QC, has made a submission to the Supreme Court detailing the Scottish Government's argument that the triggering of Article 50 requires an act of Parliament. Whether or not this appeal is successful it is likely that Parliament will support a motion or legislation to trigger Article 50. Meanwhile, the Scottish Government has appointed Mike Russell MSP as Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe.

Specifically regarding Scotland, the UK Government are currently ruling[44] out separate arrangements for Scotland on trade or immigration in any Brexit deal. Scottish Secretary, David Mundell, has suggested[45] that Brexit negotiations could deliver fundamental changes to the devolution settlement across the UK, meaning Scotland could see the return of powers over areas such as agriculture, fisheries, the environment and criminal justice.

6. IMPACT

[44] http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-38163052

[45] https://www.babinc.org/guardian-scotland-stands-gain-significant-powers-brexit-claims-minister/

Improving Customer Experience –
At this stage, the report is for information, but it demonstrates that active consideration is being given to the implications of a changing environment for delivery of services to our customers.

Improving Staff Experience –
At this stage, the report is for information, but it demonstrates that active consideration is being given to the implications of a changing environment for our staff.

Improving our use of Resources –
At this stage, the report is for information, but it demonstrates that active consideration is being given to the implications of a changing environment for our use of resources.

Corporate –
The implications for the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities will be fully considered.

Public –
There is significant public interest in the possible implications of the vote to leave the EU.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Any significant risks will be identified and managed as appropriate. The Council's Corporate Management Team have considered the nature of this report and risks are, and will continue to be, reflected within strategic and operational risk registers.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- "Business as usual for procurement law after Brexit" - www.cips.org
- "The influence of EU membership on UK public services "Tr*eu*ble and Strife" an uneasy marriage?" - Cipfa
- "Brexit: Q&A" - Brodies
- "UK Economic Outlook" - PWC
- "The implications to Scotland of the UK's decision to leave the European Union" - SPICE
- "Brexit – Negative for London, but not a Disaster" - Oxford Economics
- "First Reactions to EU Referendum Outcome" - Fraser of Allander Business Survey
- "Brexit: The implications for Local Government" - APSE
- "Brexit and local government", Professor James Mitchell - LGiU Scotland
- "The Impact on Residential Development- Brexit Briefing" - Savills
- "To Boldly Go" - Continuity, Insurance and Risk
- "Brexit: EY impact diagnostics aid" - Ernst & Young
- "UK Unplugged? The Impacts of Brexit on Energy and Climate Policy" - Chatham House

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- The Scottish Government. Growth Sector Statistics. 2015 (http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Business/Publications/GrowthSectors).
- The Scotsman. Scots Food and Drinks Sector Unshaken by Brexit. September 2016. (http://www.scotsman.com/business/companies/farming/scots-food-and-drink-sector-unshaken-by-brexit-1-4223467).
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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14th December 2016
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Executive
TITLE OF REPORT	Aberdeen City Integration Joint Board
REPORT NUMBER	OCE/16/046
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report provides the Council with details of the arrangements put in place for governance of the Integration Joint Board (IJB).

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council notes the content of this report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Finance is, however, a key element of the governance arrangements of which this report provides details.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

The Council has instructed the Chief Executive to provide quarterly reports to members on matters relating to the IJB that she considers to be of interest to them at Council meetings such reports including financial monitoring information in relation to the IJB.

The first report was submitted to Council in August 2016 and set out the central elements of governance which have been established from the IJB's arrangements, giving details for each of these. This report further updates Council on these matters.

A.	Purpose and Strategic Planning

The purpose of the IJB is set out in its **Strategic Plan 2016 -19** which it agreed in March 2016.

The Strategic Plan includes:-

- A strategic vision statement
- Values
- Strategic priorities for the next 3 years

and places these in the local and national context.

The Board requested that a report be presented to its meeting on 15 November 2016 setting out an indicative timetable focusing on service delivery. The agenda for the Board's meeting on 15th November, 2016 included a report setting out a proposed strategic planning timetable. This is summarised in the table included in this report at Appendix A.

In terms of accountability, the Scottish Government have identified nine national health and wellbeing outcomes that the partnership must work towards and show what difference it is making. This is supported by a core suite of indicators which are aligned with the national outcomes. It is for these indicators, primarily, on which the IJB's annual report will provide performance information. The Partnership's first annual report is due to be published in June 2017. It should be noted that the nine national outcomes are under review to ensure that they are fit for purpose. The review is being led by Sir Harry Burns, previously Chief Medical Officer.

The Partnership is proposing to establish a tiered planning framework that seeks to align governance, strategy, business processes, workforce and outcomes. It is anticipated that this will be completed in late 2017.

An analysis of **national strategies**, in relation to client groups, and their alignment with local strategies and action plans has been undertaken, with the Partnership, in order to prioritise planning activity and resources. A summary is shown below:-

Local Strategy	Action Plan	Thematics
yes	yes	• Older People • Mental Health • Autism • Adult Support and Protection • Dementia
no	yes	• Sensory Impairment • Choose Life • Substance Misuse
no	no	• Carers • Learning Disability

The ongoing development of these strategies and plans is being monitored

	by the Strategic Planning Group and will report to the IJB. Locality Leadership Groups have now been established and will continue to implement and develop the Partnership's four locality areas and their plans. It is envisaged that the Partnership will produce its locality plans in late 2017.
B.	**Board Governance**
i.	In its "Shadow" form the Board engaged the **Good Governance Institute** (GGI) to provide support identifying and delivering the key governance requirements in 2015/16. Key governance structures and processes have been developed with this support, including:- - a methodology for assessing board effectiveness and establishment of a baseline using a maturity matrix; - production of a Board Assurance and Escalation Framework; - improvement and definition of the Board's organisation, behaviours, dynamics and sense of strategic purpose. GGI remain engaged and have made recommendations for the further development of governance arrangements. These have been agreed by the IJB and progress is being monitored and reported.
ii.	As stated above, a **Board Assurance and Escalation Framework (BAF)** has been developed with support from GGI. The BAF describes the means by which the Board secures assurance on its activities. It states that it sets out the governance structure, systems and performance and outcome indicators through which the IJB receives assurance. (The ongoing development of the IJB's performance management systems is further discussed in section H. below.) The BAF describes the process for the escalation of concerns or risks which could threaten delivery of the IJB's priorities, including risks to the quality and safety of services to service users, although as seen in section E. below, the application of the system of risk management remains in development.) The BAF also describes the regulatory framework within which the IJB operates and is designed to give assurance to the Board:- • that decision making is underpinned by principles of good governance; • on the quality of its services; • on the probity of its operations; and • on the effectiveness of its system of risk management. The Assurance Framework is owned and will be regularly reviewed by the IJB's Audit and Performance Systems Committee. As part of its normal operations, the IJB is subject to independent assurance through the Care Inspectorate; Healthcare Improvement Scotland; the Health and Safety Executive; as well as its external auditors. All relevant external independent assurance reports will be reported to the Council. Members will be aware that the Care Inspectorate and Healthcare

	Improvement Scotland undertook a Joint Inspection of Services for Older People. The final report was reported to Council at its August meeting where it was agreed that ongoing oversight of the action plan would be undertaken by the IJB and its committees.
iv.	In line with the **Model Code of Conduct for Devolved Public Bodies** the Board has appointed Roderick MacBeath as its Standards Officer with the following duties:- - Providing advice to the IJB on standards and conduct; - Establishing and maintaining registers of interests and registers of gifts and hospitality; - Ensuring the provision of appropriate training on ethical standards and the Code of Conduct; - Advising members on declarations of interest; - Reporting to the Board as appropriate on any matter relating to the Code of Conduct; - Dealing with complaints about the conduct of members submitted locally; - Assisting the Commissioner in any formal investigation of members; and - Generally, liaising with the Standards Commission as appropriate.
v.	Clarity has been obtained via **The Standards Commission**, which has issued a revised dispensation to Councillors who are Board members which allows them to stay in Council meetings when IJB matters are being discussed.
vi.	Two **Committees** have been established as undernoted. Terms of reference agreed and are now meeting: - Audit & Performance Systems - Clinical & Care Governance Committee Aberdeen City Council is represented as follows: • Audit & Performance Systems: Cllrs Ironside and Young; • Clinical & Care Governance Committee: Cllrs Donnelly and Cameron.
vii.	The Board has established an **Integration and Transformation Programme Board** to consider priorities as identified through localities and provide added value and influence strategic decision making in relation to improving health and wellbeing.
C.	**Reserved and Delegated Powers**
i.	Aberdeen City Council and NHS Grampian have delegated a range of statutory functions in respect of health and social care to the IJB. It is important to note that these functions have been delegated and not transferred. This means that the statutory accountability for the functions

	still remains with the Council and NHS Grampian, under the direction of the IJB. As I advised in August, a **Scheme of Delegation** has been developed and considered twice by the Board, although not yet approved by the Board. The draft Scheme sets out:- - the powers which are reserved to the IJB or its committees. Comprised of those which must, in terms of statute, be reserved, and those which the IJB has, itself, chosen to reserve; - an **"Operational Protocol"** which specifies the remit and responsibilities of the Chief Officer and the Chief Financial Officer in respect of the operational management and deliverability of the integrated services. The Board have been advised that the Scheme will be "aligned" to the development of Aberdeen City Council's revised Scheme of Delegation, which, as Members will be aware, is being reviewed as part of a comprehensive review of the Council's governance arrangements. This review will provide clarity on the nature and applicability of ACC's Scheme of Delegation to the role of Chief Officer.
ii.	Legislation requires the IJB to set out a mechanism for implementing the Strategic Plan and this takes the form of **Directions** from the IJB to Aberdeen City Council and NHS Grampian which set out the services and functions to be delivered by each organisation and the associated budget for this. The Directions are to be reviewed by the Audit and Performance Systems Committee as and when updates are required, and, at a minimum, on an annual basis. It is the responsibility of the Chief Officer to ensure that the IJB Directions are made in accordance with the legislative framework and regulations which apply to NHS Grampian and Aberdeen City Council and that they are, consequently, legally competent. I have requested that an agreed process be adopted for the issuing of IJB Directions. Specifically, it is proposed:- - that an appropriate template is developed and consistently used for all Directions; - that consultation is undertaken with the Council's Head of Legal Services to provide assurance that proposed Directions are legally competent; - that IJB Directions which propose "major changes" to the delivery of services, be issued only following engagement with the Council's elected members; and - that where IJB Directions are required for the delivery of services, but no "major change" is proposed, these be submitted to the Council annually for information.

D.	**Financial Governance**
i.	A **Chief Finance Officer** has been appointed on a permanent basis by the IJB and regular contact will be maintained with the Council's own S95 officer.
iii.	As advised in August, the **2016/17 budget** was been approved on the basis of existing Council and NHS budgets, in addition to actual spend and financial plans for delegated services. The Board received a financial update at their November 2016 meeting covering the year to date budget performance. In this report a £0.931m year end overspend was projected and attributed, mainly, to an overspend on prescribing budgets. This has reduced from the previous reporting period projection of £1.26m. A Local Enhanced Service (LES) was agreed by the IJB at its November meeting to support work in primary care to reduce this pressure further, however the Board were also advised that should there be a failure to manage the projected overspend it would require to be met from Transformational Funding. The sources of Transformational Funding are:-

	2016/17	**2015/16 c/fwd**	**Total**
	£m	£m	£m
Integrated Care Fund	3.750	2.436	6.186
Delayed Discharge Fund	1.125	0.921	2.046
Winter resilience		0.190	0.190
Social Care transformation funding	4.754		4.754
	9.629	**3.547**	**13.176**

The IJB in April 2016 requested that a report on the principle of ring-fencing transformational funding be presented to the Audit and Performance Systems Committee. It is planned that a paper on this will come to Audit and Performance Systems Committee in January 2017.

The report further updated the Board on progress with delivery of agreed savings for 2016/17. This shows £0.514m achieved to date compared to a total target of £2.218m. Whilst the year to date position is given, there is no projected year end position. Officers from the AH&SCP have advised that they expect the majority of savings to be achieved and where this is not possible, other funds are being identified to cover any potential shortfalls. The reporting arrangements for savings are being reviewed by the Chief Finance Officer.

The Integration Scheme makes provision, in the first year of operation, for any overspend which cannot be recovered or funded from uncommitted reserves to be met by the partner organisation to which the spending

	Direction for the service is given i.e. the partner organisation with operational responsibility for the services. In future years, both partners, or one partner, can make a one off payment to be recovered from their baseline payment to the IJB in the next financial year. In the event of a forecast underspend the IJB will need to decide if this will result in a redetermination of payments or if the surplus will contribute to the IJB's reserves. The IJB has now agreed a reserves policy. The policy is supported by the Director of Finance of NHS Grampian and the Section 95 Officer of the Council. The reserves will be reviewed annually as part of the IJB's Budget and Strategic Plan; and in light of the financial environment at that time. The level of other earmarked funds will be established as part of the annual financial accounting process. Whilst not set out within the Reserves Policy, in the event of a return of funds to the Parties, the split of returned payments between the Partners will be based on each Party's proportionate share of the baseline payment to the IJB.
iv.	The Chief Finance Officer (CFO) of the IJB will be responsible for developing the **financial strategy** of the IJB including the production of its Medium Term Financial Plan to link to the IJB's Strategic Plan. The CFO will also be responsible for the completion of the IJB's Annual Financial Statement, which outlines the financial resources included in the Strategic Plan and the use of those resources in each financial year of the Plan.
v.	The arrangements for **financial management and financial reporting** are set out within the Integration Scheme. The Scheme requires the appointment of a chief finance officer, who will be accountable for the financial management of the IJB. The CFO will also be responsible for the preparation of financial reports to the IJB, which will be presented to the Audit & Performance Systems Committee. In order to give assurance to the Partners that the delegated budgets are being used for their intended purposes, financial monitoring updates will be reported to the Partners throughout the year. This will include monitoring the deliverability of savings and efficiency targets agreed via the budget setting process. The Chief Officer is expected to deliver the agreed outcomes within the total delegated resources of the IJB. Where a forecast overspend against an element of the operational budget emerges during the financial year, in the first instance it is expected that the Chief Officer, in conjunction with the CFO will agree corrective action with the IJB. If this does not resolve the overspending issue then a recovery plan must be agreed with the Director of Finance of NHS Grampian and the Section 95 Officer of the Council. In the event that the recovery plan is unsuccessful and an overspend is evident at the year-end, uncommitted reserves held by the IJB, in line with the reserves policy, would firstly be used to address any overspend. In the event that an overspend is evident following the application of reserves, the following arrangements will apply for addressing that overspend:- - In the first complete financial year of the IJB the overspend will be met by the Partners with operational responsibility for the service that overspends.

	- In future years either one of the Partners may make an additional one off payment to the IJB or the Partners may jointly make additional one off payments to the IJB in order to meet the overspend. The split of one off payments between Partners in this circumstance will be based on each Partner's proportionate share of the baseline payment to the IJB. - The recovery plan may include provision for the Partners to recover any such additional one off payments from their baseline payment to the IJB in the next financial year.
	The **Audited Annual Accounts 2015/16** were approved by the Board in August. These only cover the period from 6th February 2016, when the Partnership was established, to 31st March 2016. Since full delegation of functions did not take place until 1st April, there were no transactions of significant value included in the accounts. The Accounts do highlight that *"The IJB has a significant financial challenge ahead to deliver better outcomes for its service users in a climate of increasing demographic pressures."* Included within the Accounts was the "Annual Governance Statement" which described the governance framework. In stating that the IJB has responsibility for conducting a review of the effectiveness of the governance arrangements at least annually, the Governance Statement highlights that since the IJB was established on 6th February 2016, the first review of governance will be undertaken during 2016/17.
	Audit Scotland reported their **"Annual Audit Report to members and the Controller of Audit"** to the Board in August. The "Key Messages" from the report covering financial matters and governance were those highlighted in my report to Council in August. In terms of outlook, Audit Scotland stated:- • *The board will continue to operate in a period of financial pressure with reduced funding in real terms, increasing cost pressures and a growing demand for services. All integration authorities need to continue to shift resources, including the workforce, towards a more preventative and community based approach;* • *The board has put a range of structures and processes in place which will require regular review as they bed in to ensure they work as effectively as possible in supporting the work of the board;* • *It is important that the board can demonstrate that these changes, which may take several years to fully evolve, are making a positive impact on service users and improving outcomes.*
E.	**System of Risk Management**
i.	A **Risk Management Framework** has been developed and approved by the Board. This includes: a. A Risk Management Policy; b. Both strategic and corporate operational risk registers; c. A "Statement of Risk Appetite", developed with the support of "The Good Governance Institute".

	Both the Risk Management Policy and the "Statement of Risk Appetite" will be reviewed during 2016/17. As stated above, the Board Assurance and Escalation Framework also describes the process for the escalation of concerns or risks. Strategic and Operational Risk Registers were reported to the Board in November 2016. Whilst progress is being made, some gaps remain in the presentation of risks, including the stated "Date Last Assessed" and, in some cases "Risk Owner", therefore, I will continue to monitor the development of the registers to ensure they adequately reflect the risks being carried by the IJB on behalf of the Council.
ii.	The Board have now formally appointment the Joint Aberdeen City Council/ Aberdeenshire Council **Internal Audit** Team to undertake internal audit function on an interim basis until 31st March 2017. They have also Instructed a review of the appointment of the Chief Internal Auditor and Internal Auditors before the 31 March 2017. An annual audit plan has been agreed which has 2 reviews:- • Purchasing and Creditors • Carefirst It remains a responsibility of the Council, through its Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Committee, to assess risks and commission internal audit reviews on the control environment for the delivery of adult social care. At their meeting in August 2016, the Council agreed that the conveners of audit committees from Aberdeen City Council; Aberdeenshire Council; and the IJB should come together to avoid duplication of effort, whilst ensuring that both parent bodies receive necessary assurances. A meeting had been arranged for 20th December, 2016, but is now likely to be rescheduled for early 2017.
iii.	Audit Scotland has been appointed by the Accounts Commission to perform the 2015/16 audit of the Integration Board final accounts. Following the national procurement process for **external auditors** the Integration Joint Board external audit function will be performed by KPMG for the 2016/17 accounts.
iv.	A three year **Civil Contingencies Plan** has been prepared and agreed by the IJB. A focus on civil contingencies is welcome, and it was recognised that these arrangements sit within the broader context of the emergency planning arrangements of NHS Grampian and Aberdeen City Council, which are both Category 1 responders, as well as the Local Resilience and Regional Resilience Partnerships. The overarching business continuity plan for Health was tested during a table-top exercise on 14th September 2016 and a number of actions resulted. The business continuity plan has been updated and the action plan is being worked through. Social Care colleagues were in attendance at the exercise as the scenario used for the exercise impacted on both

	health and social care services. As Chief Executive and Chair of the Local Resilience Partnership I have instructed that the Civil Contingencies Plan be reviewed by the City's Emergency Planning officers and referred to the Council, NHS Grampian and the Local Resilience Partnership for agreement
F.	**Information Governance**
i.	As instructed in the legislation, IJBs are required to have a streamlined **complaints process** and "single point of access" for complaints. Notwithstanding that single point of entry, the statutory process for dealing with Social Work complaints remains in place and statutory complaints which reach the Complaints Review Committee stage are brought to the IJB for noting, after they have been considered by the Council.
G.	**Clinical Care Governance**
i.	Through an interim Clinical and Care Governance Framework, based on existing systems and processes, arrangements have been put in place by the IJB to comply with the **National Framework for Clinical and Care Governance**.
ii.	A Clinical and Care Governance Group and a Clinical and Care Governance Committee have been established to oversee the **Clinical and Care Governance Framework**. Specifically, a review of the Framework's fitness for purpose will be completed by the Clinical and Care Governance Committee within its first year of operation.
iii.	The **Clinical and Care Governance Committee** provides assurance to the IJB in relation to the quality and safety of services planned and/or delivered by the IJB. Its key role is to ensure that there are effective structures, processes and systems of control for the achievement of the IJB's priorities, where these relate to regulator compliance, service user experience, safety and the quality of service outcomes. To support this role, the CCGC is informed by the clinical and care governance arrangements in place across NHS Grampian and Aberdeen City Council. It also assures the IJB that services respond to requirements arising from regulation, accreditation and other inspections' recommendations. The Committee will consider and approve high value clinical and care risks, consider the adequacy of mitigation, the assurance provided for that mitigation and refer residual high risks to the Board. It has a key role in assuring the Board that learning from governance systems across services, including learning arising from incidents, complaints and identified risks, is shared and embedded as widely as possible.
iv.	Work is required to bring the processes for **Health and Safety** assurance together. A workshop to take this forward has been proposed at the Clinical and Care Governance Committee.
v.	**Functions of the Chief Social Work Officer.** The Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 requires Local Authorities to appoint a single Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) for the purposes of listed social work functions. The role provides a strategic and professional leadership role in the delivery of social work services. In addition there are certain functions conferred by legislation directly on the CSWO by name. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 provides for the delegation

of certain social work functions by a local authority to an integration authority. The CSWO's responsibilities in relation to local authority social work functions continue to apply to functions which are being delivered by other bodies under integration arrangements. However, the responsibility for appointing a CSWO cannot be delegated and must be exercised directly by the local authority itself.

The CSWO must be empowered and enabled to provide professional advice and contribute to decision-making in the local authority and health and social care partnership arrangements, raising issues of concern with the local authority Elected Members or Chief Executive, or the Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board as appropriate (or the Chief Executive of a Health Board if appropriate in the context of a lead agency model), in regard to:

i. effective governance arrangements for the management of the complex balance of need, risk and civil liberties, in accordance with professional standards;
ii. appropriate systems required to 1) promote continuous improvement and 2) identify and address weak and poor practice.
iii. the development and monitoring of implementation of appropriate care governance arrangements;
iv. approaches in place for learning from critical incidents, which could include through facilitation of local authority involvement in the work of Child Protection Committees, Adult Support and Protection Committees and Offender Management Committees where that will result in the necessary learning within local authorities taking place;
v. requirements that only registered social workers undertake those functions reserved in legislation or are accountable for those functions described in guidance;
vi. workforce planning and quality assurance, including safe recruitment practice, probation/mentoring arrangements, managing poor performance and promoting continuous learning and development for staff;
vii. continuous improvement, raising standards and evidence-informed good practice, including the development of person-centred services that are focussed on the needs of people who use services and support;
viii. the provision and quality of practice learning experiences for social work students and effective workplace assessment arrangements, in accordance with the SSSC Code of Practice for Employers of Social Service Workers.

The CSWO is an advisory member of the IJB and also sits on the Clinical and Care Governance Committee.

In the light of the new delivery arrangements created by the formation of the IJB and my need, on behalf of Council, to receive robust assurance around our adult, child and broader public protection arrangements, I have instructed an independent review which will examine our existing arrangements and make recommendations for improvement. I will share the findings of the review with Council in due course.

H.	**System of Performance Management**
i.	The **Audit and Performance Systems Committee** performs the role of reviewing and reporting on the effectiveness of the governance structures and systems in place and on the quality of the assurances the Board receives. It has a moderation role in relation to the consistency of risk assessment. It also has oversight of information governance issues. The Committee considered a report on the developing Performance Management Framework at its meeting in October 2016. This included monitoring information with respect to:- • Delayed Discharge • Emergency Admissions • Unmet social care needs Whilst progress has been made it is acknowledged that there is still work to do to make the framework more reflective of the full extent of the IJB's delegated functions and services. In part this reflects the challenge of information sharing and integrated systems, and this is being addressed through information infrastructure groups across all three HSCPs in Grampian.
ii.	The Audit and Performance Systems Committee considered a report at its October meeting which provided an update on transformational activity. The Transformation programme is overseen by the **Integration and Transformation Programme Board**. The report noted that whilst "many of the work streams are currently progressing slower than we would wish" it is anticipated that this position will improve once the additional resource (i.e. new posts) is in place. Work is ongoing to develop an evaluation framework to evaluate all of the Partnership's transformational activities to evidence the extent to which these are attaining their specific objectives and contributing to the implementation of the strategic plan.
iii.	The Partnership is required to produce an **annual report** on performance using the 'core suite of indicators' developed by the Scottish Government. The Annual Report will be submitted to Council around June 2017.
iv.	A Joint Information Sharing Group has endorsed a proposed Data Sharing Agreement with National Services Scotland (NSS) and consideration is now being given as to how Council and NHSG approve this agreement. (Update)
v.	Regular one to one meetings between Joint Accountable Officer and ACC and NHS Grampian CEOs continue and are attended by the Council's S95 Officer where the financial and non-financial performance of the IJB is reviewed. At the most recent meeting, further refinement was agreed to the regular performance dashboard. In addition, it was agreed that 4 key improvement plans would be reviewed in future, along with the Board's Transformation Programme. The group also agreed to formalise the collaborative approach to budget setting across the executive teams. This protocol will

	also set out how the IJB budget will be taken through the Council's budget process whilst respecting the decision making role of the IJB.
H.	**Procurement Governance**
i.	A **commissioning plan** will be developed showing, in more detail, the IJB's commitment to transform the configuration and delivery of the integrated health and social care services across all sectors to meet the needs of the local population. The Plan will be a statement of intent and as such an invitation to the third, independent and housing sectors to participate in the collaborative development and implementation of these. The substance and detail of this commissioning plan will influence future directions that the IJB gives to Council and Health Board in respect of delegated services that they deliver on behalf of the IJB. This plan will be produced in the second quarter of 2017. A **Market Facilitation** steering group has been established to oversee the development of a Market Facilitation plan. It is envisaged that this plan will be presented to the IJB for approval and publication, along with the Commissioning Plan referred to above, in the second quarter of 2017. Market facilitation is an integral element of the commissioning cycle and the Partnership intends to build on ongoing dialogue with partners in the third, independent and housing sectors to develop a market facilitation plan which will outline the key principles to underpin commissioner provider relationships as well as activities which will support the reshaping of existing care models across all of the sectors.
ii.	**Bon Accord Care** remains an ALEO of Aberdeen City Council. The establishment of Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership means:- a. that the strategic priorities for social care will be determined by the IJB, who then make Directions to NHS Grampian and Aberdeen City Council with regard to the services and functions to be delivered, as well as the associated budget; b. following this Direction, Aberdeen City Council procures services, as appropriate, from Bon Accord Care; c. the Council's governance with respect to its ALEO - Bon Accord Care - is managed through the Governance Hub, both for issues of finance, risk, HR, etc as well as service delivery. In practice, however, roles and responsibilities are more complex. The IJB is advised on strategic priorities and supported in issuing Directions by the Chief Officer. It is also the Chief Officer who commissions services from Bon Accord Care, on behalf of the Council and the Chief Officer who supports the Governance Hub undertake scrutiny and give assurance on the service delivery provided by Bon Accord Care.

Additional notes:-

1.	National Living Wage
i.	The IJB received additional funding of £1.6 million through the Scottish Government budget settlement process to implement the living wage to home care providers for the half year 1 October 2016 to March 2017. The IJB in August considered an options appraisal and agreed:- i. a 6.4% uplift to all rates for purchased services across all client groups and for all hours worked (except those already covered by the National Care Home Contract) from 1 October 2016; ii. to submit a Direction to ACC to provide a 6.4% uplift, at a cost of £1.6million, to external care providers; iii. to instruct the Chief Officer to ensure the implementation of the Living Wage and Fair Working Practices through appropriate contract monitoring processes to provide assurance to the IJB that this had been implemented by the end of the financial year; and iv. to request that the Chief Officer meet with the Chief Executives of ACC and NHS Grampian to discuss the arrangements for submitting IJB directions to its two partner organisations.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –
None direct.

Improving Staff Experience –
None direct.

Improving our use of Resources –
None direct.

Corporate –
The report supports the awareness of Council of the developing arrangements for the IJB.

Public –
The report may be of public interest as the new arrangements are developed and embedded.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Any significant risks will be identified and managed as appropriate. The report includes details of the system of risk management as well as identified financial risks.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

"Aberdeen: the Smarter City"
"Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan"
"Aberdeen City Health & Social Care Partnership – Integration Scheme"

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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APPENDIX A

Integration Joint Board – Planning Activity

Activity	Priority	Timescale	Comment
strategic plan review	medium	July-September	Priority relates to significance of strategic plan rather than activity given that this would be first review.
locality planning	high	September - December	Statutory requirement but needs to be aligned with development of operational structure esp Heads of Localities.
transformation programme	high	ongoing	Capacity issues will be eased by emerging Strategy and Transformation team.
strategic planning framework	low	September - December	Desirable but not strictly necessary.
commissioning plan	high	January- July	Will provide necessary detail for commissioning intentions/procurement parameters.
market facilitation plan	high	January-July	Supplementary to commissioning plan.
client group strategies & plans	low	January - December	Production of plan(s) needs time/resource. acute sector planning high n/k Statutory obligation but clarification needed re timeline & resource.
local outcomes improvement plan	high	December 2016	Statutory requirement of CPP; ACHSCP statutory partner & contributor to LOIP.
community justice outcomes improvement plan	high	January – March	Statutory requirement by 1st April; ACHSCP statutory partner in CJA.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14 December 2016
DIRECTOR	Angela Scott, Chief Executive and Chair of Community Planning Aberdeen Management Group
TITLE OF REPORT	Community Planning Update
REPORT NUMBER	OCE.16.043
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report provides an update on progress made by Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA) in addressing the key areas of improvement identified by Audit Scotland as part of the Community Planning Audit in 2013. It also provides an update on progress made by CPA in meeting the community planning requirements of the Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Council is asked to note this report.

3 Financial Implications

3.1 There are no immediate financial implications as a result of this report.

4 Other Implications

4.1 None at present.

5 Background/ Main Issues

5.1 In 2013 Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA) volunteered to be one of three Community Planning Partnerships (CPP) in Scotland to undergo a new Audit of Community Planning. Audit Scotland found that, whilst partnership working in Aberdeen had increased, there was limited evidence that this was having a significant impact in tackling the sharp inequalities within the City or on redirecting resources towards priorities. The final report concluded that significant changes were required to put the CPP in a position to meet the challenging agenda set out in the joint Scottish Government and COSLA Statement of Ambition for community planning published in 2012. A plan was developed to address the key areas of improvement identified as part of the audit.

5.2 The aspirations set out within the 2012 Statement of Ambition have since become statute as part of the Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015. The Act places a legal duty on the Council and all public service agencies to demonstrate that they are making a significant impact on the achievement of outcomes as a result of partnership working. It requires CPA to prepare and publish a Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) which sets out the priority local outcomes it proposes to improve. The LOIP must be underpinned by Locality Plans for the areas where people experience significantly poorer outcomes than other people across the City and Scotland as a result of socio-economic disadvantage. The final Community Empowerment Act guidance published in November 2016 sets a timescale for these plans to be developed, agreed and signed off locally by October 2017. The Act requires that these plans will be reported on at least annually.

5.3 This paper provides a progress update against the plan developed following the Audit in 2013 and also in meeting the community planning requirements of the Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015.

6 Community Planning Aberdeen – Key developments

6.1 Over the last year, Community Planning Aberdeen has made significant progress in taking forward the development plan from the Audit; and in meeting the requirements of the Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015. Key developments include:

- Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
  The ten year plan was published in August 2016 and replaces the previous Single Outcome Agreement. The LOIP sets out the transformational change which Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA) is committed to achieving by working together and with communities. The priorities identified within the LOIP are based on the findings of the strategic assessment conducted for Aberdeen City during 2015/16 and agreement between partners of the key issues that they will tackle together with communities. The publication of the LOIP ensures that the Council and CPA are firmly on their way to fulfilling their statutory duties under the Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015, which include the requirement to have a LOIP in place by October 2017. In the spirit of continuous improvement, the LOIP was endorsed by the Council and Community Planning Partnership as a living document that will continue to evolve as our approach to improvement develops and matures.

- Development of Locality Plans 2017-27
  On 20 June 2016 Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA) agreed, in line with the requirements of the Community Empowerment Act, to determine and publish Locality Plans for geographical areas within the city which experience 'significantly poorer outcomes' than other areas in Aberdeen. On the basis of the city wide strategic assessment, the areas agreed were Cummings Park, Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Seaton, Tillydrone, Torry and Woodside. The Locality Plans covering these areas will underpin the LOIP to translate its high level strategic direction into meaningful improvement aims for these communities. CPA has been working with communities directly and proactively to ensure that Locality Plans are developed by April 2016. This includes three engagement events which were held during September and October 2016 to understand the issues and priorities for local communities in these localities. Participatory budgeting events are also planned to take place within these localities during March 2017. Locality strategic assessments

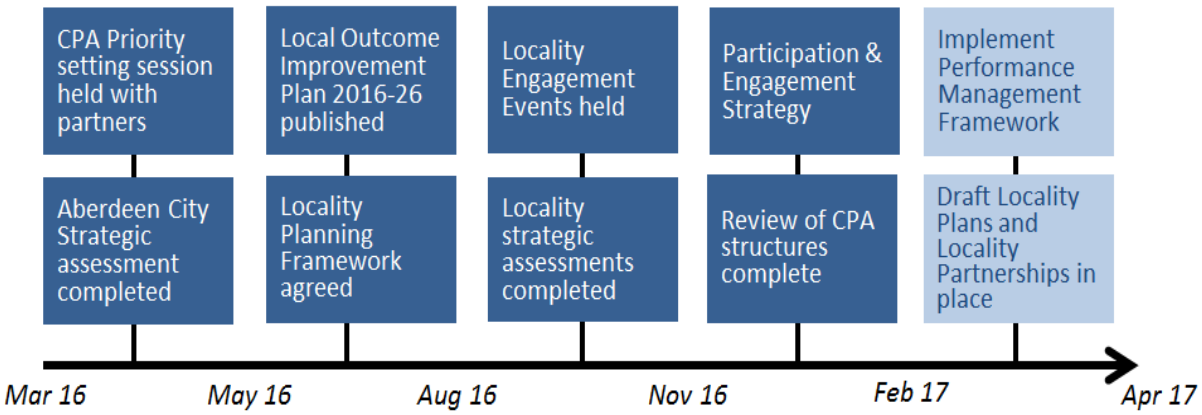
have been produced for each of the localities and these, together with the feedback gathered from communities, are informing the draft Locality Plans which will be submitted as 'living documents' to the Council meeting on 15 March 2017. This is in advance of the statutory deadline of October 2017, as required by the Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015

- Review of Community Planning Aberdeen Infrastructure
  Following endorsement of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 and Locality Planning framework, a review of CPA infrastructure has been conducted to ensure that the Partnership is effectively organised to deliver on the new commitments within the LOIP and emerging Locality Plans. On 12 December 2016, the CPA Board will consider the final report which presents the findings of this review and recommends a number of structural changes to the Partnership. The report recommends that strong leadership will continue to be provided by the Community Planning Aberdeen Board and Management Group. It also sets out proposals to create five strategic level partnerships which will support and be accountable to the Board and Management Group for delivery of the five priorities identified within the LOIP, one of these being the existing Integrated Children Services Board. Locality Partnerships will also be established to ensure that critical outcomes are being achieved for our most disadvantaged communities in Aberdeen through the delivery of the new Locality Plans. If agreed, the new structure will be implemented from January 2017.

- Draft Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy
  Community Planning Aberdeen has produced a draft Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy to ensure a consistent approach by community planning partners to engaging and involving communities in planning for improvement across all areas of the City. The CPA Board will be asked to approve the strategy at its meeting on 12 December and, in doing so, partner organisations will sign up to working towards a set of principles which will improve how we work with communities. To oversee the delivery and implementation of the strategy, the Final Report on the Review of CPA Infrastructure proposes that a new Community Engagement Group be established. This group will also have an overview of the community engagement taking place in localities. The development of the strategy follows publication of the Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015 which includes provisions for communities to make a participation request to public service authorities. Publication of further guidance by the Scottish Government about how participation request may be made and managed is imminent. It is proposed that the new Community Engagement Group will develop proposals for a suitable system for handling participation requests across the Partnership. The aim of the Engagement, Participation and Empowerment strategy is to proactively and routinely involve service users and communities in any developments that affect them, thereby negating the need for community bodies to make a formal participation request.

6.2 The timeline below illustrates the progress made in community planning this year and the key deliverables remaining for 2016/17. The focus for next year will be on performance and improvement and ensuring that the CPA is making the impact it needs to deliver the ambitious improvement aims set within the LOIP and Locality Plans.

Timeline 2016/2017



6.3 Appendix 1 and 2 to this report provide a detailed update on all actions within the CPA Development plan; and progress in meeting the community planning requirements of the Community Empowerment Act.

7 Impact

Improving Customer Experience – The Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Locality Plans, and Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy referred to within this report aim to improve outcomes for all communities in Aberdeen and ensure that all communities are engaged in the improvement process.

Improving Staff Experience – The Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Locality Plans and Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy provide critical strategic direction for all Council staff in the development of service, team and individual work plans to ensure a clear understanding by staff of their contribution to the work of the Council and the wider community.

Improving our use of Resources – The Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Locality Plans and Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy will drive transformation in public services and better use of resources between other public service authorities and communities themselves.

Corporate - The Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Locality Plans and Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy provide critical strategic direction for all Council staff in the development of service, team and individual work plans to ensure a clear understanding by staff of their contribution to the work of the Council and the wider community.

Public – The Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Locality Plans and Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy referred to within this report aim to improve outcomes for all communities in Aberdeen and ensure that all communities are engaged in the improvement process.

8 Management of Risk

8.1 The Aberdeen City strategic assessment and locality level strategic assessments provide a robust evidence base for decision making and have been critical to the development of the new Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans. As with any evidence based model, their strength lies in the breadth and depth of the supporting data, and the quality of the analysis. The establishment of a cross Partner Data Group has helped to mitigate any risk by providing quality assurance measures at various stages to ensure the integrity of the information contained within the Strategic Assessment.

9. Background Papers

9.1 Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015, Guidance and Regulations published 25 October 2016

Draft Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 and approach to Locality Planning – Report to Council on 17 August 2016

Community Planning in Aberdeen Audit Report published by Audit Scotland, March 2013

10. Report Author Details

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APPENDIX 1 Progress against CPA Audit Improvement Plan

Improvement agenda - recommendation	Actions	Date	Status	Update on progress	Evidence
Identify a limited number of strategic priorities on which the community planning partnership can make an impact	Strategic Assessment considered by CPAMG Strategic Assessment considered by CPA Board Priority setting workshop CPA Board Priorities agreed in revised SOA/LOIP	April 2016 May 2016 March 2016 August 2016	**Complete** **Complete** **Complete** **Complete**	The Final Aberdeen City Strategic Assessment 2015/16 was endorsed by the CPA Board on 9 May 16. The strategic assessment provided the evidence base for the new Local Outcome Improvement Plan endorsed by Council on 17 August and the Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 22 August 2016. This is more than a year in advance of the requirement of the Community Empowerment Act to have a LOIP in place by October 2017.	Final Strategic Assessment and outcome from priority setting event – CPA Board 9 May 16 Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
Ensure that CPA has a strategic oversight of all significant partnership working to help ensure that there is a match between resources and strategic priorities	Discussions on structures to deliver New structures established	August 2016 January 2017	**Complete** **In progress**	A review of CPA infrastructure has been carried out to ensure the Partnership is effectively organised to deliver on the new Local Outcome Improvement Plan. The CPA Board will be asked to approve the final recommendations of the review at its meeting on 12 December, with a view to implementing the new structure from January 2017.	Final Report on the Review of CPA Infrastructure – CPA Board, 12 Dec 16
Review the approach to community engagement to help avoid any duplication of effort by different organisations	Community Empowerment Act Working Group to initiate drafting of community engagement strategy	December 2015	**Complete**	A draft Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy has been developed on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen. The CPA Board will be asked to approve the strategy at its meeting on 12 December.	Community Planning Aberdeen Community Engagement Strategy – CPA Board, 12 Dec 16

Improvement agenda - recommendation	Actions	Date	Status	Update on progress	Evidence
	Locality/ neighbourhood planning from SOA/LOIP initiated	June 2016	**In progress**	CPA agreed its Locality Planning Framework on 20 June 2016. In line with the requirements of the Community Empowerment Act, CPA has identified three localities within the City which experience 'significantly poorer outcomes' than other areas in Aberdeen. For each of these localities, CPA will work with communities to produce Locality Plans. Three community events were held during September and October 2016 to start this process. Draft Locality Plans will be submitted to the CPA Board on 27 Feb and Council on 15 March 2017. A new Community Engagement Group is proposed as part of the new CPA structure which will have responsibility for the delivery of the city wide Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy and have an overview of community engagement within localities.	Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16
Review the level of representation of partner organisations to help ensure that CPA Board members have sufficient seniority to contribute to decision-making	Discussions on structures to deliver New structures established	August 2016 January 2017	**Complete** **In progress**	The CPA Board will be asked to approve the final recommendations of the review of CPA infrastructure at its meeting on 12 December, with a view to implementing the new structure from January 2017. Proposals will include representation from partner organisations on the CPA Board and underpinning groups.	Final Report on the Review of CPA Infrastructure – CPA Board, 12 Dec 16

Improvement agenda - recommendation	Actions	Date	Status	Update on progress	Evidence
Strengthen the scrutiny of performance, by regularly providing monitoring reports to theme groups and to the CPA Board	Following completion of SOA/LOIP agreed reporting schedule approved	February 2016	**In progress**	A performance management and reporting framework will be designed and implemented to ensure that the CPA Board receives the information it needs to scrutinise Partnership performance in the delivery of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans. The CPA Board will be asked to approve the framework in February 2017, with the first six monthly progress report being submitted to the CPA Board in February 2017 and an Annual Performance Report in September 2017.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
Hold partners to account for their contribution to shared objectives and use this to help drive improvements.	Priorities agreed in revised SOA/LOIP	August 2016	**Complete**	The Local Outcome Improvement Plan was endorsed by Council on 17 August and the Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 22 August 2016.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
	Locality Plans agreed	April 2017	**In progress**	Three community events were held during September and October 2016 to start this process. Draft Locality Plans will be submitted to the CPA Board on 27 Feb and Council on 15 March 2017.	Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16
	Reporting schedule approved	February 2017	**In progress**	The CPA Board will be asked to approve a performance management and reporting framework in February 2017 to ensure robust scrutiny of the LOIP and Locality Plans by the Partnership. The first six monthly progress report will be submitted to the CPA Board in February 2017 and an Annual Performance Report in September 2017.	

Improvement agenda - recommendation	Actions	Date	Status	Update on progress	Evidence
For each strategic priority, set performance targets that provide a stronger focus on outcomes and community impact.	Performance targets agreed following revision to SOA/LOIP	August 2016	**Complete**	The Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 has been developed using the principles of the IHI Model for Improvement, a recognised improvement methodology originating from health. CPA has committed to using the improvement methodology to understand and demonstrate impact on delivering better outcomes. The LOIP uses driver diagrams to translate strategic priorities into meaningful action and measures. These will be monitored through the new performance management and reporting framework.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
Ensure that reliable performance data is available to match targets. Avoid setting targets that cannot be monitored.	Strategic assessment work continues Assess via regular monitoring reports Further revisions to LOIP	April 2016 February 2017 March 2017	**Complete** **In progress** **Complete**	The Final Aberdeen City Strategic Assessment 2015/16 was endorsed by the CPA Board on 9 May 16. The new performance management and reporting framework will ensure that the CPA regularly monitors performance against the improvement aims set within the LOIP. Implementation of the framework will involve ensuring that systems are in place to ensure that the data being collated and reported is accurate and reliable with clear procedures notes documenting how data is gathered and checked. The CPA Board will be asked to approve the performance management and reporting framework in February 2017.	Final Strategic Assessment and outcome from priority setting event – CPA Board 9 May 16

Improvement agenda - recommendation	Actions	Date	Status	Update on progress	Evidence
Assess the impact made by Fairer Scotland and Challenge Funds.	CPA Board Consideration of resources contribution by Partners	April 2016	**Complete**	CPA agreed a joint budget of £73,600 for 2016/17 in October 2015, which includes contributions from the Council, Police Scotland, NHS Grampian, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Nestrans. The budget for 2017/18 will be agreed by CPA in December 2016. The Partnership is committed to continuing to develop its approach to joint resourcing to ensure it is effectively resourced to deliver the LOIP 2016-2026. This involves having a better understanding of how resources (including the Fairer Aberdeen Fund and other external funding sources) are allocated and the link to Partnership performance in the delivery of the LOIP. The CPA Board will be asked to approve the performance management and reporting framework in February 2017.	2016/17 Community Planning Budget Proposal – CPA Board 26 October 15
	Annual review of Fairer Aberdeen Fund	April 2016	**Complete**		
	Fairer Aberdeen Fund aligned with LOIP priorities	April 2017	**In progress**		
	Other resources further aligned with LOIP priorities	April 2017	**In progress**		
Identify the total resources available to all partners and determine how resources can be targeted and aligned towards agreed priorities and outcomes.	CPA Board Consideration of resources contribution by Partners	April 2016	**Complete**	Participatory budgeting is an example of a tool which is being tested by CPA to engage communities in decisions about delivery of local services. It was used successfully last year as part of Northfield Total Place and is being used as a tool to engage localities in the development and delivery of the new Locality Plans. The participatory budgeting approach is also being used to give local people a direct say in how the Fairer Aberdeen Fund is used.	2016/17 Community Planning Budget Proposal – CPA Board 26 October 15
	Other resources further aligned with LOIP priorities	April 2017	**In progress**		
	Participatory budgeting pilots extended	April 2017	**In progress**		

Improvement agenda - recommendation	Actions	Date	Status	Update on progress	Evidence
Assess the impact of the 'whole-systems' approach, currently being piloted in education and community safety.	Northfield Total Place annual review Priority Families programme agreed Priority Families Service established Community Safety Hub review	February 2016 July 2016 January 2017 December 2016	**Complete** **Complete** **In progress** **In progress**	Best Practice and lessons learned from Northfield Total Place and other whole systems approaches are informing the development and delivery of the new Locality Planning Framework. Locality Planning will bring together a range of initiatives and programmes which have been targeted at our most disadvantaged communities to ensure we are taking a robust, coordinated and preventative approach to planning for improvement in these areas. Our priority families service is one example of a preventative programme which will provide targeted support to our most vulnerable families. The review of the Community Safety Hub is underway with a focus on prevention. Final recommendations for strengthening the service will be made to the CPA Board on 12 December 16.	Northfield Total Place – CPA Board 1 February 16 Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16

APPENDIX 2 Progress in meeting Community Empowerment Act: Part 2 Community Planning

Key Theme	Requirements	Status	Update on Progress	Evidence
Achievement of outcomes	The Act requires CPA to demonstrate that it is making a significant impact in the achievement of outcomes as a result of working together and that it is acting with a view to reducing inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.	**In progress**	The development and publication of the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 is a significant step forward in recalibrating the way community planning partners in Aberdeen work together to deliver improved outcomes. The locality planning framework agreed by Community Planning Aberdeen in June 2016 will underpin the LOIP and sets out the Partnership's approach to targeting the City's most disadvantaged communities. This includes the development and delivery of Locality Plans. The CPA Board will be asked to approve a performance management and reporting framework in February 2017 which will ensure effective scrutiny of the impact the CPA is having in delivering the LOIP.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16
	This includes deploying resources in support of agreed outcomes in a way which promotes prevention.	**In progress**	Within the LOIP, the Partnership has committed to continue to develop its approach to joint resourcing to ensure it is effectively resourced to deliver the improvement aims set out in the plan and underpinning Locality Plans. This involves having a better understanding of how resources (including the Fairer Aberdeen Fund and other external funding sources) are allocated and the link to Partnership performance in the delivery of the LOIP. Joint resourcing will be a key area for development for the Partnership over the coming year.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26

Key Theme	Requirements	Status	Update on Progress	Evidence
Local Outcome Improvement Plan	The Act requires CPA to prepare and publish a LOIP which sets out the priority local outcomes it proposes to improve with details of how, by when and what difference this will make to local people.	**Complete**	The Local Outcome Improvement Plan was approved by Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 22 August 2016. The document identifies four strategic themes - people, place, economy and technology - under which there are five priorities for partnership working. For each priority the Partnership has agreed the primary and secondary drivers which will translate ambition into reality. Attached to these drivers are a number of improvement measures which the Partnership will track to ensure it is having an impact. The document was endorsed as a living document which will continue to evolve as our understanding of impact increases and approach to improvement matures.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
	In doing so, CPA must take into account the needs and circumstances of the people residing in Aberdeen and consult as it considers appropriate.	**Complete**	A strategic assessment of Aberdeen City was undertaken during 2015/16 to provide a robust evidence base for the development of the LOIP. The document combines local data with knowledge of local issues to provide a comprehensive picture of the needs and circumstances of the people of Aberdeen. The strategic assessment was used as part of a priority setting event held in March 2016 to ensure a deeper understanding of the issues facing our communities. Three community events were held during September and October 2016 to explore these issues with local people and engage them in the process of identifying solutions and ideas for improvement. Community engagement will be integral to the ongoing development of the LOIP.	Final Strategic Assessment and outcome from priority setting event – CPA Board 9 May 16

Key Theme	Requirements	Status	Update on Progress	Evidence
	LOIPs should state what long term outcomes will be different for communities in 10 years and include contributory actions, indicators and targets for the short (1 year) and medium (3 years) terms	**Complete**	The driver diagrams within the LOIP clearly demonstrate the connect between the long term outcomes that the Partnership aims to improve and the actions and improvements it is making in the short and medium term. For each of the primary and secondary drivers in the LOIP, the plan identifies 1, 3 and 10 year improvement aims to ensure the Partnership can monitor whether it is having the desired impact. This will allow the Partnership to take corrective action and steer resources towards the delivery of better outcomes.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
	LOIPs should be in place and signed off by 1 October 2017	**Complete**	The Local Outcome Improvement Plan was endorsed by Council on 17 August and the Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 22 August 2016. This is more than a year in advance of the requirement of the Community Empowerment Act to have a LOIP in place by October 2017.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
	CPA will be required to report progress against the LOIP annually for the period 1 April to 31 March. Reporting must focus on improvement in the achievement of outcomes and how CPA has participated with community groups during the reporting year.	**In progress**	A performance management and reporting framework will be designed and implemented to ensure that the CPA Board receives the information it needs to scrutinise Partnership performance in the delivery of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans. It will also include arrangements for reporting on the Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy which the CPA Board will be asked to endorse on 12 Dec 16. The CPA Board will be asked to approve the framework in February 2017, with the first Annual Performance Report being produced in September 2017 – over a year in advance of the statutory deadline.	Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26

Key Theme	Requirements	Status	Update on Progress	Evidence
Locality Planning	The Act requires CPA to divide the City into smaller areas for the purpose of community planning to identify localities where people experience significantly poorer outcomes than other people across the City and Scotland as a result of socio-economic disadvantage.	**Complete**	CPA agreed its Locality Planning Framework on 20 June 2016. In line with the requirements of the Community Empowerment Act, CPA has identified three localities within the City which experience 'significantly poorer outcomes' than other areas in Aberdeen. On the basis of the city wide strategic assessment, the areas agreed were: Locality 1 - Torry Locality 2 - Cummings Park, Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, and Mastrick Locality 3 - Seaton, Tillydrone, and Woodside	Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16
	Localities should have a maximum population size of 30,000 residents	**Complete**	In line with the requirements of the Act, the population size of each Locality is as follows: Locality 1 – Approx 10,500 Locality 2 – Approx 20,500 Locality 3 – Approx 15,000	Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16
	For each of these areas, CPA must publish a locality plan which sets out the priority outcomes it proposes to improve for the locality with details of how, by when and what difference this will make to local people. .	**In progress**	For each of these localities, CPA will work with communities to produce a Locality Plan. A template has been developed based on the LOIP to ensure there is a clear relationship between the city wide strategy for Aberdeen and locality plans. As with the LOIP, the locality plans will include the locally identified priorities for partnership working under the four strategic themes of people, place, economy and technology. For each local priority, the plans will identify primary and secondary drivers and a range of improvement measures which will be monitored to ensure strengthened local partnership working with communities is having the desired impact.	Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16

Key Theme	Requirements	Status	Update on Progress	Evidence
	In preparing the locality plans, CPA must take into account the needs and circumstances of the people residing in the locality and consult as it considers appropriate.	**Complete**	For each locality a detailed strategic assessment was conducted to provide a robust evidence base for the development of the Locality Plan. The locality strategic assessments combine local data with knowledge of local issues to provide a comprehensive picture of the needs and circumstances of the people living in the localities. The strategic assessments were used to inform discussions with communities as part of three community events held during September and October. The purpose of the events was to engage local people in the locality planning process. The events enabled communities to identify the issues and priorities for their area and play an active part in identifying possible solutions. Work is ongoing to continue this engagement throughout the development of the plans.	Locality Strategic Assessments to Board on 12 Dec 16
	Locality plans should state what long term outcomes will be different for communities in 10 years. Locality plans should include contributory actions, indicators and targets for the short (1 year) and medium (3 years) terms.	**In progress**	The Locality Plans will include driver diagrams to clearly demonstrate the connect between the long term outcomes that the Locality Plan aims to improve and the actions and improvements being delivered in the short and medium term. For each of the primary and secondary drivers in the Locality Plan, the plan will identify 1, 3 and 10 year improvement aims to ensure the Locality Partnership can monitor whether it is having the desired impact. This will allow the Locality Partnership to take corrective action and steer resources towards the delivery of better local outcomes.	Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16

Key Theme	Requirements	Status	Update on Progress	Evidence
	Locality plans should be in place and signed off by 1 October 2017	**In progress**	Draft Locality Plans will be submitted to the CPA Board on 27 Feb and Council on 15 March 2017 for endorsement as living documents. These will continue to evolve as we progress joint working with communities and the establishment of the Locality Partnerships.	Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16
	CPA will be required to review progress against each locality plan and report on this annually for the period 1 April to 31 March. Reporting should focus on improvement in the achievement of each local outcome during the reporting year.	**In progress**	A performance management and reporting framework will be designed and implemented to ensure that the CPA Board receives the information it needs to scrutinise Partnership performance in the delivery of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans. The CPA Board will be asked to approve the framework in February 2017, with the first six month progress report against the Locality Plans being produced in September 2017.	Locality Planning Aberdeen Report – CPA Board, 20 June 16

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14th December 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2015-16
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/16/285
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with the Annual Report 2015-16 for the Fairer Aberdeen Fund programme.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Council is asked to:

a) Consider and advise the Fairer Aberdeen Board of the Council's comments on the Annual Report for 2015-16, at Appendix 1.

b) Note that the Fairer Aberdeen Board has carried out a Participatory Budgeting (PB) exercise in the Froghall, Powis and Sunnybank area during 2016-17.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Fairer Aberdeen Fund is allocated by Aberdeen City Council, and is aimed at tackling poverty and deprivation; supporting partners to work together to tackle area- based and individual poverty; and to help more people access and sustain employment opportunities. Funding supports initiatives and services for the most disadvantaged communities and vulnerable people across the City.

In 2015-16 the Council agreed a sum of £1.625m to be managed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen. The same sum was agreed for 2016-17.

An application process is in place to ensure funding is allocated to appropriate programmes and projects. Organisations funded by the

Fairer Aberdeen Board are required to meet specific terms and conditions and comply with State Aid regulations, where required, and to comply with "Following the Public Pound " financial guidance.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Personnel

The Fairer Aberdeen Fund provides funding for a Support Team currently comprising 1 FTE Programme Coordinator and 1 FTE Development Officer. This small team is responsible for fund allocation, reporting, evaluation of Fairer Aberdeen Fund programmes, projects and initiatives, partnership building, advising applicants, supporting the Regeneration Matters community representatives group, administering and managing the Fairer Aberdeen Fund on behalf of the Fairer Aberdeen Board.

Through the programme approximately 30 FTE staff posts are funded in projects. In 2015-16 1,232 volunteers contributed 172,392 volunteer hours with a value of over £2.3m*, more than doubling the value of the Fund.

*Volunteering time is generally valued as the average hourly pay rate in the area, in Aberdeen this was £13.60. (Office of National Statistics, the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE))

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 The Finance and Resources Committee of the 12th November 2009 agreed that half yearly updates should be provided on the outcomes achieved through the investment in Fairer Aberdeen Fund. This report includes the Annual Report for 2015-16 at Appendix 1. Over the year £1,492,000 was awarded to 49 projects, supporting work in regeneration areas and across the City with vulnerable groups and individuals. Grants ranged from £2,200 to £156,000 in value. A total of 31,335 people were involved in, or benefited from, funded initiatives, 4,681 of them were under 16 years old. 1,232 volunteers contributed 172,392 hours of volunteering time with a value of over £2.3m. The final report will be printed in colour, including photographs, quotes and case studies, and will be widely distributed.

5.2 The Fairer Aberdeen Board allocated £10,000 to carry out a Participatory Budgeting exercise during 2016-17. This was match funded with £10,000 from the Scottish Government's Community Choices Fund and £5,000 from the Health and Social Care Partnership. The Board set up a steering group which decided to focus the PB process on the Froghall, Powis and Sunnybank area, aiming to promote social inclusion and

reduce isolation. 22 applications were received, of these 20 went forward to the voting stage. Applicants presented their proposals at a public event on the 29th of October 2016. 60 people attended the event, 125 votes were cast (those eligible to vote had 5 votes each). 12 projects with the highest number of votes received funding. Work is underway to support those who were unsuccessful to investigate other sources of funding.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –
The Fairer Aberdeen Fund plays an important part in providing services that tackle poverty and contribute to improving wellbeing for the city's most disadvantaged communities and vulnerable individuals. The programme responds to locally identified issues and addresses unemployment, providing financial inclusion services, improving health and literacies and enabling more sustainable and safer communities.

Improving our use of Resources –
The initiatives and programmes being funded support frontline services that are provided by the Council, Community, Voluntary and other public sector partners with 90% of the fund allocated to voluntary and community organisations. The Fairer Aberdeen Board takes a participatory approach to allocating funding, with the majority of the Board being made up of community representatives, with knowledge of the regeneration areas.

The Board regularly monitors the programme to ensure there is no duplication of provision and will continue to review projects as necessary and appropriate.

Corporate -
During 2014-15 the Board reviewed priorities and outcomes in line with the Single Outcome Agreement and local needs.

The main purpose for the fund is targeting disadvantaged communities and vulnerable groups and individuals. The Fairer Aberdeen Board has agreed the following outcomes:

- Maximising income
- Getting people into work
- Improving mental health and well being
- Building stronger safer communities
- Increasing skills and creativity

The Fairer Aberdeen Fund also contributes to a wide range of objectives contained within the Councils policy statement, 'Aberdeen – the Smarter City' in relation to "challenging inequalities wherever they exist and bringing our communities closer together."

Fairer Aberdeen Fund initiatives also contribute to the delivery of the Council's Anti-Poverty Strategy and have an important role in responding to Welfare Reform changes.

The Fairer Aberdeen Board, which represents a partnership, participatory approach, comprises of the Chair of Community Planning Aberdeen, Cllr Jenny Laing, three Aberdeen City Councillors (Councillors Yvonne Allan, Gordon Graham and Jim Noble), one representative from Aberdeen Council for Voluntary Organisations, one representative from NHS Grampian, one representative from Police Scotland, seven representatives from priority regeneration areas (appointed through the Regeneration Matters Group), and three representatives from the Aberdeen Civic Forum.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Failure to continue to address the needs of Aberdeen's most disadvantaged communities would have a detrimental effect for the individuals and communities involved and potentially increased costs in the long term for public services. Supporting people into employment, maximizing people's income, providing early intervention in relation to education and health is not only a better outcome for individuals but reduces the costs involved in responding to the effects of poverty in the long run.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The information contained at Appendix 1 is based on the monitoring reports that funded projects are required to produce as part of the terms and conditions for Fairer Aberdeen Fund grant.

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Fairer Aberdeen Fund
Annual report 15-16

The Fairer Aberdeen Fund is allocated by Aberdeen City Council to tackle poverty and deprivation. The Fund is dispersed and managed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board, a sub group of the Community Planning Partnership, made up of representatives from the regeneration areas, the Civic Forum, the Council, NHS Grampian, Police Scotland and ACVO (Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations). In 2015-16 funding of £1.625m was made available to support initiatives fitting with the main priorities decided by the Board.

Priority themes and key actions:

Maximising income
1. Improving access to affordable financial products and services
2. Supporting the delivery of financial education initiatives
3. Delivering coordinated advice and information services

Getting people into work
1. Providing access to support and skills needed to return to work
2. Supporting personal development and training
3. Delivering in work support

Improving mental health and wellbeing
1. Reducing health inequalities
2. Improving mental health and wellbeing
3. Increasing access to affordable healthy food

Building stronger, safer communities
1. Improving access to services in regeneration areas
2. Increasing community safety
3. Supporting community involvement and participation

Increasing skills and creativity
1. Supporting learning and creative opportunities
2. Improving literacy and numeracy

Allocation of funding 2015-16.

Maximising Income	£426,680	26%
Getting People into Work	£256,953	16%
Improving Health and Wellbeing	£336,530	21%
Building Stronger Safer Communities	£273,769	17%
Increasing Skills and Creativity	£187,796	12%
Community Support Fund	£48,000	3%
Employment Support Fund	£10,000	1%
Running Costs and Support Team	£85,200	5%

The Fund focuses on neighbourhoods that fall within the most deprived 0-15% in Scotland according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, as well as supporting vulnerable groups and individuals.

Priority neighbourhoods
- Cummings Park
- Middlefield
- Northfield
- Seaton
- Tillydrone
- Torry
- Woodside

Priority groups
- People living in poverty
- Lone parents and families with children
- Unemployed people
- Children and young people
- People with health issues
- Older people
- Minority groups where an identified need can be evidenced

Over the year £1,492,000 was awarded to 49 projects, supporting work in regeneration areas and across the City with vulnerable groups and individuals. Grants ranged from £2,200 to £156,000 in value. A total of 31,335 people were involved in, or benefited from, funded initiatives, 4,681 of them were under 16 years old. 1,232 volunteers contributed 172,392 hours of volunteering time with a value of over £2.3m*, more than doubling the value of the Fund.

*Volunteering time is generally valued as the average hourly pay rate in the area, in Aberdeen this was £13.60. (Office of National Statistics, the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE))

Maximising Income

26% of the Fund (£426,680) was allocated to initiatives that support people to maximise their income. The main themes under this priority are access to affordable financial services and products and coordinated provision of quality advice and information services.

Over the year a total of 4,667 adults and 2,062 juniors saved with Credit Unions, depositing £2,533,035 in savings. They provided 2,718 affordable loans totalling £1,835,565.

2,482 people received money advice or income maximisation advice, with a total financial gain of £2,405,253, an average of £969 per person.

There were 2,598 referrals to the Cash In Your Pocket database, which supports people to access the employability and financial inclusion support they need.

4,712 food bank beneficiaries were signposted to other agencies for support, 216 accessed financial support and 130 learners took part in sessions and learnt skills to improve their financial literacy.

262 tonnes of free produce was distributed; this is the equivalent of 52,400 food parcels or 623,810 meals.

24,225 people benefited from 8 funded initiatives and a total of 283 volunteers contributed 71,360 hours of volunteer time.

The funded initiatives which contributed to these achievements through the year are:

Aberdeen Food Bank Partnership
Aberdeen Illness and Disability Advice Service
CAB Money Advice Outreach Project
Care and Repair Funding Officer
Cash In Your Pocket (CIYP)
North East Scotland Credit Union (NESCU) Access Project
St Machar Credit Union
WEA Count Us In

Getting People into Work

16% of the fund (£256,953) was allocated to initiatives that help people get back into work. The main themes under this priority are access to support and skills needed to return to work, including initial engagement, personal development activity and in work support.

A Support Fund is available to help overcome financial barriers and this was accessed by over 100 people, providing clothing for interviews, transport, training and qualifications.

Over the year a total of 290 people moved into work.

14 access centres in areas of high unemployment offered weekly employment support drop in sessions.

164 young people were involved in activities designed to increase their opportunities to move into positive destinations, and 80 young people moved onto employment, education or training.

A total of 690 participants were involved in 6 initiatives and 10 volunteers contributed 686 hours of volunteer time.

The funded initiatives which contributed to these achievements through the year are:

Pathways
SHMU (Station House Media Unit)
NESS (North East Sensory Services) Employment Service
Prince’s Trust Team
WEA Dynamics and Employability

Improving Health and Wellbeing

20% of the Fund (£336,530) was allocated to initiatives that improve health and wellbeing. The main themes under this priority are reducing health inequalities; improving mental health and wellbeing; and increasing access to affordable healthy food.

Over the year 80 Community Food Outlets operated in local communities, 26 of them in Sheltered Housing complexes, and 262 tonnes of free food was distributed to 120 organisations through FareShare.

654 people accessed 4,448 sessions of counselling provision, 227 of them were under 16 years old, and counselling was provided in 7 regeneration neighbourhoods.

30 families in regeneration areas were supported to prevent further crisis and family breakdown, and 6 families no longer required Social Work support.

205 volunteers were recruited, trained and supported to provide meals, laundry and showering facilities to rough sleepers or those in temporary accommodation 4 times a week.

31 people in the Seaton area received regular support to recover from alcohol/drug misuse, to improve their employability skills and access specialist support and advisory services.

1,238 people benefited from 13 initiatives, and 522 volunteers contributed 55,918 hours of volunteer time.

The funded initiatives which contributed to these achievements through the year are:

Aberdeen Foyer Reach
Befriend A Child
CFINE (Community Food Initiatives North East)
Cyrenians Street Alternatives
Healthy Roots
Home-Start
Mental Health Aberdeen ACIS Youth Counselling, Torry Counselling and Calsayseat Counselling
Pathways to Wellbeing
Printfield Feel Good Project
Seaton Recovery Project
Tillydrone Health & Well Being Project

Building Stronger Safer Communities

17% of the fund (£273,769) was allocated to initiatives that help build stronger safer communities. The main themes under this priority are improving access to services in regeneration areas and supporting community involvement and participation.

Over the year Cummings Park, Seaton and Tillydrone Community Flats and Middlefield Youth Flat were funded by Fairer Aberdeen, and a number of organisations use these venues to deliver services within the areas. The number of attendances to use their facilities including phone, computers, making enquiries and getting information totalled 14,922.

2,152 people participated in activities and services provided in Community Projects and Flats.

There were 1,176 hours of additional police patrols engaging with sex workers. The numbers of calls to the Police regarding on street prostitution for Aberdeen City reduced from 20 to 18 and for the Local Policing Areas of City Centre and Seaton from 19 to 18.

A total of 3,038 participants, 1,583 of them under 16 years old, were involved in 14 initiatives and 119 volunteers contributed 5,645 hours of volunteer time.

The funded initiatives which contributed to these achievements through the year are:

Aberdeen Lads Club Big Bang Drumming Group
Choices Relationship Revolution
Cummings Park Community Flat
Fersands Family Centre Family Support Worker and Twos Group
Fersands Youth Work Support
Middlefield Youth Flat and Supporting Volunteers and Under 11s work
Police Scotland Operation Begonia
Printfield Community Project
SHMU Community Reintegration Support Service
STAR (Seaton Taking Action on Regeneration) Community Flat
Tillydrone ACT Attack
Tillydrone Community Flat

Increasing Skills and Creativity

12% of the fund (£187,796) was allocated to initiatives that help increase skills and creativity. The main themes under this priority are supporting learning and creative opportunities, improving literacy and encouraging volunteering.

Over the year 655 participated in Adult Learning activities and 225 in Arts activities.

135 people were involved in producing community media. 44 volunteers were supported to produce 16 editions of community magazines in 7 regeneration areas, and 91 people produced radio programmes, including 6 hour long weekly community shows and 20 weekly issue based shows.

78 young people were involved in producing youth media, 8 of them secured a Saltire Award and 6 moved on to employment.

249 people took part in classes to promote positive parenting including cooking, first aid and support with financial issues.

610 older people were supported to use technology and engage online and 99 learning sessions were delivered.

A total of 2,144 people, 430 of them under 16 years old, participated in 9 initiatives, and 293 volunteers contributed 38,783 hours of volunteer time.

The funded initiatives which contributed to these achievements through the year are:

Creative Learning Team Lift Arts and Wellbeing Project
Reading Bus
SHMU Connecting Communities Through Community Media and Youth Media
Silver City Surfers
St Machar Parent Support Project Positive Lifestyles
Stockethill Step Up
WEA Alternative Literacies

Regeneration Matters is a forum of community representatives from all the regeneration and priority neighbourhoods in Aberdeen City who have been meeting since November 2006 and are active in identifying and addressing issues around poverty and deprivation. The group meets monthly and as well as discussions on particular issues they also have the opportunity to share

information about each of their neighbourhoods and feedback on any meetings or conferences they have attended.

Issues they covered over the year included food poverty, welfare reform, mental health services, recycling and sustainability, and integrated health and social care. The group invites guest organisations along to meetings for a discussion, and the guest organisations have the opportunity to learn about the priorities, concerns and experiences of the community.

Regeneration Matters also manage the Community Support Fund on behalf of the Fairer Aberdeen Board, to support communications, training, community capacity building and community involvement in regeneration. Over the year this funded printing and delivery costs for community magazines in 7 of the regeneration areas, gala/open days for Tillydrone and St Machar Parent Support Project, as well as training events in Printfield and Middlefield.

The Regeneration Matters group elect 7 of its members to act as community representatives on the Fairer Aberdeen Board, alongside 3 representatives from the Civic Forum.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14 December 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Adoption of Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/16/157
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report presents the Examination Report on the Aberdeen Local Development Plan, the table of modifications arising from the report and the Plan as modified for adoption. In addition, there is an updated Environmental Report and Habitats Regulation Assessment as required by legislation.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 It is recommended that Members:

a) Note the Examination Report on the Aberdeen Local Development Plan;
b) approve the modifications made to the Plan, as set out in Appendix 1 and any minor drafting changes;
c) notify the Scottish Ministers of the Council's intention to adopt the Aberdeen Local Development Plan as modified, and agree to;
d) adopt the Aberdeen Local Development Plan with effect from 17th January 2017 unless directed otherwise by Scottish Ministers and undertake the statutory procedures set out in Appendix 5.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report as the cost of finalising the Aberdeen Local Development Plan, including advertising and printing the Plan, can be met from existing budgets.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This report brings to a conclusion a major project to deliver a new Local Development Plan for Aberdeen in line with the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan. The Aberdeen Local Development

Plan, through the spatial strategy and planning policies, aims to make Aberdeen an even more attractive, prosperous and sustainable place in which to live, visit and do business.

4.2 An adopted Aberdeen Local Development Plan provides a firm foundation for investment within the City and will be the Plan which, once adopted, informs decisions on all planning applications. Where appropriate masterplans will require to be agreed by the planning authority and the land allocations will be subject to planning applications in due course. These processes allow for further scrutiny and community involvement.

5. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Scottish Ministers expect local authorities to progress new Local Development Plans to adoption as quickly as possible from the Proposed Plan, which is in the interests of making the planning system more efficient and maintaining up-to-date Development Plans. Progress with the Aberdeen Local Development Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to meeting these objectives.

5.2 The Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee agreed the content of the Aberdeen Local Development Plan Proposed Plan on 13th January 2015. Following a period for representations and consideration of those representations, the Committee agreed for the Plan to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for an Examination in Public on 27 October 2015. The Proposed Plan represented the Council's settled view on what the content of the final adopted Plan should be and was a result of extensive assessment and public consultation.

5.3 The Local Development Plan contains a spatial strategy which explains the Council's overall view of where development should go and the principles behind that. It identifies future development sites and the scale of development expected on each of the identified sites. As required by the regulations, the Plan conforms to the Strategic Development Plan and makes significant allocations in terms of housing and employment land. It also specifies what developers need to do when designing and delivering development, emphasising the need for masterplans, drawn up with local community involvement, for all the major sites. The policies set out additional requirements for different types of development and explain what uses are acceptable in different areas.

Examination in Public

5.4 The Examination in Public commenced on 8th February 2016 and reviewed all of the unresolved representations made on the Aberdeen Local Development Plan. The Examination was undertaken by independent persons appointed by Scottish Ministers called Reporters. The administration of the examination process was undertaken by the Government's Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals.

5.5 It is for the Reporters to determine how the Examination in Public is carried out and during the examination 19 requests for further information were issued but there were no hearings or inquiries held.

Modifications

5.6 The Reporters have now completed their examination of the Plan against the representations and the Council's submissions (as agreed at the CHI meeting on 27 October 2015), and have outlined the modifications to be made to the Proposed Plan. Appendix 1 sets out in detail all of the modifications proposed. It also lists the consequential modifications arising from the Reporters recommendations. The full Examination Report can be viewed here: http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning_environment/planning/local_development_plan/pla_aldp2016_examination.asp

5.7 The vast majority of the housing and employment land allocations and other proposals in the LDP remain unchanged. The following new opportunity sites have been added;

- Skene Road, Maidencraig (15 Homes)
- Contlaw Road West, Milltimber (10 homes)
- Culter House Road, Milltimber (8 homes)
- Milltimber South (60 homes and 1225sqm employment)
- 34-40 Abbotswell Road (residential)
- Froghall Terrace (residential or student housing)

5.8 The following sites have been changed or deleted;

- OP3 Findlay Farm (rezoned from B2 Specialist Employment to B1 Business and Industry)
- OP7 Aberdeen College Gordon Centre (extended)
- OP59 Loirston (reference made to convenience retailing)
- OP52 Malcolm Road, Peterculter (reduced from 71 houses to 8 houses)
- OP108 Mid Anguston (8 house proposal deleted)
- Land at Heathvale Cove (removed from green belt – rezoned to urban green space)
- OP66 Manor Walk (removal of privately owned caravan park from the proposal)
- OP65 Haudagain Triangle (removal of reference to retail and open space)
- OP102 George Street/Crooked Lane (reference to retaining granite street frontages).

5.9 Other changes to sites and proposals are relatively minor and can be seen in Appendix 1. There are some changes and rewording to some of the policies but most remain substantially as approved in the Proposed Plan. That includes policies on affordable housing, infrastructure and developer contributions. The Proposals Map will be subject to modifications to reflect the changes to sites as above and other minor amendments. Any drafting or mapping errors have also been picked up.

5.10 Local authorities are required to follow the recommendations for modification following examination of their Local Development Plans unless one of the grounds for declining to follow recommendations applies (section 19(10) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997). The Town and Country Planning (Grounds for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 set out the limited grounds that local authorities may depart from the Scottish Ministers' recommendations. These are:

- would have the effect of making the Local Development Plan inconsistent with the National Planning Framework, or with any Strategic Development Plan or national park plan for the same area;
- are incompatible with Part IVA of the Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations 1994;
- are based on conclusions that could not reasonably have been reached based on the evidence considered at the examination.

5.11 The last point addresses the possibility of clear errors (including factual errors) being made by the reporters. Government guidance (Circular 6/2013 Development Planning paragraph 94) makes it clear that this does not relate to circumstances where the planning authority disagrees with the planning judgement reached by the reporter. An assessment of the modifications against these criteria has been made and it is considered that all modifications are required to be made in order for the Council to adopt the Plan as the Aberdeen Local Development Plan.

5.12 Appendix 1 also list a small number of the consequential modifications required. These are made to rectify any terminological inconsistencies created by the reporter's modifications and must be wholly consequent on them.

5.13 The Plan as modified is attached to this report as Appendix 2. In order to show where the modifications have been made, a tracked changes version has been placed in the Group Rooms, together with a copy of the Proposals Map as modified. Further copies of the Proposals Maps will be put on display at the Council meeting.

Environmental Report and Habitat Regulations Appraisal

5.14 Strategic Environmental Assessment was undertaken to help shape and influence the content of the Local Development Plan. Where the assessment identified significant adverse environmental effects (following consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Historic Environment Scotland and the public) this lead to amending the Plan or incorporating mitigation measures to minimise identified impacts. An Environmental Report was prepared in support of the Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan.

5.15 Having considered the Reporters' modifications and updated the Environmental Report (Appendix 3) it is considered that none of the modifications are likely to have significant effects on the environment when considering the overall effects of the Plan. Following adoption of the Local Development Plan a post adoption Strategic Environmental Assessment statement will be published setting out how the findings in the Environmental Assessment were taken into account during the preparation of the Plan. It will also provide consultees with a final opportunity to comment informally on arrangements for monitoring.

5.16 The Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) (Appendix 4) is an assessment of the potential impact of the Proposed Plan on protected habitats. Amendments to the Plan have been screened and assessed and it is concluded that the Aberdeen Local Development Plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a protected European Site.

5.17 It should be noted that the Environmental Report and HRA also covers the Supplementary Guidance to the Local Development Plan which will be considered in a separate report to this meeting.

Adoption of the Aberdeen Local Development Plan

5.18 In order to formally adopt the Plan, a further series of notifications require to be carried out. This includes publishing a press advert, notifying people who made representations and sending the Plan as modified to Scottish Ministers. 28 days after this the Plan can be adopted unless directed not to by Scottish Ministers. The full process that we are required to follow is set out in Appendix 5. Subsequent to adoption there is a 6 week period in which a legal challenge can be made to the Plan.

5.19 The adoption of the Local Development Plan will not be the end of the process. There is a requirement to produce an Action Programme within three months of the Plan being adopted. This document will be aimed specifically at the delivery of the proposals and policies contained in the Aberdeen Local Development Plan. The Action Programme will include timescales for the delivery of key infrastructure and will be reviewed regularly taking into account changing circumstances.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience – The Local Development Plan sets out the planning policies and proposals for the city for up to the next 5 years. In doing so it provides certainty for the public, agencies and development industry.

Improving Staff Experience – The Local Development Plan is the primary means by which the Council determines planning applications. An up to date LDP provides guidance to staff dealing in planning matters and helps to ensure that applications are dealt with in a consistent manner.

Improving our use of Resources – The LDP says that development should be encouraged in the right places, be efficient and make the best use of existing infrastructure capacity. Where that capacity does not exist, developers will be expected to provide the infrastructure, services and facilities which are required as a result of the development.

Corporate - The Local Development Plan will support the Smarter City Vision in helping to make Aberdeen a great place to live, bring up a family, do business and visit. It is ambitious in growing the city and promotes 21st century sustainable living, the city centre, new communications technology and sustainable transport.

Public – Given the wide range of policy areas the Proposed Plan covers, an Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment was carried out on the Proposed Plan at the time of its approval. It showed that there will be some positive impacts of the Plan on a range of equalities groups. The Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment can be obtained from the Local Development Plan Team.

The Proposed Local Development Plan has been in the public domain since late 2015 and the Examination Report has been available since September 2016. Some of the changes to the sites are likely to be of interest to those living in their locality.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

7.1 Local Development Plans have to be replaced at least every 5 years (the current LDP will be 5 years old on 1st March 2017). They contain policies aimed to improve the quality of development and ensure a consistent approach in deciding planning applications. Not having an up to date Plan in place could lead to a higher risk of planning by appeal, meaning less certainty for developers, agencies and the public in respect of Aberdeen's growth and development, cause deterioration in customer service and the quality of development.

7.2 As mentioned from paragraph 5.10, planning authorities must, by law, accept the Reporter's recommendations unless they consider they can be declined under the grounds set out in statute. Declining the Reporter's recommendations carried two risks;

- Scottish Ministers can intervene and prevent the Council adopting the Local Development Plan.
- Even if Scottish Ministers do not intervene, an aggrieved third party may mount a legal challenge on the basis that the Council acted outwith it's powers in declining to follow the recommendations.

7.3 It should be noted that, to our knowledge, no planning authority in Scotland has successfully overturned a Reporters recommendations under these circumstances since the new legislation came into force in 2009.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Appendix 1 – Modifications Table
- Appendix 2 – Aberdeen Local Development Plan as modified
- Appendix 3 – Environmental Report
- Appendix 4 – Habitats Regulations Appraisal
- Appendix 5 – Adoption Process

Further Reading:

Aberdeen Local Development Plan – Examination Report
http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning_environment/planning/local_development_plan/pla_aldp2016_examination.asp

Aberdeen Local Development Plan – Proposed Plan
http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning_environment/planning/local_development_plan/pla_2016_proposed_plan.asp

Aberdeen Local Development Plan – Proposed Action Programme
http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=62528&sID=26036

Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority: Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan 2014
http://www.aberdeencityandshire-sdpa.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=1111&sID=149

Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006
http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/17/pdfs/asp_20060017_en.pdf

Scottish Planning Series: Planning Circular 6/2013: Development Planning
http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0044/00441577.pdf

The Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2008
http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2008/426/pdfs/ssi_20080426_en.pdf

The Town and Country Planning (Grounds for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009
http://origin-www.legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2009/9780111001677/pdfs/sdsi_9780111001677_en.pdf

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
1 Vision & General Spatial Strategy	No modifications	3	None	
2 Housing land Supply and Policy LR1 & LR2	1. The heading of the second columns to Tables 3 to 8 should be changed to read “Existing to 2016”.	13	None	11 to 15
	2. Add following paragraph is at the start of Policy LR2: “Other small scale complementary uses will be supported within allocated sites provided there is no conflict with the spatial strategy of the plan or the achievement of the specified housing and employment provision.”		None	10
	3. The words “Mixed use developments will be required to service” are deleted from proposed Policy LR2, and replaced with “Developments including provision for both housing and employment land will be required to service the …”.		None	10
3 Allocated Sites & General Area Strategy: Bridge of Don/Grandhome	1. Change zoning for Site OP3 Findlay Farm, Murcar on the proposals map from Specialist Employment Area (B2) to Business and Industry (B1).	28	None	Map
	2. Change the policy reference for Site OP3 Findlay Farm, Murcar in Appendix 2 from Specialist Employment Area to Business and Industry.		None	79
	3. Add the following words to the ‘Other Factors’ for Site OP13 (AECC Bridge of Don) in Appendix 2: “Development should respect the landscape setting and amenity of the course of the Royal Aberdeen Golf Club”.		None	80

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
4 Alternative Sites: Bridge of Don/Grandhome	1. Extend site OP7 westwards to include the remainder of the North East Scotland College landholding in this area, as indicated in the plan attached to representation 109, and that the entirety of the extended area be designated on the proposals map as Mixed Use Area (H2). 2. The site area in Appendix 2 be amended, the Policy be changed to Mixed Use, and the first sentence of Other Factors be amended to "Location suitable for residential or mixed use development."	43	None Amend site area in Appendix 2 from 2.21ha to 3.1ha	Map 79
5 Allocated Sites & General Area Strategy: Dyce, Bucksburn & Woodside	Remove the curtilage of the property known as Bankhead School Lodge from Site OP14 Bankhead Academy on the proposals map. The site size shown in Appendix 2 should be amended accordingly.	58	None Amend site area in Appendix 2 from 2.7ha to 2.6ha	Map 80
6 Alternative Sites: Dyce, Bucksburn & Woodside	Remove green space network designation from the land at Cairnfield Place (and edged red in representation 170) on the proposals map.	66	None	Map
7 Allocated Sites & General Area Strategy: Kingswells & Greenferns	Remove green space network designation from land within and along the southern boundary of the EnerMech site within Site OP33.	76	None	Map

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8 Alternative Sites: Kingswells & Greenferns	1. Remove the site at Skene Road, Maidencraig illustrated in red in representation 141 from Archial Norr from the green belt and include as a residential area and opportunity site (for 15 houses) on the proposals map and in Appendix 2. 2. In Appendix 2, the appropriate site area for this site be given; the Policy given as 'Residential'; and the Other Factors given as 'Site capable of accommodating around 15 homes. A flood risk assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site. Development should seek to avoid any adverse impacts on the Den of Maidencraig local nature conservation site.'	84	None	Map 83
9 Allocated Sites & General Area Strategy: Countesswells	No modifications.	98	None	
10 Alternative Sites: Countesswells	No modifications.	106	None	
11 Allocated Sites & General Area Strategy: Deeside	1. On page 15 of the proposed plan, Table 8: In the entry for OP52 Malcolm Road Peterculter, delete "71 homes" and insert "8 homes"; Delete the entire entry for OP108 Mid Anguston.	111	See also Issue 12 Add 7 units to Phase 1 of Table 2 Housing Allowances under 'Deeside' and 'Total' Add 7 units to phase 1 total on	9 15 & 85

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
	2. On page 85 of the proposed plan, in the entry for OP52 Malcolm Road Peterculter: In the third column, delete “8.98 ha” and insert “1.5 ha”; In the fifth column, modify the text to read: “Opportunity for 8 houses. Scots Pine trees on western boundary to be retained. Site (or part of) may be at risk of flooding. Developers may be required to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) in support of any development proposals for this site”. 3. On page 86 of the proposed plan, delete the entire entry for OP108 Mid Anguston. 4. On page 86 of the proposed plan, in the entry for OP109 Woodend Peterculter: In the third column, delete “2.9ha” and insert “2 ha”. In the fifth column, modify the final sentence to read “Ancient woodland to the south of the site is to be protected”. 5. Modify the proposals map by: Removing site OP108 Mid Anguston;		Table 8 Development in Deeside	86 Map

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<table>
<tr><th>Issue</th><th>Modification</th><th>Report Page</th><th>Consequential Modification</th><th>Proposed Plan Page</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Redrawing the boundary of site OP52 Malcolm Road to accord with the white area in the south-west part of the site shown on the map “Native Woodland Survey of Scotland” which accompanied Forestry Commission Scotland’s letter of 27 April 2016;

Redrawing the boundary of site OP109 Woodend Peterculter to exclude the area outlined in blue on OP109 – Map A which accompanied Forestry Commission Scotland’s letter of 27 April 2016.</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>12 Alternative Sites: Deeside</td><td>1. On page 15 of the proposed plan, Table 8, add the following opportunity sites:

OP[ ] West of Contlaw Road: Phase 1 capacity 10 homes
OP[ ] Culter House Road: Phase 1 capacity 8 homes
OP[ ] Milltimber South: Phase 1 capacity 60 homes and 1,225 square metres employment.

2. On page 86 of the proposed plan, extend the table for Deeside as follows:

<table><tr><td>OP[ ]</td><td>West of Contlaw Road</td><td>2.9ha</td><td>Residential</td><td>Opportunity for 10 houses. Arboricultural and ecological implications</td></tr></table></td><td>136</td><td>See also Issue 11

Add 7 units to Phase 1 of Table 2 Housing Allowances under ‘Deeside’ and ‘Total’

Add 7 units to phase 1 total on Table 8 Development in Deeside

Give sites new OP numbers;
OP112 West of Contlaw Road
OP113 Culter House Road
OP114 Milltimber South</td><td>

9

15

86 & Map</td></tr>
</table>

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<table>
<tr><th>Issue</th><th>Modification</th><th>Report Page</th><th>Consequential Modification</th><th>Proposed Plan Page</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>
<table>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>studies required.</td></tr>
<tr><td>OP[ ]</td><td>Culter House Road</td><td>2.4ha</td><td>Residential</td><td>Opportunity for 8 houses.</td></tr>
<tr><td>OP[ ]</td><td>Milltimber South</td><td>11.5ha</td><td>Mixed use</td><td>Opportunity for 60 houses and 1,225 square metres of ancillary retail/office space. Masterplan required.</td></tr>
</table>
3. Modify the proposals map to show the proposed new opportunity sites at West of Contlaw Road and Culter House Road (Residential Areas (H1)), and at Milltimber South (Mixed Use Areas (H2)).</td><td></td><td></td><td>Map</td></tr>
<tr><td>13 Allocated Sites & General Area Strategy: Loirston & Cove</td><td>Amend the second sentence of the ‘Other Factors’ listed for Site OP59 Loirston in Appendix 2 to read: “Potential to accommodate football or community stadium and supermarket to meet convenience shopping deficiencies in south Aberdeen.”</td><td>165</td><td>None</td><td>87</td></tr>
<tr><td>14 Alternative Sites: Loirston & Cove</td><td>1. Identify the land at 34-40 Abbotswell Road edged in red in the plan accompanying representation 64 from Stewart Milne Homes and John Lawrie (Aberdeen) Ltd as an opportunity site on the proposals map and in Appendix 2, and designated as a Mixed Use Area (H2) on the proposals map.</td><td>192</td><td>None</td><td>Map</td></tr>
</table>

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
	2. In Appendix 2, the appropriate site size be given, the Policy be given as Mixed Use, and the Other Factors given as 'Suitable for residential use. A noise assessment will be required.' 3. Remove the land at Heathvale edged in red in Figure 1 of representation 143 from Mr and Mrs Nicol, and the small adjoining areas of land to the north and south-west, from the green belt.		Amend site area to 1.03ha Rezone land to NE3 Urban Green Space.	87 Map
15 City Centre Development General	Insert an additional paragraph after paragraph 3.28, to read: "Town centres have also been designated at Torry and Rosemount and are defined on the proposals map. Strategies to improve these centres will be developed, informed by town centre health checks. Any spatial elements of these strategies will be included in supplementary guidance or the next local development plan."	200	Re-number subsequent paragraphs.	28
16 New Policy	Add the following sentence at the end of Policy R2: "The significance of the benefits of remediating a contaminated site, and the viability of funding this, will be taken into account when considering proposals for the alternative use of such sites."	206	None	63
17 Allocated Sites: City Centre and Urban	1. Remove from Site OP66 the land outlined in red in the plan accompanying representation 170 from Colin Fraser and currently used as a mobile home park.	211	Amend site area for OP66 in Appendix 2, page 88 to 1.9ha.	Map

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
	2. Add an additional sentence between the existing second and third sentences of the 'Other Factors' relating to Site OP102 George Street/ Crooked Lane in Appendix 2 to read: "Existing traditional granite buildings on the St Andrew Street and George Street frontages, and upper floor residential uses, to be retained."		None	90
18 Policy D1 D2 & D3: Design	1. Add the following words at the end of paragraph 3.4: "(see relevant Technical Advice Note)". 2. Under paragraph 3.5, the 2nd bullet point of the 'Resource efficient' box be amended to read: "maximises efficiency of the use of resources through natural or technological means such as low or zero carbon energy-generating technologies, solar orientation and shelter, water saving measures including water capture and reuse, avoidance of carbon rich soils, incorporation of SuDS, and blue/ green infrastructure" 3. Amend the 6th paragraph of Policy D3 to read: "This policy does not apply to employment land, industrial areas and established health or educational campuses."	221	None None None	17 20 22
19 Policy D4 & D5: Built Heritage	1. Replace the second sentence of the first paragraph of	235	None	24

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	Policy D4 with: "There will be a presumption in favour of the retention and reuse of listed buildings and buildings within conservation areas that contribute to their character. High quality design that respects the character, appearance and setting of the historic environment and protects the special architectural or historic interest of its listed buildings, conservation areas and historic gardens and designed landscapes, will be supported." 2. Add the following words at the end of the second bullet point of the third paragraph of Policy D4: "…, and the publication/ curation of findings." 3. Delete the fourth paragraph of Policy D4. 4. In the third paragraph of Policy D5, replace the phrase "… all of the original granite …" with "… as much of the original granite as is practically possible …".		None None None	24 24 25
20 Policy NC1, NC2 & NC3: City Centre And West End Retail	1. Amend the second sentence of Policy NC1 to read "As such the city centre is the preferred location for retail, office, hotel, commercial leisure, community, cultural and other significant footfall generating development serving a city-wide or regional market."	242	None	26

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
	2. Amend the first sentence of the second paragraph of Policy NC1 to read: "Proposals for new retail, office, hotel, commercial leisure, community, cultural and other significant footfall generating development (unless on sites allocated for that use in this plan) shall be located in accordance with the sequential approach … [continue as in proposed plan]". 3. Reword Criterion (e) of Policy NC2 and criterion 4 of Policy NC3 to read: "the new use does not create overprovision and/ or clustering of a particular use in the immediate vicinity which would undermine the character and amenity of the centre or the well-being of communities; and".		None None	26 27
21 Policy NC 4, NC5, NC6, NC7, NC8 & NC9: Supporting Retail Centres	1. Amend the second sentence of Policy NC4 to read: "All significant footfall generating development appropriate to town centres (unless on sites allocated for that use in this plan) should be located … [continue as in proposed plan]". 2. Add the following words at the start of the third paragraph of Policy NC4: "In these circumstances, …" 3. Add the words "if possible" at the end of the first sentences of the third, fourth and fifth paragraphs of Policy NC4. 4. Reword the existing seventh paragraph of Policy NC4 relating to commercial centres to read: "Only proposals for bulky goods shall be located in a commercial centre, and only if a suitable site is unavailable in, or on the edge of, a centre in	255	None None None None	28 28 28 28

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	the first, second or third tiers of the hierarchy." 5. Move the existing eighth paragraph of Policy NC4 relating to edge-of-centre sites ahead of paragraph 7. 6. Amend the eleventh paragraph of Policy NC4 to read: "Retail Impact Assessments should be undertaken where a retail development over 2,500sqm gross floorspace (or which otherwise may have a significant impact on vitality and viability) outwith a defined … [continue as in proposed plan]". 7. Amend the start of the first sentence of Policy NC5 to read: "All significant footfall generating development appropriate to designated centres, when proposed on a site that is out-of-centre, will be refused planning permission if it does not satisfy all of the following requirements (unless on sites allocated for that use in this plan): 8. Delete the final sentence of the 'other factors' for site OP65 Haudagain Triangle in Appendix 2. 9. Replace the sixth criterion of Policy NC6 with: "the new use does not create clustering of a particular use in the immediate vicinity which would undermine the character and amenity of the centre or the well-being of communities; and".		None None None None None	28 28 29 88 29

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
22 Policy I1: Infrastructure Delivery And Planning Obligations	1. In Policy I1: Infrastructure Delivery and Planning Obligations on page 32, in the third paragraph modify the first sentence to read: "The precise level of infrastructure requirements and contributions will need to be agreed with the Council, in consultation with other statutory agencies where appropriate." 2. On page 33, text headed 'Planning Obligations', fourteenth line, delete "water and drainage/regional SUDS", and insert: "regional SuDS". 3. Modify paragraph 3.44 as follows: At the end of the twelfth line, insert a full stop after "impact". In the thirteenth line, delete the words, "and a Strategic Transport Fund (STF) set up to secure contributions to fund the delivery of this infrastructure", and substitute, "The Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan proposes the setting up of a Strategic Transport Fund for the delivery of this infrastructure". 4. In paragraph 3.45, delete the existing text and substitute the following:	276	None None None None	32 33 36 36

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
	"In appropriate cases, the Council will seek proportionate contributions to support strategic projects that are related to the developments concerned and that are necessary to make those developments acceptable in planning terms." 5. In paragraph 3.46, delete the first line reading "Alongside contributions towards the STF", so that the paragraph begins "Development proposals…".		None	37
23 Policy T1, T2 & T3: Transport And Accessibility	No modifications.	292	None	
24 Policy T4 & T5: Air Quality and Noise	Replace the word 'significant' in the second paragraph of Policy T5 with the word 'suitable'	302	None	
25 Policy B1, B2 & B3: Supporting Business and Industry	In Policy B2 Specialist Employment Areas, redraft the second paragraph as follows: 'The exception is proposals at the Aberdeen Energy Park where a mix of Class 4 (Business), Class 5 (General Industrial) and Class 6 (Storage and Distribution) uses will be considered if it can be shown that the respective uses can co-exist without eroding the amenity of the park.'	306	None	42

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
26 Policy B4,B5 & B6: Airport, Harbour, Pipelines	1. In Policy B4 Aberdeen Airport, modify the first paragraph as follows: In the eighth line, after "distribution facilities" insert ", car hire facilities". In the penultimate line, delete "and car hire facilities". 2. In Policy B5 Aberdeen Harbour, delete the second paragraph and replace as follows: 'Residential and mixed use development within the area surrounding the harbour must take account of the character of the area and avoid undue conflict with adjacent harbour-related land uses. New development must not impinge upon the viability or operational efficiency of the harbour, or of existing businesses within the harbour zoned area. Mitigation measures may be required in order to permit uses which could otherwise give rise to such conflict.'	312	None None The Reporters pointed out to the Council that the key to the inner and outer pipeline notification zones appear to be the wrong way around. The Additional City Wide Proposals Map Key should therefore be amended to switch Inner and Outer Zone title as a drafting error.	43 45 Map
27 Policy H1, H3 & H4: Meeting Housing and Community Needs	No modifications	320	None	
28 Policy H5, H6 & H7: Affordable Housing, and Gypsy and Traveller Site Proposals	No modifications	328	None	

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
29 Policy NE1: Green Space Network	1. After paragraph 3.95, add the following text: "Temporary greening can be an appropriate way to create safe and attractive places prior to the development of sites. The Council will support the use of temporary greening of land awaiting development, where appropriate. Consideration will be given to whether greening of a site could bring about a positive impact to the local environment and overall amenity of the area, without prejudicing the effectiveness and viability of the site, if it is allocated for development in the longer term." 2. Modify the third sentence of paragraph 3.96 to read as follows: "Protecting and enhancing the Green Space Network will also provide opportunities to enhance the landscape of Aberdeen, improve biodiversity and amenity, provide community growing spaces, reduce the impact of flooding and help us mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change and support successful placemaking." 3. In paragraph 3.103, in the fifth line after "play space" insert ", community growing space".	338	Re-number subsequent paragraphs None None	52 52 55
30 Policy NE2: Green Belt	No modifications.	343	None	

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
31 Policy NE3 & NE4: Existing and Proposed Green and Open Space	In Policy NE3, second paragraph, modify item 7 to read: 'Proposals to develop outdoor sports facilities, including playing fields and sports pitches, should also be consistent with the terms of Scottish Planning Policy.'	349	None	54
32 Policy NE5 & NE8: Natural Environment	1. Modify the third paragraph of Policy NE5 to read as follows: 'Where trees may be impacted by a proposed development, a Tree Protection and Mitigation Plan will need to be submitted and agreed with the Council before any development activity commences on site. This should include details of compensatory planting, temporary earth works and any site preparation.' 2. At the beginning of the fifth paragraph of Policy NE5, add the following sentence: 'Where appropriate, the Council will seek to promote the creation of new woodland and the planting of native trees in association with development.' 3. In paragraph 3.119, modify the first part of the second sentence to read as follows: 'All new development should seek to protect geodiversity and enhance biodiversity…'.	354	None None None	56 56 60

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	4. In Policy NE8, section headed 'Designated Sites', modify the final sentence of the second paragraph of to read as follows: 'Development that would have an adverse effect will only be permitted where there are no alternative solutions and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, and compensatory measures are provided to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura network is protected.' 5. In the final line of the third paragraph, delete 'city-wide' and insert 'national'. 6. In Policy NE8, section headed 'Protected Species', modify the second paragraph to read as follows: 'Development should seek to avoid any detrimental impact on protected species through the carrying out of surveys and submission of protection plans describing appropriate mitigation where necessary. Development likely to have a detrimental impact on protected species will not be approved unless: for European protected species, a thorough assessment of the site has demonstrated that the development is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest and the population is maintained at a favourable conservation		None None None	60

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
	status in its natural range; or, for non-bird species protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) or the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, there will be significant social, economic or environmental benefits. In either case there must also be no other satisfactory solution. Please see relevant Supplementary Guidance for more information regarding protected species and licensing.' 7. In Policy NE8, section headed 'Carbon-rich soils', modify the second sentence of the first paragraph to read as follows: 'There will be a presumption against development which would involve significant drainage or disturbance of peatland or carbon-rich soil.' 8. In Policy NE8, in the numbered requirements at the end of the policy, modify item 3 to read as follows: '3 A Construction Environmental Management Plan may be required to address any potential negative impacts on designated sites, protected species, peatlands or carbon-rich soils, waterbodies or local biodiversity during the construction phase of a development.'		None None	
33 Policy NE6 & NE7: Flooding, and Coast Planning	1. In Policy NE6, modify the second paragraph to read as follows:	362	None	58

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Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
	'Development on the functional floodplain will only be permitted where its location is essential for operational reasons, and it must be designed and constructed to remain operational during floods and not to impede water flow.' 2. In paragraph 3.116, modify the first part of the second sentence to read as follows: 'The National Marine Plan, published by the Scottish Government in March 2015, sets out strategic policies.'. 3. In paragraph 3.117, modify the first sentence to read: 'Terrestrial planning law extends to the mean low water mark of ordinary spring tides, whereas marine spatial planning applies from Mean High Water Springs.' 4. In Policy NE7, under the heading 'In all cases', modify the first line of point 4 to read as follows: 'Development proposals may be required…'.		None None None	59 59 59
34 Policy R2, R3 & R4: Contaminated Land, and Waste	No modifications.	367	None	

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Modifications to the Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan Examination

Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
35 Policy R7 & R8: Efficient and Renewable Developments	1. Replace the final sentence of paragraph 3.136 with: "Scottish Planning Policy supports the planning system in reducing emissions and energy use in new buildings, promoting development that is resource efficient, and maximising the efficiency of the use of resources through natural or technological means." 2. Replace the third and fourth sentences of paragraph 3.137 with: "While the 30% improvement applies from October 2010, in view of the economic downturn Scottish Ministers requested that the Sullivan Panel reconvene to revisit some of their original recommendations. The output was the publication of a 2013 update to the Sullivan Report. In accordance with the recommendations of the update, revised building standards will be introduced from October 2015." 3. Replace the first sentence of Policy R7 with: "All new buildings, must meet at least 20% of the building regulations carbon dioxide emissions reduction target applicable at the time of the application through the installation of low and zero carbon generating technology".	370	None None None	66 66 67
36 Policy CI1: Digital Infrastructure	No modifications.	381	None	
37 Proposals Maps	No modifications.	384	None	

APPENDIX 1
Modifications to the Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan Examination

Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
38 Appendix 1 - Brownfield Sites	No modifications.	388	None	
39 Appendix 2 - Opportunity Sites	1. Add the following words to the Other Factors for sites OP1 Murcar, OP31 Maidencraig South East and OP80 Bon Accord Masterplan: "Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany development proposals."	391	None	From 79
	2. Add the following words to the Other Factors for sites OP75 Denmore Road, OP86 Dyce Railway Station, OP32 Maidencraig North East, OP107 East Tullos Gas Holder, OP110 Wellington Circle (Former Macro) and OP35 Granitehill Road: "Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues."		None	From 79
	3. Delete the following words from the Other Factors for site OP9 (Grandhome): "… comprising of approx. 7,500 sq. m. total floorspace (4,000 sq. m. supermarket, 3,500 sq. m. other comparison and local shops and retail services)".		None	79
	4. Add the following words to the Other Factors applying to site OP63 Prime 4 Business Park Phase 5 Extension: "The site lies within a pipeline notification zone."		None	82
	5. Include the land shown in representation 78 from Telereal Trillium at Froghall Terrace as an opportunity site on the proposals map, and as a new entry in the City Centre and		None	Map

APPENDIX 1
Modifications to the Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan Examination

Issue	Modification	Report Page	Consequential Modification	Proposed Plan Page
	Urban Areas section of Appendix 2, with the appropriate site size, Policy: "Mixed Use", and Other Factors: "Depot. Suitable for residential or student accommodation".			
40 Appendix 3 - Infrastructure Requirements for Masterplan Zones	No modifications.	402	None	
41 Appendix 4 – Masterplans	No modifications.	409	None	
42 Action Programme and Monitoring	No modifications.	411	None	
43 Habitats Regulations Appraisal and SEA Environmental Report	No modifications.	417	None	
44 Miscellaneous	No modifications.	421	None	

APPENDIX 2

Aberdeen Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan

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Foreword

1. Introduction

Vision

1.1 Our aim is for Aberdeen in 2035 to be a sustainable city at the heart of a vibrant and inclusive city region. This supports the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan which sets out the vision for the area, which is:

> *"By 2035 Aberdeen City and Shire will be an even more attractive, prosperous and sustainable European city region and an excellent place to live, visit and do business. We will be recognised for:*
>
> - *our enterprise and inventiveness, particularly in the knowledge economy and in high-value markets;*
> - *the unique qualities of our environment; and*
> - *our high quality of life.*
>
> *We will have acted confidently and taken the courageous decisions necessary to further develop a robust and resilient economy and to lead the way towards development being sustainable, including dealing with climate change and creating a more inclusive society."*

1.2 The Aberdeen Local Development Plan provides a land use framework within which we can work towards this vision.

National Planning Framework for Scotland

1.3 Aberdeen is Scotland's third largest city and, together with the rest of the North East, plays an important role in many aspects of the life of the country. This is reflected in Scotland's Third National Planning Framework (NPF3). Its key vision for Scotland's spatial development is to create:

- a successful, sustainable place;
- a low carbon place;
- a natural, resilient place; and
- a connected place.

1.4 NPF3 identifies a number of developments considered essential to the delivery of the spatial strategy. In Aberdeen it highlights improvements to Aberdeen Airport and the expansion of Aberdeen Harbour at Nigg Bay, both of which are identified as national developments.

1.5 NPF3 recognises that the city region's exceptional economic performance provides opportunities to build on its success and benefit Scotland as a whole. Our city region has the greatest projected growth in both population and households of Scotland's four Strategic Development Plan areas. Making sure the region has

enough people, homes, jobs and facilities to maintain and improve its quality of life is therefore essential. Aberdeen needs to be well connected to Edinburgh and Glasgow, its wider regions and the rest of the world. This requires reduced rail journey times, the completion of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route, and ensuring good domestic and international air and sea links which are vital to the region's economy.

1.6 Planning authorities must take NPF3 into account when preparing development plans and it is a material consideration in determining planning applications.

Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan

1.7 The strategy for the growth of the North East is set out in the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan. The main aims of the Strategic Development Plan are to:

- grow and diversify the regional economy;
- tackle our changing climate;
- ensure the area has enough people, homes and jobs to support the level of services and facilities needed to maintain and improve the quality of life;
- protect valuable resources including the built and natural environment;
- create sustainable communities; and
- make most efficient use of the transport network.

1.8 It sets a target of increasing the population of the city region to 500,000 by 2035 and achieving an annual house building rate of 3,000 per year by 2020.

1.9 The Strategic Development Plan promotes four growth areas which will be the focus for development over the period up to 2035. These growth areas are Aberdeen City and the three transport corridors between Huntly and Aberdeen, Aberdeen and Laurencekirk and Aberdeen to Peterhead. Development on brownfield sites is strongly encouraged. Significant allowances are also made for development on greenfield sites. The Strategic Development Plan housing allowances and employment land allocations are set out in Table 1 below. The Local Development Plan needs to show how these allowances and allocations will be met.

Table 1 Strategic Development Plan Housing and Employment Land Figures

	Housing Allowances			Employment Land Allocations	Employment Land: Strategic Reserve
	Existing to 2016	2017 to 2026	2027 to 2035	Existing to 2026	2027-2035
Brownfield	4,500	3,000	3,000	105 hectares	70 hectares
Greenfield	12,000	5,000	4,000		
Total	16,500	8,000	7,000	105 hectares	70 hectares

Notes:-

- The 'Effective Land Supply 2011' which is included in Schedule 1 of the Strategic Development Plan, includes the 5-year effective housing land supply as well as the effective supply programmed beyond year five. To avoid double-counting, we have not included any Local Development Plan allocations in the effective or constrained land supply.

Aberdeen Local Development Plan – Working Towards the Vision

1.10 The Local Development Plan sets out how we aim to work towards our vision for Aberdeen. It shows which land is being allocated to meet the City's development needs to 2026 and beyond and it sets out the planning policies we will apply in promoting the growth of Aberdeen over this period.

1.11 We have taken account of, and been informed by, many other plans and strategies in preparing this Plan. These include the Scottish Government's planning policies, as set out in the National Planning Framework 3, Scottish Planinng Policy (SPP), Designing Streets, the River Dee Catchment Management Plan and various Circulars. We have also considered the Nestrans Regional Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan, our own Local Transport Strategy, the Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Forum (ACSEF) Economic Action Plan and the Aberdeen City and Shire Housing Need and Demand Assessment.

1.12 The Plan contains a spatial strategy which explains our overall view of where development should go and the principles behind that. We have identified development sites and the scale of development we expect to see on each site. We have also specified what developers need to do when designing and delivering development, emphasising the need for masterplans, drawn up with local community involvement, for all the major sites. Our policies set out the requirements for different types of development and explain what uses are acceptable in different areas. More information and advice is often contained in Supplementary Guidance. This can relate to specific sites or to specific types of development. We have also prepared an Action Programme which sets out what actions are needed for the policies and proposals in the Plan to be delivered, who is responsible for delivering them and the expected timescale for doing this. The Action Programme will be monitored and updated regularly and published every two years.

How to use the Plan

1.13 All development, whether on brownfield or greenfield sites, must comply with policies which seek to create a sustainable city. The Local Development Plan contains different types of policies:

- Map based policies, which apply to a specific area on the Proposals Map.
- City wide policies, which apply to all new development proposals.
- Topic policies, which apply to a certain type of development.

1.14 It is important to remember that development proposals will be assessed against a number of policies within the Local Development Plan so it must be carefully considered as a whole. Reference should also be made to appropriate Supplementary Guidance as well as national policy and the Strategic Development Plan.

2. The Spatial Strategy

Overview

2.1 Our strategy promotes the city centre as the commercial, economic, social, civic and cultural heart of Aberdeen. The maintenance of a vibrant city centre and the enhancement of its fine buildings and open spaces is vital to Aberdeen's future prosperity and to sustaining its attractiveness as a place to live and visit. A strong and thriving city centre is a key attribute in delivering the wider strategic aims of the Strategic Development Plan and our policies and proposals seek to enhance its role as a key commercial centre.

2.2 Regeneration of city centre sites and other brownfield sites throughout the existing built-up area for appropriate uses will be encouraged. Brownfield sites are expected to contribute 7,500 units towards our housing requirements over the period to 2026. The Plan identifies specific brownfield housing sites and explains the potential for others to come forward. Sites are also identified for other uses which complement existing communities.

2.3 Redevelopment of previously used sites makes a significant contribution to the overall sustainability aims of the Plan. However the city needs to expand beyond its existing developed edges to maintain and enhance our employment and housing opportunities, to retain our young people and to attract others to invest and live here. A mixture of house types and employment opportunities to encourage a balanced population structure is important if we are able to offer a wide range of services and facilities which underpin Aberdeen's role at the core of the city region.

2.4 Aberdeen will accommodate around half of the new housing and employment land needed to meet the strategic needs of the North East over the next 20 years as set out in the Strategic Development Plan. This plan shows the existing allocations to 2016 that have been carried over from the 2012 Local Development Plan. The allocations for 2017-26 are shown in detail and the indicative allocations for 2027-35 are also shown. Greenfield sites for 21,000 homes and 175 hectares of employment land are required up to 2035. This will reinforce the city's important role as a regional centre which makes a significant contribution to the wider Scottish economy. The planned expansion around existing suburban communities is, therefore, essential and provides opportunities for exciting new ways of delivering development guided by detailed masterplans prepared in consultation with local communities.

2.5 New development, whether in brownfield or greenfield locations, will have to be of the best standard to deliver opportunities for people to enjoy a high quality of

life within an attractive and safe environment which encompasses natural open landscapes. Connections between these new development areas and other parts of the city are also important.

2.6 In determining the best locations for greenfield development the 2012 Local Development Plan established a number of 'Directions for Growth' giving careful and detailed consideration to environmental, topographical and accessibility issues. There is a choice of development locations in different parts of the city with development largely contained within the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route. This Plan continues with this approach. Our sites were also subjected to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the Environmental Report is available along with this Plan. Development proposals must take account of the mitigation measures highlighted in the SEA.

2.7 The following paragraphs in this part of the Plan set out our approach to each of the elements of the spatial strategy.

Brownfield Sites

2.8 Sites are required for 7,500 homes on brownfield sites to meet the requirements of the Strategic Development Plan up to 2026. Brownfield sites are normally found within the existing built-up area and are sites which have previously been developed. The identified sites are listed in Appendix 1, Table 1 and are shown on the Proposals Map.

2.9 Redeveloping the urban area can regenerate areas, maintain local services, remove local eyesores, bring land and buildings back into effective use, remediate contamination and reduce the need for car based travel. Brownfield development may present difficulties, such as land assembly or site preparation but these are likely to be outweighed by the benefits. Planning briefs or masterplans may be required for larger brownfield sites or sites in sensitive locations and where appropriate, an assessment of contamination of brownfield sites will be required prior to the granting of planning permission.

2.10 Developers will need to provide the necessary infrastructure and contributions as required by Policy I1 and, where necessary, use the criteria for calculating these as set out in Supplementary Guidance. The precise level of infrastructure requirements and contributions will need to be agreed with the Council, and other statutory agencies, through the masterplanning and planning application processes. The level of provision or contribution required will be commensurate to the scale and impact of the development proposed.

2.11 Appendix 1, Table 1 shows the brownfield sites identified through the Brownfield Potential Study that have been assessed as suitable for potential future housing development. Included within Appendix 1, Table 2 are the brownfield sites with planning consent, which were not identified in the 2011 Housing Land Audit. Therefore these sites were not part of the Effective and Constrained Land Supply

identified in the Schedule 1 Housing Allowances of the Strategic Development Plan.

2.12 The Brownfield Potential Study shows that the sites in Appendix 1, Table 1 have the potential to accommodate between 2,590 units to 4,479 units depending on the density of development. Added to this are 2,808 brownfield units in Table 2 that have received planning consent for development since 2011 (the base date for the Strategic Development Plan). Therefore the overall total number of potential units identified for brownfield sites range from 5,398 to 7,287.

2.13 Alongside the brownfield sites identified for housing, there are sites capable of accommodating other uses, such as for business, retail and leisure. These are shown in Appendix 2 along with other opportunity sites suitable for a variety of uses. This gives further detail and particulars of each site and its capabilities. Opportunity sites are shown on the Proposals Map. The list of brownfield sites is not exhaustive. It is not practical to try and identify brownfield sites too far ahead as sites tend to become available or get redeveloped all the time. For this reason, brownfield sites meeting the first seven years of the Strategic Development Plan's requirements have been identified. We are confident that more sites will emerge and receive planning consent during the lifetime of the Local Development Plan. Much of this will be driven by the buoyant housing market in Aberdeen. In addition, future Local Development Plans will continue to identify brownfield sites to meet the housing allowances beyond the next 7-10 years.

Greenfield Development

2.14 To meet the requirements of the Strategic Development Plan, sites have been identified on greenfield areas – this includes both the 17,000 homes up to 2026 and 175 hectares of employment land up to 2035. Many of these opportunities have a mixture of uses and most have been carried over from the 2012 Local Development Plan. The broad geographical distribution of these sites is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Greenfield Development Allowances and Allocations

Housing Allowances	Existing to 2016	Phase 1 2017-2026	Phase 2 2027-2035	Total
Bridge of Don/Grandhome	3,210	2,100	2,300	7,610
Dyce/Bucksburn/Woodside	3,300	1,200	740	5,240
Kingswells and Greenferns	1,520	350	400	2,270
Countesswells	2,150	850	0	3,000
Deeside	554	255	0	809
Loirston and Cove	1,100	400	0	1,500
Total	11,834	5,155	3,440	20,429
Strategic Development Plan Allowances	12,000	5,000	4,000	21,000

Employment Land (hectares)	Existing to 2026	Phase 2 2027-2035	Total
Bridge of Don/Grandhome	5	27	32
Dyce, Bucksburn and Woodside	36	18.5	54.5
Kingswells and Greenferns	74		74
Countesswells	10		10
Deeside	5		5
Loirston and Cove	13	20.5	33.5
Total	143	66	209
Strategic Development Plan Allocations	118	70	188

2.15 The sites are identified in the Tables 3-8 below on an area-by-area basis and are shown on the Proposals Map. Detailed masterplans or development frameworks have already been prepared, or are under preparation for most of the larger sites. Some of the sites have been developed or are under construction. Where the development of a site is now complete, they are not shown as opportunity sites in this Plan, but are included in the Tables below and marked with an asterisk*.

2.16 The employment land allocations within the time frame up to 2026 are the same as those identified in the 2012 Local Development Plan. One exception is a proposed extension to Prime Four Business Park at Kingswells. This is being proposed in order to meet the exceptional demand for employment land in this area and because of access constraints on part of the existing site. The overall allocations are more than required by the Strategic Development Plan. It is important to take account of factors that will reduce the actual developable area of employment land such as strategic landscaping, the presence of pylons or other uses within zoned sites and land required for transportation. This level of allocation is necessary to ensure that we meet the Strategic Development Plan target of making 60 hectares of land available to businesses at all times. This is important in order to create a wide range of business and industrial areas that will continue to give Aberdeen City a competitive business advantage.

Land Release

2.17 The greenfield allocations will be assessed against the following land release policy.

Policy LR1 - Land Release Policy

Part A - Existing Housing Allocations up to 2016 and Employment Allocations up to 2026 and Phase 1 Release Development: Housing 2017-2026

Housing and employment development on existing allocated sites and housing sites allocated in Phase 1 (2017-2026) will be approved in principle within areas designated for housing or employment. Development on an allocated site or in close proximity to an allocation that jeopardises the full provision of the allocation will be refused.

Part B – Phase 2 Release Development: Housing and Employment 2027 – 2035

Housing and employment development on sites allocated in Phase 2 are safeguarded for future development and will be released by a review of the Local Development Plan. Development on a site allocated in Phase 2 or in close proximity to an allocation that jeopardises the full provision of the allocation will be refused.

The detailed phasing of greenfield housing and employment sites is set out in Tables 3 to 8.

2.18 In order to help deliver mixed communities, and assist in the provision of employment land, large sites should include a mix of housing, employment and other uses. This will improve the delivery of employment land for new or expanding businesses, support economic growth and deliver sustainable communities.

2.19 The Land Release Policy areas are shown on the proposals map, and covers sites with multi-phase allocations and the Phase 2 sites. Where a housing or employment site is wholly phased within the period to 2026, it will be zoned as either H1 Residential or given an appropriate employment zoning, but the LR1 Policy will also still apply to them.

Delivery of Mixed Use Communities

Policy LR2 - Delivery of Mixed Use Communities

Other small scale complementary uses will be supported within allocated sites provided there is no conflict with the spatial strategy of the plan or the achievement of the specified housing and employment provision. Developments including provision for both housing and employment land will be required to service the employment land along with the associated phases of the housing development. This means that the road, water, gas and electricity infrastructure will need to be considered for the whole site.

Directions for Growth

Bridge of Don/Grandhome

2.20 Significant land allocations have been made to the area north of the River Don to support the Energetica Corridor promoted by ACSEF. This seeks to improve the economy and promote the energy industry along the Aberdeen to Peterhead growth corridor. The Plan allocates sites for more than 7,000 homes in this area and 32 hectares of employment land. The Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR), Third Don Crossing and Haudagain roundabout improvements will bring improvements to this area. These are all scheduled for completion during the lifetime of this Plan. An Energetica Design Guide has been prepared as Supplementary Guidance.

Table 3: Development at Bridge of Don and Grandhome

Sites	Local Development Plan Period		
	Existing to 2016	Phase 1 2017 – 2026	Phase 2 2027 – 2035
OP1 Murcar			27 hectares employment
OP8 East Woodcroft North	60 homes		
OP9 Grandhome	2,600 homes	2,100 homes	2,300 homes
	5 hectares employment		
OP10 Dubford	550 homes		
Housing Total	3,210 homes	2,100 homes	2,300 homes
Employment Land Total	5 hectares		27 hectares

Notes

- Development Frameworks have been prepared for Grandhome and Dubford.
- Planning consents are in place at Grandhome and Dubford.
- The masterplan to be prepared for OP1 Murcar will need to take into account any masterplan or framework for OP2 Berryhill so that the developments dovetail together in a coherent manner.

Dyce, Bucksburn and Woodside

2.21 Substantial land allocations have been made in the Dyce/Bucksburn A96 corridor close to Aberdeen Airport, which is one of the gateways to the Energetica corridor. A new exhibition and conference centre will be built at OP19 Rowett North, to replace the current facility at Bridge of Don. The AWPR will provide benefits to this

area with a junction proposed at the A96. A Park and Ride site and a new access road into the Dyce Drive area will also be completed during the lifetime of this Plan. The proximity of housing and employment land allocations provides the opportunity for people to live close to places of work.

Table 4: Development at Dyce, Bucksburn and Woodside

Sites	Local Development Plan Period		
	Existing to 2016	Phase 1 2017 – 2026	Phase 2 2027 – 2035
OP17 Stoneywood	500 homes		
OP18 Craibstone North and Walton Farm	1.5 hectares employment		18.5 hectares employment or higher education and research
OP19 Rowett North	34.5 hectares employment		
OP20 Craibstone South	750 homes	250 homes	
OP21 Rowett South	1,000 homes	700 homes	240 homes
OP22 Greenferns Landward	750 homes	250 homes	500 homes
OP25 Woodside	300 homes		
Housing Total	3,300 homes	1,200 homes	740 homes
Employment Land Total	36 hectares		18.5 hectares

Notes

- Masterplan for the proposed Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre at OP19 is being prepared.
- Combined Development Framework for OP20, OP21 and OP22 was approved by the Council in 2014 and is subject to ratification by Scottish Government.
- Masterplans for OP20 and OP21 have been submitted to ACC as part of the PPiP applications for these sites.
- The 1.5ha of employment land at OP18 relates to Walton Farm and the rest of the site is identified for employment development or a higher education and research institute suitable for the relocation of Scotland's Rural College (SRUC), Craibstone.
- Masterplan for OP25 Woodside (Persley Den) has been prepared.
- Masterplan and planning consent in place at OP17 Stoneywood.

Kingswells and Greenferns

2.22 Around 50 hectares of employment land allocations have been made to the west of the city at Prime Four Business Park, Kingswells, which provides employment opportunities in a part of the city where there is little employment land. A further extension to this is proposed. The main housing sites are at Maidencraig (750

homes) on the A944 corridor and at Greenferns (1,350 homes plus 10ha employment land). The AWPR will provide benefits to this area with junctions proposed to the north and south-west of Kingswells.

Table 5: Development at Kingswells and Greenferns

Sites	Local Development Plan Period		
	Existing to 2016	Phase 1 2017 – 2026	Phase 2 2027 – 2035
OP29 Prime Four Business Park Kingswells	50 hectares employment		
OP63 Prime Four Extension	13 hectares employment		
Kingswells C* (Complete)	50 homes		
OP30 Kingswells D and West Huxterstone	120 homes		
OP31 Maidencraig South East	450 homes		
OP32 Maidencraig North East	300 homes		
OP33 Greenferns	600 homes	350 homes	400 homes
	10 hectares employment		
OP34 East Arnhall	1 hectares employment		
Housing Total	1,520 homes	350 homes	400 homes
Employment Land Total	74 hectares		

Notes

- Development Framework is in place for OP29 Prime Four, as well as a Masterplan for Phases 1, 2 & 3 of the business park.
- Masterplan required for OP63 Prime Four Extension.
- Combined Masterplan prepared for OP31 and OP32 Maidencraig.
- Masterplan prepared for OP30 West Huxterstone.
- Development Framework and Masterplan prepared for OP33 Greenferns.
- Planning consents in place at OP29 Prime Four Business Park (but not the OP63 extension), OP30 West Huxterstone and OP31 and OP32 Maidencraig.

Countesswells

2.23 A new community at Countesswells was identified in the 2012 Local Development Plan. This area benefits from being close to the employment sites at Kingswells. This development includes 10 hectares of employment land plus appropriate community facilities.

Table 6: Development at Countesswells

Sites	Local Development Plan Period		
	Existing to 2016	Phase 1 2017 – 2026	Phase 2 2027 – 2035
OP38 Countesswells	2,150	850	
	10 hectares employment		
Housing Total	2,150 homes	850 homes	
Employment Land Total	10 hectares		

Notes

- Development Framework and Phase 1 Masterplan prepared for OP38 Countesswells.

Deeside

2.24 Relatively limited development is proposed along the Deeside corridor with only one major site identified at Oldfold. Further new sites are proposed at Malcolm Road, Mid Anguston and Woodend near Peterculter. There are significant transport and educational capacity infrastructure constraints in the area which restrict the scale of future development. The Oldfold development includes an opportunity to redevelop Milltimber Primary School.

Table 7 Development at Deeside

Sites	Local Development Plan Period		
	Existing to 2016	Phase 1 2017 – 2026	Phase 2 2027 – 2035
OP45 Peterculter East	25 homes		
OP46 Culter House Road	5 homes		
OP47 Edgehill Road	5 homes		
OP48 Oldfold	400 homes	150 homes	
	5 hectares employment		
Craigton Road / Airyhall Road* (Complete)	20 homes		
North Garthdee Farm* (Complete)	80 homes		
OP51 Peterculter Burn	19 homes		
OP52 Malcolm Road Peterculter		8 homes	
OP109 Woodend Peterculter		19 homes	
OP112 West of Contlaw Road		10 homes	
OP113 Culter House Road		8 homes	
OP114 Milltimber South		60 homes	

		1,225 square metres employment	
Housing Total	554 homes	255 homes	0 homes
Employment Land Total	5.1225 hectares		

Notes

- Planning consents in place at OP45 Peterculter East, OP46 Culter House Road and Craigton/Airyhall Road.
- Development Framework and Masterplan prepared for OP48 Oldfold.
- OP52 Malcolm Road Peterculter requires a planning brief.
- A planning brief will be required for OP51 Peterculter Burn setting out (a) specific measures needed to avoid damage to, and enhance the Local Nature Conservation Siteand (b) the requirement to provide a construction method statement that will avoid adverse effects on the qualifying interests of the River Dee SAC (Atlantic Salmon, Freshwater Pearl Mussel and Otter)

Loirston and Cove

2.25 Loirston is considered suitable for a new football stadium and a site has been identified to accommodate this as part of a mixed use area. The site can also accommodate 1,500 homes and 11 hectares of employment land. It benefits from being close to a major junction with the AWPR. A new City South Academy is planned for Calder Park.

Table 8: Development at Loirston and Cove

Sites	Local Development Plan Period		
	Existing to 2016	Phase 1 2017 – 2026	Phase 2 2027 – 2035
OP53 Aberdeen Gateway Moss-side/Mains of Cairnrobin	2 hectares employment		
OP59 Loirston	1,100 homes	400 homes	
	11 hectares employment		
OP60 Charleston			20.5 hectares employment
Housing Total	1,100 homes	400 homes	
Employment Land Total	13 hectares		20.5 hectares

Notes

- Development Framework prepared for OP59 Loirston

3. Delivering Sustainable Communities

This Section of the Plan sets out the Council's policies for ensuring that new development contributes to achieving our vision of a sustainable city and how we will meet the objectives and targets of the Strategic Development Plan.

Quality Placemaking by Design

3.1 Quality placemaking is at the core of planning in Aberdeen. Scottish Planning Policy, Creating Places: A Policy statement on Architecture and Place for Scotland, and Designing Streets promote the delivery of well-designed places and sustainable communities through good planning. Quality placemaking plays a positive part in reducing the impact of climate change and improving health and well-being.

3.2 Quality placemaking is about creating development that sustains and enhances the social, economic, environmental and cultural attractiveness of the city as a place to be and is a material consideration in determining applications. Placemaking requires a collaborative process to achieving development that complements and enhances the site context and can be measured by six essential qualities: ***a distinct identity***, ***welcoming***, ***safe and pleasant***, ***easy to move around***, ***adaptable to changing circumstances*** and ***is resource efficient***.

3.3 All development must follow a thorough process of site context appraisal to arrive at an appropriate proposal. Context will differ from site to site, however significant characteristics include: siting; scale; mass; detail; proportion; materials; colour; orientation; land designation; surrounding uses; transportation and connectivity; existing building heights; landscaping; natural heritage features; topography; views and the relationship to streets and open spaces. Not all development will be of a scale to make a significant placemaking impact, however all good design and detail adds to the attractiveness of the built and natural environment and careful consideration is crucial. All development, from window replacements to large developments, represents an opportunity to add to the rich placemaking legacy of our built environment.

3.4 Aberdeen encourages an engaging, design-led approach to secure quality placemaking through the appropriate use of pre-application discussion, the application of the masterplan process and on design matters. The Aberdeen City and Shire Design Review Panel offers professional, peer advice to support the decision making process. (See relevant Technical Advice Note)

Policy D1 - Quality Placemaking by Design

All development must ensure high standards of design and have a strong and distinctive sense of place which is a result of context appraisal, detailed planning, quality architecture, craftsmanship and materials. Well considered landscaping and a range of transportation opportunities ensuring connectivity are required to be compatible with the scale and character of the developments.
Places that are distinctive and designed with a real understanding of context will sustain and enhance the social, economic, environmental and cultural attractiveness of the city. Proposals will be considered against the following six essential qualities:

- **distinctive**
- **welcoming**
- **safe and pleasant**
- **easy to move around**
- **adaptable**
- **resource efficient**

How a development meets these qualities must be demonstrated in a design strategy whose scope and content will be appropriate with the scale and/or importance of the proposal.

To further ensure there is a consistent approach to placemaking throughout the city, the Aberdeen Masterplan Process will be applied to larger sites within the city. Further guidance can be found within the Supplementary Guidance and Technical Advice Notes listed in Appendix 4 Masterplans and Appendix 5 Supplementary Guidance.

Supplementary Guidance

Windows and Doors
Supplementary Guidance (SG), Windows and Doors, supports the above policy and Policy D4: Historic Environment by providing guidance on how window and door developments will be expected to assure quality of placemaking by consideration of the historic environment, design, material, proportions, scale, detailing, and context. A hierarchy of proposals is outlined in accordance with National Guidance, promoting repair and reuse over replacement when original and historic assets remain in situ. The SG outlines criteria on: retain and repair of original/historic windows and historic glass, reinstating original types and arrangements, removing unsympathetic additions, refurbishment, and replacement windows and doors, and detailing.

Shops and Signs
Supplementary Guidance, Shops and Signs, supports the above policy and Policy D4: Historic Environement by providing guidance on how shop and signs developments will assure quality of placemaking by consideration of design, material, proportions, scale, detailing, and context. A hierarchy of proposals is

outlined in accordance with National Guidance, promoting repair and reuse over replacement when original and historic assets remain in situ. The SG outlines criteria on: retain and repair of original/historic assets, reinstating original types and arrangements, removing unsympathetic additions, refurbishment, and replacement shops and sign, and detailing. Further guidance is outlined for signage on new build developments, industrial areas and specialist employment areas, again ensuring placemaking is assured.

Energetica
Supplementary Guidance, Energetica, supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments within the Energetica corridor will assure quality of placemaking by ensuring developments are adaptable, resource efficient, safe and pleasant, easy to move around, welcoming and distinctive. These are outlined through criteria within the SG.

Temporary Buildings
Supplementary Guidance, Temporary Buildings, supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments of this nature will be expected to assure quality of placemaking by giving consideration to placement, length of time of the proposal, and context. The SG outlines criteria to be satisfied when developments of this nature are proposed.

Stonecleaning
Supplementary Guidance, Stonecleaning, supports the above policy by providing guidance on applications for stonecleaning and the impact they have on the distinctive historic environment of Aberdeen, by setting out criteria and noting the considerable harm to the historic environment and placemaking that can occur due to incorrect stonecleaning.

The Subdivision and Redevelopment of Residential Curtilages
Supplementary Guidance, the Subdivision and Redevelopment of Residential Curtilages, supports the above policy, Policy D4: Historic Environment and Policy H1: Residential Areas by providing criteria that is required to be adhere to when proposing developments of this nature. The SG ensures the character and appearance of the original building, streetscape and area is retained; thereby the distinctive nature of the area is retained. Proposals for curtilage split have to consider: built form and townscape, design and materials, amenity, privacy, garden ground, daylight, sunlight and trees; therefore, they have to ensure they are distinctive, welcoming, safe and pleasant, easy to get to/move around.

C**onversions of Buildings in the Countryside**
Supplementary Guidance, Conversions of Buildings in the Countryside, supports the above policy and Policy D4: Historic Environment, and Policy NE2: Green Belt by providing criteria that is required to be adhere to when proposing developments of this nature. The SG ensures the character and appearance of the original building, its distinctive nature, is retained. Proposals for the conversion of buildings in the countryside have to consider: external appearance, internal alterations if a listed building, extensions and ancillary buildings, site boundaries, landscaping and

infrastructure. Planning obligations and protected species are also required to be considered for developments of this nature.

Criteria: Six Qualities of Successful Placemaking

3.5 All development will be expected to contribute towards creating successful places. The section below provides further guidance on what these qualities are. The criteria used in assessing an application will be relevant to the scale, character and nature of the proposal.

Distinctive

- responds to the site context and is designed with due consideration to siting, scale, massing, colour, orientation, details, footprint, proportions and materials
- is well planned with high quality design, materials and craftsmanship
- complements the established distinctive consistency of materials of an existing streetscape
- reinforces established patterns of development
- reflects local styles and urban form
- retains and re-uses built or natural assets as features of the site
- protects and enhances the city's important views and creates new views
- development complements local features, such as spaces and scales, street and building forms, materials, landscapes, topography, ecology, and skylines, to create places with a sense of identity
- soft and hard landscaping throughout the site are specified, and maintained, adding visual identity that connect buildings and spaces, and supports climate change adaptation

Welcoming

- well detailed, where materials, colour, texture and proportion are considered
- creates an attractive and defined entrance to the development or the local area
- easy to find your way around through a well ordered and inclusive layout with a hierarchy for transportation and recreation
- has an attractive and active street frontage
- includes appropriate signage and distinctive lighting to improve safety and highlight attractive buildings

Safe and Pleasant

- designed with pedestrian movement as the priority
- avoids unacceptable impacts on adjoining uses, including noise, smell, vibration, dust, air quality, invasion of privacy and overshadowing
- enables natural surveillance of public spaces through active frontages and does not create spaces which are unsafe or likely to encourage or facilitate crime
- distinguishes between private and public space
- inclusive in its design

• incorporates appropriate lighting • is not at unacceptable risk of flooding or increases flood risk elsewhere
Easy to get to / move around • prioritises sustainable and active travel • provides well connected links within the development and connects to adjacent existing, and proposed, core path networks and public transport facilities • places the movement of pedestrians and cyclists above motor vehicles • provides cycle and motor bike storage facilities
Adaptable • particularly in areas that are subject to change (e.g. town centres and industrial areas) new development is constructed in a manner suitable for a range of future uses • new housing should be designed accommodate future internal alteration to sustain reconfiguration suitable for future occupants • mix of building tenures, densities and typologies • support climate change mitigation and adaption including increased rainfall and flood risk implications
Resource efficient • reuses existing buildings and brownfield sites • maximises efficiency of the use of resources through natural or technological means such as low or zero carbon energy-generating technologies, solar orientation and shelter, water saving measures including water capture and reuse, avoidance of carbon rich soils, incorporation of SuDS and blue/green infrastructure • denser development sharing infrastructure and amenity with adjacent sites • minimises energy use and loss • makes use of available sources of heat and power • uses building materials from local or sustainable sources • higher density in town centres and areas with convenient access to good public transport services • provides space for the separation, storage and efficient collection of recycling and waste

Landscape

3.6 The quality of the built environment can be enhanced through consideration of landscape design at an early stage of the design process. The landscape design should contribute to the delivery of sustainable places and recognise the important role that green infrastructure plays in adapting to climate change and sustainability. An appropriate good quality setting should always be created for buildings. The spaces between buildings should provide a safe and active environment. It is essential that in order to secure high quality development that hard and soft landscaping are an integral part of any development proposal.

3.7 Respecting existing landscapes and improving upon them through quality development is an essential component in the design process. Existing features add to successful places by ensuring originality, distinctiveness and reinforcing feelings of a positive sense of place. Well-designed hard and soft landscaping can add invaluable amenity and positive characteristics to a development.

Supplementary Guidance

Landscape
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Landscape supports the above policy and Policy D1 by providing guidance on how developments will assure quality of placemaking by consideration landscape as both a tool to aid the appropriate layout of development and as a feature of development. Criteria to be satisfied in the SG include: the development proposal, layout and design of residential and commercial developments, soft and hard landscaping, boundary treatments, slopes, car parking and landscape establishment and maintenance.

Policy D2 - Landscape
Developments will have a strong landscape framework which improves and enhances the setting and visual impact of the development, unifies urban form, provides shelter, creates local identity and promotes biodiversity. In order to secure high quality development, planning applications for new development must include a landscape strategy and management plan incorporating hard and soft landscaping design specifications. The level of detail required will be appropriate to the scale of the development.

Quality development will:

- be informed by the existing landscape character, topography and existing features to sustain local diversity and distinctiveness, including natural and built features such as existing boundary walls, hedges, copses and other features of interest;
- conserve, enhance or restore existing landscape features and should incorporate them into a spatial landscape design hierarchy that provides structure to the site layout;
- create new landscapes where none exist and where there are few existing features;
- protect and enhance important views of the City's townscape, landmarks and features when seen from busy and important publicly accessible vantage points such as roads, railways, recreation areas and pathways and particularly from the main city approaches;
- provide hard and soft landscape proposals that are appropriate to the scale and character of the overall development.

Further guidance can be found within the Supplementary Guidance and Technical Advice Notes listed in Appendix 5.

Big Buildings

3.8 Well-placed big buildings within the city centre and immediate periphery can reinforce the city's urban experiences and opportunities by: defining places with single new buildings or clustering in groups, providing greater densities and concentrations of use; bringing greater accessibility to a range of amenities; offering greater social intensity; creating the opportunity for different economies at different times of the day as well as providing significant visual interest. A big building is regarded as one that exceeds the general height of the surrounding built context within the city centre and/or whose footprint is in excess of the established development pattern, the urban grain, and the surrounding context.

3.9 Aberdeen City Council considers that, where possible, the most appropriate location for quality big buildings should be within the city centre boundary and its immediate periphery. Further guidance can be found within the relevant Supplementary Guidance. Concentrating appropriate development within the city centre provides a clear long-term vision for growth and reinforces the role of the centre as a destination venue well connected by public transport rather than sites outwith the city centre whose likely development impacts will displace and dilute the role of the city centre.

3.10 Big buildings have a big impact on our environment whether in terms of their visual presence, the uses they bring to an area or the challenges of connecting them within the existing context, and many more social and environmental implications. It is crucial that sites for big buildings are identified as a result of a thorough urban design analysis to understand the context and its capabilities in providing appropriate functional and visual additions and new identities to parts of the City.

Policy D3 – Big Buildings
The most appropriate location for big buildings is within the city centre and its immediate periphery.

Big buildings must be of a high quality design which complements or improves the existing site context. A proposal's relationship with its context must be demonstrated by using a design statement that includes:

- an analysis of the context;
- an illustration of its visual impacts through a series of sequential views;
- an analysis of micro-climatic impacts;
- area connectivity;
- the use of high quality materials, craftsmanship and detailing with low maintenance implications.

Proposals for big buildings that are considered to detract from their context and/or interfere with an established vista within the city centre will not be supported.
Big buildings should maintain and enhance the pattern and arrangement of the street blocks and plots, have slender vertical emphasis and silhouette that are in proportion and have active uses at ground level to the street.

Big buildings could be composed of a range of complementary uses, and be part of a development with smaller scale buildings to reduce any dominating impact within

established areas and minimise blank elevations to the street.

This policy does not apply to employment land, industrial areas and established health or educational campuses.

Further guidance can be found within the Supplementary Guidance and Technical Advice Notes listed in Appendix 5.

Supplementary Guidance

Big Buildings

Supplementary Guidance (SG) Big Buildings supports the above policy by assuring quality of Placemaking is provided when tall and/or bulky building developments are proposed. Criteria to be satisfied in the SG include: site selection, context and appropriate uses, visual analysis and design, building form and visual impact, environmental issues and maintenance and future proofing. Proposals must ensure quality placemaking is achieved by following the placemaking criteria under the heading of distinctive, welcoming, safe and pleasant, easy to get to/move around, adaptable and resource efficient.

Historic Environment

3.11 Aberdeen has a rich built heritage that gives the city its unique sense of place and identity. The importance of built heritage and its management is outlined in national policy through Our Place in Time – The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland, Scottish Planning Policy (2014), Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) and Managing Change in the Historic Environment documents.

3.12 The development of Aberdeen over the centuries owes much to its geography and geology and the buildings, road patterns and parks that grew out of them. This legacy of diverse spaces and places is the historic environment. It is covered by a variety of statutory designations designed to protect and conserve it, whilst still responding and adapting to change. The city centre, the west end and Old Aberdeen all contain significant numbers of listed buildings and conservation areas. Aberdeen has 1219 listed building entries, 11 Conservation Areas, 44 Scheduled Monuments and 1 site designated within the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland.

3.13 The historic built environment:

- Projects our cultural identity and regional distinctiveness;
- Contributes to economic development and regeneration;
- Supports the growth of our tourism and leisure;
- Helps connect people and places, providing continuity in a changing world;
- Contributes to sustainability by conserving resources.

3.14 It is important to conserve the historic environment for our own and future generations. The key to the sympathetic management of designated buildings and places is through a clear understanding of their significance and context.

Policy D4 – Historic Environment
The Council will protect, preserve and enhance the historic environment in line with Scottish Planning Policy, SHEP and its own Supplementary Guidance and Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Plan. There will be a presumption in favour of the retention and reuse of listed buildings and buildings within conservation areas that contribute to their character. High quality design that respects the character, appearance and setting of the historic environment and protects the special architectural or historic interest of its listed buildings, conservation areasand historic gardens and designed landscapes, will be supported. The physical in situ preservation of all scheduled monuments and archaeological sites will be supported. Developments that would adversely impact upon archaeological remains, including battlefields, of either national or local importance, or on their setting will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, where there is no practical alternative site and where there are imperative reasons of over-riding public need.

In any such case, the applicant must at their own expense:
- take satisfactory steps to mitigate adverse development impacts; and
- where the preservation of the site in its original location is not possible, arrange for the full excavation and recording of the site in advance of development and the publication/curation of findings.

Further guidance can be found within the Supplementary Guidance and Technical Advice Notes listed in Appendix 5.

Our Granite Heritage

3.15 Aberdeen, the Granite City, owes its visual identity and strong sense of place to the consistent and predominant use of locally quarried granite. Granite's qualities of permanence, low maintenance, its range of colours, textures, its embodied energy and the examples of craftsmanship shown within the city have made it a significant local building material. The supply of local granite is now limited and Aberdeen City Council wishes to protect and enhance the city's existing built heritage. Existing features such as setted streets, granite pavements and boundary walls, granite structures and buildings are assets to the city until proven that they can be replaced with development of equal or greater merit.

3.16 Parts of the city are designated as Conservation Areas and many buildings have specific listed status which provides a high level of planning control ensuring that the identity of the Granite City will remain. Conservation Area Appraisals record the significant characteristics of an area that should be considered at the outset when development is proposed, and Historic Scotland's Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) test provides the essential evaluation criteria for the demolition of listed buildings and buildings within Conservation Areas.

3.17 The Council seeks the sustainable retention and appropriate re-use of all historic/original granite features, structures and buildings unless demonstrated that

retention and re-use is unviable. If retention and/or re-use is unviable, then the re-use of all the granite as a visible building material on the site is required. This could include its use on building elevations, within landscaping and boundary features.

Policy D5 – Our Granite Heritage
Throughout Aberdeen the Council seeks the retention and appropriate re-use, conversion and adaption of all granite features, structures and buildings, including setted streets, granite kerbs and granite boundary walls.

Proposals to demolish any granite building, structure or feature, partially or completely, that is listed or within a Conservation Area will not be granted Planning Permission, Conservation Area Consent and Listed Building Consent unless the Local Authority is satisfied that the proposal to demolish meets Historic Scotland's Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) test for demolition.

Where the retention and re-use of a granite feature, building or structure, in whole or part, is unviable then the visible re-use of as much of the original granite as is practically possible as a building material within the development site is required.

The Network of Centres

3.18 The city centre plays a major role in the commercial, economic, social, civic and cultural life of Aberdeen and the wider North East. It is an important regional centre providing a focus for employment and business interaction, it offers access to a wide range of goods and services, and it is a place where many people meet socially and choose to live and visit.

3.19 It is vital for the future prosperity of Aberdeen that the city centre is enhanced and promoted as a resilient, safe, attractive, accessible and well-conntected place which contributes to an improved quality of life. The Plan supports the delivery of this vision within a framework of securing sustainable development. This will be achieved through applying policies which positively promote what can happen, and where, in tandem with the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme.

3.20 The Masterplan and Delivery Programme identifies five key themes that should be addressed in the city centre: urban design, cultural vision, Union Street, north/south access and links to the sea.

3.21 Retailing is a major activity in the city centre and, as the region's main shopping destination, it is important to maintain and improve the visitor experience on offer to maintain Aberdeen's strength and competitiveness. Following the opening of Union Square and improvement of the Bon Accord and St Nicholas centres there is still demand from the retail sector in the city centre. Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority commissioned a retail study in 2013 for the North East region. The conclusions of the study show there is potential for developing an additional

30,000-35,000 square metres of retail floorspace in the city centre by 2022. This potential is driven by a combination of expenditure growth per capita and large population increases within the catchment area served by the city centre. Additional floorspace will also help to prevent expenditure leakage and maintain the city centre as the primary retail area in the North East.

3.22 The City Centre Retail Core (shown on the Proposals Map) contains most of the city centre's shopping floorspace and this is where new development should be directed. New retail development (Marischal Square, Crooked Lane / George Street, Aberdeen Market and Upper / Basement Floors 73-149 Union Street) and further expansion and improvements to the existing retail stock in the City Centre Retail Core, will be encouraged to consolidate and enhance Aberdeen's position as one of the UK's leading retail desinations. The guidance and direction given in the Aberdeen City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme will enhance that role.

3.23 A specific policy for Union Street seeks to enhance its vitality and viability in recognition of its key location at the heart of the city centre. Appropriate pedestrian priority measures are currently under consideration for Broad Street, as part of the Marischal Square proposal, and part of Union Street (between Market Street and Bridge Street).

3.24 The West End has a strong presence of independent retail outlets and cafes which are very important to the city centre. We will support these uses through a new policy.

Policy NC1 - City Centre Development – Regional Centre

Development within the city centre must contribute towards the delivery of the vision for the city centre as a major regional centre as expressed in the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme. As such the city centre is the preferred location for retail, office, hotel, commercial leisure, community, cultural and other significant footfall generating development serving a city-wide or regional market.

Proposals for new retail, office, hotel, commercial leisure, community, cultural and other significant footfall generating development (unless on sites allocated for that use in this plan) shall be located in accordance with the sequential approach referred to in this section of the Plan and in Supplementary Guidance.

Policy NC2 - City Centre Retail Core and Union Street

The City Centre Retail Core is the preferred location for major retail developments as defined in Policy NC1. Where sites are not available in the City Centre Retail Core, then sites elsewhere in the city centre may be appropriate.

Proposals for a change of use from retail (Class 1 of the Use Classes Order) to other uses within the City Centre Retail Core will only be acceptable if:

1) proposals on the part of Union Street covered by Supplementary Guidance complies with that guidance;

2) in other parts of the City Centre Retail Core it can be demonstrated that:

a) the new use contributes to the wider aims of the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme;

b) the proposed alternative use makes a positive contribution to the vitality and viability of the city centre and creates or maintains an active street frontage;

c) the proposed alternative will not undermine the principal retail function;

d) the applicants can demonstrate a lack of demand for continued retail use of the premises (applicants will be required to demonstrate what efforts have been made to secure a new retail use);

e) the new use does not create overprovision and / or clustering of a particular use in the immediate vicinity which would undermine the character and amenity of the centre or the well-being of communities; and

f) the alternative use does not conflict with the amenity of the neighbouring area.

Policy NC3 – West End Shops and Cafes

Proposals for a change of use from retail (Class 1 of the Use Class Order) or food and drink (Class 3 for the Use Class Order) to other uses within the West End Shops and Cafes area (see Proposals Map) will only be acceptable if:

1. the new use contributes to the wider aims of the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme;
2. the proposed alternative use makes a positive contribution to the vitality and viability of the West End Shops and Cafes area and creates or maintains an active street frontage;
3. the applicants can demonstrate a lack of demand for continued retail and / or food and drink use of the premises (applicants will be required to demonstrate what efforts have been made to secure a new retail and / or food and drink use);
4. the new use does not create overprovision and / or clustering of a particular use in the immediate vicinity which would undermine the character and amenity of the centre or the well-being of communities; and
5. the alternative use does not conflict with the amenity of the neighbouring area.

3.25 The city's network of centres has been classified into a hierarchy and the role of each centre in the hierarchy has been set out in Supplementary Guidance. A sequential approach to assessing all significant footfall generating proposals (such

as retail, leisure, business etc.) will be taken in accordance with this hierarchy and in line with Scottish Planning Policy.

3.26 Existing local shops outside the defined centres play an important role in helping maintain sustainable communities. These shops are protected through Policy NC7.

3.27 Although the city centre is the preferred location for significant footfall generating uses of a regional / city wide scale, designating centres outwith the city centre is still important as it helps create sustainable mixed communities and encourages more sustainable travel patterns. Therefore, facilities, at a local scale, will be supported in new major developments.

3.28 The Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Retail Study (2013) has looked at addressing retail deficiencies across the city. To address these deficiencies town centres in Newhills Expansion Area and Grandhome Phase 2 have been identified as well as floorspace in Zone 29N West Aberdeen / Countesswells (please see Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Retail Study 2013).

3.29 Town centres have also been designated at Torry and Rosemount and are defined on the proposals map. Strategies to improve these centres will be developed, informed by town centre health checks. Any spatial elements of these strategies will be included in supplementary guidance or the next local development plan."

Policy NC4 - Sequential Approach and Impact

NOTE: This policy applies to proposals for new development and to proposals to extend existing development.

All significant footfall generating development appropriate to town centres (unless on sites allocated for that use in this plan) should be located in accordance with the hierarchy and sequential approach as set out below and detailed in Supplementary Guidance:

Tier 1 – Regional Centre
Tier 2 – Town Centres
Tier 3 – District Centres
Tier 4 – Neighbourhood Centres
Tier 5 – Commercial Centres

In these circumstances, proposals serving a catchment area that is city-wide or larger shall be located in the city centre if possible. Retail proposals shall preferably be located in the City Centre Retail Core.

Proposals serving a catchment area of a size similar to that of a town centre or district centre shall be located in a town centre or a district centre if possible. They may also be located in the city centre.

Proposals serving a catchment area of size similar to that of a neighbourhood centre shall be located in a neighbourood centre if possible. They may also be located in any centre that is in the first, second or third tiers of the hierarchy.

Proposals for significant footfall generating development on an edge-of-centre site will not be supported unless:

- the proposal is one that would have been appropriately located in the centre to which it relates; and
- in the centre to which it relates no suitable site for the proposal is available or is likely to become available in a reasonable time.

Only proposals for bulky goods shall be located in a commercial centre, and only if a suitable site is unavailable in, or on the edge of, a centre in the first, second or third tiers of the hierarchy.

In all cases, proposals shall not detract significantly from the vitality or viability of any centre listed in the Supplementary Guidance, and shall accord with all other relevant policies in the Plan, including those relating to design, access and amenity.

In major new development areas that are more than 800 metres walking distance from shopping facilities, permission may be granted for the establishment of a new second, third or fourth tier centre. Developers may be required to reserve land for this purpose.

Retail Impact Assessments should be undertaken where a retail development over 2,500 square metres gross floorspace (or which otherwise may have a significant impact on vitality and viability) outwith a defined regional or town centre is proposed which is not in accordance with the development plan.

An analysis of impact should be undertaken where a significant footfall generating development over 2,500 square metres gross floorspace outwith a defined regional or town centre is proposed which is not in accordance with the development plan.

A restriction may be imposed on the amount of comparison goods floorspace allowed within convenience shopping developments outside the city centre or other town centres.

Policy NC5 - Out of Centre Proposals

All significant footfall generating development appropriate to designated centres, when proposed on a site that is out-of-centre, will be refused planning permission if it does not satisfy all of the following requirements (unless on sites allocated for that use in this plan):
1. No other suitable site in a location that is acceptable in terms of Policy NC4 is

available or likely to become available in a reasonable time.
2. There will be no adverse effect on the vitality or viability of any centre listed in Supplementary Guidance.
3. There is in qualitative and quantitative terms, a proven deficiency in provision of the kind of development that is proposed.
4. The proposed development would be easily and safely accessible by a choice of means of transport using a network of walking, cycling and public transport routes which link with the catchment population. In particular, the proposed development would be easily accessible by regular, frequent and convenient public transport services and would not be dependent solely on access by private car.
5. The proposed development would have no significantly adverse effect on travel patterns and air pollution.

Policy NC6 - Town, District, Neighbourhood and Commercial Centres

Retail is the preferred use within these designated centres, however a mix of uses is desirable. Proposals for changes of use from retail to non-retail use in town, district, neighbourhood and commercial centres will only be allowed if it meets all of the following criteria:
1. the proposed alternative use makes a positive contribution to the vitality and viability of the centre;
2. the proposed alternative use will not undermine the principal function of the centre in which it is located;
3. the applicants can demonstrate a lack of demand for continued retail use of the premises (applicants may be required to demonstrate what efforts have been made to secure a new retail use);
4. the proposed use caters for a local need;
5. the proposed use retains or creates a live and attractive shop frontage;
6. the new use does not create clustering of a particular use in the immediate vicinity which would undermine the character and amenity of the centre or the well-being of communities; and
7. the alternative use does not conflict with the amenity of the neighbouring area.

Policy NC7 - Local Shop Units

Proposals for changes of use from retail to non-retail in local shop units not located in any of the centres identified in the hierarchy will only be allowed if:
1. the applicants can demonstrate a lack of demand for continued retail use of the premises (applicants may be required to demonstrate what efforts have been made to secure a new retail use since the property became vacant);
2. the proposed new use caters for a local need;
3. the proposed use retains or creates a live and attractive frontage; and
4. the alternative use does not conflict with the amenity of the neighbouring area.

3.30 Note – Proposals for a change of use where lack of demand is a factor (Policies NC2, NC6 and NC7) should provide evidence that the property has been actively marketed for six months or more and should provide a statement(s) from prospective occupiers explaining their reasons for the property being unsuitable for retail use.

Supplementary Guidance

Hierarchy of Centres - District, Neighbourhood and Commercial Centres.
Supplementary Guidance (SG) on the Hierarchy of Centres supports Policies NC1, NC2, NC4, NC5, NC6 by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with policy. Accordingly, SG on Hierarchy of Centres includes advice on the retail hierarchy, sequential approach thresholds, and designated centres.

Union Street Frontages
Supplementary Guidance Union Street Frontages supports Policies NC1 and NC2 by showing the percentage of ground floor retail frontage required in individual sectors along Union Street to ensure there is a high concentration of retail uses within the City Centre Retail Core and Union Street.

Harmony of Uses
Supplementary Guidance Harmony of Uses supports Policy NC2 as it outlines criteria which need to be considered when proposals for the following non retail developments are put forward within the city centre: hot food shops, liquor licensed premise, amusement centres, amusement arcades, casinos, street cafes, living/working above or below a business and residential developments in the city centre. The preservation and non detriment of existing business and retail uses is expected.

Serviced Apartments
Supplementary Guidance Serviced Apartments encourages the development of serviced apartments within the city centre, and supports Policy NC2 by ensuring developments take place in the correct location, with no detrimental impact to existing residential or mixed use areas. A number of criteria are required to be satisfied. Proposals for serviced apartments need to consider amenity, servicing, sustainable travel and parking, planning obligations, single ownership and legal agreements.

Policy NC8 - Retail Development Serving New Development Areas

Masterplans for sites allocated for major greenfield residential development should allocate land for retail and related uses at an appropriate scale to serve the convenience shopping needs of the expanded local community. Sites should be in accessible locations for walking, cycling and public transport. Masterplans should indicate the delivery mechanism and timescale for the provision of retail uses.

Proposals for retail development which serves a wider catchment area will be subject to a sequential test and retail impact assessment in accordance with Policy NC4. When approval is given for large convenience shops a condition may be imposed to restrict the proportion of non-convenience retail floorspace.

3.31 Aberdeen beach is one of the major leisure developments in the city which is appreciated by both residents and visitors. However, the beach is not perceived as being accessible from the city centre, as the route is not very attractive or pedestrian friendly, and the area is also perceived as being rundown. Through the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme, linkages and connectivity to the beach from the city centre will be addressed. However, if it is decided that a full masterplan for the beach will help benefit the area then this could be commissioned in the future.

3.32 There has also been pressure for out-of-centre retail development in this location, which in principle will not be supported. However, the Local Development Plan will encourage leisure uses (such as entertainment, cafes and restaurants) that are considered compatible with the leisure function of the beach.

Policy NC9 - Beach and Leisure
Within the defined Beach and Leisure area development proposals will be permitted provided they:

1. Contribute to the range and quality of the existing uses, facilities and activities of the wider beach area;
2. Are of an appropriate scale;
3. Do not have an unduly adverse effect on the character of the area, or cause negative visual or environmental impacts or affect the amenities of nearby residents; and
4. Do not result in the significant generation of car borne journeys, nor additional pressure for car parking.

There is a presumption against retail development in this area.

Delivering Infrastructure, Transport and Accessibility

3.33 The delivery of supporting infrastructure is important in mitigating the impact of development and helping to create balanced, accessible and sustainable communities. This can be delivered either through the direct provision of the required infrastructure, or through financial contributions made by the developer.

3.34 Information relating to infrastructure requirements and developer contributions is set out in three parts:

1. Appendix 3 of this Plan
2. The Action Programme
3. The Masterplans and Supplementary Guidance listed in Appendices 4 and 5.

3.35 The Council has worked in close partnership with a wide range of agencies through the Future Infrastructure Requirements for Services (FIRS) Group to establish the infrastructure requirements to support development. The infrastructure requirements identified are based on the latest evidence available. Developers should take into account the likely requirement for a contribution when preparing and costing proposals. We would encourage developers to discuss this with us at an early stage as there may be circumstances where development imposes additional pressures and requires more extensive contributions to those identified in the Local Development Plan and Action Programme. The Action Programme will be updated on an ongoing basis and revised versions will be formally published on the Council's website every two years. The provision of infrastructure is fundamental to the deliverability of a development proposal and in many circumstances development will not be allowed to proceed if the infrastructure and service improvement requirements cannot be met.

3.36 We will consider whether the provision of necessary infrastructure either on or off-site can be achieved through the use of conditions attached to the grant of planning permission. Where this cannot be achieved we will seek a fair and proportionate financial contribution towards supporting infrastructure through a planning or other legal agreement. If a planning or other legal agreement is required it will be sought in an appropriate, transparent and equitable manner and will need to be negotiated and agreed with the Council before a decision notice on a planning application can be issued.

Policy I1 - Infrastructure Delivery and Planning Obligations

Development must be accompanied by the infrastructure, services and facilities required to support new or expanded communities and the scale and type of developments proposed. Where development either individually or cumulatively will place additional demands on community facilities or infrastructure that would necessitate new facilities or exacerbate deficiencies in existing provision, the Council will require the developer to meet or contribute to the cost of providing or improving such infrastructure or facilities.

Infrastructure requirements relating to Masterplan Zone sites and other allocated sites outwith the Masterplan Zones are set out in Appendices 3 and 4. Actions for delivering infrastructure are described in the Local Development Plan Action Programme. Infrastructure requirements and the level of contributions for other development will be assessed using the criteria set out in Supplementary Guidance.

The precise level of infrastructure requirements and contributions will need to be agreed with the Council, in consultation with other statutory agencies where appropriate. The level of provision or contribution required will relate to the development proposed either directly or to the cumulative impact of development in the area and be commensurate to its scale and impact.

Masterplans will be expected to reflect the infrastructure requirements and contributions identified and should include a Delivery Statement setting out details of how the proposed development and supporting infrastructure will be delivered.

New infrastructure will either be provided by the developer or through financial contributions. It will need to be compatible with other Local Development Plan policies.

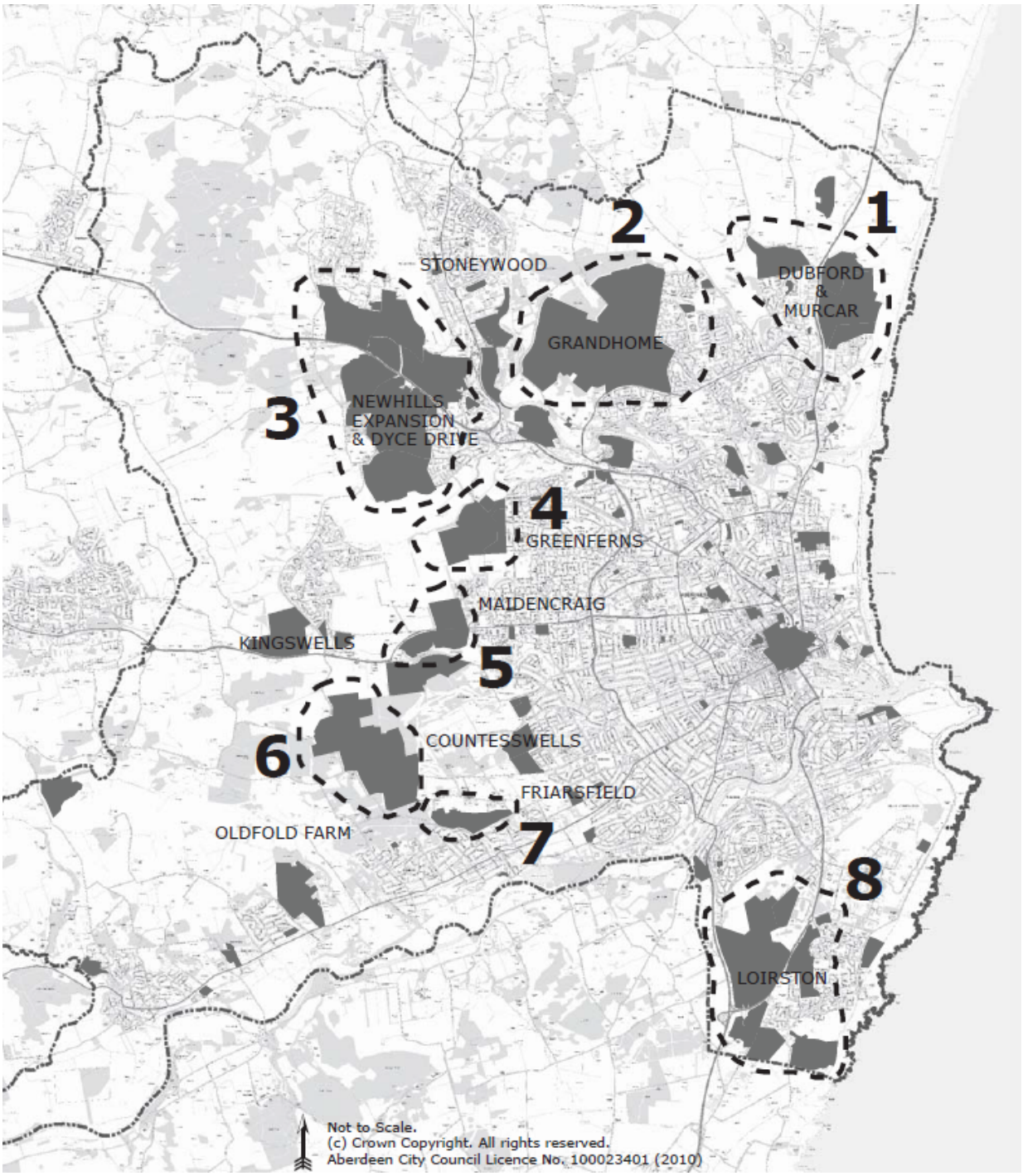
Supplementary Guidance

Planning Obligations
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Planning Obligations supports the above policy by outlining the methodology and criteria used to calculate contributions required to mitigate impact that new development places on community facilities or infrastructure. The methodology seeks to ensure that appropriate contributions are secured from developers to support new communities and to make a fair and proportionate contribution to the individual or cumulative impact of development across the City, and where appropriate, the region. Contributions will be sought, where necessary, for transportation, core paths, regional SuDS, education, healthcare, open space, community facilities and sports & recreation. Guidance and information is provided on how monies are managed and secured, development viability, pre-application discussions and indexation. The following summarises the types of development expected to require obligations;

- Residential Development: All proposals which involve the creation of 5 units or more.
- Commercial Development: All developments where the floorspace exceeds 1,000 square metres or the site area is more than 1 hectare.
- Other applications where the Development Management Officer considers the proposal to be of a scale or type of development appropriate to consult with the Developer Obligations Team.

3.37 We have identified eight Masterplan Zones, shown in Figure 1 below, within which developers will be expected to work together to prepare Masterplans for each zone, and coordinate the planning and delivery of associated infrastructure requirements. The infrastructure requirements for greenfield development sites in the Masterplan Zones are set out in Appendix 3. Other allocated sites outwith the Masterplan Zones will also be required to make a fair and appropriate contribution commensurate in scale and kind with the development proposed to mitigate the impact of development. Any development which is not listed will need to provide infrastructure requirements and developer contributions on the basis of the criteria set out in Supplementary Guidance.

Figure 1 Masterplan Zones



Note – The developments / masterplans in previous Masterplan Zones at Stoneywood, Kingswells and Oldfold are now sufficiently advanced that they are omitted from this map. However, their infrastructure requirements are still listed in Appendix 3.

	Masterplan Zone	Sites included
1	Dubford and Murcar	OP1 Murcar OP10 Dubford
2	Grandhome	OP8 East Woodcroft OP9 Grandhome
3	Newhills Expansion and Dyce Drive	OP18 Craibstone North and Walton Farm OP19 Rowett North OP20 Craibstone South OP21 Rowett South OP22 Greenferns Landward
4	Greenferns	OP33 Greenferns
5	Maidencraig	OP31 Maidencraig South East OP32 Maidencraig North East
6	Countesswells	OP38 Countesswells
7	Friarsfield	OP41 Friarsfield
8	Loirston	OP59 Loirston OP60 Charlestown

Transport

3.38 Good transport connections are essential to the economic prosperity of Aberdeen and the quality of life of people living and working in the city. Aberdeen faces many transport challenges. As Scotland's third largest city, with a population of around 225,000, and the regional centre for the North East of Scotland, a significant number of movements take place to, from and within the city every day. The buoyant oil industry has brought affluence to the North East, meaning that car ownership and usage is high. This has led to significant congestion and unreliable journey times on many of our key corridors and air quality levels which exceed both EU and national targets.

3.39 The policies and proposals in this Plan seek to address the link between land use and transport and to ensure that both existing and future communities have access to a comprehensive and effective transport network. The Plan takes cognisance of the Aberdeen Local Transport Strategy (LTS), the Nestrans Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) and the National Transport Strategy (NTS). The LTS sets out the Council's vision for transport in Aberdeen which is to develop 'A sustainable transport system that is fit for the 21st Century, accessible to all, supports a vibrant economy and minimises the impact on our environment'. This will be achieved through: increasing modal share for public sustainable and active travel (walking, cycling and public transport use); improving journey time reliability for all modes; improving road safety; improving air quality and the environment; and improving accessibility for all.

Land for Transport

3.40 The RTS and LTS identity a range of transport schemes which are required to successfully deliver the spatial strategy in both Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire and to enable both authorities to meet their transportation objectives.

3.41 These schemes are designed to address existing transport issues and are not subject to developer contributions. This will not preclude developers contributing towards the cost of accelerating the implementation of a scheme or providing an enhanced solution where necessary.

3.42 The Council will support the incorporation of complementary uses within certain transport facilities, such as at Park and Choose sites, where these are appropriate and do not undermine the primary function of the facility.

3.43 Transport infrastructure required to facilitate new development will also be supported in principle, including new and improved walking and cycling facilities, public transport services and roads.

Policy T1 - Land for Transport

Land has been safeguarded for the transport projects listed below and these are highlighted on the Proposals Map. Development will be refused in these areas if it is not related to the following projects.

- Improved rail services;
- Dyce Railway Station expansion;
- Aberdeen Harbour expansion;
- A96 Park and Ride/Choose / Dyce Drive Link Road;
- Berryden Corridor improvements;
- Third Don Crossing;
- South College Street improvements;
- Haudagain Roundabout improvements; and
- Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route.

Managing the Transport Impact of Development

3.44 The location of development can have a significant impact on travel choices, with accessibility to jobs and services one of the key criteria used to determine where development should go. The Transport Framework, which was developed in support of the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012, assessed the compatibility of groups of sites against the objectives and proposals set out in the LTS and continues to inform the settlement strategy.

3.45 Concerns regarding transport often focus on current congestion issues, potential congestion arising from development and the ability of new developments to deliver the required infrastructure in a timely manner. The Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Cumulative Transport Appraisal (CTA) demonstrates the impact new development across the North East will have on our transport infrastructure. Through

detailed testing, modelling and forecasting a package of transport projects have been identified to mitigate this impact.The Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan proposes the setting up of a Strategic Transport Fund for the delivery of this infrastructure. These projects are:

Public Transport:

- New station at Kintore;
- Bus priority measures;
- Bus frequency improvements; and
- Additional bus services linking new development sites ti city centre and key employment destinations.

Road Network (over and above local road infrastructure requirements):

- North Aberdeen – Parkway, Persley Bridge and Parkhill junction and capacity improvements;
- A96 Corridor – Capacity improvements and upgrade AWPR Kingswells North Junction;
- A944 Corridor – Upgrade A944 junctions and safety/limited capacity improvements on access to A93; and
- A956/A90 Corridor – Junction capacity improvements and River Dee Link,

3.46 In appropriate cases, the Council will seek proportionate contributions to support strategic projects that are related to the developments concerned and that are necessary to make those developments acceptable in planning terms.

3.47 Development proposals must be assessed in terms of their impact on the local transport network, in particular the number of single occupancy vehicle trips that are likely to be generated by the development, as identified by a Transport Assessment. There will be a presumption against new development that is likely to generate a significant number of new car trips onto the network unless suitable mitigation measures are put in place.

3.48 Detailed assessments will require to be undertaken and agreed with the Council and key agencies at the masterplanning, pre-application and planning application stages in order to determine the impact of development and the precise range of transport measures and developer contributions required to support development.

Policy T2 - Managing the Transport Impact of Development

Commensurate with the scale and anticipated impact, new developments must demonstrate that sufficient measures have been taken to minimise traffic generated and to maximise opportunities for sustainable and active travel.

Transport Assessments and Travel Plans will be required for developments which exceed the thresholds set out in Supplementary Guidance.

The development of new communities should be accompanied by an increase in local services and employment opportunities that reduce the need to travel and

include integrated walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure to ensure that, where travel is necessary, sustainable modes are prioritised. Where sufficient sustainable transport links to and from new developments are not in place, developers will be required to provide such facilities or a suitable contribution towards implementation.

Further information is contained in the relevant Supplementary Guidance which should be read in conjunction with this policy.

Supplementary Guidance

Transport and Accessibility
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Transport and Accessibility supports Policies T2 and T3 by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with above policies, with regard to the delivery of transportation projects. Accordingly, SG Transport and Accessibility includes advice on: Policy and Legislation, Standards and Accessibility for Public Transport Services, Roads Development, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans, Parking, Electrical Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, Low Car Housing, Car Clubs, Parking in Conservation Areas and Positioning of Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs).

Sustainable and Active Travel

3.49 Opportunities for active and sustainable travel (particularly walking, cycling and public transport use) increase the range of transport options available to users, offering a cheaper alternative than car-based travel. Such opportunities also support the development of sustainable communities by reducing the need to travel by car, promote physical and mental health and wellbeing, contribute towards tackling environmental problems, and contribute to economic development by reducing congestion and ensuring roadspace is prioritised for essential movements.

Policy T3 - Sustainable and Active Travel
New developments must be accessible by a range of transport modes, with an emphasis on active and sustainable transport, and the internal layout of developments must prioritise walking, cycling and public transport penetration. Links between residential, employment, recreation and other facilities must be protected or improved for non-motorised transport users, making it quick, convenient and safe for people to travel by walking and cycling.

Street layouts will reflect the principles of Designing Streets and meet the minimum distances to services as set out in the Supplementary Guidance.

Existing access rights, including core paths, rights of way and paths within the wider network will be protected and enhanced. Where development proposals impact on the access network, the principle of the access must be maintained at all times by the developer through provision of suitable alternative routes.

Recognising that there will still be instances in which people will require to travel by car, initiatives such as like car sharing, alternative fuel vehicles and Car Clubs will also be supported where appropriate.

Air Quality

3.50 Air quality is a key problem faced by cities throughout the world. Research suggests that 29,000 premature deaths are caused by poor air quality in the UK every year, with transport emissions the greatest contributor to air quality problems in Aberdeen, causing 90% of all nitrogen oxide emissions on some roads within the city centre.

3.51 As part of our statutory duties under the UK Environment Act 1995 the Council undertakes monitoring and assessment of seven key pollutants recognised to impact on health. Aberdeen currently exceeds both EU and national air quality targets for nitrogen oxides and fine particulate matter, resulting in three Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) being declared:

- City Centre (encompassing Union Street, Market Street, Virginia Street, Commerce Street, Guild Street and Bridge Street, and parts of Holburn Street, King Street and Victoria Road);
- Anderson Drive (incorporating the whole of Anderson Drive, the area around the Haudagain roundabout and the A96 to Howes Road); and
- Wellington Road (from the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge to Balnagask Road).

3.52 Aberdeen also has an Air Quality Action Plan, identifying a range of measures to be implemented to tackle the air quality problem. One of the most significant of these is minimising the vehicular traffic generated by new developments. Well-designed places that encourage access by walking, cycling and public transport and which can accommodate no/low emission and/or alternative fuel vehicles such as electric cars are key to ensuring that new development is sustainable, enhances air quality, manages exposure and reduces overall emissions. The preservation and enhancement of green infrastructure in development proposals can also contribute towards improving air quality.

Policy T4 - Air Quality

Development proposals which may have a detrimental impact on air quality will not be permitted unless measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants are proposed and agreed with the Planning Authority. Planning applications for such proposals should be accompanied by an assessment of the likely impact of development on air quality and any mitigation measures proposed.

The relevant Supplementary Guidance Air Quality, detailed below sets out the likely circumstances in which applicants must submit an assessment of the potential

impact of particular types of development on existing and future air quality, particularly in and around Air Quality Management Areas. It also provides guidance on the process of air quality assessment and how mitigation measures will be assessed and implemented.

Supplementary Guidance

Air Quality
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Air Quality supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to the delivery of Air Quality Management. Accordingly, SG Air Quality includes advice on: Policy and Legislation, Air Quality Assessments, Mitigation Measures and Biomass Installations.

Noise

3.53 The European Union estimates that around 20% of its population suffers from unacceptable noise levels. Exposure to high noise levels can result in annoyance, sleep disturbance and adverse health impacts including cardiovascular problems, hypertension, heart disease and mental health troubles.

3.54 The planning system has a role to play in ensuring that new development does not result in increasing numbers of people exposed to adverse noise impacts. By guiding development to the right locations and, where necessary, specifying design and layout issues, planning authorities can help to prevent and minimise the consequences of noise.

3.55 As required by the European Noise Directive (2004) and Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006, a Draft Noise Action Plan has been developed for the Aberdeen area, identifying Candidate Noise Management Areas (CNMAs) and Candidate Quiet Areas (CQAs) in the city. CNMAs are areas where people are most likely to be affected by noise (predominantly transport noise) and which must therefore be carefully managed, while CQAs are areas of quiet and tranquillity which provide a range of benefits to health, wellbeing and the environment. Both CNMAs and CQAs must be protected from increases in noise exposure resulting from new development. It is also important to ensure that occupiers of a new development near to existing noise sources and existing noise sensitive developments located near to proposed new potentially noisy developments are protected from the adverse effects of noise.

Policy T5 – Noise

In cases where significant exposure to noise is likely to arise from development, a Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) will be required as part of a planning application.

There will be a presumption against noise generating developments, as identified by a NIA, being located close to noise sensitive developments, such as existing or proposed housing, while housing and other noise sensitive developments will not

normally be permitted close to existing noisy land uses without suitable mitigation measures in place to reduce the impact of noise.

Development within or near to Candidate Noise Management Areas (CNMAs) and Candidate Quiet Areas (CQAs) will not be permitted where this is likely to contribute to a significant increase in exposure to noise or a deterioration of noise conditions in these areas, or where this will reduce the size of, or cause an increase in the noise level within, the CQA.

Further information on NIAs, CNMAs and CQAs, including maps of these areas, can be found in the relevant Supplementary Guidance which should be read in conjunction with this policy

Supplementary Guidance

Noise
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Noise supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with above policy, with regard to the delivery of Noise Management. Accordingly, SG Noise includes advice on: Policy and Legislation, Noise Impact Assessment, Noise Sources and Development Management.

Supporting Business and Industrial Development

3.56 Maintaining a ready supply of employment land in the right places is vital to Aberdeen retaining its position as a competitive and sustainable business location. If a ready supply of employment land is not maintained, then it is unlikely that the housing population targets set by the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan (SDP) will be achieved. Therefore, in accordance with the SDP, a phased, large allocation of employment land has been identified, to meet the diverse needs of different types and sizes of businesses.

3.57 The Energetica Corridor, which runs from Peterhead in Aberdeenshire to Aberdeen, is home to a programme of projects being undertaken to create a world-class sustainable development corridor. All new development within the Energetica area is expected to make a contribution to its quality of life, environmental performance and economic development. Please see Supplementary Guidance on Energetica.

3.58 In addition to the provision of new sites, it is important to safeguard the supply of existing industrial and business land throughout the city from other development pressures. This is particularly important for sites in strategic locations and those with good accessibility including Aberdeen International Airport, Aberdeen Harbour and the city centre.

3.59 It is recognised that supporting facilities such as shops, hotels, leisure and sports uses, crèches and children's nurseries can make an important contribution to the city's employment areas. Such facilities are already present on a number of the

city's employment areas and the Plan supports the provision of these uses, where appropriate, within employment areas. These facilities should not compromise or conflict with the operation of existing business and industrial uses.

3.60 Low-amenity 'bad neighbour' uses, such as scrapyards, batching plants or the storage and distribution of minerals, provide vital services for the city and its industries. However, they should be sensitively located so that they do not adversely affect the amenity of adjoining users.

3.61 In order to meet the requirements of the Aberdeen Waste Strategy, sites are required for energy recovery facilities and other new waste management facilities. It is considered that business and industrial sites have the greatest potential to accommodate these facilities, subject to the considerations identified in Policy R3 – Waste Management Facilities.

Policy B1 - Business and Industrial Land

Aberdeen City Council will in principle support the development of the business and industrial land allocations set out in this Plan.

Land zoned for business and industrial uses on the Proposals Map, including already developed land, shall be retained for Class 4 (Business), Class 5 (General Industrial) and Class 6 (Storage and Distribution) uses and safeguarded from other conflicting development types. Other uses which may be suited to a business and industrial location, such as car showrooms and bus depots, shall be treated on their own merits. The expansion of existing concerns and uses within these locations will be permitted in principle.

Where business and industrial areas are located beside residential areas we will restrict new planning permissions to Class 4 (Business). Buffer zones, which are appropriately sized and landscaped, may be required to separate these uses and safeguard residential amenity. Low amenity 'bad neighbour' uses must have regard to surrounding uses and their potential impact on the environment and existing amenity. In all cases, conditions may be imposed restricting levels of noise, hours of operation and external storage.

New business and industrial land proposals shall make provision for areas of recreational and amenity open space, areas of strategic landscaping, areas of wildlife value and footpaths, in accordance with the Council's Open Space Strategy, Supplementary Guidance and any approved planning briefs or masterplans. Within existing business and industrial areas, there shall be a presumption in favour of retaining existing open space.

Facilities that directly support business and industrial uses may be permitted where they enhance the attraction and sustainability of the city's business and industrial land. Such facilities should be aimed primarily at meeting the needs of businesses and employees within the business and industrial area.

Specialist Employment Areas

3.62 In order to maintain and promote a strong and diverse economy, the Plan identifies a number of Specialist Employment Areas at Bridge of Don, Hill of Rubislaw, Woodhill House, Kingswells and the North Dee Business Quarter. Within these areas, new developments should contribute to the high quality and amenity of their surroundings in order to maintain their attractiveness to inward investment.

3.63 The city currently has two specialist technology parks both located at Bridge of Don. The Aberdeen Energy Park is a centre for research and product development for the oil, gas and renewable energy sectors. The Aberdeen Innovation Park is divided into three separate campuses and has also proved to be a successful location providing research, laboratory and office facilities.

Policy B2 - Specialist Employment Areas

In areas that are identified as Specialist Employment Areas on the Proposals Map, only Class 4 (Business) uses shall be permitted in order to maintain a high quality environment. Activities associated with research, design and development, knowledge-driven industries and related education and training will be encouraged in these areas.

The exception is proposals at the Aberdeen Energy Park where a mix of Class 4 (Business), Class 5 (General Industrial) and Class 6 (Storage and Distribution) uses will be considered if it can be shown that the respective uses can co-exist without eroding the amenity of the park.

Facilities that directly support business uses may be permitted where they enhance the attraction and sustainability of the Specialist Employment Area for investment. Such facilities should be aimed primarily at meeting the needs of businesses and employees within the Specialist Employment Area.

The proposed new Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre site at Dyce is reserved for exhibition centre purposes and uses that support and are compatible with the exhibition centre, excluding large scale retail.

West End Office Area

3.64 The West End Office Area is a prestigious, high quality office location on the edge of the city centre, readily accessible by public transport, which also provides off-street car-parking and space for expansion. The area contains a mix of other uses, including schools, hotels, flats and a hospital. The Council will encourage and promote the continued development of this area as a focus for office development.

3.65 The area is also covered by a conservation area designation. Proposals should have regard to the guidance contained in the Historic Environment TAN

which includes the Albyn Place/Rubislaw Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan.

Policy B3 - West End Office Area

In the West End Office Area (as shown on the Proposals Map) proposals for change of use to office use or the expansion of existing office use will only be acceptable provided;

a) the size, scale and design of development proposals respect the special historic and architectural character of the area and;

b) the design meets all of the relevant criteria set out in the Historic Environment TAN, with regards to relationship to the existing building, context and modifications to existing extensions (see also the Design Policies).

New development proposals that do not protect existing residential amenity will be refused. Proposals for change of use to residential use, or any new residential development, will be considered on their merits.

Where there is scope to provide access to properties from rear lanes, this will only be acceptable if satisfactory access arrangements are in place, or can be provided by the developer. Please refer to the Transport and Accessibility Supplementary Guidance for more information.

The re-development of front gardens to provide car parks and driveways, and the subsequent erosion of associated landscaping, will not be permitted. The Council will support the principle of reinstating and restoring front gardens and cast iron railings

Aberdeen International Airport

3.66 Aberdeen International Airport is a strategic transport hub which is vital to the success of the North East economy. It directly supports thousands of jobs and helps to ensure that Aberdeen remains a competitive, attractive and well-connected location for business.

3.67 The airport has ambitious plans to expand and upgrade its facilities to meet demand from growing passenger numbers, set out in the Aberdeen International Airport Masterplan 2013. However, they anticipate that the majority of future growth will be on land already in use by the airport.

3.68 To avoid conflict with neighbouring uses, residential development within close proximity to the airport is not acceptable. Planning Advice Note (PAN) 1/2011 and the accompanying Technical Advice Note on the assessment of noise, set out Scottish Government guidance on planning and noise. The Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006 provide the basis for minimising noise disturbance at

Aberdeen Airport through the Aberdeen Airport Noise Action Plan. In order to preserve the amenity of residents, we will maintain a night-time ban on helicopter movements except for emergency situations.

3.69 Public Safety Zones are areas of land at the end of the airport runway within which development is restricted to control the number of people on the ground at risk in the event of an aircraft accident on take-off or landing. Development near the airport may also be subject to a number of other restrictions in order to maintain the safety and efficiency of airport operations. A Technical Advice Note (TAN) on Land Use Planning and Aberdeen Airport contains the following information:-

Public Safety Zones
Noise Contours
Safeguarding Map
Operation Area

Policy B4 - Aberdeen Airport

Within the area zoned for the Airport on the Proposals Map, there will be a presumption in favour of compatible uses which are required for the effective and efficient operation of the airport, and which have a functional requirement to be located there. This may include administrative offices, warehousing, distribution facilities, car hire facilities and car-parks. Other airport-related uses such as hotels will be treated on their merits.

Public Safety Zones (PSZs) have been established for Aberdeen International Airport (see TAN). There is a general presumption against certain types of development which would result in an increase in the number of people living, working or congregating in these zones. Further details are available in Scottish Government Circular 8/2002.

An airport safeguarding map has been issued to the Council by the airport operators. Any development falling within safeguarded areas identified on the airport safeguarding map will be subject to consultation with Aberdeen Airport Safeguarding Team. Any proposed development must not compromise the safe operation of the airport. Matters such as the height of buildings, external lighting, landscaping, bird hazard management and impact on communication and navigation equipment will be taken into account in assessing any potential impact.

Applications for residential development in areas where aircraft noise levels are in excess of 57dB LAeq (the summer 16-hour dB LAeq measurement) as identified on the airport noise contour map will be refused, due to the inability to create an appropriate level of residential amenity, and the need to safeguard the future operation of Aberdeen International Airport. For proposed development which would be located within the remaining noise contours, applicants may be required to submit a noise assessment demonstrating that an appropriate level of residential amenity could be achieved.

Perwinnes Radar

Perwinnes Radar, operated by NATS, is located to the north of Bridge of Don and as well as serving Aberdeen International Airport also provides data to en-route controllers at Scottish Area Control Centre in Prestwick. In order to secure its operational capability, a safeguarding map has been issued to the Council by its operators. **Please note that Aberdeen Airport and Perwinnes Radar are subject to separate safeguarding maps. Where necessary Development Proposals must be assessed against both maps.**

Any development falling within safeguarded areas identified on this map will be subject to consultation with NATS to determine if proposed buildings and structures would have an adverse impact upon the operation of the radar and if mitigation to any impact is possible. If an unacceptable impact and viable mitigation is identified, the developer would be expected to agree with NATS a mitigation package prior to determination of an application.

Aberdeen Harbour

3.70 Aberdeen Harbour plays a critical role in the economy of Aberdeen and Scotland as a whole. It is a gateway for trade linking with over 40 countries, and an important point of access for the offshore energy industry. It is also a major ferry port, providing links with Orkney and Shetland.

3.71 The existing Aberdeen Harbour area is subject to a Development Framework which explores how a greater mix of uses at the harbour can be delivered, without impacting on the operation of the port. It also examines options for creating better linkages between the harbour and the city centre.

3.72 The harbour is facing significant pressures for expansion that cannot currently be met within the existing site. Scotland's National Planning Framework 3 recognises this and identifies the expansion of Aberdeen Harbour at Nigg Bay as a National Development. This site is identified in the Local Development Plan as an Opportunity Site for a new harbour development.

3.73 A Development Framework will be prepared and adopted as Supplementary Guidance for the new harbour at Nigg Bay and its surrounding area. This will consider how to maximise the opportunities presented by investment in the new harbour, in terms of economic development, regeneration and environmental improvements. It will also address the co-ordination of essential infrastructure, and identify opportunities for strategic improvements to the road and rail network. Complementary Masterplans will then be prepared to provide further detail.

Policy B5 - Aberdeen Harbour

Within the areas zoned for Aberdeen Harbour on the Proposals Map, there will be a presumption in favour of harbour infrastructure and ancillary uses, which are required for the effective and efficient operation of the harbour and which have a functional requirement to be located there. This may include administrative offices, warehousing and storage (including fuel storage), distribution facilities and car/HGV parking. Other harbour-related uses will be treated on their merits.

Residential and mixed use development within the area surrounding the harbour must take account of the character of the area and avoid undue conflict with adjacent harbour-related land uses. New development must not impinge upon the viability or operational efficiency of the harbour, or of existing businesses within the harbour zoned area. Mitigation measures may be required in order to permit uses which could otherwise give rise to such conflict.

Pipelines, Major Hazards and Explosives Storage Sites

3.74 Within Aberdeen City, there are a number of high pressure pipelines and sites where hazardous substances or explosives are stored. For each of these sites a consultation zone has been established by the Health and Safety Executive to ensure that only appropriate new or replacement development takes place and that there is no increased risk to public safety.

Policy B6 - Pipelines, Major Hazards and Explosives Storage Sites

Where certain types of new development are proposed within the consultation zones of pipelines, major hazards and explosive storage sites, the Council will be required to consult the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) to determine the potential risk to public safety.

The Council will take full account of the advice from the HSE in determining planning applications. In addition to consultation with the HSE, the Council will consult the operators of pipelines where development proposals fall within these zones. Pipeline consultation zones are shown on the LDP Constraints Map.

Meeting Housing and Community Needs

3.75 Our vision for Aberdeen as a place which offers a high quality of life requires us to create sustainable communities in which amenity is maintained to a high level and for a wide choice of housing styles and types to be made available for everyone.

Policy H1 - Residential Areas
Within existing residential areas (H1 on the Proposals Map) and within new residential developments, proposals for new development and householder development will be approved in principle if it:
1. Does not constitute over development;
2. Does not have an unacceptable impact on the character and amenity of the surrounding area;
3. Does not result in the loss of valuable and valued areas of open space. Open space is defined in the Aberdeen Open Space Audit 2010; and
4. Complies with Supplementary Guidance.

Within existing residential areas, proposals for non-residential uses will be refused unless:
1. They are considered complementary to residential use; or
2. It can be demonstrated that the use would cause no conflict with, or any nuisance to, the enjoyment of existing residential amenity.

Any proposed loss of Local Shops or Community Facilities would need to comply with the relevant policies Policy CF1 Existing Community Sites and Facilities and Policy NC7 Local Shop Units.

Householder Development Guide

Supplementary Guidance (SG) Householder Development Guide supports the above policy and Policy D4: Historic Environment by providing guidance to ensure householder developments and developments to originally residential properties now in non-domestic use are of a good quality design, careful sited and give due consideration of scale, context and design of the parent building to ensure development does not erode the character and appearance of our areas. The SG outlines criteria to be satisfied with regard to extensions, ancillary buildings, dormer windows, roof extensions, roof lights, satellite dishes, decking, boundary enclosures, micro-renewables, and driveways. Further criteria is given on change of use from amenity space to garden ground, again to ensure quality of place is retained; there will be no detriment to amenity space or visual amenity within the locality, and the distinctive character and appearance of the area will not be eroded. Criteria to be satisfied with regard to Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO) are tied to Policy D1 to ensure they consider the context of the area to ensure no material change to the character of the area. Proposals must ensure quality placemaking is achieved by following the placemaking criteria under the heading of distinctive, welcoming, safe and pleasant, easy to get to/move around, adaptable and resource efficient. The HMO section ties the SG to policy T2: Managing the Transport Impact of Development with regard to parking and cycling provision, and to Policy R6: Waste Management Requirements for New Development.

Policy H2 - Mixed Use Areas

Applications for development or change of use within Mixed Use Areas must take into account the existing uses and character of the surrounding area and avoid undue conflict with the adjacent land uses and amenity. Where new housing is proposed, a satisfactory residential environment should be created which should not impinge upon the viability or operation of existing businesses in the vicinity. Conversely, where new industrial, business or commercial uses are permitted, development should not adversely affect the amenity of people living and working in the area

Density

3.76 In the interests of sustainability and efficient use of land, higher density developments are generally encouraged. Higher densities also have the benefit of helping to maintain the vitality and viability of local services and facilities, allow for the effective provision of public transport, enhance the economic viability of development and increase energy efficiency.

3.77 A minimum density of 30 dwellings per hectare (net) has been set by the Strategic Development Plan for all developments over one hectare. How attractive a place feels is a matter of the design and and it will be for the masterplan or planning application to determine which areas could accommodate higher or lower densities, providing an overall density of 30 dwellings per hectare is achieved.

3.78 The density of existing development should not dictate that of new housing by stifling change or requiring replication of existing style or form. If done well, imaginative design and layout of development can lead to a more efficient use of land without compromising the local environment.

Policy H3 - Density

The City Council will seek an appropriate density of development on all housing allocations and windfall sites. All residential developments over one hectare must:
1. Meet a minimum density of 30 dwellings per hectare (net). Net dwelling density includes those areas which will be developed for housing and directly associated uses, including access roads within the site, garden ground and incidental open space;
2. Have consideration of the site's characteristics and those of the surrounding area;
3. Create an attractive residential environment and safeguard living conditions within the development; and
4. Consider providing higher densities in the City Centre, around local centres, and public transport nodes.

Housing Mix

3.79 It is important in the development of new communities to achieve a good mix of size and type of dwellings. Such an approach helps to create mixed and inclusive communities by offering a choice of housing and lifestyle and can assist the urban design process. The character of the area, site characteristics, the market and housing need will dictate different mixes on different sites across Aberdeen. Although a mix is desirable on all sites, there may be reasons why this cannot be achieved on smaller sites. As a consequence, Policy H4 applies only to sites of larger than 50 units. This policy does not apply to supported housing developments, student housing, or to other specialised housing such as sheltered housing for the elderly.

3.80 A mix of housing is particularly important due to the change underway in the age profile of Scotland. Nationally, the percentage of the population over 65 is predicted to be one of the fastest growing age groups. Scottish Planning Policy states that where a demand is identified through Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA) polices should be put in place to mitigate for this change through the provision of suitable housing. The Aberdeen City and Shire HNDA 2011, identified that this portion of the population would increase significantly over the period from 2008, to represent 35% of the population by 2030. It is therefore important that we provide suitable housing for this section of the population to facilitate their continued independent living while also allowing older people to downsize from larger properties, should they wish.

Policy H4 - Housing Mix

Housing developments of larger than 50 units are required to achieve an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes, in line with a masterplan, reflecting the accommodation requirements of specific groups, in particular families, older people and people with particular needs. This mix should include smaller 1 and 2 bedroom units and should be reflected in both the market and affordable housing contributions.

Affordable Housing

3.81 A Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA) has been undertaken for Aberdeen City and Shire to assess future housing requirements for each housing market area to ensure that land is identified to fully meet requirements including affordable housing need.

3.82 Consistent with this strategy an estimate of annual housing need has been calculated. The level of annual need is 30% of the total housing requirement for Aberdeen. This estimate of net annual housing need depends greatly on the economy and the housing market. If affordability were to improve in the Aberdeen Housing Market Area the current affordable housing stock, including forecast new build projects, would remain insufficient to meet arising need. This suggests that need in the Aberdeen HMA is particularly chronic. The evidence presented in the HNDA justifies the inclusion of an affordable housing policy to help address housing need.

3.83 The provision of affordable housing should not jeopardise the delivery of housing as this would be counter-productive, would increase affordability constraints and have other knock on impacts on the local economy. Therefore, affordable housing requirements must be realistic and take into consideration the Strategic Development Plan affordable housing targets and the provisions of Planing Advice Note 02/2010 – Affordable Housing and Housing Land Audits which sets a benchmark of 25%. To ensure viability of development, the target has been set at 25% for all areas of the city.

3.84 The provision of affordable housing is significantly reliant on funding from the Scottish Government and privately sourced by Registered Social Landlords (RSL's). As this funding has become increasingly more difficult to raise, it has directly impacted on the ability to deliver affordable housing. To maximise the provision of affordable housing it is the aim of the Council to take a flexible approach to its delivery, with a view to maximising opportunities to achieve the highest level possible.

3.85 Whenever practical the affordable housing provision should be on site, integrated with, and indistinguishable from the market housing. In circumstance where the City Council agrees that onsite provision is not possible, off site provision may be considered. This will be subject to any alternative site satisfying the criteria set out in Supplementary Guidance and being acceptable to the City Council.

3.86 In exceptional circumstances where on or off site provision is not possible, a commuted sum will be required from the developer. In circumstances where the developer does not agree with the commuted sum as calculated using the Supplementary Guidance, an individual site valuation exercise can be carried out as detailed in PAN 2/2010.

3.87 In Aberdeen, small sites, those capable of accommodating up to four dwellings, contribute only a small proportion of the land supply. Therefore a threshold of five units has been set for affordable housing contributions.

Policy H5 – Affordable Housing

Housing developments of five units or more are required to contribute no less than 25% of the total number of units as affordable housing.

Further guidance on the provision of affordable housing from new developments is available in the Supplementary Guidance.

Supplementary Guidance

Affordable and Specialist Housing

Supplementary Guidance (SG) Affordable and Specialist Housing supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with above policy, with regard to the delivery of Affordable and Specialist Housing. Accordingly, SG Affordable and Specialist Housing includes advice on: Types of Affordable Housing Provision, Categories of

Affordable Housing including Commuted Payments, Development trigger points, Developer Viability, Mechanisms for the Delivery of Affordable Housing, Specialist Housing, and Monitoring. It will also include details of the annual review of commutted payment levels.

Gypsies and Travellers

3.88 Gypsies and Travellers are a distinct ethnic group. The lack of suitable, secure accommodation underpins many of the inequalities that Gypsy and Traveller communities experience. It also often leads to Gypsies and Travellers using public and private land to set up unauthorised encampments. Establishing new permanent and transit sites can help to alleviate some of the problems Gypsies and Travellers face. In January 2008, Craigforth Consultancy & Research was commissioned by Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray Councils to carry out an Accommodation Needs Assessment of Gypsies and Travellers in the Grampian area. For Aberdeen the report recommended a reduction in the size of the existing site at Clinterty and the development of another smaller site. In addition, it recommended the development of 1-2 small informal sites, and the provision of privately developed sites. Policy H6, H7 and Supplementary Guidance will seek to deliver new permanent or transit sites solely for the use of Gypsies and Travellers.

3.89 The five Masterplan Zones identified in Policy H7 with the potential to create 1,500 or more houses are each expected to contribute towards the provision of these sites for Gypsies and Travellers. Of these five Masterplan Zones, we have identified three which we consider most appropriate for on-site provision, although all five will have to contribute towards the requirement. The preferred sites offer opportunities for sites to be distributed to the north, west and south of the City, thereby offering a choice of locations. Where on-site provision is not made, a financial contribution will be required.

Policy H6 - Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites

Sites for Gypsies and Travellers should provide a residential environment and follow the same principle as mainstream housing developments. Applications for permanent or transit sites for Gypsies and Travellers will be supported in principle if:
1. Access to local services and schools can be provided;
2. The development can be made compatible with the character and appearance of the surrounding area;
3. The development makes provision for essential infrastructure such as water, sewage disposal and electricity. Provision of electricity and heat through sustainable means will be encouraged; and
4. It can be demonstrated that the site will be properly managed.

Policy H7 - Gypsy and Traveller Requirements for New Residential Developments

Sites listed below are required, as part of the 25% affordable housing contribution, to make contributions towards the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers. The contribution will be for small sites of six pitches, with a net area of approximately 0.5 hectares.

Sites:

- Grandhome
- Newhills Expansion (Craibstone, Rowett South and Greenferns Landward)
- Countesswells
- Greenferns
- Loirston

Within Grandhome, the Newhills Expansion and Loirston sites, the provision must be provided on site. On the remaining sites the provision will take the form of a commuted sum, as set out in Supplementary Guidance, at a rate of 15 units calculated as follows (0.5ha at 30units/ha). Further guidance on the delivery of sites for Gypsies and Travellers is contained within Supplementary Guidance

Community Facilities

3.90 It is important that all sectors of the community enjoy access to a wide range of facilities which support and enhance health, safety and the overall quality of life by providing essential services, resources and opportunities. The Local Development Plan has a role to play in guiding the providers of services and facilities on the overall strategy for new development throughout the city and by outlining where and how facilities might be provided within the context of creating and enhancing sustainable communities. Further details can be found in the infrastructure section.

3.91 When existing facilities fall out of use, the possibility of using the premises for alternative community uses, for which there is a demonstrable local need, should be explored. In these cases the character of the original building should be retained where it is considered to be of architectural merit and an important townscape feature.

3.92 A need has been identified for new General Practice health centres in various areas of the city and specialised health centres in the City Centre and regeneration priority areas in particular. These are to be supported in principle.

3.93 The importance of the Foresterhill complex as the main focus for the development of acute healthcare services and associated medical education in the North East of Scotland is recognised. Expansion within this complex over the

lifetime of the Plan is welcomed in principle, so as to increase the range of facilities on site and the level of medical service provision to serve the city and wider region.

3.94 Not all the areas designated under Policy CF1 are entirely in institutional use and in assessing proposed changes of use or new developments, regard will need to be given to impacts on the character of an area as a whole and on the vitality of any residential community.

Policy CF1 - Existing Community Sites and Facilities

This policy applies to both land zoned as CF1 and to health, education and other community facilities in other Local Development Plan zonings.

Existing healthcare sites shall be used primarily for healthcare and/or related medical and educational purposes.

Existing nursery, primary, secondary and special school land and properties shall be used mainly for educational purposes.

Existing further education and research institute sites shall be used mainly for these purposes.

Proposals for new or extended uses of these types on these sites will be supported in principle. Where land or buildings become surplus to current or anticipated future requirements, alternative uses which are compatible with adjoining uses and any remaining community uses, will be permitted in principle. Large sites or sites in sensitive locations will be subject to a Planning Brief or Masterplan.

Where a CF1 area contains uses other than that for which the area has been designated and these uses make a positive contribution to the character and community identity of the area, any proposals for development or changes of use, whether or not for the community use recognised in the designation, will be opposed if a likely result would be significant erosion of the character of the area or the vitality of the local community.

Policy CF2 - New Community Facilities

Proposals for new community facilities shall be supported, in principle, provided they are in locations convenient to the community they serve and are readily accessible, particularly to public transport, pedestrians and cyclists.

Recycling centres shall be located on easily accessible sites and shall not be detrimental to residential amenity.

In significant greenfield and brownfield developments, where a likely need is

identified through the masterplanning process, sites shall be reserved for new community facilities.

Any new emergency services facilities must locate where they can meet statutory response time requirements. In examining potential locations there shall be a preference for sites within the existing built-up area or within identified future development areas where there is no detrimental impact on residential amenity and where good access for emergency vehicles is available to the primary road network. Joint developments with other agencies providing community facilities should be investigated. Opportunity sites are identified on the Proposals Map.

Proposals for private children's nurseries shall also be subject to Supplementary Guidance.

Supplementary Guidance

Children's Nurseries
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Children's Nurseries supports Policy CF2 and Policy D1 by outlining criteria proposals have to adhere to, these include impact on amenity and amenity space for the proposal and access and car parking. This will ensure the existing amenity of a area is not harmed.

Protecting and Enhancing the Natural Environment
3.95 A well cared-for natural environment and its ecosystems provide a range of benefits for communities and the economy. Access to good quality open space helps to make Aberdeen an attractive place to live, work and invest and improves the health and wellbeing of our citizens. Safeguarding natural and open spaces will also improve air and water quality, and help us to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. This Plan also aims to safeguard the unique landscape setting of our city and protect those sites and species which are most valuable to our natural heritage.

The Green Space Network

3.96 Scottish Planning Policy states that the planning system should protect and enhance green infrastructure networks in and around Scotland's cities. Aberdeen's Green Space Network is a strategic network that connects natural green spaces and habitats to each other and the communities around them.

3.97 Temporary greening can be an appropriate way to create safe and attractive places prior to the development of sites. The Council will support the use of temporary greening of land awaiting development, where appropriate. Consideration will be given to whether greening of a site could bring about a positive impact to the local environment and overall amenity of the area, without prejudicing the effectiveness and viability of the site, if it is allocated for development in the longer term.

3.98 By encouraging connectivity between habitats, the Green Space Network helps to improve the viability of species and the health of previously isolated habitats and ecosystems. An extensive network of open spaces, together with path networks, will also encourage active travel and healthier lifestyles. Protecting and enhancing the Green Space Network will also provide opportunities to enhance the landscape of Aberdeen, improve biodiversity and amenity, provide community growing spaces, reduce the impact of flooding and help us mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change and support successful placemaking.

3.99 Aberdeen's Green Space Network is made up of multiple components and is mainly comprised of:

- Formally designated natural heritage sites;
- A diversity of habitats and their connectivity;
- Water bodies of all types including lochs, ponds, wetlands and watercourses;
- Woodland, hedgerows and individual trees, especially veteran trees;
- Open Spaces defined in Aberdeen's Open Space Audit 2010;
- Spaces for physical activity and access to the outdoors; and
- Paths and links for pedestrians and cycling.

3.100 The Council's online mapping tool provides detailed information about individual areas of Aberdeen's Green Space Network, including opportunities for improvement and enhancement.

Policy NE1 - Green Space Network

The Council will protect, promote and enhance the wildlife, access, recreation, ecosystem services and landscape value of the Green Space Network, which is identified on the Proposals Map.

Proposals for development that are likely to destroy or erode the character and/or function of the Green Space Network will not be permitted.

Where major infrastructure projects or other developments necessitate crossing the Green Space Network, such developments should maintain and enhance the coherence of the network. In doing so, provision should be made for access across roads for wildlife and outdoor recreation.

Masterplanning of new developments should consider the existing areas of Green Space Network and identify new areas incorporating Green Space Network. Masterplans will determine the location, extent and configuration of the Green Space Network within the area, and its connectivity with the wider network.

Development which has a negative impact on existing wildlife habitats and connections, or other features of value to natural heritage, open space, landscape

and recreation, should be mitigated through enhancement of the Green Space Network.

Green Belt

3.101 The aim of the Green Belt is to maintain the distinct identity of Aberdeen and the communities within and around the city, by defining their physical boundaries clearly. Safeguarding the Green Belt helps to avoid coalescence of settlements and sprawling development on the edge of the city, maintaining Aberdeen's landscape setting and providing access to open space. The Green Belt directs planned growth to the most appropriate locations and supports regeneration.

Policy NE2 - Green Belt

No development will be permitted in the Green Belt for purposes other than those essential for agriculture; woodland and forestry; recreational uses compatible with an agricultural or natural setting; mineral extraction/quarry restoration; or landscape renewal.

The following exceptions apply to this policy:

1. Proposals for development associated with existing activities in the Green Belt will be permitted but only if **all** of the following criteria are met:
    a. The development is within the boundary of the existing activity;
    b. The development is small-scale;
    c. The intensity of activity is not significantly increased; and
    d. Any proposed built construction is ancillary to what exists.

2. Essential infrastructure (such as electronic communications infrastructure, electricity grid connections, transport proposals identified in the LDP or roads planned through the masterplanning of opportunity sites) will only be permitted if it cannot be accommodated anywhere other than the Green Belt.

3. Buildings in the Green Belt which have a historic or architectural interest, or a valuable traditional character, will be permitted to undergo an appropriate change of use which makes a worthwhile contribution to the visual character of the Green Belt. Please see relevant Supplementary Guidance for detailed requirements.

4. Proposals for extensions of existing buildings, as part of a conversion or rehabilitation scheme, will be permitted in the Green Belt provided:
    a. The original building remains visually dominant;
    b. The design of the extension is sympathetic to the original building in terms of massing, detailing and materials; and
    c. The siting of the extension relates well to the setting of the original building.

5. Replacement on a one-for-one basis of existing permanent houses currently in occupation will normally be permitted provided:
    a). It can be demonstrated to the Council that they have been in continuous occupation for at least 5 of the seven years immediately

prior to the date of the application;
b). The replacement house, except in exceptional circumstances (e.g. to improve a dangerous access), occupies the same site as the building it would replace. Where replacement houses are permitted on sites different from the original site, the original house will require to be removed;
c). Replacement houses should be of a scale, design and external appearance that contributes to the visual character of the Green Belt.

All proposals for development in the Green Belt must be of the highest quality in terms of siting, scale, design and materials. All developments in the Green Belt should have regard to other policies of the Local Development Plan in respect of landscape, trees and woodlands, natural heritage and pipelines and control of major accident hazards.

Urban Green Space

3.102 Scottish Planning Policy states that the planning system should promote and enhance open spaces for sport and recreation, and that playing fields should be safeguarded from development. The plan will safeguard areas of urban green space from development, unless replacement provision is provided according to the criteria set out in this policy.

3.103 Larger areas of urban green space are identified on the Proposals Map. However, this policy applies to all areas of urban green space, including those not zoned on the Proposals Map.

3.104 We completed our first full Open Space Audit in 2010 and the results were used to prepare the Open Space Strategy 2011-2016. This provides a strategic framework for creating, connecting and improving Aberdeen's open spaces. Good quality open space makes a vital contribution towards stronger communities and healthier lifestyles, making Aberdeen a more attractive place to live, work and invest.

Policy NE3 - Urban Green Space

Permission will not be granted to redevelop any parks, playing fields, sports pitches, woods, allotments or all other areas of urban green space (including smaller spaces not identified on the Proposals Map) for any use other than recreation and sport.

Exceptions will be made when an equivalent and equally convenient and accessible area for public space is laid out and made available in the locality by the applicant for urban green space purposes, for example through the replacement of school buildings. In all cases, development will only be acceptable provided that:

1. There is no significant loss to the landscape character and amenity of the site and adjoining area;
2. Public access is either maintained or enhanced;

3. The site is of no significant wildlife or heritage value;
4. There is no loss of established or mature trees;
5. Replacement green space of similar or better quality is located in or immediately adjacent to the same community, providing similar or improved health benefits to the replaced area and is accessible to that community, taking into account public transport, walking and cycling networks and barriers such as major roads;
6. They do not impact detrimentally on lochs, ponds, watercourses or wetlands in the vicinity of the development; and
7. Proposals to develop outdoor sports facilities, including playing fields and sports pitches should also be consistent with the terms of Scottish Planning Policy.

Open Space Provision in New Development

3.105 This Plan aims to ensure that new open space provided as part of new development is functional, useful and publicly desirable. For example it may take the form of naturalised areas, green corridors, play space, community growing space or allotments. Rather than provide minimum standards for open space based solely on quantity, requirements are also based on the quality and accessibility of open space.

3.106 The Council's Open Space Audit 2010 showed an uneven distribution and varying quality of open spaces across city wards. Information from the Audit should be applied when forming development proposals, to ensure that open space provided is of an appropriate scale and type and provides the necessary facilities to meet the needs of the local area.

Policy NE4 - Open Space Provision in New Development

The Council will require the provision of at least 2.8 hectares per 1,000 people of meaningful and useful open space in new residential development. Please see relevant Supplementary Guidance for information on how to calculate open space requirements, as well as different types of provision and the expected accessibility and quality standards.

Public or communal open space should be provided in all residential developments, including on brownfield sites. However on some brownfield sites it may not be possible to increase the amount of open space, for example where existing buildings on the site are being retained. In these cases commuted sums towards off-site provision or enhancement of existing open spaces will be sought instead.

In areas where the Open Space Audit has shown that existing open space is of poor quality, contributions may be sought to enhance existing provision instead of new provision being required.

The Open Space Audit and Strategy provides details of any improvements or enhancements that may be required to open spaces in different areas of the city, and how the linkages between them may be improved

Supplementary Guidance

Open Space and Green Infrastructure
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Open Space and Green Infrastructure supports the above policy and Policy NE9 by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to the delivery of Open Space & Green Infrastructure. Accordingly, SG Open Space & Green Infrastructure includes advice on: Open Space Provision in New Development, Standards for Open Space in Residential, Brownfield and Non-Residential Development, Applying the Policies, Maintenance and Management of Open Spaces, Green Space Network, and Outdoor Access Rights.

Trees and Woodland

3.107 The protection of tree and woodland cover contributes to the aims of sustainable development and will enhance the services provided by woodland ecosystems. Single trees, groups of trees, hedgerows and woodlands throughout Aberdeen all provide important benefits. They improve air quality, help us mitigate and adapt to climate change, create a healthier and more desirable living environment and provide habitat for urban wildlife.

3.108 We will seek to protect and enhance Aberdeen's trees and woodland. Where trees are considered to be at risk from development or construction, we may require information and safeguarding measures in accordance with the standards set out in relevant supplementary guidance.

Supplementary Guidance

Trees and Woodland
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Trees and Woodland supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to Trees and Woodland. Accordingly, SG Trees and Woodland includes advice on: How Trees are Protected, Development Proposals, Planning Applications, and the Requirements for Surveys, Plans and Assessments.

Policy NE5 - Trees and Woodlands

There is a presumption against all activities and development that will result in the loss of, or damage to, trees and woodlands that contribute to nature conservation, landscape character, local amenity or climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Permanent and temporary buildings and services should be sited so as to minimise adverse impacts on existing and future trees. Appropriate measures should be taken for the protection and long term management of existing trees and new planting both during and after construction.

Where trees may be impacted by a proposed development, a Tree Protection and Mitigation Plan will need to be submitted and agreed with the Council before any development activity commences on site. This should include details of compensatory planting, temporary earth works and any site preparation.

Where applicable, root protection areas should be established and protective barriers erected prior to any work commencing. See relevant Supplementary Guidance for more information.

Where appropriate, the Council will seek to promote the creation of new woodland and the planting of native trees in association with development. The majority of development sites offer opportunities for the planting of trees and hedgerows. Details of tree and hedgerow planting should be submitted as part of the proposal's landscape strategy.

Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality

3.109 This Plan aims to manage and reduce flood risk by ensuring that new development does not take place on areas susceptible to flooding, and incorporates appropriate and sustainable surface water management measures. The Council will also seek to protect land and green infrastructure with the potential to contribute to natural flood risk management from development. Development allocations in this Plan have been informed by a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

3.110 In accordance with the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, a Flood Risk Management Plan for Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire is being prepared to address fluvial and coastal flooding. This will be complemented by a Surface Water Management Plan which is also in preparation. Relevant Supplementary Guidance will be updated to reflect the actions and recommendations of these plans as necessary.

3.111 The ultimate responsibility for managing flood risk lies with land and property owners. All development proposals should take proper account of the likely future effects of climate change, including rising sea levels, greater frequency and duration of rainfall events, and extreme weather events. In assessing development proposals, we will consider flood risk from all potential sources including watercourses, storm and tidal surges and rising sea levels, rising groundwater, surface water and drainage systems. These will be assessed by the relevant authority.

3.112 The Scottish Environment Protection Agency's Flood Maps (www.sepa.org.uk) provide an indication of areas potentially at risk from flooding. Where appropriate, we will consult with key stakeholders such as SEPA having had regard to the Flood Risk Framework as set out in Scottish Planning Policy.

3.113 Water quality is vital for both human health and the health of aquatic ecosystems, and also provides significant economic benefits, for example through

fisheries and the tourism industry. Therefore maintaining and improving water quality should be an important consideration in development proposals. We will contribute to achieving the EU Water Framework Directive's objectives of good ecological status of our water environment through the implementation of River Basin Management Plans.

3.114 Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) provide multiple benefits including managing flood risk, improving water quality and enhancing biodiversity. All new developments are required to make provision for SuDS and these should be designed in accordance with best-practice design guidance in the SuDS Manual (CIRIA C697), and the technical criterion set out in Sewers for Scotland 3 and its successors. In some circumstances, developments may also be required to adapt to flood risk by incorporating water resistant materials and forms of construction in line with the guidance set out in PAN 69: Planning and Building Standards Advice on Flooding.

3.115 The Council is developing strategic-level Regional SuDS to provide sustainable flood risk management at a strategic scale. There may be opportunities for developers to contribute to a Regional SuDS scheme to help address the impact of their development. Please see relevant Supplementary Guidance for more information.

3.116 The Plan also seeks to achieve satisfactory disposal of sewage, thereby maintaining and improving standards of environmental quality, public health and amenity. Assessment of the adverse effects on the environment should include water sources/resources and groundwater. Developers will be required to demonstrate that their proposals for foul drainage conform to Scottish Water's current design standards (Sewers for Scotland 3 or its successors).

Policy NE6 - Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality

Development will not be permitted if:

1. It would increase the risk of flooding:
    a. by reducing the ability of the functional flood plain to store and convey water;
    b. through the discharge of additional surface water; or
    c. by harming flood defences.
2. It would be at risk itself from flooding;
3. Adequate provision is not made for access to waterbodies for maintenance; or
4. It would require the construction of new or strengthened flood defences that would have a significantly damaging effect on the natural heritage interests within or adjacent to a watercourse.

Development on the functional floodplain will only be permitted where its location is essential for operational reasons, and it must be designed and constructed to remain operational during floods and not to impede water flow.

Applicants will be required to provide a Flood Risk Assessment where a development is likely to result in a material increase in the number of buildings at risk of flooding, or where it has been indicated in the opportunity sites schedule that one will be prepared. Windfall sites may also require a Flood Risk Assessment.

Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) will be required for new development proposals comprising 5 or more homes or 250 square metres non-residential floorspace. DIA will also be required for developments of any size that affect sensitive areas. DIA should detail how surface water and waste water will be managed. Surface water drainage associated with development must:

1. Be the most appropriate available in terms of SuDS; and
2. Avoid flooding and pollution both during and after construction.

There is a presumption against excessive engineering and culverting of waterbodies. Natural treatments of floodplains and other water storage features will be preferred wherever possible. There will be a requirement to restore existing culverted or canalised water bodies to a naturalised state where this is possible.

Where the Council agrees that culverts are unavoidable for technical reasons, they should be designed to maintain existing flow conditions and aquatic life. Any proposals for new culverts should have a demonstrably neutral impact on flood risk and be linked to long term maintenance arrangements to ensure they are not the cause of flooding in the future.

Connection to the public sewer will be a pre-requisite of all development where this is not already provided. Private wastewater treatment systems in sewered areas will not be permitted. In areas not served by the public sewer, a private sewer treatment system for individual properties will be permitted provided that the developer demonstrates that there will be no adverse effects on the environment, amenity and public health.

Supplementary Guidance

Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality

Supplementary Guidance (SG) Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality. Accordingly, SG Flooding Drainage and Water Quality includes advice on: Statutory Roles and Responsibilities, Arrangements for Flood Risk Management Planning in Scotland, Flood Risk Assessment, Drainage Impact Assessment, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), Regional SuDS and Waste and Foul Drainage.

Coastal Planning

3.117 Aberdeen City's coastline is an important environmental, social and economic asset which needs to be protected and enhanced. It has been classified into two types of area, developed and undeveloped coast (shown on the Proposals Map). In general, the developed coast is already a focus of economic or recreational activity and is likely to be suitable for further development, whereas the undeveloped coast is largely unspoiled and likely to be unsuitable for development.

3.118 The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 introduced a new system of marine spatial planning for Scotland. The National Marine Plan,published by the Scottish Government in March 2015, sets out strategic policies for the sustainable use of Scotland's marine resources out to 200 nautical miles. In time, Regional Marine Plans will also be produced for each of the Scottish Marine Regions. If the need arises, Supplementary Guidance will be produced to take into account the provisions and requirements of the National and Regional Marine Plans when they are adopted.

3.119 Terrestrial planning law extends to the mean low water mark of ordinary spring tides, whereas marine spatial planningapplies from Mean High Water Springs.. All development proposals which affect the inter-tidal area, as well as the wider coastal area generally, should demonstrate the principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management, which aims for the co-ordinated consideration of issues and policies relating to nature protection, aquaculture, fisheries, agriculture, industry, off shore wind energy, shipping, tourism, development of infrastructure and mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

3.120 A precautionary approach should be taken to assessing flood risk from the coast, taking into account the potential effects of climate change, such as sea-level rise and more extreme weather events.

Policy NE7 - Coastal Planning

Development will only be permitted in undeveloped coastal areas if it can be demonstrated that:

1. A coastal location is necessary given the purpose and operation of the development;
2. There is no other suitable site, including the re-use of brownfield land; and
3. It respects the character and value of the natural and historic environment, as well as the recreational value in the surrounding area;
   or
4. There is an overriding environmental benefit.

In all cases:

1. Development will not be permitted in areas at risk from coastal erosion and flooding. New developments which require new defences against coastal erosion or flooding will not be supported except where there is clear

justification to avoid development in areas at risk.
2. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required to accompany applications for development in coastal areas.
3. Public access to and along the coast will be protected and promoted wherever possible.
4. Development proposals may be required to demonstrate through appropriate marine noise modelling that adverse impacts on bottlenose dolphins and Atlantic salmon are avoided.

Natural Heritage

3.121 The protection, preservation and enhancement of natural heritage, in terms of both sites and species, are important aims of this Plan. All new development should seek to protect geodiversity and enhance biodiversity, which may include restoring degraded habitats, and must avoid further habitat fragmentation.

3.122 We will take a broader approach to protecting natural heritage than just designated sites and protected species. We will take into account the need for healthy ecosystems and work with natural processes. The cumulative effect of incremental changes due to development will be considered when assessing planning applications.

3.123 The River Dee is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and the designation includes the estuary. This is the only Natura site (a European designation) within the Plan area. However, developments within the Plan area also have the potential to impact on a protected species from other designations in other local authorities, such as the bottlenose dolphin, a qualifying interest for the Moray Firth SAC and a European Protected Species. Bottlenose dolphins are frequently present offshore and at the mouth of the harbour and in the outer harbour. Any wind turbine developments in Aberdeen are also likely to have some effects on the Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch and Loch of Skene Special Protection Areas (SPA) in Aberdeenshire.

3.124 National designations within the Plan area include Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Local designations include Local Nature Conservation Sites and Local Nature Reserves. Please see relevant Supplementary Guidance for a list of all designations. They are also shown on the Proposals Map.

Policy NE8 - Natural Heritage

Designated Sites

Direct and indirect effects on sites protected by natural heritage designations, be they international, national or local, are important considerations in the planning process.

In all cases, a development that is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, will require an appropriate assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) to demonstrate that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site. Development that would have an adverse effect will only be permitted where there are no alternative solutions and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, and compensatory measures are provided to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura network is protected.

Development that affects a site designated at a national level, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest, will only be permitted where it will not adversely affect the integrity of the area or the qualities for which it has been designated. Where adverse effects are unavoidable, they must be clearly outweighed by social, environmental or economic benefits of national importance.

Development that is likely to impact a locally designated site should seek to address this through careful design and mitigation measures. Development that, taking into account any proposed mitigation measures, has an adverse effect on a locally designated site will be permitted only where the adverse effects are clearly outweighed by social, environmental or economic benefits of city-wide importance.

Protected Species

Some of the species found in Aberdeen are protected under international and national law (including European Protected Species, and species protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) while others are identified as being of local importance (North East Scotland Local Biodiversity Action Plan species).

Development should seek to avoid any detrimental impact on protected species through the carrying out of surveys and submission of protection plans describing appropriate mitigation where necessary. Development likely to have a detrimental impact on protected species will not be approved unless: for European protected species, a thorough assessment of the site has demonstrated that the development is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest and the population is maintained at a favourable conservation status in its natural range; or, for non-bird species protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) or the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, there will be significant social, economic or environmental benefits. In either case there must also be no other satisfactory solution. Please see relevant Supplementary Guidance for more information regarding protected species and licensing.

Licenses will only be granted if certain tests are met. Please see relevant Supplementary Guidance for more information on European Protected Species and licensing.

Carbon-rich soils

New development should avoid areas of peatland or carbon-rich soil. There will be a presumption against development which would involve significant draining or

disturbing of peatland or carbon-rich soil..

In all cases of development at any location:-

1. No development will be permitted unless steps are taken to mitigate negative development impacts.
2. An ecological assessment will be required for a development proposal on or likely to affect a nearby designated site, or where there is evidence to suggest that a habitat or species of international, national and local importance exist on the site.
3. A Construction Environmental Management Plan may be required to address any potential negative impacts on designated sites,protected species, peatlands or carbon-rich soils, waterbodies or local biodiversity during the construction phase of a development.
4. Natural Heritage beyond the confines of designated sites should be protected and enhanced. Measures will be taken, in proportion to the opportunities available, to enhance biodiversity through the creation and restoration of habitats and, where possible, incorporating existing habitats.
5. Where feasible, steps to prevent further fragmentation or isolation of habitats must be sought and opportunities to restore links which have been broken will be taken.
6. Natural Riparian Buffer Strips should be created for the protection and enhancement of water bodies and local biodiversity, including lochs, ponds, wetlands, rivers, tributaries, estuaries and the sea.

For further information please see relevant Supplementary Guidance.

Supplementary Guidance

Natural Heritage

Supplementary Guidance (SG) Natural Heritage supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to Natural Heritage. Accordingly, SG Natural Heritage includes advice on: Statutory Designated Sites, Protected Species, Principles for Protecting Natural Heritage, Riparian Buffer Strips, Environmental Impact Assessment, and Habitats Regulation Assessment

Outdoor Access and Informal Recreation

3.125 Access to the outdoors for informal recreation contributes to everyday quality of life. Increased levels of physical activity outdoors can contribute to improved health and wellbeing, while access to high quality areas for outdoor recreation can make the city a more attractive place to live and work. Well managed access can also assist land management and contribute to an appreciation of the environment and natural heritage. It is therefore important that accessible, welcoming and well-managed access to Aberdeen’s recreational areas and the surrounding countryside

is protected and enhanced. This will facilitate opportunities for recreation and physical activity as well as sustainable and active travel.

Policy NE9 - Access and Informal Recreation

New development should not compromise the integrity of existing or potential recreational opportunities including general access rights to land and water, Core Paths, other paths and rights of way. This includes any impacts on access during the construction phase of a development. Applicants should provide detail on how public access and safety will be maintained during construction, for example through temporary diversions.

Wherever possible, developments should include new or improved provision for public access, permeability and/or links to green space for recreation and active travel.

Core Paths are shown on the Proposals Map. Further guidance on developer contributions towards Core Paths, as well as general information on access rights, is available in relevant Supplementary Guidance.

Using Resources Sustainably

Mineral Extraction

3.126 The future development of the city will require significant mineral resources. Ensuring that minerals are available within the city to support the level of growth envisioned by the Strategic Development Plan avoids the need to transport minerals over long distances, driving down construction costs and supporting jobs in the city. Hard rock, for the laying of roads, continues to be quarried at Blackhills (south of Cove) and North Lasts (north of Peterculter). Sand and gravel extraction has also taken place in the north of the city in the recent past.

3.127 Mineral extraction can significantly impact on the amenity of communities and the local environment. This Plan identifies and safeguards the sites at Blackhills and North Lasts Quarries, steering mineral extraction to the least sensitive areas within workable mineral deposits.

Policy R1 – Minerals

Mineral extraction proposals are acceptable in principle, provided that:

1. there is no significant impact on the character and amenity of the surrounding landscape or residential properties/local communities or on the ecology of the area.

2. sufficient information has been submitted with a planning application to enable a

full assessment of the likely effects of development, together with proposals for appropriate control, mitigation and monitoring. (The main considerations are set out in Scottish Planning Policy and advice set out in Planning Advice Notes 50 and 64).

3. where necessary, an appropriate buffer distance has been agreed with the Planning Authority, through consultation with local communities, taking account of the specific circumstances of the proposal.

4. restoration will take place concurrently with excavation where possible. After excavation ceases, restoration will be completed in the shortest time practicable and the proposals accompanied by either an appropriate financial bond or supported by an industry guarantee scheme (such as the Quarry Products Association's Restoration Guarantee Scheme). The proposed after use will add to the cultural, recreational or environmental assets of the area.

Sites identified for mineral extraction are safeguarded from development which will sterilise the mineral resource or which compromises the safe operation of a quarry.

Degraded and Contaminated Land

3.128 We are responsible for the implementation of contaminated land legislation. With assistance from SEPA we have powers to designate land as contaminated and require remediation to take place in accordance with our Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy. We maintain a public register, which contains specified information about contaminated land.

3.129 The Environmental Act 1995 applies the "polluter pays" principle, which allocates responsibility for the cost of remediation of contaminated land among polluters, landowners and taxpayers. It should be borne in mind that land can also become contaminated through the mitigation of pollution from elsewhere. Reference should be made to Planning Advice Note 33 Development of Contaminated Land.

Policy R2 - Degraded and Contaminated Land

The City Council will require that all land that is degraded or contaminated, including visually, is either restored, reclaimed or remediated to a level suitable for its proposed use. This may involve undertaking site investigations and risk assessments to identify any actual or possible significant risk to public health or safety, or to the environment, including possible pollution of the water environment, that could arise from the proposals. Where there is potential for pollution of the water environment the City Council will liaise with SEPA. The significance of the benefits of remediating a contaminated site, and the viability of funding this, will be taken into account when considering proposals for the alternative use of such sites.

Waste Management Facilities

3.130 National planning policy requires planning authorities to provide for new waste management installations in their development plans and assist in implementing the national Zero Waste Plan's objectives in relation to sustainable waste management. Paramount is the waste hierarchy, favouring prevention over reuse, recycling and composting, recovery and finally disposal. A development strategy should guide waste facilities to the most sustainable locations. By 'sustainable location' national policy means locations close to the source of waste arisings (i.e. proximity principle), well linked to transport networks, supporting green job strategies and taking advantage, where possible, of industrial land.

3.131 Composting, transfer stations, materials recycling facilities, anaerobic digestion, refuse derived fuel, mechanical and biological and thermal treatment plants represent the principal options to meet future needs. With operational control regulated by SEPA, development planning issues focus on aspects such as location, visual impact, transport and supporting Government policy.

3.132 In order to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, we are likely to require the development of a number of new waste infrastructure facilities. In addition, the introduction of food and garden waste collection will require the development of a new in-vessel composting facility in the City and additional recycling centres. Policies outlining the criteria used to identify appropriate locations of waste facilities required in Aberdeen are outlined below.

Policy R3 - New Waste Management Facilities

Proposals for waste management facilities within the city must comply with the waste hierarchy. Applications for waste management facilities will be supported provided they:

1. conform to the Zero Waste Plan and Aberdeen Waste Strategy;
2. meet a clear need for the development to serve local and/or regional requirements for the management of waste;
3. will not compromise Health and Safety;
4. minimises the transport of waste from its source; and

Applicants must submit:

a) sufficient information with the application to enable a full assessment to be made of the likely effects of the development, together with proposals for appropriate control, mitigation and monitoring;
b) a design statement in support of the application, where the development would have more than a local visual impact; and
c) in respect of landfill proposals, land restoration, after-care and after-use details (including the submission of bonds or a commitment to negotiating a legally binding method for dealing with these details).

Waste management facilities that are proposed on Business and Industrial Land B1 will normally require to be located in a building. This will depend upon the nature of the operations involved.

Inappropriate neighbouring developments that may compromise the operation of waste management facilities including those listed in Policy R4 will not be approved. The diversification of existing facilities, which moves the waste management process up the waste hierarchy, will be supported in principle.

3.133 In order to implement the Aberdeen Waste Stategy, a number of new waste management facilities are required. Policy R4 outlines the sites considered suitable for these. Additional facilities will be required to deal with construction, industrial land and business waste and these would generally be acceptable in Business and Industrial (B1) areas.

Policy R4 - Sites for New Waste Management Facilities

The following sites will be safeguarded for waste-related uses:

Altens East/Doonies (OP54) – materials recycling facility/a refuse derived fuel plant and a depot for the collection fleet.

East Tullos gas holder and household waste recycling centre (OP107) – an energy from waste facility or in-vessel composting plant.

Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre site (part) at Bridge of Don (OP13) – a household waste recycling centre to replace the facility currently on Scotstown Road.

3.134 Waste that is not recycled or composted will continue to be collected. We should view such waste as a resource and derive value from it in the form of energy capture. The means by which this waste could be treated will be determined through an analysis which will consider all available technologies including incineration, gasification and pyrolysis of waste. Heat derived from energy from waste processes should be used to generate heat and power and supplied to homes and businesses in the city. Energy from waste has great potential to contribute to the Renewable and Low Carbon Policy R8.

3.135 Landfill is the option of last resort. The last landfill for active wastes within Aberdeen at Hill of Tramaud closed in 2011 and no further landfill sites are proposed. It is imperative therefore, that alternatives to landfill are developed as soon as possible. In the medium to long term, it may be necessary to landfill very small quantities of the city's municipal waste. In the meantime, any proposals for landfill will be subject to Policy R3 and other development plan policies.

Policy R5 - Energy from Waste

Applications for energy from waste recovery facilities should be accompanied by an environmental assessment in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2011. This should set out, amongst other things, whether the proposal complies with Policy R3. Consideration should also be given to:

1. The treatment of residues from any plant;
2. SEPA's Thermal Treatment of Waste Guidelines; and
3. Connection to the electricity grid and the provision of heat and power to a mix of neighbouring uses.

Industrial sites with the potential for connection to the electricity grid and with potential users of heat or power are likely to be suitable locations for energy from waste facilities.

3.136 All developments should provide enough space for the storage and collection of waste – specifically recyclables, organic and residual waste – and access to such facilities. Planning conditions are already imposed on proposals likely to generate a significant amount of waste e.g. public houses, restaurants, medium to large-scale retail outlets and offices. However, more could be done at the design stage to ensure that adequate provision is made for such facilities.

3.137 Developers can save money and help the environment by not over-ordering materials, using recycled material and minimising waste production during construction. Preparing a Site Waste Management Plan will help identify how much waste will be produced, how this can be minimised and what might be done with the waste. For proposals where we believe the potential savings are likely to be significant, we will ask developers to prepare a Site Waste Management Plan. SEPA's website (www.sepa.org.uk) contains useful links for creating these as well as guidance on the sustainable reuse of greenfield soils in construction.

Policy R6 - Waste Management Requirements for New Development

All new developments should have sufficient space for the storage of general waste, recyclable materials and compostable wastes where appropriate. Flatted developments will require communal facilities that allow for the separate storage and collection of these materials. Recycling facilities should be provided in all new superstores or large supermarkets and in other developments where appropriate. Details of storage facilities and means of collection must be included as part of a planning application for any development which would generate waste. Further details are set out in Supplementary Guidance.

For proposals where we believe the potential savings on construction or demolition materials for recycling or reuse is likely to be significant, we will ask developers to prepare a Site Waste Management Plan as a condition of planning consent.

Low and Zero Carbon Buildings, and Water Efficiency

3.138 Reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases is a key policy at international, national, regional and local level. The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 creates a legal framework for the delivery of greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Scotland. Section 72 of that Act requires planning authorities to include policies in their LDPs to ensure that all new buildings avoid a specified and rising proportion of the projected greenhouse gas emissions from their use. This can be achieved through the installation and operation of low and zero-carbon generating technologies (LZCGT). Scottish Planning Policy supports the planning system in reducing emissions and energy use in new buildings, promoting development that is resource efficient, and maximising the efficiency of the use of resources through natural or technological means.

3.139 Scottish Building Standards set mandatory minimum carbon reduction standards for new buildings. In 2007, the Sullivan Report for the Scottish Government recommended staged improvements in energy standards for new buildings beyond 2007 standards - 30% by 2010, 60% by 2013, net zero carbon by 2016/17 and total life zero carbon by 2030. While the 30% improvement applies from October 2010, in view of the economic downturn Scottish Ministers requested that the Sullivan Panel reconvene to revisit some of their original recommendations. The output was the publication of a 2013 update to the Sullivan Report. In accordance with the recommendations of the update, revised building standards will be introduced from October 2015.

3.140 The revision of the Scottish Planning Policy in 2014 has emphasized the importance of Energy Efficiency and noted that development plans should support new developments which delivery energy efficiency. This update mirrored the Sullivan Panel 2013 update, which noted that a preventative approach should be taken to energy use in buildings, using energy saving through insulation or ‘fabric first’ improvements supported by LZCGT’s.

3.141 The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 requires this Plan to specify how a proportion of the mandatory Building Standards carbon reduction standard should be met through the installation and operation of low and zero carbon generating technologies (LZCGTs), using naturally occurring resources or weather systems to produce energy. Policy R7 through Supplementary Guidance specifies the minimum proportion of the mandatory carbon reduction standard to be met by the installation and operation of LZCGTs.

3.142 The Strategic Development Plan has identified the level of water use in the region as unsustainable. With the significant economic growth which the North East is experiencing, and the projected population growth, pressure for this resource will only increase. At present Aberdeen’s water is abstracted from the River Dee, which is a Special Area of Conservation (a European Protected Site). The Strategic Development Plan notes that this combination of population and economic growth, along with the effects of climate change, may have a long term impact on extraction rates from the River Dee. To alleviate this pressure it will be necessary to manage

the use of this resource through increased water efficiency. Supplementary Guidance set outs the measures necessary to achieve this.

Policy R7 - Low and Zero Carbon Buildings and Water Efficiency

Low and Zero Carbon Buildings

All new buildings, must meet at least 20% of the building regulations carbon dioxide emissions reduction target applicable at the time of the application through the installation of low and zero carbon generating technology.. This percentage requirement will be increased as specified in Supplementary Guidance.

This requirement does not apply to:
1. Alterations and extensions to buildings;
2. Change of use or conversion of buildings;
3. Ancillary buildings that are stand-alone having an area less than 50 square meters;
4. Buildings which will not be heated or cooled, other than by heating provided solely for the purpose of frost protection; or
5. Buildings which have an intended life of less than two years.

Water Efficiency

To reduce the pressure on water abstraction from the River Dee, and the pressure on water infrastructure, all new buildings are required to use water saving technologies and techniques. The level of efficiency required and types of efficiencies are detailed in Supplementary Guidance.

Further guidance on compliance with this policy is contained in existing Supplementary Guidance and future Supplementary Guidance on Sustainable Design.

Supplementary Guidance

Resources for New Developments
Supplementary Guidance (SG) Resources for New Developments supports the above policy and Policy R6 by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to the delivery and safeguarding of Resources for New Developments. Accordingly, SG Resources for New Developments includes advice on: Density, Energy Use in New Buildings, including passive design and Low and Zero Carbon Generating Technologies, Waste and Recycling, and Water Use Efficiency.

Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments

3.143 The development of all types of renewable heat and energy generating technologies, on all scales, is supported in principle. A positive approach to renewable development will help to meet the Scottish Governments target for 100% of Scotland's electricity to be generated from renewable sources by 2020 and 11% of heat demand to be met by renewable sources.

3.144 In preparing this Plan, a spatial framework for wind turbines was undertaken. The process has not identified any 'Group 3: Areas with potential for wind farm development' as there are constraints across the entire Aberdeen City area. This does not preclude the development of wind turbines, but it means that care must be taken in assessing the impact of proposals. This will be done in line with Supplementary Guidance.

3.145 Much of the onshore renewable energy capacity in the North East of Scotland will come from large scale developments, such as wind farms, which are more difficult to accommodate in urban locations than in more rural locations. However, there will be a range of energy technologies that are more suited to urban locations. These range from single wind or hydro turbines through to gas or biomass fired Combined Heat and Power systems, ground source heat pumps, and devices which can be mounted on existing buildings (some of which are classed as permitted development). Supplementary Guidance on appropriate technologies will be provided through masterplans and the forthcoming low carbon city energy strategy, as well as Supplementary Guidance on Heat Networks.

Policy R8 - Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments

The development of renewable and low carbon energy schemes where the technology can operate efficiently and the environmental and cumulative impacts can be satisfactorily addressed will be supported in principle, if proposals:

1. Do not cause significant harm to the local environment, including landscape character and the character and appearance of listed buildings and conservation areas.
2. Do not negatively impact on air quality.
3. Do not negatively impact on tourism.
4. Do not have a significant adverse impact on the amenity of dwelling houses.

Wind energy developments will need to conform with Supplementary Guidance and meet the following specific requirements ensuring that:

1. Development does not give rise to electro-magnetic interference to aviation communication, other telecommunications installations, or broadcasting installations.
2. Development does not result in a significant cumulative effect on landscape and natural heritage.
3. Free standing wind turbines are set back from roads and railways a distance greater than the height of the turbine.
4. Turbines are 10 rotor diameters from residential properties.

Appropriate conditions (along with a legal agreement under Section 75, where necessary) will be applied, relating to the removal of wind turbine(s) and associated equipment, and to the restoration of the site, whenever the consent expires or the project ceases to operate for a specific period.

Supplementary Guidance

Wind Turbine Development

Supplementary Guidance (SG) Wind Turbine Development supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to the delivery of Wind Turbine Developments. Accordingly, SG Wind Turbine Development includes advice on: Environmental Assessment including Landscape and Visual Impacts, Safety Assessment, Built and Cultural Heritage Assessment, Tourism and Recreation Assessment, Efficiency, and Decommissioning.

Energy Mapping

Supplementary Guidance (SG) Energy Mapping supports the above policy by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with the above policy, with regard to the use of Energy Mapping, the delivery of Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and the circumstances underwhich connection will be required to a district heating network. Accordingly, SG Energy Mapping includes advice on: the City Wide Heat Map, Areas of Energy Deficit and Surplus, Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and Guidelines for New Developments.

Communications Infrastructure

3.146 Mobile telecommunications are now considered an integral part of the success of most business operations and individual lifestyles. With the growth of services such as mobile internet access, demand for communications infrastructure is continuing to grow. National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) highlight the need for advanced, high quality electronic communications infrastructure, see this as an essential component of economic growth and encourages planning authorities to support its expansion. The Strategic Development Plan also acknowledges the economic benefits of improved communications infrastructure, with one of its targets being that all new development has access to a fit-for-purpose high-speed broadband service. Aberdeen City Council is fully supportive of the expansion of the communications infrastructure and through the Strategic Infrastructure Plan (SIP) acknowledges that this can enhance accessibility to services and contribute to reducing the need to travel, reduce carbon emissions, and allow for more flexible working arrangements. However, new communications infrastructure should only be provided without a detrimental impact on the natural and built environment.

Policy CI1 - Digital Infrastructure

All new residential and commercial development will be expected to have access to modern, up-to-date high-speed communications infrastructure.

3.147 Planning applications for new housing (where 5 or more houses are proposed), or commercial developments (where the gross floor space of any building, structure or erection constructed as a result of such development is or exceeds 5,000 square metres; or the area of the site is or exceeds 2 hectares) should be accompanied by:

1. An extract map from www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/where-and-when/ which shows the status of the superfast broadband exchange connection within the vicinity of the application site. Further to this, the developer shall indicate what the broadband connection to the development would be, e.g. Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) or Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC)
2. A map extract from www.sitefinder.ofcom.org.uk which shows the location of telecommunications masts within the general vicinity of the application site. Information should also be submitted to show the indoor and outdoor telecommunication coverage levels for the application site for 2G, 3G and 4G (such information can be extracted from the telecommunications operators websites).

Policy CI2 - Telecommunications Infrastructure

Proposals for telecommunications development, including prior approval and broadband cabinet applications, will be permitted provided that they comply with the over-arching themes included within Planning Advice Note PAN62 – Radio Telecommunications, as well as other applicable National and Local policies (e.g. Historic Scotland's SHEP, ALDP Policy D5 – Built Heritage) in relation to;

1. The siting and appearance of the proposed apparatus and associated structures should seek to minimise impact on visual amenity, character or appearance of the surrounding area;
2. If on a building, apparatus and associated structures should be sited and designed to minimise impact to the external appearance of the host building
3. If proposing a new mast, it must be demonstrated that the applicant has explored the apparatus on existing buildings, masts or other structures. Such evidence should accompany a planning application
4. If proposing development in a sensitive area, the development should not have an unacceptable effect on areas of ecological interest, areas of landscape importance, archaeological sites, conservation areas or buildings of architectural or historic interest.

3.148 When considering applications for telecommunications development, Aberdeen City Council will have regard to the operational requirements of telecommunications operators and the technical limitations of the technology.

3.149 Applications for ground-based masts should be accompanied by:

- details of the site search for an alternative site and the reasons why each location was unacceptable (including justification if site-sharing is not proposed);
- an ICNIRP certificate; and
- a coverage plot indicating the extent of the coverage gap.

The application may be refused if no such details are received, or if there is no satisfactory reason for not using an existing building or mast.

3.150 In general, proposals should not result in:

- the erection of a mast and cabinets which would be detrimental to pedestrian or traffic safety;
- a pavement monopole which would be close to another monopole, lighting column or traffic light column resulting in visual clutter; or
- in residential areas, the monopole should be appropriately designed and sited so as to be of a similar scale and form as other street furniture in the vicinity to avoid looking out of context.

4. Monitoring and Review

4.1 Monitoring is a crucial component of implementation of the Plan and will be carried out regularly. We will continually update data and review land use decisions, implementation, and assumptions, in order to identify the impact of the Plan, emerging problems and opportunities, or changing objectives.

4.2 In monitoring the Plan, we will be able to see whether and how the policies of the Plan and Supplementary Guidance are working through, for example, analysis of Planning Committee and appeal decisions.

4.3 The Local Development Plan and the accompanying Supplementary Guidance will be updated to reflect any changes to our policy approach. The Action Programme will be updated to reflect progress with individual development proposals and actions for delivering and implementing planning policies. When appropriate we will undertake a review of the Local Development Plan.

5. Glossary

Accessibility
The relative ease, convenience and cost with which a location or service can be accessed. A term used when comparing two or more locations or when considering a change in travel to one particular location or travel by different types of transport to a location.

Active Street Frontage
When a shop unit frontage creates a level of visual permeability – patrons can see out onto the street and people on the street can see into the shop unit. It enhances public security and passive surveillance and improves the amenity of the public domain by encouraging pedestrian activity.

Affordable Housing
Housing made available at a cost below full market value, to meet an identified need. It includes social rented housing, subsidised low cost housing for sale (discounted, shared ownership or shared equity) and low cost housing without subsidy (entry level housing for sale). Private rented accommodation available at lower cost than market rents, (mid-market rent), should also be considered within the affordable housing category.

Brownfield Land
Brownfield land is defined as land which has previously been developed. The term may include vacant or derelict land; land occupied by redundant or unused buildings; and developed land within the settlement boundary where further intensification of use is considered acceptable. Existing areas of landscaped or amenity urban green space such as private and public gardens, sports and recreation grounds, woodlands etc shall not be considered as brownfield sites for new development. The grounds of redundant institutions (such as schools or hospitals) shall not be considered as brownfield land.

Carbon Neutral
Development that limits the amount of energy used and creates as much renewable energy as it uses each year for heating and electrical appliances.

City Centre Retail Core
The area containing the highest concentration of shopping floorspace in the city centre.

Communications Infrastructure
This broadly covers the following; mobile telecommunications, communications network, telecommunications broadband, digital and telecommunications technologies.

Comparison Goods
Non-food items including clothing, footware, household goods, furniture and electrical goods which purchasers compare on the basis of price and quality before buying.

Convenience Goods
Goods bought for consumption on a regular basis (e.g. food, drink, newspapers etc).

District Centres
Groups of shops outwith the city centre, usually containing at least one food supermarket or superstore and non-retail services. These may take a variety of forms.

Edge-of-Centre
A location within easy walking distance of one of the retail locations named in the Hierarchy of Retail Centres Supplementary Guidance under the headings regional centre, town centres, district centres, superstores and neighbourhood centres, and providing parking facilities that serve the retail location as well as the development, thus enabling one trip to serve several purposes. In defining edge-of-centre, regard shall be had to the following:

- an easy walking distance to the principal retail frontage of the retail location (reflecting poor weather and shoppers encumbered with shopping etc);
- the presence of intervening barriers to pedestrian movement, including the need to cross roads, the presence of over- or underpasses and significant gradients;
- whether a site is intervisible with part of the principal retail frontage of the retail location; and
- the extent of intervening non-retail uses between the site and the retail location.

In the special case of the Retail Core, “edge-of-centre” means any part of the city centre (as defined on the Proposals Map) outwith the Retail Core
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Effective Land Supply
Sites which have no constraints and are available for development.

Energetica
Aberdeen City and Shire’s flagship concept to consolidate the region as a global all-energy hub, attract new high value investment and support the export drive of indigenous business and industry. Central to Energetica is a 30-mile corridor between Aberdeen and Peterhead which will create a concentration of energy technology companies, housing and leisure facilities and offer a tremendous opportunity for powerful growth, diversification and continued prosperity building on the solid knowledge and technology developed around the oil and gas industry. Source: ‘A Future to Look Forward To - An update on the work of ACSEF’, June 2010. ACSEF: Aberdeen City & Shire Economic Future.

Expenditure Leakage
When people shop somewhere other than the area they live - the money they spend is going somewhere else rather than being retained in the area they live.

Greenhouse Gas emissions
Greenhouse gas emissions are the gasses produced from human activity, which include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone.

Informal Recreation
Pursuits such as walking, cycling, horse riding, bird watching and picnicking requiring a pathway, countryside or open space land use.

Neighbourhood Centres
Primarily convenience shopping facilities serving a local catchment area (i.e. the majority of customers living within 800 metres walking distance). Gross floorspace of these developments would normally be in the range of 500-2000 square metres.

Nestrans
The transport partnership for Aberdeen City and Shire. Its Board is made up of Councillors from Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils, as well as non-Councillor members appointed by the Minister for Transport.

Out-of-centre
A location that is neither within nor on the edge of any of the locations listed in the Hierarchy of Retail Centres Supplementary Guidance under the following headings: regional centre, town centres, district centres and neighbourhood centres.

Over-provision and clustering
An inappropriate number and clustering of some non-retail uses, such as betting offices and high interest money lending premises. There should be an appropriate mix of uses in centres.

Public Transport Nodes
These are areas where the highest concentrations of activity emerge naturally along principle routes or points of convergence.

Placemaking
Placemaking is a creative, collaborative process that includes design, development, renewal or regeneration of our urban or rural built environments. The outcome should be sustainable, well-designed places and homes which meet people's needs.

Retail Impact Assessment
A study which assesses the likely effect a new development will have on existing shops.

Retail Park
A grouping of three or more retail warehouses with associated car parking.

Retail Warehouses
Large single level stores specializing in the sale of household goods (such as carpets, furniture and electrical goods), clothing, leisure goods and bulky DIY items,

catering mainly for car-borne customers and often in out-of-centre locations.

Sequential Approach
In applying the sequential approach to locating major shopping proposals in Aberdeen, the city centre will assume primacy. Proposals should firstly explore all city centre development opportunities followed by edge of centre development opportunities.

Supermarkets
Single level service stores selling mainly food with a trading floorspace of between 500 and 2500 square metres (under 1500 square metres for all supermarkets) with dedicated car parks.

Superstores
Usually single level self-service stores selling mainly food or food and non-food goods, usually with at least 2500 square metres trading floorspace and with dedicated car parking.

Transport Assessment
An assessment of the amount of traffic and other transport requirements expected to be generated by a proposed development, the impact on the transportation system and measures to mitigate the impact on that system.

Transport Plan
A plan detailing the strategy and actions by which the travel demands of a development are to be reduced particularly as a result of measures not directly covered by other policies in the Local Development Plan such as flexi-time working, subsidies for public transport etc.

Vitality and Viability
Vitality is a reflection of how busy a centre is at different times and in different parts. Viability is a measure of its capacity to attract on-going investment and adaption to changing needs.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Brownfield Sites

Table 1: Brownfield Sites with potential for housing /planning consents from the Brownfield Potential Study 2014

Name	Size (Hectares)
Aberdon House Care Home	0.64
Aberdeen College, Gordon Centre	2.21
AECC Site, Bridge of Don	13.15 (part identified for housing)
Former One Sports Centre, Bridge of Don	1
Balgownie Machine Centre	0.3
Balgownie Primary School	0.71
Bankhead Academy	2.7
Braeside Infant School	1.28
Byron Park Nursery and Infant School	0.77
Burnside Centre	2.4
Cornhill Hospital	5
Cults Pumping Station	0.69
Crown House	0.04
Causewayend Primary School	0.69
Craighill Primary School, Kincorth	0.86
Craiginches Prison	1.6
Former Carden School	0.37
Dunbar Halls of Residence	1.23
Denburn and Woolmanhill	1.9
Former Dutch School, Boyd Orr Ave	0.18
Greenfern Infant School	0.91
96-126 John Street	0.4
Kennerty Mill	0.1
Kincorth Academy	4
Logie Place	0.12
Manor Walk	2.65
Marchburn Infant School	1.08
Milltimber Primary School	1.85
Torry Nursery School	0.6
Torry Academy	1.6
St Peter's Nursery Spital	0.09
Raeden Centre/Nurseries	1.5
Former Summerhill Academy	3.3
Smithfield School	2.27
St Machar Primary	1.01
Tillydrone Primary	2.11
Victoria Road School	0.67
VSA Gallowgate	0.12
Water Lane Grannary	0.06
Woodside Congregational Church	0.07

Table 2 : Brownfield Housing Sites with Planning Consent (but not effective in the 2011 Housing Land Audit)

Name	Units
Abbey Road North, Torry	46
Balgownie Home Farm	35
Balgownie Centre	171
Cattofield Reservoir	71
140 Causewayend	147
Hilton Nursery School	18
Mile End Primary	37
Nazareth House, Claremont Street	92
Urquhart Road Former Works	100
Victoria House	40
Waterwheel Inn	20
Broadford Works	119
Craigieburn House Springfield Road	44
Croft House	31
3-9 Duff Street	37
Former Davidson's Mill	900
Greyhope Road	69
11 Jopps Lane	50
124 North Deeside Road	40
41 Nelson Street	9
Pittodrie Stadium	350
1-5 Salisbury Terrace	5
Woodlands School Craigton Road	5
Westburn Crescent	9
85-89 Loch Street	16
Grampian Court, Beaconsfield Lane	12
34 Maberley Street	12
Silverburn, Corunna Road	15
Ruthrieston Road	6
Oakbank School Midstocket	133
26-38 Union Street	19
253 Great Western Road	30
26 Netherkirkgate	10
Fmr Ruthrieston Garage	11
Ruthrieston Crescent	7
4 Trinity Street	5
46-48 Nelson Street	10
BP Dyce Site, Plot B	43
22-24 St Peter St	28
258-260 Union Street	6
Total	**2808**

Appendix 2 Opportunity Sites

Site	Site Name	Site Size	Policy	Other Factors
Bridge of Don and Grandhome				
OP1	Murcar	27.8 ha	Land Release Policy	Southern half of site included in Murcar Development Framework 2008. This site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany development proposals.
OP2	Berryhill, Murcar	68.4 ha	Business and Industrial/ Green Space Network	Development Framework approved in 2008 covers this site and land to the north. Land available for development of Use Class 4, 5 and 6. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP3	Findlay Farm, Murcar	16.4 ha	Business and Industrial Land	Opportunity to extend the Aberdeen Energy Park.
OP4	Dubford Community Facilities	2.46 ha	Residential/ Urban Green Space	Council owned site reserved for community centre, primary school, local shops, etc.
OP5	Balgownie Centre, Bridge of Don	2.25 ha	Residential	Former Aberdeen College building. Planning Brief available.
OP6	Balgownie Primary School	0.71 ha	Residential	Vacant Primary School. The amenity space to the west of the site should be retained.
OP7	Aberdeen College Gordon Centre	3.1 ha	Mixed Use	Location suitable for residential or mixed use development. The woodland on site, particularly along the site's boundaries, should be retained.
OP8	East Woodcroft North	2.2 ha	Residential	Council owned site identified for 60 homes.
OP9	Grandhome	323 ha	Land Release Policy/Green Space Network	Privately owned site in single ownership identified for 7000 homes and 5 hectares of employment land (Class 4 uses). Town Centre identified for Phase 2 of this site. Developers will be required to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) in support of any development proposals for this site.
OP10	Dubford	35.8 ha	Residential/Green Space Network	Opportunity for development of 550 homes. This site may be at risk of flooding. A flood risk assessment will be required to

				accompany any future development proposals for this site.
OP11	Balgownie Home Farm	1.4 ha	Mixed Use	Opportunity for residential development.
OP12	Former 'One' Sports Centre (Barracudas)	1.45 ha	Mixed Use	Opportunity for residential development.
OP13	AECC Bridge of Don	18.4 ha	Mixed Use	Redevelopment opportunity for mixed use development. Masterplan required. The site will be required to accommodate an expansion of the Park and Choose to 999 spaces and a household waste recycling centre to replace the facility at Scotstown Road. Any residential elements would need to address school capacity issues in the area. This site may be at risk of flooding. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required in order to assess its suitability for redevelopment. Development should respect the landscape setting and amenity of the course of the Royal Aberdeen Golf Club.
OP75	Denmore Road	4.56 ha	Commercial Centre	If the bulky goods uses at the existing commercial centre at north Denmore Road are displaced, this site can be developed for bulky goods in order to maintain the retail offer in Bridge of Don. Conditions will be imposed restricting uses to bulky goods retailing. Pitches lost should be replaced in Bridge of Don by new or upgraded pitches which are of comparable or greater benefit. Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.
Dyce Bucksburn and Woodside				
OP14	Bankhead Academy	2.60 ha	Residential	Former Bankhead Academy secondary school.
OP15	Former Carden School	0.37 ha	Residential	Part of Dyce primary school deemed surplus to requirements.
OP16	Davidsons Papermill, Mugiemoss Road, Bucksburn	29.5 ha	Mixed Use	Vacant paper mill site and adjoining industrial land. Development Framework and Phase 1 Masterplan adopted as SG. This site may be at risk of flooding. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site.
OP17	Stoneywood	42.3 ha	Residential/Green Space Network/Urban Green	Opportunity for development of 500 homes. Masterplan and Development Framework adopted as SG. This site may be at

			Space	risk of flooding. A flood risk assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site.
OP18	Craibstone North and Walton Farm	20.0 ha	Land Release Policy/Green Space Network	Opportunity for development of 1.5ha of employment land in the Local Development Plan period 2007 - 2023 and 18.5 hectares of employment land or a higher education and research institute in the Future Growth period. Masterplan required. This site may be at risk of flooding. A flood risk assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site.
OP19	Rowett North	63.9 ha	Specialist Employment Area/Green Space Network/Airport Public Safety Zone	Opportunity for development of Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre and complimentary employment uses. Masterplan under preparation. This site may be at risk of flooding. A flood risk assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site.
OP20	Craibstone South	42.6 ha	Land Release Policy/Green Space Network	Opportunity for 1000 homes. Joint Development Framework with OP21 Rowett South and OP22 Greenferns Landward approved. Site specific Masterplan underway.
OP21	Rowett South	106.85 ha	Land Release Policy/Green Space Network	Opportunity for 1940 homes. Joint Development Framework with OP20 Craibstone South and OP22 Greenferns Landward approved. Site specific Masterplan underway. Town Centre identified for this site comprising of approx. 7,500 square metres total floorspace (4,000 square metres supermarket, 3,500 square metres other comparison and local shops and retail services.)
OP22	Greenferns Landward	69.6 ha	Land Release Policy	Opportunity for 1500 homes on Council owned land. Joint Development Framework with OP21 Rowett South and OP20 Craibstone South approved. Site specific Masterplan underway. Burnbrae Moss District Wildlife Site lies adjacent to the southern boundary of this site.
OP23	Dyce Drive	108 ha	Business and Industrial Land /Green Space Network	Planning Brief for site approved in 2004. This site may be at risk of flooding. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site. The site lies within a pipeline notification zone.
OP24	A96 Park & Ride	6.7 ha	Land for Transport	Land reserved for Park and Choose.

OP25	Woodside	19.1 ha	Residential/Green Space Network/ Green Belt	Site capable of accommodating up to 300 homes, including affordable housing as per masterplan for Woodside Sports Park and Village. Parts of the site may have a risk of flooding and development will have to be avoided in those areas. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required to support any development proposals for the site.
OP86	Dyce Railway Station	1.1 ha	Land for Transport	Opportunity Site for an expanded car park with associated SUDS and landscaping. Access to the Formartine Buchan Way should be retained and enhanced. Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.
Kingswells and Greenferns				
OP26	Auchmill Golf Course, Greenferns	3.7 ha	Green Belt/ Green Space Network	Layout and replacement of holes at Auchmill Golf Course. The new holes must be available before the existing ones are taken out of use.
OP27	Greenfern Infant School	0.91 ha	Residential	Redundant School deemed surplus to requirements.
OP28	Greenferns	13.7 ha	Residential	This is an opportunity to provide 120 homes. Joint Development Framework with OP33 Greenferns adopted as SG. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP29	Prime Four Business Park	50.0 ha	Specialist Employment Area/Green Space Network	Opportunity for a 50 hectares development of business land which will attract high quality businesses or be suitable for company headquarters. Masterplan and Development Framework prepared.
OP63	Prime 4 Business Park Phase 5 Extension	12.7 ha	Specialist Employment	Expansion to existing allocation. Masterplan required. A TIA will be required. In addition, adequate buffer zones for the Quaker burial ground and the woodland will need to be identified in the masterplan. The site lies within a pipeline notification zone.
OP30	Kingswells D and West Huxterstone	6.1 ha	Residential/Green Space Network	Opportunity for development of 120 homes. This site is part of the Kingswells Development Framework which is an adopted SG. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.

OP31	Maidencraig South East	29.8 ha	Residential/Green Space Network	Opportunity for development of 450 homes. Joint masterplan prepared for this site and OP32 Maidencraig North East. This site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany development proposals.
OP32	Maidencraig North East	22.8 ha	Residential/Gree n Space Network	Opportunity for development of 300 homes on a Council owned site. Joint masterplan prepared for this site and OP31 Maidencraig South East. Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.
OP33	Greenferns	60.4 ha	Land Release Policy/Green Space Network	Opportunity for development of 1350 homes and 10ha of employment land on a Council owned site. Joint Development Framework with OP28 Greenferns adopted as SG. This site may be at risk of flooding. A flood risk assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site. Proposals for a Special Needs School and extension to Enermec will need to be accommodated in a masterplan.
OP34	East Arnhall	1.0 ha	Land Release Policy	An opportunity for development of 1 hectares of employment land. A masterplan with Aberdeenshire Council involvement would be desirable given that the site borders the Local Authority boundaries. Site may be at risk of flooding. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required to accompany future development proposals Site lies within a pipeline notification zone.
OP111	Skene Road, Maidencraig	0.9 ha	Residential	Site capable of accommodating around 15 homes. A flood risk assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site. Development should seek to avoid any adverse impacts on the Den of Maidencraig local nature conservation site.
Countesswells				
OP38	Countesswells	165.1 ha	Land Release Policy/Green Space Network	An opportunity for development of 3000 homes and 10 hectares of employment land. Development Framework and Phase 1 Masterplan adopted as SG. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.

Deeside				
OP39	Braeside Infant School	1.04 ha	Residential	Former school site with potential to be redeveloped for residential use in future. In the meantime the school can be used to house primary pupils from the Countesswells development pending the development of a primary school there. Development will have to respect residential amenity within and surrounding the area. The Council will seek the retention of the playpark in its current location to the south of site OP39.
OP40	Cults Pumping Station	0.69 ha	Residential	Redundant building which would provide a sustainable brownfield housing site with few apparent constraints or problems. Development will have to respect green linkages to the west of the site and the retention of the allotments to the east of the site.
OP41	Friarsfield	29.2 ha	Residential and Green Space Network	Greenfield site identified in the Aberdeen Local Plan 2008 for 280 homes. Development adopted as SG. This site may be at risk of flooding. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required to accompany any future development proposals for this site.
OP42	Kennerty Mill	0.1 ha	Residential	Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment will be required in order to assess its suitability for redevelopment.
OP43	Milltimber Primary School	1.85 ha	Residential	The current Milltimber Primary School site is likely to become available in the future. This is due to the proposed development at Oldfold Farm providing a new school to accommodate the additional pupils generated by the development. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP44	North Lasts Quarry	8.01 ha	Green Belt	Ongoing mineral extraction. Planning Permission granted in February 1997 to continue hard rock extraction. The site lies within a pipeline consultation zone and all development should conform to the terms of Policy B6 – Pipelines, Major Hazards and Explosives Storage Sites. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany any future development proposals.
OP45	Peterculter East	2.1 ha	Residential	Permission granted for development of 33 homes.

OP46	Culter House Road	1.1 ha	Residential	Opportunity for development of 5 homes. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP47	Edgehill Road	4.4 ha	Residential/Green Space Network	Opportunity for development of 5 homes. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP48	Oldfold	48.9 ha	Land Release Policy	Opportunity for development of 550 homes and 5 hectaresha of employment land. A Development Framework and Masterplan have been approved. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP49	Grove Nursery, Hazlehead	5.9 ha	New Community Facilities	Following a Council resolution this site is identified for social enterprises specialising in nursery, horticulture and/or allotments and other associated uses. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP50	Skene Road, Hazlehead	49.7 ha	Green Belt/ Green Space Network	Planning Permission granted for a phased cemetery development. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required.
OP51	Peterculter Burn	7.4 ha	Residential	Site capable of accommodating 19 homes, a hydro electric scheme, fish pass, football pitch, changing facilities and car parking for Culter Youth Football Club and a new pathway opening up access to existing woodland. A Flood Risk Assessment demonstrating acceptable consequences will be required together with a masterplan giving details of access and setting out timescales for implementation of the different stages of the overall development. These matters will be reflected in any grant of planning permission. A planning brief will be required for OP51 setting out (a) specific measures needed to avoid damage to, and enhance the Local Nature Conservation Site, and (b) the requirement to provide a Construction Environmental Management Plan that will avoid adverse effects on the qualifying interests of the River Dee SAC (Atlantic Salmon, Freshwater Pearl Mussel and Otter).
OP52	Malcolm Road Peterculter	1.5 ha	Residential	Opportunity for 8 houses. Scots Pine trees on western boundary to be retained. Site (or part of) may be at risk of

				flooding. Developers may be required to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) in support of any development proposals for this site.
OP109	Woodend Peterculter	2ha	Residential	Opportunity for 19 houses. Drainage Impact Assessment required to consider protection of potential wet habitats/woodlands adjacent to the site and the potential requirement for a buffer to prevent any increase in drainage of wet habitats/woodlands. Ancient Woodland to the south of the site is to be protected.
OP112	West of Contlaw Road	2.9ha	Residential	Opportunity for 10 houses. Arboricultural and ecological implications studies required.
OP113	Culter House Road	2.4ha	Residential	Opportunity for 8 houses.
OP114	Milltimber South	11.5ha	Mixed Use	Opportunity for 60 houses and 1,225 square metres of ancillary retail/office space. Masterplan required.
Loirston and Cove				
OP53	Aberdeen Gateway/Moss-side/Mains of Cairnrobin	20.2 ha	Business and Industrial Land/Green Belt	Planning Permission granted for a high quality Class 4 Business Use, subject to Section 75 legal agreement. The northern part of the site has been reserved for Open Space; a full sized football pitch; a half sized football pitch and associated changing facilities
OP54	Altens East and Doonies	4.7 ha	Business and Industrial Land	Site reserved for a material recycling facility, refuse derived fuel plant and collection depot. Space along the coast road will need to be reserved for road widening in association with the new harbor at Nigg Bay.
OP55	Blackhills Quarry, Cove	32.76ha	Green Belt	Planning permission granted in 2013 to continue hard rock extraction and processing.
OP56	Cove	30 ha	Residential	Cove brief needs re-visiting and a new Masterplan required incorporating housing, community uses and greenspace. A waste license still applies over part of the site and a gas risk assessment and any necessary remediation will be required prior to development.
OP57	Craighill Primary School, Kincorth	0.86 ha	Residential	Vacant Primary School. Forms part of the Strategic Infrastructure Plan Affordable Housing Programme.
OP58	Stationfields, Cove	9.8 ha	Residential	Greenfield Site identified in the Aberdeen Local Plan 2008 for 150 homes. This site should be tied into a new Cove Masterplan.

OP59	Loirston	119.2 ha	Land Release Policy/ Green Space Network	Opportunity for development of 1500 homes and 11 hectares of employment land. Potential to accommodate football or community stadium and supermarket to meet convenience shopping deficiencies in south Aberdeen. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals. Development Framework adopted as SG
OP60	Charleston	20.5 ha	Land Release	Opportunity for development of 20.5 hectares of employment land. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP61	Calder Park	15 ha	Land Release Policy	Site for the new City South Academy and other compatible uses. Permission has been granted for a new stadium and ancillary facilities for Cove Rangers. Site may be at risk of flooding. Developers will be required to provide a Flood Risk Assessment in support of any development proposals for this site.
OP62	Nigg Bay	55 ha	Aberdeen Harbour/Green Space Network	Aberdeen Harbour expansion. Masterplan required. Requires Flood Risk Assessment and full Transport Assessment.
OP64	Former Ness Tip	20.5 ha	Green Belt	Solar Farm
OP103	Former Torry Nursery School	0.53 ha	Residential	Council owned site surplus to requirements.
OP104	Craiginches Prison	1.67 ha	Residential	Opportunity site arising from the prison closure. Should residential be proposed, school capacity issues at Walker Road Primary will need to be addressed.
OP105	Kincorth Academy	3.94 ha	Residential	This and Torry Academy will be replaced by a new City South Academy. Forms part of the Strategic Infrastructure Plan Affordable Housing Programme.
OP107	East Tullos Gas Holder	3.12 ha	Business and Industrial	Redundant gas holder site and Council owned recycling centre suitable for an energy from waste facility. Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.

OP110	Wellington Circle (Former Makro)	3.2 ha	Business and Industrial Land	Opportunity for change of use to Class 1 retail. Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.
OP115	34-40 Abbotswell Road	1.03 ha	Mixed Use	Suitable for residential use. A noise assessment will be required.
City Centre and Urban Areas				
OP35	Granitehill Road	0.57 ha	Business and Industrial Land	Site identified for museum storage facility. Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.
OP36	Charlie House	1.5 ha	New Community Facilities	Site identified for children's respite centre and interactive garden area. A Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) is required for this site.
OP37	Burnside Centre	1.23 ha	Residential	Council owned site surplus to requirements.
OP65	Haudagain Triangle, Middlefield	4.34 ha	Residential/ Land for Transport	Following road improvements in this area, land will become vacant and surplus.
OP66	Manor Walk, Middlefield	1.9 ha	Urban Green Space/Residential	Social housing. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP67	Aberdeen Market	0.33 ha	City Centre Retail Core	Opportunity for qualitative retail / mixed use improvement to include better pedestrian access from The Green to Union Street and address public realm issues.
OP68	1 Western Road	0.07 ha	Residential	Capacity for approximately 22 units. Development on this site is constrained by marketability.
OP69	140 Causewayend	0.15 ha	Mixed Use	Proposed extensions for additional office space.
OP70	35 Froghall Road	0.62 ha	Mixed Use	Former workshop. Suitable for residential.
OP71	41 Nelson Street	0.06 ha	Mixed Use	Capacity for approximately 21 units. Development on this site is constrained by marketability.
OP72	Aberdon House	0.64 ha	Residential	Vacant care home. Forms part of the Strategic Infrastructure Plan Affordable Housing Programme.
OP73	Balgownie Machine Centre	0.2 ha	Mixed Use	Former garden machinery centre. Site is Council owned. Land Reserved partially for Berryden Road Improvements.
OP74	Broadford Works, Maberley Street	3.6 ha	Mixed Use	Consent granted for 517 flats and other uses subject to legal agreement. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk

				Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP76	Causewayend Primary School	0.66 ha	Mixed Use	Former primary school deemed surplus to requirements.
OP77	Cornhill Hospital	6.04 ha	Existing Community Sites and Facilities	Former hospital site, redevelopment for mix of uses, residential, office/ business (Class 4), community uses. Within conservation area, substantial granite buildings. Planning Brief required.
OP78	Cotton Street	3.0 ha	Business and Industrial Land	Outline planning approval granted for new warehouses and offices. Contamination issues require to be addressed.
OP79	Crown House	0.04 ha	Mixed Use	City centre location suitable for residential use should the building be vacated in the future.
OP81	Denburn and Woolmanhill	1.9 ha	Mixed Use/Urban Green Space	Prominent position contains Category A Listed Buildings and is within Conservation Areas. Mix of uses including healthcare, hotel, residential, small-scale retail, food and drink, further education, offices/ business (Class 4) and car parking. A Planning Brief has been prepared for the site. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required in order to assess its suitability for redevelopment. Replacement accommodation close to the city centre is required for the two health practices currently using the site.
OP82	Dunbar Halls of Residence, Don Street	1.64 ha	Residential	Conservation Area, suitable for student accommodation. Planning Brief available.
OP83	Energy Futures Centre, South Beach	2.9.0 ha	Urban Green Space	Reserved for an Energy Futures Centre.
OP84	Hilton Nursery School	0.6 ha	Residential	Former nursery school now deemed surplus to requirements. Location suitable for residential development.
OP85	King Street/ Beach Esplanade	2.0 ha	New Community Facilities	Site is identified by Council resolution for a Mosque, community facilities and open space. Until proposals for these uses are progressed, or if a decision is made not to pursue them, the existing open space use will be protected by Policy NE3 Urban Green Space.

OP87	Pittodrie Park	6.00 ha	Residential	Proposed residential development.
OP88	Shore Porters Warehouse	0.02 ha	Mixed Use	Redundant warehouse. Problems with road noise and internal lighting. Residential will only be considered if suitable amenity can be demonstrated.
OP89	Smithfield Primary School	2.27 ha	Residential	Forms part of the Strategic Infrastructure Plan Affordable Housing Programme.
OP90	St Machar Primary School	1.01 ha	Residential	Primary School is now vacant and surplus to requirements. Forms part of the Strategic Infrastructure Plan Affordable Housing Programme
OP91	Marischal Square	0.9 ha	City Centre Retail Core	Opportunity for mixed use (office, hotel, retail, restaurant, leisure) development, creation of civic space and pedestrianisation of Broad Street.
OP92	St Peter's Nursery, Spital	0.09 ha	Mixed Use	Sensitive residential redevelopment - within a Conservation Area.
OP93	Former Summerhill Academy	3.3 ha	Residential	Former Secondary School and Education facility is now cleared and surplus to requirements.
OP94	Tillydrone Primary School	2.11 ha	Residential	Site of former Tillydrone Primary School. Forms part of the Strategic Infrastructure Plan Affordable Housing Programme
OP95	Triple Kirks, Schoolhill	0.14 ha	City Centre Retail Core	Office, retail, residential or hotel. Current Planning Permission for office use. A Listed prominent Aberdeen landmark.
OP96	Upper/ Basement Floors, 73-149 Union Street	0.35 ha	City Centre Retail Core	Retail use. Conservation Area 2. Some listed buildings. Potential opportunity to open up unused floors and link with existing used floor space. Site may be at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany future development proposals.
OP97	Victoria Road Primary School	0.67 ha	Mixed Use	Former Primary School. The site would be suited for sensitive residential development
OP98	VSA Gallowgate	0.08 ha	Mixed Use	Residential/Mixed use. Listed building.
OP99	The Waterfront, Torry	6.6 ha	Mixed Use	Planning Application approved for mixed use development. See also Old Torry Masterplan Study. This site may be at risk of flooding. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required in order to assess its suitability for redevelopment.
OP100	Water Lane	0.06 ha	Mixed Use	Redundant granary building. Planning permission for conversion to 12 flats.
OP101	Woodside Congregational	0.07 ha	Residential	Vacant church building. Conditional Planning consent to form shop unit (Class 1) and 6 dwelling flats has since

	Church			lapsed.
OP80	Bon Accord Masterplan	40.0 ha	Retail Core/Mixed Use	Masterplan prepared for major redevelopment of City Centre. Flood Risk Assessment required to accompany development proposals.
OP102	George Street / Crooked Lane	0.96 ha	City Centre Retail Core	Opportunity for retail development, enhance George Street, link to John Lewis / extend Bon Accord Centre, address accessibility issues through the centre and address public realm issues. Some Listed Buildings. Existing traditional granite buildings on the St Andrew Street and George Street frontages, and upper floor residential uses, to be retained. This site may be at risk of flooding. A Flood Risk Assessment will be required in order to assess its suitability for redevelopment.
OP106	Beach Esplanade (Jimmy Chungs)	0.25 ha	Beach and Leisure	Opportunity site – redevelopment should accord with the Beach and Leisure Policy.
OP116	Froghall Terrace	1.7 ha	Mixed Use	Depot. Suitable for residential or student accommodation.

Appendix 3 – Infrastructure Requirements for Masterplan Zones

Nature of Contribution	Masterplan Zone
Cumulative Transport Infrastructure	
Contributions required in order to address the cumulative impact of development on the transport network. Possible issues to be resolved / schemes are listed in Supplementary Guidance and further detailed work is required to establish whether these are the most appropriate solutions for each development.	All
Roads	
Direct road access from Dubford and Mundurno onto local road connecting to B999 with potential new intersection.	1. Murcar & Dubford
New spur from Murcar to A90 Murcar roundabout.	
New road accesses from Grandhome onto Parkway.	2. Grandhome
Improve Whitestripes Road and B997 to appropriate design standards for forecasted traffic volumes and enable sufficient access to AWPR (does not include further capacity improvements connecting the B977/B997 through Parkhill towards Dyce Drive).	
New road connection from Stoneywood development to A947 with new junctions.	Stoneywood
Access from employment sites onto new Dyce Drive link road.	3. Dyce Drive
Road connection from existing roundabout at A96 / Dyce Drive through masterplan area and to Kepplehills Road.	3. Newhills Expansion
Road access from Greenferns to Provost Rust Drive and Provost Fraser Drive.	4. Greenferns
New major junctions on A944 to access Maidencraig sites.	5. Maidencraig
New major junction from employment development to access A944.	Kingswells
New road links and major junctions at A944, with appropriate design standards to accommodate forecasted traffic volumes.	6. Countesswells
Upgrades to the local road network.	7. Friarsfield
New major junction connecting Oldfold to A93.	Oldfold

Nature of Contribution	Masterplan Zone
Road connections from Loirston to A956 through Industrial area to Souterhead Roundabout and using junction adjacent to Old Wellington Road (which could become a signalised junction).	8. Loirston
Public Transport and Walking and Cycling Infrastructure	
New developments to be served by comprehensive pedestrian and cycle network and frequent public transport services including new and extended services.	All sites
Secondary School Education (contributions set against residential development sites only)	
Possible additional secondary school capacity at Bridge of Don Academy.	1. Dubford
New secondary school within proposed development.	2. Grandhome
Additional secondary school capacity at Northfield Academy.	4. Greenferns 5. Maidencraig
Additional secondary school capacity at Hazlehead Academy.	5. Maidencraig
New secondary school within proposed development.	6. Countesswells
New secondary school within proposed development.	8. Loirston
Primary School Education (contributions set against residential development sites only)	
Three to four new primary schools within proposed development.	2. Grandhome
Replacement primary school incorporating additional capacity.	Stoneywood
Two new primary schools within proposed development.	3. Newhills Expansion
One new primary school within proposed development.	4. Greenferns
Additional primary school capacity required.	5. Maidencraig
Two to three new primary schools within proposed development.	6. Countesswells
One new primary school within proposed development.	Oldfold
One new primary school within proposed development.	8. Loirston

Nature of Contribution	Masterplan Zone
Water	
Contributions required in order to provide appropriate infrastructure for water supply and waste water disposal. Scottish Water may explore the potential for addressing the cumulative impact of development on water related infrastructure.	Further details in the LDP Action Programme
Health (contributions set against residential development sites only)	
Extension to Oldmachar Medical Practice at Jesmond Road to accommodate two additional GP's. Extension at Bridge of Don Dental Clinic at Cairnfold Road to accommodate General Dental services for one additional dental chair. One new Community Pharmacy.	1. Dubford (and possible contribution from site at East Woodcroft with Grandhome Zone 2)
New 16 GP Health Centre to accommodate existing four GP Practice with 12 additional GP's. Two new six chair Dental Surgeries. Four new Community Pharmacies.	2. Grandhome
New 10 GP Health Centre (including land) to accommodate eight existing GP's with two additional GP's. Extension of Dyce Health Centre to accommodate two additional dental chairs. This facility could be included as part of the required new Health Centre, as specified above. One new Community Pharmacy.	Stoneywood
New 13 GP Health Centre (including land) to accommodate 6 existing GPs with seven additional GPs. New six chair Dental Surgery. This facility could be included as part of the required new Health Centre, as specified above. Three new Community Pharmacies.	3. Newhills Expansion
New six GP Health Centre (including land already identified) to accommodate four existing GPs with two additional GPs. Two additional dental chairs required in Health Centre, as specified above.	4. Greenferns
Extension at Kingswells Health Centre to accommodate two additional GP's. New two chair Dental facility either in the recommended extension to the Kingswells Health Centre, or on a new site.	5. Maidencraig Kingswells

Nature of Contribution	Masterplan Zone
New five GP Health Centre (including land). New four chair Dental Surgery (including land). This facility could be included as part of the required new Health Centre as specified above. Two new Community Pharmacies.	6. Countesswells
Extension to the existing Health Centre to support the General Medical Services for the increased population in the Cults community.	7. Friarsfield
Extension to Peterculter Health Centre to accommodate one additional GP. Extension of Peterculter Health Centre to accommodate two additional Dental Chairs. One new Community Pharmacy.	Oldfold
Extension to Cove Bay Health Centre to accommodate three additional new GPs. Extension at Cove Bay Health Centre to accommodate two additional Dental Chairs. One new Community Pharmacy.	8. Loirston

Appendix 4 - Masterplans

Existing masterplans for the larger sites and/or sites in multiple ownership listed below will be taken forward as Supplementary Guidance. Where considered appropriate, we would also intend to take forward as Supplementary Guidance any revisions or further phased masterplans that may emerge for these sites over the lifetime of the Local Development Plan.

- City Centre Development Framework – retain as SG pending approval of the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme.
- Countesswells Development Framework and Phase 1 Masterplan
- Dubford Development Framework
- Former Davidson's Mill Development Framework and Masterplan
- Forresterhill Development Framework
- Friarsfield Development Framework
- Grandhome Development Framework
- Greenferns Development Framework and Masterplan
- Kingswells Development Framework and Phase 1 Masterplan (Prime 4)
- Kingswells Prime Four Business Park, Phases Two and Three
- Loirston Development Framework
- Maidencraig Masterplan
- Newhills Development Framework
- Oldfold Development Framework and Masterplan
- Persley Den
- Stoneywood Development Framework and Masterplan
- West Huxterstone Masterplan

New Masterplans and/or Development Frameworks for the following developments will be adopted as Supplementary Guidance.

- City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme
- Aberdeen Harbour at Nigg Bay (OP62)
- Existing AECC Site at Bridge of Don (OP13)
- New AECC Site at Rowett North (OP19)
- Prime 4 Business Park Phase 5 Extension (OP63)

All other masterplans and planning briefs will be taken forward as Local Planning Advice.

Appendix 5 - Supplementary Guidance

Historically our Supplementary Guidance has been published as separate documents on individual topics. We will amalgamate these into a single suite of topic related guidance that will avoid a great deal of repetition. If during the lifetime of the Local Development Plan, part of the Supplementary Guidance requires amendment or updating, we will consult on the individual topic area, rather than the whole Guidance. The individual topics will be grouped under the following broader headings or chapters.

Transport and Infrastructure

- Transport and Accessibility
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Planning Obligations
- Affordable Housing
- Gypsy Traveller Sites

Householder Development

- Householder Development Guide
- Curtilage Splits and Redevelopment
- Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside

Townscape and Landscape

- Landscape
- Windows and Doors
- Stone Cleaning
- Shopfronts and Signs
- Big Buildings
- Temporary Buildings
- Energetica

City Centre

- City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme

Businesses

- Harmony of Uses
- Serviced Apartments
- Hierarchy of Centres
- Union Street Frontages
- Children's Nurseries

Natural Environment

- Natural Heritage
- Open Space
- Trees and Woodland

- Flooding and Drainage

Resources
- Resources for New Development
- Wind Turbine Development
- Energy Mapping

The following Guidance will be taken forward as Technical Advice Notes or Local Planning Advice.

- Aberdeen Masterplanning Process
- Design Review Panel
- Design Statements
- Traditional Building Care
- Travel Plan Guidance
- Open Space Design Guide
- Retail Impact Assessments
- Aberdeen Airport Safeguarding
- Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Plan
- Renewable Energy in the Historic Environment

Appendix 6 - Schedule of Land Owned by the Local Authority

The following table outlines land in the ownership of the planning authority, as required by Section 15(3) of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006, which is affected by policies and proposals for development in the proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan.

All site sizes are approximate.

Description of land owned by the planning authority.	Opportunity Site Reference. (Sites shown on Proposals Map. Details in Appendix 2 and Action Programme).
Proposed Greenfield Development under Aberdeen City Council ownership	
Altens East/Doonies. Site for a materials recycling facility/an aerobic digestion or in-vessel composting facility and/or a transfer station. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 2.85 hectares. Grid Reference NJ963031.	OP54
Auchmill Golf Course, Greenferns. Layout and replacement of southern holes adjacent to Howes Road at Auchmill Golf Course. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 4 hectares. Grid Reference is NJ893086.	OP26
East Woodcroft. Land North-East of Middleton Park. Western perimeter of the site meets Jesmond Drive, with the B997 meeting the East of the site. Aberdeen City Council's ownership of the site extends to 2.85 hectares. Grid Reference NJ928121.	OP8
Greenferns Landward. Land at Newhills, to the West of Bucksburn and approximately 800 metres North West of Bucksburn House. Aberdeen City Council's ownership of the site extends to 70 hectares. Grid Reference NJ880091.	OP22
Greenferns Strategic Housing Land Reserve. Land at Greenferns. Site is West of Northfield (Davidson Drive), North of Sheddocksley playing fields and South of Bucksburn House. Aberdeen City Council's ownership site extends to 77.4 hectares; this does not include land at Bucksburn House. Grid	OP33
Grove Nursery, Hazlehead. Following a Council resolution part of this site could be identified for social enterprises specialising in nursery, horticulture and/or allotments and other associated uses. Aberdeen City Councils ownership extends the whole site, 5.7 hectares. Grid Reference NJ899054.	OP49

Description of land owned by the planning authority.	Opportunity Site Reference. (Sites shown on Proposals Map. Details in Appendix 2 and Action Programme).
Loirston. Land at Loirston Loch. Site is West of Loirston Loch and East of the A90. Aberdeen City Council's ownership of the site extends to 26.85 hectares. Grid Reference NJ935012. **Calder Park** Council ownership also extends to land within the Loirston site. Site is West of Wellington Circle and east of Redmoss Road. The land under Aberdeen City Council's ownership covers Calder Park and extends to 15.27 hectares. Grid	OP59 & OP61
Maidencraig North. Land at Sheddocksley/Maidencraig. Site is West of Sheddocksley (Lewis Road) and North of the Lang Stracht. The site extends 500 metres West of Lewis Road and Aberdeen City Council's ownership is 5.98 hectares in total. Grid Reference NJ886071.	OP32
Woodside. Site identified for 400 residential homes and sports facilities. Aberdeen City Council's ownership is bounded by the railway to the south, an unnamed access road to the north, electricity sub station to the east and as far as the sports pavilion to the west. The total ownership extends to 3.92 hectares. Grid Reference is NJ915092.	OP25
Proposed Brownfield Development under Aberdeen City Council ownership	
Aberdeen Beach South. Site identified for Energy Futures centre. Informal grass area to the south of the Amusement Park on Wellington Road. Aberdeen City Council's ownership is 2.9 hectares. Grid Reference NJ954063.	OP83
Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre. Site will become vacant with the development of the new AECC. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to the whole site, 23.36 hectares. Grid Reference NJ 948105	OP13
Aberdon House. Former Elderly persons home on Coningham Road, Tillydrone. Site identified in the Strategic Infrastructure Plan: Affordable Housing. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.64 hectares. Grid Reference NJ934088.	OP72
Balgownie Machine Centre. Derelict land and buildings on Great Northern Road. The site is west of, and beside the Kittybrewster Depot. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.20 hectares. Grid Reference NJ931078.	OP73
Beach Esplanade (Jimmy Chung's) Cleared brownfield site. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to the whole site, 0.2 hectares. Grid Reference NJ953066	OP106
Braeside Infant School on Braeside Place. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 1.04 hectares. Grid Reference NJ911041.	OP39

Description of land owned by the planning authority.	Opportunity Site Reference. (Sites shown on Proposals Map. Details in Appendix 2 and Action Programme).
Burnside Centre. Former day care centre Aberdeen City Council's ownership is 1.2 hectares in total. Grid Reference NJ	OP37
Cove - Two small parcels of land in the northern part of the site. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.16 hectares. Grid Reference NJ944018.	OP56
Craighill Primary School, Kincorth bordered by Hetherwick Road, Gardner Road and Gardner Drive. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.86 hectares. Grid Reference NJ930029.	OP57
Cults Pumping Station. Aberdeen City Council own the eastern part (allotments and car park) of the site to the north of the Cults Hotel and south of the Tennis Club. Ownership extends to 0.26 hectares. Grid Reference NJ895031.	OP40
Dubford Community Facilities. Available for community facilities, local shops etc. Ownership extends over the whole site, 2.46 hectares. Grid Reference NJ941120	OP4
Denburn and Woolmanhill. Aberdeen City Council owns the western past of this site, the Denburn car park. The eastern part of the site, Woolmanhill Hospital is not owned by the Council. Aberdeen City Council's ownership to the west extends to 0.77 hectares. Grid Reference NJ936064.	OP81
Denmore Road Parcel of land to the east of Denmore Road. Site is playing fields at present. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to the whole site, 4.56 hectares. Grid Reference NJ945115.	OP75
East Altens and Doonies. Parcel of land to the east of Altens Industrial Site. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 2.9 hectares. Grid Reference NJ963031	OP54
Former Balgownie Primary School on Tarbothill Road. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.71 hectares. Grid Reference NJ936098.	OP6
Former Bankhead Academy on Bankhead Avenue. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 2.7 hectares. Grid Reference NJ891102	OP14
Former Carden School situated on Gordon Terrace, Dyce. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.37 hectares. Grid Reference NJ890127.	OP15
Former Causewayend Primary School located near Mounthooly Roundabout on the A96, Causewayend. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.69 hectares. Grid Reference NJ939071**.**	OP76
Former Kincorth Academy, located on Kincorth Circle. Site will become surplus once new acdemy to the south of the city is built and operational. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to the whole site, 3.7 hectares. Grid reference NJ395031	OP105

Description of land owned by the planning authority.	Opportunity Site Reference. (Sites shown on Proposals Map. Details in Appendix 2 and Action Programme).
Former Torry Nursery School, located on Oscar Road. Non –operational at present. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to the whole site, 05 hectares. Grid Reference	OP103
Former St Peter's Nursery, Spital. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.09 hecatres. Grid Reference	OP92
Former Summerhill Academy site on Stronsay Drive. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 3.28 hectares. Grid Reference NJ902066.	OP93
Granitehill. Store for art collection during the refurbishment of Aberdeen Art Gallery. Aberdeen City Council ownership extends over whole site, 0.7 hectares. Grid Reference 907084	OP35
Greenfern Infants School, now redundant. Springhill Road meets the perimeter of the site to the east, Maidencraig Place to the south and Sheddocksley Road to the West. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.91 hectares. Grid Reference NJ897069.	OP27
Haudagain Triangle. Land for road improvements and proposed retail use. Aberdeen City Councils ownership extends to, 4.34 hectares. Grid Reference is NJ912090.	OP65
King Street/Beach Esplanade Land identified by Council resolution for a Mosque. Site is south of the River Don. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 1.96 hectares. Grid Reference is NJ946092.	OP85
Marischal Sqaure, Broad Street, Aberdeen. Aberdeen City Councils ownership covers the whole site and extends to 0.9 hectares. Grid Reference is NJ942063.	OP91
Manor Walk Area of ground to the north of Manor Walk. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 1.92 hectares. Grid Reference NJ908089.	OP66
Milltimber Primary School, located in Monearn Gardens. Aberdeen City Councils ownership extends to the whole site, 1.9 hectares. Grid Reference NJ862018	OP43
Pittodrie Park. Part of Aberdeen Football Clubs car park, north of Pittodrie. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.19 hectares. Grid Reference NJ946077.	OP87
Smithfield Primary School located on Smithfield Drive. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 2.27 hectares. Grid Reference NJ914084.	OP89
St Machar Primary School, former primary school located on Coningham Road, Tillydrone. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 1.01 hectares. Grid Reference	OP90
Stationfields, Cove. Aberdeen City Council owns a small parcel of land located to the East of Coast Road. Grid Reference NJ953015.	OP58

Description of land owned by the planning authority.	Opportunity Site Reference. (Sites shown on Proposals Map. Details in Appendix 2 and Action Programme).
Tillydrone Primary School (site of). Land is now vacant and is located on Harris Drive, Tillydrone. Site identified in the Strategic Infrastructure Plan: Affordable Housing. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 2.11 hectares. Grid Reference NJ933087.	OP94
The Waterfront, Torry. Aberdeen City Council's site ownership extends to 1.74 hectares. Grid Reference	OP99
Victoria Road School, Victoria Road. Aberdeen City Council's ownership extends to 0.67 hectares. Grid Reference NJ954051.	OP97

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Aberdeen Local Development Plan SEA Environmental Report (Proposed Plan)

PART 1

To Sea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

PART 2

An SEA Environmental Report is attached for the plan entitled

Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017

The Responsible Authority is:

Aberdeen City Council

PART 3

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Non-Technical Summary

This Non-Technical Summary introduces Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and summarises the contents of the full technical report, which begins on page 8.

Purpose of this Environmental Report and Key Stages

We (Aberdeen City Council) have written this Environmental Report ("the report") for the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 (LDP) under the Environmental Assessment [Scotland] Act 2005. The process taken to write this report is called Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The reason for undertaking SEA is to address all the effects that the LDP will have on the environment. The overall aim of the process is to protect the environment. Throughout this SEA process we have taken the views of others (including the public and key agencies) into account before coming to final decisions.

SEA should be applied to plans, programmes and strategies ('PPS') produced by public bodies, including local authorities. The key stages of SEA are pre-screening, screening, scoping, environmental report and post-adoption statement. An explanation of these stages can be found below:

1. Pre-screening

Pre-screening of a PPS is done to show that a plan is not likely to have any effect on the environment, or if it has any effects at all, they will be minimal. After pre-screening, a PPS will not be subject to any further SEA. This stage does not apply to the LDP.

2. Screening

A PPS is screened to determine whether we should be doing an SEA for it. When a plan is likely to have significant (i.e. very bad, damaging, large or long-lasting) effects on the environment, we will do an SEA. If the effect is not significant, no further action is taken.

3. Scoping

At the scoping stage, we produce a report setting out how much information should be in the actual Environmental Report, how we plan to assess the effects of the different aspects of the plan, and how long we will consult with others on the report. We then consult with Key Agencies on the contents of the Scoping Report, and their recommendations help us to improve our approach. In this case, it is clear that the environmental effects of the LDP are likely to be significant, so the SEA process skipped the screening stage and started from the scoping stage.

4. Environmental Report

In the Environmental Report, we assess the effects of a plan on the environment and explain how we could address those effects, through a process called mitigation. We also describe how we will monitor any significant effects of the plan on the environment. In January 2014, we published an *Interim Environmental Report* alongside the Main Issues Report. This assessed the environmental effects of the options and alternatives included in the Main Issues Report. We have now revised and updated this to

take into account the full content and detail of the Proposed LDP, as well as the outcome of public consultation on the interim environmental report. The finalised Environmental Report sits with the Proposed LDP and Supplementary Guidance. As a result of the consultation into the Proposed Plan and the Examination of the Proposed Plan, the SEA was revisited to take into account any further comments received by Key Agencies and modifications outlined by the Reporters'. Sites and policies were reassessed where required and no significant environmental impact was noted from the modifications.

5. Post-adoption Statement

Once we have taken into account and addressed concerns raised by those we have consulted, we will adopt the plan and tell everyone about the difference the SEA process and the views of those we have consulted have made to the final plan. We do this through a Post-adoption Statement.

Section 3 of the main report shows all of the SEA activities we have carried out to date. It also includes a summary of the comments we have received from other people, and how we have made changes to the report to take these into account.

Description of the Proposed Plan

The Proposed Plan forms Aberdeen City Council's settled view on the content of the next LDP (set to be adopted in 2017).

The existing LDP (2012) allocates land for housing and employment over two phases in line with the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan (2009). The Structure Plan has now been replaced by the Strategic Development Plan (2014), but the amount of land we need to allocate has not changed. Therefore, it is proposed that most of the policies and land allocations included in the 2012 LDP are carried forward into the next Plan.

Section 4 of the main report contains a detailed description of the content of the Proposed Plan, and the different options and alternatives we considered while we were writing it.

Context of the Proposed Plan

To guide and help us deliver what we plan to do in the LDP and other related strategies, like the Local Housing Strategy and the Local Transport Strategy, we have made use of high-level documents and statements. These documents and statements include the Strategic Development Plan vision, Aberdeen City Community Plan and the Aberdeen City and Shire Housing Needs and Demand Assessment.

This Environmental Report covers the key issues, outcomes, topics and processes of the SEA process listed at paragraph 1-9 of Schedule 3 of the 2005 Act. We have used many different documents or pieces of legislation to influence how we have written this strategy, which affects Aberdeen, the North East, Scotland and Europe. These documents cover:

- Climate and water
- Plant and animal life on the land and in the water

- Noise
- Shops and town centres
- Historic and important buildings
- How we use energy
- How we throw away waste
- How we travel, walk and cycle
- Exercise and health

Section 5.1 of the main report contains a list of all the relevant plans, programmes, strategies and policies which have a bearing on the Local Development Plan. Appendix 1 contains a more detailed description of these.

State of the Environment in Aberdeen

We have collected information on the key characteristics of the environment in Aberdeen and have gathered statistics which give an up-to-date picture of the state of the environment in Aberdeen. We have also identified a number of environmental problems in Aberdeen, what might happen if the LDP did not exist, and what the role of the LDP might be in addressing these problems.

The challenges we must deal with through this Plan:

- We have serious air quality problems in Aberdeen. The increasing number of cars, trucks and vehicles that pass through the City worsens this;
- we burn a lot of fuel to heat our homes and to drive our cars. This is releasing more CO2 into the air and causing our carbon and ecological footprints to rise;
- future climate change will affect how much water we will have and how stable our soils will be;
- petrol stations, factories, and other industries have all affected how good or bad our soil and water is;
- how we deal with waste also affects our soils, water and climate;
- Aberdeen is rich in cultural heritage and landscape, but the houses we have built in the past are putting pressure on these resources;
- new buildings are putting pressure on animal and plant life (biodiversity);
- when we have good parks or open spaces, people will want to build and live around them;
- increasing house prices and private rents; and
- the make up of the population is an issue that needs to be considered for future development. For example, there are a range of ages living in Aberdeen, but because we are living longer there will be an increased proportion of older people, and there is an increase in people coming to live here from other parts of the UK, Europe and the world.

Section 5 .2 and 5.3 of the main report describe the state of the environment in Aberdeen in more detail. Appendix 2 contains environmental statistics, targets and trends for Aberdeen on a wide range of topics. Appendix 3 contains map-based information.

Assessment of Environment Effects

The main part of SEA is assessing the effect of the strategy, policies and supplementary guidance on the environment. A summary of our findings can be found in the table below:

SEA Issue	Impact of the Local Development Plan
Air and Climatic factors	We found that the effects of the plan on the environment are mixed (i.e. positive, negative & neutral). Building new homes and workplaces will mean more vehicles on the roads which emit greenhouse gases. On the other hand, the plan also includes policies to help promote sustainable modes of transport such as walking and cycling. Development on existing green space may also increase surface water run-off, and increase vulnerability to flooding.
Water	The overall effects of the plan on water are negative, because all new development requires more water be taken from the River Dee. Some developments also physically impact on watercourses themselves and may result in pollution of streams and burns. On the other hand, the plan includes policies to promote water-saving technologies in buildings. (Please see the Habitats Regulation Assessment of the Aberdeen City Local Development Plan and page 31 of the Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Strategic Development Plan).
Soil	When we build houses, shops, places of work and roads, the soil on which we put these buildings up can be damaged. Increased waste will lead to more landfill, which pollutes the soil. However, the development of contaminated sites will benefit soil because it will have to clean up the pollution.
Biodiversity (flora and fauna)	The overall effects of the plan on plants and animals are very negative. Because if we develop 36,000 new houses in Aberdeen, some of these must be on greenfield sites. Development on greenfield sites may destroy the places where plants and animals are found. The River Dee is the home to special fish and animals and development may harm them.
Population and Health	The overall effects of the plan on people are positive, because it provides for attractive, warm and affordable homes in pleasant places for people to live, and also encourages the development of new employment opportunities. However, traffic from new development and other polluting uses make air quality worse and it may have a negative affect on human health.
Cultural Heritage	We found that the effects of the plan on special or old buildings are mixed (i.e. positive, negative & neutral). Policy protects these buildings from damage or loss in all but the most exceptional circumstances, meaning

	negative effects are likely to be very small. Design policies will help to make the impact small.
Landscape	The overall effects of the plan on our surroundings are mixed, some positive and others negative. Development that can be seen from lots of places can have negative affects on views and scenery.
Material Assets	The overall effect of the plan on the creation of new buildings, facilities, infrastructure and equipment is very good.

Section 6 of the main report describes in more detail how we approached the assessment of environmental effects. Appendices 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 contain summaries of the detailed assessments for each aspect of the plan.

Mitigation Measures

Where an aspect of the plan will have significant negative effects on the environment, we have identified 'mitigation measures' to compensate for this. A summary of the broad measures which will be taken to help mitigate the negative (or enhance the positive) effects of the preferred options can be found in the table below:

SEA Issue	Mitigation Measures
Air and Climatic factors	We will seek to enhance (i.e. add value to) the positive impacts as we work with our partners. We will look to reduce car dependence and provide people with choice on how they travel. We will have a mix of houses, jobs, shops and schools close together so that the buildings will not damage our climate and air. We will avoid building on land which floods. We will make sure buildings need less heat and electricity.
Water	We will work with Scottish Water to make sure that the houses built will have sufficient water. We will work with builders to ensure that the buildings will not use too much water. We will require soft structures (called 'SUDS') to be built and maintained to manage surface water from the new development. We will make sure that areas which flood when it rains will be avoided or zoned as an open space.
Soil	We will require new developments to clean up harmful pollution where appropriate. We will recycle more waste and reduce waste going to landfill.
Biodiversity (flora and fauna)	When we are building SUDS to take surface water from urban areas, we will make sure that they can encourage biodiversity (i.e. some plant and animal life) to live and grow within the SUDS system. We will also encourage the provision of open spaces, including wildlife areas, in new developments. We will also protect special areas where we find plants and animals (small and large). We will keep areas for animals to move from place to place.

Population and Health	We will encourage the provision of services, jobs, houses and facilities that cater for all sectors of society, old and young. We will avoid building where there are risks to health like areas of bad air quality or smell.
Cultural Heritage	We will look to protect our most valued features wherever possible and encourage good design in new developments so they do not affect the setting of existing special buildings.
Landscape	We will look to protect our most valued landscapes and landscape features and encourage good master planning and design. We will not build on the areas that are easily seen from lots of different places.
Material Assets	We will make sure that roads, schools, hospitals, utilities and jobs required for new developments are put in place. We would make sure that the plan supports all of this.

Section 7 of the main report contains a detailed description of the significant negative effects of each aspect of the plan and what mitigation measures we have identified to address them.

Monitoring

We will monitor the significant negative and positive affects of the plan through the monitoring plan that we have set out in the environmental report. We have stated what actions we must carry out, who must carry out each of the actions and when we must carry them out.

Section 8 of the main report contains a detailed description of all the things we will monitor, how we will do this and how often.

1. Introduction

The purpose of the Environmental Report is to address all the effects that the Aberdeen Local Development Plan (LDP). The report has been written under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

The SEA assesses the impact of each of the different aspects of the Plan, including the overall vision and strategy, land-use policies and specific sites identified for development. It also assesses the reasonable alternatives we considered when we were writing the Plan. Therefore, the SEA has helped us to make decisions about and improve the content of the Plan.

In the course of producing an LDP, there is a requirement to publish at least three documents throughout the process. The first stage is the publication of the Main Issues Report, for which we prepared an Interim Environmental Report. The Main Issues Report identified preferred options and alternatives for land allocations and also policy provision to address other planning issues.

Following analysis of comments on the Main Issues Report and Interim Environmental Report, we prepared the Proposed Plan. For the Proposed Plan, we revised the Environmental Report. The Environmental Report was structured to follow the format of the Proposed Plan and provide an assessment of its content. The assessment of options and alternatives discussed with Main Issues Report are still contained in this assessment, but the LDP only presents the preferred option. The assessments have been updated from the Interim Environmental Report to take into account comments from the consultation authorities and the public.

The comments received as part of the 12 week public consultation, which ran from 20 March 2016 to 1 June 2016, on the Proposed Plan and Interim Environmental Report were analysed and modifications made. The Reporters Report in the Examination of the Proposed Plan outlined a number of recommended modifications. Having considered the Reporters' modifications and updated the Environmental Report it is considered that none of the modifications are likely to have significant effects on the environment when considering the overall effects of the Plan. Changes have been outlined in section 3.

- Section 2 tabulates the key facts about the LDP;
- Section 3 describes the SEA process to date;
- Section 4 offers a brief description of the content of the Plan, including its vision and objectives, policies, site allocations and Supplementary Guidance documents;

- Section 5 outlines the context for the Plan, including other relevant plans, policies and strategies (PPS) and environmental protection objectives, baseline data describing the current state of the environment and environmental problems in Aberdeen;
- Section 6 describes the scope and level of the assessment and explains the assessment framework that was used. It also contains an assessment of the cumulative effects of the plan on the environment;
- Section 7 provides an overview of the mitigation measures proposed to address the negative effects of the plan on the environment;
- Section 8 sets out how we intend to monitor these effects; and
- Section 9 sets out the 'next steps' for the SEA process.

The description of relevant PPS, baseline information and assessments for policies, sites and supplementary guidance can be found in Appendix 1-9.

2. Key Facts Relating to the LDP Proposed Plan

Table 2a below shows the key facts relating to the Local Development Plan.

Table 2a: Key Facts relating to the Local Development Plan

Name of Responsible Authority	Aberdeen City Council
Title of the PPS	Aberdeen Local Development Plan
What Prompted the PPS	Planning & etc. (Scotland) Act 2006
Subject	Land use and planning policy
Period Covered by the PPS	To 2026
Frequency of Updates	Every five years
Area covered by the PPS	Aberdeen City
Purpose and/or objectives of the PPS	To set the framework for the development of land in Aberdeen City
Contact Point	Donna Laing Planner (Local Development Plan) Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Aberdeen City Council Business Hub 4 Marischal College Broad Street Aberdeen AB10 1AB

3. SEA Activities to Date

Table 3a 'SEA Activities to Date' summarises the SEA activities to date in relation to the Environmental Report for the Aberdeen City Local Development Plan Main Issues Report. Table 3b 'Comments from Consultation Authorities' shows the comments we received from the Consultation Authorities on the Scoping Report and what we have done to address them.

Table 3a: SEA Activities to Date

SEA Action/Activity	Date	Notes
Scoping the consultation periods and the level of detail to be included in the Environmental Report for the Main Issues Report	Scoping Report May 2013	Feedback from SEPA, SNH and Historic Scotland considered; assessment methodology with objectives and questions implemented.
Environmental baseline established		
Outline and objectives of the PPS	Draft Interim Environmental Report October 2013	
Relationship with other PPS and environmental objectives		
Environmental problems identified		
Assessment of future of area without the PPS		
Alternatives considered		
Environmental assessment methods established		
Selection of PPS alternatives to be included in the environmental assessment		
Identification of environmental problems that may persist after implementation and measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects		
Monitoring methods proposed		
Preparation and Consultation on the Environmental Report for the Main Issues Report	Main Issues Report Consultation 13 Jan- 24 Mar 2014	Feedback from SEPA, SNH and Historic Scotland considered and taken into account (see Table 3b)
Taking account of the consultation outcome in the revised Environmental Report for the Proposed Plan	Preparation of Proposed Plan and final Environmental Report prepared October 2014	
Agreeing on the alternatives and options to be used in the final environmental report		
Assessing the effects of the LDP, mitigating		

effects, firming monitoring measures and strategic flood risk assessment.		
	Supplementary Guidance and revised final Environmental Report January 2015	Environmental Report will be updated to include assessment of Supplementary Guidance, and any changes as a result of committee.
Public consultation on Proposed Plan, Supplementary Guidance and Environmental Report. Notification/publicity action	Public consultation period planned ran from 20 March – 01 June 2015	Feedback from SNH, SEPA, Historic Scotland, and the New Aberdeen Mosque and Community Centre Project considered and taken into account (see Table 3c).
Examination, Modification and Adoption of LDP 2016, post-adoption statement	Examination of Proposed Plan November 2015 – September 2016. Modification of the Proposed Plan September – November 2016 Adoption of the Plan – expected January 2017	Reassessed SEA with regard to Reporters' modifications. (See Table 3d.)

Table 3b: Comments from Key Agencies on Scoping Report, consultation May 2013

Organisation	Section	Comment	Aberdeen City Council Response
Historic Scotland	Table 5.3 Environmental Problems Relevant to the Local Development Plan	• Welcome comments made about opportunities for policy enhancement in relation to the historic environment.	• Noted. We have now revised and improved the policies that relate to the historic environment. See assessment of policies in Appendix 7.
	Table 6.1 Environmental Objectives and Questions	• The inclusion of an appropriate objective for the historic environment is welcomed. The assessment questions allow the relative effects of these proposals to be identified.	• We have kept the relevant objectives and questions the same.
	Spatial Strategy: Aberdeen Harbour Expansion	• While noting the negative effect on nearby scheduled monuments and listed buildings, it would be beneficial to point to the need to consider and mitigate this at next (lower) level.	• Where a site/proposal has a likely significant negative impact on a scheduled monument or listed building, we will require mitigation at a lower level.
	Spatial Strategy B0308 Prime Four North	• The consumption dyke mentioned is a scheduled monument and category B listed structure. Consider that the potential negative effect would be significant and development of this site would be undesirable and not supported by Historic Scotland.	• Noted. This site has not been identified as an Opportunity Site in the Proposed Plan.
	Nigg Bay Solar Farm	• There does not appear to be an assessment of this proposal. There are a number of scheduled monuments in the vicinity which need to be considered.	• This assessment was omitted from the Interim report in error. This site has now been assessed. See assessment of brownfield sites in Appendix 5.
	Mitigation	• Welcome the approach of carrying out planning and SEA assessment at the same time. Consider that information already collected may be of benefit to include as mitigation which could inform developer requirements for sites with negative effects.	• Noted.
	Monitoring	• In general, the approach to monitoring the effects of the plan is welcomed. The Buildings at Risk Register is no longer maintained by the Scottish Civic Trust, but by RCHAMS on behalf of Historic Scotland.	• We have amended the reference to Scottish Civic Trust to ARCHAMS.
Scottish Natural Heritage	General	• Appreciate the way the assessment tables have been kept to manageable proportions.	• Noted. The approach of presenting assessment summaries is maintained.
		• Some aspects of the MIR do not appear to have been included in the interim Environmental Report, e.g. the Nigg Solar Farm and proposed new policies.	• Assessment of Nigg Solar Farm has been omitted in error. This site has now been assessed. See assessment of brownfield sites in Appendix 5. • The new policies had not yet been written and therefore their content could not be fully assessed. They have now been fully assessed for this report. See Appendix 7.

	Mitigation	• Note that mitigation was only included for significant negative impacts. Recommend that mitigation be identified for other negative impacts. Would also encourage the SEA to seek positive environmental effects from the plan. In this regard, the SEA could make use of the Council's Greenspace Audit.	• Disagree with point on mitigation. SEA is only concerned with identifying, assessing and mitigating significant effects. Where other negative effects contribute cumulatively to a significant negative impact, this will be mitigated. However negative effects that are not deemed to be 'significant' do not require to be mitigated. • The SEA will be used to help identify areas of positive impact and we will consider how the LDP enhance these. Some enhancement measures are shown in the assessment of policies and sites (Appendix 4-7).
	Table 5.1 Other Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Suggest the following are added in the relevant categories: • Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 • Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Framework and Sector Plans. • Countryside (Scotland) Act 1967 • Land Reform (Scotland) Act) 2003 • Scottish Biodiversity Strategy • Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011 • Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended) • Control of Woodland Removal Policy • Page 30: as well as species protected under Schedules 1 (birds) and 5 (animals) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended, mention should be made of species protected under schedule 8 (plants). • Page 30: suggest other environmental protection objectives to include here are: avoid the introduction or spread of non-native invasive species and ensure terrestrial and marine planning are integrated.	• We have made all of these suggested additions to the relevant section.
	Table 5.2 Potential Environmental Changes without the LDP	• Recommend that consideration is given to water quantity (i.e. degree of abstraction to meet need) as well as water quality.	• We have updated the relevant table to include reference to water quantity.
	Table 5.3. Environmental Problems Relevant to the LDP	• Biodiversity: text under 'implications for the LDP' should read: "the LDP should protect biodiversity through minimising the impact on designated sites (including LNCS), protected species, BAP species, and habitats, green spaces and networks". • Soil: note that there is no mention of prime quality land or carbon-rich soils. Clarify if these are not significant factors for Aberdeen City. • Water: amplify the point on abstraction to include the potential adverse impacts on the River Dee SAC qualifying interests. • Landscape: a further implication for the LDP should be that the LDP should safeguard	• We have made all of these suggestion amendments to the relevant table. • Policy NE8 Natural Heritage has now been updated to protect peat land and carbon-rich soils from development.

		landscape character.	
	Table 6.2 Effect of Plan and Mitigation Measures	• Biodiversity: appropriate assessment is not mitigation for the plan itself. Mitigation would be an inclusion of a relevant statement in the plan. • The mitigation measure for water abstraction should be amended to state that new developments should install water-saving technology to minimise abstraction rates. • Bat surveys should only be carried out where there is a sufficient likelihood that bats will be present in accordance with SG. • Plan impact of the harbour – there is also the potential for it to have an adverse impact on extent, quality and use of green space in the vicinity. • Another plan impact should be the impact of development on habitats and species of biodiversity value. • Soil: make reference to the proposed addition of protection for peat soils. Consider a new policy for soil protection in general. • Water: amend to read that water abstraction levels from the Dee need to be agreed between Scottish Water and SEPA (not SNH) • Landscape: ensuring good siting, design and layout is another important mitigation measure to consider. This ties in with the proposal for Design Statements. The EIA should consider appropriate landscape mitigation for the harbour.	• All suggested changes to relevant table made.
	Table 6.3 Monitoring of Plan	• The monitoring plan could be refined to give more specific and quantifiable information. Monitoring measures should be more clearly related to the plan impacts. • Biodiversity: how many applications require Species Protection Plans or licensing tests. Also monitoring the effect of the plan on statutory designated sites could be included by reference to SNH Site Condition Monitoring and Sitecheck data. For habitat fragmentation, monitor the number of applications which include land in the GSN and which would result in habitat loss. • Water: volume of water abstracted from the Dee in comparison to the consented CAR limit • Landscape: development approved that is incompatible with present landscape character • Population and Material Assets: add number/length of new and connecting paths created.	• Mitigation and monitoring should be clearly linked. We only need to monitor those indicators which relate to significant effects. • Some of the suggested indicators are not monitored at present and there is limited capacity to do so at present. • Monitoring plan has been updated to include those indicators which are relevant and data is available.
	Appendix 1: Links to other PPS and Environmental Protection Objectives	• The same PPS should be added in as noted in comments on Table 5.1. • The 'implication' of the Habitats Directive should include protection of internationally designated nature conservation sites and European Protected Species.	• Table updated to reflect additions to relevant PPS.
	Appendix 2: Baseline Data, Trends and Targets	• Biodiversity: part of the baseline for SSSI and SAC can be the condition of qualifying features as found on SNH website. NESBReC, the NBN Gateway and Native Woodland Survey of Scotland are also useful sources of baseline data.	• We have updated Baseline appendix to include condition of qualifying features of SSSIs and River Dee SAC.

		• Human Health: length of core paths and cycle routes could be added as baseline data	• We do not monitor the length or core paths or cycle routes so it has not been included this time. We will look into monitoring this in future.
	Appendix 3 Map Based Information	• A map of the Green Space Network could be added. • More detailed soil maps can be downloaded from the Soil Scotland website.	• GSN map added and Soil Scotland maps added. See Appendix 3.
	Appendix 4 Assessment of Greenfield Options • Generic Greenfield Assessment	• Mitigation does not mention that all developments should enhance biodiversity as in Policy NE8 • Mitigation does not include provision of means by which public transport and active travel can be utilised. • Mitigation does not include scope for a new policy on soil – see DEFRA guidance for example. • Amend text to refer to SEPA rather than SNH with regards to water abstraction from the Dee.	• The Mitigation section has been updated to include these suggestions, with the exception of soil. Protection for peatland and carbon-rich soils has been made through policy NE8. We consider that a dedicated policy on general soils would not be appropriate for the LDP. • Reference to SNH has been amended to SEPA in relation to water abstraction from the River Dee.
	• New Greenfield Bids 2013	• Include mitigation for single minus negative effects as well as double minus Assume mitigation in the table will be carried into developer contribution and LDP text. • B0904/B0905 Woodend: no justification or mitigation set out for the loss of ancient woodland. Minimum mitigation would require compensatory planting and prior species survey and protection plan. • B0913: see above • B0914 Mid Anguston: mitigation required for significant intrusion into the landscape. • 051 Nigg Solar Farm: no assessment of this proposal. • B0946 Contlaw Road: presence of ancient woodland not mentioned in the SEA assessment – should be under 'biodiversity'. • B0947 Huxterstone: This non-preferred site is not assessed.	• Disagree with mitigating all negative effects. SEA is only concerned with identifying, assessing and mitigating significant effects. However, where other negative effects contribute cumulatively to a significant negative impact, this will be mitigated. • Suggested mitigation for loss of ancient woodland has been included for B0904/B09005/B0913. • Significant intrusion into the landscape has not been identified as an environmental effect for B0914 Mid Anguston. • Nigg Solar Farm was omitted in error and has now been assessed in this report. • B0947 Huxterstone was assessed under a different site code. This has now been amended to read B0947.
	Appendix 6 Assessment of Main Issues • Seeming omissions	• Proposed new policy zoning for the beach and leisure has not been assessed. • All potential new policies in the Monitoring Statement should have been assessed as part of the MIR. • Assume potential new SG will be individually screened for SEA • Proposals included in Section 5 (transport and education) have not been assessed. • AECC site at Bridge of Don could be assessed as part of brownfield preferred options. • Nigg Solar Farm is not assessed.	• New policy on 'Beach and Leisure' had not yet been written at the time of the Interim ER. It has now been fully assessed. See assessment of policies in Appendix 7. • Proposed SG will be presented to committee in January 2015 and this report will be updated accordingly.

		• Facility at Tullos Hill landfill site (generate renewable energy) will also need to be assessed if it is included as an allocation.	• The proposal for the new academy is on the existing OP80 site (Calder Park). This has been given a new assessment for a new school. See assessment of greenfield sites in Appendix 4. • The Proposed Gypsy and Traveller site at Howes Road has also been fully assessed. • Nigg Solar Farm assessment was omitted in error and has now been fully assessed. See assessment of brownfield sites in Appendix 5. • There are no proposals for a renewable energy proposal at Tullos Hill – this may be the same as Nigg Solar Farm.
	Other comments	• Main Issue 6 (Retail Outwith the City Centre) – current approach would seem to be negative for biodiversity rather than neutral. • Main Issue 7 (Harbour Expansion) – impacts on recreation should be addressed in the mitigation column. The EIA should address access and recreation. • In general the LDP should identify requirements for project-level EIA.	• Score changed to negative for biodiversity for current approach to retail outwith the City Centre. • Mitigation included that EIA for the new harbour should address access and recreation. • In general the LDP does identify requirements for project-level EIA where appropriate.
	Appendix 7 Cumulative Assessment	• Report identified a significant long-term implications for soil city-wide. Would be helpful to discuss mitigation here, e.g. a new soil policy. • Water-saving technologies may not be enough to compensate for the volume of water needed to support the allocations – highlight the importance of water monitoring. • Redouble efforts to secure biodiversity enhancements in new development through the incorporation of green infrastructure and applying standards on green space.	• Protection for peatland and carbon-rich soils has been made through policy NE8. A dedicated policy on general soils would not be desirable for the LDP.
SEPA	General	• In general, satisfied that a detailed environmental assessment of the MIR has been carried out and it is clear how this has informed the MIR.	• Noted.
	Description of PPS Content of LDP MIR	• The thirteen Main Issues preferred options and alternative options are clearly set out and assessed and welcome this approach • We note that the Vision is carried forward from the SDP which has already been subject to SEA. • We accept that all the policies and allocations in the Proposed Plan will be assessed in the finalised Environmental Report.	• Noted. All of the policies and allocations have been assessed in this report.
	Plan, Programme or Strategy Context	• The PPS listed (page 27) provide a good background for the plan-making process. • Certain legislation will require to be updated, and new flood maps have now been produced. Pleased to note that a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has been produced.	• List of relevant PPS has been checked and updated with latest legislation.

	Environmental Problems	• There are a number of emerging issues it may be appropriate to consider: • Climate change: increasing rainfall levels are having an impact on contaminated surface water run-off. This is particularly relevant for the River Dee Catchment (page 39). • Soils (page 55): all development has the potential to impact on carbon rich soils including peat. We consider that a measurement of sustainable management is the amount of peat generated by a proposed development and the percentage that is identified as 'waste'. • Connection to the public sewer system is an environmental problem due to capacity issues in certain treatment plants and the network. There may also be environmental problems associated with proposals for private foul drainage treatment systems, particularly relevant for the River Dee Catchment (page 39). • Water environment: there is also a potential impact on private water supplies which are groundwater abstractions. • Biodiversity, we consider Invasive Non Native Species, especially waterborne ones, as an environmental problem.	• The Environmental Problems table has been updated to include the suggested issues, with the exception of soil. • Policy NE8 Natural Heritage now includes protection for peatland and carbon rich soils.
	Assessment	• Sufficient information and justification is provided in the Interim ER to understand how conclusions were drawn. • There is a change in circumstances for some of the sites and text should be added to the Proposed Plan 2015, for example highlighting the need for flood risk assessments for certain sites. We therefore request that the Finalised Environmental Report includes this and all other updated baseline information in the site assessments (gives list of sites which require FRA). • Recommend a table detailing all site allocations in the Proposed Plan, when they were assessed (e.g. a previous ER, 2013 Interim ER, 2015 Finalised ER) and if assessed in a previous ER that there are no changes in circumstances following your own, ours and other consultees considerations of the MIR site allocations. • The scale of water efficiency technologies envisaged may not be able to compensate for the volume and quality of water resources needed to support the allocations. Water abstraction, especially from the River Dee is already an existing issue and even with water saving technologies any new development will exacerbate this. • We are able to accept the principle of development on flood risk grounds for all the proposed sites and sites to be carried forward. Therefore no mitigation requires to be identified in this regard. • The protection of the marine environment is not identified in the assessment apart from the Aberdeen Harbour extension proposal.	• We have included a column to the site assessments (Appendix 4-6) showing when each site was originally/last assessed and any changes in circumstances since then. • Acceptable levels of water abstraction are agreed between SEPA and Scottish Water. • Note that flooding is not a significant issue for any of the proposed sites or those to be carried forward.
	Mitigation	• Welcome the overall approach to mitigation. • Pleased to note that an EIA will be required for Nigg Bay with specific mitigation measures. • Do not consider that SUDS can provide solutions to flood risk issues on sites. Flood Risk Assessment can identify the issues and appropriate mitigation measures.	• For sites where flooding is an issue, (based on advice from SEPA given in response to the Main Issues Report), FRA is shown as a mitigation measure, with the appropriate lower-level mitigation specified.

		• We support that any areas identified as being at risk of flooding should be designated as Green Space Network. • We fully support the introduction of a new policy on construction waste. At present we would seek to assess proposals for construction waste management on a development site through the requirement to submit a Construction Environmental Management Plan • No mitigation is identified for damage to soil quality, structure and morphology. Mitigation in the form of a policy or supplementary guidance on development on peatlands may be appropriate. • Mitigation indicates that the Council will liaise with SEPA where there is potential for pollution of the water environment and policies and supplementary guidance on buffer strips will be applied. This may not be sufficient mitigation to prevent pollution and that further supplementary guidance may be required on Construction Environment Management Plans. • Amend reference to SNH to read SEPA in relation to abstraction issues related to the River Dee. All new development will require disposal of foul drainage and that mitigation measures, identified in conjunction with Scottish Water, may be required to address on-going capacity issues.	• Policy NE8 includes reference to a requirement for Construction Environmental Management Plans. • Peatland and carbon-rich soils are protected through policy NE8. • The reference to SNH has been amended to SEPA in relation to abstraction issues.
	Monitoring	• Content with monitoring proposals. • It may be more appropriate to monitor impacts of a policy on water usage on the River Dee (page 55) through Scottish Water's abstraction figures and SEPA's monitoring results rather than the Dee Catchment Management Plan.	• Noted. • We have updated the Monitoring Plan to include this new source of information.
Scottish Water	Table 5.1. Other relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	• Scottish Water's Strategic Asset Capacity Development Plan. This document is published annually so it may be more advisable to state this rather than providing a specific year. • Amend references to SNH to read SEPA in relation to regulating the abstraction levels from the River Dee.	• This document has been included in the list of relevant PPS. • Reference to SNH has been amended to SEPA in relation to abstraction level from River Dee.

Table 3c: Comments from Key Agencies and Public on Environmental Report, consultation from 20 March – 1 June 2015

Organisation	Section	Comment	Aberdeen City Council Response
Scottish Natural Heritage	Table Assessment of Environmental Effects, page 5	• The sentence which reads, "The overall effects of the plan on water are negative, because all new development requires more water to be taken from the River Dee…" The implication of this is that the issue needs to be addressed as part of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) of the LDP in respect of the River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC). It would be helpful to include a reference here to the HRA appraisal, and possibly also to the relevant section of the City & Shire SDP (page 31).	• Reference has been made to the Habitats Regulation Appraisal and to page 31 of the Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Strategic Development Plan . See Table: Assessment of Environmental Effects.
	Table 7.a Significant Effects of the Plan and Mitigation Measures, Biodiversity	• Under "mitigation/enhancement measures", reference should also be made to the Supplementary Guidance on the Natural Environment regarding invasive non-native species (INNS) as a means to mitigate the potential spread of INNS that may otherwise be caused by development, to the detriment of protected areas, protected species, general biodiversity and people.	• Reference has been made to the relevant Supplementary Guidance. See Table 7a: Significant Effects of the Plan and Mitigation.
	Table 7.a Significant Effects of the Plan and Mitigation Measures, Water	• Regarding the sentence "All new development will increase the need to abstract water from the River Dee…" As above, the implication of this is that the issue needs to be addressed as part of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) of the LDP in respect of the River Dee (SAC). It would be helpful to include a reference here to the HRA appraisal, and possibly also to the relevant section of the City & Shire SDP (page 31).	• Reference has been made to the Habitats Regulation Appraisal and to page 31 of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Strategic Development Plan . See Table 7a: Significant Effects of the Plan and Mitigation Measures.
	Table 7.a Significant Effects of the Plan and Mitigation Measures, Water	• Regarding the sentence "Acceptable rates of water abstraction from the Dee are agreed between SEPA and Scottish Water.", with regard to water abstraction affecting the River Dee SAC, we recommend that consideration is given to including Scottish Water (as well as SEPA) as one of the parties responsible for mitigation. This is because they are responsible for water abstraction and so could be expected to monitor compliance with the relevant water abstraction license(s) for the SAC.	• Scottish Water have been added to the list of parties involved. See Table 7a: Significant Effects of the Plan and Mitigation Measures.
		• Mitigation - In relation to the proposed mitigation, it would be appropriate to add the requirement for HRA (and likely EIA) for master-planning and through the DM and Planning Agreements processes as part of mitigation to avoid adverse effects on the integrity of the River Dee SAC.	• Text has been added regarding this matter. See Table 7a: Significant Effects of the Plan and Mitigation Measures.
		• Notwithstanding the above, the Council will need to be able to confirm, based on up-to-date (and predicted for the levels of proposed development) water abstraction levels information (sourced from Scottish Water) and compliance with licensed abstraction (sourced from SEPA) that any proposed changes in abstraction that would arise from the proposed development allocations is still as described at the time the SDP was drawn up and remains achievable without having an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC.	• Aberdeen City Council met with and wrote to Scottish Water asking if they could address concerns over the amount of proposed development in both Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire and the possible impact this may have on licenced water abstraction levels from the River Dee. Scottish Water confirmed in writing that taking into consideration all proposed developments in the two LDP's, the amount of water required from the River Dee is forecast to still fall

			below the current volume that Scottish Water is licensed to abstract. SHN confirmed by email that they are satisfied with this approach and that the LDP will not adversely affect the integrity of the sites listed in this assessment.
	Table 7.a, significant effects of plan and mitigation measures; Soil, Ground contamination	• With regard to "Mitigation/Enhancement measures" we find the second bullet point confusing, as we would consider that development on a landfill site is likely to be a planning (and potentially EIA) matter. Clarification of what is meant by this second bullet point would therefore be useful.	• The second point relates to the digging out of the contaminated site, this would be subject to strict guidelines with are not within planning legislation. Text has been amended to be clearer. The potential requirement for an EIA has been noted. See Table 7a: Significant Effects of the Plan and Mitigation Measures
		• We note the proposed mitigation (via the Plan policy) in relation to "Peat Soils", but advise that is does not appear to follow Scottish Planning Policy concerning development on carbon rich soils, peat and peatland habitats. SPP paragraph 205 does not prohibit development on peat and carbon rich soils, but refers to assessment and minimisation of carbon dioxide release. Further consideration will be required to align the SEA (and LDP policy) with SPP, and then what that would mean for the SEA	• During examination of the Proposed Plan the Reports Unit outlined proposed modifications to Policy NE8. Theses were accepted at modification stage and additional text was added to Policy NE8. Policy NE8 was reassessed. See Appendix 7.
	Table 8a: Monitoring Plan, Biodiversity, Impact on water quality of the River Dee and on its qualifying features	• With respect to "When should remedial action be taken", we recommend adding a measure that remedial action will also be required should the level of water abstraction come close to or exceed the licensed abstraction volume. This is so that future development can be appropriately managed to avoid an adverse effect on the integrity of the River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC).	• Aberdeen City Council received an email from SNH on 27 July 2015 confirming they were satisfied the Proposed Sites in both the Aberdeen Local Development Plan and Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan remains acceptable. Should this change acceptable rates of water abstraction should be agreed between Scottish Water and SEPA.
		• With respect to "who is responsible for undertaking monitoring?" we recommend that consideration is given to including Scottish Water (as well as SEPA) as one of the parties responsible for monitoring. This is because they are responsible for water abstraction and so could be expected to monitor compliance with the relevant water abstraction license(s) for the SAC.	• Text has been added regarding this matter. See Table 8a: Monitoring Plan
		• With respect to "where will information be obtained from?", We recommend adding water abstraction data from Scottish Water and SEPA's monitoring results to the list of information sources.	• Text has been added regarding this matter. See Table 8a: Monitoring Plan
		• With respect to "when should remedial action be considered?", we recommend adding a measure that remedial action will also be required should the level of water abstraction come close to or exceed the licensed abstraction volume. This is so that future development can be appropriately managed to avoid an adverse effect on the	• Text has been added regarding this matter. See Table 8a: Monitoring Plan

		integrity of the River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC). This is because too much abstraction could negatively affect water quality (as well as quantity) within the SAC, which would affect the qualifying interests of the SAC. • [On a minor point, the correct terminology for the interests of Natura sites are "qualifying interests" (not qualifying features).	
	Appendix 4, 4b, OP 52 Malcolm Road, Peterculter and OP 109 Woodend, Peterculter	• The SEA states that "the majority of the site is designated as SNH Ancient Woodland, although it has been felled this designation remains valid". We do not believe this to be the case - we understand that approximately 80% of the site remains as woodland as at May 2015. • The mitigation/enhancement identified is to apply LDP policies on protection of trees and woodland. • As around 80% of the site is woodland, if the policies on protection of trees and woodland are applied, we suggest that most of this site is unsuitable for development. • The SEA divides OP109 into two sites and for one, identifying that the majority of the site is covered by the "ancient woodland designation". It identifies the need for mitigation as per policy NE8 but should also refer to policy NE5, trees and woodland. If the policies on protection of trees and woodland are applied, we suggest that most of this part of the site is unsuitable for development.	• The Malcolm Road site is designated Ancient Woodland. The site was chosen as a preferred option during a Council meeting on 12 November 2013 in regard to the local development plan main issues report. The primary reason being it provided further housing opportunities and would help support the local primary school. Site OP109 was inserted into the local development plan at a Council meeting of 28 October 2015. The primary reason being the site will promote and protect local facilities. • Both sites were subject to examination. The Reporter Report removed the area of woodland from both sites, thereby reduced the size of both sites. The modifications were acceptable. Both OP52 and OP109 have been reassessed and mitigated. See Appendix 4b.
	Appendix 4, 4b, OP 62 Aberdeen Harbour expansion Nigg Bay	• Under biodiversity, consideration of the potential impacts on Atlantic salmon and fresh water pearl mussel needs to be added (as interests of the River Dee SAC), as well as impacts on grey seals of the Isle of May SAC and Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC, and harbour seals (a protected species). As mitigation, impacts on these interests should be considered in the HRA and EIA for the proposed development when it comes forward. (We understand that the Harbour Authority are aware of the connectivity to the SACs and so should be taking them into account when considering options for the harbour expansion. The HRA for the harbour expansion should therefore ensure that development avoids an adverse effect on the integrity of the Natura sites, and avoids an adverse effect on the population of harbour seals.)	• Consider Atlantic salmon, fresh water pearl mussel, grey seals of the Isle of May SAC and Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC, and harbour seals. Site OP62 has been reassessed and mitigated. See Appendix 4b.
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Policies, opportunity sites and supplementary guidance.	• We consider that the policies, opportunity sites and supplementary guidance are clearly assessed and we welcome this approach.	• Noted and welcomed

	PPS and background data of Section 5	• We consider that the PPS and baseline data listed in Section 5 provide a good background for the plan-making process. • We are pleased to note that although the ER only addresses those aspects of the plan which are considered to have significant negative effects on the environment, the issues of construction impacts and impacts on carbon rich soils including peat have been addressed.	• Noted and welcomed
	Scope and level of the assessment and the assessment framework	• We consider that the scope and level of the assessment and the assessment framework provided in the Environmental Report allows us to understand how the conclusions were drawn. We welcome the inclusion of a column detailing site history for all site allocations in the Proposed Plan.	• Noted and welcomed
	OP1, OP31 and OP80	• We have requested text is added highlighting the need for flood risk assessments for certain sites where this is not currently identified (OP1, OP31 and OP80). We therefore request that the Finalised Environmental Report includes this in the site assessments. We consider that we are able to accept the principle of development on flood risk grounds for all the Opportunity Sites.	• The amendments to the plan suggested by SEPA to mitigate the flood risk have been accepted and the plan will include these. No significant changes will result from this modification. Sites OP1, OP31 and OP80 have been reassessed and mitigated. There are no significant impacts. See Appendix 4b and 5b
	Table 7a	• We welcome how you have outlined the identified mitigation and now this will be achieved in Table 7a (page 42) including who is responsible for undertaking mitigation.	• Noted and welcomed
	Table 7a	• We note that under 'Impacts on Watercourses and Waterbodies', reference to watercourses could be removed and the mitigation/ enhancement measures should not just refer to impacts on watercourses but on waterbodies which include wetlands and groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystem. • We have suggested additional wording in Policy NE6 and NE8 and Supplementary Guidance – Natural Heritage, if incorporated, this should be referenced here.	• Text modified to reflect waterbodies. • Policy NE6 and NE8 were subject to examination and the Reporters outlined modifications to the text of each policy. Both policies were reassessed and mitigated. There were no significant impacts due to the modified text.
	Table 7a	• The mitigation/enhancement measures under Water – Pollution of Watercourses should reference Pollution of Waterbodies and could also include Policy NE8 and the requirement for a Construction Environmental Management Plan.	• Text modified. See Table 7a.
	Table 7a	• We are content with the monitoring proposals as set out the Monitoring Plan.	• Noted and welcome

	Table 7a	• We welcome that our previous comments on the environmental report accompanying the Main Issues Report have been acted upon and this response should be read in conjunction with our comments issued to that consultation. The updated environmental report clearly sets out the approach to the assessment and the detailed site assessments provided are particularly welcome. We also welcome the efforts that have been made in making the environmental report as understandable as possible. The language utilised helps in explaining the likely environmental effects of the plan and should benefit all readers.	• Noted and welcome
Historic Scotland	General comment	• We welcome that our previous comments on the environmental report accompanying the Main Issues Report have been acted upon and this response should be read in conjunction with our comments issued to that consultation. The updated environmental report clearly sets out the approach to the assessment and the detailed site assessments provided are particularly welcome. We also welcome the efforts that have been made in making the environmental report as understandable as possible. The language utilised helps in explaining the likely environmental effects of the plan and should benefit all readers.	• Noted and welcome
	Appendix 7	• We welcome the assessment for both the Historic Environment Policy and Our Granite Heritage Policy. As you will be aware, we have offered representations on these policies which aim to further clarify the wording but we are content that their context provides for a significantly positive effect on the historic environment.	• Noted and welcome. Policy D5: Our Granite Heritage was subject to examination. The text has been modified and the policy subject to reassessment. No significant impacts have resulted. See Appendix 7.
	General Site Comment	• As a general comment on the assessment, while noting that mitigation is required for those effects that are considered to be significant it is beneficial for those sites that have predicted negative effects (significant or otherwise) to offer mitigation. This is particularly beneficial where there is uncertainty regarding the likely effects, notably where a site is scored +/-. Forward thinking mitigation in this regard can help influence the plan and focus proposals to the positive side for the historic environment.	• +/- does not indicate there is uncertainty; it indicates there are both positive and negative impacts.
	• Appendix 4, 4b, OP63 Prime 4 Business Park Phase 5 Extension	• We welcome the assessment of the potential effects on the Category C listed Quaker Burial Ground and the subsequent mitigation suggested. However, potential negative effects on the setting of the scheduled consumption dyke should also have been noted here.	• The amendments suggested have been accepted. The site has been reassessed and mitigated. No significant changes will result from this modification. See Appendix 4b.
	• Appendix 4, 4b, OP62 Nigg Bay	• This proposed land use has the potential to have significant effects on the historic environment through the effect on the setting of the scheduled monument St Fitticks Church, the listed Girdleness Lighthouse as well as the potential for archaeological remains within the bay area.	• The amendments suggested have been accepted.The site has been reassessed and mitigated. . No further significant changes will result from this modification. See Appendix 4b.

	• Appendix 5, 5b, OP64 Former Ness Tip	• There are a number of scheduled cairns in proximity to the development area. The proposal has the potential to impact on the setting of these sites. This should have been recorded in the assessment with mitigation options put forward.	• The amendments suggested have been accepted. The site has been reassessed and mitigated. No further significant changes will result from this modification. See Appendix 5b.
	• Appendix 5, 5b, OP102 George St/Crooked Lane	• We are concerned with the reference within this assessment that "redevelopment is likely to result in the loss of a single Category C Listed Building". We would therefore recommend that the starting point for delivering this site should consider the retention of the building.	• Policy D4 and D5 both require the retention and appropriate reuse of buildings. Further to this modifications and demolition of listed buildings would have to satisfy criteria within SHEP (as of 01 June 2016 - Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement 2016). . The policies have a positive impact on the historic environment. The site has been reassessed and mitigated. No further significant changes will result from this modification. See Appendix 5b.
	• Table 8a: Monitoring	• You may wish to consider monitoring sites where negative or uncertain impacts on designations and their settings are predicted. It is also unclear why Scottish Civic Trust have been named as being partly responsible for monitoring the plan.	• The reference to the Scottish Civic Trust recognises the Trusts objective number 5: its Awards and Commendations Scheme by which recognition is given to those who have contributed to the amenity of the city by means of… restoration and preservation of old buildings. The scheme is monitored by ACC to establish of any recent developments in the city have been awarded. The reference will be made clearer within Table 8a.
The New Aberdeen Mosque and Community Centre Project	• Appendix 6	• Detailed comments submitted regarding the SEA of site OP85: King Street/Beach Esplanade making counterarguments to the negative SEA scorings on Air, Water, Soil and Climate, Biodiversity.	• The principle of development and the significant impact of development is assessed by the SEA. Many of the comments submitted relate to design details; the SEA does not assess this level of detail. • The proposal will have a negative impact on air during the construction period through dust, due to vehicular access moving to and from the site, and post construction from people visiting the site. • Water will be negatively impacted by the need to abstract water during the construction and servicing of the new development, and the potential to release

			water borne pollutants into the water course. • Soil will be sealed and compacted due to the development, and substances may be released during construction and climatic factors will include increased energy consumption. There may be a negative impact on biodiverisy due to the loss of open space. Cultural heritage relates to the promotion protection and, where appropriate, enhancement the historic environment. There is no impact. Material Assets and Population is positive and will remain so. Impact on human health will be both positive and negative due to the causes stated in the SEA. No changes.

Table 3d: Modifications sought by Reporters' Report

Policy / Site	Modification	Aberdeen City Council's assessment of impact on SEA
LR2: Delivery of mixed use communities	• Modification to table text, add paragraph and update text within policy LR2	• Policy reassess .No impact to the SEA due to modification Policy still ensures that large new greenfield housing release includes a mix of housing and employment. See Appendix 7.
Policy R2: Degraded and Contaminated Land	• Add sentence to end of policy	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still requires that all degraded (including visually) or contaminated land is restored, reclaimed or remediated to a level suitable for its proposed use. See Appendix 7.
Policy D3: Big Buildings	• Add sentence to policy	• Policy and supplementary guidance reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still requires that big buildings must be a high quality design which complements or improves the existing site context. See Appendix 7 and Appendix 8.
Policy D4: Historic Environment	• Add sentence to policy, remove fourth paragraph and add text	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still protects, conserves and enhances the historic environment; ensuring new development respects the character, appearance and setting of the historic environment. See Appendix 7.
Policy D5: Our Granite Heritage	• Reword third paragraph	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still seeks the retention and appropriate re-use, conversion and adaptation of all granite features, structures and buildings. See Appendix 7.

Policy NC1: City Centre Development – Regional Centre	• Add text to paragraph one and paragraph two.	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still encourages all major footfall-generating uses to locate in the City Centre, according to the sequential approach. See Appendix 7.
Policy NC2: City Centre Retail Core and Union Street	• Reword criterion e	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still encourages all major retail developments to locate in the City Centre. See Appendix 7.
Policy NC3: West End shops and cafes	• Reword criterion 4	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still protects the shops and cafes in the West End from change of use. See Appendix 7.
Policy NC4: Sequential Approach and Impact	• Add text to paragraph one, paragraph three, four, five and eleven. Reword paragraph seven, and move paragraph eight.	• Policy and supplementary guidance reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still encourages significant footfall generating development to be located within a designated centre. See Appendix 7 and Appendix 8.
Policy NC5: Out of Centre Proposals	• Add text to paragraph one.	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still outlines out of centre proposals will only be permitted under certain circumstances. See Appendix 7.
Policy NC6: Town, District, Neighbourhood and Commercial Centres	• Modify criterion 6	• Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still protects against change of use from retail to another use. See Appendix 7.
Policy I1: Infrastructure Delivery and Planning Obligations	• Add text to paragraph three	• Policy and supplementary guidance reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still provides guidance on developer contributions and infrastructure requirements according to masterplan zones. It provides a clear and concise guide to the contributions that each developer will be expected to pay to support new development. See Appendix 7.
Policy T5: Noise	• Replace one word	• Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still aims to prevent conflict between noise generating developments, and noise sensitive uses. Protects Candidate Noise Management Areas and Candidate Quiet Areas from development that would lead to a deterioration of noise conditions. See Appendix 7.
Policy B2: Specialist Employment Areas	• Add text	• Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still safeguards Class 4 Use within this zoning. See Appendix 7.
Policy B4: Aberdeen Airport	• Modify text	• Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still protects the operational efficiency and safety of Aberdeen Airport and Perwinnes Radar, and ensures there is no conflict between the airport and other uses, in terms of safety, noise or amenity. See Appendix 7.
Policy B5: Aberdeen Harbour	• Modify paragraph two.	• Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still aims to control development in the vicinity of the harbour, in order to protect the safety and efficiency of harbour operations. On land zoned for the harbour, there is a presumption in favour of harbour-related uses.

		See Appendix 7.
Policy NE3: Urban Green Space	• Add text to criterion seven	• Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still protects parks, open space and recreational and sporting facilities. See Appendix 7.
Policy NE5: Trees and Woodlands	• Add text to paragraph three, and a sentence to paragraph five	• Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still protects areas of trees and woodland from loss or damage through new development, and encourages tree planting in new development. See Appendix 7.
Policy NE8: Natural Heritage	• Add text to second paragraph of Designated Sites, and modify third paragraph. • Modify second paragraph of Protected Species • Modify second paragraph of Carbon-rich Soils • Add text to item 3	• Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still protects designated sites and outlines how they will be considered in the planning process. See Appendix 7. • Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still protects protected species and outlines how they will be considered in the planning process. See Appendix 7. • Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still protects carbon rich soils and outlines how they will be considered in the planning process. See Appendix 7. • Policy reassessed. No additional impact. Policy still protects designated natural heritage sites, protected species and carbon rich soils, and considers how these will be considered through the planning process. See Appendix 7.
Policy NE6: Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality	• Add text to second paragraph	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still restricts development in areas at risk of flooding and protects the capacity of the floodplain. See Appendix 7.
Policy NE7: Coastal Planning	• Modify text in point four of the second paragraph	• Policy reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still safeguards the undeveloped coast and protected species from inappropriate development. See Appendix 7.
Policy R7: Low and Zero Carbon Buildings, and Water Efficiency	• Modify paragraph one	• Policy and supplementary guidance reassessed. No additional effect. Policy still aims to reduce the impact of new development on the environment through the use of LZCGT. See Appendix 7.
OP3: Findlay Farm, Murcar	• Change zoning from Specialist Employment to Business and Industry	• Site reassessed. No impact to SEA. See Appendix 4b.
OP7: Aberdeen College Gordon Centre	• Extend site to the west to include remainder of North East Scotland College landholding, Update Appendix 2 of the Plan.	• The brownfield site was assessed after the proposed plan consultation. No additional effect. See Appendix 5b.
OP14: Bankhead Academy	• Remove Bankhead School Lodge from the zoning. Update Appendix 2 of the Plan.	• Site reassessed. No additional effect. See Appendix b.
OP33: Greenferns	• Remove green space network designation from land within and along the southern boundary	• Site reassessed. Biodiversity impact is already significant. Removal of Green Space Network designation will not lessen this impact. See

		Appendix 4b.
OP111: Skene Road	• Allocate 0.9 ha site for 15 homes. Update Appendix 2 of the Plan.	• Site previously assessed as a Bid at Main Issues Report Stage. Site reassessed. No additional effects. See Appendix 4b.
OP52: Malcolm Road	• Reduce from 71 homes to 8 homes, and redraw boundary. Update references where required.	• Site previously assessed at Main Issues Report Stage. Site boundary and number of proposed houses has been reduced. Site reassessed. Impact on biodiversity is less than previous proposal. See Appendix 4b.
OP108: Mid Anguston	• Delete site. Update references where required.	• Site previously assessed at Main Issues Report stage. Site is no longer an opportunity site and is classed as greenfield alternative. No additional effects. See Appendix 4c.
OP109: Woodend Peterculter	• Redraw boundary to exclude ancient woodland to the south of the site. Update references where required.	• Site reassessed. Impact on biodiversity is less than previous proposal. See Appendix 4b.
OP112: West of Contlaw Road	• Allocate site for 10 homes. Update references where required.	• Site previously assessed at Main Issues Report stage. Site reassessed. Mitigation measures included. See Appendix 4b.
OP113: Culter House Road	• Allocate 2.4 ha site for 8 homes. Update references where required.	• Site previously assessed as a bid during the Main Issues Report stage. Site reassessed. Mitigation measures included. See Appendix 4b.
OP114: Milltimber South	• Allocate 11.5 ha site for 60 homes and 1,225 square metres of retail/office space. Update references where required.	• Site previously assessed as a bid during the Main Issues Report stage. Site reassessed. Mitigation measures included. See Appendix 4b.
OP115: 34-40 Abbotswell Road	• Allocate 1.05 ha site for residential use. Update references where required.	• Site previously assessed as a bid during the Main Issues Report stage. Site reassessed. Mitigation measures included. See Appendix 5b.
OP66: Manor Walk, Middlefield	• Remove caravan park from site OP66.	• Site rolled over from 2012 ALDP. Previously assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Site reassessed. Removal of caravan park from site will have no impact on the assessment. See Appendix 4b.
OP116: Froghall Terrace	• Allocate 1.7 ha site for residential. Update references where required.	• Site assessed as brownfield general during the Main Issues Report Stage. Site reassessed as an opportunity site. See Appendix 5b.
Cairnfield Place	• Remove green space network designation from area.	• Area assessed as greenfield general during Main Issues Report. This has not changed due to green space network removal.
Heathvale	• Remove greenbelt zoning.	• Area assessed as greenfield general during Main Issues Report. This has not change due to greenbelt zoning. Site zone as greenspace network and urban greenspace.
City Centre Development	• Insert paragraph	• No additional effect. The text added to the preamble before Policy NC4 relates to Torry and Rosemount town centres and future strategies. Any guidance produced for the Town Centres will be subject to a separate SEA process.

Design Policy preamble	• Add reference to Technical Advice Notes	• No additional effect. The text outlines where further information can be found. The Technical Advice Notes will be subject to a separate SEA process.
Six Qualities of Successful Placemaking	• Add text to resource efficient section	• No additional effect. The added text supports the existing statement.
Text after Policy T1	• Modify text	• No additional effect. The text outlines the current position of the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan's Strategic Transport Fund.
Green Space Network preamble	• Insert paragraph • Add text third sentence of paragraph 3.96	• No additional effect. The paragraph notes the possibility of temporary greening. • No impact. The text outlines further benefits to the Green Space Network.
Open Space Provision in New Development preamble	• Insert text	• No additional effect. Added a use to the list of examples.
Natural Heritage preamble	• Add text	• No additional effect.
Coastal Planning preamble	• Modify text	• No additional effect. Updates text on current status of The National Marine Plan and where is applies.
Low and Zero Carbon Buildings, and Water Efficiency preamble	• Modify text	• No additional effect. Update to preamble reflects the position of SSP14 and the update to the Sullivan Report.
Appendix 2: Opportunity Sites	• OP13: AECC Bridge of Don – add text • OP59: Loirston – update appendix • OP102: George Street – add sentence • OP65: Haudagain Triangle – modify reference • OP1: Murcar – add text • OP31: Maidencraig South East – add text • OP80: Bon Accord – add text • OP75: Denmore Road – add text • OP86: Dyce Railway Station – add text • OP32: Maidencraig North East – add text • OP107: East Tullos Gas Holder – add text • OP110: Wellington Circle – add text • OP35: Granitehill – add text • OP9: Grandhome – delete text • OP63: Prime Four Business Park Extension – add text	• Site reassessed. No additional effect. See Appendix 5b. • Site reassessed. Material assets comment added. See Appendix 4b. • Site reassessed. No additional effect. See Appendix 5b. • Site reassessed. No additional effect. See Appendix 5b. • Site reassessed as per table 3c above. • Site reassessed as per table 3c above. • Site reassessed as per table 3c above. • Site reassessed. Climatic Factors added. See Appendix 4b. • Site reassessed. Climatic factor mitigation added. See Appendix 6. • Site reassessed Climatic Factors updated. See Appendix 4b. • Site reassessed. Climatic Factors updated. See Appendix 6. • Site reassessed. Climatic Factors updated. See Appendix 5b. • Site reassessed. Climatic Factors added. See Appendix 5b. • Site reassessed. No additional effect. See Appendix 4b. • Site reassessed as per table 3c above

4. Description of PPS - Content of LDP Proposed Plan

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that the Environmental Report includes "an outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme". The purpose of this section is to explain the nature, contents and timescale of the LDP Proposed Plan.

The LDP is made up of 4 key parts:

1. The Vision;

2. The Spatial Strategy (including site-specific allocations);

3. Land Use Policies; and

4. Supplementary Guidance documents.

The Proposed Plan is the Council's settled view on the content of the next Local Development Plan. We have already held extensive public engagement with the public and key stakeholders and their responses have helped us to prepare the Proposed Plan. We are holding a further consultation period on the Proposed Plan giving the public and stakeholders the chance to object to anything in it.

It should be noted from the outset that the Strategic Development Plan (2014) does not contain any significant changes to the spatial strategy introduced in the Structure Plan (2009), which the current LDP (adopted February 2012) conforms to. The current LDP takes a long term view to the identification of land for future development, and therefore many aspects are proposed to be 'carried forward' into the next LDP with minimal change.

However, there have been changes to the national policy context through the revised Scottish Planning Policy and National Planning Framework 3, so the plan must be updated to reflect these changes. The next plan will also be required to address new and emerging issues that have not previously been considered, or adjust its approach where it is clear that change would be beneficial. Therefore, there are some changes to existing policy as well as some new policies, land allocations and Supplementary Guidance documents.

4.1 Vision and Objectives

The vision for the LDP has been taken from the Structure Plan vision. It states:

"By 2030 Aberdeen City and Shire will be an even more attractive, prosperous and sustainable European city region and an excellent place to visit and do business. We will be recognised for:

- Our enterprise and inventiveness, particularly in the knowledge economy and in high-value markets;
- The unique qualities of our environment; and

- Our high quality of life.

We will have acted confidently and taken courageous decisions necessary to further develop a robust and resilient economy and to lead the way towards development being sustainable, including dealing with climate change and creating a more inclusive society."

4.2 Spatial Strategy

The Spatial Strategy is the first main section in the LDP. The Spatial Strategy deals with the land use allocations and the way in which these will be delivered. The Spatial Strategy is split into three main areas:

- The city centre;
- Brownfield development; and
- Greenfield development.

The LDP also includes policies dedicated to delivering the Spatial Strategy:

- Land Release and Phasing
- Delivering Mixed Communities

A summary of the preferred and alternative options for the Spatial Strategy is in **Table 4c**. This table presents the elements of the existing LDP which will be carried forward, as well as a description of any changes in italics.

The LDP seeks to identify development allocations to 2035, as required by the Strategic Development Plan, within the city centre, brownfield sites and greenfield sites. **Table 4a** shows these allowances.

Table 4a: Strategic Development Plan 2014 Housing Allowances

	Housing Allowances		Strategic Reserve (greenfield only)	Employment Land Allocations	Employment Land Strategic Reserve
	To 2016	2017-2026	2027-2035	LDP allocations to 2026	2027-2035
Brownfield	4,500	3,000	3,000	105 hectares	70 hectares
Greenfield	12,000	5,000	4,000		
Total	**16,500**	**8,000**	**7,000**		

City Centre

The City Centre plays a major role in the commercial, economic, social, civic and cultural life of Aberdeen and the wider north east. It is an important regional centre providing for employment and business interaction, it offers access to a wide range of goods and services, and it is a place where many people

meet socially and choose to live and visit. The LDP reinforces the role of the City Centre as a regional centre, and the City Centre is the preferred location for new retail, commercial, leisure and other city centre uses.

Brownfield Development

There is broad support for brownfield development because these sites avoid the need to increase land take for development, they are located in the most sustainable locations and their reuse assists regeneration and supports existing services and facilities. The Proposed Plan identifies brownfield sites to meet the requirements of the Strategic Development Plan allowances for development on brownfield land.

The LDP seeks to deliver at least the first phase of brownfield housing allowances and also identifies some sites to meet the allowances of the second phase. The Proposed Plan includes brownfield opportunities to be 'rolled forward' from the existing LDP, as well as a small number of new opportunities from 2013 development bids (see Appendix 5). Some of the new development bids were classed as alternatives because they are constrained by significant planning or environmental factors. Where a site is preferred, but it would likely have a significant negative impact on the environment, mitigation measures have been identified. In addition to the brownfield sites listed in Appendix 5, the LDP also identifies brownfield sites that have been granted planning consent, as development opportunities. Because these sites have existing planning permission it is not necessary to undertake strategic environmental assessment of these sites.

Greenfield Development

Due to the scale of the future development required in Aberdeen City, some development on greenfield sites is accepted as inevitable. The Proposed Plan identifies greenfield sites to meet the requirements of the Strategic Development Plan allowances for housing and employment, as well as some other uses.

These greenfield sites include allocations to be 'rolled forward' from the existing LDP, as well as a small number of new preferred sites from 2013 development bids (Appendix 4). The broad geographical distribution of all these sites is shown in Table 4b. There is a commitment to the development of sites contained in the 2012 LDP, and in general the alternative options identified in the Main Issues Report would have provided a land supply over and above the Strategic Development Plan requirements.

For this reason, there is no numerical justification to support additional housing or employment allocations on greenfield sites. However, three greenfield sites in Peterculter (Malcolm Road [8 houses] and Woodend [19 houses] have been identified as opportunities for housing in the Proposed Plan. We have also identified a new greenfield site for employment uses at the Prime Four business park in Kingswells. The other new greenfield sites have been identified for other uses (e.g. garden centre, respite care home, solar farm). Where a site is preferred, but it would have significant negative impacts on the environment, mitigation measures have been identified.

Table 4b: Geographical Distribution of Greenfield Development

Housing Allowances (units)	To 2016	2017-2023	2024-2030	Total
Bridge of Don/ Grandhome	3,210	2,100	2,300	7,610
Dyce/Bucksburn	3,300	1,200	740	5,240
Kingswells and Greenferns	1,520	350	400	2,270
Countesswells	2,150	850	0	3,000
Deeside	554	255	0	809
Loirston and Cove	1,100	400	0	1500
Total	11,834	5,155	3,440	20,429
Structure Plan Allowances	12,000	5,000	4,000	21,000
Employment Land (ha)	2007-2023		2024-2030	Total
Bridge of Don/Grandhome	5		27	32
Dyce/Bucksburn	36		18.5	54.5
Kingswells and Greenferns	74			74
Countesswells	10			10
Deeside	5			5
Loirston and Cove	13		20.5	33.5
Total	**130**		**66.5**	**196**
Strategic Development Plan Allocations	**118**		**70**	**188**

The following policies in the LDP are aimed at delivering the Spatial Strategy:

Land Release Policy and Phasing

The greenfield land allocations have been phased in line with the Strategic Development Plan housing allowances. A significant amount of land has already been released by the existing LDP 2012. The Proposed Plan includes policy to allow the further release of land identified for the period 2017-2026 (the new 'Phase 1'), whilst still safeguarding some land for future growth for the period 2027-2035 (the new 'Phase 2'). Sites released by the 2012 LDP are in various stages of development and those not yet completed will still be carried forward into the LDP. The land release policy has been assessed in Appendix 7 along with the alternative phasing option, which is to release all of the land in Phase 1 and Phase 2 at the same time.

Delivering Mixed Communities

The LDP aims to deliver sustainable development and to assist in meeting this aim, it requires a mix of housing and employment to be delivered on the larger allocations. The alternative to this approach is to do nothing to encourage mixed communities, and simply provide separate allocations for housing and employment.

Table 4c: Spatial Strategy Options

Policy	Options
City Centre	**Preferred Option** This option promotes the sequential approach to City Centre development, promoting the City Centre as a major regional centre for retail, commercial and leisure development with preference for major retail development in the Retail Core. It gives protection to retail uses on Union Street against change of use, *from Huntly Street to Broad Street (north side), and Bon Accord Street to Shiprow (south side) as well as the West End Shops and Cafes area. Future development and regeneration of the City Centre will be proposed through the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme. The implementation will be public-sector led with involvement and support from the private sector.*
	Alternative Option 1 (as per Main Issues Report) Prepare a new City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme, but leave its implementation entirely to the private sector. No policy protection for the West End shops and cafes area. Remove protection for Class 1 retail on Union Street altogether.
	Alternative Option 2 (as per existing LDP) Keep City Centre policy as per existing 2012 LDP, guided by the existing City Centre Development Framework. Keep the CCBZ boundary as per existing LDP. Keep Union Street Frontages policy as existing.
Greenfield Sites	**Preferred Option** Identify: a) Existing allocations in the adopted LDP which are proposed to be carried forward into the next LDP. b) A limited number of new greenfield allocations which have been identified from the new Development Bids submitted during the pre-Main Issues Report and Main Issues Report consultations in June 2013 and March 2014 respectively.
	Alternative Option The alternatives are new Development Bids that have been rejected. The SDP does not require us to identify any more greenfield land for housing or employment. It may also be argued that these bids are beyond the capacity of the Strategic Development Plan to deliver in terms of the supporting infrastructure, environmental resources (e.g. water) environmental safeguards, mitigating and monitoring measures. For this reason the allocations are likely to have significant adverse effects on the environment cumulatively.
Brownfield Sites	**Preferred Option** Identify: a) Existing allocations in the adopted LDP which are proposed to be carried forward into the next LDP. b) A number of new brownfield allocations which have been identified from the new Development Bids submitted during the pre-Main Issues Report and Main Issues Report consultation in June 2013 and March 2014 respectively.
	Alternative Option These are new development bids that have been rejected in 2013 because of their adverse effects on the environment and other planning constraints to their development.
Land Release Policy and Phasing	**Preferred Option** A significant amount of land has already been released by the existing LDP 2012. The Proposed Plan includes policy to allow the further release of land identified for the period 2017-2026 ('Phase 1'), whilst still safeguarding some land for future growth in the period 2027-2035 ('Phase 2'). Sites released by the 2012 LDP are in various stages of development and those not yet completed will still be carried forward into the LDP. This option is a logical

	continuation of the phasing strategy set by the existing LDP.
	Alternative Option The alternative option is for the Proposed Plan to release all of the land identified for both phases 1 and 2 at the same time.
Delivery of Mixed Communities	**Preferred Option** The LDP promotes sustainable patterns of development, which can be achieved through a mix of uses to promote walking and cycling and reduce travel between work, home, shopping and leisure. LDP strategy promotes a mix of both housing and employment to be delivered on the larger allocations, along with local facilities.
	Alternative Option The alternative is to allocate separate sites exclusively for housing and employment uses.

4.3 Land Use Policies and Supplementary Guidance

Land use policies play a vital role in the assessment of planning applications and seek to ensure that developments identified in the Spatial Strategy are developed in a way that helps to achieve the vision, and minimise the negative environmental, social and economic impacts. The table below shows each policy section, describing the content of the existing LDP and any changes proposed through the Proposed Plan. It also shows the alternatives that were considered during the Main Issues Report stage.

Table 4d: Land Use Policies & Supplementary Guidance Options

Policy	Options
Infrastructure, Transport & Accessibility	**Preferred Option** Policy sets out expected developer contributions towards infrastructure requirements. New developments are required to demonstrate that sufficient measures have been taken to minimise traffic generation and promote sustainable and active travel. Land is also safeguarded for identified strategic transport projects. Infrastructure requirements for new developments are based on 8 masterplan zones. The masterplan for each individual area will set out the detailed requirements for developments in the area and the contribution will be commensurate with the scale of the development. *This section now includes a presumption against developments which may have a detrimental impact on air quality without mitigation. It also includes new provision on noise impact, to protect the amenity of noise-sensitive developments such as housing. Other policies have been subject to minor wording changes to improve clarity and strength. We have reduced the number of Masterplan Zones from 11 to 8. Three have been removed, because the sites concerned are in single ownership and the required masterplans have been produced. The zones to be removed are: Oldfold, Kingswells and Stoneywood. We are retaining Masterplan Zones where sites are in multiple ownerships or masterplans have yet to be produced.*
	Alternative Option Keep policy as existing in 2012 LDP. The alternative would be to make the assessment of infrastructure requirements on an application-by-application, ad hoc basis.
Promoting High Quality Design	**Preferred Option** Design policy states that new development must be of a high quality in terms of architecture and place-making and ensure that it benefits from the appropriate amenity. The policy encourages the retention of traditional granite buildings and ensures designated built heritage is protected from inappropriate development. Proposals must also consider their impact on landscape *In addition, policy now requires proposals to demonstrate how they meet the six essential qualities of a successful place. New provision for new big buildings new; other policies subject*

	to tweaks to widen scope and make stronger. Archaeology SG has now been incorporated into policy. There is a new tall buildings SG, design statements SG and new conservation area appraisals.
	Alternative Option Keep policy as existing in 2012 LDP.
Supporting Business and Industrial Development	**Preferred Option** Business and Industrial policy sets out what types of uses are appropriate in the different zonings, and seeks to protect the role of the West End as a high status office area. The policy also addresses issues relating to the operation and development of the Harbour and Airport. Pipelines and Major Accident hazards are also covered. *In addition, there is now provision for the new harbour development at Nigg Bay, and policy sets out what factors a masterplan for the area should address. Other policies have been subject to minor wording changes to improve clarity and strength.*
	Alternative Option 1 (as per Main Issues Report for Aberdeen Harbour Expansion) In the main issues report, we considered intensification of operations on the existing harbour estate as an alternative option.
	Alternative Option 2 Keep policy as existing in 2012 LDP.
Meeting Housing and Community Needs	**Preferred Option** LDP policy seeks to meet housing needs and create sustainable communities by setting out requirements for density, mix and affordable housing in new developments. It explains what factors development proposals must consider in residential areas and mixed use areas. Policy provides guidance on Gypsy and Traveller sites and existing and new community facilities. *We have included a requirement for one and two-bedroom properties within new large developments to address a growing demand for smaller properties from an ageing population. We have also made affordable housing policy more flexible in order to deliver more affordable housing units.*
	Alternative Option 1 (as per Main Issues Report) As per the main issues report, alternative options were to identify specific sites for affordable housing, or allow flexibility for when on-site delivery is required. This would not conform to the SDP. For older people, alternative options include setting a target for a percentage of homes on each site to be suitable for older people and particular needs. However this was considered to be an insufficiently flexible and onerous requirement.
	Alternative Option 2 Keep policy as existing in 2012 LDP
Supporting Retail Centres	**Preferred Option** Retail policy outlines the sequential testing approach which will be applied to all retail, commercial and leisure proposals according to the Hierarchy of Retail Centres. It addresses proposals in out-of-town centres, local shops and new development areas. *The sequential approach will now be applied to all significant footfall generating uses. The LDP is encouraging new retail development to take place in the city centre and has identified sites in the city centre with potential for retail development. Commercial centres (retail parks) are now protected through the sequential approach. We also now have a strategy for retail development outwith the city centre, and a number of opportunities have been identified to address existing retail deficiencies (as recommended by the Aberdeen City and Shire Retail Study 2013); this includes new retail at Newhills, West Aberdeen/Countesswells and Grandhome.*
	Alternative Option 1 (as per Main Issues Report) In the Main Issues Report, for the Retail Strategy, the alternative was as per the preferred option, but if sites could not be identified in the city centre, sites on the edge of the city

	centre would be identified. Note that Denburn and Woolmanhill is no longer a preferred site for retail development.
	Alternative Option 2 Keep policy as existing in 2012 LDP. There is no retail strategy for the city centre or outwith the city centre at present.
Protecting and Enhancing the Natural Environment	**Preferred Option** This section addresses appropriate uses in the Green Belt, as well as the position on Green Space Network, Urban Green Space and requirements for open space in new development. Other policies seek to protect trees, the coast and natural heritage from inappropriate development. It also addresses flooding and drainage and access and recreation issues. *We have made minor updates and wording changes to improve the clarity of the policy.*
	Alternative Option 2 Keep policy as existing in 2012 LDP
Using Resources Sustainably	**Preferred Option** Resources policy relates to the development of mineral resources and also sets out planning policies for new waste management facilities and requirements. It also addresses standards for low and zero carbon buildings and new energy developments for renewable and low carbon energy developments. *There is a new requirement to install water-saving technologies. We have also realigned the low and zero carbon policy to take account of national and Strategic Development Plan requirements and to ensure deliverability. We are also promoting new and innovative LZCGT, such as heat networks, through Supplementary Guidance.*
	Alternative Option 1 (as per Main Issues Report) In the Main Issues Report we considered higher and lower requirements for LZCGT and water use efficiency, but these were considered to be either undeliverable or not ambitious enough. We also considered requiring developers to connect to the heat network as a condition of planning approval, but this was considered to be an onerous and unnecessary requirement.
	Alternative Option 2 Keep policy as existing in 2012 LDP

5. Context of the Proposed Plan

5.1 Relationship with other PPS and environmental objectives

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that the Environmental Report includes an outline of how the LDP is influenced by with other relevant plans, programmes and strategies (PPS) and how environmental protection objectives have been taken into account in the LDP's preparation. This section covers these issues and describes the policy context within which the LDP operates, and the constraints and targets that this context imposes on the LDP. **Table 5a** lists the relevant PPS to the LDP. **Appendix 1** contains a more detailed analysis of each relevant PPS and its implications for the LDP.

Table 5a: Relevant PPS & environmental protective objectives of the LDP

Name of Plan, Programme, Strategy or Environmental Protection Strategy	
	International Level
Nature Conservation	
	The Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC
	The Birds Directive 2009/147/EC
	EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020
Water	
	Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC
	Nitrates Directive 91/676/EC
Waste	
	The Landfill Directive 99/31/EC
	The Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC
	Taking Sustainable Use of Resources Forward: A Thematic Strategy on the Prevention and Recycling of Waste (2005)
Climate Change	
	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
	The Second European Climate Change Programme (launched 2005)
	National Level
Overarching Planning Policy	
	National Planning Framework for Scotland 3 (NPF3) (2014)
	Scottish Planning Policy 2014
Cross- Sectoral	
	Scotland's National Transport Strategy (2006)
	Strategic Transport Projects Review (2009)
	The Government's Economic Strategy (2007)
	Choosing Our Future: Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)
	Natural Resource Productivity (2009)
	Getting the best from our land: A land use strategy for Scotland 2011
	Building a Better Scotland Infrastructure Investment Plan: Investing in the Future of Scotland

	(2005)
	Countryside (Scotland) Act 1967
	Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003
Air and Climate Change	
	Scottish Climate Change Delivery Plan (2009)
	UK Air Quality Strategy (2007)
	A Low Carbon Economic Strategy for Scotland (2010)
	Changing Our Ways- Scotland's Climate Change Programme (2006)
	Tomorrow's Climate, Today's Challenge: UK Climate Change Programme (2006)
	Online Renewables Advice (Replaces PAN 45) for specific renewable energy technologies.
	Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
	Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Framework and Sector Plans
Heritage, Design and Regeneration	
	Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (2016)
	The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1997
	Designing Places: A Policy Statement for Scotland (2001)
	Designing Streets: A Policy Statement for Scotland (2010)
	People and Place: A Policy Statement for Scotland (2006)
	Green Infrastructure: Design and Placemaking (2011)
Soil and Landscape	
	The Scottish Soil Framework (2009)
	Scottish Landscape Forum: Scotland's Living Landscape (2007)
Homes, Population and Health	
	Homes Fit for the 21st Century: The Scottish Government's Strategy and Action Plan for Housing in the Next Decade 2011-2020 (2011)
	All Our Futures: Planning for a Scotland with an Ageing Population (2007)
	Reaching Higher- Building on the Success of Sport 21 (2007) (Scotland's Sport Strategy)
	Let's Make Scotland More Active: A Strategy for Physical Activity (2003)
	Equality Act 2010
	Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005
	SEPA Report: Incineration of Waste and Reported Human Health Effects
	SEPA Report: The Impact of Health of Emissions to Air from Municipal Waste Incinerators
Natural Conservation	
	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
	The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
	Scotland's Biodiversity Strategy- It's in your hands (2004)
	The Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations 1994 (as amended)
	The Conservation (Natural Habitats) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2007
	Making the Links: Greenspace for a more successful and sustainable Scotland (2009)
	Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011

	Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended)
	Forestry Commission Control of Woodland Removal Policy
Water	
	Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005
	Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003
	Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009
	River Basin Management Plan for Scotland (2009)
	Scottish Water Strategic Asset and Capacity Development Plan (2009)
	SEPA Groundwater Protection Policy for Scotland v3: Environmental Policy 19 (SEPA)
	Action Programme for Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (Scotland) Regulations 2008)
	Scottish Water Strategic Asset Capacity Development Plan (annual)
Waste	
	Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010)
	SEPA Guidelines for Thermal Treatment of Municipal Waste
Marine and Coastal	
	Scottish Executive Marine and Coastal Strategy (2005)
	Upcoming: Marine (Scotland) Act 2010
	Our Seas- a Shared Resource. High Level Marine Objectives (2009)
Cross- Sector Guidance	
	PAN 60: Planning for Natural Heritage
	PAN 61: Planning and Sustainable Urban Drainage
	PAN 63: Waste Management Planning
	PAN 65: Planning and Open Space
	PAN 75: Transport and Planning
	PAN 76: New Residential Streets
	PAN 77: Designing Safer Places
	PAN 78: Inclusive Design
	Regional Level
Overarching Planning Policy	
	Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan 2014
Cross- Sectoral	
	Economic Growth Framework for North East Scotland
	The Economic Action Plan for Aberdeen City and Shire 2013-2018
	NESTRANS Regional Transport Strategy 2021 (2008)
Nature Conservation	
	North East of Scotland Local Biodiversity Action Plan
	Forest and Woodland Strategy for Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen
	River Dee Catchment Management Plan (2007)
	Local Level
	Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy 2012-2017

	Aberdeen City Local Transport Strategy
	Aberdeen City Air Quality Action Plan
	Aberdeen Futures- Aberdeen Community Plan
	Aberdeen Forest and Woodland Strategy 2005
	Aberdeen Nature Conservation Strategy 2010-2015
	Open Space Audit and Strategy 2011-2016
	Aberdeen City Core Paths Plan
	Landscape Character Assessment of Aberdeen
	Contaminated Land Strategy
	Aberdeen City Council Waste Strategy

From the analysis of the relevant environmental protection objectives contained in these plans, programmes and strategies, the key points arising from this analysis are that the Local Development Plan should:

- Avoid adverse impacts on both statutory and non-statutory protected sites for natural heritage interests i.e. habitats, species, earth science interests and landscape interests including:
  - Internationally important Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the terms of the Conservation Regulations 1994
  - Nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) notified under the terms of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
  - Nationally important areas for landscape and visual amenity e.g. Designed Landscapes
  - Locally important wildlife sites e.g. Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and Local Nature Conservation Sites.
- Ensure compliance with statutory provisions for statutory protected species and with regional biodiversity plans, including:
  - EPS (e.g. otters and bats), Wildlife and Countryside Act schedule 1 species (e.g. Golden Eagle)
  - Wildlife and Countryside Act schedule 5 species (e.g. Red Squirrel and Water Vole)
  - Species protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act schedule 5 (plants)
  - the Protection of Badgers Act, and with objectives of North East Scotland Biodiversity Action Plan (e.g. Aspen Hover Fly and Wych Elm)
- Promote biodiversity, maintain and restore natural habitats and habitat networks;
- Maintain and support landscape character and local distinctiveness;
- Promote the provision of access links to adjacent access routes e.g. core path network, or existing footpaths;
- Promote sustainable use of water and mitigate the effects of floods and droughts;
- Support strategies that help to limit or reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases;
- Encourage increased use of renewable energy resources and more efficient use energy and water;
- Support strategies that help to limit or reduce the emissions of pollutants;
- Protect wildlife from disturbance, injury or intentional destruction;
- Promote good design, safe environment, clean environment and good quality services;

- Promote sustainable alternatives to car and reduce congestion and traffic pollution through walking, cycling and the location of sports facilities;
- Promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement, health and safety;
- Promote strategies that do not degrade the coastal environment;
- Promote the economy, support the community and the public service;
- Set the framework for development consents for major sport facilities development;
- Help to promote, protect and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment;
- Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats;
- Ensure that the water quality and good ecological status of the water framework directive are maintained;
- Avoid introduction or spread of non-native species; and
- Ensure terrestrial and marine spatial planning is integrated.

5.2 Current state of the environment and characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected

The Environmental Report is required to include a description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment. This section describes the environmental context within which the LDP operates and the constraints and targets this imposes on the PPS. A detailed analysis of the environmental baseline indicators for Aberdeen can be found in Appendix 2. The analysis of the baseline information indicates that the LDP is likely to have more significant effects on certain areas than others. This is due to the sensitivity of those areas in terms of international, national and local designation. Although other areas may not be designated, the effects on those sites from the plan could be cumulative.

5.3 Environmental problems, likely evolution of the environment without the LDP and possible role of the LDP

The Environmental Report is required to identify the environmental issues, trends or problems in Aberdeen City, the likely evolution of the environment without the LDP, and the potential role of the LDP in addressing these. Environmental problems that affect the PPS were identified through discussions with sustainability officers, sports and culture officers; analysis of baseline data relevant to Aberdeen City and previous SEAs. Some of the problems relating to the City are taken up in the Core Paths Plan, and Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy.

It is important to clarify that this is a review of the extant LDP adopted in February 2012 and that without review the current LDP would remain. With this in mind the likely evolution of the environment without the LDP is likely to focus on anything that is likely to change between the plans. There are also other regional and local PPS, for example the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan 2009, Local Transport Strategy, the Draft Local Housing Strategy and the Core Paths Plan, which will involve physical development which will have environmental consequences; both positive and negative. It is envisaged that future changes to the environment are inevitable due to natural processes, but also due to human interventions that are unconnected with the LDP. The existing environmental problems described in the

previous section would likely persist in the absence of an LDP. Table 5b describes the environmental problems in Aberdeen, their likely evolution without the LDP and the possible role of the LDP.

Table 5b: Environmental Problems, evolution without the LDP and role of the LDP.

Environmental Topic	Issues/Trends/Environmental Problems	Likely Evolution without LDP	Possible role of LDP
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	• Potential disturbance to protected species from new development • Potential loss of green space to develop housing and employment areas • Disturbance to species from new development • Potential loss of green linkages and wildlife corridors • Pressure on River Dee SAC • Pressure on SSSIs • Pressure on European Protected Species (bats, badger and otter) • Increase of invasive non-native species, especially waterborne ones.	The effects on biodiversity predicted due to the plan would not occur, and adverse effects on biodiversity cause by other activities would remain. This includes the loss and fragmentation of habitats caused by unplanned development promoted by the Structure Plan and current Local Plan.	The LDP should protect biodiversity through minimising the impact on designated sites (including LNCS), protected species, BAP species and habitats, green spaces and networks.
Air and Climatic Factors	• Temporary release of particulate matter in constructing new development • Substantial energy consumption in new development • Lack of renewable energy use in new developments • Continuing car dependence with high CO2 emissions • Increasing commuter traffic increasing carbon footprint and negatively impacting on air quality • Increasing rainfall levels are having an impact on contaminated surface water run-off • Impact of private water supplies drawn from groundwater	A lack of development opportunities in the City could force development further away and increase commuting, contributing to greenhouse gases, air quality, air pollution and nuisance. The implementation of other PPS will continue to affect air and climatic factors.	LDP should encourage the use of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency measures in buildings. The implementation of the strategy should minimise car dependence, air pollution and nuisance.
Soil	• Impact of run-off from hard surfaces and new development • Soil sealing and compaction arising from new development • Substances used in construction, cleaning and redevelopment could potentially contaminate the soil • Increase in the amount of waste arising from new development • There is only a limited amount of carbon-rich soil in Aberdeen and it is not considered to be a significant environmental factor.	Impacts on soil, caused by the development of the strategy, may not necessarily occur. Those impacts on soils and agricultural land associated with proposals within other plans and human activities would remain.	LDP should ensure that SUDS are delivered in new development. The implementation of developments should avoid soil contamination. The waste hierarchy should be promoted.
Water	• Potential pollution from new developments, especially industrial areas • Impact on qualifying features in River Dee arising from new development, including as a result of water abstraction. • Impact on water-dependent SSSIs such as Corby, Lily and Bishops Lochs and Scotstown Moor • Increased need to abstract water during the construction of, and servicing new development • Flooding events are predicted to increase in frequency and	Adverse effects on water quality and quantity would remain in the absence of the strategy, although if there is less land release, there would be less pressure for water abstraction. Construction associated with other plans would still occur and agricultural run-off would continue to cause pollution of water bodies.	LDP should minimise water pollution to avoid disturbance to qualifying features of the River Dee. The implementation of the LDP should avoid the risk of flooding. The implementation of the LDP should improve water quality and ensure sustainable use of water

	severity due to the effects of climate change. Consequently, any development below 5m datum is liable to flooding • Connection to the public sewer, due to capacity issues at certain Waste Water Treatment Plans and the network.		The LDP also makes it clear when and how developer contributions will be required towards sewerage infrastructure
Landscape	• New development reducing public open space and green space in the city • New development harming the landscape setting of the city • New development harming landscape features • New development resulting in coalescence and urban sprawl	Impacts on landscape character resulting from the plan may not occur particularly if the implementation is limited to brownfield development. There would be a greater risk of unplanned sporadic development affecting landscape character. Those impacts associated with proposals within other plans and human activities would remain.	The LDP must ensure that playing fields and public open spaces are protected The LDP must take into account landscape setting when setting the allocations The LDP should safeguard landscape character.
Population and Human Health	• Development activities around certain parts of the city, declared air quality management areas affecting people's health • Inadequate provision of open space and sporting facilities • Severance of links between residential areas and recreational sites limiting healthy sporting activities • Lack of family housing leading to a decline in the number of younger people • Changing demographics – loss of population and ageing population • Lack of affordable housing	Without development, the city's population could decline, resulting in falling demand for schools and other facilities	The LDP must recognise air quality management areas LDP should provide adequate sport facilities, open spaces, affordable housing and family housing LDP should take into account the needs of all sectors of society
Cultural Heritage	• New development can potentially impact on historical features • Development activities can damage historical features	The effects on the historic environment resulting from the plan may not occur.	LDP should protect and where appropriate enhance the historical environment. It should manage the conflict between modern requirements and historic buildings
Material Assets	• Lack of adequate housing land, employment land and community facilities to meet the needs of people in Aberdeen City.	Other PPS being implemented in Aberdeen, such as the Aberdeen Housing Strategy, are likely to affect material assets and the soil	LDP should promote the development requirements of the Strategic Development Plan

6. Assessment

6.1 Scoping In of SEA Issues

We scoped in the whole of the LDP, in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. This was because we knew the LDP is likely to have as significant effect on all the environmental issues.

6.2 Preferred Options and Alternatives

As part of the consultation and background work on the LDP, we considered many different options for the strategic, policy and site-specific aspects of the plan (see Tables 4c and 4d above for a summary of the options we considered). All the preferred options and the alternatives we considered have been subject to an SEA assessment (contained in the Interim Environmental Report) to determine their suitability for the LDP.

6.3 Assessment of Environmental Effects

We have assessed all of the options in the LDP against SEA topics or 'indicators'. We have predicted whether the effects of the LDP will be negative, positive, uncertain, or neutral. We also considered the reversibility or irreversibility of the effects, risks, the duration of the impact (permanent, temporary, long-term, short-term and medium-term) and the cumulative impact (direct, indirect, secondary and synergistic) of the different aspects of the plan working together. Where a strategic option scored badly against SEA indicators, it was rejected unless there are other overriding planning considerations.

SEA and Decision-making

The LDP allocates brownfield and greenfield sites as opportunities for development. The following sections explain the assessment process for the land allocations and how the SEA assessment has informed decision making for the LDP.

Greenfield Options

Overall, there is a requirement to identify greenfield sites to accommodate a significant amount of new homes and employment uses, and there will be an inevitable environmental effect resulting from this. The preferred greenfield site options have been selected as a result of the environmental assessment, planning assessment and public consultation on the Main Issues Report. They fit with the spatial strategy in the Strategic Development Plan and minimise the overall impact on the environment, as informed by the SEA. Where preferred site options result in a likely significant environmental effect, a requirement for mitigation has been highlighted.

We will be carrying forward the greenfield sites allocated in the existing 2012 LDP. The SDP does not require us to identify any further greenfield land for housing or employment uses and the vast majority of new development bids have been identified as alternative based on this justification. In some cases, the alternative sites would have a significant impact on the environment or do not fit with the spatial strategy, or would be beyond the capacity of the SDP to deliver in terms of the supporting infrastructure, environmental resources (e.g. water), environmental safeguards, mitigation and monitoring measures. For this reason the alternative allocations are likely to have significant adverse effects on the environment cumulatively, if allowed.

However, the Main Issues Report identifies a limited number of preferred greenfield options for other uses including a garden centre, a respite care home and a solar farm. The Proposed Plan also identifies one greenfield housing site at Malcolm Road, Peterculter, for the development of around 70 houses on the justification of increasing housing choice in Peterculter and supporting falling school rolls at the Primary School.

Brownfield Options

Many of the brownfield site allocations from the 2012 LDP have been carried forward into the next plan with no change (we have removed those that have been developed, or no longer have a realistic prospect of being so). We have also identified some preferred options from new development bids. There is a broad support in the strategy for brownfield development because these sites avoid the need to increase land take for development and they are located in the most sustainable locations and their reuse assists regeneration and supports existing services and facilities. Identifying new brownfield opportunities for housing, employment or other uses is consistent with the SDP. However, through the SEA assessment process, some brownfield proposals have been identified as having a more significant impact on particular environmental indicators. These have not been taken forward into the LDP. In general however, brownfield development is a more sustainable option than greenfield development, and the Strategic Development Plan Spatial Strategy requires the LDP to identify a significant amount of brownfield land for development. Where a site is preferred, but there are still constraints to its development, mitigation measures have been identified.

Land Use Policy and Supplementary Guidance Options

The LDP contains the policies against which all planning applications will be assessed. Some policies promote development, and some ensure that development takes place in the right way and does not have a negative impact on the environment. As part of the LDP, a suite of Supplementary Guidance (SG) has also been prepared to support the policies in the LDP. The majority of policy in the existing 2012 LDP will be carried forward into the Proposed Plan with only minor changes to provide extra clarification, further detail, corrections or technical updates. Some other policies have been subject to more significant change and there are also a small number of brand new policies. Each individual policy and SG has been be fully reassessed for the Proposed Plan.

All of the policies and the SG contained in the Proposed Plan have been assessed against SEA indicators. The SEA process has also been used to refine these policies and supplementary guidance to minimise negative impact on the environment and maximise the positive benefits. The summaries of the assessments of policies and Supplementary Guidance, as well as the alternatives (the MIR alternative options and the existing 2012 policies) are contained in Appendix 7 and 8.

Masterplans

The LDP requires masterplans to be produced for the larger development areas. Masterplans will improve the quality of the development, and often play a key role in mitigating the impact of a development on the environment. Many of the sites identified in the Proposed Plan already have adopted masterplans which are subject to individual SEA screening, and any future masterplans or development frameworks produced will also be subject to SEA screening. We have also included an

assessment of the Aberdeen Harbour Development Framework, which was identified as requiring a full assessment after being subject to SEA screening (see Appenidx 8).

6.4 Framework for assessing environmental effects

Comments from the Consultation Authorities (SNH, SEPA and Historic Scotland) have been taken into account regarding the methods, scope and level of detail in this Environmental Report. To help the assessment process and ensure consistency we set questions based on the SEA topics, the objectives and questions we used are shown in **Table 6a**.

Table 6a: Environmental Objectives and Questions

SEA Topic	Objective	Will the Aberdeen Local Development Plan…?
Biodiversity (flora and fauna)	Conserve, protect and enhance the diversity of species and habitats and natural heritage of Aberdeen. Maintain and enhance the populations of protected species, including European Protected Species, including protection of their resting places or roosts. Maintain or enhance existing green networks and improve connectivity/function and create new links where needed.	Protect, provide and improve habitats to enhance biodiversity? Affect the conservation objectives of any international, national or locally designated site? Result in any negative impacts or place pressure on the conservation objectives of the River Dee SAC? Affect populations of any protected species, their habitats and resting places or roosts? (Protected species include Otters, Bats, Red Squirrels, water Vole, Badgers and species in the North East Scotland Biodiversity Action Plan) Result in or provide opportunity for enhancement and expansion of green networks? Avoid habitat fragmentation and enhance habitat connectivity? Protect and enhance areas of existing trees, woodland and hedges? Seek to promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats?
Air	Limit or reduce the emissions of air-borne pollutants	Result in the temporary release of particulate matter in constructing new development? Increase vehicle traffic increasing carbon footprint and negatively impacting on air quality? Impact on or be affected by the Air Quality Management Areas?
Climatic factors	Limit or reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases and promote the production of renewable energy Reduce vulnerability to the effects of climate change on flood risk	Promote sustainable and active travel, reducing congestion and traffic pollution by promoting alternative to cars through walking, cycling and the location of facilities? Significantly increase energy consumption? Promote the use of renewable energy and the efficient use of energy and water? Result in the development of peat rich soils? Increase the area at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas?

Soil	Reduce contamination, safeguard soil quantity and quality Minimise waste production and amount of waste sent to landfill	Cause soil sealing and compaction? Result in the release of substances during construction, cleaning or redevelopment that could potentially contaminate the soil? Ensure that possible contamination will be properly remediated and not impact upon sensitive receptors such as human health or the water environment? Increase in the amount of waste produced?
Water	Promote sustainable use of water and mitigate the effects of floods and droughts Ensure that the water quality and good ecological status of the water framework directive are maintained. Maintain water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity	Increase the need to abstract water during the construction of, and servicing new development? Increase the area at risk from flooding, or result in increased flooding in other areas? Increase the area vulnerable to the effects of changes in climate, including increased rainfall and extreme weather events? Result in the release of water-borne pollution into watercourses, groundwater or reservoirs? Increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies? Increase development that physically impacts on a watercourse or the coastline? Allow or encourage connection to the public sewerage system? Locate development in areas at risk from flooding? Ensure adequate space is provided for surface water drainage including SUDS to be implemented?
Landscape	Maintain and support landscape character and local distinctiveness.	Reduce public open space and green space in the City? Detract from or harm the landscape setting of the city? Impact on any landscape or geological features? Result in coalescence of settlements or urban sprawl? Degrade the coastal environment?
Population	Promote economic growth, social inclusion, environmental improvement, health and safety;	Provide a range of house types and sizes to support identified population needs? Support an aging population by providing appropriate type and location of housing, facilities and public transport? Deliver affordable housing?
Human Health	Protect and enhance human health Retain and improve quality, quantity and connectivity of publicly accessible open space	Allow development activities around certain parts of the City declared air quality management areas, affecting people's health? Improve and make provision of open space and sporting facilities? Result in the severance of links between residential areas and recreational sites, limiting healthy sporting activities?
Cultural Heritage	Promote protect and, where appropriate, enhance the historic	Conserve and enhance historic buildings, archaeological sites, conservation areas?

	environment	Impact on the landscape setting of Aberdeen or any historic features or sites?
Material Assets	Promote good design, safe environment, clean environment and good quality services Protect and enhance outdoor access opportunities and access rights	Provide adequate housing land, employment land and community facilities to meet the needs of people in Aberdeen City? Allow for the sustainable use of resources including waste and energy? Promote more sustainable waste facilities to divert it away from landfill? Provide suitable infrastructure: transport, education, health, water, waste management, sports, business, flood prevention and regeneration programmes? Ensure adequate space for kerbside collection or recycling facilities in new development? Promote the provision of safe pedestrian access links? Provide improved access to natural and built assets? Remove or sever any core path or right of way?

Note on the assessment of flood risk

We frequently refer to the flood hazard maps produced by SEPA to assess likely flood risk on a site. During 2014, new flood maps were produced by SEPA, creating a need to reassess all of our sites for flood risk in light of the new information. This work was undertaken by SEPA and their advice was outlined in their formal response to the Main Issues Report. The new maps provide a useful indication of areas which may be susceptible to flooding, allowing us to indicate where a more detailed assessment of flood risk is required. However they cannot guarantee accuracy or certainty that a property will flood.

SEPA has not objected to the principle of development on any of our preferred options. However, on SEPA's advice a number of sites have been identified as being potentially at risk and will therefore require a Flood Risk Assessment as part of a future planning application. These are identified in the site assessments (Appendices 4 and 5) as well as the mitigation measures (Table 7a).

6.5 Cumulative Effect Assessment

We have assessed the likely significant effects that all the components of the plan will have on the environment, when taken together, including secondary, cumulative, and synergistic effects, as required by Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

In the cumulative effects assessment, we have assessed direct/indirect/secondary, time crowding, time lag, space crowding, cross-boundary, nibbling and synergistic effects. This is presented in Appendix 9. The key points of the cumulative assessment are:

- Impacts on short-term air quality;
- Long-term irreversible impacts on biodiversity as a result of significant greenfield development;

- Mixed impact on climate as development will increase use of resources, but new developments will be more efficient;
- New development will impact negatively on water quality and will increase water abstraction;
- Negative impacts on landscape as a result of significant greenfield development;
- Mixed impacts on cultural heritage as a result of development and the policies to protect the historic and cultural environment contained in the plan; and
- Development will result in long term positive effects on population, human health and material assets

7. Mitigation Measures

The SEA Directive requires that through mitigation measures, recommendations will be made to prevent, reduce or compensate for the significant negative effects of implementing the strategy. The proposed framework to be adopted to mitigate common significant environmental effects is **Table 7a.** The individual assessments of the sites, policies and supplementary guidance also describe case- specific mitigation measures where relevant. Site-specific mitigation measures for individual sites have also been included as an appendix to the LDP to ensure they are taken account of in lower-level decisions on planning applications.

Table 7a: Significant Effects of Plan and Mitigation Measures

Plan Impact (++/--)	Mitigation/Enhancement Measures	When should mitigation be considered?	Who is responsible for undertaking the mitigation?
General			
Owing to the very significant scale of development on both greenfield and brownfield sites released and supported by this plan, there is likely to be a very significant impact on all of the indicators.	• The LDP ensures that development is phased in accordance with policies LR1 and LR2 Land Release, so the effects of development can be managed over time. Development is also programmed, for example through masterplanning, to ensure development does not proceed unless required infrastructure is in place.		
Biodiversity			
Impact on Natura 2000 sites Development may have a negative impact on the qualifying interests of a Natura 2000 site, including the River Dee SAC but also the Moray Firth SAC, Ythan Estuary, Sans of Forvie & Meikle Loch and Loch of Skene. Development sites, especially greenfield sites that are on a direct pathway to the site (e.g. a tributary) may have a negative impact on the conservation objectives and biodiversity of the site due to pathway effects of pollution (--). Greenfield development across the whole city will increase demand for water which is likely to be abstracted form the River Dee, which may have effects on the conservation objectives of the SAC (- -)	• LDP Policy NE8 Natural Heritage includes a statement requiring an HRA Appropriate Assessment where a proposal is likely to affect Natura 2000 sites. Where necessary, each Appropriate Assessment will outline site specific mitigation measures. • Appropriate Assessment will also trigger a requirement for EIA to further address any negative impacts arising from a specific project. • Policy NE8 also allows for Construction Environmental Management Plans to be required, to address the environmental impact of construction on the environment. • LDP Policy R7 Low and Zero Carbon Buildings and Water Efficiency requires all new developments to install water saving technologies to help minimise abstraction from the River Dee which will help to minimise any negative effects. • LDP Supplementary Guidance on Natural Environment requires, when there is an invasive non-native species on a development site that a condition is attached requiring a method statement be submitted for dealing with the invasive non-native species. *These measures are consistent with the mitigation identified by the SDP (EIA and HRA will be required through policy and conditions as appropriate). Anything that talks about this in the SDP.*	When producing LDP policy and Supplementary Guidance Through the Development Management process, including EIA and HRA as appropriate HRA of the LDP Masterplanning	LDP Team Environmental Planners Development Management Team Developers Masterplanning team

Impact Designated Sites and Protected Species Development is likely to have a negative effect on any designated nature conservation sites or populations of protected species which may be present, and their habitats and resting places (- -).	• LDP Policy NE8 Natural Heritage requires an ecological assessment to be completed where a development is likely to affect a designated site or a protected species. Where necessary, ecological assessments will identify specific mitigation measures. • Bat surveys will also be required where there is a sufficient likelihood that bats will be present, in accordance with relevant Supplementary Guidance. • Policy NE8 of the LDP also states that all developments should seek to enhance biodiversity in general. • Appropriate buffer zones are also required to be incorporated into major transport projects, for example new roads. *These measures are consistent with the mitigation identified by the SDP (LDP will have policies protecting the natural environment).*		
Severance of Habitat Networks In developing some sites, particularly greenfield sites, barriers to species movement will be created and existing habitat networks lost, resulting in habitat fragmentation (--) However, the masterplanning and development of greenfield sites provides an opportunity to enhance green networks and habitat networks where these were previously absent or poor quality. This may also be especially the case for brownfield sites (++)	• The LDP identifies and protects a large network of Green Space Network, comprising sites of important natural habitat and links between these. • LDP Policy NE1 Green Space Network states that masterplanning of new developments will determine the location, configuration and extent of GSN in these areas, which provide connection between habitats. GSN policy will be applied so that proposals ensure habitat links are maintained and enhanced. *These measures are consistent with the mitigation identified by the SDP (LDP will consider the need to protect or enhance existing green networks).*		
Impact on Waterbodies Where watercourses are present on a site, proposals may physically impact upon the channels and result in the release of waterborne pollution, which may affect biodiversity and water quality (- -)	• LDP Policy NE6 Flooding, Water Quality & Drainage states that waterbodies will be maintained as naturalised channels with riparian buffer strips, and not subject to excessive engineering work or unnecessary culverting. • Policy NE6 also states that where there are existing culverts, opportunities to reinstate them as open waterbodies will be explored, which would enhance their biodiversity value.		
Impact on Trees and Woodlands Development of greenfield areas may result in the loss of trees or woodland, including ancient woodland, woodlands of particular biodiversity importance and hedgerows (- -).	• Some trees and woodlands are protected by law (TPO, Conservation Areas) and the LDP policies reflect and support our statutory duties. • Important areas of woodland are zoned as NE1 Green Space Network. • LDP Policy NE5 Trees & Woodlands states a policy presumption against all development that will lead to the loss or damage of established trees and woodland, including ancient woodland. Policy NE5 also requires a Tree Protection Plan to be agreed before development commences to ensure no damage is inflicted against established trees.		
Nigg Bay	• A masterplan will be prepared for the harbour development, as well as Development		

The development of a new harbour at Nigg Bay will have a significant permanent impact on part of the Balnagask to Cove Local Nature Conservation Site. Part of the bay is also a Site of Special Scientific Interest, mainly due to its geological interest, although the built proposals do not include this area. Building and dredging operations could affect bottlenose dolphins and Atlantic salmon, which are qualifying species for the Moray Firth SAC and the River Dee SAC respectively. There is also the potential for development to have an adverse impact on the extent, quality and use of green space in the vicinity. There may also be an impact on habitats and species of biodiversity value (- -)	Framework for the wider area. This is likely to address opportunities to open space and green networks, amongst other things. • LDP Policy NE8 Natural Heritage includes a statement requiring a HRA Appropriate Assessment where a proposal is likely to affect Natura 2000 sites. Where necessary, each Appropriate Assessment will outline site specific mitigation measures. • Appropriate Assessment will also trigger a requirement for EIA to further address any negative impacts arising from a specific project. • Policy NE8 also allows for Construction Environmental Management Plans to be required, to address the environmental impact of construction on the environment.		

Preferred site likely to have significant effects on biodiversity receptors, and to which mitigation measures listed above under biodiversity apply:

OP13 ACEE Bridge of Don	OP62 Aberdeen Harbour Expansion, Bay of Nigg	OP41 Frirsfield	OP29 Prime Four Business Park
OP74 Broadford Works	OP38 Countesswells	OP9 Grandhome	OP19 Rowett North
OP40 Cults Pumping Station	OP56 Cove	OP28 & OP33 Greenferns	OP21 Rowett South
OP82 Dunbar Halls	OP18 Craibstone North	OP59 Loirston	OP17 Stoneywood
OP42 Kennerty Mills	OP20 Craibstone South	OP31 Maidencraig South East	OP109 Woodend Farm (Site 1 & 2)
OP43 Milltimber Primary School	OP46 Culter House Road, Milltimber	OP48 Oldfold	OP113 Land at Culter House Road
OP16 Mugiemoss Mill	OP10 Dubford	OP51 Peterculter Burn	OP114: Milltimber South
OP99 The Waterfront, Torry	OP47 Edgehill Road, Milltimber	OP45 Peterculter East	OP44: North Lasts Quarry

Air			
Air Pollution Development of a greenfield site is likely to increase traffic into the built up area and therefore have a long term impact negatively on air quality through vehicle emissions. Additional traffic generated by new development, especially in the city centre or at the harbour, may have a negative impact on existing Air Quality Management Areas, where present which may lead to the AQMA being extended. (- -)	• LDP Policy T4 Air Quality states that planning applications which have the potential to have a detrimental impact on air quality will not be permitted unless measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants can be agreed. • The LDP also includes policy on promoting sustainable and active travel, including public transport provision, and walking and cycling routes which will reduce the level of air-polluting vehicles on the roads. • Developer contributions will be sought towards public transport and roads infrastructure improvements to help mitigate the traffic impact of development, such as congestion, as outlined in Supplementary Guidance. • A Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan is also being prepared for the City Centre to promote more sustainable modes of transport, reduce congestion and improve air quality in the City Centre. This will be delivered through the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme.	When producing LDP policy and Supplementary Guidance; Through the DM and Planning Agreements processes; Master Planning; When producing the Local Transport	LDP Team Development Management Team Transport Team Developers City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme team

		Strategy, SUMP	
Preferred site likely to have significant effects on air receptors, and to which mitigation measures listed above under air apply: OP65 Haudagain Triangle OP61 Calder Park OP60 Charleston OP23 Dyce Drive OP24 A96 Park and Ride			
Climatic Factors			
Increased resource use The operation and management of new buildings will also increase resource use and energy consumption, although may also promote renewable energy and efficient use of energy and water. The cumulative impact is significant considering the allocations that are promoted are both greenfield and brownfield.	• LDP Policy R7 Low and Zero Carbon Buildings and Water Efficiency requires all new buildings to install LZCGT to reduce predicted carbon dioxide emissions by 20% below 2007 building standards. • Policy R7 also requires all new buildings to use water-saving technologies and techniques.	When producing LDP policy and Supplementary Guidance; Through the DM and Planning Agreements processes Master Planning Through the production of Local Transport Strategy, SUMP.	LDP Team Development Management Team Transport Team Developers Building Standards Flood Team
Flood Risk There are areas around Aberdeen that are at risk from flooding and there are smaller watercourses that could result in a flood risk. As more land is developed in Aberdeen, there is greater pressure to build on sites that may be affected by flooding. Development in these areas will increase vulnerability to climate change and will reduce ability to introduce flood prevention measures, particularly upstream. Sites close to areas currently identified as being at risk of flooding on SEPA's flood maps may be vulnerable to the effects of future changes in climate, for example increased rainfall or more extreme weather events.	• Development will not be permitted in areas at risk of flooding or where it would increase the risk of flooding elsewhere, as informed by advice from SEPA and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. • Through the masterplanning and Development Management process, any parts of sites at risk of flooding will be protected through Green Space Network designation. Watercourses will also be maintained as naturalised channels with riparian buffer strips. • LDP Policy NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water quality requires Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Impact Assessment, to help planning officers assess flood risk and which will identify mitigation measures as appropriate. • LDP Supplementary Guidance will identify and protect land for Regional SuDS, which will take the form of catchment-scale upstream storage to help protect against flooding downstream and reduce flood risk for the city centre. *These measures are consistent with the mitigation identified in the SDP (LDP should have policies on flooding and drainage and SG on SUDS, DIA and Buffer Strips)*		
Increased Surface Water Run-off Development on green space may also increase surface water run-off, and increase vulnerability to flooding.	• LDP Policy NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality requires Drainage Impact Assessment to be submitted for proposals of 5 or more homes or over 250m2 non-residential floorspace. • Policy NE6 also requires SuDS to be incorporated into all new development to help manage surface water run-off sustainably, helping to reduce the impact of new development on flood risk.		

Increased Greenhouse Gas Emissions The scale of the housing and employment proposals in the LDP are likely to lead to an increase in traffic movements, which will result in increased greenhouse gas emissions. The cumulative impact is significant considering the allocations that are promoted are both greenfield and brownfield.	• LDP Policy T3 Sustainable and Active Travel helps to encourage modal shift away from private car transport, by requiring that new developments are accessible by walking, cycling and public transport. • Policy LR2 Mixed Communities also aims to deliver mixed communities where people can live, work and access shopping and services within their communities, reducing the need to travel long distances. • Policy H3 Density also requires a minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare, in the interests of efficient use of land and reducing urban sprawl, helping to reduce the need to travel. *These measures are consistent with the mitigation identified in the SDP (LDP will work to ensure sustainable mixed communities and higher densities).*		
Promotion of Renewable Energy Developments Some developments and policies, e.g. Ness Solar Farm, will directly promote the generation and use of renewable energy, thus significantly reducing the climatic impact of greenhouse gases and other pollutants. Others direct waste away from landfill, reducing methane emissions (++)	• The LDP supports the development of renewable heat and energy-generating facilities in principle (see Policy R8 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments). • Policy R5 also supports the principle of Energy from Waste Developments which reduces the amount of waste going to landfill, reducing methane emissions. • OP Site has been identified and will be safeguarded specifically for Energy from Waste. • OP Site has been identified and will be safeguarded specifically for a solar energy facility. • The Aberdeen Heat Network will also be promoted through Supplementary Guidance, to encourage the most efficient use of energy.		
Preferred site likely to have significant effects on climatic factors receptors, and to which mitigation measures listed above under climatic factors apply: OP81: Denburn and Woolmanhill OP102: George Street/Crooked Lane OP42: Kennerty Mills OP16: Mugiemoss Mill OP62: Aberdeen Harbour, Bay of Nigg OP54 Altens East and Doonies OP18 Craibstone North OP20 Craibstone South OP10 Dunford OP34 East Arnhall OP41: Friarsfield OP28 & OP33: Greenferns OP1: Murcar OP51: Peterculter Burn OP19: Rowett North OP17: Stoneywood OP36: Charlie House OP25: Woodside OP24: A96 Park and Ride OP111: Skene Road, Maidencraig OP44: North Lasts Quarry OP107: Greenwells Road Gas Holder (East Tullos)			
Soil			
Ground Contamination However, certain types of polluting development may also result in the release of substances during construction that could potentially contaminate the soil (--) Use of and spills of chemicals at the proposed Ness Solar Farm present the risk of contamination. There may also be contamination risks associated with	• LDP Policy R2 Degraded and Contaminated Land states that all land which is degraded or contaminated will be restored or remediated to a level suitable for its proposed use. Where contamination is suspected, a site investigation will be carried out and any contamination remediated as appropriate. • With regards to Ness Solar Farm and any future digging out on the landfill site, these facilities will be subject to strict environmental health/building standards regulations and potentially an EIA. • .	Through the Development Management process EIA and other investigations required as appropriate	Development Management Team Contaminated Land Officer Developers

development on the former landfill site (--) Redevelopment of a brownfield site may also have a positive effect on soil quality through remediation or decontamination works undertaken prior to development, where a site is severely contaminated (++)			
Waste directed from landfill More development will also lead to increased waste generation (including construction waste), some of which is likely to be sent to landfill which pollutes the soil (-) Some developments will promote modern waste management facilities which will direct waste away from landfill, which will have a long-term positive effect on soil quality in these areas (++)	• The next LDP identifies sites for modern waste management facilities, which have been identified as necessary by the Council to deal efficiently with Aberdeen's waste. • LDP Policy R6 Waste Management Requirements for New Development requires the provision of recycling facilities to help reduce waste going to landfill. Site Waste Management Plans may also be required to demonstrate recycling and reuse of materials. *This measure is consistent with mitigation identified in the SDP (LDP will have a spatial framework for new waste facilities, and should have policies to make use of construction waste).*		
Peat Soils It is possible that some development may take place on peat soils, even though these are very limited in extent in Aberdeen. This would have the negative effect of releasing greenhouse gas into the atmosphere.	• LDP Policy NE8 Natural Heritage states new development should avoid areas of peatland or carbon rich soils. There will be a presumption against development which would involve significant draining or disturbing of peatland or carbon rich soil. Mitigation measures, ecological assessments and construction environmental management plans are noted as being required.		
Soil Sealing, Compaction and Erosion Very large developments, including tall and bulky buildings, will have a significant impact on soil sealing, erosion and compaction; some large developments also require significant underground infrastructure (--)	• Specific policies on tall and bulky buildings direct these types of development to the most appropriate city centre locations, which are likely to be brownfield sites. LDP policies on waste, and policy which requires Construction Environmental Management Plans to be submitted with planning applications will also help to mitigate any impact on soil.		
Preferred site likely to have significant effects on soil receptors: OP64: Ness Solar Farm OP54: Altens East and Doonies OP44 North Lasts Quarry			
Water			
Pollution of Waterbodies The development of a greenfield site is likely to release water borne pollution into waterbodies, groundwater and reservoirs, particularly during the construction	• The Council will liaise with SEPA where there is the potential for the pollution of the water environment. • LDP Policy NE8 Natural Heritage requires waterbodies to be maintained as naturalised channels, and for riparian buffer strips to help protect waterbodies from pollution, and the	When producing LDP policy and Supplementary Guidance	LDP Team Development Management Team

phase, if present (-). Sites at risk of flooding will have a negative effect on water quality in the event of a flood (--)	requirement for Construction Environmental Management Plans • LDP Policy NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality also states that drainage solutions on all sites must be the most appropriate in terms of SuDS, which are highly beneficial to water quality. • Water abstraction – acceptance rate of water abstraction should be agreed between Scottish Water and SEPA • HRA and likely EIA for masterplanning and Development Management Planning Agreements will also mitigate adverse effects. *This measure is consistent with the mitigation identified by the SDP (future plans should have policies to improve the ecological status of water).*	Through the DM and Planning Agreements processes Master Planning	Transport Team Developers Building Standards Flood Team SEPA Scottish Water
Physical Impact on Watercourses & Coastline In some instances watercourses or coastlines may be physically impacted through the development of a site; this is highlighted in the general assessments (--). Aberdeen Harbour expansion will have an impact on the local coastal water environment.	• LDP Policy NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality includes a presumption against excessive engineering or culverting of watercourses, with natural treatment wherever possible. There is also a presumption against developments which would require new or strengthened flood defences. • The LDP also includes two zonings for the coast, developed and undeveloped, with a presumption against new development in the undeveloped coast.		
Water Abstraction from the Dee All new development will increase the need to abstract water from the River Dee, with requirements agreed between Scottish Water and SEPA (-)	• Acceptable rates of water abstraction from the Dee are agreed between SEPA and Scottish Water. • LDP Policy R7 states that all new development is required to install or utilise water saving technologies or techniques to help minimise the requirement for water abstraction to serve the city. • See also the HRA for the Aberdeen City Proposed Plan and page 31 of the Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Strategic Development Plan		
Preferred site likely to have significant effects on water receptors, and to which mitigation measures listed above under water apply: **OP**81: Denburn and Woolmanhill OP42: Kennerty Mills OP16: Muggiemoss Mill OP64: Ness Solar Farm OP99: The Waterfront, Torry OP115: Abbotswell Road **OP62: Aberdeen Harbour, Bay of Nigg** OP18: Craibstone North OP20: Crainstone South OP10: Dubford OP34: East Arnhall OP41: Friarsfield OP28 & OP33: Greenferns OP1: Murcar OP51: Peterculter Burn OP19: Rowett North OP17: Stoneywood OP36: Charlie House OP111: Skene Road, Maidencraig OP44:North Lasts Quarry			
Landscape			
Intrusion onto landscape setting of the city It is likely that development of a general greenfield site, especially for very large structures or those in prominent locations within the context of the whole	• Landscape impact will be mitigated through screening or sensitive siting, design and layout of buildings within the site. • Policy D2 Landscape requires new development to have a strong landscape framework which improves and enhances the setting and visual impact of the development.	When producing LDP policy and Supplementary Guidance	LDP Team Master planning, Design and

city, will have a permanent and negative affect on the landscape setting of the city or would negatively effect the aspect from local beauty spots (--).	• Projects may also be presented to the Design Review Panel, where a panel of independent design experts may provide advice on landscape impact and other design issues.	Through the DM Process Liaison with Conservation Officer Master planning Process	Conservation Team
Impact on landscape features Greenfield development is likely to have a negative effect on any particularly important landscape features, setting and character present including any geological features which may be present (--)	• LDP Policy D2 Landscape requires development to be informed by existing landscape character and existing features to sustain local diversity and distinctiveness, including natural and built features such as existing boundary walls, hedges, copses and features of interest.		
Coalescence and urban sprawl In general greenfield development has the potential to result in coalescence of settlements and/or urban sprawl (--)	• LDP Policy NE2 Green Belt exists to protect areas of open and green space around Aberdeen and settlements around the city to protect against gradual infilling, coalescence and sprawl. • Several LDP policies, including LR2 Mixed Communities and H2 Density also aim to promote communities where people can live, work, shop and access services, discouraging sprawling single-use developments.		
Restoration of derelict sites Redevelopment of brownfield sites that were previously derelict or poor quality is likely to have a significant positive effect if development is sensitive and of high quality design (++)	• The principle of brownfield redevelopment is strongly encouraged by the LDP Spatial Strategy. • LDP Policy R2 Degraded and Contaminated Land requires that all land that is degraded, including visually, is restored or remediated to a level suitable for its proposed use.		
Preferred site likely to have significant effects on landscape receptors, , and to which mitigation measures listed above under landscape apply: OP67: Aberdeen Market OP35: Granitehill Road OP54: East Altens and Doonies OP56: Cove OP44: North Lasts Quarry			
Population			
Affordable Housing and Housing Choice LDP has the potential to impact positively on population by providing affordable housing and greater choice of housing types and sizes, as well as employment opportunities and community facilities (++). Some sites also include affordable housing contributions that are in excess of the 25% requirement or are affordable in their entirety (++)	• LDP Policy H2 Mixed Use Areas requires larger developments to accommodate an appropriate mix of house types and sizes to provide choice and flexibility in meeting needs and demands. • LDP Policy H5 Affordable Housing requires the equivalent of 25% affordable housing in every new development. The new LDP increases flexibility in how these are delivered, to ensure greater overall delivery. • Some of the housing sites in the LDP have been identified by ACC's Strategic Infrastructure Plan for the development of affordable homes.	When producing LDP policy and Supplementary Guidance Through the DM process and Planning Agreements Process	LDP, DM and Planning Agreements teams Environmental Policy Team
Supporting Regeneration Redevelopment of certain sites will support regeneration of Regeneration Areas, including Tillydrone, Northfield and Torry (++)			

Meeting Retail Needs The plan also identifies sites specifically for retail use to help meet the additional floorspace needs identified by the Aberdeen City and Shire Retail Study 2013 (++)			
Facilities for the population Sites for the development of dedicated new services and facilities for the population, such as the new academy for the south of the city, will have a significant positive effect for the population (++)			
Open Space There is the potential for the loss of open green space, including parkland or playing pitches, as a result of some developments (--). In some cases adopted and aspirational Core Paths may also be lost or severed (--)	• LDP Policy NE3 Urban Green Space states that development will not be permitted that would result in the loss of green space or playing pitches, unless replacement pitches/green space can be laid out in an equally accessible location nearby. • Core Paths and aspirational core paths are protected through LDP Policies T3 Sustainable and Active Travel and NE9 Outdoor Access and Recreation which state that Core Paths and rights of way should be protected and enhanced. *This measure is consistent with the mitigation identified in the SDP (LDP should have policies protecting open space).*		
Residential Amenity Residential development close to Aberdeen Airport where noise levels are high could create an unacceptable environment where health is affected (--).	• LDP Policy B4 Aberdeen Airport states that residential development within the airport exclusion zone, or within certain noise levels, will not be permitted.		
Preferred site likely to have significant effects on population receptors, and to which mitigation measures listed above under population apply: **OP72: Aberdon House Care Home** **OP65: Haudagain Triangle** **OP89: Smithfield School** **OP90: St Machar Primary School** **OP94: Tillydrone Primary School** OP61: Calder Park OP63: Prime Four Extension OP36: Charlie House OP25: Woodside			
Cultural Heritage			

Built and Cultural Heritage Assets Development may affect the historic environment. There could be long-term and permanent negative effects on the site/setting of designated heritage assets such as scheduled monuments, listed buildings, Conservation Areas, Designed Landscapes and archaeological sites. These effects may weaken the sense of place, the identity of existing settlements and landscape character in places (--) Sites with significant effects include OP63. However if the design of developments is sensitive and high quality, there could be a significant positive impact on the condition, site and setting of heritage assets (++)	• Proposals affecting Conservation Areas or Listed Buildings require prior consent by law. • Proposals will only be permitted where they comply with LDP Policies protecting the historic environment, cultural heritage and archaeological sites including D4 Historic Environment and D5 Granite Heritage. • Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Plans will be adopted as Technical Advice Notes, highlighting the most important characteristics of Conservation Areas and how to protect them, including area-specific policies where relevant.	When producing LDP policy and Supplementary Guidance Through the DM and Planning Agreements Process Master planning Conservation Area Character Appraisals	LDP, DM master planning, Design and Conservation Teams specifically conservation officer Environmental policy officers
Preferred site likely to have significant effects on cultural heritage receptors, and to which mitigation measures listed above under cultural heritage apply: OP74: Broadford Works OP91: Marischal Square OP62: Aberdeen Harbour Expansion, Bay of Nigg OP29: Prime Four OP63: Prime Four Expansion			
Material Assets			
Impact on Existing Infrastructure There is likely to be an impact on existing infrastructure such as schools, medical facilities, roads, sewerage and other utilities. This impact is likely to be negative, in terms of placing strain on capacity (--). In the case of schools, there may also be an impact upon school rolls associated with new residential development. This may be positive in terms of supporting schools with low rolls (++). Vulnerability to Flood Risk On sites which are identified as being at risk of flooding, there is likely to be a significant negative impact on material assets through the loss or damage	• Where there will be a negative impact on existing infrastructure, developer contributions will be required as appropriate to mitigate this impact and contribute to the expansion or upgrading of provision. • FRA will be required for sites at risk of flooding. Reference will also be made to the Flood Risk Framework in Scottish Planning Policy, which sets out which types of development are most appropriate to different levels of flood risk. • Where transport proposals have been identified as being of strategic importance to the city, the land required has been safeguarded through Land for Transport designation. The LDP also includes provision to seek developer contributions towards the Strategic Transport Fund, towards strategic transportation projects. • The LDP supports the principle of modern new facilities, including waste management, energy generation, the new conference centre and new academies. Where appropriate land is safeguarded for these purposes.	When producing LDP policy and Supplementary Guidance Through the DM and Planning Agreements Process Master planning	LDP DM Planning Agreements teams

of buildings, property and infrastructure (--) Strategic Infrastructure Improvements Some developments, particularly those identified under Land for Transport, will provide strategic infrastructure improvements which will have direct positive impact on congestion for the whole city (++) Modern New Facilities Some developments will create significant new material assets in the form of modern and high technology facilities, e.g. waste management and energy generation (++)			

Preferred site likely to have significant effects on material assets receptors, and to which mitigation measures listed above under material assets apply:

OP81: Denburn and Woolmanhill	OP89: Smithfield School	OP83: Energy Futures Centre	OP17: Stoneywood
OP102: George Street/Crooked Lane	OP90: St Machar Primary School	OP34: East Arnhall	OP36: Charlie House
OP65: Haudagain Triangle	OP94: Tillydrone Primary School	OP41: Friarsfield	OP111: Skene Road, Maidencraig
OP42: Kennerty Mills	OP62: Aberdeen Harbour Expansion, Bay of Nigg	OP28 & OP33: Greenferns	OP18: Crainstione North
OP16: Mugiemoss Mill	OP54: Altens East and Doonies	OP51: Peterculter Burn	OP20: Craibstone South
OP64: Ness Solar Farm	OP10: Dunford	OP19: Rowett North	OP44: North Lasts Quarry
			OP107: Greenwell Road Gas Holder

8. Monitoring

Aberdeen City Council is required to monitor the significant environmental effects when the plan is implemented. A monitoring report will be prepared to constantly monitor the significant effects. The framework for monitoring significant effect of the implementation of the plan is shown on **Table 8a** below. The monitoring data will be incorporated into future reviews of the LDP.

Table 8a: Monitoring Plan

Effects	What sort of information is required? (Indicators)	Where will information be obtained from?	Gaps in the existing information and how to resolve?	When should the remedial action be considered?	Who is responsible for undertaking the monitoring?	How should the results be presented?	What remedial actions could be taken?
Biodiversity	Impact on water quality of the River Dee and impact on its qualifying interests. Water abstraction	Dee Catchment Management Plan; Scotland's Environment statistics Scottish Water and SEPA	None	Remedial action should be considered if water quality deteriorates or there is a decrease in water resource. When the level of water abstracted is close to or exceeds the licensed abstraction volume.	ACC Environmental Policy, SNH, SEPA, Dee Catchment Partnership, North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership Scottish Water and SEPA	Annually	Review of land allocations through the Local Development Plan Process. Review of content of Supplementary Guidance on Natural Heritage should a quicker response be required.
	Rate and scale of habitat fragmentation	Open Space Strategy and Greenspace Network reviews; number of applications approved which include GSN		When Local Nature Conservation Strategy and/or consultee advice indicates a development will have a negative impact on habitats and species.	ACC Environmental Policy, SNH, SEPA, Dee Catchment Partnership, North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership	Open Space Strategy Annual Monitoring	Review of supplementary guidance on Open Space and Greenspace network; working with applicants to improve development proposals.
	Number and land area of sites designated for nature conservation purposes Number of biodiversity action plan species and habitats	Local Nature Conservation Strategy; North East Scotland Biodiversity Action Plan; Scotland's Environment statistics		When Local Nature Conservation Strategy and/or consultee advice indicates a development will have a negative impact on designated sites, habitats and species.	ACC Environmental Policy, SNH, SEPA, Dee Catchment Partnership, North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership	Annually	Review of Supplementary Guidance on Natural Heritage

Air	Nitrogen dioxide emissions Air quality (PM_{10})	Aberdeen City Council Local Air Quality Management: Progress Reports		When new Air Quality Management Areas are declared. Planning Applications Review of supplementary guidance on Air Quality	Environmental Health	As part of the Air Quality Action Plan or as and when is necessary	Review Supplementary Guidance on Air Quality
Climatic factors	Increase in resource use from new development, carbon footprint	Monitoring of new development emissions, Building Standards Sustainability labels	Currently limited information on the overall global footprint of Aberdeen	When planning applications are being approved contrary to Policies.	LDP Team , Building Standards and Development Management,	Annually	Review of supplementary guidance if developments are not achieving desired outcomes
	Increase in car use and energy consumption in new developments	Local Transport Strategy Monitoring of modal shift in transport modes		When transport monitoring shows increases in congestion and a modal shift is not occurring, i.e. use of the car is increasing.	LDP Team and Transportation	Annual monitoring report	
	Area at risk from flooding and new developments at risk from flooding	Flood Risk Management Plans	This is currently in preparation and is not available.	If the areas at risk from flooding change there is a need to review the spatial strategy	Aberdeen City, Council, SEPA	In a finalised Flood Risk Management Plan	Review allocations and flooding policies and the need for flood defences through the review of the Local Development Plan
Soil	Contaminated land Meeting landfill allowance targets Soil erosion	Contaminated land strategy Aberdeen City Council Waste Strategy Flood monitoring data from SEPA.		If the number of contaminated sites/land increases If the level of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill increases When flood events increase	Contaminated Land Unit, SEPA	As and when	Prepare or revise supplementary guidance.
Water	Impact on water quality of River Dee SAC Impact of development on Flooding Impact of development on water pollution Physical impact of development on water bodies and the coast Impact of policy on water usage on the River Dee	Dee catchment management plan SEPA flood monitoring and local authority flood monitoring data SNH on the impact on the qualifying interests of the River Dee SAC Scottish Water abstraction figures and SEPA's monitoring results		When data from SEPA and SNH indicate potential pollution in the Dee When data indicates that there has been an increase in flood incidents action should be taken	SEPA, SNH and Aberdeen City Council	As and when flood risk and pollution increases	Review the action programme of the local development plan Review supplementary guidance on flooding and drainage

Landscape	Impact of development on visually prominent areas Development adversely affecting the landscape and townscape setting.	Landscape appraisal Public complaints		When landscape appraisal indicates a negative impact on landscape and townscape setting When there is a large amount of opposition to development	Development Management and developers	Annually	Review land allocations and/or prepare supplementary guidance
	Loss of trees and landscape features	Information will be gained through the consultation responses to planning applications by the Council's Environment Team.	There is not currently any statistical data collected. This would not necessarily provide a good picture as replacement planting schemes will often be agreed.	If there is difficulty in implementing the policy to protect trees and landscape features then a review should be undertaken.	LDP Team and Environment Team	Local Development Plan Monitoring Statement	Review policy position or provide further advice or training for case officers and elected members.
Population	Increase in the range of house types and tenures	Housing land audit		When the plan is reviewed	LDP Team	Annually	Review Policies and allocations in LDP and supplementary guidance
	Increase in the number of care homes built	Monitoring of planning applications		When the plan is reviewed	LDP Team	Annually	Review Policies and allocations in LDP
Cultural Heritage	Impact on Archaeological remains on Greenfield sites Reduced numbers of historic buildings registered as 'at risk' The impact of development on listed buildings and conservation areas	Archaeology – number of excavations and remains found on sites RCHAMS Buildings at risk register for Scotland Monitor policy usage when determining applications Monitoring sites where negative or uncertain impacts on designations and their settings are predicted.		When there is an increase in Archaeological remains being discovered When the number of buildings on the 'at risk' register remains static or increases When appraisal indicates a negative impact on designations and setting	MDC team, Historic Environment Scotland Consultation, LDP Team, Archaeology and developers, LDP assessing Scottish Civic Trust Awards and Commendations	As and when applications and masterplans are submitted	Review of prepare supplementary guidance and revise land allocations
Material	School capacities	School Roll Forecasts		Remedial action will have to be taken through the application process to take account of changes	Education, Development Management	Annually in School Roll Forecasts	Changes made to the requirements for infrastructure

	Quantity and quality of open space	Open Space Audit annual monitoring		Remedial action should be taken where there is a significant loss of open space as a result of new development	Environment Team	Annually in Open Space Audit Monitoring	Review the Supplementary Guidance on open space

9. Next Steps

9.1 Proposed Consultation Timescale

Aberdeen City Council will ensure an early and effective consultation on the different stages of the new Local Development Plan and the accompanying Environmental Report. In this connection, the minimum consultation period Aberdeen City Council intends to specify under Section 16(1)(b) and notify under Section 16(2)(a)(iv) is eight (8) weeks. We will be consulting for **10 weeks** between the 13 January and 24 March.

9.2 Anticipated Milestone

Table 9a shows the remaining steps needed for the SEA of Aberdeen Local Development Plan and how these steps would be carried out and described in the final environmental report.

Table 9.a Proposed consultation timescale and methods

Expected time frame	Milestone	Comments
35 days	Consulting on the **Scoping Report**	Complete
3 weeks	Collating views on the Consultation and take the appropriate action on the Scoping Report and the plan as the result of the consultations	Complete
4 weeks	Finalise the Environmental Report	Complete
10 weeks	Consulting on the **Environmental Report** and the **Main Issues Report**	Complete
3 weeks	Collating views on the Consultation	Complete
3 weeks	Take the appropriate action on the environmental report and the plan as the result of the consultations	
10 weeks	Consult on **Proposed Plan** and **Revised Environmental Report**	Feb-Apr 2014
2 weeks	Finalise the Revised Environmental Report following examination	2016
2 weeks	Publish **Revised Environmental Report**	2016
2 weeks	Take post-adoption measures	2016 onwards

SEA Appendices List

1. Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies
2. Baseline Information
3. Map-based Information
4.a General Greenfield Assessment
4.b Greenfield Preferred Options
4.c Greenfield Alternative Options
5.a General Brownfield Assessment
5.b Brownfield Preferred Options
5.c Brownfield Alternative Options
6. Other Opportunity Sites Identified
7.a Policy Preferred Options
7.b Main Issues Report Alternative Options
7.c. Existing LDP 2012 Policy Assessments
8. Supplementary Guidance Preferred Options
9. Cumulative Assessment

Appendix 1: Description of relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies

Name of PPS / Environmental Protection Objective	Main Requirements of the PPS	Implications of the PPS for Local Development Plan
INTERNATIONAL		
Nature Conservation		
The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	Protects habitats and species. Gives basis to classify Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas.	LDP should provide for the protection of internationally designated nature conservation sites (known as Natura 2000 sites) and European Protected Species. Strategies should ensure the protection of all wild, rare and vulnerable birds, their nests, eggs and habitats.
The Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	Protection of wild birds and their habitats.	
European Biodiversity Framework	Promotes the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	The LDP should support the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
Water		
Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	Safeguard the sustainable use of surface water; transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater; supports the status of aquatic ecosystems and environments; addresses groundwater pollution, flooding and droughts and River Basin Management Planning.	The LDP should consider sustainable use of water and mitigate the effects of floods and droughts.
The Nitrates Directive 91/43/EEC	Reduce water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and preventing further such pollution.	The LDP spatial strategy should not increase water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from point source pollution sources.
Waste		
The Landfill Directive 99/31/EC	Sets a framework for waste management and sets out demanding targets to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal landfilled up to 2020.	The Plan should reflect the needs of the Landfill Directive, including the infrastructure required to meet the municipal biodegradable waste targets to 2020.
The Waste Framework Directive 2006/12/EC	Requires the planning system to: • Provide policies and sites for waste disposal. • Recover or dispose of waste without endangering human health and without processes or methods which could harm the environment. • Liaison between planning authorities and SEPA. Provide the right infrastructure for the new thematic strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste.	The Plan should identify suitable locations for large-scale waste management facilities to meet the Directive (and Landfill Directive and Area Waste Plan) whilst safeguarding the natural and built environment including designated areas, green belts, open countryside and the coast.
Taking Sustainable Use of Resources Forward: A Thematic Strategy on the Prevention and Recycling of Waste (2005)	Describes the ways in which waste management can be improved; limiting the production of waste and promoting the recycling, reuse and recovery of waste.	Gives context to national legislation and strategy on waste and recycling (see below). The Plan should encourages a life-cycle approach to waste management with the aim of reducing the overall environmental impact of waste.
Climate Change		
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change	International environmental treaty which provides a framework for future binding limits on greenhouse gas emissions. Sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. It	Sets a context for national policy and legislation on greenhouse gas emission reductions (see below) which the LDP will be required to help meet.

	recognizes that the climate system is a shared resource whose stability can be affected by industrial and other emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.	
The Second European Climate Change Programme	Will be exploring further cost-effective options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions through a series of Working Groups	Sets a context for national policy on legislation and policy measures to help the EU meet its emissions targets under the 1997 Kyoto protocol, which the LDP will be required to help meet.
NATIONAL		
Overarching Planning Policy		
National Planning Framework for Scotland 3 (2004)	Promotes the development of City Regions; facilitates the regeneration of socially disadvantaged areas; facilitates the implementation of sustainable transport and other key infrastructure, including a number of National Developments, two of which are in Aberdeen; development of skills and the knowledge economy (accessibility); encourages environmental stewardship.	The Plan should take account of the spatial and environmental issues set out in the NPF, such as promoting the concepts of sustainable development, community regeneration, transportation infrastructure, and other environmental issues and ensuring land required to meet the city region's needs (e.g. infrastructure and affordable housing) is delivered. We are also required to support the two National Developments identified in Aberdeen in NPF3, which are strategic enhancements at Aberdeen Airport and harbor expansion.
Scottish Planning Policy (2014)	Identifies the Scottish Government's central purpose at sustainable economic growth. SPP sets out the main purpose and tasks of the planning system and national policies across all policy sectors.	LDP policies on topic areas must accord with the national policies set out by SPP.
Cross-Sectoral		
Scotland's National Transport Strategy (2006)	Sets out a long- term vision for transport, identifies reduction of emissions, improved quality, accessibility and affordable as key aims.	The LDP should seek to integrate with the aims of strategies. It should reduce the need to use private transport and assist in the reduction of emissions.
Strategic Transport Projects Review (2009)	Sets out recommendations for land-based strategic transport interventions in Scotland's national transport network from 2012	Although the LDP is not tasked with delivering the interventions set out in this document, but should have regard to the strategic aims it has for the future of Scotland's transport system.
The Government Economic Strategy (2007)	Identifies strategic priorities critical to achieving sustainable economic growth.	LDP should support sustainable economic growth whilst meeting the differing needs of a diverse population.
Choosing Our Future: Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy (2007)	It highlights the need to build a sustainable future taking account of pubic well-being (e.g. quality of life, food, economic opportunities), travel, natural resources and waste.	It should aim to conserve Scotland's biodiversity whilst reducing resource depletion and encouraging responsible use of our natural resources. Consider objectives (and polices) that will lead to sustainable communities.
Natural Resource Productivity (2009)	Sets out a vision for the future direction of agriculture in Scotland in a way which is sustainable but delivers the maximum economic and public benefit.	SDP should consider the impact on Scottish agriculture when considering its strategy or development proposals.
Building a Better Scotland Infrastructure Investment Plan: Investing in the Future of Scotland (2005)	Sets out the delivery plan for achieving significant investment in transport, education, health, water, waste management, sports, business, flood prevention and regeneration programs in Scotland.	The AWPR is a major investment programme for Aberdeen. Aberdeen will also receive £11.5m from the Cities Growth Fund to support its City-Vision, which focuses on diversification, international competitiveness, skills, infrastructure and cultural assets. Projects include £1.5m for a new Energy Futures Centre and renewables development,

		£1.5m for urban public realm improvements, £1.6m for a development company, £1.5m for sports development and £1m for an arts fund.
Air and Climate Change		
Scottish Climate Change Delivery Plan (2009)	Sets out high level measures required to meet Scotland's statutory climate change targets to 2020.	LDP should include measures to contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases considering methods of adaptation, diversification and mitigation.
UK Air Quality Strategy (2007)	Seeks to "render polluting emissions harmless". Sets objectives for protecting human health to be included in regulations for the purposes of Local Air Quality Management relating to concentrations of, amongst others, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone and particulates.	The Local Development Plan should improve local air quality.
A Low Carbon Economic Strategy for Scotland (2010)	Sets out the Scottish Government's plans to move towards a low carbon economy in Scotland.	The LDP must contribute to the promotion of development which helps to reduce Scotland's carbon footprint and help meet carbon saving targets for Scotland.
Changing Our Ways- Scotland's Climate Change Programme (2006)	Provides a national interpretation of broader climate change objectives	Places duties on public bodies to contribute to the delivery of the targets set in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2006.
Tomorrow's Climate, Today's Challenge: UK Climate Change Programme (2006)	Sets out measures to reduce emissions in every sector of the economy, through a variety of different actions, including land use management.	Planning process across the UK should work towards the reduction of carbon in the location, siting and design of new developments.
Scottish Government Online Renewables Advice (Replaces PAN 45) (2011-2013)	Planning advice on many different types renewable technologies is provided e.g. wind turbines, hydro schemes, energy from waste and photovoltaic technology.	These provide suggested areas of focus for writing LDP Policy and Supplementary Guidance on different renewable technologies, and outline the opportunities to promote renewables within the different stages of the planning process.
Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	Creates a statutory framework for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.	All public bodies must act in a way best calculated to deliver the Act's emissions reductions targets, in the way best calculated to deliver any statutory climate adaption programme and in a way that we consider most sustainable.
Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Framework and Sector Plans	Presents a national, co-ordinated approach to ensure that Scotland understands the risks and opportunities climate changes present and is adapting to these changes in a sustainable way.	The Framework includes a sector plan for Spatial Planning and Land Use. Development plans in particular are highlighted as having to consider climate change adaptation measures and ensure they include appropriate adaptation measures. In particular, this includes supporting the development of woodland expansion and habitat and green networks.
Heritage, Design and Regeneration		
The Scottish Historic Environment Policy (2009)	Provides a framework for more detailed strategic and operational policies for managing the historic environment	The plan should promote the management of the historic environment in a sustainable way which avoids adverse impacts as a result of new development.
Scottish Historic Environment Policies (December 2011) replaced by Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (June 2016)	SHEP is the overarching policy statement for the historic environment, covering all types of designations and consents; it provides a framework for more detailed strategic policies and operational policies that inform the day to day work of a range of organizations that have a role and interest in managing the	The Plan should take account of the vision statements in the SHEP by managing the historic environment in a sustainable way.

	historic environment; is intended to sit alongside and complement the Scottish Planning Policy series and other relevant Ministerial policy documents.	
The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1997	Prescribes the approach to be taken in planning for listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens.	The Plan should ensure that listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens are not adversely affected by new development.
Designing Places: A Policy Statement for Scotland (2009) Designing Streets: A Policy Statement for Scotland (2010)	National policy statement on urban design and place-making in Scotland, with the aim of raising standards of urban and rural development. Sets out the qualities of successful places and strategies to achieve good design.	The plan should set out concisely the local authorities' priorities in relation to design, including new street design, leaving the detail to be provided in SG. Development plans should: • set out the council's distinctive vision for how its area will develop; • summarise its appraisals of the most important features of the area's character and identity; • have effective design policies, and urban design frameworks, development briefs and master plans to provide planning and design guidance; and • explain how the plan's priorities are distinctly different from those of other places, and not just say that the council is committed to good design, or that development should respect its context.
Scottish Executive (2006) People and Place: Regeneration Policy Statement	Sets out a forward looking strategic framework and priorities for regeneration in Scotland encouraging proactive and integrated approaches.	The plan should take account of changing regeneration priorities and provide support where possible.
Scottish Government: Green Infrastructure, Design and Placemaking (2011)	Provides advice on incorporating principles and elements of 'green infrastructure' into new and existing developments.	Local Development Plans can: Set out the spatial strategy including detailed locations of the green network • set out a hierarchy of spaces in the green network • identify areas where actions could strengthen the green network or enhance links • Policies can support incorporation of green infrastructure in the design of new places • set development aspirations • Promote a masterplanning approach
Landscape and Soil		
The Scottish Soil Framework (2009)	Promote the sustainable management and protection of soils consistent with the economic, social and environmental needs of Scotland. Protection of soil as an asset- for the future of the Scottish economy as well as a contributor to challenges of climate change.	The LDP should promote the sustainable management of soils.
Scottish Landscape Forum' (2007) Scotland's living landscapes	The Scottish Landscape Forum has published a report entitled *Scotland's Living Landscapes – places for people*. It considers how to promote good management of all landscapes, to secure benefits for all. It provides seven key recommendations to the Scottish Government and other public bodies as first steps to delivering better care for Scottish landscapes. This includes preparing a European Landscape Convention action plan.	Consider how the Plan can maintain and restore natural habitats to ensure biodiversity and landscapes

Countryside (Scotland) Act 1967	Act makes provision for the better enjoyment of the Scottish countryside, and the improvement of recreational and other facilities. It extends the powers of local planning authorities as respects to land in their districts.	Local authorities have a duty to keep paths open and free from obstruction, and powers to carry out maintenance works. Planning authority to consider paths and rights of way in determining planning applications.
Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003	Act establishes statutory public rights of access to land and inland for recreational and other purposes.	Local authority has a duty to uphold access rights. Local authority is required to draw up a Core Paths Plan and review it as and when appropriate. LDP identifies and protects Core Paths and they must be taken account of in determining planning applications.
Homes, Population and Health		
Homes Fit for the 21st Century: The Scottish Government's Strategy and Action Plan for Housing in the next Decade (Scottish Housing Strategy)	Key aims: to increase the effective supply of housing across all tenures and to increase flexibility and choice within the system, and improve homes and neighbourhoods.	LDP must support Scotland's Housing Strategy and the Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy by ensuring there is enough land for housing.
All Our Futures: Planning for a Scotland with an Ageing Population (2007)	Provides a strategic approach which considers how best to respond to and plan for a Scotland with an ageing population.	The LDP should consider the housing and other needs of an ageing population.
Reaching Higher- Building on the Success of Sport 21	Is the national strategy for sport in Scotland and sets out the long-term aims and objectives for sport until 2020 and plans for its delivery and evaluation. It has been produced following a scheduled review of *Sport 21*: 2003-2007. The strategy maintains a vision of Scotland as: • a country achieving and sustaining world class performances in sport; • a country where sport is more widely available to all; and • a country where sporting talent is recognised and nurtured.	The Plan should contribute to implementing the strategy.
Let's Make Scotland More Active: A Strategy for Physical Activity (2003)	Aims to increase and maintain the proportion of physically active people in Scotland setting out targets to 2022.	The LDP should promote physical activities.
Equalities Act	Sets out a framework which prevents individuals from unfair treatment and promotes a more equal society.	The LDP should build the needs of people with protected characteristics into its strategic actions.
Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 & 2005	Ensures that discrimination law covers all the activities of the public sector; and requires public bodies to promote equality of opportunity for disabled people. Aims to end the discrimination that many disabled people face and gives disabled people rights in the areas of employment, education, access to goods, facilities and services and buying or renting land or property.	The Local Development Plan should build the needs of disabled persons into its strategic actions
SEPA Report: Incineration of Waste and Reported Human Health Effects (2009) SEPA Report: The Impact on Health of Emissions to Air from Municipal Waste Incinerators.	Aims to improve the regulation of the thermal waste treatment facilities by considering scientific studies on the health effects associated with the incineration of waste.	The recommendations made by the report include that planning controls should ensure that new waste incinerators are not located within the locality of existing facilities of this type. Site selection should also take into account proximity of residential and employment areas, and exposure to sensitive ecosystems.

Appendix 1

Nature Conservation		
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	Gives protection to listed species from disturbance, injury intentional destruction or sale.	The Local Development Plan should protect wildlife from disturbance, injury and intentional destruction
The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	Sets out a series of measures, which are designed to conserve biodiversity and to protect and enhance the biological and geological natural heritage of Scotland. Places a general duty on all public bodies to further the conservation of biodiversity.	The Local Development Plan should promote and protect biodiversity
Scotland's Biodiversity Strategy- Its in Your Hands (2004)	Is a 25 year strategy, which sets out a vision for the future health of Scotland's biodiversity to 2030. It highlights the need to: • look at the bigger picture: reconnecting and extending habitats and reducing barriers; • think in terms of landscapes and ecosystems (not just in terms of species and habitats), which it says can be better delivered through strategic planning; and encourage more engagement with people in biodiversity conservation.	The Plan's strategy needs to: • ensure the protection and conservation of biodiversity; • to assist in reversing the decline of important species and habitats; and to maximise habitat linkage in both urban and rural areas and minimise further fragmentation.
The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2007	These Regulations implement the Habitats and Wild Birds Directives. The Regulations provide for the: • designation and protection of 'European sites' (e.g. SACs); • protection of 'European protected species' from deliberate harm; and • adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European sites. The Habitats Regulations only apply as far as the limit of territorial waters (12 nautical miles from baseline). The amended Regulations: • simplifies the species protection regime to better reflect the Habitats Directive; • provides a clear legal basis for surveillance and monitoring of European protected species (EPS); • toughens the regime on trading EPS that are not native to the UK ensures that the requirement to carry out appropriate assessments on water abstraction consents and land use plans is explicit.	The plan should not adversely affect habitats and species protected under the Wild Birds and Habitats Directives. An appropriate assessment will be required where the plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site.

Making the Links: Greenspace for a more successful and sustainable Scotland' (2009)	Sets out the key actions that are needed to ensure that greenspace delivers for people, communities and places across the whole of urban Scotland.	The SDP should take account of the actions required to deliver quality greenspace to shape better places and increase quality of life for those working and living in the SDP area.
Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011	Protection of species including wild birds, wild hares and rabbits, deer and rabbits. Also makes provisions for SSSIs. Introduces new and amended criminal offences in relation to wildlife crime.	Main implications are in relation to licensing. The LDP does make provision for the protection of protected species, through requirements for surveys and assessments detailing mitigation measures where appropriate.
Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended)	Provides badgers with statutory protection from taking, injury or killing, cruelty or interfering with badger sets. Sets out general exceptions and licensing issues.	The protection of badgers is a material consideration in the planning process. Supplementary Guidance sets out how badgers should be taken account of when formulating development proposals
Forestry Commission Control of Woodland Removal Policy	Provides a strategic framework for appropriate woodland removal, and supports the maintenance and expansion of forest cover in Scotland. Contributes toward achieving an appropriate balance between forested and non-forested land in Scotland. Supports climate change mitigation and adaptation.	LDP policy should reflect strong presumption in favour of protecting Scotland's woodland resources. Woodland removal should be allowed only where it would achieve significant and clearly defined additional public benefits. Planning conditions and agreements should be used to mitigate environmental impacts of development.
Water		
Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003	Ensures that all human activity that can have a harmful impact on water is controlled.	The plan should not promote development that would have adverse impacts on the water environment, and lead to the authorities failing to ensure water bodies achieve good ecological status, as required in the Water Framework Directive by 2015.
Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005	Implements the obligations of section 20 of the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003 (WEWS Act), and the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC). Sets out the framework for protecting the water environment that integrates the control of pollution, abstractions, dams and engineering activities in the water environment.	Same as above.
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009	Creates a framework in which organisations involved in flood risk management can co-ordinate actions to deliver sustainable and modern approaches to flood risk management.	The LDP should not create flood risks (from the sea or rivers) and should actively promote sustainable flood risk management.
River Basin Management Plan for Scotland (2009)	Details the strategy and requirements for River Basin Management Planning in Scotland	The LDP should not conflict with River Basin Management Plans for the area (River Dee)
Scottish Water Strategic Asset and Capacity Development Plan (2009)	Provides a description of Scottish Waters processes and systems for calculating capacity available, at waste/ water treatment works in Scotland.	The Local Development Plan should take into account existing infrastructure and provide for new infrastructure if required.
SEPA (2003) Groundwater Protection Policy for Scotland: Environmental Policy	To protect groundwater quality by minimising the risks posed by point and diffuse sources of pollution, and to maintain the groundwater resource by influencing the design of abstractions and developments, which could affect groundwater quantity.	The spatial strategy should not adversely affect ground water supplies, principally from water abstraction and point source pollution.
Scottish Water's Strategic Asset Capacity Development Plan	Annual report which outlines the current available capacity at water and waste water treatment works across Scotland.	LDP should ensure that infrastructure requirements for new development are informed by Scottish Water's assessment of asset capacity.

Waste		
Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010)	The plan outlines Scotland's key objectives in relation to waste prevention, recycling and reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill on the journey to a zero waste Scotland. The plan proposes targets for Scotland's waste	The LDP should have regard to the Scottish Governments targets for 70% of all waste to be recycled by 2025. The Scottish Gov also intends to establish sector specific programmes of work to deliver the Zero Waste Plan.
SEPA Guidelines for Thermal Treatment of Municipal Waste	Aims to promote the use of energy from waste as part of an integrated network of facilities to ensure that energy from waste is recovered efficiently.	The guidelines should be used in assessing and determining applications for thermal treatment facilities. It covers guidance on the proximity principle, capacity and need, site selection, the recovery of heat and power and SEPA's role as a planning consultee.
Marine and Coastal		
Scottish Executive Marine & Coastal Strategy (2005)	• To enhance and conserve the overall quality of the coasts and seas, their natural processes and their biodiversity. • To integrate environment and biodiversity considerations into the management of marine activities. • To promote wider public awareness, on the value of the marine and coastal environments and the pressures on them. • To identify means of working with natural processes to protect against coastal flooding and to maintain inter-tidal and coastal habitats of importance for biodiversity.	Promote objectives that promote clean, safe, healthy and productive coastal and water environments.
Marine (Scotland) Bill 2010 UK Marine Policy Statement	Expresses outcomes for the UK marine area and underpins the development of the joint Marine Policy Statement (MPS) guides development of national and regional marine plans. The MPS builds and expands upon 'Our Seas - a Shared Resource. High Level Marine Objectives (2009)' and provides a framework which will help balance competing demands on Scotland's seas and introduces duties for sustainable development, protection and enhancement of marine areas, mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, marine planning and conservation and measures to encourage economic investment.	Although the LDP is not tasked directly with delivering Marine Plans or the High Level Marine Objectives, the LDP should support them.
National Planning Advice & Guidance		
PAN 60: Planning for Natural Heritage	Provides advice on how development and the planning system can contribute to the conservation, enhancement, enjoyment and understanding of Scotland's natural environment. Encourages developers and planning authorities to be positive and creative in addressing natural heritage issues	The Local Development Plan should contribute to the conservation, enhancement, enjoyment and understanding of the natural environment.
PAN 61 Planning & sustainable urban drainage	Describes how the planning system has a central co-ordinating role in getting SUDS accepted as a normal part of the development process. In implementing SUDS on the ground, planners are central in the development control process, from pre-application discussions through to decisions, in bringing together the parties and guiding them to solutions which can make a significant contribution to sustainable development	The Local Development Plan should consider the role of sustainable urban drainage

PAN 63 Waste Management Planning	Ensures that development plans reflect the land use requirements for the delivery of an integrated network of waste management facilities; enables planning authorities to implement the emerging and future Area Waste Plans; provides a basis for more informed consideration of development proposals for waste management facilities; provides developers seeking planning permission for waste management facilities with advice on the issues taken into consideration when determining applications.	The Local Development Plan should promote integrated waste management
PAN 65: Planning and Open Space	Raise the profile of open space as a planning issue; provides advice on the role of the planning system in protecting and enhancing existing open spaces and providing high quality new spaces; sets out how local authorities can prepare open space strategies and gives examples of good practice in providing, managing and maintaining open spaces	The Local Development Plan should promote conservation and environment protection
PAN 75 Transport and Planning	Provides good practice guidance which planning authorities, developers and others should carry out in their policy development, proposal assessment and project delivery; creates greater awareness of how linkages between planning and transport can be managed; highlights the roles of different bodies and professions in the process and points to other sources of information.	The Local Development Plan should promote the use of existing transportation networks and develop new cycling and walking alternatives.
PAN 76 New Residential Streets.	Aims at creating attractive, safe residential environments, which reflect the needs of people, rather than cars. Requires that street design should reflect local character, be appropriate to the built form and linked to surrounding areas by direct pedestrian, cycle and car routes; that the character of the street should be determined by space requirements of people and vehicles, street furniture should fit with its surroundings and streets should use high quality materials, be well maintained and may employ signage to reinforce its sense of place; and that streets should provide easy movement within and beyond the site, street design itself should be used to limit traffic speed and home zones, prioritising pedestrian and cycle needs over car users, should be considered for residential streets.	The Local Development Plan should safeguard safe and high standard design of streets
PAN 77 Designing safer places	Highlights the positive role that planning can play in helping to create attractive, well-managed environments which help to discourage antisocial and criminal behavior; aims to ensure that new development can be located and designed in a way that deters such behaviour as poorly designed surroundings can create feelings of hostility, anonymity and alienation and can have significant social, economic and environmental costs.	The Local Development Plan should safeguard safety
PAN 78 Inclusive Design	Seeks to deliver high standards of design in development and redevelopment projects; and widens the user group that an environment is designed for. Makes is a legal requirement to consider the needs of disabled people under the terms of Disability Discrimination legislation.	The Local Development Plan should promote high standard of design

REGIONAL		
Overarching Planning Policy		
Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan (2014)	Creates a long-term sustainable framework of settlements in a hierarchy, which focuses major development on the main settlements in the North East. Sets the strategic context for Aberdeen City Local Plan which in turn set the framework for land use development.	The Local Development Plan should support the vision and spatial strategy of the Structure Plan, and should support its objectives of economic growth, population growth, high quality environment, sustainable mixed communities and accessibility
Cross-Sectoral		
Economic Growth Framework for North East Scotland	Sets the context for economic prosperity which will in turn drive sports development Promote sustainable economic growth; sustainable competitiveness and inclusive communities	The Local Development Plan should support sustainable economic growth
Economic Action Plan for Aberdeen City and Shire 2008	Sets out a 5 year life plan identifying actions to be undertaken towards the longer term economic ambitions for Aberdeen City and Shire.	The LDP should support sustainable economic growth.
Regional Transport Strategy (RTS),	Sets the long-term framework to improve the transport network in the North East, including: • integrating land use and transportation; • creating a long-term sustainable framework; • providing communities with a choice of means of travel and improving people's access to jobs; • improving air quality both locally and globally; • improving external links to the area by rail, road, sea and air; and • integrating different modes of transport to provide seamless interchange.	The Plan should contribute to meeting the MTS, which ends in 2011 and the future Regional Transport Strategy, which will extend to 2021.
Nature Conservation		
North East of Scotland Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Ensures the protection and enhancement of the biodiversity in the north east through the development of effective, local, working partnerships; Ensure that national targets for species and habitats, as specified in the UK Action Plan, are translated into effective local action.	The Local Development Plan should promote and protect biodiversity.
Forest and Woodland Strategy for Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen Implements the *Forests for Scotland – The Scottish Forestry Strategy*, (Scottish Executive, 2000)	The Strategy provides a framework for woodland development and management, and aims to: • ensure the sustainable management of the woodlands and forests; • contribute to the local economy; • provide opportunities for recreation and tourism; and • protect and enhance biodiversity and the environment. This means encouraging multi-benefit forestry in new planting and through re-structuring, balancing forestry against other land uses, protecting sensitive areas and identifying priority areas for expansion of a variety of forest and woodland	Although the Plan does not need to conform to the Strategy, as it is a management tool, the Plan can ensure that new development does not conflict with forest and woodland priorities (e.g. sustaining ancient woodlands, enhancing popular recreation areas, and linking wildlife corridors).

	types.	
River Dee Catchment Management Plan	• Records the current state of the Dee catchment, including water quality, the type and extent of habitats and species in the catchment, and important land management activities. • Identifies key issues and puts forward potential solutions through a series of actions.	The Plan should contribute to delivering the actions proposed in the Catchment Management Plan
LOCAL		
Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy 2012-2017	The LHS sets the strategic direction for housing in the city over the next five years. The LHS takes into regard Aberdeen City and the Aberdeen Housing Market Area (AHMA) providing scope for joint working on some issues with Aberdeenshire Council.	The Plan should contribute to delivering both Aberdeen's and Aberdeenshire's LHS in terms of provision of land, need, tenure, affordability, location, and reducing deprivation.
Aberdeen City Local Transport Strategy	Makes the Local Development Plan to take full account of the environment, social and economic implications of transport; Promotes the maximisation of accessibility for all to services and jobs; efficient resource use, as well as safety in delivering transportation	The Local Development Plan should support sustainability, environment protection, accessibility and safety and reduce social exclusion.
Aberdeen City Air Quality Action Plan	To reduce nitrogen dioxide within the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Aberdeen City Centre, and to a lesser extent reduce particulates (PM_{10}) through short, medium and long term infrastructure and other projects.	The Plan should contribute to delivering the actions proposed in the Action Plan in order to improve air quality with the AQMA and ensure land required to implement the Action Plan is provided timeously.
Aberdeen Futures – Aberdeen Community Plan	Stresses access to services of a high quality that meet their needs; seeks to make Aberdeen an attractive, clean, healthy and safe place to live; promotes Aberdeen as a forward looking city that recognises its heritage and its internationally recognised institutions and services; and seeks to give Aberdeen a strong, positive image of itself both nationally and internationally.	The Local Development Plan should support accessibility, health, safety, and the environment
Aberdeen City Nature Conservation Strategy 2010-2015	Aims to control and maintain remaining natural habitats and associated wildlife through the identification of designated sites and additional non-statutory sites. This will benefit both biodiversity and the citizens that live, work and visit the City of Aberdeen.	The Local Development Plan should promote biodiversity
Open Space Audit and Strategy 2011-2016	This Strategy sets out a strategic vision, aims and objectives for open space in Aberdeen. Its main purpose is to ensure the city has enough accessible and good quality open space. The Strategy is based on the findings of the Aberdeen Open Space Audit 2010.	Ensure that the LDP incorporates the findings of the audit and supports the aims of the strategy.
Aberdeen City Core Paths Plan	Core Paths Plans are required under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 for each council area *sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area*. They set out the core paths network. The Plans are developed in consultation with local communities, user groups, land managers and other stakeholders. Drafts are expected in 2008. Their aims include: • connecting residential areas, green-spaces, amenities, other attractions and the wider countryside;	The plan should support the aims of the Core Paths Plans.

	• forming a basic, safe framework for outdoor recreation and sustainable and active travel; • assisting people to lead healthier lifestyles; • promoting environmental protection and foster the development of a more sustainable city; and • being well integrated in policy and usage terms, encouraging access opportunities for all.	
Landscape Character Assessment of Aberdeen.	Seeks to maintain a balance between landform, geology, ecology, and vegetation despite human influences. Encourages development in existing settlements; avoiding coalescence between settlements and discouraging isolated development in the open countryside unless it is clearly identified in development plan	The Local Development Plan should take account of landscape character and promote good landscape designs
Aberdeen Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy (2001)	The Contaminated Land Strategy sets out how local authorities deal with potentially contaminated land.	Unknown at present.
Aberdeen City Council Waste Strategy	Provides a framework for encouraging waste reduction and then ensuring we get value from all our waste through recycling, composting or other organic treatment and finally by developing high efficiency combined heat and power production from the remaining mixed waste.	The waste strategy identifies the planning system as a major means of achieving infrastructure delivery for all wastes produced in the city. Local planning processes must ensure that current and future waste management requirements are met. They should also facilitiate the development of CHP schemes.

Appendix 2 Baseline Data, Targets and Trends affecting Aberdeen City

Appendix 2.1 Air, Climate and Resources

SEA Indicator	Quantified information- Aberdeen City	Comparators and targets- Aberdeenshire, North East and Scotland	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Natural Resources Consumption (footprint)	Aberdeen City's annual global footprint: Total: 5.73gha/per Energy and Consumption: 1.14gha (20% Food and Drink 1.07gha/p(19%) Land Travel: 0.81ha/p (14%) Other: 2.7gha/p (48%) Scotland's annual global footprint: Total: 5.37gha/per	Aberdeenshire's annual global footprint - in global hectares per person (gha/p) Total: 5.60gha/p Energy Consumption: 1.09gha/p (19%) Food and drink: 1.11gha/p (20%) Land Travel: 0.74ha/p (13%) Other (Government, capital investment, holiday activities, consumables, services and sports), 2.7gha/p (48%)	Both Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City's global footprint is higher than the Scottish average. The main contributors to the NE's global footprint are energy consumption, food and drink and land travel.	Energy is the largest contributor to Aberdeen City and Shire's Global Footprint and indicates high energy consumption associated with domestic fuels like gas, oil, electricity and other fuels. Sustainable transport is a key issue in both Aberdeen City and Shire, as it contributes 14% and 13% to global footprint respectively. Aberdeen consumes more resources per person than any other Scottish city, and it has the largest footprint in Scotland which cannot be sustained in the long-term.	North East Global Footprint Project http://www.scotlandsfootprint.org/tthe-project/north-east.php Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council (2006) Scotland's Global Footprint Project – Reduction Report for North East Scotland Global Footprint Project, Joint Global Footprint Co-ordinator, Aberdeen City Council
Total CO_2 emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2007 - 1,772.72 2008 - 1,761.38 2009 - 1,583.95 2010 - 1,660.35 2012- 1,645	Aberdeenshire 2007 - 2,391.21 2008 - 2,518.62 2009 - 2,335.33 2010 - 2,344.17 2012 – 1,744	Continues to fluctuate in the medium term.	Energy is the biggest contributor to Aberdeen's C02 emissions. 2012 data: Industry and Commercial Electricity: 430 kt. Domestic Gas: 280kt Domestic Electricity: 255kt Road Transport (Minor roads): 152kt Road Transport (A Roads): 137kt Industrial and Commercial other uses: 66kt Industry and Commercial Gas: 228kt Large Industrial Installations: 63kt	DECC Data dated 23/08/2012 National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory: http://naei.defra.gov.uk/data/local-authority-co2-map

				Domestic Other Fuels: 13kt Agricultural combustion: 3kt Railways: 2kt New development should consider energy efficiency as an issue. Increased travel, inefficient old housing stock. More housing and dependence on fossil fuels are also key issues.	
Per Capita CO_2 emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2007 – 8.5 2008 – 8.4 2009 – 7.4 2010 – 7.6	Aberdeenshire 2007 - 10.0 2008 - 10.4 2009 - 9.6 2010 - 9.5	Rising by 2008 and falling since 2008 in the Shire- continues to fluctuate in the medium term.	Increased travel, inefficient old housing stock and more housing account for this.	DECC Data dated 23/08/2012
Industry and Commercial CO_2 emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2007 - 868.99 2008 - 846.45 2009 - 692.34 2010 - 666.04 2012 - 787	Aberdeenshire 2007 - 841.39 2008 - 840.24 2009 - 745.63 2010 - 791.33 2012 - 532	No consistent fall in the City and the Shire	How to mitigate or reduce of industrial and commercial C02 whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.	DECC Data dated 23/08/2012
Domestic CO_2 emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2007 - 580.98 2008 - 582.17 2009 - 519.86 2010 - 552.38 2012 - 548	Aberdeenshire 2007 - 762.63 2008 - 765.92 2009 - 711.89 2010 - 770.13 2012 - 743	Domestic CO2 emissions in the City and the Shire continue to fluctuate in the short term.	Inefficient old housing stock and domestic energy demand are likely to account for this.	DECC Data dated 23/08/2012
Road Transport CO_2 emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2007 - 327.85 2008 - 317.79 2009 - 298.78 2010 - 298.88 2012 - 289	Aberdeenshire 2007 - 674.39 2008 - 647.82 2009 - 622.64 2010 - 622.62 2012 - 597	There appears to be a slight improvement in Road Transport emissions in both the city and Shire.	Increased travel by private vehicle may account for this.	DECC Data dated 23/08/2012
LULUCF* CO_2 emissions (kt)	Aberdeen City 2007 - 22.49 2008 - 21.18	Aberdeenshire 2007 - 85.19 2008 - 258.44	The City shows a slight improvement, compared to the Shire which continues	This depends on the way we use our land and Forest resources.	DECC Data dated 23/08/2012 *LULUCF - Land Use, Land Use Change

	2009 - 19.67 2010 - 17.76 2012 - -4	2009 - 308.47 2010 - 285.38 2012 - -230	to fluctuate in the medium term.		and Forestry
Properties at risk within inland and coastal areas	Aberdeen City: 309 inland floodplain 571 coastal (below 5m OD) Scotland: 77,191 inland floodplain 93,830 coastal (below 5m OD) Compared with the rest of Scotland, far fewer properties in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire are at significant risk from flooding.	Aberdeenshire 2,219 inland floodplain 1,743 coastal (below 5m OD)	The impact of climate change and flooding in the North East is unpredictable. However there may be increased duration and frequency of storms and rising sea levels. Weather throughout the year is predicted to change resulting in longer wetter winters and shorter drier summers with implications for flooding.	There may be an increasing need to implement flood defence systems in the City.	Office of Science and Technology (2005) Foresight report: *Future Flooding Scotland* http://www.foresight.gov.uk/Scotland/Final_Scotland.pdf
Potential Vulnerable Area (PVA) to flooding No of Area	Aberdeen City: 9 areas/catchments including Buchan Coastal (Bridge of Don), Aberdeen North Coastal (Seaton), River Don (Danestone), River Don (Dyce), Aberdeen South Central (Kincorth), Aberdeen South Central (Rosemount), River Dee (Cults), River Dee (Peterculter)	Aberdeenshire 18 Areas/Catchments including Banff Coastal around Banff, River Devron around Huntly, and Turrff, Buchan Coastal around Ellon, Peterhead, Fraserburgh and Newmachar; River Ythan around Ellon, and Methlick; River Don around Strathdon, Port Elphinstone/Kintore/Inverurie; River Dee around Ballater, Westhill and Aboyne; Kinkandine and Angus Coastal around Stonehaven	No trend	PVA areas and issues have to be taken into account and allocating land for development and imposing conditions on development.	SEPA (2011) *Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – A Consultation on Potentially Vulnerable Areas and Local Plan Districts- Appendix 6: Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City.* Edinburgh: SEPA
Estimated Weighted Annual Average damages within PVA	Aberdeen City • 2011- £22,390,000.00	Aberdeenshire • 2011 - £17,080,000.00	No trend	Cost implication for developing areas at risk from flooding must be taken into account and allocating land for development and imposing conditions on development.	SEPA (2011) *Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – A Consultation on Potentially Vulnerable Areas and Local Plan Districts- Appendix 6: Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City.* Edinburgh: SEPA
Total Area (Km 2) in PVA	Aberdeen City • 2011 - 344	Aberdeenshire • 2011- 529	No trend	It has implications for land allocation and development.	SEPA (2011) *Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland –*

					A Consultation on Potentially Vulnerable Areas and Local Plan Districts- Appendix 6: Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City. Edinburgh: SEPA
Residential Properties in PVA	Aberdeen City • 2011- 1943	Aberdeenshire • 2011- 1820	No trend	It has implications for land allocation and development.	SEPA (2011) *Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – A Consultation on Potentially Vulnerable Areas and Local Plan Districts- Appendix 6: Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City.* Edinburgh: SEPA
Non-Residential Properties in PVA	Aberdeen City • 2011- 375	Aberdeenshire • 2011- 272	No trend	It has implications for land allocation and development.	SEPA (2011) *Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009: Flooding in Scotland – A Consultation on Potentially Vulnerable Areas and Local Plan Districts- Appendix 6: Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City.* Edinburgh: SEPA
Air quality (N02) in µ g/m^3	Aberdeen City Market Street 1 • 2007 – 62.0 • 2008 – 73.0 • 2009 – 38.0 • 2010 – 44.0 • 2011 – 40.0 • 5/3/2013 - 43.1-110 Union Street • 2007 – 53.0 • 2008 – 54.0 • 2009 – 56.0 • 2010 – 59.0 • 2011 – 44.0 • 5/3/2013 - 41.2-52 Anderson Drive • 2007 – 28.0 • 2008 – 25.0 • 2009 – 24.0 • 2010 – 27.0 • 2011 – 23.0 • 5/3/2013: 36.3-41 Wellington Road	Aberdeenshire Inverurie 1-4 • 2007 – 12.0 – 35.1 • 2008 – 09.5 – 32.9 • 2009 – 11.4 – 37.5 • 2010 – 10.4 – 33.6 • 2011 – 09.1 – 34.8 Mintlaw • 2006 – 17.5 • 2007 – 21.0 • 2008 - 16.1 • 2009 – 18.9 • 2010 – No data • 2011 - No data Peterhead 1-4 • 2007 – 24.1 – 28.4 • 2008 – 20.0 – 25.4 • 2009 – 23.7 – 25.0 • 2010 – 21.7 – 27.0 • 2011 – 23.3 – 28.7 Stonehaven 1 • 2007 – 28.1 • 2008 – 24.9	There is little change in Aberdeen City between 2006 and 2009 but a fall between 2009 and 2011	NO2 concentrations monitored by Aberdeen City Council at Union Street and Market Street continuous monitoring sites exceed national objectives. The location of the Harbour in the City Centre is a driver of poor air quality in the City Centre. There is an increasing need to increase energy efficiency and reduce our reliance on private transport to improve air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and health. Traffic growth may be a constraining factor in the future.	2010 Air Quality Progress Report For Aberdeenshire Council Aberdeenshire Council Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment (2012) Real-Time Air Quality Monitoring in Aberdeen on 5/3/2013 Aberdeen City Council Air Quality Progress Report 2009 2012 Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment for Aberdeen City Council

	• 2007 – No data • 2008 – 40.0 • 2009 – 43.0 • 2010 – 52.0 • 2011 – 51.0 • 5/3/2013: 61.3-91-9 Errol Place • 2007 – 23.0 • 2008 – 25.0 • 2009 – 26.0 • 2010 – 21.0 • 2011 – 23.0 • 5/3/2013: 8.4-24.7 king's Street • 2007 – No data • 2008 – No data • 2009 – 32.0 • 2010 – 29.0 • 2011 – 32.0 • 5/3/2013: 32.7-47.6 EU annual mean limit value (40 µg/m^3)	• 2009 – 23.7 • 2010 – 26.1 • 2011 – 22.4 Westhill 1-2 • 2007 – 21.5 • 2008 – 16.6 • 2009 – 18.4 • 2010 – 20.3 • 2011 – 20.9			
Air quality (Properties exposed to PM10 concentrations above the 2010 Scottish objective) (projected)	Wellington Road AQMA • 2010 - < 10 • 2012 - 0 Anderson Drive AQMA • 2010 - 10-100 • 2012-2016 -<10 City Centre AQMA • 2010 - 100-1000 • 2012 - 100-1000 • 2016 - 10-100 EU annual mean limit value (40 µg/m3)	No issues in Aberdeenshire	There has been little change in Aberdeen City between 2006 and 2013.	No monitoring of NO2 in Aberdeenshire but NO2 concentrations are monitored by Aberdeen City Council at Union Street and Market Street. It continuous monitoring sites exceed national objectives. Same issues as above.	Aberdeenshire Council Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment (2009) Council Aberdeen City Council Air Quality Progress Report 2010
Air quality (PM10) in µg/m^3	Market Street • 2006-2009:50 – 85	No issues in Aberdeenshire	Little change in Aberdeen City between	PM10 concentration measured by Aberdeen	Aberdeen City Council Air Quality Progress Report 2010

	• 2009-2011:22-28 Union Street • 2006-2009:18 – 25 • 2009-2011:18-22 Anderson Drive • 2006-2009:15 – 18 • 2009-2011:24-27 Wellington Road: • 2008-2009:23- 25 • 2009-2011:22-24 Errol Place • 2006-2009:15 – 22 • 2009-2011:13-15 King Street • 2009:17 • 2009-2011:17-19	2010 annual mean Scottish Objective - 18 µg/m3 2004 annual mean objective for EU 40 µg/m3	2006 and 2013.	City Council at Market Street, Union Street and Wellington Road Exceed 2010 Scottish annual mean objective.	Aberdeenshire Council Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment (2009)
Air quality (Properties exposed to PM10 concentrations above the 2010 Scottish objective)	Wellington Road AQMA • 2010 - 100-1000 • 2012 -10 -100 Anderson Drive AQMA • 2010 - 100-1000 • 2012-2016 - 10-100 City Centre AQMA • 2010 - >1000 • 2012 - >1000 • 2016 - 100-1000	No issues in Aberdeenshire 2010 annual mean Scottish Objective - 18 µg/m3 2004 annual mean objective for EU - 40 µg/m3	Little change in Aberdeen City between 2006 and 2009.	PM10 concentration measured by Aberdeen City Council at Market Street, Union Street and Wellington Road Exceed 2010 Scottish annual mean objective.	Aberdeen City Council Air Quality Progress Report 2010 Aberdeenshire Council Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment (2009)

Appendix 2.2 Water

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Ground water and river levels	Scottish Water are currently permitted to abstract up to 145 megalitres per day (MLD) from the River Dee, however, the average amount taken is around 90MLD. It is not anticipated that this license will reduce the permitted abstraction level prior to 2014. Data on ground water in Scotland was not available.	By the 2080s, summer precipitation decreases of 10-20% under the low emissions (Global Sustainability), and 20-30% under the high-emissions World Markets scenario are predicted in the north of Scotland.	• Rainfall levels are predicted to decline during the summer months, which may affect a rivers yield rate, but this will be less severe further north. • Rainfall in winter months is predicted to increase. • Increase in water consumption from industrial consumers and from increased residential development. • Increase in leakages from pipe infrastructure as it 'ages' however Scottish Water continue to make progress on leakage reduction.	There is a need to start reducing water abstraction by incorporating water efficient technologies into new development (industrial and domestic) in light of the predicted decrease in summer rainfall.	Aberdeen City (2007) State of the Environment Report http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=15960&sID=883 Aberdeen City and Shire SDPA (2010) *Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan Monitoring Report*
Quality of water bodies (Ground water)	Aberdeen City high status • 2010 – No data • 2013 – 0 good status • 2010: No data • 2013: 7 moderate status • 2010 – No data • 2013 – 0 poor status • 2010 – No data • 2013 – 0 bad status • 2010 – No data 2013 – 0	Aberdeenshire high status • 2010 - 0 • 2013 – 0 good status • 2010: 42 • 2013: 39 moderate status • 2010 - 0 • 2013: 0 poor status • 2010: 8 • 2013: 1 bad status • 2010: 0 • 2013: 0	The Water Framework Directive states that all water bodies are of good ecological status, or similar objective, by 2015.	It is important that development does not prevent water bodies in the Aberdeen City area achieving at least 'good' ecological status in order for the area to reach the targets.	SEPA (09 February 2010) Data from River Basin Management Plan for the Scotland River Basin District 2009 Downloaded from http://gis.sepa.org.uk/rbmp/Data_Download.aspx (Accessed 11 March 2013)
Quality of water bodies (Coastal)	Aberdeen City High status • 2010 – no data • 2013 - 1 good status	2 Aberdeenshire high status • 2010 - 6 • 2013 - 6 good status	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

	• 2010 – no data 2013 -	• 2010 - 8 • 2013 - 7 moderate status • 2010 - 1 • 2013 - 1 poor status • 2010 - 0 • 2013 - 0 bad status • 2010 - 0 • 2013 - 0			
Quality of water bodies (Transitional)	Aberdeen City high status • 2010 – no data • 2013 - 1 good status • 2010 – no data 2013 - 1	Aberdeenshire high status • 2010 - 4 • 2013 - 3 good status • 2010 - 1 • 2013 - 0 moderate status • 2010 - 1 • 2013 - 1 poor status – 0 • 2010 - 0 • 2013 - 0 bad status – 0 • 2010 - 0 • 2013 - 0	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Quality of water bodies (Loch)	No data	high status – 0 • 2010 - 0 • 2013 - 0 good status • 2010 - 1 • 2013 - 1 moderate status – 0 • 2010 - 0 • 2013 - 0 poor status – 2 • 2010 - 2 • 2013 - 2	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

		bad status – 1 • 2010 - 1 • 2013 - 1			
Quality of water bodies (River)	Aberdeenshire high status • 2010 - 5 • 2013 - 5 good status • 2010 - 54 • 2013 - 52 moderate status • 2010 - 87 • 2013 - 87 poor status • 2010 - 31 • 2013 - 28 bad status • 2010 - 12 2013 - 24	Aberdeen City high status • 2010 – no data • 2013 - 0 good status • 2010 - no data • 2013 - 0 moderate status • 2010 – no data • 2013 - 12 poor status • 2010: - no data • 2013: - 12 bad status • 2010 - 0 • 2013 - 0	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Bathing Beaches Water Quality	Aberdeenshire- water quality at Guideline or Mandatory level for 2013 to date.	Aberdeen City – water quality at Guideline or Mandatory level for 2013 to date.	2008 was the only year when Aberdeen's beach failed to meet the EU water quality Directive's standards. It has been at Guideline for the last 3 years.	It is important that development does not affect the quality of Aberdeen beach's bathing water.	SEPA Scottish Bathing Water Data 2013: http://www.sepa.org.uk/water/bathing_waters/sampling_and_results.aspx?id=233616

Appendix 2.3 Land, Soil and Waste

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Land contamination	No statutorily identified contaminated sites in Aberdeen 900 potentially contaminated sites .	4 statutorily identified contaminated sites	Legal regime is in place to deal with contaminated sites therefore this position should improve in the future.	Contaminated land places financial and technological constraints on development. Contaminants may also escape from sites and cause air, land, surface water and ground water pollution and in some cases may even damage buildings and underground services, and may contaminate the food chain.	Aberdeen City Council (2001) *Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy* http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/web/files/Pollution/ContaminatedLandInspectionStrategy.pdf Aberdeenshire Council (2009) *Public Register of Contaminated Land* http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environmental/strategy/PublicRegisterofContaminatedLandAug2009.pdf SEPA (2009) *Dealing with Land Contamination in Scotland: A review of progress 2000-2008* http://www.sepa.org.uk/land/land_publications.aspx
Prime agricultural land (Grades 1 to 3.1)	Net loss of Scottish agriculture land from roads, housing and industry has doubled from 588ha in 1989 to 1,402ha in 2003. Aberdeen contains very little prime agricultural land (300ha).	Aberdeenshire's prime agricultural land is concentrated in central and southern Aberdeenshire.	Climate change could increase the level of prime agricultural land in Scotland, however this may cause conflicts with sites of high biodiversity value, sensitive or designated sites.	Potential impacts of climate may constrain prime agricultural land available in the future. Prime agricultural land may require further protection from development as demand for development rises and as land for food production rises.	Scottish Executive Statistics (2005): Economic Report on Scottish Agriculture http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/06/2290402/05121 Scottish Government (2009): The Scottish Soil Framework http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/05/20145602/6
Biodegradable Municipal waste landfilled (tonnes): LA Collected Bio-degradable MW	Aberdeen City: 2007/08 – 67,322 2008/09 – 63,333 2009/10 – 55,654 2010/11 - 49,277	Aberdeenshire: 2007/08 – 70,286 2008/09 – 68,355 2009/10 – 65,864 2010/11 – 68, 832	Exceeds 2008/09; 2010/2011 allowance	Are there enough sites for recycling or composting biodegradable municipal waste to help the local authority achieve recycling and landfill targets?	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 10 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 9

Appendix 2

Municipal waste landfilled (tonnes):	Aberdeen City: 2007/08 – 107,658 2008/09 – 101,136 2009/10 – 90,800 2010/11 - 80,578	Aberdeenshire: 2007/08 – 105,750 2008/09 – 101,746 2009/10 – 98,262 2010/11 - 103,771 Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010) aims for a recycling and composting rate of 70% by 2020.	There was not a substantial fall in municipal waste sent to landfill in Aberdeen City compared with Aberdeenshire for a number of years until 2009/10 when Aberdeen experienced a significant fall.	There has been no substantial drop in municipal waste sent to landfill which will have cost implications for the City in terms of Landfill Tax.	Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010) SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 10 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 9
Municipal waste recycled (tonnes):	Aberdeen City: 2007/08 – 19,527 2008/09 – 19,519 2009/10 – 19,728 2010/11 - 22, 278	Aberdeenshire: 2007/08 – 38,432 2008/09 – 38,941 2009/10 – 40,614 2010/11 - 40, 578	The trend shows that much has to be done to substantially increase recycling rates. There in an increase in the City compared to a fall in the Shire.	Human attitudes is very hard to change but education has to improve to increase the amount of waste sent to landfill.	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 10 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 9
Municipal waste composted (tonnes):	Aberdeen City: 2007/08 – 11,274 2008/09 – 11,423 2009/10 – 13,439 2010/11 - 15, 192	Aberdeenshire: 2007/08 – 9,549 2008/09 – 9,684 2009/10 – 9,622 2010/11 – 9, 355	Composting rates has increase in the City compared to a fall recorded in the Shire over 2010/2011 figures	Same as above	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 10 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 9
Total municipal waste arising (tonnes):	Aberdeen City: 2007/08 – 138,459 2008/09 – 132,078 2009/10 – 123,966 2010/11 - 118,049	Aberdeenshire: 2007/08 – 153,731 2008/09 – 150,372 2009/10 – 151,010 2010/11 - 154,167	Things are improving in the City but worsening in the Shire	Same as above	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12
% of Total waste arising recycled	Aberdeen City 2008/09 – 25.9 2009/10 – 26.9 2010/11 - 26.3	Aberdeenshire 2008/09 – 14.8 2009/10 – 15.9 2010/11 - 18.9	Things are improving in the City but worsening in the Shire	Same as above	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 10 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 9
% of Total waste arising composted	Aberdeen City 2008/09 – 8.6 2009/10 – 10.8 2010/11 - 12.9	Aberdeenshire 2008/09 – 6.4 2009/10 – 6.4 2010/11 - 6.1	Things are improving in the City but worsening in the Shire	Same as above	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 10 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 9
Industrial waste arisings (tonnes):	Aberdeen City: 2009/10 – 90, 087 2010/11 – 96, 040	Aberdeenshire: 2009/10 – 136, 239 2010/11 - 141, 029	Things are worsening in the City and the Shire	Same as above	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11
Commercial waste arisings (tonnes):	Aberdeen City: 2009/10 – 295, 207 2010/11 – 294, 458	Aberdeenshire: 2009/10 – 185,054 2010/11 - 183, 859	Things are improving slightly in the City and the Shire	Same as above	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11

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Construction and demolition waste arisings (tonnes):	Aberdeen City: 2009/10 – 82, 880 2010/11 – 51, 952	Aberdeenshire: 2009/10 – 365, 722 2010/11 - 316, 729	Things are worsening in the City and the Shire	Same as above	SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 12 SEPA (2009) Waste Data Digest 11
Waste capacity Annual capacity (Tonnes)	North east 2007 - 3,845,306 2008 - 3,741,977 2009 - 3,500,370* 2010 - 3,516,494* * Aberdeen City and Shire total	Scotland 2007 - 39,987,613 2008 - 37,843,490 2009 - 38,022,367 2010 - 38,009,045	No substantial change	None	www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/site_capacity__infrastructure/national_capacity_report s.aspx and landfill capacity reports -
Quantity of waste accepted (tonnes)	Northeast 2007 - 3,899,260 2008 - 1,748,964 2009 - 1,464,247* 2010 - 1,409,272* * Aberdeen City and Shire total	Scotland 2007 - 16,392,335 2008 - 17,684,064 2009 - 14,023,400 2010 - 15,966,129	No substantial change	None	www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/site_capacity__infrastructure/national_capacity_report s.aspx and landfill capacity reports -
Landfill capacity	Northeast 2007 - 164,824 2008 - 77,067 2009 - 41,867* 2010 - 26,077*	Scotland 2007 - 518,899 2008 - 453,990 2009 - 295,895 2010 - 318,350	No substantial change	None	www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/site_capacity__infrastructure/national_capacity_report s.aspx and landfill capacity reports -
Inert waste Landfilled	Northeast 2007 - 2,226,950 2008 - 2,597,185 2009 - 2,556,637* 2010 - 2,524,156	Scotland 2007 - 9,570,931 2008 - 10,867,340 2009 - 7,181,875 2010 - 13,609,135	No substantial change	None	www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/site_capacity__infrastructure/national_capacity_report s.aspx and landfill capacity reports -
Inert landfill capacity	Northeast 2007 - 606,999 2008 - 552,750 2009 - 451,001** 2010 - 383,899**	Scotland 2007 - 4,894,935 2008 - 4,541,536 2009 - 4,110,480 2010 - 4,043,451	No substantial change	None	www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/site_capacity__infrastructure/national_capacity_report s.aspx and landfill capacity reports -
Non-hazardous landfilled Non hazardous	Northeast 2007 - 7,383,167 2008 - 6,782,674 2009 - 2,743,062 ** 2010 - 6,651,349 **	Scotland 2007 - 62,302,806 2008 - 70,192,059 2009 - 65,619,910 2010 - 63,977,097	No substantial change	None	www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/site_capacity__infrastructure/national_capacity_report s.aspx and landfill capacity reports -

landfill capacity	* Aberdeenshire data **Aberdeen City and Shire total				
Peat soils	4 types of peaty soils • Blanket peat • Peaty podsols • Peaty gleys • Organic soils rich in peat	With respect of the rest of Scotland Aberdeen City and Shire seem to be at the fringes of peat soils.	**Blanket peat** is moderately distributed to the southwest of Aberdeen City and Shire and with a few dots in the northeast of the region **Peaty podzol** is densely distributed to the southwest of Aberdeen City and Shire and with a few dots in the northeast of the region **Peaty gleys** is sparsely distributed to the southwest of Aberdeen City and Shire and with a few dots in the northeast of the region Organic soils rich in peat is moderately distributed to the southwest of Aberdeen City and Shire and with a few dots in the northeast of the region	Because of the relationship between peat and climate change development must be directed away from peat soils.	www.macaulay.ac.uk
Soil Erosion	From Berwick to Aberdeen, the coastline is eroding, but is stable where there are rocky coasts or coastal defences. From Aberdeen to Inverness the coastline is largely eroding, but parts are being replenished with sand and gravel from larger rivers.	The north of Scotland is mostly stable with little erosion, but south of Mallaig, towards Carlisle, the coastline is predominantly eroding but stable where there are rocky coasts or coastal defences. Precipitation will be greater in the west due to the west-east precipitation gradient.	The coastline is predominantly eroding along the east. Autumn/Winter rainfall is predicted to increase, giving rise to winter storms and affecting runoff and (wind and water) erosion. Upland schemes such as wind farm access roads and recreation tracks (e.g. mountain biking) on steep land can increase surface water runoff and lead to significant soil loss (e.g. gullies).	Increase in soil erosion from wind and water, bad land use practices, such as locating tracks/access roads on steep/ upland areas as well as using motorised vehicles on sand dunes.	Aberdeen City (2007) State of the Environment Report http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=15960&sID=883 SEPA (2006) State of Scotland's Environment Report 2006 http://www.sepa.org.uk/science_and_research/data_and_reports/state_of_the_environment.aspx

Appendix 2.4 Biodiversity (Natural Heritage Designations)

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/ constraints	Data source(s)
International natural heritage designations (Ramsar)	Aberdeen City site – 0 hectare - 0	Aberdeenshire – sites – 3 Hectares - 1051	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
International natural heritage designations (Special Areas of Conservation (SAC))	Aberdeen City site – 1 hectare - 155	Aberdeenshire – sites – 8 Hectares - 5545	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
International natural heritage designations (Special Protection Areas (SPA)	Aberdeen City site – 0 hectare - 0	Aberdeenshire – sites – 7 Hectares - 2227	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
National natural heritage designations - Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Aberdeen City site – 4 Corby Lily & Bishops Lochs Scotstown Mor Nigg Bay Cove hectare - 47	Aberdeenshire – sites – 69 Hectares - 15,655	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
National natural heritage designations National Nature Reserve (NNR)	Aberdeen City site – 0 hectare - 0	Aberdeenshire – sites – 2 Hectares - 1072	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS)	Aberdeen City Sites- 45 See Table below	See below	No Trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites	Aberdeen City Council Local Designated Sites Review Project: http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=29764&sID=6619
Local natural heritage designations - Sites of Interest of Natural	SINS and District Wildlife Sites replaced by 'Local Nature Conservation Sites'- see above.	Aberdeenshire: Sites of Interest to Natural Science sites – 79	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013)

Science (SINS)					*Source:* SNH 2009
Local natural heritage designations - District Wildlife Site	DWS and SINS replaced by Local Nature Conservation Sites	Aberdeenshire – sites – 0 Hectares – N/A	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
Local natural heritage designations Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	Aberdeen City site – 4 hectare - 126	Aberdeenshire – sites – 2 Hectares - 28	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
Local natural heritage designations - Scottish Wildlife Trust Reserves	Aberdeen City site – 0 hectare – N/A	Aberdeenshire – sites – 4 Hectares – N/A	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
Local natural heritage designations - RSPB Reserves	Aberdeen City site – 0 hectare – N/A	Aberdeenshire – sites – 3 Hectares – N/A	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
Local natural heritage designations - Ancient Woodland	Aberdeen City site – 140 hectare – N/A	Aberdeenshire – sites – 2,584 Hectares - 45,000	No trend	New development has the potential to put pressure on sites.	SNH, *SNHi* http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp (Accessed 12 March 2013) *Source:* SNH 2009
Quality and availability of public open space in urban and rural areas	The Aberdeen City audit identified 3471 hectares of open space (not including private gardens or sites under 0.2 hectares). The quality of open space varies across the city with public parks and gardens rating the highest and allotments and business amenity open space scoring the lowest rating.	Data for Aberdeenshire Councils Open Space Audit was not available.	The poorest quality parks and open spaces tend to be found within the regeneration priority areas. It is more difficult to provide open space within densely populated areas.	Development pressure to build on urban open spaces. Supplementary guidance on open space encourages the development of more useful, publicly desirable and efficient types of open space, such as natural areas, green corridors, play spaces and allotments.	Aberdeen City Council (2010) Open Space Audit

Condition of qualifying features of River Dee SAC	Qualifying features and last assessed condition: • Atlantic salmon – favourable maintained • Otter – favourable maintained • Freshwater pearl mussel- unfavourable no change		No changes in condition of qualifying features.	New development has the potential to put pressure on the River Dee SAC through habitat loss, recreational impact, water abstraction, pollution and disturbance	SNH Website http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8357

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Local Nature Conservation Sites In Aberdeen City	Aberdeen-Inverness- Kittybrewster Railway Line	Wet Cults Woodland	Walker Dam and Rubislaw Quarry
	Balgownie- Blackdog Links	Allan Park Pond	West Hatton
	Corby Loch	Balnagask to Cove	Baads Moss
	Cults Den	Culter Burn	Bucksburn
	Denwood- Hazelhead	Culter Quarry	Culter Compensation Dam
	Den of Mosside	Den of Leggart	Deeside Old Railway Line
	Grandholm Moss	Farburn Wood	Den of Maidencraig
	Hilton Wood	Hazelhead Park	Foggieton
	Leuchar Moss	Kinaldie Den	Hillhead Road
	Murtle Den	Loirston Loch	Kincorth Hill
	River Dee Corridor	Old Manse Wood	Moss of Auchlea
	Rubislaw	River Don Corridor	Peterculter
	Southlasts Mire	Rubislaw Quarry	Rotten of Gairn
	Tullos Hill	Stoneyhill Wood	Scotstown
	Three Hills	Westburn of Rubislaw	Woodlands Wood- Biedleston

Appendix 2.5 Human Health

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/ constraints	Data source(s)
Quality and availability of public open space	The Aberdeen City audit identified 3471 hectares of open space (not including private gardens or sites under 0.2 hectares). The quality of open space varies across the city with public parks and gardens rating the highest and allotments and business amenity open space scoring the lowest rating.	Data for Aberdeenshire Councils Open Space Audit was not available.	The poorest quality parks and open spaces in the City tend to be found within the regeneration priority areas. It is more difficult to provide open space within densely populated areas.	Development pressure to build on urban open spaces. Open Space supplementary guidance encourage the development of more useful, publicly desirable and efficient types of open space, such as natural areas, green corridors, play spaces and allotments.	Aberdeen City Council (2010) Open Space Audit
Life expectancy at birth (years)	Aberdeen Male • 1998-2000 – 73.8 • 2003-2005 – 74.9 • 2008-2010 - 76.3 • 2010-2012 – 77.1 Female • 1998-2000 – 79.1 • 2003-2005 – 79.9 • 2008-2010 – 80.9 • 2010-2012 – 81.2	Aberdeenshire: Male • 1998-2000 - 75.2 • 2003-2005 - 76.7 • 2008-2010 -78.2 • 2010-2012 – 78.9 Female • 1998-2000 - 80.2 • 2003-2005 – 81.0 • 2008-2010 – 81.7 • 2010-2012 – 82.1 Scottish Men • 1998-2000 – 72.9 • 2003-2005 – 74.2 • 2008-2010 - 75.5 • 2010-2012 0 76.6 Female • 1998-2000 – 78.4 • 2003-2005 – 79.2	Life expectancy is improving year on year in the City and the Shire compared with Scottish figures. In both the City and the Shire female life expectancy is much higher, although the Shire is faring much better than the City.	Increasing life expectancy has longer-term cost implications for local authorities for service and housing provisions for ageing population.	General Register Office for Scotland (2011). *Life Expectancy for areas in Scotland, 2008-2010* [Online] Available at http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/stats/life-expectancy-areas-in-scotland/2008-2010/le-areas-scotland-2008-2010.pdf (Accessed 12 March 2013)

		• 2008-2010 – 80.4 • 2010-2012 – 80.8			
Healthy life expectancy at birth (& 65) years	Aberdeen Male • 1999-2000 -55.6 (7.4) • 2003-2005 – No data • 2008-2010 – No data Female • 1999-2000 -57.3 (8.5) • 2003-2005 – No data • 2008-2010 – No data	Aberdeenshire Male • 1999-2000 -58.2 (9.7) • 2003-2005 – No data • 2008-2010 – No data Female • 1999-2000 -60.7 (9.9) • 2003-2005 – No data 2008-2010 – No data	Healthy Life Expectancy represents the number of years that an individual can expect to live in good health. No trend	Same as above.	Clark, D., McKeon, A., Sutton, M. and Wood, R. (2004) Healthy Life Expectancy in Scotland. *HLE Measurement in Scotland Steering Group* [online] Available from http://www.isdscotlandarchive.scot.nhs.uk/isd/files//HLE_report_2004.pdf (Accessed 12 March 2013)
Sport and recreation facilities in areas of identified need	Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire both require sporting facilities ranging from badminton courts and golf courses to swimming pools	No trend	Positive steps have been made to ensure everyone has access to sport, leisure and recreation facilities, however limited progress has been made to provide.	Local facilities will be addressed through the Local Development Plans although if regional sporting facilities are identified these may come through the SDP.	Aberdeen City Council (2002) Active Aberdeen 2002-2007: A sport, recreation and physical activity strategy for Aberdeen City Aberdeenshire Council (2005) Sports Facility Study Updated Report
Care home place for Adults	Aberdeen 2012 -2,036	Aberdeenshire 2012- 2,061	No trend	Ageing population and disability will put pressure on resources and housing provision suitable for the elderly.	Aberdeen City Council (2013) Behind the Granite: Aberdeen Key Facts 2013 Available from http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=48078&sID=332 (Accessed 14 March 2013
Children looked after by LA	Aberdeen 2009 - 701 2010 -690 2011- 642	Aberdeenshire 2009 - 458 2010 -496 2011- 498	Things are improving in the City compared with the Shire	Pressure on Government and Local Authority resources.	Same as above
Children on child protection register	Aberdeen 2009 - 180 2010 - 119 2011- 96	Aberdeenshire 2009 - 81 2010 -51 2011- 68	Things are improving in the City compared with the Shire where the situation improved in 2010 but rose again in 2011	Pressure on Government and Local Authority resources.	Same as above
All crimes recorded by police	Aberdeen 2009/10 - 18729 2010/11 -18749 2011/12- 17877	Aberdeenshire 2009/10 - 8088 2010/11 -8064 2011/12- 7513	Things are improving	Crime and fear of crime can affects people's quality of life.	Same as above
Fuel poor households private tenure	Aberdeen 2009-11- 21%	Aberdeenshire 2009-11 -38%	Things are worsening	Worsening economy, longer winters, higher fuel prices and falling value of	Same as above

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				the pound worsens the situation.	
Fuel poor households public tenure	Aberdeen 2009-11- 29%	Aberdeenshire 2009-11 -26%	Things are worsening	Worsening economy, longer winters, higher fuel prices and falling value of the pound worsens the situation.	Same as above
Fuel poor	Aberdeen 2009-11- 23%	Aberdeenshire 2009-11 -35%	Things are worsening	Worsening economy, longer winters, higher fuel prices and falling value of the pounds worsens the situation	Same as above
Income support	Aberdeen Feb 2012 -4420	Aberdeenshire Feb 2012 -2980	No trend collected	Pressure on Government and LA resources.	Same as above
Drug-related deaths	Aberdeen 2008 - 27 2009 - 27 2010 - 31 2011 - 39	Aberdeenshire 2008 - 11 2009 -18 2010 - 10 2011 - 19	No substantial improvement	Pressure on NHS, Government and LA resources.	Same as above
Alcohol-related deaths	Aberdeen 2008 - 37 2009 - 52 2010 - 48 2011 - 33	Aberdeenshire 2008 - 33 2009 -29 2010 - 20 2011 - 22	No substantial improvement	Pressure on NHS, Government and LA resources.	Same as above
Population with Disability	Aberdeen 2001 – 37173 (17.0%) 2013 – No data	Aberdeenshire 2001 – 34755 (15.3%) 2013 – No data	No trend collected	Pressure on Government and LA resources.	Same as above
Unemployment	Aberdeen 2012– 22 (8%) 2013 – No data	Aberdeenshire 20012 – 5 (2%) 2013 – No data	Low unemployment in the City and Shire compared to the rest of the country	Pressure on Government and LA resources.	Same as above
Most deprived data zones - SIMD	Aberdeen 2012– 3180 (2.1%) 2013 – No data	Aberdeenshire 20012 – 1858 (1.2%) 2013 – No data	No trend collected	Pressure on Government and LA resources.	Same as above
Incapacity benefit	Aberdeen 2012– 4840 2013 – No data	Aberdeenshire 20012 – 3810 2013 – No data	No trend collected	Pressure on Government and LA resources.	Same as above

Appendix 2.6 Population

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Established Population (2013)	• 2013 – 227,130	• 2013 – 257,740	There is a 1.0% increase from 2012 in Aberdeen City.	It has implications for increased provision of housing, industry and services to meet the needs of growing population and therefore the potential pressure on resources.	National Records of Scotland local authority demographic factsheet – Aberdeen City http://gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/at-a-glance/council-areas-map.html
Population Projection (2012 based)	Aberdeen • 2017 – 236,400 • 2022 – 249,896 • 2027 – 263,477 • 2032 – 276,397	Aberdeenshire • 2017 – 264,248 • 2022 – 273,706 • 2027- 283,104 • 2032 – 291,890	The projections show increasing population in the City and the Shire.	Same as above	General Register Office for Scotland (2012). Population Projections for Scottish Areas (2012-based) http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/population-estimates/index.html
Established Households	• 2010 – 103,285 • 2011 – 103,285 • 2012 – 103,934 • 2013 – 105,047	• 2010 - 104,017 • 2011 – 105,006 • 2012 – 106,018 • 2013 – 107,128	This represents a 1.1% increase 2012-2013in the number of households for Aberdeen City, compared to 0.6% for Scotland as a whole	Same as above	
Household projections (2012 based)	Aberdeen • 2017 – 110,958 • 2022 – 117,834 • 2027 – 124,729 • 2032 – 132,326	Aberdeenshire • 2017 – 111,042 • 2022 – 116,058 • 2027 – 120,709 • 2032 – 125,014	The projections show increasing households in the City and the Shire.	Same as above	General Register Office for Scotland (2012). Household Projections for Scottish Areas (2010-based) http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/population-estimates/index.html
Household size (2012)	Aberdeen • 2010 – 2.01 • 2015 – 1.99 • 2020 – 1.95	Aberdeenshire • 2010 – 2.35 • 2015 – 2.32 • 2020 – 2.27	The projections show falling household size in the City and the Shire.	Same as above	General Register Office for Scotland (2012). Household Projections for Scottish Areas (2010-based) http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/population-estimates/index.html

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Population Change	Aberdeen • 2001 - 211910 • 2010 – 217120 • 2011 – 220420 • 10yrs' change -9.1% • 1 yr's change -1.5%	Aberdeenshire • 2001 - 226940 • 2010 – 245780 • 2011 – 247600 • 10yrs' change – 4% • 1 yr's change - 0.7%	Both areas are doing better than the Scottish average change of 0.6%. Over 10 years the City has added 8,520 persons to its population compared to the Shire's 20,660 addition	Potential implications of a growing population for housing provision; also highly influenced by the changing age structure and lifestyle preferences of the population.	General Register Office for Scotland (2012) Components of population change by administrative area, mid-2010 to mid-2011. http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/population-estimates/index.html Aberdeen City and Shire SDPA (2010) *Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan Monitoring Report*
Population Structure (2012)	Aberdeen • Under 16 -16% • Working Age -67% • Pensionable age - 17% • Median age -37	Aberdeenshire • Under 16 -19% • Working Age -58% • Pensionable age -20% • Median age -42	A trend exists if data is collected on the basis of male/female. But no trend exists for data collected on the basis of total persons before 2011.	A large proportion of working age population means large future pensionable and ageing population- will have implications for future housing and service provision.	General Register Office for Scotland (2012) Components of population change by administrative area, mid-2010 to mid-2011. http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/population-estimates/index.html Aberdeen City and Shire SDPA (2010) *Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan Monitoring Report*
Population density	• Area – 186 Km2 • 2012- 1187 • 2013 - 1211	Aberdeenshire • Area – 6313km2 • 2012 – 39 • 2013 – 41	The density is higher in the city than the shire.	There will be more pressure on resources provided in the City in one sense but less pressure on burning of fossil fuel on distance travelled in the City. Greater opportunity to introduce sustainable mobility in the City.	General Register Office for Scotland (2012) Components of population change by administrative area, mid-2010 to mid-2011. http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/population-estimates/index.html Aberdeen City and Shire SDPA (2010) *Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan Monitoring Report*

Appendix 2.7 Cultural Heritage

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Listed buildings	Aberdeen City Listed buildings • 2013– 1,215 • 68 A Listed • 681 B Listed • 466 C Listed	Aberdeenshire • 2013– 3,715 Aberdeen City and Shire Listed buildings • 2013– 4,927	No change	New development has the potential to put pressure on, or be constrained by, built and cultural sites.	Aberdeen City and Shire SDPA (2009) *Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan Monitoring Report*

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Listed buildings at risk	Aberdeen City • 2013 – 26	Aberdeenshire • 2013– 228 Aberdeen City and Shire • 2013 – 254	No change	Development pressures will continue to put pressure on listed buildings, especially those in a poor state of repair and considered at risk.	Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland: www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk
Conservation Areas	Aberdeen City • 2013 – 11	Aberdeenshire • 2013 – 49 Aberdeen City and Shire • 2013 – 60	No change- current Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans are in the process of being produced.	New development has the potential to put pressure on, or be constrained by, built and cultural sites.	Aberdeen City Council
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	Aberdeen City • 2013 – 44	Aberdeenshire • 2013– 581 Aberdeen City and Shire • 2013 – 625	No change	New development has the potential to put pressure on, or be constrained by, built and cultural sites. Damage to remains of local importance is mostly caused by vandalism, new developments, ploughing, forestry activities, wildlife and coastal erosion.	List of Scheduled Ancient Monuments http://hsewsf.sedsh.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/dmzlive.pdfsched?pid=130410132559
Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record	Aberdeen City • 2013– 699	Aberdeenshire • 2013 – 17,631 Aberdeen City and Shire • 2013 – 18,330	No change	Same as above.	Aberdeen City Council Sites and Monuments Record
Gardens and designed landscapes	Aberdeen City • 2013 – 1 Duthie Park	Aberdeenshire • 2013- 27 Aberdeen City and Shire • 2013 - 28	No change	New development has the potential to put pressure on, or be constrained by, built and cultural sites.	www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

Appendix 2.8 Landscape

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Landscape character	There are 42 landscape character areas in Aberdeenshire, including 9	The four Landscape Character Assessments that cover the North East provides a brief overview of	No trend	The inappropriate scale and insensitive siting of future new development may adversely	Scottish Natural Heritage (1997) *National programme of landscape character assessment: Banff and*

	within the CNP. In Aberdeen there are 27 landscape character areas.	past land use practices and discusses potential land uses for existing landscapes.		affect landscape characteristics (e.g. changing its landscape character type, not respecting local topography/contours). New development not fitting in with the landscape's capacity to absorb further developments (e.g. design, layout and sense of place) – need to promote suitable development capacity.	*Buchan*, Review No 37. Scottish Natural Heritage (1996) *Cairngorms landscape assessment*, Review No 75. Scottish Natural Heritage (1996) *Landscape character assessment of Aberdeen*, Review No 80 Scottish Natural Heritage (1998) *South and Central Aberdeenshire: landscape character assessment*, Review No 102.
Landscape Devt in Energetica Framework Area (ALDP 01 Bus 5)	**Applications Received** • 06/12-10/12 - 0 • 10/12- 06/13 – 2 **No of Approvals** • 06/12-10/12 - 0 • 10/12- 06/13 - 2 **No of Refusals** • 06/12-10/12 - 0 • 10/12- 06/13 - 0	No data	No significant increase	No known constraint	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
Landscape Layout, siting, and design of new developments ALDP 08 lsd2	**Applications Received** • 06/12-10/12 - 53 • 10/12- 06/13 -1296 **No of Approvals** • 06/12-10/12 - 40 • 10/12- 06/13 - 1169 **No of Refusals** • 06/12-10/12 -13 • 10/12- 06/13 - 127	No data	Significant application of policy	There could be mixed effect for landscape	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
How "Landscape character" Policy is applied to planning applications	**Applications Received** • 06/12-10/12 – 21 • 10/12- 06/13- 187 **No of Approvals** • 06/12-10/12 – 13 • 10/12- 06/13- 130 **No of Refusals** • 06/12-10/12 – 7	No data	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement

	• 10/12- 06/13- 57				
How "Valued views" Policy is applied to Planning Applications	**Applications Received** • 06/12-10/12 – 2 • 10/12- 06/13- 19 **No of Approvals** • 06/12-10/12 – 2 • 10/12- 06/13- 16 **No of Refusals** • 06/12-10/12 – 0 • 10/12- 06/13- 3	No data	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
How "Public open space" Policy is applied to Planning Applications	**Applications Received** • 06/12-10/12 – 9 • 10/12- 06/13- 31 **No of Approvals** • 06/12-10/12 – 8 • 10/12- 06/13- 21 **No of Refusals** • 06/12-10/12 – 1 • 10/12- 06/13- 10	No data	Number of applications have increased	Applications with LSE are being refused while applications consistent with safeguards are being approved	Aberdeenshire Council Monitoring Statement
Land Uses (2009)	Aberdeenshire (6313 sq km) 631300 ha	Aberdeen City (186 sq km) 18600 ha		Ongoing conflict between how maintenance and quality is open space is perceived – Maintenance, grass cutting vs. allowing some open space to develop into semi-natural vegetation so as to enhance biodiversity.	Aberdeenshire Council Open Space Audit Aberdeen City Open Space Audit
• Roads and tracks	3.90	884.57	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Roadside (manmade)	0.00	307.99	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Parking/loading	0.42	650.30	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Roadside (unknown)	0.31	68.54	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Tidal water	0.00	172.66	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Foreshore/rocks	72.88	511.77	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Railway	0.00	81.25	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Path	4.86	92.83	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above

• Residential	6.50	688.84	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Commercial/Institutional	2.53	228.28	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Glasshouses	0.00	2.32	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• other structures	2.22	16.62	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Airports	0.00	183.97	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Public Park and Garden	114.34	265.01	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Private Garden	41.20	1698.45	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• School Grounds	74.24	124.01	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Institutional Grounds	14.43	77.28	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Amenity Residential	125.93	483.85	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Amenity Business	69.06	207.16	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Amenity Transport	51.49	249.07	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Play space	28.75	4.56	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Playing Fields	93.63	117.69	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Golf Courses	225.35	676.56	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Tennis Courts	3.85	3.84	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Bowling Greens	2.91	3.58	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Other Sports	7.85	7.73	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Green Corridors/Riparian Routes	0.14	0	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Green Access Routes	4.15	24.19	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Riparian Routes	35.54	28.12	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Woodlands	188.85	761.69	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Open Semi-natural	162.68	818.69	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Open Water	0.15	281.48	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Allotment	5.55	20.50	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Church Yard	7.10	4.77	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Cemetery	14.26	35.67	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Other Functional Grounds	15.32	12.46	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Civic space	10.95	0.72	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Farmland	12.06	4363.81	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Moorland	0.03	0.34	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above

• other e.g landfill, quarry	14.05	98.42	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Area undergoing change	31.05	26.55	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Total Greenspace area surveyed (ha)	1,448.51	14, 286.13	No Trend	Same as above	Same as above
• Un-surveyed Greenspace area (ha)	626,851.49	4,313.87	No Trend		Same as above

Appendix 2.9 Material Assets

SEA Indicator	Quantified information	Comparators and targets	Trends	Issues/constraints	Data source(s)
Existing flood defences	There are 2 flood prevention schemes in Aberdeen City.	There are 3 flood prevention schemes in Aberdeenshire	Flood defence schemes will progressively be affected by soil/sand erosion from increasing rainfall and storm events, which will affect their stability and effectiveness. As a result, there will be a need to increase the maintenance these defences, and possibly relocate them.	Predicted rise in sea level may result in existing flood defences being inadequate. The predicted rise in storm events and winter precipitation is likely to increase soil/sand erosion from the wind and rain/water, which may prevent flood defence schemes functioning properly and result in their failure (e.g. collapse).	Office of Science and Technology (2005) Foresight report: *Future Flooding Scotland* http://www.foresight.gov.uk/Scotland/Final_Scotland.pdf SEPA (2006) Indicative River & Coastal Flood Map (Scotland) Aberdeenshire Council (2007) *Flooding in Aberdeenshire: Sixth Biennial Report* http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/flooding/report/6th_biennial_report.pdf
Council tax Band D	Aberdeen 2010/11 - £1230 2011/12 - £1230	Aberdeenshire 2010/11 - £1141 2011/12 - £1141	No change	Government policy on keeping household costs down affects how much councils can charge for Council tax.	Aberdeen City Council (2013) Behind the Granite: Aberdeen Key Facts 2013 Available from http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=48078&sID=332 (Accessed 14 March 2013
Household tenure – owner occupied	Aberdeen 2009/10 – 60% 2011 – 57%	Aberdeenshire 2009/10 – 74% 2011 - 73% Scotland 2011 – 48%	Substantial owner housing in City and Shire although it is higher in the Shire	House prices for first time buyers may be a constraint as so is the general economic climate.	Same as above

Appendix 2

Household tenure – social rent	Aberdeen 2009/10 – 24% 2011 – 24%	Aberdeenshire 2009/10 – 17% 2011 – 16% Scotland 2011 – 24%	Low compared those living in their own homes	Ability of social landlords to build more homes.	Same as above
Household tenure – private rent	Aberdeen 2009/10 – 14% 2011 – 17%	Aberdeenshire 2009/10 – 8% 2011 – 9% Scotland 2011 – 12%	Lowest tenure	Probably open market rental values will constrain choice in this sector.	Same as above
Public-sector housing stock	Aberdeen March 2012 - 22,740	Aberdeenshire March 2012 - 12,877	No trend collected	Issue is energy efficiency in this sector.	Same as above
New Dwellings – Housing Completion	Aberdeen 2007/08 -928 2008/09 - 258 2009/10 - 280 2010/11 - 607	Aberdeenshire 2007/08 - 1,528 2008/09 - 1,509 2009/10 - 1,687 2010/11 - 1,471	Fall in the latest data for the Shire but a rise in the latest data for the City. Continues to fluctuate over the medium term.	The economic climate can constrain how many new houses could be completed.	Same as above.
Economic Activity Rates,	Aberdeen 2012 - 83.0% 2013 – 79.9%	Aberdeenshire 2012 - 82.6% 2013 – 81.9%	Quite high for the City and the Shire	The oil industry is boosting performance in the North East	Same as above
Average Gross Weekly earnings	Aberdeen 2011/12 - £574.9 2013 - £586.9	Aberdeenshire 2011/12 -£456.7 2013 - £472.0 Scotland 2013- £484.9	Aberdeen City is high compared to the Shire and national averages. This difference is even higher for full-time employees.	The oil industry is boosting performance in the North East.	Same as above
Supply/delivery of Affordable Housing	Aberdeen City 2006/07- 104 2007/08- 59 2008/09- 168 2009/10- 267 2011/12- 309	Aberdeenshire 2006/07- 132 2007/08- 180 2008/09- 492 2009/10- 252 2010/11- 158	The supply of affordable homes in the North East is not meeting the demand and affordability pressures remain.	There is a need to increase the supply of housing to improve affordability.	Aberdeen City and Shire SDPA (2010) *Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan Monitoring Report* *Aberdeen City and Shire Housing Need and Demand Assessment*- Data on Local Authority new building are provided quarterly by NB1 returns from Councils and data on housing subsidised through

	5 year average – 181 (average 27% of annual completions)	5 year average- 243 (average 16% of annual completions)			AHIP are drawn by the Scottish Government from data on the administration of housing support grants.
Employment Land supply (see tables below)	The supply of marketable employment land in Aberdeenshire currently stands at 211ha, however only 46ha of this is immediately available. Constrained supply in the Shire currently stands at 130ha.	The supply of marketable employment land in Aberdeen City currently stands at 87ha, however only 27ha of this is immediately available (2011 Employment Land Audit). Constrained supply currently stands as 103ha.	Aberdeen City has shown a trend of diminishing established supply of land for business use as previous allocations are developed. However, we might expect the marketable supply to recover with the adoption of the Local Development Plan in February 2012, which allocated significant new sites for employment uses. For Aberdeenshire, (within the strategic growth areas), there has been a trend of diminishing established supply of land for business use. The marketable supply has remained around a consistent level.	Uneven supply of employment land has impacts on ability to work and live within a close proximity thus increasing the likelihood of people travelling to work by private means. Economic growth will be constrained without a reasonable supply of land which is immediately available.	Aberdeen City and Shire Employment Land Audit 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011.

Appendix 2

Employment Land Supply

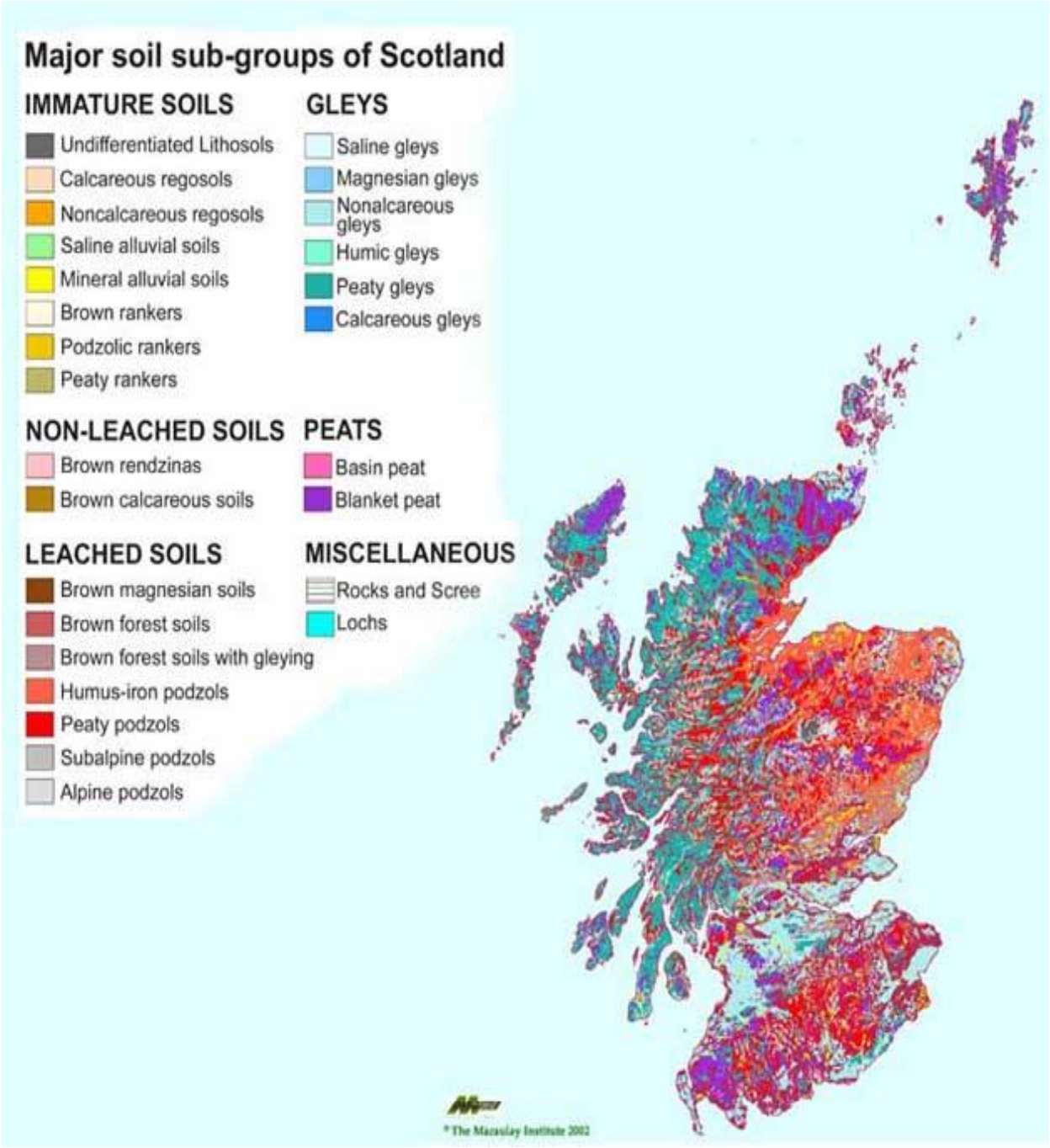
	Established	Constrained	Marketable	Immediately Available	Under Construction
2006	239	181	40	34	1
2007	235	171	53	27	7
2008	225	171	42	24	10
2009	217	103	91	31	2
2010	211	103	88	28	-
2011	210	103	87	60	-
2012	298	147	125	58	-
2013	272	89	375	116	-

Appendix 2

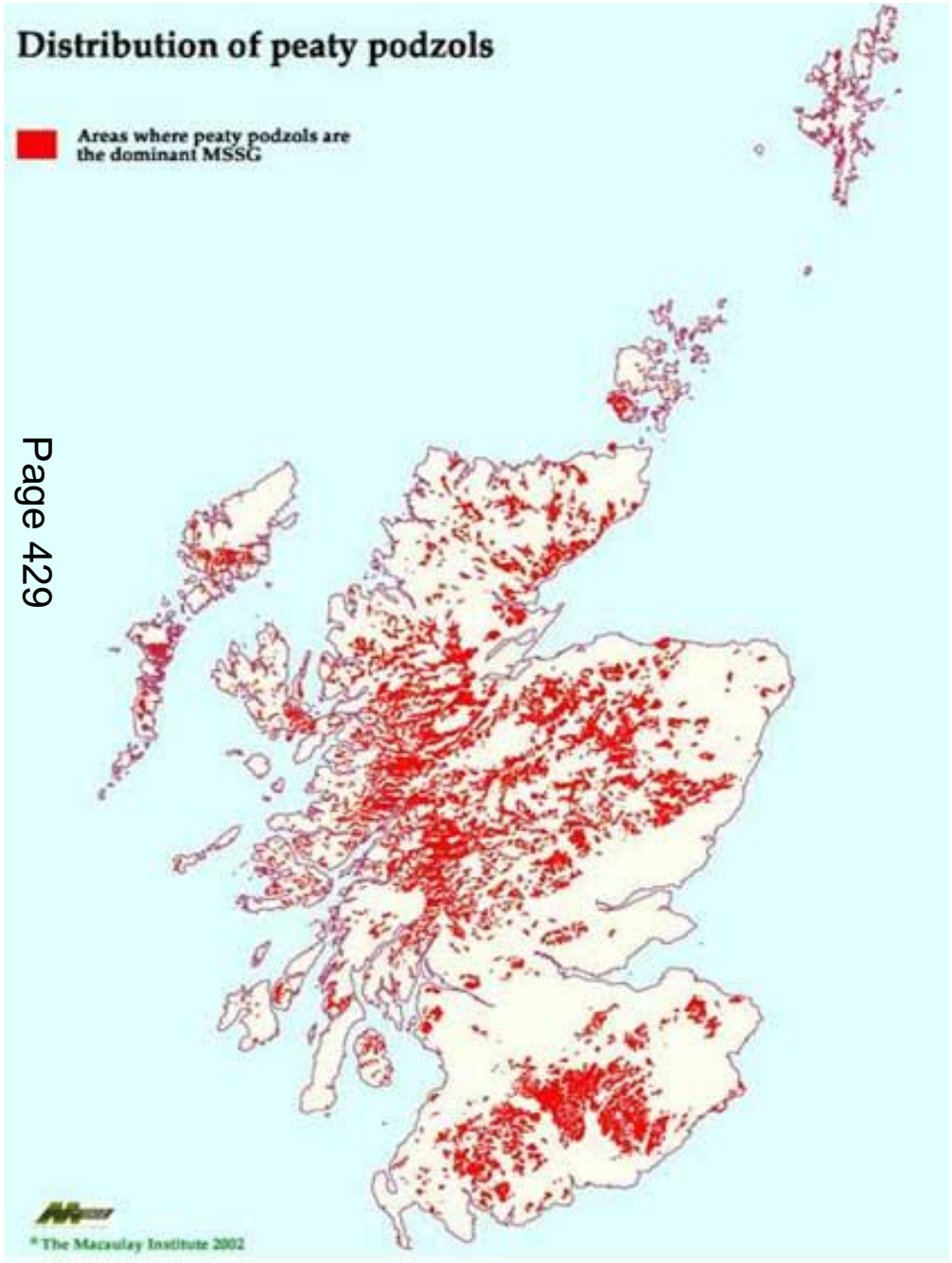
	No of PVAs	Annual Average Damage	River Flooding	Coastal Flooding	Surface Water Flooding	Total Area (Km 2)	Property in PVA (Resid.	Property in PVA (Non-Resid.)	Land Cover in PVA (Urban)	Land Cover in PVA (Agric)	Land Cover in PVA (Forestry)
Aberdeen City	**9**										
Buchan Coastal (Bridge of Don)		£390,000	3%	0%	97%	5	27(1.1%)	8 (4.6%)	70%	30%	0%
Aberdeen North Coastal (Seaton)		£920,000	30%	11%	59%	31	137 (1.2%)	7 (1.3%)	100%	0%	0%
River Don (Danestone)		£3,600,000	63%	4%	33%	47	407 (2.7%)	29 (5.9%)	85%	15%	0%
River Don (Dyce)		£1,070,000	43%	0%	57%	11	75 (1.9%)	23 (4.3%)	25%	58%	17%
Aberdeen South Central (Kincorth)		£1,000,000	52%	19%	29%	166	64(1.3%)	24 (6.1%)	95%	0%	4%
Aberdeen South Central (Rosemount)		£13,020,000	48%	22%	30%	63	918 (2.2%)	260 (7%)	76%	21%	2%
River Dee (Cults)		£1,020,000	35%	9%	56%	4	96 (0.9%)	22 (4.9%)	22%	62%	16%
River Dee (Peterculter)		£1,370,000	67%	0%	33%	17	219 (13.8%)	2 (2.9%)	20%	67%	13%
		£22,390,000				344					
Aberdeenshire	**18**										
Banff Coastal (Banff)		£2,900,000	15%	25%	60%	39km2	286 (6.2%)	52(14%)	9%	85%	5%
River Devron (Huntly)		£1,330,000	66%	0%	34%	20km2	163 (6.8%)	17 (6.9%)	11%	86%	3%
River Devron (Turrff)		£390,000	48%	0%	52%	32km2	25 (1.3%)	12 (6.3%)	19%	78%	3%
Buchan Coastal (Ellon)		£460,000	64%	3%	33%	75km2	32 (1.9%)	12 (5.3%)	15%	85%	0%
Buchan Coastal (Peterhead)		£870,000	11%	50%	39%	32km2	58 (.6%)	19(2.6%)	24%	73%	0%
Buchan Coastal (Fraserburgh)		£540,000.	8%	49%	43%	40km2	37 (0.6%)	12 (2.3%)	10%	83%	7%
Buchan Coastal (Newmachar)		£290,000.00	19%	0%	81%	10km2	42 (2.5%)	1 (1.9%)	32%	55%	9%
River Ythan (Ellon)		£700,000.00	67%	0%	33%	53km2	99(3.6%)	3 (3.1%)	17%	83%	0%
River Ythan (Methlick)		£610,000.00	44%	0%	56%	8km2	41 (12.3%)	15 ((38.5%)	0%	92%	8%
River Don (Strathdon)		£300,000.00	55%	0%	45%	28km2	12 (15%)	8 (34.8%)	0%	32%	68%
River Don (Port Elphinstone/Kintore/Inverurie)		£1,930,000.00	60%	0%	40%	4km2	239 (3.6%)	20 (3.4%)	7%	86%	7%
River Dee (Ballater)		£1,310,000.00	77%	0%	23%	54km2	181 (18.6%)	13 (8.9%)	14%	23%	63%
River Dee (Westhill)		£350,000.00	16%	0%	84%	36km2	42 (1.4%)	4 (1.7%)	11%	80%	9%
River Dee (Aboyne)		£1,020,000.00	33%	0%	67%	77km2	107 (7.8%)	19 (10.3%)	1%	49%	49%

Kinkandine and Angus Coastal (Stonehaven)		£4,080,000.00	0.36	0.55	0.09	21km2	456 (8.6%)	65 (15.2%)	4%	77%	16%

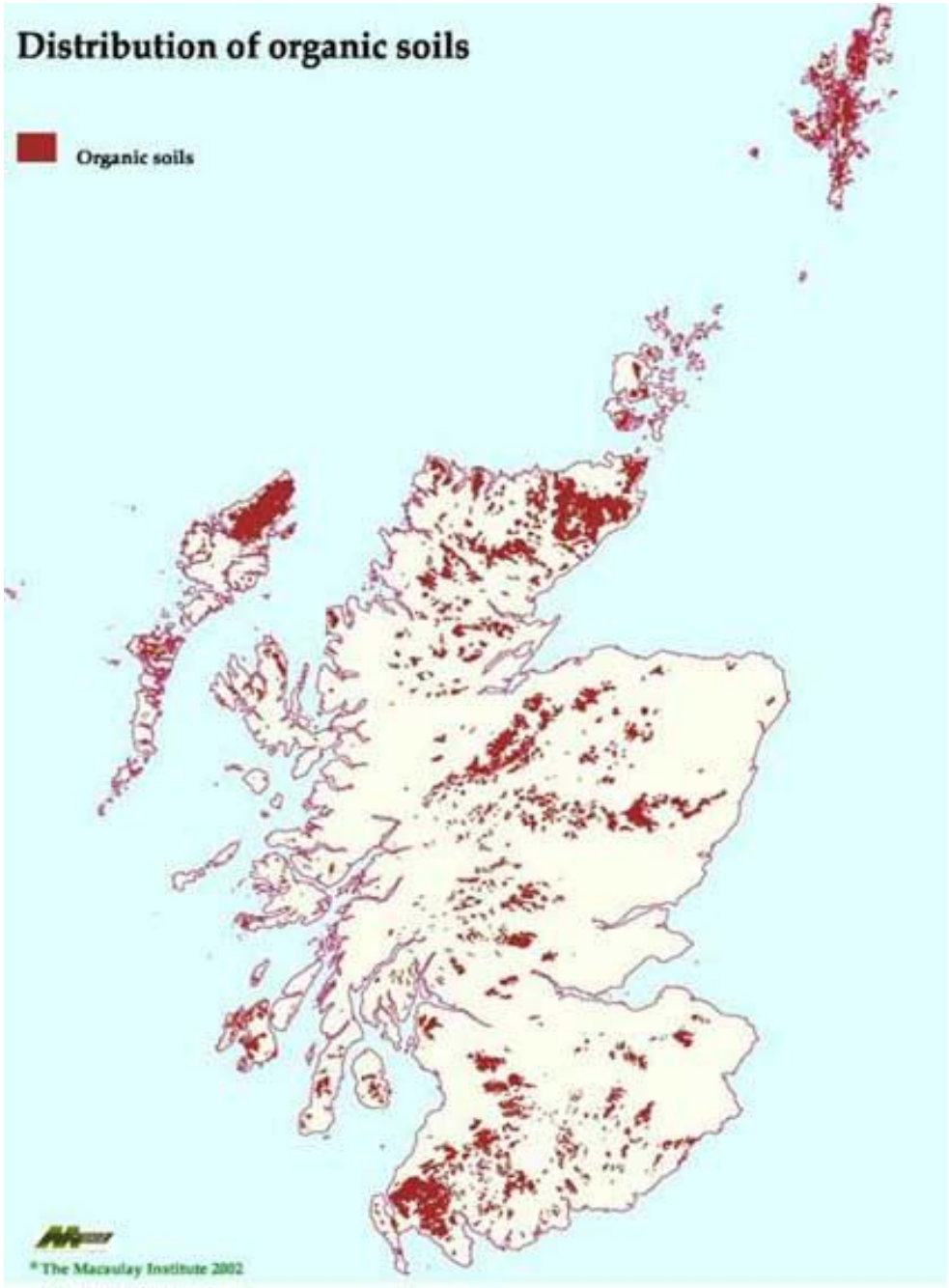
a. Major Soil Sub-groups
b. Distribution of peaty podzols
c. Distribuion of organic soils
d. Distribution of peaty gleys
e. Distribution of blanket peat
f. Soil Scotland Map for Aberdeen
g. Built and Cultural Features
h. Designated Heritage Assets
i. Duthie Park Designed Landscape
j. Open Space Audit 2011 Quality
k. Vacant and Derelict Land 2014
l. Aberdeen's Green Space Network



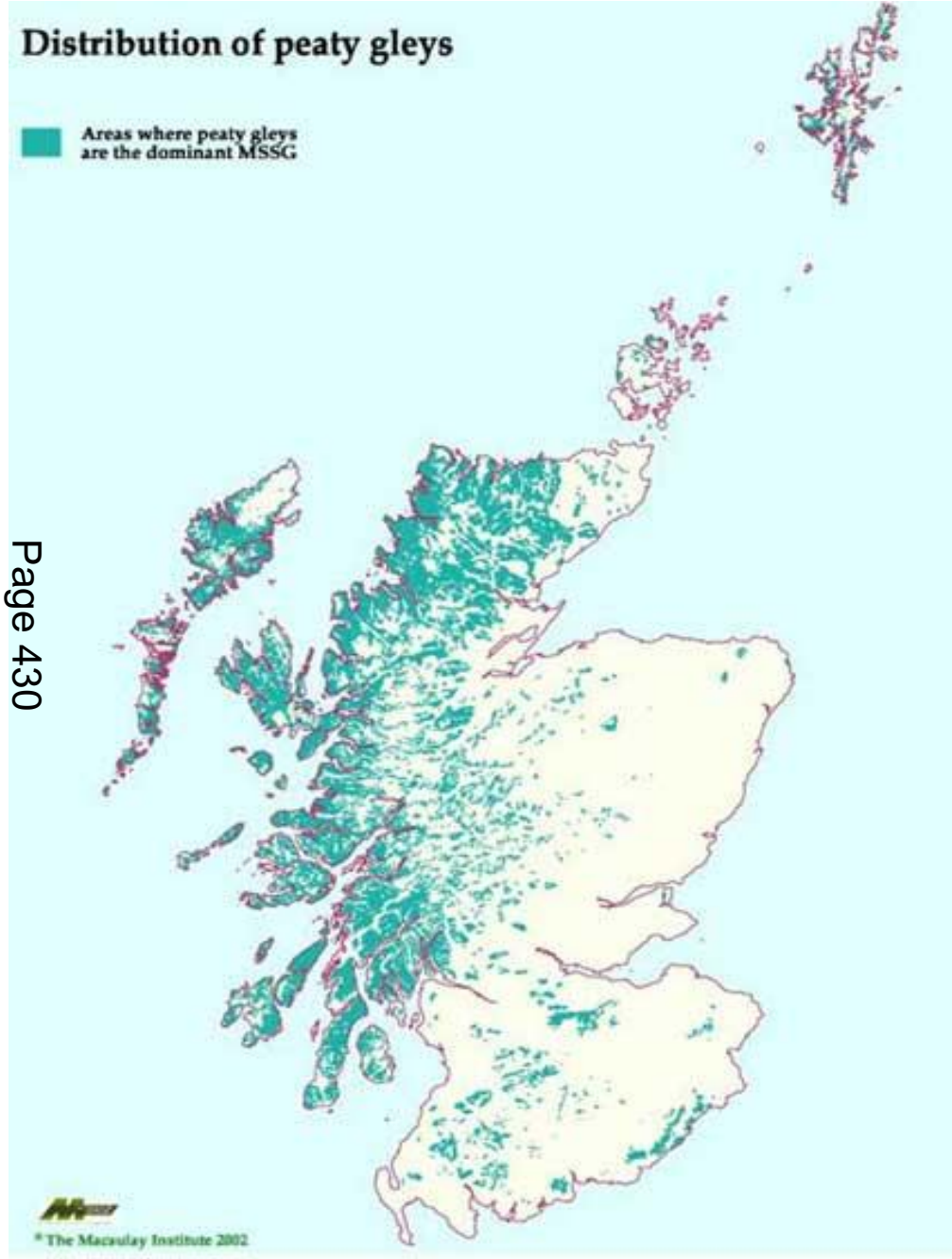
a. Major Soil Sub-Groups © Macaulay Institute 2002



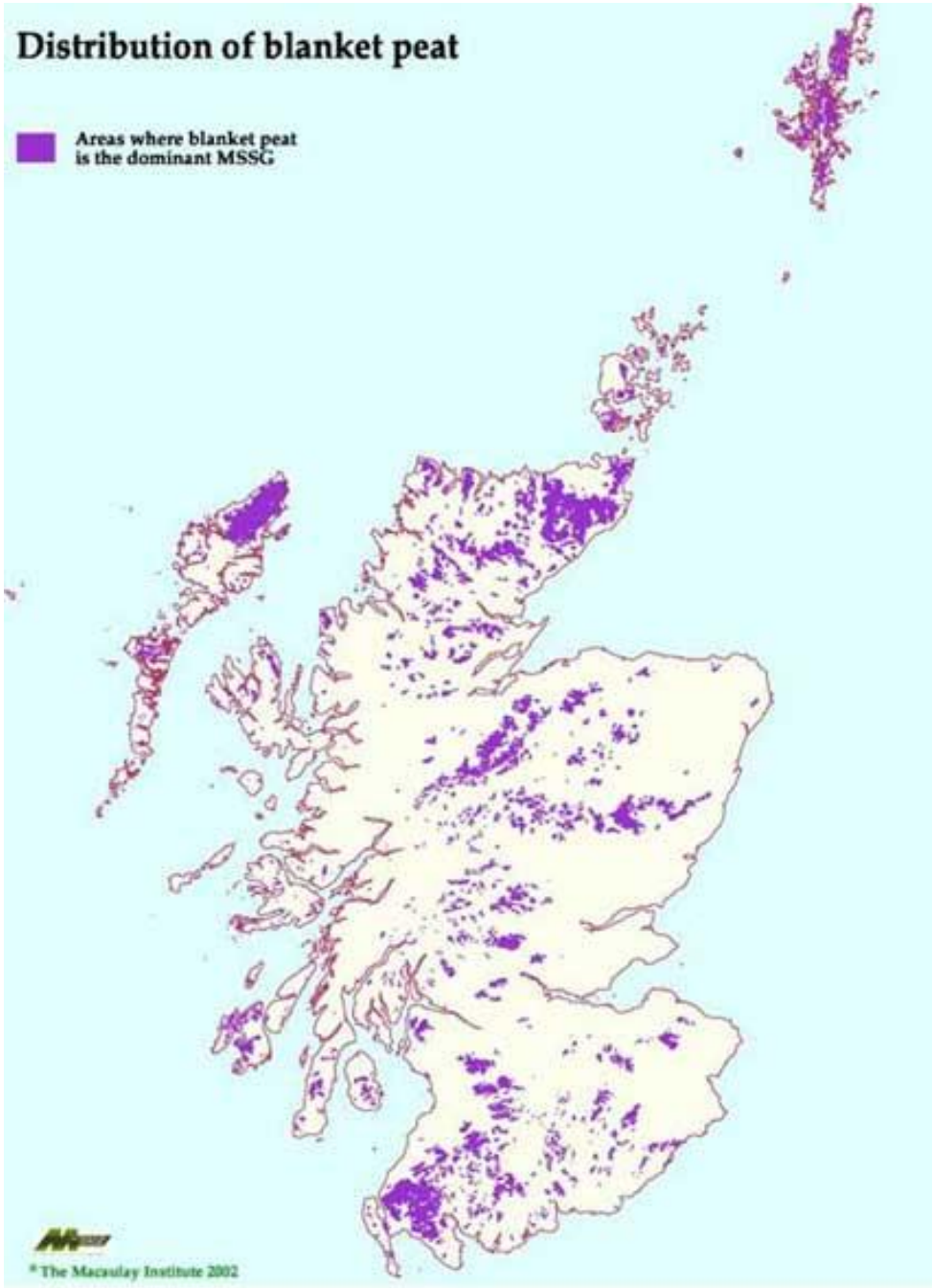
b. Distribution of Peaty Podzols © Macaulay Institute 2002



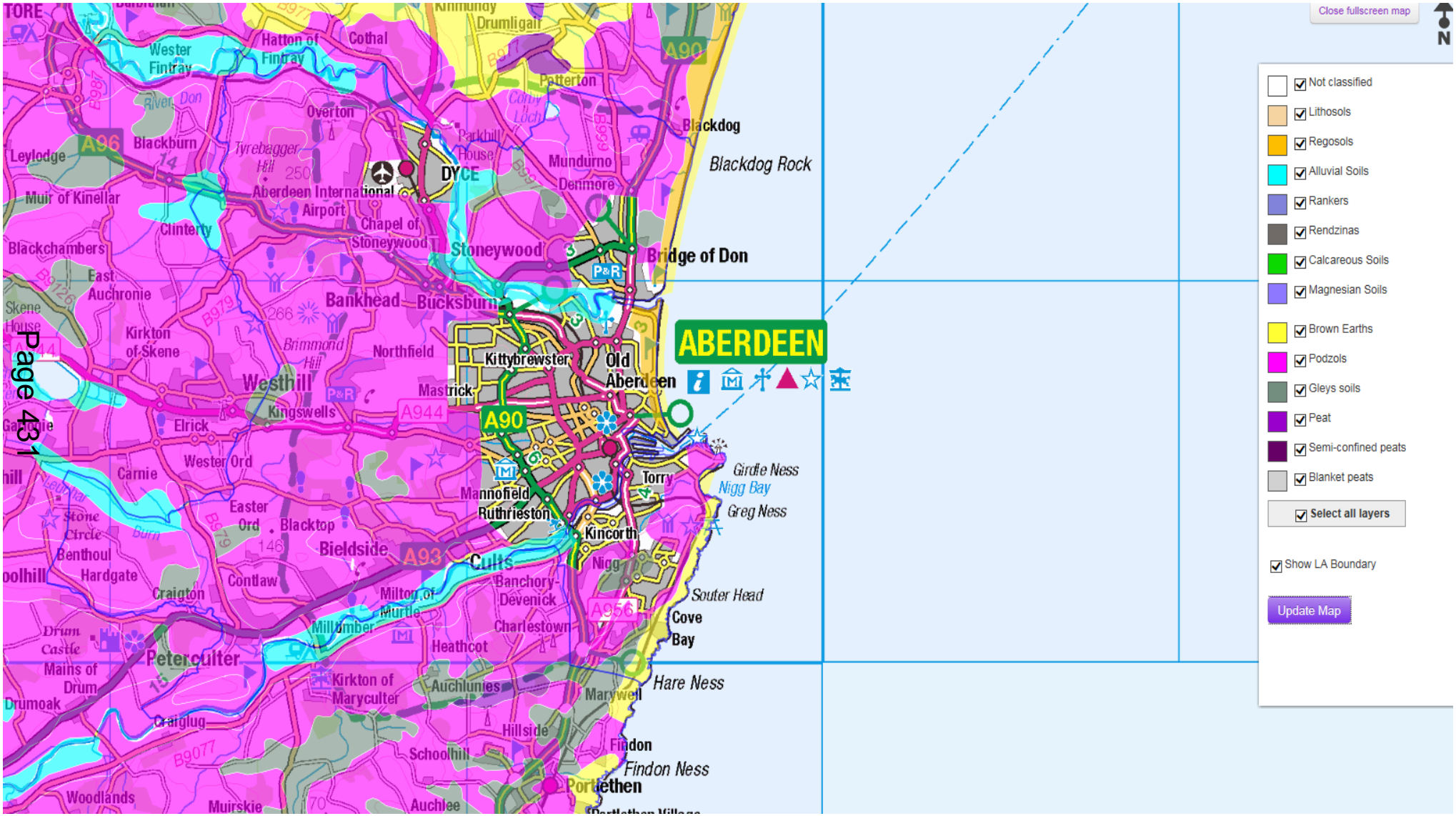
c. Distribution of Organic Soils © Macaulay Institute 2002



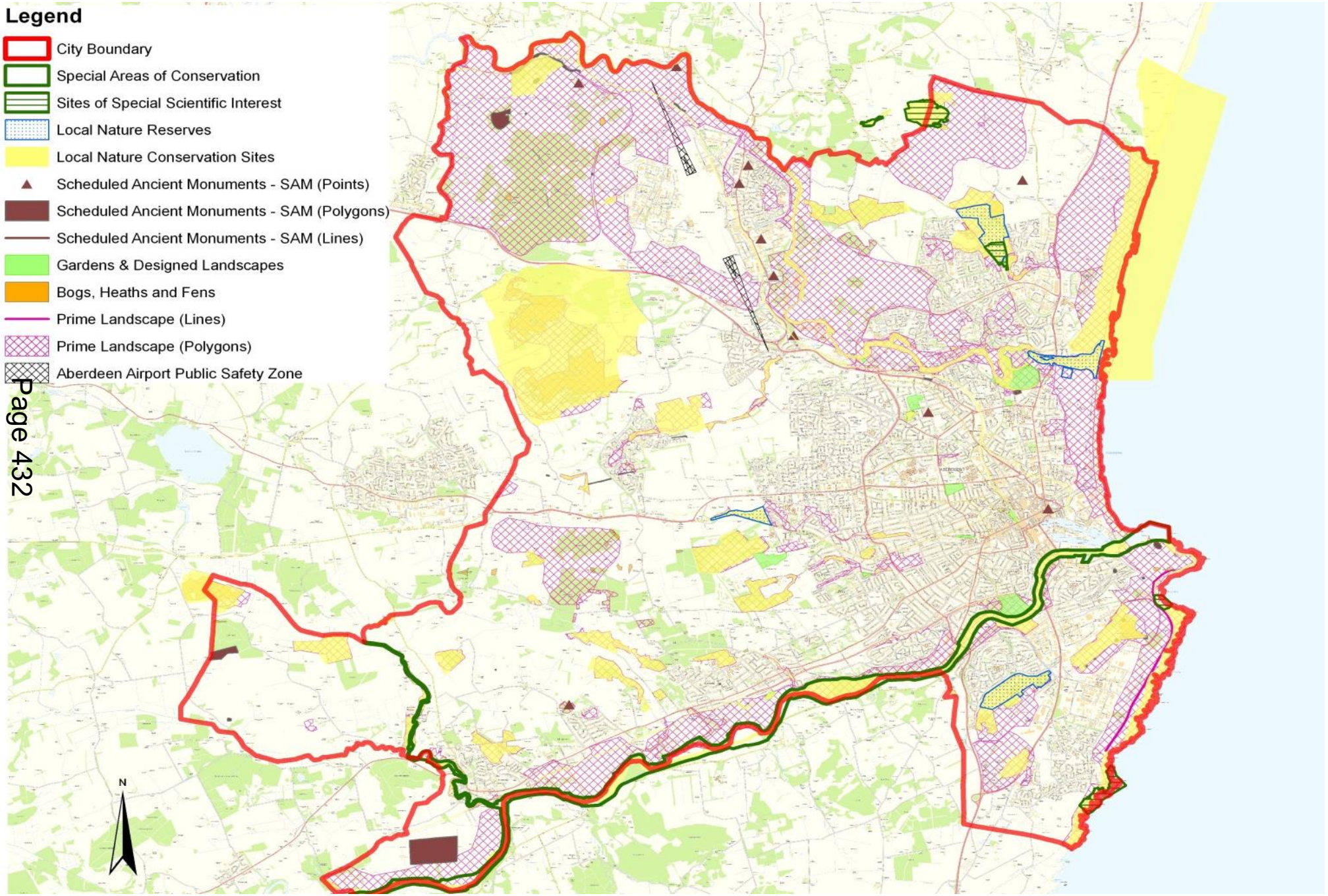
d. Distribution of Peaty Gleys © Macaulay Institute 2002



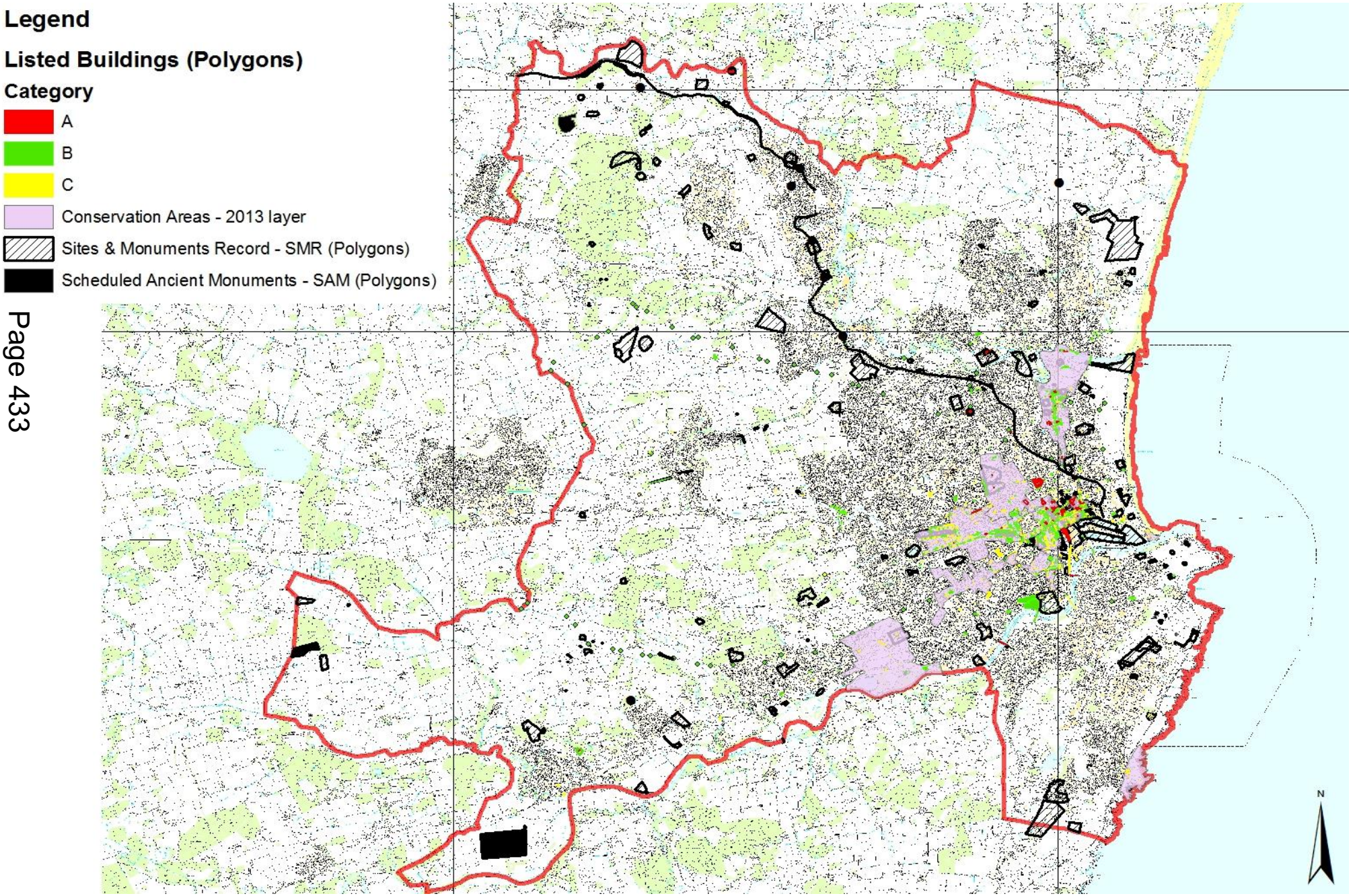
e. Distribution of Blanket Peat © Macaulay Institute 2002



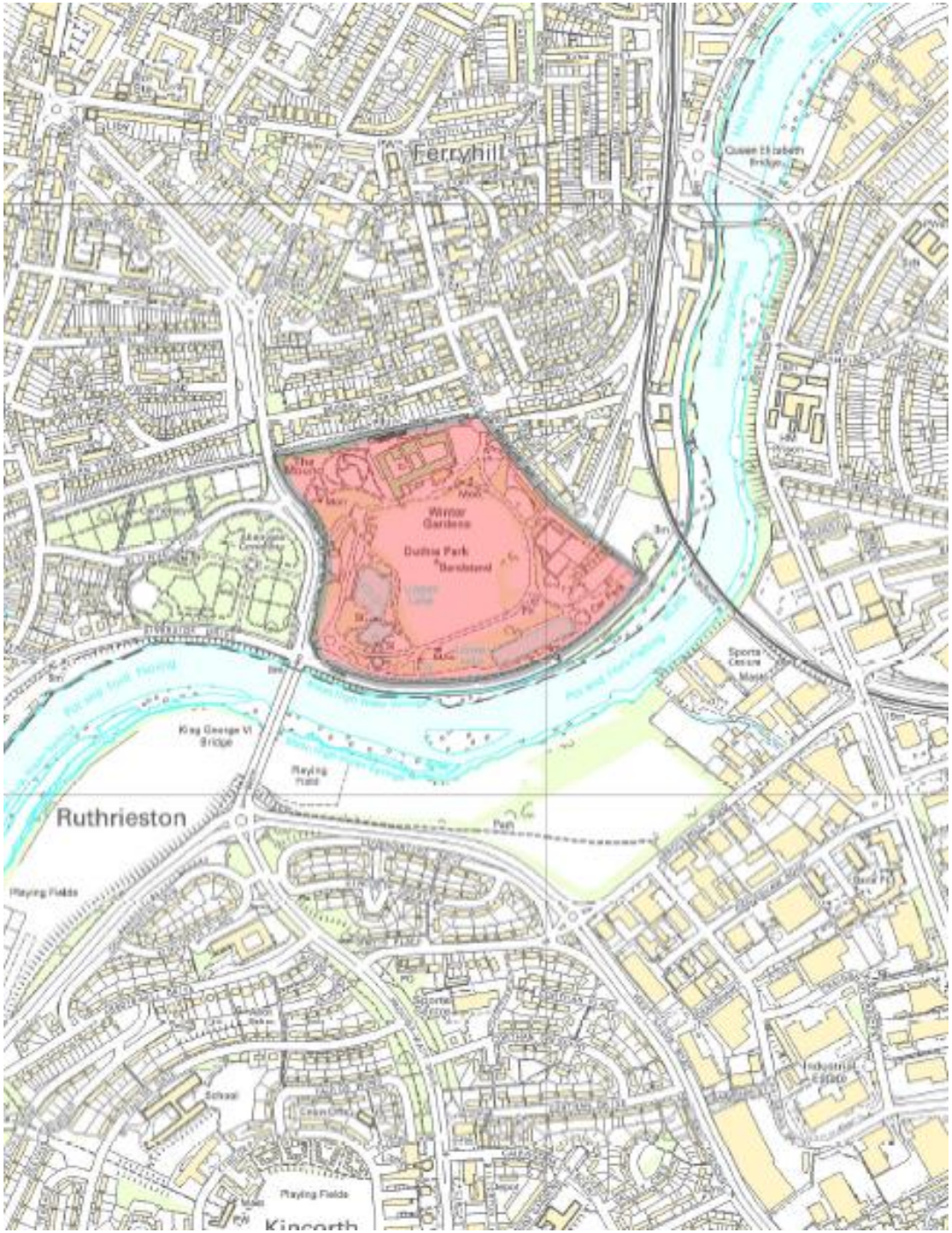
f. Soil Scotland Map for Aberdeen © Scotland's Soils 2014



g. Built and Cultural Features © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. Aberdeen City Council 100023401 (2013)

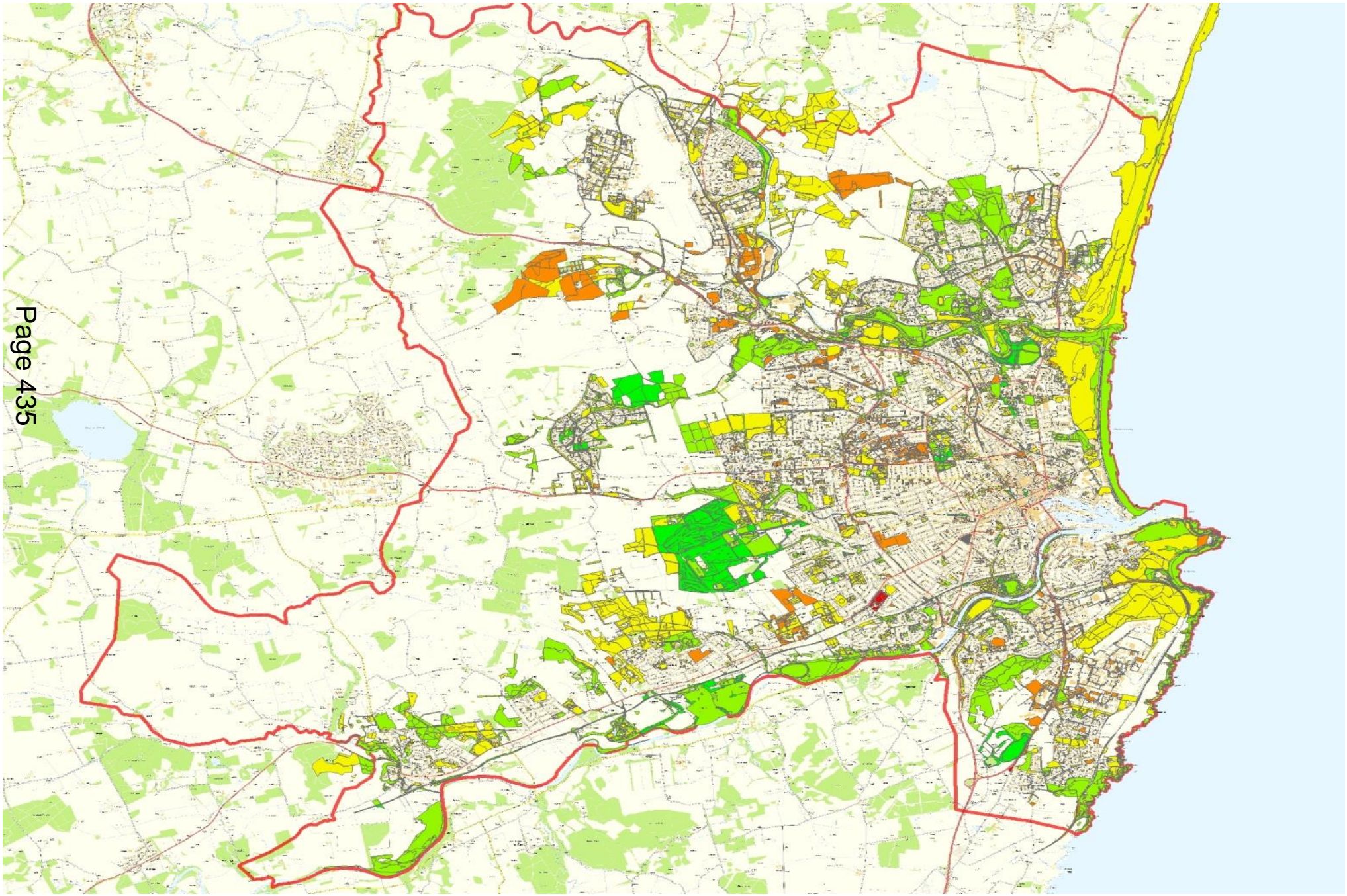


h. Designated Heritage Assets © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. Aberdeen City Council 100023401 (2013)

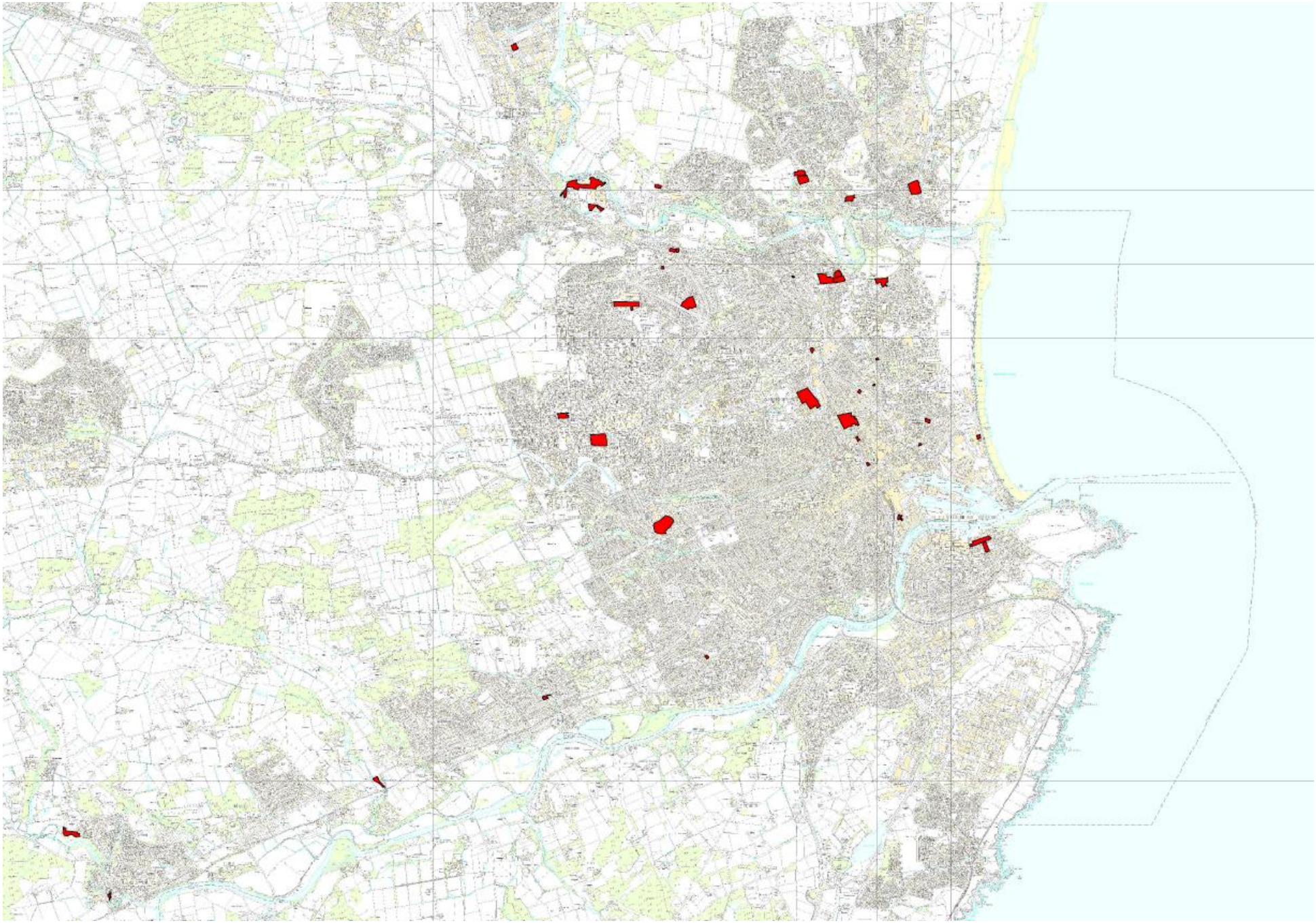


i. Duthie Park Designed Landscape

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j. Open Space Audit 2011 – Quality of Open Spaces © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. Aberdeen City Council 100023401 (2013)



k. Vacant and Derelict Land 2014 © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. Aberdeen City Council 100023401 (2013)



I. Aberdeen's Green Space Network

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4.a. General Greenfield Assessment			
Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation
Biodiversity	-	The development of a greenfield site is likely to have long-term, irreversible adverse impact on the variety and abundance of native wildlife through the loss of habitats, habitat fragmentation and disturbance to species that use the site as a habitat. Where present, development is unlikely to safeguard the conservation objectives and qualifying features of any international, national or locally important designated site that may be present (where present these are highlighted in individual assessments), unless required to do so through mitigation. Greenfield sites which fall within the River Dee catchment area and may have a negative impact on the conservation objectives and biodiversity of the SAC due to the pathway between the site and the River Dee. These sites are highlighted within the individual assessments. Greenfield development across the whole city will increase demand for water which is likely to be abstracted form the River Dee; this has been determined through the Strategic Development Plan and the effects on the conservation objectives of the SAC will be assessed in a Habitats Regulations Appraisal. A greenfield development site provides a valuable habitat and development is not likely to maintain and enhance the populations of protected species which may be present, or their habitats and resting places unless required to do so through mitigation (specific impacts are identified). Development of greenfield sites provides an opportunity to enhance green networks and habitat networks, but in developing a site there will be barriers created and some existing networks may be lost resulting in habitat fragmentation. Development of greenfield areas will result in the loss of trees, woodland, field margins and hedges. Where present, proposals do not automatically protect and promote watercourses.	Appropriate Assessment will be required where a proposal is likely to affect the River Dee SAC. Ecological assessments will be required where a development is likely to affect a designated site or protected species. Bat surveys in particular will be required where bats are suspected Due regard will be given to Green Space Network Policy when planning new developments to ensure habitat links are maintained and enhanced. Policy will require that watercourses are maintained as naturalised channels with riparian buffer strips, and not subject to excessive engineering work. Where there are existing culverts, there may be opportunities to reinstate them as open watercourses, enhancing their biodiversity value. Requirement for all new developments to install water saving technologies to help minimise abstraction from the River Dee. Trees can be protected by altering site boundaries or layouts to maintain areas of important or protected trees.
Air	-	There will be a short term negative impact on air quality during construction due to the release of particulate matter (dust). Development of a greenfield site is likely to increase traffic into the built up area and therefore have a long term impact negatively on air quality through vehicle emissions. In general, development does not increase the population directly affected by any Air Quality Management Area, which cover a very small area in Aberdeen. Where relevant this is highlighted in the individual assessments.	Air quality policy states that planning applications which have the potential to have a detrimental impact on air quality will not be permitted unless measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants can be agreed. Walking, cycling and public transport improvements, including developer contributions where necessary.
Climatic Factors	-	Greenfield development is likely to be in peripheral locations where sustainable and active travel is more difficult to achieve and development is likely to lead to increased congestion and is unlikely to encourage the use of public transport. Greenfield sites have the potential to maximise passive solar gain as there are fewer constraints. There is generally not adequate shelter from winds. New buildings are more efficient than the existing stock of buildings, however the operation and management of new buildings will also increase resource use and energy consumption, although may also promote renewable energy and efficient use of energy and water. There are areas around Aberdeen that are at risk from flooding and there are smaller watercourses that could result in a flood risk. As more land is developed in Aberdeen, there is greater pressure to build on sites that may be affected by flooding. Development in these areas will increase vulnerability to climate change and will reduce ability to introduce flood prevention measures, particularly upstream. Sites close to areas currently identified as being at risk of flooding on SEPA's flood maps may be vulnerable to the effects of future changes in climate, for example increased rainfall or more extreme weather events. Any areas at risk of flooding, or close to areas at risk of flooding, are highlighted in individual assessments.	All new buildings must install low and zero carbon generating technologies to reduce the predicted carbon dioxide emissions by at least 15% below 2007 building standards. New developments and buildings should be sited and oriented so as to maximise the benefit from passive solar gain and shelter from winds. [For flooding and drainage mitigation, see individual assessments]

Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation
Soil	-	The development of a greenfield site is likely to have short term adverse affects on soil through erosion, desegregation and compaction. Development may also result in the release of substances during construction that could potentially contaminate the soil. Measures should be in place to ensure that possible contamination from construction will be properly remediated and not affect the quality of the soil. Greenfield development will avoid the development of prime quality agricultural land, of which there is none in Aberdeen. Greenfield development does not encourage the redevelopment of brownfield land. Any development on peat soil could affect the ability of the soil to store carbon and therefore have a detrimental effect on C02 emissions. The development of peat soils is likely to worsen Carbon Dioxide and Nitrous Oxide emissions. There is limited known peatland in Aberdeen City and in general there will be no impact- where there is an impact this would be highlighted in the individual assessments. The development of greenfield sites will protect any sites identified as important for geodiversity and LNCS identified for geological or geomorphological value, although there are very few of these in Aberdeen (highlighted in the individual assessments). In general proposals do not seek to encourage greater understanding of geodiversity features. All new development is likely to increase the amount of waste produced, both during the construction phase and household/commercial waste from the development itself. It is likely that some of this increase in waste will be sent to landfill, however adequate facilities and collections services will require to be in place to ensure that as much as possible is recycled. This should be ensured through mitigation.	Policy states that all land which is degraded or contaminated, including visually, is either restored, reclaimed or remediated to a level suitable for its proposed use. LDP Spatial Strategy encourages the redevelopment of brownfield land by requiring a certain number of homes to be accommodated on brownfield land. Policy states that landfill is the option of last resort for waste. The plan will also support the provision of new waste facilities as required by the Zero Waste Plan and Aberdeen Waste Strategy.
Water	-	All new development will increase the need to abstract water from the River Dee, with requirements agreed between Scottish Water and SNH. Development will not promote water saving measures and water efficiency unless required to do so through mitigation measures. The development of a greenfield site is likely to release water borne pollution into watercourses, groundwater and reservoirs if present. Development will also increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies. The development of a general greenfield site will avoid an increase in development that physically impacts.	Where there is potential for pollution of the water environment the City Council will liaise with SEPA. There will be a policy requiring all new developments to install water-saving technologies to help minimise abstraction from the River Dee. Drainage Impact Assessments will be required to be submitted with applications for development , with provision for SUDS made where appropriate.
Landscape	-	Greenfield development will also safeguard any designed landscapes or areas identified for landscape quality. It is likely that development of a general greenfield site will have a permanent and negative affect on the landscape setting of the city. However, this may be particularly significant in some locations that are especially prominent across the whole city. Where relevant, this is highlighted in the individual assessments. Greenfield development is likely to have a negative affect on landscape features, setting and character, including any geological features which may be present. The nature of land use in the area will be changed and displaced. Similarly, the land cover will be reduced through development. The relationship between land forms and land use, field pattern and boundaries as well as buildings and structures will change. Moreover, one's experience of the landscape is likely to change, in terms of openness, scale, colour, texture, visual diversity, line, pattern. Where there are degraded or derelict parts of the greenfield site, these will be improved through new development. In general greenfield development has the potential to result in coalescence of settlements and/or urban sprawl. Development in the coastal area will impact on the undeveloped coastal environment.	Landscape impact can often be mitigated through screening or sensitive siting of buildings within the site. Any sites which occupy an especially visible and prominent location within the context of the whole city will not be allocated.

Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation
Population	+	Where a site is proposed for housing, development is likely to have long-term positive effects meeting housing demand. However, it can not be taken for granted that housing will be provided that supports the needs of an aging population, those people in housing need that can not afford private housing , students and families. It can also not be presumed that development will meet other particular needs such as people with disabilities or Gypsies & Travellers. Redevelopment of brownfield sites may also contribute to the regeneration of an area. The development of greenfield sites for employment use will promote economic growth through the provision of new jobs.	Policy to require a set percentage of affordable housing in every new development will enhance positive population effects. Masterplanning process also ensures that larger developments accommodate an appropriate mix of house types and sizes to provide choice and fleixibility in meeting needs and demands. Policy also requires provision for Gypsies and Travellers to be made in certain parts of the city.
Human Health	+/-	Greenfield development should safeguard the quantity and quality of existing open space and may also be required to make contributions towards the improvement of existing open space. This should be specified though mitigation measures. Within larger greenfield developments, there is likely to be a positive impact on human health as a result of new provision of quality open space and recreational facilities, however this may be limited within smaller greenfield developments. Attempts will be made to establish and enhance links between new residential areas and local facilities and recreation, with any severed links replaced/mitigated.	Qualifying developments will be required to make provision for new open space as appropriate through policy. [For site-specific human health mitigation, see individual assessments]
Cultural Heritage	+/-	Greenfield development may affect the historic environment. There could be long-term and permanent negative effects on the site/setting of designated heritage assets such as scheduled monuments, listed buildings, Conservation Areas, Designed Landscapes and archaeological sites. These effects may weaken the sense of place, the identity of existing settlements and landscape character in places. There may also be negative effects on other non-designated built heritage features such as historic landscapes, historic buildings, townscapes, parks, gardens, landscapes and features as well as the context or setting in which they sit, and the patterns of past use and landscape. The planning and design of developments which are in keeping with existing settlements in terms of design, layout, material and quality are likely to have long term positive affects. But new developments that deviate from existing designs could adversely affect the setting of historic settlements in the long-term.	Proposals affecting Conservation Areas or Listed Buildings will require prior consent and will only be permitted where they comply with SPP. New development may also provide opportunities to enhance the setting of any heritage assets present. Architecture and Placemaking policy require all new development to have due consideration for its setting. [for site specific heritage mitigation, see individual assessments]

Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation
Material Assets	++	The development will provide housing and employment opportunities as well as access to community facilities for the people of Aberdeen, to meet identified needs. The development of new employment land also promotes economic growth and provides jobs. The creation of new material assets in association with larger greenfield developments is likely to include social infrastructure (schools, housing, healthcare facilities); transport infrastructure (road, rail, paths, pipelines and bridges); water-delivery infrastructure; sewerage infrastructure, energy infrastructure (power stations, pylons, power cables, wind turbines and pipelines); tourism and recreation (caravan and camping sites); telecommunication infrastructure (telephone masts, satellite television and broadband); and waste management infrastructure (waste collection, transfer stations and composting facilities). There may be an impact upon school rolls associated with new residential development. This may be either positive in terms of supporting schools with low rolls or negative in terms of placing extra demand for places on schools with limited capacity to accommodate them. Where relevant impacts are highlighted in the individual assessments. Other factors relating to material assets, such as adequate space for kerbside collection or recycling facilities should also be ensured. Greenfield development is less likely to be close to existing paths than developments in urban areas and new provision will be required. Greenfield development has the potential to improve access to natural and built assets depending on its location, this should be ensured though mitigation. Development will safeguard core paths and rights of way and enhance links between paths, this should be ensured though mitigation.	Where there will be a negative impact on existing infrastructure, developer contributions may be required as appropriate. [for site specific material assets mitigation, see individual assessments]

4.b. Greenfield Preferred Options (Opportunity Sites)					
Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
OP62 Aberdeen Harbour Expansion, Nigg Bay					First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014. Comments and mitigation on flooding, water and human health informed by comments from SEPA. Comments and mitigation on biodiversity infomred by comments from SHN. Comments and mitigation on cultural history informed by comments from Historic Scotland (now Histroic Environment Scotland)
	Climatic Factors	--	Site is potentially at medium to high risk of flooding from coastal sources (within or adjacent to 0.5% flood outline). Nature of proposals yet to be confirmed.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Biodiversity	--	Likely to be cross-boundary effects on bottlenose dolphin, Atlantic Salmon, and fresh water pearls a qualifying interest of the Moray Firth SAC, and grey seals of the Isle of May SAC and Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC, and harbour seals, through impact of construction and operation on water quality and noise generation.	HRA Appropriate Assessment likely to be required, which will trigger requirement for EIA. CEMP required and ecological assessment required. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place. Appropriate noise-modelling to assess impact on species.	
	Water	--	Potential to impact on the quality of Aberdeen Bathing Water. Also within the vicinity of East Tullos Burn, which faces existing pollution pressure from the Tullos industrial estates that a new harbour might exacerbate. Site is at risk of flooding and there may be a subsequent negative impact on water quality in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Studies should be undertaken to determine and avoid impact on Aberdeen Bathing Water. Appropriate measures for protection of East Tullos Burn required.	
	Human Health	-	Potential to impact negatively on the quality and amenity of Aberdeen Bathing Beach.	Studies should be undertaken as to the potential impact on the quality and amenity of the bathing beach.	
	Material Assets	++/--	Site is at risk of flooding and there may be a subsequent negative impact on material assets in the event of flood damage to assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Cultural Heritage	++/--	Potential to negatively impact on the scheduled monument of St. Fitticks Church, the listed Girdleness Lighthouse, as well as the archaeological remains within the bay area.	Setting, design and masterplanning will assist in the mitigation of negative impacts.	
OP54 Altens East and Doonies with expansion					Existing site; brand new assessment for Proposed Plan 2014. Includes a new extension, also newly assessed.
	Biodiversity	-	There is likely to be only a small negative impact given the site is currently open grassland of low biodiversity value. Given to the industrial/operational nature of the proposals, opportunities for habitat and green network enhancement are limited, however landscaping is proposed on the egdes of the site.		
	Air	-	May be a longer term and on-going negative effect on air quality from the operation of the facilities; however this is uncertain. There is likely to be some localised negative impact on air arising from increased operation traffic in the built-up area, but overall benefit from reduced journey times for the fleet, due to co-location of facilities.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	++/-	Likely to be a localised increase in congestion from increased traffic in the built-up area, which will worsen greenhouse gas emmissions, but there will be an overall benefit from reduced journey times, due to co-location of facilities. Modern waste management facilities will significantly reduce waste to landfill and methane emissions.		
	Soil	++/-	New facilities will deal with waste more efficiently, reducing the amount sent to landfill which will have a positive effect on soil. May result in release of substances that may contmainate the ground; this is uncertain.		
	Landscape	-/--	The site is not in an very prominent location in the context of the whole city. However is very visible from the Coast Road. Landscape impact will be greater if multi-storey car-parking is included.	Visual impact to be mitigated with appropriate screening. Ground or low-level car-parking preferred.	
	Human Health	-	Facilities are likely to generate noise, and there may be other negative amenity impacts. However site is not located near any residential areas so impact of human health likely to be limited. Unlikely to include any provision for open or recreational space.		
	Material Assets	++	Development will provide strategic and sophisticated waste management facilities capable of dealing with waste from the whole city. By locating the facilities with the depot, significant efficiency savings will also be generated.	Site will be safeguarded for the development of new waste management facilities.	
	OP2 Berryhill Murcar				Existing site. Updated to reflect comments on flooding by SEPA.
	Climatic Factors	-	Small part of the site is at risk of 0.5% annual risk of flooding from several small watercourses on the site. Groundwater features on the site may indicate a shallow water table. Areas of the site are also vulnerable to surface water flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Biodiversity	-	Site is in close proximity to the Balgownie/Blackdog Links Local Nature Conservation Site, however site itself is not covered by this designation and any significant effects are unlikely.		
	Landscape	-	This site is in close proximity to the coast, and occupies a parcel of land that slopes down to the coast from the main road into Aberdeen; it so may detract from the view both from land to sea and from the sea to the shore at points.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Human Health	+/-	There is an aspirational Core Path passing through the site which must be protected from loss or severance. There may be opportunities for this to be realised and/or enhanced improved as part of the development.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	The Berryhill Salmon Netting Station is a Category B listed building on the site. Its setting may be negatively affected by development if not designed sensitively, however it may also be enhanced and accessibility improved.		
OP61 Calder Park					Calder Park was previously OP80 for a new stadium; is now proposed for a new academy and has been fully reassessed for Proposed Plan 2014.
	Biodiversity	-	This site does not have any environmental designations, although the Kincorth Hill Local Nature Conservation Site is in close proximity. Unlilkely that this development would have any impact. Site falls within the River Dee cahtchment, and there are potential pathways from the site to the Dee.		
	Air	--	Development of a new Academy will likely cause an increase in car traffic in the area from journeys to school. The site is in close proximity to the Wellington Road AQMA and may have a negative or worsening impact on it.	Apply LDP policies to mitigate transport impact, possibly including travel planning, safe routes to school in place and public transport provision.	
	Climatic factors	-/+	A new Academy at this location will increase the distance many pupils have to travel, leading to an increase in private car journeys to school. This is likely to lead to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. However, new Academy will be more efficient than two ageing schools it is replacing. Instances of flooding may be due to an issue with culverts on the site. Parts of the site may also be at risk of watercourse flooding.	Apply LDP policies to mitigate transport impact, possibly including travel planning, safe routes to school in place and public transport provision. Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Soil	+/-	The principle of merging two existing schools into one modern building is likely to reduce the volume of waste generated by the Council's schools estate in the longer term, however the scale of this benefit is uncertain. Likely to be some negative impact on soil as a result of development on the site.		
	Population	++	Development will fulfil the requirements of surrounding communities for modern fit-for-purpose secondary school which will enable the City to cope with increased school roll in future years.	LDP text will safeguard site for development of a new academy.	
	Human Health	--	There will be the loss of public open space and sports pitches. There may, however, be the opportunity to create formal links within the development to improve access to other open spaces such as Kincorth Hill.	Apply LDP policies to ensure replacement pitches are provided. May also be the opportunity to improve access to other open spaces such as Kincorth Hill.	

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
			OP60 Charleston		Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add detail to all indicators and reference to soil and landscape. Updated to reflect flood risk information from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	Development is located within the River Dee catchment, however it is not on a direct pathway. Skylark and Swift have been recorded in the vicinity but impact is not likely to be significant.		
	Air	--	This site has been proposed for a large scale business park development would be likely to result in significant commuter traffic with a negative impact on air quality; may have a negative effect on the Wellington Road AQMA.	Apply LDP policies on air quality, requiring appropriate mitigation measures to be agreed for detailed development proposals.	
	Climatic Factors	-	This site has been proposed for a large scale business park development would be likely to result in significant commuter traffic which will lead to increased greenhouse gas emissions. There is the potential for fluvial flooding from small watercourses on the site. Small areas of the site may be at risk of surface water flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Soil	-	Unknown filled ground onsite and development would require to investigate this resulting in remediation if there is any contamination remaining.		
	Landscape	-	May be some loss of historic consumption dykes on site, but these are not formally designated heritage assets.		
			OP38 Countesswells		Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to River Dee. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	Site is within River Dee catchment but is not on a direct pathway. Owing to the size of the site, there is also likely to be a significant effect on the River Dee SAC due to water abstraction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Apply policy R7 which requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required.	
	Climatic Factors	-	There is a small fluvial risk from the multiple watercourses on the site. Areas of the site appear to be at risk of pluvial flooding. Groundwater features on the site may also indicate a potential risk of flooding due to a shallow water table.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
			OP56 Cove		Existing site. Last assessed for

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	--	Owing to the large size of the site, there is likely to be a negative effect on the River Dee SAC through pressure on water abstraction to service new development.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required.	Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Landscape	--	Site will have a significant impact on landscape due to the site being a residential expansion close to the road (A90, main route into Aberdeen).	Apply LDP Design policies, including D5 landscape, ensure high quality placemaking, architecture and protection of the historic environment. Landscape fit also considered as part of the masterplan for the site.	
OP18 and OP20 Craibstone North & South					Existing site. Last assessed Proposed Plan 2010. Add detail to biodiversity and reference to material assets. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	This is a large greenfield site with existing habitats. The woodland along the Gough Burn and in the centre of the southern site is part of the ancient woodland. There is extensive woodland cover on the southern site and along the Green Burn in the northern area and at the Mill of Craibstone. There are records of Red Squirrel, Badger and a variety of birds that are listed on the Scottish Biodiversity List. Owing to the size of the site, there is also likely to be a significant effect on the River Dee SAC due to water abstraction.	Apply LDP Natural Environment policies which ensure the protection of non-designated natural heritage, trees, woodland and watercourses. Species surveys, CEMP and ecological assessment also likely to be required. Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required.	
	Water	--	Part of the site is identified as being at risk of flooding; there is likely to be a negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Climatic Factors	--	Part of the site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of flooding from the Green Burn which flows through the middle of the site. There are parts of the site which may be at risk of surface water flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Material Assets	+/--	The site is also close to areas identified as having poorer quality open space, meaning that the development has scope to improve open space provision in this part of the city, for new and existing residents. Part of the site is at risk of flooding, meaning there is likely be a negative impact through loss or damage of material assets in the event of a flood.	FRA required. Apply Flood Risk Framework which identifies uses most suited to different levels of flood risk.	
OP46 Culter House Road Milltimber					Existing site. Last assessed for

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	-	There is a possible risk of fluvial flooding from a small watercourse along the NE boundary of the site. History of flooding due to blocked culverts.	Flood Risk Assessment may be required.	Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to River Dee. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment may be required.	
	Biodiversity	--	Site is within the River Dee catchment; there may be some significant negative effects on the SAC from polluting run-off. Site is bounded by priority habitats to the west, north and east so there may be some negative impact, although site itself is not covered by any designation.	HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required, CEMP and ecological assessment required to address impact on designated sites and protected species. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place.	
	OP10 Dubford				Existing site. Last assessed Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to biodiversity. Site includes Dubford Brickworks and Mundurno (previously assessed separately). Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk. Site has Planning Permission.
	Biodiversity	--	This site is predominantly improved grassland and arable agricultural land. Some mature trees towards the north of the site, around the farmhouse, are protected by a Tree Preservation Order (27).	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Apply LDP policies protecting trees and woodland.	
	Climatic Factors	--	Part of the site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of fluvial flooding. There are historical records of flooding, and site may be vulnerable to the future effects of climate change.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	Part of the site is identified as being at risk of flooding, which is likely to have a negative impact on water quality in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Material Assets	--	Part of the site is at risk of flooding, which is likely to have a negative effect in the event of a flood through the loss or damage to material assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Apply Flood Risk Framework which identifies uses most suited to different levels of flood risk.	
	Soil	+/-	Development would enable the remediation of contaminated land at the Dubford Brickworks site, although there may be negative impacts on soil on the rest of the development site, meaning the overall impact on soil is mixed.		
	OP23 Dyce Drive				Existing site. Re-assessed for Proposed Plan 2014. Comments on flooding, water and material assets updated to reflect SEPA comments inc. new requirement for FRA
	Climatic Factors	-	Parts of the site likely to be at risk of fluvial flooding from small watercourses going through site. Development may increase the risk of flooding elsewhere. Patches of the site are also at risk of surface water flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required	

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Air	--	Although this site itself is not an AQMA, an increase in journeys to and from this site from the rest of the city may be felt on the Anderson Drive AQMA, which may worsen air quality or lead to an extension of the AQMA.	LDP policies on strategic transport improvements, managing the transport impact of development and sustainable and active travel.	requirement for HRA Site has Planning Permission.
	Human Health	+/-	There is a Core Path (4) running through the site. Some potential for loss or severance if not carefully considered. However quality and access may also be improved through development.		
	Material Assets	+/-	There is a Core Path (4) running through the site. Some potential for loss or severance if not carefully considered. However quality and access may also be improved through development.		
	OP8 East Woodcroft North				Existing site. Last assessed Proposed Plan 2010.Add reference to biodiversity and LNCS.
	Biodiversity	-	There is Wych Elm in the west of the site which is a North East Local Biodiversity Action Plan Species. Scotstown Moor/Perwinnes Moss SSSI and LNCS lie to the east of the site but this site itself is not covered by any designation.		
	OP47 Edgehill Road Milltimber				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to River Dee. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Climatic Factors	-	There is a possible risk of flooding from a small watercourse along the east boundary of the site. History of flooding due to blocked culverts. Steep gradient may increase surface water run-off.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Biodiversity	--	Site is within the River Dee catchment, but it is not on a direct pathway. May be some significant negative effects on the SAC from polluting run-off.	HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required. CEMP and ecological assessment also required. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place.	
	OP53 Aberdeen Gateway				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to River Dee.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is within River Dee Catchment but is not on a direct pathway, therefore effects unlikely to be significant.		
	Climatic Factors	-	May be some small risk of surface water flooding however this is not significant.		
	Landscape	-	Development will have a slight negative impact on the landscape setting of the site, but these effects will be localised. The site is open farmland that is clearly visible from the nearby area but there is already development in the area which is similar to what is proposed.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Population/Material Assets	+	This additional development does have the potential to positively affect material assets and population through the creation of employment opportunities and supporting the expansion of business.		
OP83 Energy Futures Centre South Beach					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to River Dee. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within River Dee catchment area but is not on a direct pathway, therefore effects not likely to be significant.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Adjacent to areas at risk of 0.5% risk of annual flooding from coastal sources. Areas of the site are also at risk of surface water flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Human Health	-	Development would result in the loss of open space, having a negative impact on human health. However site is low quality grassland that is not currently well used for recreation.		
	Material Assets	++	Proposal for Energy Futures Centre will help the local economy diversify to renewable energy by offering both an office for sustainable energy ventures and a tourism destination to help learn about renewable energy.	LDP text will specify that site is reserved for an energy futures centre.	
OP34 East Arnhall					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Air	-	Proposal for hotel and employment development in this location will increase commuter traffic and impact on air quality, however site is already relatively well integrated into the surrounding area.		
	Landscape	-	The site is prominent and will have an adverse impact on landscape, however this will only be local as the site is not in a prominent position in the context of the whole city.		
	Climatic Factors	--	There is flooding associated with the Brodiach Burn, which is adjacent to the west edge of the site and may be vulnerable to future climate change. Part of the site is identified as being at 0.5% risk of flooding from fluvial sources.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	Part of the site is identified as being at risk of flooding; there is likely to be a negative impact on water quality in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Material Assets	--	Part of the site is identified as being at risk of flooding; there is likely to be a negative impact in the event of a flood through the loss or damage of material assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Flood Risk Framework identifies which types of uses are most suited to different levels of flood risk.	
OP3 Findlay Farm, Murcar					Existing site. Reassessed for

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	-	Site is in close proximity to the Balgownie-Blackdog Links Local Nature Conservation Site; however there is unlikely to be any significant negative effects as the site itself is not covered by this designation.		Proposed Plan 2014.
	Climatic Factors	-	Patches of the site may be at risk of some surface water flooding.		
	Landscape	-	This site is in close proximity to the coast, and occupies a parcel of land that slopes down to the coast from the main road into Aberdeen; it so may detract from the view both from land to sea and from the sea to the shore at points.		
OP41 Friarsfield					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	--	Likely to be a significant negative effect on River Dee SAC due to water abstraction to service development, impact on water quality, and disturbance from construction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required. CEMP and ecological assessment also required. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place.	
	Climatic Factors	--	There is a potential for flood risk on this site. Part of the site is at 0.5% annual risk of flooding from fluvial sources. There are small areas at risk of surface water flooding; historic incidences of flooding of roads nearby.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Conditions may specify that small watercourses are regularly maintained. Policy requires that existing culverts are restored where possible.	
	Water	--	Part of the site is at risk of flooding, which is likely to have a negative effect on water quality in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Material Assets	++/--	Part of the site is at risk of flooding, which is likely to have a negative effect through the loss or damage of material assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Flood Risk Framework identifies which types of uses are most suited to different levels of flood risk.	
OP9 Grandhome					Existing site. Last assessed

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	--	There are a number of Local Nature Conservation Sites that border the site (Grandholme Moss, Stoneyhill Wood and River Don), meaning there is therefore a potential negative impact on biodiversity but no part of the site itself is covered by a designation. Owing to the size of the site, there is also likely to be a significant effect on the River Dee SAC due to water abstraction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment/EIA may be required.	Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	-	Site is adjacent to an area of flood risk; but topography shows flooding is unlikely on this site. Site is very large, and there is potential for some areas to be at risk of surface water flooding.		
	Landscape	-	Landscape impacts would be high if not sensitively treated as it is a highly visible site.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	There are some non-designated historical features on-site and there may be a slight negative impact on cultural heritage. Henge at Whitestripes Farm is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. School and burial ground on SAM record close to Whitestripes Cottage. There is a risk of some loss or disturbance; but there could also be enhancement if development is designed sensitively.		
	OP28 & OP33 Greenferns				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add detail to biodiversity. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	Bucks Burn LNCS in close proximity so there may be some negative impact, but site itself is not covered by this designation. There are also smaller areas of Wet Woodland (Priority Habitat), Pond (Priority Habitat), Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (Priority Habitat), Lowland Birch Woodland (NELBAP habitat), Scrub Woodland (NELBAP habitat), Mixed Woodland and Neutral Grassland. There is also Wych Elm present which is a North East Local Biodiversity Action Plan Species. Owing to the size of the site, there is likely to be some significant negative impact on the River Dee SAC as a result of water abstraction pressure to service new development.	Ecological assessment and CEMP to be required where development is likely to affect a designated site or protected species. Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment/EIA may be required.	
	Climatic Factors	--	Small part of the site identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of fluvial flooding. A drain runs through the middle of the site and the Bucks Burn passes through the site. This is a largely natural watercourse in this locality which carries high flows, and is subject to bank erosion and minor flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	A small part of the site is at risk of flooding, which is likely to have a negative effect on water quality in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Material Assets	++/--	A small part of the site is at risk of flooding, which is likely to have a negative effect in the event of a flood through the loss or damage of material assets.	FRA required. Flood Risk Framework identifies which types of uses are most likely to be suited to different levels of flood risk.	
	Landscape	-	There is potential that the development will have cumulative effects on the primary landscape and potentially damage green linkages between Northfield and Kingswells.		
OP22 Greenferns Landward					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Biodiveristy	--	Owing to the size of the site, there is likely to be some significant negative impact on the River Dee SAC as a result of water abstraction pressure to service new development. Owing to the size of the development, there may also be a negative impact on the River Dee SAC from water abstraction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required.	
	Climatic Factors	-	Some records of flooding caused by heavy rain. Not considered to be a significant issue.		
	Landscape	-	Development may have a detrimental effect on local landscape particularly the landscape setting of Brimmond Hill.		
OP59 Loirston					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to LNCS. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA. Reassessed at modification stage with regard to Reporters' Report.
	Biodiversity	--	Kincorth Hill and Loirston Loch are Both Local Nature Conservation Sites. Part of the site is covered by these designation. Therefore insensitive development may have a significant impacts on biodiversity. Site is within the River Dee catchment, Owing to the large size of the site, there is likely to be a negative effect on the River Dee SAC through pressure on water abstraction to service new development.	Ecological assessment and CEMP required. Green Space Network has been used to prevent development on these areas and a buffer strip has been identified for Loirston Loch. Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may also be required.	
	Material Assets	+	The potential for the site to include a football or community stadium and a supermarket to meet convenience shopping deficiencies in South Aberdeen will add a commerical leisure and retail element to the local area. This may also lead to further employemnt on site.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Water	-	There are multiple small watercourses on the site; also potential risk of fluvial flooding from Loirston Loch on the south of the site. Areas of the site also appear to be at risk of pluvial flooding. Groundwater features on the site may indicate that there may be a shallow groundwater table. Water quality may be impacted due to flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Climatic Factors	-	There are multiple small watercourses on the site; also potential risk of fluvial flooding from Loirston Loch on the south of the site. Areas of the site also appear to be at risk of pluvial flooding. Groundwater features on the site may indicate that there may be a shallow groundwater table.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
OP31 Maidencraig South East					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	--	Development would need to be handled sensitively to take into account the Den of Maidencraig LNR. The site is within the River Dee catchment but is not on a direct pathway. Owing to the size of the site, there is likely to be a negative impact on River Dee SAC as a result of increased demand for water abstraction.	CEMP and ecological assessment required to determine and avoid effects on the LNR. Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may also be required.	
	Climatic Factors	-	The site may be at risk of flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	The site may be at risk of flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Policy NE6 requires flood risk assessment to be provided.	
OP32 Maidencraig North					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to biodiversity. Updated at modificaiton stage 2016 to reflect SEPA's comment on possible surface flood water.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is within the River Dee catchment but is not on a direct pathway. A priority habitat runs along the north eastern boundary, but outwith the site. Owing to the size of the site, there is likely to be a negative impact on River Dee SAC as a result of increased demand for water abstraction.	CEMP and ecological assessment required to determine and avoid effects on the LNR. Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may also be required.	
	Climate Factors	0'	Suface flooding water may be an issue	Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying develoment proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.	

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
OP52 Malcolm Road					New site. Last assessed Main Issues Report 2013. Additional comments and mitigation on biodiversity and water following comments from SEPA. Updated to reflect comments on flooding from SEPA. Updated at modification stage 2016. Reduction in site boundary and number of houses from 71 to 8. Houses to be placed on clear felled area.
	Biodiversity	-	The site is designated as SNH Ancient Woodland; although it has been felled this designation remains valid. There have been a number of recorded sitings of bats and red squirrel around the site. Site is within the River Dee catchment although is not on a direct pathway. May also be wet habitats on the site. There may also be negative effects due to polluting run-off.	Apply LDP policies on protection of trees and woodland NE5 and Releted SG. Compensatory planting will be required. Ecological assessment, CEMP, species surveys also likely to be required. Construction SuDS required. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place.	
	Climatic Factors	-	Groundwater features nearby may indicate a shallow water table. Small area at risk of pluvial flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	No watercourses on the site. Site does not currently connect to the public sewer.	This site should connect to the public sewer. Scottish Water should be consulted to determine whether there is capacity at treatment works and the network.	
	Material Assets	-	The site is zoned to Culter Primary and Cults Academy. Culter Primary has sufficient capacity, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.	Apply LDP policy on Developer contributions to address impact on education infrastructure.	
OP66 Manor Walk					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Amended reference to soil to refer to previous gas manufacture. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Climatic Factors	-	Although the site is not identified as being at risk of flooding on SEPA flood maps, there is a record of surface water flooding at the boundary of the site due to drainage issues. Development of green space has potential to cause surface water flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	There is a record of surface water flooding at the boundary of the site due to drainage issues. Development of green space has potential to cause surface water flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Human Health	--	Development would result in the loss of open space and there may be negative impacts on human health.	Apply LDP policy which requires that replacement open space will be required in an equally accessible and convenient location.	
OP1 Murcar					Existing site. Last assessed

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	-	Balgownie/Blackdog Links LNCS lies to the east of the site, however this site itself is not covered by this designation so impact not likely to be significant. There are Wych Elm present - a North East Local Biodiversity Action Plan Species. Badgers have been recorded at this site.		Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to LNCS. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Landscape	-	This site is in close proximity to the coast, and occupies a parcel of land that slopes down to the coast from the main road into Aberdeen; it so may detract from the view both from land to sea and from the sea to the shore at points.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The site may be at risk of flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	The site may be at risk of flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	OP48 Oldfold				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	Site is within River Dee catchment but is not on a direct pathway. May be some significant negative effects on the SAC as a result of water abstraction pressure owing to the size of the site and polluting run-off.	HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required. CEMP required to help avoid negative impact on SAC. Ecological assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Climatic Factors	-	There is a possible risk of fluvial flooding due to small watercourses within the site. There is also a steep gradient which may result in increased surface water run-off; parts of the site also at risk of pluvial flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	OP51 Peterculter Burn				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to LNCS. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	--	Development would be close to the Culter Burn LNCS, which is a tributary of the River Dee SAC so there may be a negative impact on the SAC conservation objectives through polluting run-off. May be some disturbance to qualifying species and habitats. Site also has woodland, some of which is subject to TPOs.	HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required. CEMP required to help avoid negative impact on SAC. Ecological assessment required.	
	Climatic Factors	--	Development is adjacent to the Culter Burn and the majority of the site is at 0.5% annual risk from flooding.and development may impact negatively on climate and water as a result of this.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Ensure as part of a planning application that the area around Culter Burn is not planned for a 'hard' use, but is naturalised green space.	
	Water	--	The majority of the site is at risk of flooding, and a flood event is likely to have a negative impact on water quality.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Material Assets	--	The majority of the site is at risk of flooding, and a flood event is likely to have a negative impact through the loss or damage of material assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Flood Risk Framework identifies which types of uses are most appropriate for different levels of flood risk.	
	Soil	+	There will be a positive impacts on soil as the site is currently mostly a brownfield site which was previously a tip. Therefore, appropriate remedial works would improve the soil quality.		
OP45 Peterculter East					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Climatic Factors	-	Small watercourse possibly culverted through site; steep gradient which may result in additional surface water run-off. However flooding not considered to be a significant issue.		
	Biodiversity	--	Site is within the catchment of the River Dee but is not on a direct pathway. May be some significant effects as a result of run-off, poterntial for future flood defences, and disturbance from construction.	HRA Appropriate Assessment required which will trigger a requirement for HRA. CEMP required to help avoid negative impact on SAC. Ecological assessment required.	
OP29 Prime Four Business Park (Home Farm)					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to cultural heritage.
	Biodiversity	--	Owing to the size of the site, there is likely to be a negative impact on River Dee SAC as a result of increased demand for water abstraction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may also be required.	
	Air	-	This site is now being developed for a large scale business park development which is likely to result in significant commuter traffic and impact on air. However overall significance of impact likely to be less within the context of the existing large-scale development at Prime Four.		
	Climatic Factors	-	This site is now being developed for a large scale business park development which is likely to result in significant commuter traffic and impact on climate. However overall significance of impact likely to be less within the context of the existing large-scale development at Prime Four.		
	Cultural Heritage	--	Historic Environment Scotland have identified that there may be a significant negative impact on the setting of a scheduled consumption dyke resulting from development.	Landscaped buffer zone separates development from the dyke, protecting its setting.	
OP63 Prime Four Extension					New site. First assessed for

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiveristy	--	Part of the site is covered by the West Hatton LNCS designation, and is likely to result in the loss and disturbance of important semi-natural woodland habitat. Parts of the site are identified as being areas of potential bat habitat. Part of the site is also identified as Green Space Network; likely that some connectivity between habitats will be lost. Owing to the size of the site, there is likely to be a negative impact on River Dee SAC as a result of increased demand for water abstraction.	CEMP and ecological assessment required to assess and avoid impacts on the LNCS. Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required.	Proposed Plan 2014. Cultral Heraitge updated to reflect comments from Historic Environment Scotland.
	Air	-	Development is likely to increase traffic into the built up area and increase congestion at key junctions and roundabouts, such as the Kingswells Roundabout. Scale of negative impact is uncertain given the existing large-scale development at Prime Four.		
	Landscape	-	Development is likely to have a significant impact on the local landscape, through new development on a greenfield site. However it is unlikely that it will be significant given the context of surrounding large-scale development at Prime Four business park and the lie of the land.		
	Population	++	Development will help Prime Four continue to attract new and expanding businesses, supporting continued economic growth and job creation in Aberdeen.		
	Cultural Heritage	++/--	A category C listed Quaker burial ground lies within the site. Development has the potential to have a significant negative effect, if the site and setting of the burial ground is not treated sensitively. Site is currently overgrowth and there is potential for improvement and enhancement. The Category B Listed Consumption Dyke lies to the east of the site. Again there could be a negative impact on setting.	Require buffer zone around the burial ground; improved access and maintenance. Input sought from MDC team during the masterplanning process.	
	Material Assets	+/-	Surface electricity pylons on site; proposals are uncertain although similar issues have already been resolved satisfactorily on site at Prime Four and this is commonplace on a development site.		
	OP19 Rowett North				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	--	Owing to the size of the site, there is likely to be a negative impact on River Dee SAC as a result of increased demand for water abstraction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required.	

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	--	The site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of fluvial flooding from the Green Burn which flows through the centre of the site and from a small water course in the centre of the site. Ground water features on the site may indicate a shallow water table. Steep gradient may increase surface water runoff and areas of the site at risk of pluvial flooding. Owing to the size of the site, there is also likely to be a significant effect on the River Dee SAC due to water abstraction.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	The Green Burn runs through the site and development could physically impact on the water course. Site is at risk of flooding which is likely to have a negative impact on water quality in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Material Assets	--	Site is at risk of flooding which is likely to have an negative impact through loss or damage of material assets in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Flood Risk Framework identifies which types of uses are most appropriate for different levels of flood risk.	
	Cultural Heritage	-	There are some buildings of architectural merit on-site and development may have a negative impact on their setting if not planned and designed sensitively.		
			OP21 Rowett South		Existing site. Last assessed Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to filled soil, cultural heritage and material assets.
	Biodiversity	--	Site is in close proximity to the Three Hills Local Nature Conservation Site, however no part of the site itself is covered by this designation. Therefore potential negative impact on biodiversity is likely to be limited. Owing to the size of the site, there is likely to be a negative impact on River Dee SAC as a result of increased demand for water abstraction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may also be required.	
	Climatic Factors	-	Site borders the Gough Burn and another small watercourse flows through the site. Although not at significant risk of flooding, may be vulnerable to future changes in climate.		
	Soil	+/-	Area of filled ground that runs east to west. This will require to be properly remediated before development takes place, which will lead to a positive benefit for soil if handled appropriately.		
	Landscape	-	Development may impact negatively on the local landscape setting this part of the city. May also negatively affect the setting and aspect of/from Brimmond Hill Country park and result in negative affects on landscape.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Listed March Stones on site and Newhills Parish Church. May be a negative effect if design is not sensitive, however may be a positive enhancement of setting and access.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Material Assets	+	The site is also close to areas identified as having poorer quality open space, meaning that the development has scope to improve this.		
OP58 Stationfields, Cove					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	All	+/-	As per general greenfield assessment.		
OP17 Stoneywood					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	--	Part of the site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of flooding from fluvial flooding from the River Don, which runs adjacent to the site. There may also be risk from small watercourses/springs/culverts running through the site.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	Part of the site is at risk of flooding which is likely to have a negative effect on water quality in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Material Assets	--	Part of the site is at risk of flooding which is likely to have a negative effect through the loss or damage of material assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Flood Risk Framework identifies which types of use are most appropriate for different levels of flood risk.	
	Biodiversity	--	The River Don Corridor LNCS is in close proximity, although the site itself is not covered by this designation; development unlikely to have a significant negative effect on biodiversity. Owing to the size of the site, there is also likely to be a significant effect on the River Dee SAC due to water abstraction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required.	
OP30 West Huxterstone					Existing site. Last assessed Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Climatic Factors	-	This site is not identified as being at risk of flooding, although there may be a small area of flooding from the Den Burn; there are historical records of flooding on the Den Burn.	Flood Risk assessment required.	
OP36 Charlie House					New site. Last assessed Main Issues Report 2013. Additional comments and mitigation on water following comments from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	There are records of bats within the vicinity of the site (Common Pipistrelle) and Wych Elm which is a locally important species. Site is adjacent to the Den of Rubislaw LNCS, may be an effect from run-off into this watercourse. Also in close proximity, but not covered by, Den of Maidencraig LNCS.	Ecological assessment required to assess impact on LNCS and protected species.	

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	--	Part of the site is identified as being a 0.5% annual risk of fluvial flooding. Development in this area will also be vulnerable to the future effects of climate change and will reduce ability to introduce flood prevention measures	FRA will be required. Development should be limited to those areas not at risk of flooding. Flood Risk Area will be GSN. The proposer has indicated the flood risk area may be used as a naturalised sensory garden.	Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Population	++	This proposal is for a specialist children's healthcare facility which will provide a vital free service for people across the North East of Scotland.		
	Water	--	Site is adjacent to the North Burn of Rubislaw which can suffer from pollution pressures. Part of the site is also at risk of flooding which may have a negative effect on water quality in the event of a flood.	Construction SuDS required.	
	Cultural Heritage	-	The development will impact slightly on the setting of the surrounding listed buildings of the hospital and the view from the north west.		
	Material Assets	++/--	Development will provide a new city-wide respite facility for children and their families. Part of the site is at risk of flooding which may have a negative impact through the loss or damage of material assets in the event of a flood.	FRA required. Low vulnerability uses (e.g. green space) most likely to be appropriate in the area of flood risk. Flood Risk Area will be GSN. Proposer has indicated that this will be a sensory garden.	
	OP109 Woodend Farm (Site 2)				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Site is now identified as an Opportunity Site in the Proposed Plan following Council decision. Additional comments on water and biodiversity to reflect comments from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	There is an LNCS adjacent to the north. This site falls within the River Dee catchment area. The presence of bats has been recorded on the site. Potential wet habitats and woodlands adjacent to the site.	Species survey and mitigation plan will be required as per LDP Policy NE8 Natural Heritage and SG.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	There are no built or cultural heritage features on this site to be affected.		
	Water	-	There is currently no public sewerage in this area and proliferation of private sewerage systems is not a desirable trend.		
	Material Assets	+/-	As per general greenfield assessment. The site is zoned to Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There is capacity at Culter Primary, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
	OP109 Woodend Farm (Site 1)				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Site is now identified an an Opportunity Site in the Proposed Plan following Council decision.
	Biodiversity	--	A small percentage of the site is covered by SNH Ancient Woodland designation, some of trees have been felled to amke way for farm buildings. The south east of the site is covered by the Peterculter LNCS. The site is located within the River Dee Catchment Area. The presence of bats has also been recorded on this site. Potential wet habitats and woodlands adjacent to the site.	Species survey and mitigation plan will be required as per LDP Policy NE8 Natural Heritage and SG. Apply LDP policies on protection of trees and woodland NE5 and Releted SG.	

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or disruption to built or cultural elements. However, it is noted that the site is adjacent to Tillyoch Farm which is on the Sites and Monuments Record.		Additional comments on water and biodiversity to reflect comments from SEPA. Updated biodiveristy section at modifications stage 2016.
	Water	-	There is currently no public sewerage provision in this area and proliferation of private sewerage systems is not a desirable trend.		
	Material Assets	+/-	As per general greenfield assessment. The site is zoned to Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There is capacity at Culter Primary, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
			OP25 Woodside		Existing site. Last assessed Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to Inverness-Kittybrewster Railway Line LNCS and soil contamination. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is close to the Inverness – Kittybrewster Railway line LNCS but no part of the site itself is covered by this designation. River Don is also bound by areas of Ancient Woodland along the north and south banks of the river, although direct significant impacts on this are unlikely.		
	Climatic Factors	--	A small part of the site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of flooding; photos show that although the land bordering the site was flooded, the site itself was not. There is also a risk of surface water flooding on small parts of the site.	Flood Risk Assessment required. The area at risk from flooding is identified as Green Space Network with any watercourses maintained as naturalised channels with buffer strips. This means any areas at risk of flooding should be avoided. *Following the Examination into the LDP2012, the Reporter concluded that, on the basis of the site topography, she was satisfied that that the proposed new housing areas are several metres above the river level. She concluded that flood risk to the site will merit some consideration as part of the Development Management process and could also be dealt with through the addition of suggested text to the relevant section of Appendix 2.*	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flooding event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Population	++	Proposal includes an allowance for a 50% affordable housing contribution which will have a positive affect on population.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Human Heath	-	Development may result in the loss of sports pitches although proposal suggests that the pitches would be upgraded as a result of development in the area.	Policy NE3 Urban Green Space states pitches will not be developed unless suitable replacement can be made nearby.	
OP24 A96 Park and Ride					Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Water	-	Wells in close vicinity of the site may indicate a shall groundwater table; and areas of the site at risk of surface-water flooding. Possible risk of fluvial flooding in the south-east of the site from the Green Burn.	FRA not required; land for transport proposal.	
	Air	++/-	There may be a short-term negative impact on air due to the release of particulate matter during construction. There is likely to be a longer-term benefit once the site is operational, encouraging people not to bring their car into the city but make onward journeys by cycling, bus or car-sharing. This will be of particular benefit to the Haudagain Roundabout/Auchmill Road and City Centre AQMAs.	This impact will be enhanced by ensuring that options for onward connections are provided and are attractive options.	
	Climatic Factors	++/0	The purpose of the development is to discourage single-occupancy car-trips into the City, and continue journeys by sustainable and active modes instead. This will reduce congesion and pollution causing climate change. Part of this site is at medium to high risk of river flooding. However a P&R is not a vulnerable use so no effect.		
	Ppoulation	++	Development will provide a new sustainable transport facility for citizens and visitors and improve public transport options between Dyce and Aberdeen, which will help widen the options for living and working.		
	Human Health	+/-	Core Path (4) runs though the site, and consideration will have to be given as to how this can be improved and accessibility enhanced, and avoid loss or severance.		
OP75 Denmore Road					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Flooding information updated to reflect SEPA comments on flood risk. Now identified as a Preferred Option in Proposed Plan. Updated at modificaiton stage 2016 to reflect SEPA's comment
	Biodiversity	-	Part of the site is identified as being an area of potential bat habitat and records indicate the presence of Chiroptera bats on site. Other designated species recorded by this site are Wych Elm, Redwing, Green Sandpiper, Eurasian Siskin and Eurasian Badger.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Site is within a Potentially Vulnerable Area (PVA 06/16). There is a small watercourse on site with a previous flooding incident recorded due to blockage of an existing culvert through the site. Potential surface water flooding issue.	Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.	
	Water	-	There is a small watercourse on the site. It is unclear how it is proposed to be treated at present.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for Significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Population	0	Site is proposed for retail, therefore neutral impact on population factors.		on possible surface flood water.
	Human Health	--	This development will result in the loss of high quality and useable open space in the form of the current sports pitches on site.	Policy NE3 states that an equivalent public open space must be laid out in an equally accessible location to mitigate loss of playing fields.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site.		
	Material Assets	-	Loss of sports infrastructure in the form of football pitches.		

4.c. Greenfield Alternative Options					
Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
			B0101 Land at Persley Croft, the Parkway		
	Biodiversity	-	The area to the north of the site was previously designated as a DWS but was not carried forward in the LNCS review. Parts of the site are identified as being areas of potential bat habitat, and development unlikely to take specific measures to protect these unless required to do so through mitigation. The other designated specie is Wych Elm.		New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Landscape	+/-	There is a small group of derelict agricultural buildings present in the south-east corner of the site, which are particularly visible from the A90 in both directions. The appearance of these will be improved by development.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There are no built or cultural features present. Archaeological finds have been made in close proximity to the site (including a Middle Bronze Age axe head), and the site of a former smithy is also close by. This indicates that the site itself may be of archaeological interest.		
	Material Assets	+	There are current school capacity issues with both this site's catchment schools Bucksburn Academy and Bucksburn Primary (predicted to go over capacity 2019 and 2015 respectively).		
			B0102 Land Adjacent to Bucksburn School		New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Parts of the site are identified as being areas of potential bat habitat, and there are records of Pipistrelle bats in the area. Other designated species recorded for the site include the Common Swift and Eurasian Tree Sparrow.		
	Climatic Factors	-	The Bucks Burn runs approximately 130m from the site, and may be vulnerable to flooding in future.		
	Human Health	--	Site is just outwith the outermost Airport Noise Contour, however there is likely to be an impact on human health as a result of aircraft noise from Aberdeen Airport.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Material Assets	-	The site lies within the Bucksburn Academy and Bucksburn Primary catchment areas. Bucksburn Academy has a capacity of 683. Although there is currently capacity in the academy, the other housing developments in the catchment means that the school will go over capacity in 2019. Bucksburn Primary School is already over capacity and rolls are forecast to continue to rise to 186% capacity in 2020. Bucksburn and Newhill Primary Schools will be replaced by a new primary in 2015. This will have a capacity of 420 pupils. There are also rezoning issues in this area. Until these issues reach a conclusion, future primary school capacity in the area remains uncertain.		
B0104 Clinterty					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	-	There are records of Common Pipistrelle, Red Squirrel, Common Kestrel on this		
	Climatic Factors	--	Site is adjacent to an area identified as being at 0.5% annual fluvial flood risk. There are multiple watercourses through the site and there are some small areas of surface water flooding. Most of the site is likely to be low risk, but areas adjacent to Littlemill Burn or other small watercourses may be at risk.		
	Water	--	Some parts of the site may be at risk of flooding, which has the potential to impact negatively on water quality in the event of a flood.		
	Landscape	+/-	The development would re-use some brownfield land should the Scottish Agricultural College relocate from this site.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on this site.		
	Material Assets	--	Development would have a negative impact on existing schools through placing extra pressure on limited school capacity. Some parts of the site are also at risk of flooding, which would have a negative impact on material assets through damage or loss of assets.		
B0202 Mundurno					New bid. Last assessed for Main

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	-	Proposed development site is adjacent to/in close proximity to the Local Nature Conservation Sites, Local Nature Reserve and SSSI designations covering Scotstown Moor and Perwinnes Moss, whilst the Corby, Lily and Bishops Loch SSSI lies off site to the North West. The site is identified as an area of potential bat habitat and there are records of Pipistrelle bats on site. Other designated species recorded by NESBREC for this site are Eurasian Badger, Barn Owl, Herring Gull, Common Snipe, Black-headed Gull, Eurasian Curlew, Hedge Accentor, House Sparrow, Common Kestrel, Northern Lapwing, Common Linnet, Reed Bunting, Sky Lark, Common Starling, Common Swift, Song Thrush, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, Yellowhammer.		Issues Report 2013.
	Landscape	--	Site falls within an area between Bridge of Don and Potterton classed as a 'Landscape of Local Significance' in the Aberdeen Landscape Strategy. The open character of the fields in the site, rising up to Mundurno farmhouse, with views across the site possible both from the A90 and the B999, mean that the development of this site will have a particularly significant negative impact on the landscape setting of the city.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	Undesignated heritage features on this site include a Standing Stone – once part of a stone circle, the site of a Motte and Mundurno farmhouse. There are 4-Mile stones to the west of the site on the B999 and to the east of the site on the old Ellon Road.		
B0203 Land at Balgownie					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Designated species recorded by NESBREC for this site are Wych Elm and Common Swift.		Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Climatic Factors	-	Site falls within Potentially Vulnerable Area 06/15. Small watercourses present on boundary of the site.		
	Landscape	+/-	There are some derelict buildings at Balgownie Home Farm which may be improved by development.		
	Human Health	--	Development would result in the loss of high quality public open space and sports pitches with a resultant negative impact on human health.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No significant cultural heritage features on the site.		
	Material Assets	-	Loss of sports infrastructure in the form of playing pitches, running track and pavilion.		
B0204 Land at Science and Energy Park (Proposal for a single wind turbine)					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	There are no protected species recorded by NESBReC for this site (with 100m buffer). Specific negative impacts associated with wind turbines include strike hazard or other disturbance e.g. noise, ice or shadow flicker.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Air	0	Development of a single turbine in this location will not result in an increase in vehicle traffic and will not impact upon air quality.		
	Climatic Factors	+/-	This development would help to promote the use of renewable wind energy in Aberdeen and is intended to contribute to the energy requirements of the Science and Energy Park, reducing energy consumption from non-renewable sources. Site falls within PVA 06/16 and is vulnerable to surface water flooding.		
	Soil	-	As per general greenfield assessment, but due to overall land take of a single turbine overall impact is likely to be limited.		
	Water	0	The proposal will have a neutral impact on water.		
	Landscape	-	A 70ft wind turbine at this location would be extremely visible from many locations across the city and it may be argued would detract from or harm the landscape setting of the City. However, there is an existing similar turbine located in close proximity.		
B0205 Shielhill					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	Proposed development site is in close proximity to the Local Nature Conservation Sites, Local Nature Reserve and SSSI designations covering the Scotstown Moor/Perwinnes Moss, and the Corby, Lily and Bishops Loch SSSI lies off site to the north west. The site is identified as an area of potential bat habitat and there are records of Pipistrelle Bats on site. Other protected species is Wych Elm.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Site is adjacent to an area that is at risk of flooding from fluvial sources. Springs and wells near the site indicate shallow groundwater. Small areas of the site thought to be at risk of surface water flooding but not thought to be significant.		
	Landscape	--	This site forms part of an area which is particularly prominent within the whole city and acts as a green space buffer between Bridge of Don and Potterton and has the green belt function of helping to protect the identity of both areas.	Given the size, location and prominence of this site it is unlikely that its landscape impact will be able to be acceptably mitigated; therefore do not allocate site.	
	Cultural Heritage	-	To the immediate east of the site, a stone circle at Dubford is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Non designated heritage assets include features from the Sites and Monuments records at Newton of Mundurno – spring and farmstead and the Waterwheel to the south.		
B0206 Shielhill Quarry					New bid. Last assessed for Main

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	--	Site is covered by Local Nature Conservation Site status (Scotstown Moor/Perwinnes Moss) and there is also a Local Nature Reserve (Scotstown Moor) and SSSI (Perwinnes Moss) no further than 500m from the site. Parts of the site are identified as being areas of potential bat habitat. Other designated species identified for this site are Sky Lark, Small Heath, Common Snipe and the Lesser Butterfly Orchid.		Issues Report 2013.
	Air	--	It is likely that there will be a continuing negative impact on air quality due to the operations of the sand and gravel quarry.		
	Climatic Factors	+/-	No watercourses on the site, but is close to the area at risk of flooding from the Burn of Mundurno and may be vulnerable to flooding in future. Quarry in this location may help to reduce the distance aggregates are required to be transported by road, serving nearby constructions at Dubford, Berryhilll, Grandhome and the AWPR.		
	Population	0	This development will not impact on population.		
	Human Health	0	Development would not safeguard the quantity and quality of existing open space and there will be no further provision on site; will be closed off for operational and safety reasons.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site.		
	Material Assets	++	The quarry would be a city-wide facility providing aggregates for construction projects across the whole of Aberdeen and beyond.		
B0208 Land Adjacent to Old Ellon Road					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	Designated species recored by NESBReC for this site (with 100m buffer) are Eurasian Curlew and Eurasian Badger.		
	Climatic Factors	-	SEPA Flood Maps indicate that the southern part of the site may be at risk of flooding from the watercourse that runs along the south of the site.		
	Water	-	Small watercourse present along the southern boundary of the site. No indication how this would be treated.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on site.		
B0209 Perwinnes					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	LNCS, LNR and SSSI designations covering Scotstown Moor/Perwinnes Moss area lie off-site to the south west, and the Corby, Lily and Bishops Loch SSSI lies off site to the north west, as does Grandholm Moss LNCS.		
	Climatic Factors	--	Site falls within PVA 06/15 and part of the site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of flooding from fluvial and there are multiple small watercourses running through the site.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Water	--	Parts of the site are at risk of flooding and there may be a negative impact on water quality in the event of a flood.		
	Landscape	--	This is open farmland and Perwinnes is a highly visible exposed hill. It is a landmark that provides a backdrop to development at Bridge of Don and helps to contain the existing suburb. There are very few significant features in the area which could be used to form a strong green belt boundary.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	No designated heritage features. The Sites and Monuments Record indicates a few scattered Sites and Monuments records, usually associated with existing farms (structures, piles of stones and troughs).		
	Material Assets	++/--	Parts of the site are at risk of flooding and there may be a negative impact through loss or damage of material assets in the event of a flood.		
	B0210 Causewayend				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	A large part of the site is shown as ancient woodland. Adjacent to the west of the site is a priority habitat. The area directly adjacent to the site to the east is designated as both a Local Nature Conservation Site (Scotstown Moor) and a Local Nature Reserve (Perwinnes Moss). Designated species recorded for this site by NESBReC (with 100m buffer) include Red Squirrel and the Lesser Butterfly Orchid.		
	Climatic Factors	-	There is a small watercourse running through the centre of the site. This may be vulnerable to flooding now or in the future due to the effects of climate change.		
	Water	-	There is a small watercourse running through the centre of the site, it is unclear how this is proposed to be treated at present.		
	Human Health	--	Part of this site is currently used for local informal recreation (dog walking etc) which would be lost through development.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site.		
	B0303 Kingswells Community Expansion				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	Development is unlikely to safeguard the conservation objectives and qualifying features of the nearby locally designated site – Three Hills LNCS. There are records of several species of bats in the area; Common Pipistrelle, Natterer's Bat, Brown Long-eared Bat and Daubenton's Bat. There are also records of the following designated species; Wych Elm, Garden Tiger, White Ermine, Eurasian Red Squirrel and Common Kestrel in the area. Part of Area 2 is Ancient Woodland with numerous TPOs.		
	Climatic Factors	--	Site falls within Potentially Vulnerable Area 06/18 and a small part of the site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of fluvial flooding.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Water	--	Part of the site is identified as being at risk of flooding. This may have a negative effect on water quality in the event of a flood.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	Fairley House and Cloghill House, Garden & Sundial are Listed Buildings. Numerous Sites and Monuments Records on the three sites including farmsteads, standing circles and burial grounds		
	Material Assets	-/	There are capacity issues at the primary school and development will have a negative impact on this asset. Part of the site is also at risk of flooding which is likely to have a negative impact through loss or damage of material assets.		
B0947 Huxterstone					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Kingshill Wood is located to the south west of the site and there are a number of priority habitats associated with the woods.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site.		
	Material Assets	+	Overhead power lines run across this site from north-west to south-east. It is unclear how these would be proposed to be dealt with at present.		
B0305 Kingswells East					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	As per general greenfield assessment		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site		
	Material Assets	+/-	There will be a negative effect on the local schools which face capacity issues, particularly Kingswells Primary School which is forecast to go over-capacity in 2014.		
B0306 Newton East					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	The North Burn of Rubislaw (Den Burn) LNCS is 98m to the north of the site. Site falls within the River Dee catchment. Chiroptera, Common Pipistrelle, Pipistrellus pipistrellus and the designated species Wych Elm have all been recorded within the vicinity of the site.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site		
	Material Assets	-	There will be a negative effect on the local schools which face capacity issues, particularly Kingswells Primary School which is forecast to go over-capacity in 2014.		
B0308 Prime Four Phase 4					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	An area of approximately 1.3 ha of Priority Habitat adjoins the southern boundary of the site as well as approximately 2000 square metres of Priority Habitat within the north east section of the site. Site falls within the River Dee catchment.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Relatively large area of the site in the north eastern corner highlighted as being at risk of surface water flooding.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Soil	+/-	There is anecdotal evidence that the site may have been used for landfill and will therefore suffer from contamination, which will require to be remediated.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	There is a Category C Listed Building Kingswells House situated approximately 250m to the east of the site.		
	B0308 Prime Four Phase 5				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	An area of approximately 5.8 ha which runs along the northern and eastern boundaries of the site is designated as SNH Ancient Woodlands/Semi-Natural Woodlands, this is largely outwith the site and there will be minimal direct impact on this designated site. There are recordings of Bats and a range of designated species in the area.		
	Soil	+/-	There is anecdotal evidence that the site may have been used for landfill and will therefore suffer from contamination which will require to be remediated.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	There is a Category C Listed Building, 'Kingswells House, 'Friends' Burial Ground' within this site, this makes up a small area of the site.		
	B03011 Maidencraig				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is within the River Dee catchment. This site is an area of improved grassland, which does not provide a valuable habitat and there is the potential to enhance the biodiversity value of this area.		
	Water	-	Development would the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies, particularly into the Den Burn into which a drain directly flows.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site itself.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site is zoned to Kingswells Primary school where the roll is forecast to go over capacity in 2014. The site is within a zone to potentially be included in a new Countesswells academy, but at present the site would be zoned to Hazlehead where the school is forecast to go over capacity in 2020.		
	B0902 Land at Murtle Den Road				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk
	Biodiversity	--	The Murtle Den LNCS is adjacent to the north. This site falls within the River Dee catchment area. Protected species identified by NESBReC for this site include bats and Wych Elm. Site is felled Ancient Woodland.		
	Climatic Factors	-	There is a small watercourse to the north of the site which may be vulnerable to flooding in future. The eastern edge of the site is poorly drained, indicating that it may be vulnerable to pluvial flooding. Maps indicate groundwater features nearby which may indicate a shallow groundwater table.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Water	-	Small watercourse to the north of the site, the proposed treatment of this is unclear at present.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage on the site		
B0903 Woodend Farm Site 3					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	--	There is an LNCS adjacent to the north. This site falls within the River Dee catchment area. The presence of bats has been recorded on the site. The south east of the site is designated as SNH Ancient Woodland. The south east of the site is also adjacent to TPO 210.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Buckler Burn flows from north to south along eastern boundary of the site; may be culverted through the site which may pose a flood risk. Small area potentially at risk of pluvial flooding.		
	Water	-	Small watercourse to the south of the site, the proposed treatment of this is unclear at present.		
	Material Assets	+/-	As per general greenfield assessment. The site is zoned to Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There is capacity at Culter Primary, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0906 Earlspark Crescent					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	--	The site falls within the River Dee Catchment, is wooded and an area of priority habitat. The presence of bats has been recorded on the site.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets present. It is noted that the site is adjacent to Dalhebity House which is on the Sites and Monuments Record.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site is zoned to Cults Primary and Cults Academy. Cults Academy is forecast to exceed capacity in 2019 and Cults Primary is to exceed capacity in 2016.		
B0907 Guttrie Hill West					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	--	Peterculter LNCS covers this site. It is an area of existing Ancient Woodland and falls within the River Dee Catchment area. Protected species identified by NESBReC for this site include Pipistrelle bats, Red Squirrel and Wych Elm.		
	Population	0	This proposal is for a small development of large luxury homes, which will not contribute to providing choice and flexibility in housing choice in Lower Deeside.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	Archaeological sites present including Rig and Furrow and former quarry workings.		
	Material Assets	+/-	According to school roll forecasts, Cults Primary Schools is predicted to be over capacity as early as 2016, whilst for Cults Academy the year over capacity is 2019.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
			B0908 Guttrie Hill East		New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	--	Site is adjacent to the Peterculter LNCS. Within the River Dee SAC catchment. This site is identified as ancient woodland and although it has now been felled this does not change its status. The site is identified as an area of potential bat habitat and there are records of Pipistrelle bats on site. Other designated species recorded for this site by NESBReC are Wych Elm and Eurasian Red Squirrel.		
	Climatic Factors	+	Site is proposed for a sustainable energy refuelling station (providing electric charging points, hydrogen and LPG as well as conventional fuels), which will help to promote the use of sustainable fuel technologies.		
	Population	0	Site is proposed for a refuelling station; will have a neutral impact on population.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Archaeological sites present include Rig and Furrow and former quarry workings.		
	Material Assets	++	As per general greenfield assessment. The provision of hydrogen and LPG refuelling services is likely to require connection/installation of entirely new infrastructure suited to these fuels, which will be a unique facility for the whole city and those travelling on the AWPR.		
			B0909 Land to the North of Peterculter		New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flooding.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is within the River Dee SAC catchment and is close to the Culter Burn which is a part of the SAC at this point. Culter Burn is also an LNCS and is covered at this point by a Tree Preservation Order (ref 81).		
	Climatic Factors	-	Site not identified as being at risk of flooding although the Culter Burn flows to the west of the site. Parts of the site also poorly drained which increases vulnerability to pluvial flooding.		
	Population	0	Proposed for 6 mainstream housing units; would not have a significant effect on housing choice and flexibility.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No expected loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements.		
			B0910 Land at Inchgarth Road		New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	-	The area is surrounded by mature trees that are protected by a TPO The site is located within the River Dee catchment. Bats and Wych Elm are recorded on this site. The Deeside Line LNCS runs between the two areas and is an important habitat, and there is an area of ancient woodland to the south.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	-	Steep gradient which may cause increased surface water run-off. Small area potentially at risk of pluvial ponding to south of the site. There is a culverted watercourse that runs through the eastern half of the site into the River Dee and may be vulnerable to flooding in future.		
	Water	-	There is a culverted watercourse that runs through the eastern half of the site into the River Dee. It is unclear how this is proposed to be treated at present.		
	Human Health	+	Proposed for use as a sports pitch and research facilities that would support sports provision at Robert Gordon's University.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	Site is located within the Pitfodels and Lower Deeside Conservation Area.		
	Material Assets	+/-	Development will provide new sports facilities although there is a potential negative impact on the Deeside Line. There are also some electricity pylons that pass through the site and it is unclear how these will be impacted at present.		
B0911 Albyn School Playing Fields					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is within the River Dee SAC catchment. There have been many recorded sightings of bats in and around the site. There have been recorded sightings of Greylag Geese. One Wych Elm tree is present on the south west boundary.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Small watercourse along boundary of the site and may be a potential cause of flood risk. Steep gradient at site which may cause increased surface water runoff. Small area potentially at risk of pluvial flooding.		
	Human Health	--	This development would result in the loss of high quality (private) playing fields associated with Albyn School.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No loss or disturbance to built or cultural elements.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site would be zoned to Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There is adequate capacity in Culter Primary, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0912 Land Linking North Deeside Road and Inchgarth Road					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	-	The site is located within the River Dee catchment. Bats and Wych Elm are recorded on this site. The Deeside Line Local Nature Conservation Site runs between the two areas and is an important habitat, and there is an area of ancient woodland to the south.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Steep gradient at site which may cause increased surface water run-off. Small area potentially at risk of pluvial ponding in south of the site. There is a culverted watercourse that runs through the eastern half of the site into the River Dee. This may be vulnerable to flooding in future.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Water	-	There is a culverted watercourse that runs through the eastern half of the site into the River Dee. It is unclear how this is proposed to be treated at present.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	This development site is located in Pitfodels and Lower Deeside Consevation Area.		
	Material Assets	+/-	There is a potential negative impact on the Deeside Line. There are also some electricity pylons that pass through the site and it is unclear how these will be impacted at present.		
	B0915 Contlaw				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flooding from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	This site falls within River Dee SAC catchment. Protected species identified by NESBReC for this site include Eurasian Red Squirrel, Wych Elm, Merlin, Yellowhammer, Hedge Accentor, Song Thrush, Common Starling, Green Sandpiper and Large-flowered Hemp-nettle. The area is also identified as an area of potential bat habitat with records of Pipistrelle and Chiroptera bats on the site. There is also a large area of Ancient Woodland within the site.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Small watercourse runs from north to south through the site, may be culverted through the site. Groundwater features nearby may indicate a shallow water table. Small area potentially at risk of pluvial flood risk.		
	Water	-	There is a small open watercourse running through the middle of the site. It is unclear how this is proposed to be treated as part of the development.		
	Human Health	-	The AWPR passes through this site and is likely to pose conflicts of noise and air pollution, negatively impacting upon the residential amenity of the homes closest to it.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	There have been recorded archaeological finds on the site, and the historic Nether Beanshill Farmstead is also on the site. This indicates that it may be of archaeological interest.		
	Material Assets	+/-	There are currently school capacity issues in Lower Deeside. However this development proposes a new primary school which would help to offset the impact of this development for primary age children. Issues with secondary schools remain.		
	B0916 Loirsbank Road				New bid 2013. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flooding from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	The site is near the River Dee SAC and LNCS as well as the Allan Park LNCS. There have been a number of recorded sightings of bats in and around the site. Site is within catchment of River Dee SAC and is located on its functional floodplain.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	--	The whole of this site is prone to flooding as it is situated on the River Dee flood plain, and in addition to increasing the number of properties at risk, this development may also affect the storage capacity of the floodplain, increasing the risk of flooding elsewhere.		
	Water	--	Site is on the floodplain of the River Dee SAC and is likely to physically impact on the river. The site is also close to the Culter Burn and is less than 500m from Inchgarth Reservoir.		
	Population	0	Proposed development is only for 4-5 large family homes and will not have an impact on providing housing choice or flexibility in Lower Deeside.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no impact on built or cultural heritage assets.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site is zoned to Cults Primary and Cults Academy. Cults Primary is expected to exceed capacity in 2016 and Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0917 Cobblestock					New bid 2013. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	The site lies adjacent to the Deeside Old Railway LNCS. Site is within the River Dee SAC Catchment; the River Dee and Culter Burn are located in close proximity to the east.		
	Climatic Factors	-	A previous incident of flooding on Burnside Road (from the Culter Burn) is noted. Site is in close proximity to both the Culter Burn and River Dee which may be vulnerable to more significant flooding in future. There are also small pockets of poor drainage evident which may indicate vulnerability to pluvial flooding.		
	Soil	-	Barnhills Sand Pit is located within the southern area of the site and may present contamination issues which may require to be remediated prior to development.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There is sufficient capacity at Culter Primary School but Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
	Material Assets	-	Impact on existing roads infrastructure - road access is extremely poor – it is very narrow, single track, steep and with sharp bends in places. The physical characteristics of the access roads and the presence of gardens and houses next to it could restrict road widening and will make this a difficult issue to mitigate.		
B0918 Land at Countesswells					New bid. Last assessed for Main

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	-	This site is located within the River Dee catchment. The eastern edge of expansion site 1 borders the Hazlehead Park Local Nature Conservation Site and contains several areas of Priority Habitat. There are records of bats within the vicinity of the sites (Common Pipistrelle) and there are several designated species including; Wych Elm, Eurasian Red Squirrel, Small Heath, Hedge Accentor, Red Kite, Eurasian Woodcock and Wild Pansy. There are several areas of Ancient Woodland and established tree belts – Tree Preservation Order 206 is situated to the south of site 4.		Issues Report 2013. Update to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Climatic Factors	-	Small watercourse flows along northern boundary of site which may be a potential cause of flood risk. Small area potentially at risk of pluvial flooding.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets present on the site itself. Countesswells House (a Category B listed building) is shown to be just south of expansion site 4.		
	Material Assets	+	Overhead pylons run through sites 1, 2, 4 and 6. It is unclear how these will be impacted at present.		
	B0919 Culter House Road				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	This site is adjacent to the Peterculter Local Nature Conservation Site. The site is identified as an area of potential bat habitat and there are records of Pipistrelle Bats on the site. Other designated species also recorded by NESBReC for this site (with 100m buffer) are: Eurasian Red Squirrel and Wych Elm. Site falls within River Dee catchment.		
	Population	+	This proposal is for tourism, leisure, recreation and roadside retail which will not have a significant impact on population.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage features on the site.		
	B0920 Holemill				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	The Culter Burn LNCS runs adjacent to the north-western boundary. Site is within the catchment of the River Dee SAC which is also in close proximity to the site. A Tree Preservation Order (ref 81) lies to the west and north-west of the site.		
	Climatic Factors	-	No flooding risk identified, however the Culter Burn runs to the west of the site and may be vulnerable to more significant flooding in future.		
	Population	+/0	Site is proposed for either commercial or residential development. If commercial it will not have a significant impact on population.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No expected loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Material Assets	+/-	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There is sufficient capacity in Culter Primary, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0921 Foggieton					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	The site lies within the River Dee Catchment Area. The south, south-west and west of this site is covered by Foggieton Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS). This LNCS contains a variety of habitats including upland birch woodland, wet woodland, a small area of upland oak woodland, pine woodland, rush pasture, acid grassland, heath, bracken and a small area of standing water. There is an area of Priority Habitat to the south east of the site. There are records of bats within the vicinity of the area (Common Pipistrelle) and there are many designated species including; Wych Elm, Small Heath, Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Common Lizard, Reed Bunting, Eurasian Red Squirrel, Common Grasshopper Warbler, Green Sandpiper, Eurasian Woodcock and Large-flowered Hemp-nettle.		
	Climatic Factors	-	There are small burns and drains present on the site and there may be some risk of flooding associated with these. There are very small areas which are poorly drained suggesting that parts of the site may be vulnerable to pluvial flooding. Groundwater features nearby may indicate a shallow water table. Small area potentially at risk from pluvial flooding.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No expected loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site would be zoned to Cults Academy and Cults Primary schools. Cults Primary school is forecast to go over capacity in 2016 and Cults Academy in 2019. There are also electricity pylons on the site and it is unclear how these would be impacted.		
B0922 Murtle Den					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	This site falls within River Dee catchment The most easterly part of the site is designated Ancient Woodland.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The Murtle Dam is located to the north of the site; possibility of flooding due to infrastructure failure. Part of the site identified as being at 0.5% annual fluvial flood risk. Watercourse flows through site near the eastern boundary.		
	Water	-	Murtle Dam is located on the northern border of the site; with the reservoir to the north and a smaller waterbody to the south, associated with Murtle Dam. Small watercourse passes through the eastern part of the site.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Population	0	Development of two luxury homes will not make a significant contribution to providing a range of house types and sizes.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or disturbance to built or cultural elements. No features of this type.		
B0923 Peterculter West Phase 1a					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	Culter Burn LNCS runs adjacent to the western boundary. Falls within the catchment of the River Dee SAC, which is also in close proximity. A Tree Preservation Order (ref 81) lies to the west of the site.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The Culter Burns runs to the west of the site, and although no flood risk is identified it may be vulnerable to flooding in future. An open watercourse flowing into the Culter Burn flows through the south west of the site, and a further open tributary is noted at the northern and southern boundaries. A flooding incident is noted on Linn Moor Road (surface run off) and another on Malcolm Road (road drainage). There are some pockets of poor drainage present which indicates the site may be vulnerable to pluvial flooding.		
	Water	-	Watercourses present on and on the boundaries of the site. It is unclear how these are proposed to be treated at present.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or disturbance to built or cultural elements. No features of this type.		
B0924 Thornhill					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	--	The site lies within the River Dee Catchment Area and contains two priority habitats, covering roughly one third of the site. A tree protection order (Number 101) covers trees immediately adjacent to the southern end of the site. The Den Wood Local Nature Conservation Site is adjacent to this site at the north-eastern corner boundary. Bats have been recorded in the area (Chiroptera Pipistrelle, Common Pipistrelle and Pipistrellus pipistrellus). Wych Elm and Common Bullfinch are also within the vicinity of this site, both of which are designated species.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or disturbance to built or cultural elements. No features of this type.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. Culter Primary has sufficient capacity, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0925 Wellwood					New bid. Last assessed for Main

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	--	The side is within the River Dee catchment. The development site is surrounded by trees which are protected by TPO and Ancient Woodland to the north, which provides a valuable habitat and development would have a negative affect		Issues Report 2013.
	Climatic Factors	-	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. Culter Primary has sufficient capacity, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
	Population	0	There is very limited capacity on this site to meet housing needs and the impact of development is not significant.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	Wellwood is a Category C (s) listed building and this site forms part of the grounds and setting of this building. Wellwood has been converted to flats and new houses built in the grounds. This site is also within the Pitfodels and Lower Deeside Conservation Area.		
	Material Assets	+/-	Site is within the catchments for Cults Academy and Cults Primary, both of which are forecast to go over capacity. Therefore, any potential development would be constrained by school capacity.		
	B0926 West Cults Farm				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	This site is near to the North Deeside Railway Line, Allan Park and West Cults Woodland LNCSs. Site lies within the River Dee catchment area.		
	Climatic Factors	--	More than half of the site is at 0.5% annual probability of flooding from the River Dee. Historic flooding at West Cults Farm.		
	Water	--	More than half the site is at risk of flooding. Flood events are likely to have a negative impact on water quality of the River Dee SAC.		
	Population	0	Development of two homes will not make a significant contribution to providing a range of house types and sizes.		
	Human Health	+	As per general greenfield assessment. Playing fields lie adjacent to the site but it is not anticipated that these will be affected.		
	Material Assets	--	Site is at significant risk of flooding, which would have a negative impact through the loss or damage of material assets.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or disturbance to built or cultural elements. No features of this type.		
	B0927 Land at Woodend Farm				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	This site falls within River Dee SAC catchment. The presence of bats has been recorded on the site.		
	Climatic Factors	-	it is noted there is an open water course to the north of the site which may be a flood risk in future. Steep gradient at site from north to south which may increase surface water run-off.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Water	-	There is an open watercourse to the north of the site; unclear how these will be treated as part of the development.		
	Population	+	Site is proposed for a tourist chalet park; will not have a positive effect on population.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or disruption of built or cultural elements.		
B0928 Land to the West of Malcolm Road					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	The Culter Burn LNCS lies to the south and west of the site. A Tree Preservation Order (ref 80) lies to the south east. Site is within the River Dee SAC catchment. The River Dee and Culter Burn SAC runs along the west and southern edges of the site.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The Culter Burn lies to the south and west of the site and a risk of flooding within the southern area of the site is identified by the SEPA Flood Map. A flooding incident on Linn Moor Road to the west of the site is also noted (due to surface run off). Proposer indicates that around 40% of the site is poorly drained; this indicates that pluvial flooding may be a problem in future.		
	Water	--	Site is at risk of flooding which may have negative effects on water quality in the event of a flood.		
	Soil	+/-	West Craigton Quarry site located within the eastern area of the site boundary and south, meaning some potential for contamination and remediation.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage designations on the site itself. Waulkmill Bridge (a Category B listed building) is noted to the west of the site, crossing the Culter Burn.		
	Material Assets	+/--	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There is sufficient capacity in Culter Primary, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019. Site is at risk of flooding which will have negative effects through the loss or destruction of material assets.		
B0930 Land at Deeside Golf Club					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	This site is adjacent to the Old Deeside Line LNCS. There may be loss of trees on the boundary that it shares with the LNCS. Site falls within River Dee SAC catchment.		
	Climatic Factors	-	The site is around 150m north of the area shown to be liable to flood on the SEPA map. It is also about 20m above the area shown liable to flood. However, there is a small watercourse to the west of the site. This means that the site may be vulnerable to more significant flood events in future.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Population	0	Site is only for 3 residential units; unlikely to make a significant contribution to meeting housing demand or improving housing choice in Deeside.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements.		
B0931 Cadgerford Westhill					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	There are recordings of bats in close proximity to this site and Northern Lapwing (a designated species) has been sighted to the north of the site. The woodland to the south of the site is designated as Ancient woodland and provides a valuable habitat. There are two small areas of priority habitat that may be affected by development.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The Brodiach Burn flows north to south along the western boundary of the site and may cause flooding on the site. Part is identified at being at 0.5% annual risk of fluvial flooding. Multiple small watercourses going through the site which may be a potential cause of flood risk Wells nearby may indicate a shallow groundwater table. Steep gradient from west to east may increase surface water run-off.		
	Water	--	Part of the site is at risk of flooding which is likely to have a negative impact on water quality in the event of a flood.		
	Human Health	--	The presence of a major gas pipeline to the west of this site significantly constrains the proposal that has been submitted. The majority of the site is located within the middle consultation zone, and a small area is located in the inner consultation zone. Any more than 30 dwellings on this site would be advised against by HSE.		
	Material Assets	--	Part of the site is at risk of flooding which is likely to have a negative impact through loss or damage of material assets on the site.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no significant affect on the historic environment.		
B0932 Backhill Westhill					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversiy	-	There are recordings of bats in close proximity to this site and Northern Lapwing (a designated species) has been sighted to the north of the site. The woodland to the east of the site is designated as Ancient Woodland and provides a valuable habitat.		
	Climatic Factors	--	There are parts of this site at risk from flooding from the Brodiach Burn and development could result in increasing areas at risk of flooding.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no significant affect on the historic environment.		
B0933 Binghill Farm					New bid. Last assessed for Main

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	-	The extreme north east of the site is part of the Ancient Woodland designation to the east of the site. The site is also adjacent to the Murtle Den LNCS. There have been a number of recorded sightings of bats within the site. Red squirrels have also been recorded to the north of the site and Wych Elm is present in the tree belt to the north east of the site. Site falls within River Dee SAC catchment.		Issues Report 2013.
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or impact on built or cultural elements.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site is zoned to Milltimber Primary and Cults Academy. Both Milltimber Primary and Cults Academy are forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0934 Hill of Ardbeck					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	-	Bats have been recorded on the site. Wych Elm, Common Kestrel and Common Bullfinch have also been recorded on the site. The site is covered by the Peterculter LNCS and part of the eastern boundary is designated as SNH Ancient Woodland. Site falls within River Dee SAC catchment.		
	Climatic Factors	-	There is an open water course to the east of the site, which may be vulnerable to more significant flooding in future. Wells neaby may indicate a shallow water table. Small part of the site may be at risk from pluvial flooding.		
	Water	-	There is a small open watercourse to the east of the site, part of which is on the site itself. It is unclear how this will be treated as part of the development.		
	Human Health	--	Although the site is in private ownership and not formally laid out for open space, there are numerous paths throughout the site and it is well used by local people on an informal basis, meaning that this would be lost through development.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site is zoned to Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There is sufficient capacity in Culter Primary, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0935 Peterculter East					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	The site is adjacent to the Deeside Way LNCS, River Dee Corridor LNCS and falls within the catchment of the River Dee SAC. Bats and Wych Elm have been recorded on the site.		
	Climatic Factors	-	There is also a small water course to the north west Area B. It enters the site as a culvert and is then open to the west of the site and then is culverted again to leave from the south east of the site; this may be at risk of flooding in future.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Water	-	The southern boundary of Area A is on the banks of the River Dee and would physically impact upon the watercourse if development took place up to this edge.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no loss or disruption to built or cultural elements. However it is noted that remains of a historic railway bridge lie north of Area A.		
	Material Assets	-	Potential impact on CP 70 is to the south of Area A (along the boundary of the site). It is unclear how this will be treated at present. The site is zoned to Culter Primary and Cults Academy. Culter Primary has sufficient capacity, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
	B0936 Peterculter East Business Park				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	--	The Deeside Way LNCS is to the north of the site. The site is also in close proximity to the River Dee and Culter Burn SAC and River Dee Corridor LNCS. TPOs are also present to the south of the site within the Camphill Estate. The site is located within the River Dee Catchment Area. Bats and Wych Elm and have been recorded on the site.		
	Climatic Factors	-	It is noted that a fluvial flooding incident was recorded in July 2005. This indicates that it may be a problem in future.		
	Population	+	As per general greenfield assessment. Site is proposed for business park development which will provide employment.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	There will be no loss or disturbance to built or cultural elements.		
	B0937 Newmill Peterculter				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	--	The Culter Burn Local Nature Conservation Site is adjacent to the eastern boundary. A Tree Preservation Order is adjacent to the eastern boundary (ref 80). An Area of Ancient Woodland is adjacent to the eastern boundary. Falls within the River Dee SAC catchment.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There would be no expected loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements. Kennerty House (a Category B listed building) and Garden are adjacent to the south eastern boundary of the site. Peterculter War Memorial is adjacent to the north eastern boundary.		
	B0938 Kennerty Farm Peterculter				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	--	Part of the site boundary includes the Deeside Old Railway LNCS. The River Dee and Culter Burn Special Area of Conservation is located to the east. There have been reports of bat sightings.		
	Climatic Factors	-	A previous incident of flooding on Burnside Road noted (from Culter Burn). Some small pockets of poor drainage are evident; this indicates that pluvial and fluvial flooding may be a problem in the future.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Cultural Heritage	0	There would be no expected loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements on the site itself. The Normandykes Roman Camp (Scheduled Ancient Monument) lies to the southwest of the site.		
	Material Assets	-	Site incorporates a section of the Deeside Way core path. Unclear how this will be treated at present.		
B0939 Craigton Road Pitfodels					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Many existing mature tree belts located on this site. The south western corner of the site encompasses trees belonging to Ancient Woodland. There are records of bats in the area and Wych Elm, Eurasian Red Squirrel, Northern Lapwing and Common Kestrel, all of which are designated species. Site lies within the River Dee Catchment Area.		
	Population	++	Tentative proposals include a care home which would provide housing for an aging population.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	The site is within the Pitfodels Conservation Area. Sites and Monuments: 2 Boundary Stones on the perimeter of the site and stone walls.		
	Material Assets	+/-	If mainstream housing is provided, there is not capacity at the primary school or secondary schools and development will have a negative impact on these assets. It is anticipated that there will be capacity issues at Airyhall Primary by 2015 and Hazlehead Academy by 2020.		
B0941 Peterculter West 1b					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Culter Burn LNCS runs adjacent to the western boundary. Falls within the catchment of the River Dee SAC, which is also in close proximity. A Tree Preservation Order (ref 81) lies to the west of the site.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The Culter Burns runs to the west of the site, and although no flood risk is identified it may be vulnerable to flooding in future. An open watercourse flowing into the Culter Burn flows through the south west of the site, and a further open tributary is noted at the northern and southern boundaries. A flooding incident is noted on Linn Moor Road (surface run off) and another on Malcolm Road (road drainage). There are some pockets of poor drainage present which indicates the site may be vulnerable to pluvial flooding.		
	Water	-	Watercourses present on and on the boundaries of the site. It is unclear how these are proposed to be treated at present.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No expected loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements.		
	Material Assets	+	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. Culter Primary has sufficient capacity, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
B0942 Peterculter West 2a					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Culter Burn LNCS runs adjacent to the western boundary. Falls within the catchment of the River Dee SAC, which is also in close proximity. A Tree Preservation Order (ref 81) lies to the west of the site.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The Culter Burns runs to the west of the site and a small area at the western boundary of the site is identified as at risk of flooding by the SEPA Flood Map. An open watercourse flowing into the Culter Burn flows through the centre of the site. A further open tributary is noted to the eastern boundary which may also present a flood risk. There are some small pockets of poor drainage evident which may indicate a vulnerability to pluvial flooding in future.		
	Water	-	Watercourses present on and on the boundaries of the site. It is unclear how these are proposed to be treated at present.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No expected loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements.		
	Material Assets	+	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. Culter Primary has sufficient capacity, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0943 Peterculter West 2b					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Culter Burn LNCS runs adjacent to the western boundary. Falls within the catchment of the River Dee SAC, which is also in close proximity. A Tree Preservation Order (ref 81) lies to the west of the site.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The Culter Burns runs to the west of the site and a small area at the western boundary of the site is identified as at risk of flooding by the SEPA Flood Map. An open watercourse flowing into the Culter Burn flows through the centre of the site. A further open tributary is noted to the eastern boundary which may also present a flood risk. There are some small pockets of poor drainage evident which may indicate a vulnerability to pluvial flooding in future.		
	Water	-	Watercourses present on and on the boundaries of the site. It is unclear how these are proposed to be treated at present.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No expected loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements.		
	Material Assets	+	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. Culter Primary has sufficient capacity, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		
B0944 Thornhill					New bid. Last assessed for Main

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	-	The site lies within the River Dee Catchment Area and contains two priority habitats, covering roughly one third of the eastern half of the site. A tree protection order (Number 101) covers trees immediately adjacent to the southern end of the eastern half of the site. The Den Wood LNCS is adjacent to this site at the north-eastern corner boundary. Bats have been recorded in the area (Chiroptera Pipistrelle, Common Pipistrelle and Pipistrellus pipistrellus). Wych Elm and Common Bullfinch are also within the vicinity of this site, both of which are designated species.		Issues Report 2013.
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage present on the site.		
	Material Assets	+/-	There is not capacity at the primary school or secondary schools and development will have a negative impact on these assets. Electricity pylons run through the site and it is unclear how these will be impacted.		
B0945 Land at Inchgarth Road					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	This site is within the River Dee catchment. Bats and Wych Elm are recorded on this site. The Deeside Line LNCS runs between the two areas and is an important habitat, and there is an area of ancient woodland to the south.		
	Human Health	+	Development will provide new sports facilities.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	Site is within the Pitfodels and Lower Deeside Conservation Area		
	Material Assets	+/-	Development will provide new sports infrastructure. However there will be a potential impact on the Deeside Line a valuable recreational asset.		
B1302 Blackhills of Cairnrobin					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Protected species identified for this site and 100m buffer by NESBReC include Yellow Wagtail, Northern Lapwing, Ruff, Herring Gull, Garganey, Peregrine Falcon, Wood Sandpiper, Eurasian Curlew, Common Redshank, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit, European Golden Plover, Common Snipe, Whooper Swan, Temminck's Stint. Site falls within River Dee Catchment area.		
	Water	--	Large area of standing water on the site, even after dry weather, which appears to be a long-term problem. This indicates that it is poorly drained and may be vulnerable to pluvial flooding in future.		
	Human Health	--	Significant land use conflicts with the nearby Blackhills Quarry where blasting takes place. The whole site is within the 400m buffer zone of the quarry. Noise and dust likely to impact upon human health.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No designated cultural heritage assets on the site.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
B1304 Rigifa Farm					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	This site falls within the River Dee catchment area. NESBReC records indicate the following designated species are present on the site (within a 100m buffer): Yellow Wagtail, Northern Lapwing, Ruff, Herring Gull, Garganey, Peregrine Falcon, Wood Sandpiper, Eurasian Curlew, Common Redshank, Dunlin and Temminck's Stint.		
	Human Health	--	Significant land use conflicts with the nearby Blackhills Quarry where blasting takes place. The whole site is within the 400m buffer zone of the quarry. Noise and dust likely to impact upon human health.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	There are no designated heritage assets. Rigifa Farm is recorded on Canmore as being of heritage interest and would require special consideration and sensitive conversion. The surrounding area may also be of archaeological interest.		
B1306 Land at Doonies Hill (Proposed for a single wind turbine. Exact location TBC. Assessment of whole potential area)					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is adjacent to the Balnagask to Cove LNCS which runs along the coast. Protected species recorded for this site by NESBReC are: Common Linnet, Common Eider, Eurasian Curlew, Northern Lapwing, Common Redshank, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, Purple Sandpiper, House Sparrow, Herring Gull, Common Starling, Common Kestrel, Sky Lark, Common Seal, Common Swift, Song Thrush, Yellowhammer, Black-headed Gull, Eurasian Woodcock, Scottish Scurvygrass and Purple Milk-vetch. The development of a wind turbine on this site will not protect any protected species, their habitats or resting places. The operation of the turbine may have a negative impact as a result of strike hazard or other disturbance e.g. noise, ice or shadow flicker.		
	Air	-	The proposal will not generate a significant amount of vehicle travel other than for occasional servicing and will not have a negative impact on air quality.		
	Climatic Factors	+	This development would help to promote the use of renewable wind energy in Aberdeen, reducing energy consumption from non-renewable sources.		
	Soil	-	This site is in close proximity to the Nigg Bay SSSI which is identified as being important for geodiversity (Quaternary). It is unlikely that the proposal for a single turbine will have an impact on its geological value.		
	Water	0	The proposal will have a neutral impact on water.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Landscape	--	A 70ft wind turbine at this location would be extremely visible from many locations across the city and it may be argued would detract from or harm the landscape setting of the City. There are no other turbines in the vicinity.		
	Population	0	Neutral impact		
	Human Health	0	Neutral impact		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets will be affected.		
	B1307 Land to the North of Souter Road				New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is currently covered by dense and varied woodland. Site is identified as an area of potential bat habitat. Falls within the catchment area of the River Dee SAC.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	No designated heritage assets; although there is a large section of an undesignated consumption dyke on the site.		
	Material Assets	-	Core path and other rights of way runs through the site.		
	Station Road, Cults (59124)				Bid submitted during MIR consultation. Not previously assessed.
	Biodiversity	-	Site lies immediately to the south of the Deeside Railway Line LNCS. Site also falls within catchment of River Dee, although not on a direct pathway. Identified as being potential bat habitat.		
	Air	-	Development is likely to increase traffic into the built up area and increase congestion at key junctions, between Station Road, North Deeside Road, Garthdee Road and Inchgarth Road. Therefore will have a long-term negative impact on air quality through vehicle emissions.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Site falls within Lower Deeside/Pitfodels Conservation Area. Impact unlikely to be very significant owing to mature trees screening views of the site. Impact on the CA would also depend on quality of design.		
	All other indicators	+/-	As per general greenfield assessment.		
	Mains of Charleston, Nigg (58738)				Bid submitted during MIR consultation. Not previously assessed.
	Biodiversity	-	Small pockets of the site are identified as being areas of potential bat habitat.		
	Water	-	A burn runs through the eastern part of the site, which flows towards Loirston Loch and has the potential to carry water borne pollution and have a negative effect on this water body. However the burn is small and the likey effect is not significant.		
	Climatic Factors	-	There may be the potential for some flooding on the lower part of the site due to the burn to the east.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	All other factors	-/+	As per general greenfield assessment.		
Murtle Den Road (57242)					Bid submitted during MIR consultation. Not previously assessed.
	Biodiversity	-	The Murtle Den Local Nature Conservation Site bounds the east of the site. Site falls within the catchment of the River Dee SAC and backs onto the Murtle Dam, which is a tributary of the SAC. Site identified as potential bat habitat.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Some potential for flooding on lower part of the site to the east, due to the steep gradient running down towards the burn which can be boggy underfoot.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets present.		
Area at Culter East of Malcolm Road (54298)					Bid submitted during MIR consultation. Not previously assessed.
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within the catchment of the River Dee. No designated sites present, but part of the site is identified as being of potential bat habitat.		
	Air	-	Development is likely to increase traffic into the built up area, and increase congestion at key junctions, for example A93/Malcolm Road, which will impact negatively on air quality through vehicle emissions.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets present.		
	All other indicators	+/-	As per general greenfield assessment.		
Land Adj, to OP58 Countesswells (54957)					Bid submitted during MIR consultation. Not previously assessed.
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within the catchment of the River Dee SAC and is identified as an area of potential bat habitat.		
	All other indicators	+/-	As per general greenfield assessment.		
Land at Highview House, Countesswells Rd (59809)					Bid submitted during MIR consultation. Not previously assessed.
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within the catchment of the River Dee, however is not on a direct pathway. Parts of the site are identified as being of potential bat habitat.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets present.		
	All other indicators	+/-	As per general greenfield assessment.		
OP108 Mid Anguston					New bid. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. This site was preferred in the MIR but is now an alternative option. Additional comments on water and biodiversity to reflect
	Biodiversity	-	Mid Anguston is no longer designated as a District Wildlife Site as a result of the recent review, but is still important in terms of habitat. Site is adjacent to field drains and streams that drain to the Gormack Burn, which is part of the River Dee SAC catchment. May be wet habitats on the site.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	-	There are two waterbodies upgradient of the site which may be a cause of potential flood risk. Steep gradient from west to east may cause increased surface run-off.		and biodiversity to reflect comments from SEPA. Updated to reflect comments on flooding from SEPA. Updated at modification stage 2016.
	Soil	-	The west boundary of the site is adjacent to land previously used for general quarrying (1869) and (1901) low level contamination may be expected which may be remediated by development.		
	Water	-	There is no public sewerage provision for this site. Site is adjacent to a disused quarry where there is a confined water body vulnerable to contamination.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	Development would result in no loss or disturbance of built or cultural elements.		
	Material Assets	+/-	The site lies within the area zoned for Culter Primary and Cults Academy. There are no capacity issues in Peterculter Primary, however Cults Academy is forecasted to exceed capacity in 2019.		

Appendix 5.a. General Brownfield Assessment			
Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
Biodiversity	-	The development of a brownfield site may improve the variety and abundance of native wildlife through the creation and improvement of habitats and the restoration of links between habitats, where they have previously been degraded. Where present, development is unlikely to safeguard the conservation objectives and qualifying features of any international, national or locally important designated site (highlighted in individual assessments), unless required to do so through mitigation. Brownfield sites which fall within the River Dee catchment area may have a negative impact on the conservation objectives and biodiversity of the SAC due to pathway effects. These sites are highlighted within the individual assessments. Brownfield development across the whole city will increase demand for water which is likely to be abstracted form the River Dee; this has been determined through the Strategic Development Plan and the effects of the LDP on the conservation objectives of the SAC will be assessed in a Habitats Regulations Appraisal (contained in this Environmental Report). A brownfield development site may provide a habitat for protected species. If any protected species were present brownfield development is not likely to maintain and enhance their populations, habitats and resting places unless required to do so through mitigation. Specific impacts on protected species or priority habitats are identified in individual assessments. Development of brownfield sites provides an opportunity to enhance green networks and habitat networks, but in developing a site there may be barriers created and some existing networks may be lost resulting in habitat fragmentation. Development of brownfield sites is unlikely to result in the loss of trees and woodland, which is likely to have been removed by previous development. Any likely loss is highlighted in individual assessments. Where present, proposals do not automatically protect and promote watercourses.	Appropriate Assessment will be required where a proposal is likely to affect the River Dee SAC. Ecological assessments will be required where a development is likely to affect a designated site or protected species. Bat surveys in particular will be required where bats are suspected Due regard will be given to Green Space Network Policy when planning new developments to ensure habitat links are maintained and enhanced. Policy will require that watercourses are maintained as naturalised channels with riparian buffer strips, and not subject to excessive engineering work. Where there are existing culverts, there may be opportunities to reinstate them as open watercourses, enhancing their biodiversity value. Requirement for all new developments to install water saving technologies to help minimise abstraction from the River Dee. Any trees or woodland can be protected by altering the site boundary or layout to avoid them.
Air	-	There will be a short term negative impact on air quality during construction due to the release of particulate matter (dust). In general, brownfield sites are integrated into the existing urban area and are likely to be well connected by pedestrian, cycle and public transport. Therefore, the site is less likely to increase traffic into the built up area and have a long term negative impact on air quality through vehicle emissions than a general greenfield site in Aberdeen, however in reality there will be an increase in vehicular movements as a result of any development. In general, brownfield development does not increase the population directly affected by any Air Quality Management Area, which cover a very small area in Aberdeen. Where relevant this is highlighted in the individual assessments.	Air quality policy states that planning applications which have the potential to have a detrimental impact on air quality will not be permitted unless measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants can be agreed.

Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
Climatic Factors	-	Brownfield development is likely to be integrated into the existing built up area, connected by pedestrian, cycle and public transport links which means opportunities for sustainable and active travel are great, and development is less likely to lead to increased congestion and more likely to encourage the use of public transport compared to general greenfield site in Aberdeen. Brownfield sites have less potential to maximise passive solar gain as there are often more constraints. There is often adequate shelter from winds due to surrounding development. New buildings are more efficient than the existing stock of buildings. However, the operation and management of new buildings will also increase resource use and energy consumption, although new buildings may also promote renewable energy and efficient use of energy and water. There are areas around Aberdeen that are at risk from flooding and there are smaller watercourses that could result in a flood risk. As more land is developed in Aberdeen, there is greater pressure to build on sites that may be affected by flooding. Development in these areas will increase vulnerability to climate change and will reduce ability to introduce flood prevention measures, particularly upstream. Sites close to areas currently identified as being at risk of flooding on SEPA Flood Maps may be more vulnerable to the effects of future changes in climate, for example increased rainfall or more extreme weather events. Any areas at risk of flooding, or close to areas at risk of flooding, are highlighted in individual assessments.	All new buildings must install Low and Zero Carbon Generating Technologies (LZCGT) to reduce the predicted carbon dioxide emissions by at least 15% below 2007 building standards. Development will not be permitted in areas at risk of flooding or where it would increase the risk of flooding elsewhere. Flood Risk Assessments and Drainage Impact Assessments will be required, along with provision of SUDS where appropriate.

Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
Soil	-	The development of a brownfield site is likely to have short term adverse effects on soil through erosion, desegregation and compaction. Development may also result in the release of substances during construction that could potentially contaminate the soil. However redevelopment of a brownfield site may also have a positive effect on soil quality through remediation or decontamination works undertaken prior to development. Brownfield development will avoid the development of prime agricultural land, because there is none of this type of land in Aberdeen City. All brownfield development helps to encourage the trend of redeveloping brownfield land and helps to reduce development pressure on greenfield sites. By definition, brownfield development will not result in the development of undisturbed carbon rich soils (peat soil). There is also very little peat soil in Aberdeen and it is all in outlying areas. The development of brownfield sites will not affect areas identified as important for geodiversity, or designated sites identified for geological or geomorphological value, as there are very few of these in Aberdeen. Where relevant this is highlighted in the individual assessments. In general brownfield proposals do not seek to encourage greater understanding of geodiversity features. All new development will increase the amount of waste produced, both during the construction phase and household/commercial waste from the development itself. It is likely that some of this increase in waste will be sent to landfill, however adequate facilities and collections services will require to be in place to ensure that as much as possible is recycled. This should be ensured through mitigation.	Where already-existing contamination is suspected, a site investigation should be carried out and any contamination remediated as appropriate. LDP Policy states that all land which is degraded or contaminated, including visually, is either restored, reclaimed or remediated to a level suitable for its proposed use.
Water	-	All new development will increase the need to abstract water from the River Dee, with requirements agreed between Scottish Water and SNH. Development will not promote water saving measures and water efficiency unless required to do so through mitigation measures. (Please see the HRA for the Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Strategic Development Planning Authority) The development of a brownfield site is likely to release at least a small amount of water borne pollution into watercourses, groundwater and reservoirs if present. Development would also increase the amount of surface water run-off into water bodies, but may also improve upon the surface drainage systems of previous development, for example by incorporating modern technologies and SUDS as required by policy. The development of a general brownfield site will avoid an increase in development that physically impacts upon a watercourse or coastline. Where watercourses or coastlines are impacted, this is highlighted in the general assessments. It is likely that a brownfield site will already be connected to a public sewerage system, and its capacity will be assessed against proposals for future use and be required to be increased as appropriate before new development is connected to it. All new brownfield developments should require to be connected to the public sewerage system, and are required to make appropriate provision for SUDS. This should be clarified through mitigation.	Where there is potential for pollution of the water environment the City Council will liaise with SEPA. There will be a policy requiring all new developments to install water-saving technologies Drainage Impact Assessments will be required to be submitted with applications for development , with provision for SUDS made where appropriate. Conditions may be applied to planning applications to ensure that all watercourses (open or culverted) on a site are regularly maintained.

Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
Landscape	-	Brownfield development in Aberdeen is unlikely to impact upon any designed landscapes or areas identified for landscape quality, but where relevant these features will be safeguarded. Development of brownfield sites will have a neutral or positive impact on the landscape setting of the City and its features, particularly where the site was previously derelict. Brownfield development is not likely to have a negative effect on landscape features, setting and character, including any geological features. These are likely to have already been altered, removed or degraded as part of the original development and subsequent dereliction and may be improved by redevelopment. Where there are degraded or derelict parts of the brownfield site, these will be improved through new development. In general brownfield development will not result in coalescence of settlements or urban sprawl because they are already within the built up area. They may help to prevent sprawl and coalescence by helping to reduce development pressure on peripheral greenfield sites. Development in the coastal area will impact on the undeveloped coastal environment.	Landscape impact can often be mitigated through screening or sensitive siting of buildings within the site. Any sites which occupy an especially visible and prominent location within the context of the whole city will not be allocated.
Population	+	Where a site is proposed for housing, development is likely to have long-term positive effects on population, because it helps to meet housing needs and demands. However, it can not be taken for granted that housing will be provided that supports the needs of an aging population, those people in housing need that can not afford private housing , students and families. It can also not be presumed that development will meet other particular needs such as people with disabilities or Gypsies & Travellers. Redevelopment of brownfield sites may also contribute to the regeneration of an area. The development of a brownfield site for employment use will promote economic growth through the provision of new jobs.	LDP Policy requires a set percentage (25%) of affordable housing in every new development will enhance positive population effects. Masterplanning process also ensures that larger developments accommodate an appropriate mix of house types and sizes to provide choice and fleixibility in meeting needs and demands.
Human Health	+	In general, brownfield development will not improve the amount of high quality and usable open space in the city through the provision of new parks, play areas and sports pitches unless required to do so. Many brownfield sites are smaller in area where opportunities for new green space on the site are limited. In this case, the development may be required to make contributions towards the improvement of existing open space, which should be specified though mitigation measures. However, brownfield development is unlikely to result in loss of existing green space. Within larger brownfield developments, there is likely to be a positive impact on human health as a result of new provision of quality open space and recreational facilities , however this may be limited within smaller brownfield developments. Attempts will be made to establish and enhance links between new residential areas and local facilities and recreation. Brownfield redevelopment is likely to restore and enhance links, which were previously blocked, dangerous or unattractive due to dereliction on the site.	Qualifying developments will be required to make provision for new open space as appropriate, in accordance with policy and supplementary guidance. Policy states that permission will not be granted to use or redevelop any area of urban green space unless an equivalent and equally convenient and accessible area is laid out and made available in the locality for green space purposes. Policy states that residential development within the airport exclusion zone, or within certain noise levels, will not be permitted

Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
Cultural Heritage	+/-	Brownfield development may affect the historic environment. There could be long-term and permanent negative effects on the site/setting of designated heritage assets such as scheduled monuments, listed buildings, Conservation Areas, Designed Landscapes and archaeological sites. These effects may weaken the sense of place, the identity of existing settlements and landscape character in places. There may also be negative effects on other non-designated built heritage features such as historic landscapes, historic buildings, townscapes, parks, gardens, landscapes and features as well as the context or setting in which they sit, and the patterns of past use and landscape. The planning and design of developments which are in keeping with existing settlements in terms of design, layout, material and quality are likely to have long term positive effects, on the setting and maintenance of cultural heritage. But new developments that deviate from existing designs could adversely affect the setting of historic settlements in the long-term.	Proposals affecting Conservation Areas or Listed Buildings will require prior consent and will only be permitted where they comply with SPP. New development may also provide opportunities to enhance the setting of any heritage assets present. Where a site is deemed to be of archaeological interest, an survey should be required prior to development Architecture and Placemaking policy require all new development to have due consideration for its setting.
Material Assets	+	Brownfield development will provide housing and employment opportunities as well as access to community facilities for the people of Aberdeen, to meet identified needs. The development of new employment land also promotes economic growth and provides jobs, and may help to promote regeneration in some areas. Brownfield development sites are likely to already be connected to suitable infrastructure, including social infrastructure (schools, housing, healthcare facilities); transport infrastructure (road, rail, paths, pipelines and bridges); water-delivery infrastructure; sewerage infrastructure, energy infrastructure (power stations, pylons, power cables, wind turbines and pipelines); tourism and recreation (caravan and camping sites); telecommunication infrastructure (telephone masts, satellite television and broadband); and waste management infrastructure (waste collection, transfer stations and composting facilities). These may require to be upgraded, which will be addressed through mitigation. There may be an impact upon school rolls associated with new residential development. This may be either positive in terms of supporting schools with low rolls or negative in terms of placing extra demand for places on schools with limited capacity to accommodate them. Where relevant impacts are highlighted in the individual assessments. Other factors relating to material assets, such as adequate space for kerbside collection or recycling facilities should also be ensured. Urban brownfield development is more likely to be close to existing paths than developments in rural areas, and new provision is less likely to be required although improvements may be needed. Brownfield development has the potential to improve access to natural and built assets depending on its location, this should be ensured though mitigation. Development will safeguard core paths and rights of way and enhance links between paths, this should be ensured though mitigation.	Where there will be a negative impact on existing infrastructure, developer contributions may be required as appropriate.

Appendix 5.b. Brownfield Preferred Options (Opportunity Sites)					
Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	OP7 Aberdeen College Gordon Centre				Reassessed for Proposed Plan 2015. Extension to site added at modification stage 2016 and site reassessed. No additional effect.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
	OP67 Aberdeen Market				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Landscape	++	Sensitive and high quality design redevelopment would likely have a positive impact on the townscape of the Union Street Conservation Area and the Green Townscape Heritage Initiative Area, also improving their use and vitality.	Apply LDP Design policies ensure high quality placemaking, architecture and protection of historic environment. May also be presented to Design Review Panel.	
	OP72 Aberdon House Care Home				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is adjacent to the River Don Corridor LNCS, meaning there may be some impact on its conservation objectives but no part of the site itself is covered by this designation, so the effect is unlikely to be significant.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Site itself is not identified as being at risk of flooding, but is close to areas at risk of flooding and may be vulnerable to the effects of future changes in climate.		
	Population	++	Redevelopment of this site has the potential to contribute positively to regeneration in Tillydrone by providing housing and/or employment for the population, which may include affordable housing.	Site identified by the Council as an opportunity for the development of affordable homes. Apply LDP Policy H5 requires that the equivalent of 25% affordable housing in every new development.	
	OP13 AECC Bridge of Don				New site. First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014.
	Biodiversity	-/++	Tree belt to the south and east of the site is Priority Habitat and may also be bat habitat. There may be some loss or disturbance. However, it is likely that redevelopment will bring opportunities for strategic landscaping and open space which will be an improvement on the current state of the site.	Opportunity to enhance biodiversity through careful consideration of the location, extent and configuration of GSN, as per Policy NE1.	
	Air	-	Site is relatively well integrated into the existing urban area and public transport networks, however pedestrian permeability is restricted by busy roads which may have the indirect effect of encouraging car use and have some negative impact on air quality.		
	Landscape	+	Residential redevelopment is likely to be an improvement on the current state of buildings on site which are very prominent and visually intrusive owing to their scale and height. Development should respect the landscape setting and amenity of the existing golf course use.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	OP12 Balgownie 'One' Sports Centre				New site. First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment.		
	OP5 Balgownie Centre				Existing site. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2009. No changes.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
	OP11 Balgownie Home Farm				New site. First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014.
	All indicators	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
	OP73 Balgownie Machine Centre				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Biodiversity	-	The site is adjacent to the Inverness-Kittybrewster Railway LNCS meaning there may be some impact on its conservation objectives and biodiversity, but no part of the site itself is covered by this designation so the effect is unlikely to be significant.		
	Population	+	Redevelopment has the potential to contribute positively to regeneration in the area by providing housing and/or employment.		
	OP6 Balgownie Primary School				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
	OP14 Bankhead Academy				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes to SEA from modifiction stage 2016.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
	OP74 Broadford Works				Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes. Site now has planning permission. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	--	Owing to the size of the development (500+ units), there is likely to be significant negative impact on River Dee SAC as a result of pressure for additional water abstraction to service new development.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may also be required.	
	Climatic factors	-	Records of flooding near site from Gilcomston Burn, and reports of drainage issues on nearby roads. Site may also be at risk of fluvial flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of a negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Cultural Heritage	++	Sensitive and high quality redevelopment will enhance cultural heritage and the condition of these landmark buildings, which are on the Listed Buildings at Risk Register.		
OP39 Braeside Infant School					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes. (Corrected reference to Tillydrone; site in Mannofield).
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within the River Dee catchment area, but is not on any direct pathway. Therefore there is unlikely to be any significant negative effects.		
OP37 Burnside Centre Mastrick					New site. First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014.
	Biodiversity	+	There is likely to be some oppportunities for habitat improvement on this site, which contains a significant amount of low-amenity open grassland. Development will not affect any designated site and is unlikely to affect any protected species.		
	Human Health	+/-	There may be part loss of open space on the site through redevelopment, but the extent of this is not yet known. It is likely that the quality of the remaining provision will be enhanced through this development.		
	Material Assets	+/-	There may be part loss of open space on the site through redevelopment; extent of this is not yet known. It is likely that the quality of the provision will be enhanced through this development.		
OP15 Carden School					Existing Site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2012. No changes.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
OP76 Causewayend Primary School					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to LNCS.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is adjacent to the Inverness-Kittybrewster Railway LNCS, so there may be some negative impact, although the site itself is not covered by the designation. Site is also within the River Dee catchment area but is not on a direct pathway.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Causewayend Primary School is a Category C listed building in a prominent location; and unsympathetic development has the potential to have a negative impact, but sensitive and high quality development would have positive benefits.		
OP77 Cornhill Hospital					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to River Dee catchment, and flood risk
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within River Dee Catchment Area but is not on a direct pathway so the effect is not likely to be significant.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Development is within the Rosemount Conservation Area and could have a negative impact if development is not responsive to the surrounding environment, however sensitive and high quality design could have a positive impact.		catchment, and flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	-	Site itself is not identified as being at risk of flooding, but is close to an area at risk of flooding and may be vulnerable to future changes in climate.		
OP78 Cotton Street					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
OP104 Craiginches Prison					New site. First assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. CEMP now included in mitigation to reflect comments from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	This site falls within the River Dee catchment area and is in very close proximity to the river itself. Owing to steep topography, direct pathways are uncertain. There are some designated species recorded for this site; but it is likely that these are associated with the River Dee valley to the west of the site, and may not be directly affected by the redevelopment of the prison site itself.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Site is not at risk of flooding from River Dee due to steep topography. A previous flooding incident has been recorded at Walker Road adjacent to the site, however this was likely to be due to blocked drainage which is a maintenance issue.		
	Population	+	Proposed use unknown at present. Likely to be mixed use, therefore as per general brownfield assessment.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	There are no designated heritage assets on the site. However, Craiginches Prison dates from 1830 and may be considered by some to be a significant non-designated heritage asset. However community views are likely to be mixed and consultation will be required.		
	Material Assets	-	No negative effect from closure of prison because facilities are being consolidated at a new facility in Peterhead. However, Walker Road Primary School is forecast to go over capacity in 2014 and will remain so for the foreseeable future.		
OP57 Craighill Primary School					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to flood risk.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is within the River Dee catchment, but is not on a direct pathway. Given also the scale and the fact that it is a brownfield development impact is unlikely to be significant.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	-	Site itself not identified as being at risk of flooding; however is close to areas at risk from the River Dee, and may be vulnerable to effects of future changes in climate.		
OP79 Crown House					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	-	Site itself not identified as being at risk of flooding; however it is close to a flood risk area and may be vulnerable to the effects of future changes in climate. Falls within the River Dee catchment area but is not on a direct pathway.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Crown House is a Category B listed building within the Bon Accord Crescent/Crown St Conservation Area, and an unsympathetic development has the potential to have a significant impact on cultural heritage, but sensitive and high quality development could have positive benefits.		
OP40 Cults Pumping Station					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	--	Site falls within River Dee catchment and is on the Cults Burn which is a tributary of the River Dee, so development may have a negative impact through polluting run-off, disturbance or future flood defences. Site is also situated on the Cults Den LNCS so there may be an impact on its conservation objectives.	HRA Appropriate Assessment required, which will trigger requirement for EIA. CEMP required. Ecological assessment required to determine and avoid effect on Cults Den LNCS. Protection through Natural Environment policies. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place.	
	Climatic Factors	-	Cults Burn runs to the west of the site and development on this site and is adjacent to areas at risk of flooding; but site itself not considered to be at risk.		
OP81 Denburn and Woolmanhill					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to LNCS. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is adjacent to the Inverness-Kittybrewster Railway LNCS so there may be an impact on its conservation objectives, but site itself is not covered by this designation. Site also falls within the River Dee catchment area but is not on a direct pathway.		
	Climatic Factors	--	A significant area of flooding in southern portion of site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of fluvial flooding, and site is vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Source is likely to be from the culverted Den Burn.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	Site is identified as being at risk of flooding, and there is likely to be a negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Material Assets	++/--	Site is identified as being at risk of flooding, and there is likely to be a negative impact in the event of a flood though the loss and damage of material assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required. See Flood Risk Framework for most appropriate uses.	
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Category A listed Woolmanhill Hospital building within Union Street Conservation Area. Development has the potential to enhance heritage in the conservation area. However, redevelopment could also have significant negative impacts on cultural heritage if not sensitively designed.		
OP80 Bon Accord Masterplan Area					Updated to reflect SEPA's coments on flooding.
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Potential disturbance of listed buildings, or the conservation area. However the SG regarding the Bon Accord Masterplan area states that development should highlight architecture in the area, therefore likely improving the listed buildings and/or conservation area.		
	Population	+	Development will help to improve the economy of the area, promoting Aberdeen as a top retail destination in the UK. Improvement of the environment and public realm will improve safety, transport and community facilities for the population. Will also help to make Aberdeen an improved tourist destination.		
	Climatic Factors	-	The site is identifed at being at risk of flooding.		
	Water	-	Site is identified as being at risk of flooding, and there is likely to be a negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
OP82 Dunbar Halls					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan. No changes.
	Biodiversity	--	Site is adjacent to River Don Corridor LNCS so there could be negative impacts, but site itself is not covered by designation. Possible loss or disturbance of ancient woodland resulting from development.	Policy NE5 includes protection for ancient woodland against loss or disturbance.	
	Climatic Factors	-	Site itself not identified as being at risk of flooding, but site in close proximity areas of risk; nearby Seaton Park regularly floods. Development is vulnerable to global climate changes.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Cultural Heritage	-	Development is within the Old Aberdeen conservation area. There could be a positive or negative impact on its setting and townscape, depending on the quality and sensitivity of proposals. May also be loss of key views of St Machar Cathedral.		
OP93 Former Summerhill Academy					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within River Dee catchment area but is not on a direct pathway.		
OP102 George Street/Crooked Lane					New site. First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014. Updated to reflect Historic Scotland (Historic Environment Scotland) comment on cultural heritage. Reassessed at modificaitons stage to reflect Reporters' Report comment.
	Climatic Factors	- -	Site is identified as being at medium-level risk of flooding from river sources according to new SEPA Flood Risk maps.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Site is identified as being at risk of flooding, and there is likely to be a negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Landscape	+	Redevelopment of this site is likely to have a positive impact on the current view of the site, which is of mixed quality. Likely to improve the streetscape of George Street and Crooked Lane if of a high quality design.		
	Cultural Heritage	+	There is a category C Listed Building on site. Policy D4 and D5 requires the retention and appropraite reuse of buildings.		
	Material Assets	++	Development will provide additional retail floorspace to meet the needs of the existing and future population of Aberdeen, as identified in the Retail Study 2013.	Site schedule will specifically identify this site as an opportunity for new retail development.	
OP35 Granitehill Road					New site. First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014. Reassessed at modificaiton stage 2016 to reflect SEPA's comment on possible surface flood water.
	Air	0	Site is proposed as a storage facility for Aberdeen Art Gallery. Therefore, it is unlikely to result in increased or regular vehicle movements and will have a neutral impact on air.		
	Landscape	++	Site is currently in a derelict state that is an eyesore for the community. Development of a high-quality design building on this site will improve visual aspect considerably.		
	Climate Factors	-	Suface water flooding may be an issue at the site	Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying development proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.	
OP27 Greenfern Infant School					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to LNCS and flood risk.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is adjacent to River Don Corridor LNCS, so there is a potential impact on its conservation objectives, but site itself is not covered by this designation.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
			OP49 Grove Nursery		Reassessed for Proposed Plan 2014. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	-	Site is not identified at being at risk of flooding on SEPA flood maps, however there has been historic issues with flooding from nearby channels, most likely due to blockages.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event.		
			OP65 Haudagain Triangle		Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Air	++/--	Development within the area will attract additional traffic to an Air Quality Management Area. On the other hand, improvements to the Haudigan should improve congestion and air quality at this roundabout; therefore there will be mixed effects.	Apply LDP policy on developer contributions which will be sought as appropriate to try and mitigate transport impact.	
	Climatic Factors	+	This development proposal forms part of a wider masterplan for the area, and may lead to the replacement of the housing on this site with more energy efficient modern dwellings.		
	Population	++	Development would assist regeneration in this area and will also provide existing residents with new, modern repalcement affordable housing. Remove red text.		
	Material Assets	++	This development will provide infrastructure improvements for the strategic road network around Aberdeen and will have a positive impact on material assets. Improvements to the Haudagain Roundabout will have positive effects on traffic and for the whole road network in the north of the city.		
			OP84 Hilton Nursery School		Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
			OP106 Former Jimmy Chung's Beach Esplanade		New Opportunity site for Proposed Plan 2014.
	Climate	-	Site is at 0.5% annual risk of flooding from coastal sources, being located directly on the coast, however topographical factors mean flooding is unlikely. Unlikely to increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.		
	Water	0	As development will take place on the seafront, there is likely to be only minimal impact on the coastline because the site was previously developed and is already in a built-up area.		
	Landscape	+	Development will have a positive impact on the landscape setting of the city at the beach, if a sensitive and high quality design.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Material Assets	0	The likely future use of the site is uncertain however there is likely to be a positive impact on material assets by providing new development to help regenerate a derelict beachfront site. New Beach & Leisure policy restricts the uses which will be permitted.		
OP42 Kennerty Mills					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on Flood Risk Assessment.
	Biodiversity	--	Development is adjacent to the Culter Burn LNCS, but is not itself covered by this designation. Site is within River Dee catchment and is on a tributary. Development may impact negatively on water quality and biodiversity of the SAC.	HRA Appropriate Assessment required, which will trigger requirement for EIA. CEMP required. Ecological assessment required to determine and avoid effect on Culter Burn LNCS. Protection through Natural Environment policies. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place.	
	Climatic Factors	--	Site falls within PVA 06/19. Part of the site is at 0.5% annual risk of flooding; being adjacent to the Culter Burn it can be considered to be at medium to high risk of flooding.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	Site is identified as being at medium-high risk of flooding, and there is likely to be a negative impact on water quality in the event of a flood,	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Material Assets	++/--	Site is identified as being at medium-high risk of flooding. Therefore there is likely to be a significant negative impact in the event of a flood, through the loss or damage of material assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Flood Risk Framework outlines most appropriate uses for different levels of flood risk.	
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Kennerty Mills is a Category- B listed building; development could have a positive or negative impact depending on the detail of proposals.		
OP105 Former Kincorth Academy					
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		New site. First assessed for Proposed
OP91 Marischal Square (former St Nicholas House)					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Cultural Heritage	++/--	Site is within Union Street Conservation Area andlies between two Grade- A listed buildings (Marischal College and Provost Skene's House). Sensitive and high quality development has the potential to have a significant positive impact on their setting; however insensitive development may have a significant negative impact.	Apply LDP Design policies on successful placemaking. May also be submitted to Design Review Panel.	
	Landscape	+/-	Sensitive and high quality redevelopment would have a significant positive impact on the landscape, significantly improving the former St Nicholas House.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
			OP43 Milltimber Primary School		
	Biodiversity	--	Likely to be a significant effect on the River Dee SAC through impact on water quality from run-off.	HRA Appropriate Assessment required, which will trigger requirement for EIA. CEMP required. Ecological assessment required to determine and avoid effect on Culter Burn LNCS. Protection through Natural Environment policies. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place.	Existing site. Reassessed for Proposed Plan 2014. Updated to reflect comments on flood risk from SEPA.
	Water	-	There is a small risk of flooding from a small watercourse on the boundary of the site, risk of negative impact on water.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Climatic Factors	-	There is a small risk of flooding from a small watercourse on the boundary of the site.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
			OP16 Mugiemoss Mill (Former Davidsons Paper Mill)		Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	--	Site is adjacent to the River Don and part of the site is identified as 0.5% risk of flooding from fluvial sources. There is also part of the site which is at risk of flooding from the Bucks Burn which runs across the site.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	--	Site is close to the River Don and there will be potential impacts on water quality, especially in the event of a flood, and the site may be vulnerable to future changes in climate	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Material Assets	--	A small part of the site is identified as being at risk of flooding which is likely to have a negative effect in the event of flooding, through the loss or damage of material assets.	Flood Risk Assessment required. Flood Risk Framework identifies most suitable uses for different levels of flood risk.	
	Biodiversity	--	Site is adjacent to River Don Corridor LNCS, but is not itself covered by the designation. Owing to the size of the site, there is also likely to be a significant effect on the River Dee SAC due to water abstraction.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques. HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may also be required.	
			OP64 Ness Solar Farm		New site. First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014. Comments on flooding and water informed by comments from SEPA
	Biodiversity	-	Site is located on a disused landfill that is in the process of being naturalised. It is low quality grass and scrubland and impact on biodiversity likely to be limited. Site is close to, but not covered by the Tullos Hill Local Nature Conservation Site.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	++	Solar farm will directly promote the generation and use of renewable energy, thus reducing the environmental impacts from greenhouse gases and other pollutants. Will not be a significant traffic generating use. Very small patches of the site are identified as being at risk of surface water flooding, but this is not significant.		SEPA. Cultural heraitge infomed by comments received from Historic Scotland (Historic Environment Scotland)
	Soil	- -	Use of, or spills of chemicals used at solar facilities presents the risk of soil contamination, however this is uncertain. There may also be contamination risks associated with the development of the landfill site.	Operation of solar facilities and potential pollution will be regulated; this is not a matter for planning.	
	Water	0/- -	Operation of a solar farm does not require water use and will not increase the need for abstraction of water from the River Dee. The use of or spills of chemicals used at a solar facility also presents the risk of contamination of surface or groundwater. There are no watercourses in the immediate vicinity.	Operation of solar facilities and potential pollution will be regulated; this is not a matter for planning.	
	Landscape	-	Likely to have some impact on the landscape setting of the city. It will be a relatively small solar facility, but the installations will be numerous and geometric. Glare is not thought to be a significant issue with the type of panels proposed.		
	Population	+	Construction and operation of solar facilities is likely to create both direct and indirect employment opportunities		
	Cultural Heritage	-	Unlikely to result in the loss of any built or cultural heritage features. There are a number of schuduled cairns in proximity to the site, the proposal has the potential to impact on the setting of these sites.	Input from MDC on applicaion, and the design and heritage policies will be used to mitigte negative impacts.	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on human health.		
	Material Assets	++	Development will create a significant new material asset for the whole city, in the form of a utility scale solar energy facility.		
OP87 Pittodrie Park					Existing site.Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Landscape	+/-	Large-scale development in this prominent location is likely to impact significantly on the surrounding landscape, which is in a prominent and exposed position when viewed from Beach Esplanade. However, impact largely local. If designed sensitively may be an improvement on the existing football stadium, which is very prominent.		
OP89 Smithfield School					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Population/Material Assets	++	In addition redevelopment in Tillydrone will support regeneration in the area having positive effects on population and material assets	Site identified by the Council as for the development of new affordable homes.	

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
OP90 St Machar Primary School					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	-	The site is close to areas of flood risk and may be vulnerable to the effects of future changes in climate. However the topography of the site would suggest that the site itself is not at risk of flooding.		
	Population/Material Assets	++	In addition redevelopment, especially if for housing, in Tillydrone will support regeneration in the area having positive effects on population and material assets		
OP88 Shore Porters Warehouse					Reassessed for Proposed Plan 2014.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
OP92 St Peter's Nursery Spital					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Site is within the Old Aberdeen conservation area and without careful consideration could impact negatively on cultural heritage. However site is currently overgrown and derelict, so proposals have the potential to improve its visual aspect considerably.		
OP94 Tillydrone Primary School					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Population/Material Assets	++	In addition redevelopment in Tillydrone will support regeneration in the area having positive affects on population and material assets.	Site identified by the Council as for the development of new affordable homes.	
OP103 Torry Nursery School					New site. First Assessed for Proposed Plan 2014.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
OP96 Upper/Basement Floors 73-149 Union Street					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010.FRA requested by SEPA. Updated to reflect comments of flood risk from SEPA.
	Climatic Factors	-	Flood risk should be considered on this site; given historical flood events. Areas of the site also appear to be at risk from surface water flooding. Risk of flooding from culverts and road drains.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Building is Grade A listed and within Union Street Conservation area. Development has the potential to bring the whole building back into use and enhance its maintenance and the streetscape of the conservation area. Redevelopment could have significant negative impacts on cultural heritage if not sensitively designed.		
OP97 Victoria Road School					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within River Dee catchment area but is not on a direct pathway.		

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	-	Site itself is not identified as being at risk of flooding, but is close to areas at risk from flooding and may be vulnerable to future changes in global climate.		
OP98 VSA Gallowgate					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to River Dee.
	Biodiversity	-	Site falls within River Dee catchment area but is not on a direct pathway.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	VSA is a category C listed building, and is situated next to St Margret of Scotland Episcopal Church, which is a category B listed building. Opposite the VSA is 111 Gallowgate, which is also a category C listed building. Development has the potential to bring the VSA back into use with sensitive and high quality design, but may also have a negative effect on the site and setting of these other heritage assets.		
OP99 The Waterfront, Torry					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to LNCS and flood risk. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Biodiversity	--	Site falls within the River Dee catchment area and is in close proximity to the SAC, so there may be a direct pathway. Impact likely to be limited owing to the existing industrial nature of the site.	HRA Appropriate Assessment and EIA may be required. Ecological assessment and CEMP required.	
	Water	--	Part of the site is at risk of flooding, which is likely to have a negative effect through the loss or damage of material assets in the event of a flood.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Climatic Factors	--	Development is close to areas at risk of coastal and river flooding and may be vulnerable to effects of changes in climate. A small part of the site falls within the 0.5% annual risk of fluvial/coastal flooding. There is a history of flooding from the River Dee.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
OP100 Water Lane Grannary					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Add reference to River Dee.
	Biodiversity	-	Falls within River Dee catchment area but is not on a direct pathway.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Site is in close proximity to the Harbour and the area of land at risk from flooding from the River Dee/coastline, although site itself not at risk of floodin. This site may be vulnerable to future changes in climate.		
OO68 1 Western Road					Existing site.Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is adjacent to Inverness to Kittybrewster Rilaway Line is a Local Nature Conservation Site but not covered by the designation itself.		
OP101 Woodside Congregational Church					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		
OP69 140 Causewayend					Existing site. Last assessed for

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	All	+/-	As per general brownfield assessment		Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
OP70 35 Froghall Road					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Close to Old Aberdeen Conservation Area and development has the potential to enhance cultural heritage if sensitively designed. If not, the impact will be negative.		
OP71 41 Nelson Street					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Biodiversity	-	Site is adjacent to Inverness to Kittybrewster Rilaway Line is a Local Nature Conservation Site but not covered by the designation itself.		
OP95 Triple Kirks					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan. No changes.
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	The restoration of this Grade A Listed Building in this prominent location has the potential to bring this building back into use and enhance heritage in the Conservation Area. Redevelopment could also have negative impacts on cultural heritage if not sensitively designed.		
OP110 Wellington Road					New site. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. No change to assessent, but is identified as an Opportunity Site in Proposed Plan as a result of Council decision. Updated at modificaiton stage 2016 to reflect SEPA's comment on possible surface flood water.
	Biodiversity	-	This site falls within the River Dee SAC catchment area. NESBReC records do not indicate the presence of any protected species on this site.		
	Climatic Factors	-	Record of flooding from small watercourses nearby, and areas of the site shown at risk of surface water flooding.	Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying develoment proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.	
	Population	0	Site is proposed for retail use		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritge assets on the site		
OP115 Abbotswell Road					New site. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk. Updated at modifications stage 2016. Site is now an opportunity site.
	Biodiversity	-	The site is bordered by the River Dee Corridor LNCS to the north and west. Site is also within the River Dee SAC catchment and is on the banks of the river.	. HRA Appropriate Assessment required, which will trigger requirement for EIA. CEMP required. Ecological assessment required to determine and avoid effect on Culter Burn LNCS. Protection through Natural Environment policies. Appropriate buffer zones to be in place.	

Issue	Indicator	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement for significant effects (++/--)	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	-	Site is not identified as being at known risk of flooding according to SEPA Flood Risk Maps. However, it is close to the area currently identified as being flood risk from the Dee and may be vulnerable to the effects of future changes in climate. There is also a semi-natural burn running along the eastern edge of the site, which is culverted beneath Abbotswell Road. This small watercourse may also be vulnerable to flooding in future.		
	Water	--	There is currently a semi-naturalised small watercourse running through the middle of the wider site and the eastern edge of the site proposed for housing. It is unclear how this is proposed to be treated or promoted.		
	Population	+/-	The redevelopment of this site/rezoning of this area would provide housing. However, it would also involve the loss of current employment uses and may also remove protection for existing businesses on site and open them up to redevelopment for housing. A noise assessment will be required.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage designations on the site		
OP116 Froghall Terrace					
	Soil	+'	Site is identified as potentially contaminated land. Develoment would enable the remediation of contaminated land if this is found on site.	When already exisitng contaminaiton is suspected, a site investigation should be carried out and any contamination remediated as approporaite.	Updated at modifications stage 2016. Site is now an opportunity site. Previously assessed as brownfield general
	Population	+'	Redevelopment of the vacant site has the potential to contribute positivelyby providing housing for the population, which may include affordable housing.		
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Close to Old Aberdeen Conservation Area and development has the potential to enhance cultural heritage if sensitively designed. If not, the impact will be negative.		

5.c. Brownfield Alternative Options					
Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
			B0105 Raiths Transport Interchange		New site. Last assessed for Main Issues Repor 2013 (as a preferred option). This site is now an alternative option following advice from NESTRANS and Transport Scotland. Additional comments on water and flooding to reflect comments from SEPA.
	Biodiversity	-	The site is in close proximity to the Aberdeen-Inverness and Kittybrewster railway Line Local Nature Conservation Site.		
	Climatic Factors	--	There are two recorded flood incidents at Pitmedden Road (blocked drains) and to the small watercourse on the northern boundary of the site, which has been blocked on one occaision. The drainage system in this area was considered inadequate and required upgrading. Presence of small watercourses and relatively large areas shown at risk of surface water flooding, historical flooding adjacent to the site.		
	Water	-	There is a small tributary of the River Don adjacent to the site and there is already pollution pressure from the Pitmedden Industrial Estate. Site not currently connected to the public sewerage system. Large areas of site at risk of surface water flooding which may have a negative impact on water quality in the event of a flood.		
	Human Health	--	Site is within Airport Noise Contour, meaning that there will be significant impacts on human health as a result of aircraft noise from the airport. Close to but not within Airport Exclusion Zone.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage features present on the site		
	Material Assets	-- or +	It is undetermined whether the proposed use would sterilize the future potential or development of the transport interchange. This would need to be established with Network Rail. Large areas of site at risk of surface water flooding; would be a negative impact through damage or loss of assets.		
			B0103 The Spires North		New site. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. No change.
	Biodiversity	-	Adjacent to the Aberdeen- Inverness railway LNCS. Designated species recorded by NESBREC for the site (with a 100m buffer) include Common Goldeneye Common Kingfisher, Greater White-fronted Goose, Whooper Swan and House Sparrow. It is possible that some of these species are associated with the River Don corridor and are not to be found on site, particularly given that there is very little natural habitat on the site.		
	Landscape	--	This is an especially prominent site in the local area, which is elevated and highly visible from the surrounding area. The current view of the site is likely to be improved through new residential development, but will still be highly prominent and intrusive.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Population	+/-	The redevelopment of this site will provide housing, but will also mean the loss of current employment uses on site and a decrease in the size of the industrial estate.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site.		
			B0207 Mundurno Industrial		New site. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. Updated to reflect SEPA comments on flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	+/-	One development proposal for this site is a new facility creating fuel from waste. This would promote the use of waste as a resource and prevent it being landfilled. Small parts of the site show to be at risk of surface water flooding.		
	Population	0	Not proposed for housing, employment or another population enhancing use.		
	Human Health	0	Highly unlikely any open space or recreational opportunities will be provided in association with this site as it is very isolated from any nearby residential development, within a low amenity industrial area is not an appropriate place for recreational facilities.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No built or cultural heritage assets on the site.		
	Material Assets	++	New energy from waste facility would be a significant new asset for the whole city.		
			B0601 Hillhead		New site. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. No change.
	Biodiversity	-	Development would result in the loss of mature woodland to the north of the site. The River Don Corridor LNCS lies adjacent to the site to the north. The Donmouth Nature Reserve, which is downstream of the site, may also be affected. Designated species recorded for this site by NESBReC: Wych Elm, Common Bullfinch, Slender Trefoil, Greater White-fronted Goose, Common Kingfisher, Common Goldeneye, Common Starling, Hedge Accentor, Black-headed Gull, Herring Gull, House Sparrow, Wild Pansy.		
	Climatic Factors	--	The area identified as being at risk of flooding from the Don rises to the northern border of the site, but does not affect the site itself. Site is on top of a steep scarp; unlikely to be affected by flooding.		
	Landscape	-	This development would result in the loss of green space and woodland.		
	Population	++	Currently proposed that this site may be used for student accommodation. If so, this would contribute to meeting the specialist housing needs of this group.		
	Human Health	--	It is possible that this development would result in the loss of green space and woodland, as well as sports facilities including tennis courts.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Development may affect the setting of listed buildings Brig o Balgownie, and is also within the Old Aberdeen Conservation Area. Note that the proposals note that there is the potential for the restoration of the historic Rose Cottage (Grade B Listed) on the site, which would be a benefit.		
			B1001 Queen's Road		New site. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. No change.
	Biodiversity	-	This site falls within River Dee SAC catchment. The southern part of this site is within Tree Preservation Order Area 13. There are records of bats (Chiroptera) in the area and Wych Elm, Common Tern, Eurasian Woodcock and Hedge Accentor, all of which are designated species.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	The site lies within the Albyn Place/Rubislaw Conservation Area and contains 3 Category B Listed buildings. There are another 2 Category B Listed buildings on either side of this development site.		
			B1201 Greyhope Bay		New site. Last assessed for Main Issues Report 2013. No change.
	Biodiversity	--	Site is covered by LNCS designation (Balnagask to Cove)		
	Climatic Factors	-	However, the site is close to the area identified as being at risk of coastal flooding on SEPA's flood maps, and may be vulnerable to the effects of future changes in climate. However at present it sits atop a cliff.		
	Soil	+	Proposals are for a visitors centre with a strong educational element that could directly encourage greater understanding of geodiversity features in the local area.		
	Population	0	Site is proposed for a visitor's centre; will not have a significant impact on population.		
	Cultural Heritage	-	Designated heritage assets are the Girdle Ness Category A listed lighthouse and the Torry Battery scheduled monument. Other non-designated heritage assets are also present on or close to the site, including anti-tank blocks associated with the battery, boundary stones and the site of cottages, suggesting that the area may be of archaeological significance.		

6. Other Preferred Options Identified					
Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
OP26 Auchmill Golf Course					Existing site. Reassessed for Proposed Plan 2014 to reflect proposed use as replacement holes for golf course.
	Biodiversity	+	Given the low biodiversity value of the site, any strategic landscaping associated with the development is likely to be of benefit; but in general unlikely to be any significant impact.		
	Air	0	Site is for replacement holes; the golf club is already in operation. Therefore this development is not likely to increase the number of cars visiting the club. No other effect on air.		
	Climatic factors	0	Site is for replacement holes; the golf club is already in operation. Therefore this development is not likely to increase the number of cars visiting the club. No other effect on climate.		
	Soil	-	May be a short-term negative impact on soil through the removal or re-grading of soil to form new fairways and greens which may exacerbate soil erosion in the short-term. In the longer-term there will be no significant impact.		
	Water	0	It is likely that water will be required to service this development, however the proposal is for replacement holes, therefore it can be expected that water requirements will not increase beyond current levels.		
	Landscape	0	There will be no significant impact on landscape; the site will remain open and green in character. No built development associated.		
	Population	0	No significant impact on population.		
	Human Health	+	Replacement golf holes will help to ensure that this valuable recreational asset is not lost in the course of the Greenferns development. This will ensure that people have continued access to sporting and recreational activities.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	Will have no impact on cultural heritage.		
	Material Assets	0	Will have no significant impact on material assets.		
OP4 Dubford Community Facilities					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Cultural Heritage	0	Development will have no impact on cultural heritage.		
	Population	+	Will provide new housing that will provide facilities to meet the needs of a diverse population, including community centre, education, local shops etc.		
	Material Assets	+	Development will have a positive impact on material assets.		
OP85 King Street / Beach Esplanade					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. No changes.
	Air, Water, Soil, Climatic Factors	-	There will be a negative impact on these indicators due to the size of the proposed development on the site.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	-	There may be a detrimental impact on nearby Local Nature Conservation Sites, due to construction on site.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no impact on cultural heritage. There will also be no impact on landscape due to the surrounding are being partially built up.		
	Material Assets, Population	+	There will be a positive impact on material assets and population, as the provision of a mosque in this location will provide for the needs of a diverse population and may help to attract people to the city.		
	Human Health	+/-	There will be both positive and negative impacts on human health due to the loss of open space from the development of the site, and the social inclusion from the development of a new place of worship.		
OP44 North Lasts Quarry					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments from SEPA on flood risk.
	Water, Soil, Biodiversity, Climatic Factors	--	Current use as a quarry has negative impact on these indicators due to the nature of the use. A small part of the site is identified as being at 0.5% annual risk of fluvial flooding. Areas at risk of surface water flooding. Flooding is also likely to have a negative impact on water quality.	Flood Risk Assessment required.	
	Air	-	Negative local impacts on air as a result of dust creation from quarrying activities.		
	Landscape	--	Development will have a significant negative impact on landscape.	Quarry is well established, is located in an isolated area and is well screened from view.	
	Material Assets	++	Retaining the site as a quarry will help to continue to provide aggregate to supply construction projects in the North East, reducing transport costs.		
	Cultural Heritage, Population, Human Health	+	There will be a positive impact in material assets due to the output of building materials quarried, to supply development in Aberdeen and across the region.		
OP50 Skene Road Hazlehead					Existing site. Last assessed for Proposed Plan 2010. Updated to reflect comments made by SEPA on flood risk.
	Climatic Factors	-	Possible risk of flooding from small watercourses which flows through the centre of the site. Areas of the site identified as risk of pluvial flooding. Steep gradient may cause increased surface water runoff.	Flood Risk Assessment Required	
	Water	-	Risk of negative impact on water quality as a result of a flood event.	Flood Risk Assessment Required	
	Soil, Biodiversity, Landscape	-	Development will have negative impacts on these indicators as a result of development.		
	All other indicators	0	There will be no effects on the other indicators.		
OP107 Greenwell Road Gas Holder (East Tullos)					New site. Last assessed for

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Biodiversity	0	There are no designated sites within the boundary. Tullos Hill Local Nature Conservation Site is adjacent to the site but no impact is anticipated.		Main Issues Report 2013, as a potential site for retail/mixed use. Site was previously an alternative, is now an OP site for waste management facilities. Site has been fully reassessed for Proposed Plan 2014 for this use. Updated at modificaiton stage 2016 to reflect SEPA's comment on possible surface flood water.
	Air	-	Use of the site as an energy from waste plant could have air quality implications because carbon dioxide is emitted during the thermal treatment of the waste. However, if the waste was landfilled, the amount of methane produced would have more than twice the global warming potential. Site is in close proximity to the Wellington Road AQMA.		
	Climatic Factors	++	The development of an Energy from Waste plant will promote the use of renewable energy; thermal treatment of waste also has a lesser effect on global warming than landfilling waste. Potential surface water flooding.	Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying develoment proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.	
	Soil	-/+	As per general brownfield assessment.		
	Water	-	As per general brownfield assessment.		
	Population	+	Development will reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill which will reduce future land take of landfill sites and will have an overall positive impact on the environmental and economic well-being of the city.		
	Landscape	-	Energy from Waste plants usually involves the construction of a stack or tower, which will be highly visible from surrounding areas.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no impact on cultural heritage.		
	Human Health	0	Although there is some evidence that incineration of waste has some negative effects on human health, in the main this is not conclusive, and effects were likely to be small.		
	Material Assets	++	Development will provide a site for modern energy from waste plant for the whole city of Aberdeen.		
OP86 Dyce Railway Station Car Park					New site. First assessed for Proposed Plan 2014. Updated at modificaiton stage 2016 to reflect SEPA's comment on possible surface flood water.
	Biodiversity	0	Site has not been previously developed, but it is poor qualiy grassland that is unlikely to contain any species, habitats or native wildlife that would be negatively impacted. However site is proposed for car-park use which will restrict opportunities for biodiversity enhancement in future.		
	Air	-/+	An increase in car parking spaces may have the effect of encouraging more people to drive their cars to the station, which will may increase congestion and have a negative effect on air quality. However, it may also ease inappropriate parking on nearby roads which may ease congestion. Therefore there is likely to be a mixed effect.		

Issue	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation	When Last Assessed and Changes Since
	Climatic Factors	-	Additional car parking is likely to encourage people to use their cars rather than sustainable and active travel and public transport. Development would result in a large area of land being covered in hardstanding, which will increase surface water run-off.	Drainage Impact Assessment accompanying develoment proposals should address any surface water flooding issues.	
	Soil	-	Likely to be a short-term adverse impact on soil through erosion, desegregation and compaction. May also release substances that could potentially contaminate the soil. No impact on geodiversity. May result in some construction waste, but no operational waste.		
	Water	0/-	Will not increase the need to abstract water from the River Dee. May be limited amounts of water-borne pollution, but very likely to increase the amount of surfact water run-off. Will not require to be connected to public sewerage system.		
	Landscape	-	Redevelopment likely to have a negative impact on the open landscape setting of the surrounding area and local houses. However impact will be localised and therefore effect will not be significant.		
	Population	0	No significant impact on population.		
	Human Health	-	Redevelopment will lead to loss of an area of open space that, while not formally laid out as pitches or park, is used for informal recreation and access indicated by desire paths across the site. This would be lost.		
	Cultural Heritage	0	No significant impact on cultural heritage.		
	Material Assets	+	Site will provide additional car parking facilities that have been identified as much-needed by transport and rail authorities. This will support and promote the use of the rail station at Dyce, making it more attractive to users, which will have a positive effect on take-up of rail travel in this part of the city.		

Policy and Supplementary Guidance Preferred Options				
Policy	**Topic**	**Score**	**Comments**	**Mitigation/Enhancement**
Land Release and Phasing				
LR1 Land Release Policy				
Part A First Phase Release Policy allows the release of first phase greenfield development. This would result in a cumulative impact that would be greater than the individual sites. However, overall impact would be minimised by development sites being phased.				
	Biodiversity	--	Development of this number of houses and employment uses on greenfield land will have a significnat impact on biodiversity through the loss and disturbance of habitats, species, green networks, trees and hedgerows. Development on this scale will also place pressure on water abstraction from the River Dee to service new development.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques.
	Air	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on air through large-scale construction releasing particulate matter into the air. Also likely to generate significant amounts of new traffic journeys in the city with a negative impact on air quality. Increase in industrial land uses may also have a negative impact on air.	Significant negative impacts minimised and mitigated by LDP policies on Sustainable and Active Travel, air quality, transport, design and historic environment, natural environment, housing.
	Climatic Factors	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on climate, through increased energy use for new buildings, and increased traffic journeys releasing GHG. Large-scale development will increase surface water run-off and the likelihood of flooding.	
	Soil	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on soil as a result of large-scale development, causing soil sealing, erosion, desegregation and compaction. Possible that some contaminants will be released into the soil. New development will generate significant amounts of waste, some of which will be landfilled.	
	Water	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on water. Large-scale new development will require increased abstraction from the River Dee to service it. Likely that some development will physically impact on watercourses, or result in the release of water-borne pollutants.	
	Landscape	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on landscape, with large-scale development taking place on greenfield areas on the edge of the city, affecting its landscape setting. Likely that development will also destroy smaller scale landscape features such as boundary walls etc.	
	Population	++	The release of land for housing and employment will have a significant positive impact for population, by providing housing, some of it affordable, to meet identified needs for population growth in the city. Additional employment land will support economic growth and employment opportunities.	
	Human Health	++	The release of land for housing and employment will have a significant positive impact on health by providing new homes and community facilities for an expanded population, including new and enhanced areas of open space.	
	Cultural Heritage	--/++	There is likely to be some impact on cultural heritage around the city arising from some large scale development. Some may be negative through the loss or disturbance of historic assets, other is likely to positive through enhancing the setting and awareness of Aberdeen's heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	Will be significant positive impact on material assets, through the creation of new housing and employment buildings, hard and soft infrastructure.	
Part B Second Phase Release Policy identifies sites for second phase release through a future plan. This would result in a cumulative impact that would be greater than the individual sites. However overall impact would be minimised by development sites being phased.				
	Biodiversity	--	Development of this number of houses and employment uses on greenfield land will have a significnat impact on biodiversity through the loss and disturbance of habitats, species, green networks, trees and hedgerows. Development on this scale will also place pressure on water abstraction from the River Dee to service new development.	Development will be phased and programmed so effects can be adequately managed over time. Policy R7 requires new development to use water-saving technologies and techniques.
	Air	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on air through large-scale construction releasing particulate matter into the air. Also likely to generate significant amounts of new traffic journeys in the city with a negative impact on air quality. Increase in industrial land uses may also have a negative impact on air.	Significant negative impacts minimised and mitigated by LDP policies on Sustainable and Active Travel, air quality, transport, design and historic environment, natural environment, housing.
	Climatic Factors	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on climate, through increased energy use for new buildings, and increased traffic journeys releasing GHG. Large-scale development will increase surface water run-off and the likelihood of flooding.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Soil	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on soil as a result of large-scale development, causing soil sealing, erosion, desegregation and compaction. Possible that some contaminants will be released into the soil. New development will generate significant amounts of waste, some of which will be landfilled.	
	Water	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on water. Large-scale new development will require increased abstraction from the River Dee to service it. Likely that some development will physically impact on watercourses, or result in the release of water-borne pollutants.	
	Landscape	--	Likely to be a significant negative impact on landscape, with large-scale development taking place on greenfield areas on the edge of the city, affecting its landscape setting. Likely that development will also destroy smaller scale landscape features such as boundary walls etc.	
	Population	++	The release of land for housing and employment will have a significant positive impact for population, by providing housing, some of it affordable, to meet identified needs for population growth in the city. Additional employment land will support economic growth and employment opportunities.	
	Human Health	++	The release of land for housing and employment will have a significant positive impact on health by providing new homes and community facilities for an expanded population, including new and enhanced areas of open space.	
	Cultural Heritage	--/++	There is likely to be some impact on cultural heritage around the city arising from some large scale development. Some may be negative through the loss or disturbance of historic assets, other is likely to positive through enhancing the setting and awareness of Aberdeen's heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	Will be significant positive impact on material assets, through the creation of new housing and employment buildings, hard and soft infrastructure.	
LR2 Delivery of Mixed Use Communities Policy ensures that large new greenfield housing release includes a mix of housing and employment, and that employment land is delivered alongwith the housing land.				
	Biodiversity	0	No impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	No impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	+	This policy encourages more sustainable communities which will reduce the need for commuting by allowing people to live close to their work.	
	Soil	0	No impact on soil	
	Water	0	No impact on water	
	Landscape	0	No impact on landscape	
	Population	++	Policy does not directly promote development, but the timeous delivery of employment land will have positive benefits for economic growth and employment opportunities in areas close to where people live.	
	Human Health	+	Mixing development facilitates and encourages walking and cycling which will improve people's health and wellbeing.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	++	Policy does not directly promote development, but the timeous delivery of employment land will have positive benefits for material assets.	
Infrastructure Delivery				
I1 Infrastructure and Developer Contributions Policy provides guidance on developer contributions and infrastructure requirements according to 8 masterplan zones. It provides a clear and concise guide to the contributions that each developer will be expected to pay to support new development.				
	Biodiversity	0	No impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	No impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	0	No impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	No impact on soil.	
	Water	0	No impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	No impact on landscape.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Population	+	Will provide new infrastructure that will support economic growth in Aberdeen which will provide employment opportunities for the population, and facilitate an increase in the supply of housing and other community facilities.	
	Human Health	++	Efficient infrastructure networks can be beneficial to human health by providing community and health facilities, and making the city easier and more efficient to move around. Water, waste and utilities infrastructurea are also vital for public health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	Will have a direct and significant positive impact on material assets by providing new and necessary physical infrastructure such as roads, telecoms, utilities and community facilities.	
City Centre				
NC1 City Centre Policy encourages all major footfall-generating uses to locate in the City Centre, according to the sequential approach				
	Biodiversity	+	Development will have some indirect positive impacts by encouraging significant footfall-generating uses to locate in the City Centre, protecting habitats and greenfield sites outwith the CC from development. Unlikely to impact on the conservation objectives of the River Dee because development will be on brownfield sites. May be some opportunities for enhancement of green networks if good design principles are incorporated into new development.	
	Air	- -	Policy likely to increase vehicle traffic into the City Centre, compounding existing congestion and air quality issues, unless measures are taken to encourage public transport and sustainable and active travel. Likely to impact on City Centre AQMA.	LDP includes Sustainable and Active Travel policies to promote walking, cycling and public transport. A Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan will also be produced for the city centre. Air Quality policy ensures new development will not negatively effect AQMAs.
	Climatic Factors	++/-	Encouraging development in the City Centre will help to reduce congestion and emission of greenhouse gases because of its accessibility and proximity to major public transport hubs. Some parts of the City Centre are vulnerable to localised short-term flooding, such as the Denburn area.	Positive impact on climate will be enhanced by the creation of the SUMP which will make it easier to move around the City Centre efficiently, making it more attractive.
	Soil	-	Development will be on brownfield sites, likely to have some short term negative impacts through soil sealing, compacion and erosion. Likely effect on waste depends on Council's waste policies. If Council improves its recycling targets this impact will be positive. If not the impact will be negative.	
	Water	-	New development in the City Centre is likely to increase demand for water abstraction, however impact will not be as significant because there is limited space in the City Centre to increase floorspace subsantially. Unlikely to impact on run-off, water borne pollution or watercourses.	
	Landscape	+/-	Policy will have a positive effect in reducing urban sprawl by encouraging major developments to locate in the City Centre. Impact on landscape setting dependent on design and scale of proposed developments.	
	Population	++	Policy will help to attarct a large number of people of all diversities and ages into the City Centre, providing retail, leisure, employment etc. opportunities for all in a highly accessible location.	
	Human Health	+/-	May be some negative impact on human health through adverse effect on air quality in the City Centre. Unlikely to provide open space or sporting facilities.	
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Impact on City Centre conservation area and listed buildings will be dependent on the design and scale of the proposed development. However in general is likely to enhance cultural heritage and encourage the reuse of historic buildings.	
	Material Assets	++	New development will result in a significant positive effect on material assets, very likely to provide new and improved residential, employment and community facilities. Other positive impacts on material assets will be dependent on the design.	
NC2 Retail Core and Union Street Policy encourages all major retail developments to locate in the City Centre.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Biodiversity	+	Development will have some indirect positive impacts by encouraging major retail to locate in the City Centre, protecting habitats and greenfield sites outwith the CC from retail development. Unlikely to impact on the conservation objectives of the River Dee because development in the city centre will be on brownfield sites. May be some opportunities for enhancement of green networks if good design principles are incorporated into new development.	
	Air	- -	Policy likely to increase vehicle traffic into the City Centre, compounding existing congestion and air quality issues, unless measures are taken to encourage public transport and sustainable and active travel. Likely to impact on City Centre AQMA.	LDP includes Sustainable and Active Travel policies to promote walking, cycling and public transport. A Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan will also be produced for the city centre. Air Quality policy ensures new development will not negatively effect AQMAs.
	Climatic Factors	++/-	Encouraging development in the City Centre will help to reduce congestion and emission of greenhouse gases because of its accessibility and proximity to major public transport hubs. Some parts of the City Centre are vulnerable to localised short-term flooding, such as the Denburn area.	
	Soil	-	Development will be on brownfield sites, likely to have some short term negative impacts through soil sealing, compacion and erosion. Likely effect on waste depends on Council's waste policies. If Council improves its recycling targets this impact will be positive. If not the impact will be negative.	
	Water	-	New development in the City Centre is likely to increase demand for water abstraction, however impact will not be as significant because there is limited space in the City Centre to increase floorspace subsantially. Unlikely to impact on run-off, water borne pollution or watercourses.	
	Landscape	+/-	Policy will have a positive effect in reducing urban sprawl by encouraging major retail developments to locate in the City Centre. Impact on landscape setting dependent on design and scale of proposed developments.	
	Population	++	Policy will help to attract a large number of people of all diversities and ages into the City Centre, providing retail opportunities for all in a highly accessible location.	
	Human Health	+/-	May be some negative impact on human health through adverse effect on air quality in the City Centre. Unlikely to provide open space or sporting facilities.	
	Cultural Heritage	**+/-**	Impact on City Centre conservation area and listed buildings will be dependent on the design and scale of the proposed development. However in general is likely to enhance cultural heritage and encourage the reuse of historic buildings.	
	Material Assets	**++**	New development will result in a significant positive effect on material assets, very likely to provide new retail facilities to meet the needs identified in the Aberdeen City and Shire Retail Study 2013. Other positive impacts on material assets will be dependent on the design.	
NC3 West End Shops and Cafes This policy is protective, protecting the shops and cafes in the West End from change of use.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any effect on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	Policu will not have any effect on air.	
	Climatic Factors	+	By protecting shops in the West End, policy may have an indirect positive effect on climate by retaining shops in the City Centre, which are easily accessible by walking, cycling and public transport.	
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any effect on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any effect on water.	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any effect on landscape.	
	Population	+	The policy will attract people of all diversities and ages into the West End of the City Centre to visit the shops and cafes, providing retail opportunities for the population.	
	Human Health	0	Policy will not have any effect on human health.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Cultural Heritage	-/+	Impact on cultural heritage and historic environment is dependent on design. In general, the policy is likely to help conserve and enhance historic buildings and conservation areas by encouraging the reuse of historic buildings.	
	Material Assets	0	Policy will not lead to any new development; however there is likely to be some positive impact on material assets by preventing the loss of or conversion of existing shops.	
NC4 Sequential Approach and Impact Encourages significant footfall generating development to be located within a designated centre.				
	Biodiversity	+	By encouraging significant footfall generating development to be located within a designated centre, policy protects habitats and greenfield sites outwith of designated centres or on the edge of the city from development.	
	Air	-/+	Likely to increase traffic into the City Centre where this appilies which will have a negative impact there; however in general by clustering footfall generating uses together in designated centres, there will be reduced car trips and more opportunities for public transport.	
	Climatic Factors	++/-	Encouraging development in designated centres will help to reduce congestion and emission of greenhouse gases because of its accessibility and proximity to major public transport hubs. The topography of some centres, including the City Centre are liable to flooding for example around the Denburn area.	
	Soil	-	Development will be on brownfield sites, likely to have some short term negative impacts through soil sealing, compacion and erosion. Likely effect on waste depends on Council's waste policies. If Council improves its recycling targets this impact will be positive. If not the impact will be negative.	
	Water	-	New development in existing centres is likely to increase demand for water abstraction, however impact will not be as significant because there is generally limited space in existing centres to increase floorspace subsantially. Unlikely to impact on run-off, water borne pollution or watercourses.	
	Landscape	+/-	Policy will have a positive effect in reducing urban sprawl by encouraging major developments to locate in existing centres. Impact on landscape setting dependent on design and scale of proposed developments.	
	Population	+	The policy will attract people of all diversities and ages into existing centres to visit the shops and cafes, providing retail opportunities for the population in convenient locations.	
	Cultural Heritage	-/+	Impact on cultural heritage and historic environment is dependent on design. In general, the policy is likely to help conserve and enhance historic buildings and conservation areas by encouraging the reuse of historic buildings.	
	Material Assets	**++**	In general new development in existing centres will provide scope for the creation of new assets and this is likely to have a significant positive effect on material assets.	
NC5 Out of Centre Proposals				
	Biodiversity	+	By encouraging significant footfall generating development to be located within a designated centre, policy protects habitats and greenfield sites outwith of designated centres or on the edge of the city from development.	
	Air	-/+	Likely to increase traffic into the City Centre where this appilies which will have a negative impact there; however in general by clustering footfall generating uses together in designated centres, there will be reduced car trips and more opportunities for public transport.	
	Climatic Factors	++/-	Encouraging development in designated centres will help to reduce congestion and emission of greenhouse gases because of its accessibility and proximity to major public transport hubs.	
	Soil	-	Development will be on brownfield sites, likely to have some short term negative impacts through soil sealing, compacion and erosion. Likely effect on waste depends on Council's waste policies. If Council improves its recycling targets this impact will be positive. If not the impact will be negative.	
	Water	-	New development in existing centres e is likely to increase demand for water abstraction, however impact will not be as significant because there is generally limited space in existing centres to increase floorspace subsantially. Unlikely to impact on run-off, water borne pollution or watercourses.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Landscape	+	Policy will have a positive effect in reducing urban sprawl by encouraging major developments to locate in existing centres. Impact on landscape setting dependent on design and scale of proposed developments.	
	Population	+	The policy will attract people of all diversities and ages into existing centres to visit the shops and cafes, providing retail opportunities for the population in convenient locations.	
	Cultural Heritage	-/+	Impact on cultural heritage and historic environment is dependent on design. In general, the policy is likely to help conserve and enhance historic buildings and conservation areas by encouraging the reuse of historic buildings.	
	Material Assets	++	In general new development in existing centres will provide scope for the creation of new assets and this is likely to have a significant positive effect on material assets.	
NC6 Town, District, Neighbourhood and Commercial Centres States that retail is the preferred use within designated centres although a mix of uses is desirable. Protective policy that protects against changes of use that would harm established centres.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any effect on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	Policy will not have any effect on air.	
	Climatic Factors	+	By protecting local shops in established centres policy may have an indirect positive effect on climate because centres which are generally easily accessible by walking, cycling and public transport.	
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any effect on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any effect on water.	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any effect on landscape.	
	Population	+	The policy will attract people of all diversities and ages into established centres located across the city, providing retail and other opportunities for the population.	
	Human Health	0	Policy will not have any effect on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	-/+	Impact on cultural heritage and historic environment is dependent on design. In general, the policy is likely to help conserve and enhance historic buildings and conservation areas by encouraging the reuse of historic buildings.	
	Material Assets	0	Policy will not lead to any new development; however there is likely to be some positive impact on material assets by preventing the loss of or conversion of existing shops in established centres.	
NC7 Local Shops Policy protects local shops which are not part of the established hierarchy of centres, from change of use.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any effect on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	Policy will not have any effect on air.	
	Climatic Factors	+	By protecting local shops which are easily accessible by walking, cycling and public transport, policy will have a positive impact on climate by reducing the need to travel by car.	
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any effect on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any effect on water.	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any effect on landscape.	
	Population	+	The policy will help to maintain local shops across the city, meaning that people will be able to access the goods they need in convenient locations.	
	Human Health	0	Policy will not have any effect on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	-/+	Impact on cultural heritage and historic environment is dependent on design. In general, the policy is likely to help conserve and enhance historic buildings and conservation areas by encouraging the reuse of historic buildings.	
	Material Assets	0	Policy will not lead to any new development; however there is likely to be some positive impact on material assets by preventing the loss of or conversion of existing local shops.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
NC8 Retail Development Serving New Developments Policy requires that large new developments which have been identified as needing retail provision, must include such provision in the masterplanning of the new development.				
	Biodiversity	0/+	By encouraging retail development in new communities, this policy will protect habitats from ad-hoc development outwith these areas. Development could also provide and enhance habitats if good design principles are used.	
	Air	+/-	Likely to result in the release of particulate matter in constructing new development; large new developments are also likely to increase vehicle traffic which will impact negatively on air quality, but in general this policy will facilitate opportunities for sustainable and active travel by locating retail amongst new communities.	Policy works with and enhances sustainable and active travel policies
	Climatic Factors	++/-	Large new developments are likely to increase vehicle traffic and energy consumption; however by requiring new retail development to be integrated into new communities, policy is likely to facilitate and promote sustainable and active travel.	Policy works with and enhances those which promote energy and water efficiency, and renewable energy generation.
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any impact on soil over and above the context of the whole new development.	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any impact on water over and above the context of the whole new development.	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape over and above the context of the whole new development.	
	Population	++	Policy will provide new retail facilities for residents of new developments, in convenient and accessible locations.	
	Human Health	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape over and above the context of the whole new development.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will not be any impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	This policy will provide scope for the creation of new material assets; requires the provision of community facilities for the population.	
NC9 Beach and Leisure Policy that states beach and leisure proposals will be permitted provided that they fulfil certain criteria to protect the special character and function of the area, and do not generate significant car-borne journeys.				
	Biodiversity	0/+	Any new development at the beach would be brownfield; could provide and improve biodiversity if good design principles were used. No designated sites present at the beach and not likely to impact on the River Dee.	
	Air	-	Brownfield development likely to result in release of particulate matter during constructing of new development. Policy presumes against new development that generates significant car trips, helping to minimise negative impact on air. Will not impact on any AQMAs.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	Likely to promote sustainable and active travel, and reduce car journeys by actively discouraging development that generates significant car trips. New development is likely to increase energy consumption, however impact would be reduced if energy efficient technologies were used. Area is in close proximity to area at risk from coastal flooding.	
	Soil	-	Likely to have short-term negative impacts on soil; however effect will be less because new development would be brownfield. New development of retail/leisure unlikely to generate contamination of the ground. New development will generate more construction/operational waste; the likely effect of this depends on the Council's waste policies.	
	Water	-	There will be a medium to long-term negative impact on water as new development is built, through increased need to abstract water. However the effect is not likely to be significant as there is limited space for new development and it is likely to be intensification of use.	
	Landscape	+/-	Development is likely to have a positive effect on the landscape setting of the beach if good design principles are used.	
	Population	+	Development will provide additional retail, leisure and recreational opportunities for the population, attracting a range of people to the beach.	
	Human Health	-/+	There is the potential to sever links between residential areas and recreational sites however this will be minimised if good design principles are used.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	In general all new development provides scope for the creation of new material assets; likely to provide new leisure and community facilities for the whole of Aberdeen.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
Transport				
T1 Land for Transport Identifies and safeguards land for strategic transport projects. The sites safeguarded are assessed cumulatively here.				
	Biodiversity	-	Safeguarding land for transport will have no effect on biodiversity in itself. However the development of large-scale transport projects is likely to have a negative effect on biodiversity, through loss, disturbance or habitat fragmentation. Some of the projects may impact on designated sites, however the impacts are uncertain at present, as the detail of proposals is yet to be refined.	
	Air	+/-	There will be a mixed impact on air quality; a number of the schemes are designed to discourage traffic from entering the city, reduce congestion, or encourage modal shift which will have a beneficial effect on air quality, especially on AQMAs. However road improvements may encourage trips by private car which may worsen air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	There will be a mixed impact on climatic factors; a number of the schemes are designed to discourage traffic from entering the city, reduce congestion, or encourage modal shift which will reduce pollution and GHG emissions. However road improvements may encourage trips by private car which may increase pollution.	
	Soil	-	Construction of new transport facilities could have an adverse impact on soil through erosion, desegregation and compacting. Development may also result in the release of substances during construction that could potentially contaminate the soil.	
	Water	-	There may be a slight risk of water contamination resulting from the construction of transport facilities; especially those crossing watercourses; the effects are uncertain at present. It is anticipated that SuDS will be implemented with all projects where appropriate.	
	Landscape	-	Some transport projects are likely to reduce open and green space in the city and intrude into the landscape, such as the AWPR and A96 Park and Choose sites which necessitate the loss of greenfield land.	
	Population	+	The transport schemes will contribute to developing a modern transport system for Aberdeen which will improve choice and travelling conditions, contributing to economic growth and social inclusion.	
	Human Health	+/-	Cumulatively the transport schemes are likely to improve air quality in some parts of the city (e.g. Haudagain) but may lead to worsened air quality in others. All transport schemes listed facilitate sedentary forms of travel which could have a long-term negative impact on health by making active travel less attractive. SOme of the projects may lead to a loss or severance of open space.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Unlikely to have any effect on cultural heritage assets; would depend on the nature of the site and proposals.	
	Material Assets	++/-	Policy will have very significant positive impacts on material assets through the construction of large-scale new infrastructure, which will also indirectly help to facilitate and unlock other development sites around the city.	
T2 Managing the Transport Impact of Development Commensurate with their scale and anticipated impact, new developments must demonstrate that sufficient measures have been taken to minimise traffic generated and to maximise opportunities for sustainable and active travel.				
	Biodiversity	-	A number of STF projects are likely to have a negative effect on biodiversity, through loss, disturbance or habitat fragmentation. Some of the projects may impact on designated sites, however the impacts are uncertain at present, as the detail of proposals is yet to be refined.	
	Air	+/-	There will be mixed impacts on air; the policy is intended to minimise traffic generated by new development which will have a positive effect on air quality; however STF projects are designed to accommodate increased traffic and improve the flow of road traffic throughout the city which might encourage an increase in car use.	Policy works in combination with sustainable and active travel policies.
	Climatic factors	-	There will be mixed impacts on climate. the policy is intended to minimise traffic generated by new development which will have a positive effect; however STF projects are designed to accommodate increased traffic and improve the flow of road traffic throughout the city which might encourage an increase in car use.	Policy is supported by sustainable and active travel policiesthat encourage and facilitate walking, cycling and public transport.
	Soil	-	Construction of new transport facilities could have a negative impact on soil through erosion, desegregation and compaction. Development could also result in the release of substances during construction that could potentially contaminate the soil.	
	Water	-/+	STF projects promote road transport improvements over the Rivers Dee and Don which could negatively impact on water quality at these locations; however impacts are uncertain at present until details come forward. SuDS are anticipated for new transport schemes were appropriate.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Landscape	+/-	Policy aims to minimise traffic generated by new development and be strategic about improvements, which should help to prevent a proliferation of large scale transport improvements in support of individual new development. However the STF projects are large-scale and could negatively impact on the landscape, especially around the Dee and Don.	
	Population	+/-	Policy requires new developments are accessible to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport. This promotes social inclusion and affordable travel for those who rely on public transport. Reducing traffic levels and congestion will also have significant benefits for economic growth.	
	Human Health	+/-	In general, ensuring new developments are accessible by sustainable modes of transport will benefit human health by encouraging physical activity (walking and cycling), and improving air quality. It should also improve links between new development and open spaces. However some STF projects will increase road capacity, leading to more vehicles and worsened air quality.	
	Cultural Heritage	-	In general unlikely to have any effect on cultural heritage assets; would depend on nature of the site and the proposals. Certain projects could negatively impact on designated heritage such as any improvements to or near the Bridge of Dee.	
	Material Assets	++/-	Policy will have very significant positive impacts on material assets through the construction of large-scale new infrastructure, which will also indirectly help to facilitate and unlock other development sites around the city.	
T3 Sustainable and Active Travel New developments must be accessible by a range of transport modes, with an emphasis on active and sustainable transport, and the internal layout of developments must prioritise walking, cycling and public transport penetration.				
	Biodiversity	+	Encouraging sustainable and active travel minimises the need for private car transport, and associated large-scale transport improvements which may have led to the loss or disturbance of habitats, species or green networks.	
	Air	+	Policy actively seeks to limit the transport impact of new development and reduce private car use, resulting in less congestion and improved air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	++	Aims to ensure new development is accessible by sustainable modes of transport and layouts prioritise walking and cycling, which will minimise congestion and the emission of polluting GHGs.	
	Soil	0	Policy will have no effect on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will have no effect on water.	
	Landscape	+	Encouraging sustainable and active travel minimises the need for private car transport, and associated large-scale transport improvements which are likely to intrude into the landscape or sever open spaces.	
	Population	++	Ensuring new development is accessible to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport will aid access to cheaper modes of transport, enhancing social inclusion and providing for those who rely on public transport. By indirectly helping to minimise congestion, policy is likely to contribute to economic growth in the city by making it more attractive and efficient to move around.	
	Human Health	++	Sustainble and active travel will benefit human health by facilitating physical activity and helping to improve air quality. Policy requires that existing access rights and links to open space are protected and enhanced.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will have no effect on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	Ensures that high quality sustainable transport facilities accompany new development and are improved throughout the city. Protects and enhances rights of way and pedestrian access links	
T4 Air Quality Development proposals which may have a detrimental impact on air quality will not be permitted unless measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants are proposed and agreed with the Planning Authority.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any effect on biodiversity.	
	Air	++	Policy will have a long-term anf significant positive effect on air quality by stating that development will not be permitted if it will have a negative impact on air quality without appropriate mitigation.	
	Climatic Factors	0	Policy is unlikely to have any significnat effect on greenhouse gases or renewable energy.	
	Soil	0	Policy will have no effect on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will have no effect on water	
	Landscape	0	Policy will have no effect on landscape	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Population	+	Helps to ensure that Aberdeen continues to be a desirable place to live, visit and invest in. May therefore have an indirect positive effect for economic growth.	
	Human Health	++	Policy seeks to ensure air in the city is safe and breathable, and that human health does not suffer as a result of air quality problems exacerbated by new development.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will have no effect on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy will have a positive effect on material assets by seeking to ensure that the environment in Aberdeen remains clean and safe place to live and invest in and visit.	
T5 Noise Aims to prevent conflict between noise generating developments, and noise sensitive uses. Protects Candidate Noise Management Areas and Candidate Quiet Areas from development that would lead to a deterioriation of noise conditions.				
	Biodiversity	+	Locating noisy developments away from Quiet Areas will have long term positive effects on species and habitats in these areas, by preventing noise disturbance.	
	Air	0	Policy will have no impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	0	Policy will have no impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	Policy will have no impact on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will have no impact on water.	
	Landscape	+	Policy will protect Quiet Areas, which are all public open spaces valued for their peacefulness, from noisy development taking place nearby.	
	Population	0	Policy will have no impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	Policy will have long-term and significant benefits for health, particularly mental health and well-being, by seeking to minimise noise and preserve the tranquility of Quiet Areas, and ensuring that noise-sensitive developments are not neighboured with noisy ones.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will have no impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Protecting Quiet Areas and separating noisy and noise-sensitive land uses represents good design and will have a long-term positive effect on the quality of life in the City. Preserving the integrity of Quiet Areas will have a long-term positive impact, enhancing the outdoor experience in these areas.	
Design				
D1 Quality Placemaking by Design Policy requires new development to have a strong and distinctive sense of place, demonstrating the six essential qualities of successful placemaking. Policy relates to improving the design of new development, and does not generate development in and of itself.				
	Biodiversity	**+**	Likely to have a long term positive effect; policy drives development to respect its surroundings, which includes ensuring valuable natural features are retained. Natural landscaping is encouraged and development should complement landscape and ecology.	
	Air	**+**	Policy is requiring new development to ensure placemaking principles which includes prioritising sustainable and active travel, and building at appropriate densities, which will help to limit new vehicle movements and the neagtive impact on air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Policy is requiring new development to ensure placemaking principles which includes prioritising sustainable and active travel, and building at appropriate densities, which will help to limit new vehicle movements and the neagtive impact on climate through GHG emissions. 'Resource efficient' is one of the six essential qualities of place.	
	Soil	0/+	Developments are required to be resource-efficient which includes consideration of recycling which will help reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill, having a long-term positive impact. There will not be any site-specific impact on soil.	
	Water	+/-	Achieving a balance of soft and hard landscaping and open space provision may have an impact on surface water run-off, however this is uncertain. Unlikely to be any significant effect.	
	Landscape	+	Policy will have a positive effect on the landscape setting of new developmens by encouraging the use of soft and hard landscaping. New development is expected to complement the existing landscaping and encourages the creation of sustainable communities that are distinctive and respond to their context.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Population	+	There will be a long-term positive impact because policy encourages a mix of house types and sizes in new development; and encourages new homes to be designed to accommodate future internal alterations which may help to support an elderly population.	
	Human Health	+	Well-designed developments are likely to have a long-term positive effect on health and wellbeing, by creating environments that are safe, welcoming and pleasant, where people will enjoy living and working. Places will also be required to prioritise pedestrians and sustainable and active travel, making them safer for people.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	Policy requires that development responds to a thorough analysis of the site context and retains and reuses any cultural heritage assets on the site.	
	Material Assets	++	Likely to have a significant and long-term positive impact by encouraging Aberdeen's new built environment to be high-quality, sustainable, attractive and resource efficient, incorporating excellent design principles.	
D2 Landscape Policy requires new development to improve and enhance the setting and visual impact of new development.				
	Biodiversity	++	Yes, there will be a long term positive impact from the policy as it actively promotes biodiversity and conserves, enhances or restores exiting landscape features, and encourages new landscapes where non exist. Likely to have a direct positive impact on habitat connectivity through the requirement for strategic landscape frameworks for new developments.	
	Air	+	Likely to be indirect positive effects of this policy on air because soft landscaping can help to absorb C02 and other airborne pollutants.	
	Climate	+	There is likely to be an indirect positive effect of this policy on reducing the emissions of greenhouses gases and flood risk as soft landscaping is expected, and landscape features are required to be conserved, enhanced, resorted or created.	
	Soil	+	May be an indirect long-term positive impact through the creation or restoration of landscape features.	
	Water	+	Landscape features can also act as SuDS which help to reduce surface water run-off and improve water quality.	Policy interacts with and mutually supports policy on flooding, drainage and water quality.
	Landscape	++	Policy will have a direct, significant and long term positive impact. New development must have a strong landscape framework, be informed by existing landscape features which are to be conserved, enhanced, restored or created.	
	Population	0	Policy will have no impact on population	
	Human Health	+	Likely to be direct positive effects, as landscaping can have a positive impact on people's physical and mental wellbeing and quality of life.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	Where present, landscaping can have a positive impact by protecting and conserving the setting of build and cultural heritage features.	
	Material Assets	+	The policy will have an indirect positive impact on material assets by ensuring existing built and natural features are incorporated in to site plans, and for the conservation, enhancement, restoration and creation of new landscape thereby ensuring pleasant and welcoming environment.	
D3 Big Buildings Policy requires that big buildings must be a high quality design which complements or improves the existing site context.				
	Biodiversity	0	Impact on biodiversity is uncertain. The impacts are dependent on the location of the development and the existing habitat.	
	Air	+/-	Big buildings can accommodate a large number of people. They may have a negative impact on carbon footprint and air quality if located away from transport hubs, as they would lead to an increase in car journeys. If located closed to transport hubs, there may be a slight positive impact on air.	
	Climate	+/-	Concentrating a large number of people at a high density will result in less land grab and a positive impact on greenhouses gases. Big buildings are likely to be located in the city centre therefore close to transport hubs, it is expected the location of the big buildings will result in an increase in sustainable and active travel. A big building will consume energy, and, if replacing a smaller building, it will consume more energy than what it is replacing. This can be mitigated by the design, materials and use of low and zero carbon technology. The impact on energy consumption is unknown due to these variables.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Soil	0	Development of big buildings will have a negative impact as it will result in soil sealing and compaction; the (re)development of brownfield sites may result in releasing substances into the soil; thereby the policy has a negative impact. However redeveloping site may result in a long term positive impact through the remediation of contamination.	
	Water	+/-	May be a negative impact on water in the medium to long term during the construction and servicing of the new development. May be an increase in the amount of surface water run off due to the scale, height of the building. The overall impact on water is unknown as it depends on the size of the building, the location, the previous land uses.	
	Landscape	++	Policy ensures big buildings are designed to fit their context, and requires an assessment of their visual impact. Well-designed and sensitive big buildings will add to the overall aesthetic of the city and add architectural merit to the skyline.	
	Population	+	There will be a long term positive impact; well-placed big buildings will offer a range of services to the population, promote economic growth, provide additional office/work space and hotel and leisure space.	
	Human Health	0	There will be no impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	The policy will have a positive impact on cultural heritage. Development will have to consider cultural heritage and landscape when assessing their impact on context and when assessing their impact on views.	
	Material Assets	+	There will be a positive long term impact on material assets as the city will increase its stock of big buildings that are designed to respond to their context.	
D4 Historic Environment Policy protects, conserves and enhances the historic environment, ensuring new development respects the character, appearance and setting of the historic environment.				
	Biodiversity	+	Policy is likely to have some indirect positive impact on biodiversity by protecting the natural spaces of historic assets, such as gardens, parkland and trees, which may be valuable for biodiversity. However likely to be limited opportunities for expansion or significant enhancement of these spaces.	
	Air	0/-	Unlikely to be any impact on air.	
	Climate	0	Unlikely to be any impact on climatic factors.	
	Soil	0	Unlikely to be any impact on soil.	
	Water	0	Unlikely to be any impact on water.	
	Landscape	++	Policy aims to protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment which includes areas of open space and the landscape setting of buildings.	
	Population	0	No impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	Within the Union Street Conservation Area and a small part of the Albyn Place/Rubislaw Conservation Area there are AQMAs. The impact of the policy is uncertain; however in general there will be no significant impact. Likely to be a positive long-term impact through conserving and enhancing historic open spaces. High quality historic environment may also improve mental health and wellbeing and quality of life.	
	Cultural Heritage	++	Long term positive impact on cultural heritage as the policy protects, conserves and enhances the historic environment in line with national guidance. Ensures developments on site are in keeping with the character and appearance and setting of the designated sites. The physical in situ preservation of all scheduled monuments and archaeological sites is supported.	
	Material Assets	0	Unlikely to be any impacts on material assets.	
D5 Our Granite Heritage Policy seeks the retention and appropriate re-use, conversion and adaptation of all granite features, structures and buildings.				
	Biodiversity	0	Unlikely to be any impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0/-	Unlikely to be any significant impact on air. Proposals to demolish buildings may have a small, localised short-term impact on air through the release of particulate matter.	
	Climate	0	Unlikely to be any significant impact on climate. The principle of retainig, reusing and adapting buildings will mean that embodied energy is retained.	
	Soil	0	Unlikely to be any significant impact on soil. Proposals to demolish buildings may have a small, localised short-term impact on soil sealing, erosion and compaction.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Water	0	No significant impact on water.	
	Landscape	+	The landscape character and local distinctive of Aberdeen is promoted by this policy which encourages the retention, reuse, conversion and adaption of granite features, structure and buildings.	
	Population	+	Policy may have a slight positive impact on population, as the reuse, conversion and redevelopment of existing buildings will lead to an increase in housing stock or employment space.	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely to be any significant impact on air. The policy may have an indirect impact on human health as the policy encourages the re-use, conversion and redevelopment of buildings, structure and features, some of which may be located within the air quality management areas.	
	Cultural Heritage	++	The policy seeks to retain, reuse, convert and adapt granite features, structures and buildings. This will have a long term positive impact on historic buildings, archaeological sites and conservation areas, and on the landscape setting of Aberdeen or any historic features or sites.	
	Material Assets	+/0	There may be some positive impact on material assets. Direct impact on population as the reuse, conversion and redevelopment of existing buildings will lead to an increase in housing stock, employment and/or leisure space. Indirect positive impact on allowing sustainable use of resources including waste and energy through embodied energy.	
Business and Industry				
B1 Business and Industrial Land Land zoned for business and industrial uses shall be retained for Class 4, 5 and 6 and safeguarded from conflicting development types. Permissions restricted to Class 4 when beside residential areas and buffer zones may be required to protect residential amenity. Facilities that support business and industry will be permitted where they enhance the attraction and sustainability of the city's business and industrial land.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any impact on on biodiversity.	
	Air	-	The principle of co-locating business and industrial uses is likely to have a localised negative impact on air quality, because it will promote the concentration of potentially air-polluting uses in a single locality.	
	Climate	0/+	Co-locating buisness and industry, especially on business parks, is likely to provide opportunities forf public transport or dedicated private transport to and from the area, which may help to promote sustainable and active travel. Significance of the positive impact would depend on the provision of suitable transport opportunities.	This policy is supported by Sustainable and Active travel policies
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any impact on soil.	
	Water	-	The principle of co-locating business and industrial uses is likely to have a localised negative impact on local watercourses or bodies, because it will promote the concentration of potentially water-polluting uses in a single locality.	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape.	
	Population	++	Will have a significant positive impact on population by safeguarding business and industrial land from other development pressures, helping to mainain Aberdeen as a competitive and sustainable business location, with plentiful employment opportunities.	
	Human Health	++	By concentrating business and industrial uses together, with appropriate buffer zones, policy will help to prevent conflict with sensitive land uses such as residential and protect people from noise, dust etc.	
	Cultural heritage	0	Policy will not have any impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Likely to have a positive effect by safeguarding areas of existing business and industrial land and associated infrastructure from other development pressures.	
B2 Specialist Employment Areas Land zoned for Specialist Employment Areas shall be retained for Class 4 safeguarded from conflicting development types. Facilities that support business and industry will be permitted where they enhance the attraction and sustainability of the city's business and industrial land.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any impact on on biodiversity.	
	Air	0/-	Policy will not have any impact on air. The principle of co-locating Class 4 uses will not have any significant impact on air because Class 4 is not an air-polluting use.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Climate	0/+	Co-locating Class 4 uses, especially on business parks, is likely to provide opportunities for public transport or dedicated private transport to and from the area, which may help to promote sustainable and active travel. Significance of the positive impact would depend on the provision of suitable transport opportunities.	This policy is supported by Sustainable and Active travel policies
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any impact on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any impact on water. The principle of co-locating Class 4 uses will not have any significant impact on water because Class 4 is not a water-polluting use.	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape.	
	Population	++	Will have a significant positive impact on population by safeguarding Specialist Employment Areas for high quality, headquarters-style Class 4 development, helping to maintain Aberdeen as a competitive and sustainable business location, with plentiful employment opportunities.	
	Human Health	0	Policy will not have any impact on human health.	
	Cultural heritage	0	Policy will not have any impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Likely to have a positive effect by safeguarding areas of existing business and industrial land and associated infrastructure from other development pressures.	
B3 West End Office Area This policy promotes the area zoned as BI3 as a prestigious location for offices where conversion of existing properties to office use is encouraged. Policy allows for extensions, but the size, scale and design must respect the historic and architectural character of the area and impact on residential amenity must be considered. Development of front gardens is not permitted.				
	Biodiversity	+	Policy guards against redevelopment of front gardens. Cumulatively, the protection of front gardens is likely to enhance biodiversity across the whole area and protect against its loss through redevelopment.	
	Air	+/-	Policy encourages intensification of use which would result in an increase in traffic into the area, with an increase in congestion and emission of pollutants. However given the highly accessible location of the area for walking and cycling for the City Centre, and is therefore preferable to having offices located in out-of-town locations.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	Policy encourages intensification of use which would result in an increase in traffic into the area, with an increase in congestion and emission of pollutants. However given the highly accessible location of the area for walking and cycling for the City Centre, and is therefore preferable to having offices located in out-of-town locations.	
	Soil	0/-	Policy encourages intensification of use and extensions to properties, which may have a very localised negative impact on soil sealing, erosion and compaction in some cases, however in most cases the area is already extensively developed so overall impact will be minimal.	
	Water	-	Policy encourages intensification of use which is likely to lead to an increased need to abstract water during the construction and servicing of new development.	
	Landscape	+	This policy is likely to have a positive impact on landscape, compared to if it did not exist, because it requires new development and extensions to respect the character of the area, and by protecting front gardens helps to protect and enhance the streetscape.	
	Population	++/-	Policy will have a direct and significant positive impact on population, by safeguarding the West End Office Area as a location for prestigious office development, whichwill help to maintain Aberdeen's position as a competitive business location, providing employment opportunities. There will be some loss of residential to office use. However many of the buildings are extremely large, luxury family housing so the impact on the housing needs of Aberdeen's general population will be limited.	
	Human Health	0	Policy will not have any impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	-	Significant conversions and extensions have the potential to have a detrimental impact on the special historic and architectural qualities of the area. This effect is likely to be cumulative. However, appropriate safeguards are built into the policy to ensure no negative impact occurs. Policy D5 also addresses the design of extensions in the West End Office Area. This means the impact will not be very significant.	
	Material Assets	++	This policy will encourage the creation of new employment spaces to meet the needs of Aberdeen's businesses, in an area that is highly desirable for employers. This policy encourages making the most efficient use of existing buildings.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
B4 Aberdeen Airport This policy aims to control development to protect the operational efficiency and safety of Aberdeen Airport and Perwinnes Radar, which is an infrastructural asset of significant economic importance to Aberdeen. It also aims to ensure there is no conflict between the airport and other uses, in terms of safety, noise or amenity. Policy safeguards land zoned for Aberdeen Airport for airport-related uses.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	Policy will not have any impact on air	
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any impact on soil	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any impact on water	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape	
	Population	+	By protecting and safeguarding the operation of the airport, policy indirectly supports its growth and continued success, which will have a positive impact on economic growth for the whole of Aberdeen, helping to provide employment opportunities for the population.	
	Human Health	++	Policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on human health, by protecting the safety and amenity of residents from the impact of the airport. This is done through the establishment of public safety zones, and regulations to control housing developments within certain noise contours.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not have any impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	By protecting and safeguarding the operation of the airport, policy indirectly supports its growth and continued success, which will help to provide Aberdeen with modern and fit-for-purpose airport infrastructure.	
B5 Aberdeen Harbour This policy aims to control development in the vicinity of the harbour, in order to protect the safety and efficiency of harbour operations. On land zoned for the harbour, there is a presumption in favour of harbour-related uses. The policy preamble also states that a masterplan will be required for the new harbour expansion at Nigg Bay. The Nigg Bay development is subject to its own SEA assessment.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	Policy will not have any impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	0	Policy will not have any impact on climate	
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any impact on soil	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape	
	Population	+	By protecting and safeguarding the operation of the harbour, policy indirectly supports its continued growth and success, which will have a positive impact on economic growth for the whole of Aberdeen, helping to provide employment opportunities for the population.	
	Human Health	0	Policy is likely to have a positive impact on human health, by ensuring mixed use and residential develomopents take account of the character of the areaThis is done through provision to prevent development that would have its amenity adversely affected by the harbour. Mitigation measures may be required.	Policy T5- Noise outines where exposure to noise is likely to arise a Noise Impact Assessment will be required.
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not have an impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	++	By protecting and safeguarding the operation of the harbour, policy indirectly supports its growth and continued success, which will help to provide Aberdeen with modern and fit-for-purpose harbour infrastructure.	
B6 Pipleines, Major Hazards and Explosive Storage Sites This policy states that the Council will consult HSE on applications for development within consultation zones for pipelines, major hazards and explosive storage sites, in order to avoid any risk to public safety.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	Policy will not have any impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	0	Policy will not have any impact on climate	
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any impact on soil	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape	
	Population	0	Policy will not have any impact on population	
	Human Health	++	Policy will have a direct and significant impact by protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of the population in relation to the risks posed by pipelines, major hazards and explosive storage sites.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not have an impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	++	Policy will have a significant positive impact on material assets, by protecting the operation of major infrastructure such as pipelines from development that may compromise it.	
Housing				
H1 Residential Areas Policy supports development in existing residential areas and identifies criteria to assess if development is acceptable.				
	Biodiversity	+/-	Policy relates to new development in existing residential areas where there is likely to be limited natural habitat; as such new development will have a limited impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	+/-	New development is likely to result in the release of particulate matter during construction. New development may also result in a slight increase in traffic into the built up area, but existing areas are likely to be well integrated with walking, cycling and public transport networks, reducing the negative impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	New development may also result in a slight increase in traffic into the built up area, but existing areas are likely to be well integrated with walking, cycling and public transport networks, reducing the negative impact on GHG emissions. New buildings will increase energy consumption and water use.	New buildings will be subject to policies on energy and water efficiency and LZCGT which will help to mitigate this impact.
	Soil	-	As the policy relates to residential development it will result in a level of soil compaction and the amount or waste produced. However, development in existing residential areas are likely to be brownfield sites, so the impact on soil is reduced.	
	Water	-	All new development will result in increased demand on water resources, and the production of water-borne waste materials and pollutants.	New buildings will be subject to policies on water-saving technologies which will help to mitigate this impact.
	Landscape	+	Policy states that new development will be refused where it has an unacceptable impact on the character of the surrounding area, or will result in the loss of open space. This will help to protect the landscape setting of our existing residential areas.	
	Population	+	The policy will promote economic growth through the development of new housing within new and existing residential areas.	
	Human Health	+	Policy will protect the quantity and connectivity of open space in existing residential areas. It also protects the enjoyment existing residential amenity which will have a positive impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Unlikely to be any impact on cultural heritage; uncertain and depends on whether any assets are present on the site.	
	Material Assets	++	Policy could lead to the development of additional housing within new or existing residential areas. As the policy relates to existing residential areas it will help new development benefit from the infrastructure and services already in place within existing developments, helping to make the most sustainable use of resources and infrastructure.	
H2 Mixed Use Areas This policy is concerned with achieving a harmony between the different uses in an area. It identifies criteria to assess if development is acceptable in mixed use areas.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	Policy will not have any impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	0	Policy will not have any impact on climatic factors	
	Soil	0	Policy will not have any impact on soil	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any impact on water	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape	
	Population	+	Policy will help to protect the viability and operation of existing businesses in mixed use areas from new development that might negatively affect them.	
	Human Health	++	Policy will have a significant positive impact on human health, by safeguarding a satisfactory residential environment and level of amenity for people living and working in mixed use areas.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	0	Policy will not impact on material assets	
H3 Density Policy sets out expected density for new developments of at least 30 dwellings per hectare.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Biodiversity	+	Policy will have an indirect positive impact, by requiring an appropriate density of at least 30 dwellings/ha, it will help to make the most efficient use of land and reduce their footprint, limiting urban sprawl. This will protect yet more land from being developed at a low, sprawling density.	
	Air	+	Policy will have a positive impact by limiting the spread of sprawling, low-density development which would lead to increased private car journeys, with a negative impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	-/+	Policy will have a positive impact by limiting the spread of sprawling, low-density development which would lead to increased private car journeys and inefficient use of land, which would have a negative impact on climate. It will maximise the efficiency of public trasnport and help to make developments more walkable.	
	Soil	+	All new development will have an impact on soil, but by requiring a minimum density, soil will be protected from inefficient and sprawling use of land, which may lead to a more widespread impact on soil.	
	Water	-/+	Density policy will not have any significant impact on water use.	
	Landscape	-/+	Policy states that consideration must be given to the site's characteristics and those of the surrounding area, which will help to protect the landscape setting of the city. Policy will also help to reduce low-density sprawling patterns of development which will help to protect Aberdeen's landscape setting.	
	Population	0	Policy will not impact on ppoulation.	
	Human Health	+	Policy will have an indirect positive impact, by protecting the quantity and connectivity of open space.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy will help to make the most sustainable and efficient use of land and infrastructure.	
H4 Housing Mix Policy specifies that an appropriate mix of housing types must be provided in new developments				
	Biodiversity	0	No impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	No impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	+	Policy aims to deliver housing of an appropriate size for different households, which will help to reduce the need for unnecessary heating, cooling and electricity. This in turn will reduce energy use and GHG emissions.	
	Soil	0	No impact on soil.	
	Water	+	Policy aims to deliver housing of an appropriate size for different households, which will help to reduce the impact of development by reducing water use and the amount of impermeable hard surfacing.	
	Landscape	0	No impact on landscape	
	Population	++	Policy will deliver a mix of housing sizes to meet the needs of different household sizes and needs, including individuals, couples, families and the elderly. It will deliver smaller, more affordable homes to support identified population needs.	
	Human Health	0	No impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy will encourage the most efficient use of land and resources, by providing a mix of houses appropriate to different needs. However beyond this policy is unlikely to have a significant impact on material assets.	
H5 Affordable Housing Policy requires the equivalent of 25% of new housing built to be provided as affordable housing.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	Policy will not impact on air.	
	Climate	0	Policy will not impact on climate	
	Soil	0	Policy will not impact on soil	
	Water	0	Policy will not impact on water	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Landscape	0	Policy will not impact on landscape	
	Population	++	Policy will have a long term and significant positive impact on population, by providing housing that is affordable to meet the needs of people on lower incomes, providing the opportunity of owning a home. This will support social inclusion and help to meet identified population needs.	
	Human Health	0	Policy will not impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy will contribute to providing good quality affordable housing to meet the needs of people in Aberdeen. Apart from this, policy will not lead to a material increase in the number of homes built.	
H6 Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites Policy sets out the criteria for the development of new gypsy/traveller caravan sites. No specific sites are identified through this policy.				
	Biodiversity	-	It is likely that the development of a G/T site will have negative impacts on habitats, species, green networks and/or woodland, depending on the location, through the development of hardstanding, access and security. Specific impacts are uncertain.	
	Air	-	Development of a G/T site is likely to have a short-term negative impact on air through the release of particulate matter during construction, and an increase in vehicular traffic once it is built.	
	Climate	-	Development of a G/T site is likely to have a negative impact on climate through an increase in vehicular traffic once it is built. Compared to permanent built development, energy use is likely to be less.	
	Soil	-/+	Policy will facilitate the provision of formal waste facilities on official G/T sites which will have a positive impact. However development of the site is likely to result in short-term sealing, erosion and compaction.	
	Water	-/+	Development is likely to result in additional water abstraction, and increase surface water run-off. However it will encourage connection to the public sewerage system so water-borne pollution is less likely.	
	Landscape	-/+	Impact on landscape will depend on the location of the site. Policy is likely to have a positive effect, by making provision for permanent and landscaped sites which will reduce the need for unauthorised encampments. This will also help to protect open and green space in the city.	
	Population	++	Policy supports the provision of G/T sites which will provide accomodation for an under-served section of the population, providing affordable housing. It will support social inclusion and identified population needs.	
	Human Health	++	Policy will have a significant impact on human health by providing G/T with access to dedicated utilities. It will also reduce the need for unauthorised encampments.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Specific sites not yet known but unlikely that that any will have a significant impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	policy will therefore support the provision of housing land, encourage the sustainable use of resources through organised waste collection and energy provision and access to built assets. The policy is unlikely to impact on core paths or rights of way or pedestrian access links.	
H7 Gypsy and Traveller Requirements for New Residential Developments Policy sets out the requirement for the delivery of G/T sites in certain residential developments.				
	Biodiversity	-	Policy sets out broad masterplanning areas where a site will be required. It is likely that the development of a G/T site will have negative impacts on habitats, species, green networks and/or woodland, depending on the location, through the development of hardstanding, access and security. Specific impacts are uncertain.	
	Air	-	Development of a G/T site is likely to have a short-term negative impact on air through the release of particulate matter during construction, and an increase in vehicular traffic once it is built.	
	Climate	-	Development of a G/T site is likely to have a negative impact on climate through an increase in vehicular traffic once it is built. Compared to permanent built development, energy use is likely to be less.	
	Soil	-/+	Policy will facilitate the provision of formal waste facilities on official G/T sites which will have a positive impact. However development of the site is likely to result in short-term sealing, erosion and compaction.	
	Water	-/+	Development is likely to result in additional water abstraction, and increase surface water run-off. However it will encourage connection to the public sewerage system so water-borne pollution is less likely.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Landscape	-/+	Impact on landscape will depend on the location of the site. Policy is likely to have a positive effect, by making provision for permanent and landscaped sites which will reduce the need for unauthorised encampments. This will also help to protect open and green space in the city.	
	Population	++	Policy supports the provision of G/T sites which will provide accomodation for an under-served section of the population, providing affordable housing. It will support social inclusion and identified population needs.	
	Human Health	++	Policy will have a significant impact on human health by providing G/T with access to dedicated utilities. It will also reduce the need for unauthorised encampments.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Specific sites not yet known but unlikely that that any will have a significant impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	policy will therefore support the provision of housing land, encourage the sustainable use of resources through organised waste collection and energy provision and access to built assets. The policy is unlikely to impact on core paths or rights of way or pedestrian access links.	
Natural Environment				
NE1 Green Space Network Policy protects areas identified for their biodiversity, habitat and natural heritage value from development.				
	Biodiversity	++	Policy is likely to have significant, long term positive effect on biodiversity through protecting habitats and biodiversity. Will prevent habitat fragmentation and enhance connectivity.	
	Air	+	Likely to be indirect positive effects because woodland and plant cover can help to absorb C02 and other airborne pollutants.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Protecting flood risk areas as Green Space Network will ensure development is not built on areas of flood risk. Buffer strips of GSN may also help to reduce the impact of flooding.	
	Soil	+	Policy is likely to have an indirect positive effect on soil on those sites identified as GSN, through safeguarding them from development that would cause sealing, compaction or erosion.	
	Water	+	Policy is likely to have some positive effects on water quality, by safeguarding lochs, ponds, wetlands and other watercourses from development.	
	Landscape	++	Likely to have significant, direct positive impacts on landscape, because the GSN provides an enhanced setting for development and can support successful placemaking. The GSN network will help to protect against coalescence and urban sprawl. Important landscape and geological features are likely to be given protection as GSN.	
	Population	0	Development is unlikely to have any impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	Policy likely to have direct positive effects on human health through the provision of open green spaces for recreation that can improve people's quality of life.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	Policy may have some positive effect by protecting the site or setting of historical builsings and conservation areas.	
	Material Assets	0	No impact on the amount of built material assets in the cit.y	
NE2 Green Belt Policy identifies and protects land around Aberdeen from development.				
	Biodiversity	+	Likely to have direct positive effects in biodiversity through protecting key habitats and features within the Green Belt	
	Air	+	Policy is likely to have direct positive effects on air because of the protection of woodland in the Green Belt which can help to absorb C02 and other airborne pollutants. Green Belt also directs development to most sustainable locations, helping to avoid an increase in vehicle traffic.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Green Belt aims to direct development to most sustainable locations within or close to existing settlement, helping to avoid an increase in vehicle traffic, indirectly promoting sustainable and active travel and reducing energy consumption.	
	Soil	+	Policy likely to have indirect positive effect by protecting soils in the Green Belt from sealing, compaction or erosion as a result of development.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Water	0	Green Belt unlikely to have any impact on water.	
	Landscape	++	The Green Belt will have a direct and significant impact on the landscape setting of Aberdeen, safeguarding it from development. It will help to minimise urban sprawl by directing development to the most sustainable locations.	
	Population	0	Development is unlikely to have any impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	Likely to have direct positive effects on human health through providing access to open green space in close proximity to the city, which has benefits for health and quality of life.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	Policy will have a positive effect by protecting the site and setting of heritage assets in the Green Belt. Also provides for historical buildings (e.g. steadings) in the Green Belt to be brought back into use.	
	Material Assets	0	Green Belt boundaries are adjusted through the LDP, ensuring that enough land is allocated to meet the housing and employment needs of the city. Therefore there is no impact on material assets.	
NE3 Urban Green Space Policy identifies parks, open space and recreational and sporting facilities and protects them from development.				
	Biodiversity	+	Policy is likely to have some positive effect on biodiversity, by protecting habitats present in urban green spaces. However, UGS is not identified specifically for its biodiversity value, rather there is a recreatoinal emphasis.	
	Air	+	Policy likely to have positive effects on air as UGS can act as 'green lungs' for the city helping to absorb C02 and other airborne pollutants.	
	Climatic Factors	0	Policy will not have a significant impact on climatic factors.	
	Soil	0	Policy will not have a significant impact on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any significant impact on water	
	Landscape	+	Policy is likely to have some positive effects on landscape, by protecting key areas of open space from development.	
	Population	0	Policy will not have any impact on population	
	Human Health	++	UGS policy will have a direct and significant positive impact on human health, by protecting open space and recreational and sporting facilities from development, promoting active and healthy lifestyles and improving quality of life.	
	Cultural Heritage	+/0	Policy may have some positive effects by protecting the site or setting of historic buildings and conservation areas, where present. Otherwise there will be no impact.	
	Material Assets	0	Open space is an important natural asset however there wll be no impact on the amount of built material assets for the city.	
NE4 Open Space Provision in New Development Policy ensures new residential and employment developments make adequate provision of open spaces				
	Biodiversity	+	Policy is likely to have a positive effect on biodiversity because it requires the enhancement of new open and green spaces and green networks in development, and encourages the provision of naturalised open sppaces.	Policy will be supported by an open space design guide which will encourage open spaces to have multiple benefits including for biodiversity
	Air	+	Likely to have a positive effect on air because any woodland and plant cover on open space will help to absorb airborne pollutants, acting as 'green lungs' for the city.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Open Space will help us to adapt to the effects of climate change, especially rising temperatures, by providing relief from urban heat island effects and reducing urban temperatures overall. Open and green spaces will also help reduce and slow the flow of surface water run-off, reducing flood risk.	
	Soil	+	May be localised benefits for areas identified as open space, protecting them from development which may cause erosion, sealing and compaction.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Water	+	Open space provision may incorporate SuDS, which have a positive effect on water quality and flood risk, therefore the impact of this policy is likely to be cumulatively positive when considered in combination with policies on flooding, drainage and water quality.	
	Landscape	+	Likely to have a positive impact on landscape character and local distinctiveness, by increasing the amount of publicly accessible open and green space in the city. The significance of the effect will depend on the location and design of the individual open spaces themselves.	Policy will be supported by an open space design guide to encourage high quality design
	Population	0	Policy is unlikely to have any significant impact on population.	
	Human Health	++	Policy will have direct, significant and long-term positive impacts on human health, because open space provision promotes active and healthy lifestyles and quality of life and are important for health and wellbeing.	
	Cultural Heritage	0/+	Open spaces may have some positive effect on cultural heritage by protecting the site/setting of assets where present, but in general there will be no impact.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy willl result in improved access to natural environment for citizens. High quality open space provision is likely to greatly increase the attractiveness and value of built material assets nearby.	
NE5 Trees and Woodlands Policy protects areas of trees and woodland from loss or damage through new development, and encourages tree planting in new development				
	Biodiversity	++	Policy will protect and enhance biodiversity through protecting trees and woodland, which are valuable habitats. The creation of new wooded areas/ woodlands in new development will help to expand and enhance green networks and habitat connectivity.	Trees and woodland will often enjoy multiple levels of protection, e.g. GSN and Urban Green Space, as well as NE5.
	Air	++	Policy will have a significant positive impact on air quality, through trees absorbing airborne pollutants.	
	Climatic Factors	++	Trees absorb C02 and can help to reduce greenhouse gases and the effects of climate change. Trees are also important features of urban green space and can help to provide shade and cooling from rising temperatures (for people and animals) helping us to adapt to the impact of climate change.	Trees often occur in urban green spaces, multiplying the positive effects.
	Soil	+	Policy will have an indirect positive effect on soil, by protecting against the soil disturbance that occurs during deforestation and tree removal. Tree cover also protects against soil erosion and compaction.	
	Water	++	Tree cover helps to reduce the rate of surface water run-off into watercourses, therefore helping to reduce the risk of flooding.	
	Landscape	+	Trees are important landscape features in rural as well as urban areas; street trees are particularly important in Aberdeen's west end. Protecting them will have a positive impact on the landscape setting of the city.	
	Population	0	Policy unlikely to have any direct impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	Trees can have a positive effect on people's physical and mental wellbeing and overall quality of life.	Trees often occur in urban green spaces, multiplying the positive effects.
	Cultural Heritage	+/0	Trees are often important features in the setting of built and cultural heritage features; protecting them will enhance these features where relevant. However many of these trees will already be protected through TPO or conservation areas.	
NE6 Flooding and Drainage Policy restricts development in areas at risk of flooding, protecting the capacity of the floodplain to store and convey water. It requires SuDS to be incorporated into all new development, and makes provision for Regional SuDS. New development must make connection to the public sewer. Includes a presumption against excessive engineering or culverting of watercourses.				
	Biodiversity	+	The requirement for SuDS is likely to have a positive impact for biodiversity, as SuDS can be valuable habitats, depending on the quality of the design and components chosen. SuDS will also have indirect positive impacts, by reducing surface-water run-off which can inundate and damage habitats. Safeguards against new flood defences which would damage the biodiversity interests of a watercourse.	Supported by SG which encourages developers to seek biodiversity enhancement through SuDS.
	Air	0	Policy will not have any impact on air	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Climatic Factors	++	Policy will have a direct and significant positive impact on climate by reducing our vulnerability to flood risk and the effects of climate change. Policy ensures development is not built on land that floods and protects the storage and conveyance capacity of the floodplain. On-site and Regional SuDS also work to reduce surface-water run-off from development, reducing the likelihood of flooding.	
	Soil	+	May have some positive effects on soil, because SuDS measures to reduce and slow surface water run-off will help to reduce soil erosion.	
	Water	++	Policy is very likely to have significant water quality benefits. SuDS can deliver water quality improvements by filtering sediment and pollutants. Policy also presumes against excessive engineering or culverting that will physically impact on watercourses and could have a negative impact on its hydrology. All developments must connect to the public sewer.	
	Landscape	+	SuDS can be attractive landscape features in their own right, enhancing the landscape setting of new development. This will depend on the SuDS scheme being of a high quality design.	Supported by SG which sets out expected design standards for SuDS.
	Population	++	Policy is likely to have significant and long-term positive impacts on population by reducing the impact of flooding on people, properties and businesses.	
	Human Health	+	Will have a positive impact on human health by reducing the impact of flooding which can pose a public health risk. SuDS can also have positive effects by providing opportunities for recreational activities.	Supported by SG which sets out expected design standards for SuDS which will encourage recreation
	Material Assets	+	Policy will help to protect material assets such as buildings and important infrastructure from flood damage. Promotes the provision of suitable water infrastructure, for example connection to the public sewer.	
NE7 Coastal Planning Safeguards the undeveloped coast from inappropriate development, directing development that requires a coastal location to the most appropriate areas of already-developed coast. Provides safeguards in that any development in the undeveloped coast must also respect and enhance the natural, historical and recreational value of the coast. Development will not be permitted in areas at risk of coastal erosion and flooding.				
	Biodiversity	+	Likely to be some positive effect for species and habitats in coastal locations, by safeguarding the undeveloped coast from inappropriate development. Makes provision for the protection of EPS.	
	Air	0	Policy is unlikely to have any impacts on air.	
	Climatic Factors	++	There will be direct and significant positive effects on climate because policy safeguards against development taking place in areas at risk of coastal flooding, reducing our vulnerability to future changes in climate.	
	Soil	+	Policy will have positive impact on soil by safeguarding areas that are at risk of coastal erosion, which will protect the coastline from further erosion.	
	Water	+	Policy will help to minimise the physical impact of development on the coast, by protecting it from inappropritate development and directing coastal development to the most suitable locations.	
	Landscape	+	By protecting the coastline from inappropriate development, this policy will help to protect Aberdeen's dramatic coastal landscape.	
	Population	0	Policy is unlikely to have any impacts on population.	
	Human Health	+	Policy protects and prootes public access to and along the coast, promoting public enjoyment of the coastline, providing opportunities for recreation to improve health and wellbeing.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	Policy states that any development in the undeveloped coastal area will respect the character and value of the historic environment. There the policy is likely to have a positive effect in improving the sensitivity of development proposals.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy is likely to improve the quality and design of material assets built along the coast. Will also protect and promote public access to Aberdeen's coastline, a significant natural asset.	
NE8 Natural Heritage Policy describes how designated natural heritage sites, protected species and carbon rich soils will be considered through the planning process.				
	Biodiversity	++/-	Policy explicitly encourages the protection, enhancement and creation of habitats and species, and the restoration of degraded or fragmented habitats. Provides for the protection of designated sites and protected species, as well as natural heritage beyond the confines of designations. Protects water features from excessive engineering and encourages the use of SUDS and buffer strips for the natural enhancement of aquatic habitats. However, policy allows for development to occur in cases of overriding public interest, so in these cases the impact will negative.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Air	0	Policy is unlikely to have any impacts on air.	
	Climatic Factors	++	Encourages riparian buffer strips adjacent to water bodies which can help to reduce the impact of flood events along watercourses. Policy also protects peat soils from disturbance which would release greenhouse gases.	
	Soil	+	Policy protects peat and carbon rich soils from disturbance. Policy will have indirect positive effect on soil on those sites that are protected for their natural heritage value.	
	Water	++	Policy encourages riparian buffer strips along water courses, which help to protect the water course from the impact of surrounding land uses, by reducing water borne pollution and improving water quality. Also help to slow run-off into watercoures.	
	Landscape	+	The protection of natural heritage will have an indirect positive impact on landscape where sites are protected from development.	
	Population	0	Policy is unlikely to have any impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	Enjoyment of natural heritage will have a significant positive effect on people's physical and mental wellbeing and overall quality of life.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	Policy will give additional protection to any cultural heritage sites that are also designated for their natural heritage value, where present.	
	Material Assets	+/-	Enhancement of natural heritage can increase the desirability of material assets; natural heritage is in itself a significant natural asset. However the protection of natural heritage may prevent the provision or regeneration of material assets on or near to protected sites.	
NE9 Access and Informal Recreation Policy protects the integrity of existing and potential recreational opportunities, particularly access rights and Core Paths, including provision for new and improved public access in new developments				
	Biodiversity	+/-	Policy will increase access to nature and may encourage people to appreciate and care for it. There may also be some localised negative impacts as a result of disturbance by people, dogs or the construction of paths. This is especially the case on general access land where access is not restricted to paths.	
	Air	0	Many have an indirect positive effect on air quality by creating opportunities for walking and cycling, as opposed to private vehicular transport.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Policy is likely to have some positive impacts on climatic factors, through facilitating and encouraging sustainable and active travel, especially walking and cycling along Core Paths which provide pedestrian links.	
	Soil	0	Policy is unlikely to have any significant impact on soil	
	Water	0	Policy is unlikely to have any significant impact on water	
	Landscape	0	Policy is unlikely to have any significant impact on landscape	
	Population	+	Likely to have positive effects by increasing the accessibility between homes, employment and leisure, especially for people without access to a car.	
	Human Health	++	Provision of access opportunities close to where people live will have a significant positive impact, by allowing for active recreation that encourages healthy and active lifestyles.	
	Cultural Heritage	+/0	New paths could be used to provide access to cultural heritage assets where present, helping people to visit and appreciate them. In general however there will be no impact.	
	Material Assets	+	Will directly result in improved access to the natural environment. Strong network of Core Paths is also likely to play a role in making Aberdeen an attractive place to live, work, invest and visit.	
Resources				
R1 Minerals Policy states that mineral extraction proposals are acceptable in principle, subject to strict criteria regarding impacts on amenity and the environment. Minerals sites are safeguarded from development that may sterilise them.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Biodiversity	+	This is primarily a protective policy which states developments will not be allowedif there will be a significant negative impact on local ecology. Safeguarding sites will also help to protect biodiversity on other sites. Restoration is also required to add to the environmental assets of the area which will have a positive impact.	
	Air	+/-	Quarrying operations are likely to release particulate matter into the air. However proposals will not be allowed if their have a significant negative impact on the amenity of the surrounding areas. Proposals are also required for appropriate control, mitigation and monitoring.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Local extraction in Aberdeen City, which has a significant requirement for construction aggregate, will help to reduce transportation distances, which will have a positive effect on climate.	
	Soil	+/-	Quarrying operations are likely to have a negative impact on soil through loss and erosion, and potential contamination of the ground. However proposals will not be allowed if their have a significant negative impact on the local environment or the amenity of the surrounding areas. Proposals are also required for appropriate control, mitigation and monitoring.	
	Water	+/-	Quarrying operations are likely to have a negative impact on water through potential contamination of waterbodies and ground water. However proposals will not be allowed if their have a significant negative impact on the local environment or the amenity of the surrounding areas. Proposals are also required for appropriate control, mitigation and monitoring.	
	Landscape	+	New quarry proposals are likely to have some impact on the immediate landscape. However policy is protective and states that development will not be allowed if it has a negative impact on the landscape character. Policy also requires that restoration will take place concurrently with excavation, and that there will be an enhancement.	
	Population	0	No significant impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	Quarrying operations do have the potential to have a negative impact on human health, however this policy will have a positive impact because it does not permit development that would have a negative impact on the amenity of any residential area. Where necessary, appropriate buffer zones are also required.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Not likely to be any impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+/-	Likely to be mixed effects on material assets. Policy supports mineral extraction in principle, which will support large-scale construction projects in Aberdeen for housing, businesses and infrastructure. However there are restrictions in terms of location and operation which may restrict a quarrying business.	
R2 Degraded and Contaminated Land Policy requires that all degraded (including visually) or contaminated land is either restored, reclaimed or remediated to a level suitable for its proposed use.				
	Biodiversity	0	No significant impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	No significant impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	0	No significant impact on climatic factors	
	Soil	++	There will be a significant positive impact on soil, as contaminated land is required to be remediated and soil health restored.	
	Water	+	Contaminated land may have a negative effect on water, and so its remiedation may improve the health of the water environment, particularly groundwater.	
	Landscape	++	In the context of this policy, visual degradation is also required to be remediated, which will improve the appearance of eyesore sites around the city.	
	Population	0	No significant impact on population.	
	Human Health	++	Degraded and contaminated land may present a significant public health and safety risk from chemicals or dangerous structures; therefore its restoration will be have a significant long-term impact for communities.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No significand impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	0	No significand impact on cultural material assets	
R3 New Waste Management Facilities Proposals for new waste management facilities will be supported provided they conform to the Zero Waste Plan and Aberdeen Waste Strategy; meet a clear need; do not compromise health and safety, and minimise the transport of waste from its source. Policy requires waste to be managed as high up the waste hierarchy as possible.				
	Biodiversity	0	In general waste facilities are encouraged to locate in existing business and industrial areas, so impact on biodiversity are likely to be insignificant.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Air	-/+	Construction of new waste facilities is likely to result in the temporary release of particulate matter. It also requires the transport of waste to be minimised, helping to reduce emissions from operational vehicles.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	Policy requires the minimisation of transport of waste, helping to reduce pollutants from operational vehicles. Whilst the processing of waste requires more energy than sending it to landfill, the waste hierarchy encourages renewable energy use through EfW and landfill gas use.	
	Soil	+/-	Although there is the potential for contamination of the soil from waste management, policy requires the proper control, mitigation and monitoring of landfill proposals as well as restoration.	
	Water	-	New development of waste management facilities will require greater water abstraction to service it, increase run-off and lead to the potential contamination from wastes. However policy requires the proper control, mitigation and monitoring of landfill proposals.	
	Landscape	-	Landfill is unsightly andwill have a negative impact on landscape during the operation of a site. Other waste facilities are directed to business and industrial land, meaning there is unlikely to be any significant effect on the landscape setting of Aberdeen.	
	Population	0	Unlikely to be any significant effect on population.	
	Human Health	0/+	Operational health and safety are mentioned specifically in the policy. Public health issues such as the control of run-off and emissions are more likely to be dealt with through licensing arrangements.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Unlikely to be any significant effects on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	Policy encourages the provision of modern waste management facilities for Aberdeen, to promote the waste hierarchy, divert waste from landfill and allow for energy production.	
R4 Sites for New Waste Management Facilities Identifies and safeguards sites for new waste management facilities. These are assessed cumulatively here - see individual site assessments.				
	Biodiversity	-	Likely to be some negative impact on biodiversity from the development of sites for waste management facilities; however all the sites identified are brownfield within existing business/industrial areas, which do not contain any significant area of habitat.	
	Air	0	There is likely to be some impact on air quality, but reserving the sites for waste facilities as opposed to more general business and industrial use will have no significant impact on air quality. Modern waste facilities are tightly regulated in relation acceptable emissions and impact on air quality; therefore this is not an issue for planning.	
	Climatic Factors	+	These new waste facilities (including recycling and energy from waste) will help to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill, which will reduce methane (a GHG) emissions from landfill sites.	
	Soil	+	Potential contamination issues are dealt with through licensing arrangements rather than planning. Waste facilities which help to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill will have an overall and long-term positive impact on soil quality.	
	Water	-	New facilities will require water abstraction to service them. Potential water contamination issues are dealt with through licensing arrangements rather than planning.	
	Landscape	0	Waste sites have been directed to business and industrial areas, so there is unlikely to be any significant impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	New facilities may have some positive impact on population by providing a range of facilities to help the population deal with their waste easily and efficiently.	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely that these facilities will impact on human health; modern waste facilities are operated to high standards and issues such as the control of emissions and run-off are more likely to be dealt with through licensing arrangements.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Unlikely to be any significant impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	The policy identifies sites for the provision of modern and up to date waste management facilities which will promote the waste hierarchy, divert waste from landfill and allow for energy production.	
R5 Energy from Waste Supports the principle of energy from waste facilities in Aberdeen. Sets out the criteria which will be used to assess applications for energy from waste facilities. Requires consideration to be given to connection with heat networks. Site identified for EfW (East Tullos) has been assessed separately.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Biodiversity	-	Likely to be some negative impact on biodiversity from the development of sites for waste management facilities; however all the sites identified are brownfield within existing business/industrial areas, which do not contain any significant area of habitat.	
	Air	0	There is likely to be some impact on air quality, but reserving the sites for waste facilities as opposed to more general business and industrial use will have no significant impact on air quality. Modern waste facilities are tightly regulated in relation acceptable emissions and impact on air quality; therefore this is not an issue for planning.	
	Climatic Factors	+	These new waste facilities (including recycling and energy from waste) will help to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill, which will reduce methane (a GHG) emissions from landfill sites. The policy also includes the requirement that waste heat will contribute to heat networks, which will also help to make sustainable use of resources and have a positive impact on climate.	
	Soil	+	Potential contamination issues are dealt with through licensing arrangements rather than planning. Waste facilities which help to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill will have an overall and long-term positive impact on soil quality.	
	Water	-	New facilities will require water abstraction to service them. Potential water contamination issues are dealt with through licensing arrangements rather than planning.	
	Landscape	0	Waste sites have been directed to business and industrial areas, so there is unlikely to be any significant impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	New facilities may have some positive impact on population by providing a range of facilities to help the population deal with their waste easily and efficiently.	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely that these facilities will impact on human health; modern waste facilities are operated to high standards and issues such as the control of emissions and run-off are more likely to be dealt with through licensing arrangements.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Unlikely to be any significant impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	++	The policy identifies sites for the provision of modern and up to date waste management facilities which will promote the waste hierarchy, divert waste from landfill and allow for energy production.	
R6 Waste Management Requirements for New Developments				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy is unlikely to have any impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	Policy is unlikely to have any impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Policy requires that large commercial developments and supermarkets etc. should provide recycling facilities, which will help to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, which will have positive benefits for climate through the reuse of resources and limiting the amoubnt of methane (a GHG) released from landfill.	
	Soil	+	Policy requires that large commercial developments and supermarkets etc. should provide recycling facilities, which will help to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, which will have positive benefits for soil in terms of limiting the amount of land given over to landfill.	
	Water	0	Policy unlikely to have any impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	Policy is unlikely to have any impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	Policy will have a positive effect by ensuring that public recycling facilities are provided for the population of Aberdeen to use.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy is unlikely to have any impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy will have a positive effect on material assets, ensuring that facilities for recycling and composting are available to the population, helping to promote resource reuse and efficiency and reducing residual waste.	
	Human Health	0	Policy is unlikely to have any effect on human health.	
R7 Low and Zero Carbon Buildings Aims to reduce the impact of new development on the environment by generating energy through LZCGT and requiring the use of water saving technology				
	Biodiversity	++	Policy requires water saving technologies, which will have a significant positive impact on the River Dee by miniming the amount of water which requires to be abstracted, which can have a negatove impact on qualifying species.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement			
	Air	++	There will be a significant positve impact on air by direclty helping to reduce emissions through the generatino of energy from renewable or passive sources such as solar, wind and biomass. This may not be a significant benefit for the Aberdeen area, because no energy is generated here.				
	Climatic Factors	++	LZCGT directly help to reduce energy consumption and promote the efficient use of energy and water, minimising GHG emisisons. May help to reduce flooding through grey water solutions which direct rainwater away from public drains and stores it.				
	Soil	0	Policy will have no impact on soils.				
	Water	++	Policy directly supports sustainable use of water and helps to mitigate droughts through reducing abstraction demands on the River Dee. Reduced water use will also indirectly reduce the pressure on existing Waste Water Treatment Plants.				
	Landscape	0	Policy directly supports sustainable use of water and helps to mitigate droughts through reducing abstraction demands on the River Dee. Reduced water use will also indirectly reduce the pressure on existing Waste Water Treatment Plants.				
	Population	+	Will help to promote economic growth and job opportunities through supporting Aberdeen's important renewables sector.				
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not have any impact on cultural heritage.				
	Material Assets	++	Actively supports the sustainable use of energy and resources; encourages the provision of modern and sophisicated technologies in new development, which will continue to provide lasting benefits during the life of the building.				
	Human Health	0	Policy will not have any impact on human health.				
R8 Renewable and Low Carbon Developments Supports renewable and low carbon energy in principle; sets out the criteria against which they will be assessedPolicy is very broad, covering all possible forms of renewable energy development; much of the impact is therefore uncertain at this stage and depends on the type and design of proposals.							
	Biodiversity	-	Certain types of renewables are likely to have a negative impact on protected sites or species, for example wind turbines or hydro-electric energy generation. However these impacts are uncertain at this stage.				
	Air	++	Developments are likely to release limited amounts of particulate matter during construction; this is greatly outweighted by the operation of the development, where the purpose is to generate energy with limited emissions.				
	Climatic Factors	++	This policy directly supports developments designed to reduce GHG emissions. Supported by SG which prevents any impact on peat soils or flood risk areas.				
	Soil	-	May be a very limited impact on soil, through the construction of certain types of renewable energy development. These				
	Water	0/-	Certain types of renewables are likely to have a physical impact on watercourses or the coastline for example hydroelectric. However these impacts are uncertain at present and in general there will be no impact.				
	Landscape	-	Some forms of development, such as wind turbines or solar, may have a significant negative impact on the landscape setting of the city. In general renewable energy developments tend to be very large structures that often intrude into the landscape. However these effects are uncertain at present.				
	Population	+	Will help to promote economic growth and job opportunities through supporting Aberdeen's important renewables sector.				
	Cultural Heritage	0	In general there will be no impact on cultural heritage, however this depends on the nature of the site and proposals.				
	Material Assets	++	Actively supports sustainable use of energy and resources. Supports the provision of modern and sophisticated energy generation infrastructure for Aberdeen.				
Communications Infrastructure							
COM1 Digital Infrastructure Policy requires that new development makes provision for digital infrastructure to be able to be installed. In practice, this will usually mean the digging of trenches to facilitate future access for digital infrastructure.							
	Biodiversity	0	Although this policy will result in physical groundworks, such as trenches, these would only be small scale in nature and unlikely to have any impact on sites, habitats or species, over and above the rest of the development (which would be evaluated separately).				
	Air	+	Digital infrastructure will have an indirect positive impact on air, by facilitating home working which will reduce the need to travel, reducing vehicle movements which emit air pollutants.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Climatic Factors	+/-	Digital infrastructure will have an indirect positive impact on climate, by facilitating home working which will reduce the need to travel, reducing vehicle movements which emit greenhouse gases.	
	Soil	0	This policy will result in physical groundworks, including trenches, but these would only be small scale in nature and unlikely to have any significant impact on soil over and above the rest of the development, which would be evaluated separately.	
	Water	0	Policy will not have any impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not have any impact on landscape; most trenches and digital infrastructure will be underground.	
	Population	+	Policy will promoting economic growth by improving the connectivity of businesses, which will have an indirect positive impact on population through increased employment opportunities.	
	Human Health	0/-	The policy is likely to have an indirect positive impact on human health, by facilitating home working. This is likely to improve air quality and may also help to improve work/life balance and wellbeing.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	Policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on material assets, by promoting and facilitating the provision of modern, high-speed telecommunications infrastructure.	
COM2 Telecommunications Infrastructure Policy states that new telecommunications installations will be permitted subject to criteria on siting, appearance, design etc. Therefore it is primarily protective in nature.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not have any impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	Policy will not have any impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	0	Policy will have no impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	Policy will have no impact on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will have no impact on water.	
	Landscape	-	Development of telecommunications infrastructure has the potential to impact negatively on the landscape character of the city because new telecommunications infrastructure may be sited in highly visible or prominent area in order to cover a gap in the network.	
	Population	+	Policy is likely to have a positive impact on population, by promoting economic growth through improving telecommunications provision for new and existing businesses.	
	Human Health		All new telecommunications infrastructure is required to comply with safety legislation. Therefore there will not be any impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	-/0	It is possible that telecommunications infrastructure may need to be sited on listed buildings or within conservation areas; however this policy states that this will only be allowed where they comply with relevant national and local policies, including D5 Built Heritage. Therefore in conjunction with these policies impact should be minimal.	
	Material Assets	++	This policy is likely to have significant positive effects on material assets by allowing for the provision of modern, high-speed telecommunications infrastructure for the city.	
Community Facilities				
CF1 Existing Community Sites and Facilities Policy safeguards existing community facilities for these uses and permits extensions to buildings on the existing site in principle.				
	Biodiversity	0	Any extensions would take place on existing developed sites, therefore unlikely to have a significant impact on biodiversity, habitats, species, trees or woodlands. By safeguarding existing facilities, this will reduce the need to construct new facilities which may be on greenfield sites.	
	Air	+	Any development of extensions will have a slight negative impact on air quality during the construction phase through the release of particulate matter. In the longer term, high quality and fit-for-purpose local community facilities that can be reached by walking and cycling will have a positive impact on air quality by reducing the need to travel longer distances by motorised transport.	
	Climatic Factors	+	High quality and fit-for-purpose local facilities should reduce the need for residents to use motorised travel to access key facilities, thus reducing pollution and congestion and allowing users to access facilities by active modes of transport instead.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Soil	-/+	Any development of extensions would have a slight negative impact on soil, through sealing, compaction and erosion. Promoting the extension of existing facilities and the re-use of surplus community sites will reduce the need for construction on greenfield sites where the impact on soil would be much greater.	
	Water	-	Development of extended community facilities will require water to service them, leading to an increase in abstraction from the River Dee. New development could also lead to the release of waterborne pollution or an increase in surface water runoff.	
	Landscape	+	Individual development proposals for extensions/redevelopments will have uncertain impacts on landscape depending on detailed proposals. Developments will be within existing urban areas which will minimise impact on landscape.	
	Population	++	Policy will have a significant and long-term positive impact on population by ensuring a range of facilities to meet the needs of the population, in close proximity to their homes; will help to promote social inclusion within communities.	
	Human Health	+	Policy will have a significant and long-term positive impact on health by safeguarding health facilities and other community facilities that promote health and wellbeing.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No significant impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	++	Will protect and improve community facilities for the people of Aberdeen, including health, education and leisure facilities, safeguarding these vital material assets. Redevelopment or extensions will also result in more modern building stock.	
CF2 New Community Facilities Supports proposals for new community facilities in principle, and identifies some opportunity sites for the development of new facilities, and ensures sites are reserved in new masterplans for necessary community facilities.				
	Biodiversity	0	It is likely that development of new community facilities will be built on greenfield sites, which will have an impact on biodiversity, habitats, species, trees and woodlands. However impact is uncertain as details and exact locations are in many cases yet to be defined.	
	Air	+	New development will have a slight negative impact on air quality during the construction phase through the release of particulate matter. In the longer term, high quality and fit-for-purpose local community facilities that can be reached by walking and cycling will have a positive impact on air quality by reducing the need to travel longer distances by motorised transport.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Policy states that new facilities will be supported where they are easily accessible by walking, cycling and public transport, which will reduce the need to travel by car to access facilities, leading to reduced congestion and traffic pollution. New public buildings will have the opportunity to promote renewable and efficient energy and water and connect to heat networks.	
	Soil	-	New development is likely to have a negative impact on soil, through sealing, compaction and erosion. Impact will be dependent on the location and scale of the proposals.	
	Water	-	Development of new community facilities will require water to service them, leading to an increase in abstraction from the River Dee. New development could also lead to the release of waterborne pollution or an increase in surface water runoff.	
	Landscape	-	It is likely that some development arising from this proposal will lead to the loss of open and green space in the city. However any impact on landscape, coast or geological features is uncertain at present and will depend on the individual proposals as they come forward.	
	Population	++	Policy will have a significant and long-term positive impact on population by ensuring a range of facilities to meet the needs of the population, in close proximity to their homes; will help to promote social inclusion within communities.	
	Human Health	+	Policy will have a significant and long-term positive impact on health by safeguarding health facilities and other community facilities that promote health and wellbeing. Local facilities can improve health by by encouraging walking and cycling. The provision relating to the location of emergency services will improve health and safety by allowing services to meet their statutory response times.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Impacts on cultural heritage can only be assessed once individual proposals for development come forward.	
	Material Assets	++	Will protect and improve community facilities for the people of Aberdeen, including health, education and leisure facilities, safeguarding these vital material assets. Redevelopment or extensions will also result in more modern building stock.	

7.b. Main Issues Report Policy Alternatives				
Policy Options	**Topic**	**Score**	**Comments**	**How taken into Proposed Plan**
1. City Centre				
Preferred Option - Continue to work on Aberdeen City Centre Vision and Masterplan and adopt it as Supplementary Guidance to the new LDP. This will include the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. The public sector will lead on implementation of the strategy with help from private investment/ This policy is about the creation of a vision document that will be intended to guide the location and form of new developments as well as transport and public realm improvements, establishing priorities and identifying key areas for intervention. At this point, it is not proposing any new developments directly (proposed retail strategy for the City Centre is assessed separately below) however it may indirectly lead to new development.				Preferred Option to be taken forward. It will now be called the City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme. City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme has not yet been produced, will be subject to separate screening/SEA when it is.
	Biodiversity	0	The objectives of the Vision and Masterplan are unlikely to result in any impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	+	The Vision and Masterplan will link in with the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. One of the objectives of the SUMP is to increase air quality within the City Centre Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) to a point where the AQMA can be revoked. This would be achieved through the reduction of vehicles and promotion of sustainable travel modes.	
	Climatic Factors	++	An action for the Vision and Masterplan is to develop and deliver a wayfinding strategy which will make the city centre more sustainable and accessible by making it more attractive to walk. Making the beach and Harbour more accessible on foot from the city centre will also have a positive effect on climatic factors. Another action for the Vision and Masterplan is to develop and deliver the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. The objectives of the SUMP include; creating a city centre which is easy to move around with improved connections between key activity nodes, increasing walking and cycling opportunities within the city centre, improving public transport, improving access to bus and rail stations and raising awareness of and better promoting access to the city centre. All of these objectives, if met, will have a positive impact on climatic factors. The issue is not intended to contribute to flood risk prevention although developments flowing from it will take flooding into account. City Centre developments will not affect peat soils.	
	Soil	0	The objectives of the Vision and Masterplan are unlikely to result in any impact on soil.	
	Water	0	The objectives of the Vision and Masterplan are unlikely to result in any impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	The objectives of the Vision and Masterplan are unlikely to result in any impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	An action for the Vision and Masterplan is to develop and deliver the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. The SUMP objectives of improving public transport and creating a city centre that is easy to move around will have a positive impact for the whole population, in particular more vulnerable groups such as older and disabled people.	

	Human Health	+	An action for the Vision and Masterplan is to develop and deliver the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. The SUMP aims to minimise the number of people exposed to high noise levels, improve air quality within the City Centre AQMA and to minimise the rate of road accident casualties. If implemented, these objectives would have a positive impact on human health. The Vision and Masterplan aims to improve access to a number of greenspaces in and around the city centre (such as Union Terrace Gardens and the beach).	
	Cultural Heritage	+	The Vision and Masterplan aims to achieve a successful balance of conserving the historic character with carefully considering high quality contemporary architecture by managing the old and the new. In doing this the Vision and Masterplan will identify buildings / features that must be retained, identify refurbishment / renovation priorities, identify opportunity site, determine appropriate uses and prepare an architecture policy for the city centre.	
	Material Assets	++	An action for the Vision and Masterplan is to develop and deliver the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. The objectives of the SUMP will have a positive impact on material assets through the safeguarding and improvement of walking and cycling routes, and the improvement and provision of public transport infrastructure where appropriate.	
Alternative Option - Continue to work on the Aberdeen City Centre Vision and Masterplan and adopt it as Supplementary Guidance to the new LDP. Implementation will happen through market demand.				Alternative Option will not be taken forward.
	All indicators	As per preferred	This option has similar impacts to the preferred option, with the only difference being which sector leads on its implementation. The assessment for all indicators is the same as for the preferred option.	
Current Policy Approach - The current City Centre Development Framework is the strategy for the City Centre. It is not as detailed or wide-ranging as the proposed Vision and Masterplan document, and does not incorporate the SUMP.				Existing CCDF to be superceded by City Centre Vision and Master Plan (See Preferred Option). Therefore the current policy approach will not be rolled forward.
	Air	-	City Centre Development Framework (CCDF) does not incorporate a SUMP or address air quality issues directly. Therefore no likely positive impact, and it is likely that air quality problems will continue to increase.	
	Climatic Factors	0	CCDF does not incorporate a SUMP. It includes provisions to promote walking and accessibility but these are not thought to have a significant impact on climate.	
	Population	0	CCDF does not incorporate a SUMP and does not address the needs of the population or particular groups directly. Therefore no likely impact.	
	Human Health	+	Although the CCDF does not incorporate the SUMP, it does address accessibility to green spaces in and around the city centre, with a positive impact on human health	
	Material Assets	0	There are no specific proposals included in the CCDF and no SUMP with its accompanying infrastructure improvements. Therefore no likely impact on material assets.	
	All other indicators	As per preferred	The CCDF has the same impact as the preferred option for biodiversity, soil, water, landscape and cultural heritage.	
2. Retail Strategy for the City Centre				

Preferred Option - A retail strategy drafted from the findings of the retail study to be incorporated within the Aberdeen City Centre Vision and Masterplan. This policy is explicitly proposing new brownfield development for retail, with a need to identify land for approx 30-35,000sqm of retail development within the City Centre Business Zone. This assessment looks at the principle of additional retail development- specific sites identified as being potentially suitable are assessed in the brownfield table.				The LDP will encourage retail development in the city centre (see policy assessment NC2). Sites in the City Centre are assessed under the site assessments. It is still undecided whether this retail strategy for the city centre will be articulated through the Masterplan and Delivery Programme, or policy, or both. This decision will not have any significant effect on the SEA.
	Biodiversity	+	New retail developments are likely to promote urban biodiversity, even if they are not explicitly intended to do so. Redeveloping parts of the city centre which are already built up is not likely cause habitat fragmentation, habitat loss or disturbance to species.	
	Air	-	The retail strategy for the city will state that 30,000 – 35,000 sq. m. of new retail floor space should be developed by 2022. These new developments will have a negative impact on air, in the short term due to release of particulate matter through demolition/construction, and longer term attracting more cars trips into the city.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	The increase in retail floor space is likely to attract more car trips into the city centre. However, the retail strategy and Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan will inform one another, and will provide an opportunity to promote more sustainable and active travel methods.	
	Soil	0	The retail strategy for the city centre is unlikely to result in any impact on soil	
	Water	0	The retail strategy for the city centre is unlikely to result in any impact on water	
	Landscape	0	The retail strategy for the city centre is unlikely to result in any impact on landscape	
	Population	+	New retail facilities proposed in the retail strategy will have a positive impact on population by providing a greater number and range of retail facilities to serve the people of Aberdeen and the wider region.	
	Human Health	0	The retail strategy for the city centre is unlikely to result in any impact on human health	
	Cultural Heritage	-	Most sites that will be considered through the retail strategy are constrained by Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. Therefore it is likely that there may be a negative impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	The retail strategy for the city will also link into the Vision and Masterplan which will state that 30,000 – 35,000 sq. m. of new retail floor space should be developed by 2022. This will have a very positive effect on material assets for the city centre.	
Alternative Option - As per preferred option, however, if this cannot be delivered, instead identify sites on the edge of the City Centre				We are not taking this alternative option forward.
	Air	-	The alternative option will have a more significant negative impact as the preferred, because even more car trips will be encouraged if the new shopping centre(s) is identified away from the current retail core, and is therefore less attractive to walk to.	
	Climatic Factors	-	The alternative option will have a more significant negative impact as the preferred, because even more car trips will be encouraged if the new shopping centre(s) is identified away from the current retail core, and is therefore less attractive to walk to. However, the retail strategy and Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan should still inform one another and will then promote more sustainable and active travel methods.	

	All other indicators	As per preferred	The impact will be the same as per the preferred option for biodiversity, soil, water, landscape, population, human health, cultural heritage and material assets	
Current Policy Approach - No current strategy for retail development within the City Centre. However, major retail development should be focused within the City Centre Business Zone. This option is a 'do nothing' approach. This may mean that new retail developments happen on an ad hoc basis and are not in sustainable locations close to the retail core. It may also mean that the required amount of new retail floor space is not identified.				Current approach will be replaced by the Preferred Option. Therefore we are not taking the current policy approach forward.
	Air	-	If developments come forward on an ad-hoc basis it may mean that they are in less sustainable locations away from the current retail core that are very likely to encourage car use and therefore negatively impact upon air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	-	If developments come forward on an ad-hoc basis it may mean that they are in less sustainable locations away from the current retail core that will encourage car use and therefore negatively impact upon greenhouse gas emissions and climate.	
	Cultural Heritage	-	Many sites within the City Centre are likely to be constrained by Listed Buildings or Conservation Areas. Therefore there may be a negative impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	-	If no suitable sites are identified and promoted for delivery through the strategy, it is possible that the required amount of floorspace is not identified, which may have an indirect negative impact on existing retail businesses and lead to a loss of competitiveness of Aberdeen City Centre for retail.	
	All other indicators	0	The current 'do nothing' approach will not have any direct impact on biodiversity, soil, water, landscape, population or human health, as it will not be doing anything to promote or direct new retail development that could have a positive impact.	
3. Union Street Frontages				
Preferred Option - Relax current policy. Promote a mix of uses on the frontage to the west end of Union Street so long as it is public space and/or puts the whole building into use. This issue is about relaxing current restrictions on change of use, and does not propose any new development or direct interventions				Class 1 retail will still be protected and encouraged on Union Street, but on a more limited section (from Huntly Street to Broad Street in the north side and from Bon Accord Street to Shiprow on the south side). The policy will be relaxed completely on the other parts of Union Street. This option is being taken forward through SUpplementary Guidance which will be subject to its own SEA assessment.
	Biodiversity	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on climatic factors	
	Soil	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on soil	
	Water	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on water	
	Landscape	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on landscape	
	Population	+	Making the Union Street Frontages policy more flexible will have a positive effect on population by providing a managed greater mix of uses on Union Street. It will also help to ensure that ground floor units maintain some sort of public use.	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on human health	
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Encouraging a mix of uses will have both a positive and negative impact on cultural heritage as some historic features may be enhanced but others may be lost, for example historic shop fronts or internal features as units are redeveloped for other uses.	

	Material Assets	+	Encouraging a mix of uses will have a positive effect on material assets, because it will encourage the improvement and use of vacant units on Union Street, helping to bring more businesses into the City Centre.	
Alternative Option - Remove Union Street Frontages policy altogether and allow all uses on Union Street				This alternative will not be taken forward.
	Population	-	Removing the Union Street Frontages policy will have a negative effect as we may see a clustering of the same types of use because of the lack of management, which will narrow the function of Union Street and may see the loss of important services for the population.	
	Material Assets	+/-	Encouraging a mix of uses will have a positive effect on material assets as it will encourage the use of vacant units on Union Street. However, removing the policy may encourage a cluster of the same uses which will have a negative impact on material assets.	
	All other indicators	As per preferred	The impact of the Alternative Option on all other indicators will be the same as for the preferred option	
Current Policy Approach - Encourage the retention of retail on Union Street through the current policy				The current policy approach will be amended as per the preferred option. Therefore current approach will not be taken forward.
	Population	+/-	Current policy approach encourages the retention of retail provision on Union Street, however may also limits the redevelopment of vacant units for other types of services and therefore potentially contribute to their staying vacant due to a lack of demand for retail.	
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Encouraging the retention of retail may help to retain historic shop frontages but may also contribute to the deterioration of existing frontages through vacant units which policy will not allow to be redeveloped into other uses.	
	Material Assets	+/-	Current policy helps to protect against ground floor units falling out of public access and use through undesirable changes of use, however it also limits the redevelopment of vacant units	
	All other indicators	As per preferred	The impact of the current policy approach on all other indicators will be the same as for the preferred option	
4. New Policy for West End Shops				
Preferred Option - Establish a new policy to protect, encourage and enhance the West End Shops. This issue is about providing protection for current retail units in the West End from change of use and does not propose any new development or direct interventions.				Preferred Option taken forward through new policy C3 West End Shops and Cafes (See individual policy assessment)
	Biodiversity	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on climatic factors	
	Soil	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on soil	
	Water	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on water	
	Landscape	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on landscape	
	Population	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on population	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely to result in any impact on human health	
	Cultural Heritage	+	Protecting the retail use will help maintain original shop fronts where present	
	Material Assets	+	Protecting the retail use will help maintain the shops in this area	

Alternative Option - No retail designation for the West End Shops				Alternative Option will not be taken forward
	Cultural Heritage	-	Not protecting the retail use may lead to the loss of original shop fronts.	
	Material Assets	-	Not protecting the retail use in this area may result in the loss of shops.	
	All other indicators	As per preferred	The impact of the alternative approach will be the same as for the preferred option- no significant impact on biodiversity, air, climate, soil, water, landscape, population or human health.	
Current policy approach - no specific protection for West End Shops. Covered by CCBZ designation.				Current approach will be replaced by the Preferred Option - new policy C3 West End Shops and Cafes.
	Cultural Heritage	-	Not protecting the retail use may lead to the loss of original shop fronts.	
	Material Assets	-	Not protecting the retail use in this area may result in the loss of shops.	
	All other indicators	As per preferred	The impact of the alternative approach will be the same as for the preferred option- no significant impact on biodiversity, air, climate, soil, water, landscape, population or human health.	
5. Retail Outwith the City Centre				
Preferred Option - Allocate land for retail to address deficiencies across the city, along with committed developments. This issue is proposing new retail developments within areas already allocated for new development Three allocations have been proposed for new retail centres outwith the city centre: Grandholm, Newhills and Countesswells. The specific site has yet been chosen but through the findings of the retail study it emerged that there were quantitative and qualitative deficiencies for these three allocations. The committed retail projects and the three allocations above have already been subjected to a SEA through the Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012) to address the impacts for allocating them as sustainable mixed communities. Therefore, this SEA will look at the additional impacts a retail centre may have on the above allocations.				The LDP will identify these three areas for additional retail development to meet identified deficiencies. See individual policy assessment of NC8 Retail Serving New Development.
	Biodiversity	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on biodiversity	
	Air	+/-	There will be both positive and negative impacts on air, as new retail uses may encourage more trips by car. However, creating retail centres within the sustainable mixed communities will encourage people to use more sustainable methods of transport and allow them to visit shops in their own community.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	There will be both positive and negative impacts on climatic factors as retail may encourage more cars. However, creating retail centres within the sustainable mixed communities will encourage people to use more sustainable methods of transport.	
	Soil	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on soil	
	Water	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on water	
	Landscape	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on landscape	
	Population		The development of retail centres within the allocations stated above will have a positive effect on the local community by providing local services.	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on human health	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	++	The development of retail will have a positive impact on material assets.	
Current Policy Approach - No retail strategy for the development outwith the City Centre. Committed developments are detailed in the Main Issues Report. This may lead to development of new retail parks on an ad hoc basis, in locations which are not yet known and have not been planned for through the LDP process.				This approach will not be taken forward.
	Biodiversity	-	Likely impact on biodiversity depending on location of any new retail parks constructed.	

	Air	-	The development of retail parks will encourage more cars. There will also be negative impacts with further construction of retail parks on an ad hoc basis.	
	Climatic Factors	-	The development of retail parks on an ad hoc basis will encourage more cars.	
	Soil	-	Likely impact on soil depending on location of any new retail parks constructed.	
	Water	-	Likely impact on water depending on location of any new retail parks constructed.	
	Landscape	-	Likely impact on landscape depending on location of any new retail parks constructed.	
	Population	0	New retail facilities are likely to have a positive impact on population by providing more services, but this will depend on their location.	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Possible impact on cultural heritage, depending on the location of any new retail parks constructed.	
	Material Assets	-	Existing retail deficiencies in planned developments are not addressed.	
6. Aberdeen Harbour Expansion				
Create a new deep water harbour facility at Nigg Bay. This will be a significant new physical development affecting both the terrestrial and marine environment.				Preferred option to be taken forward and Nigg Bay identified as an opportunity for a new deep water harbour facility. See indiviudal site assessments.
	Biodiversity	--	Nigg Bay is part of Balnagask to Cove Local Nature Conservation Site – this supports mixed habitats, on a rich substrate supporting herb rich grasslands, wet flushes, coastal heathland, rocky cliffs and rock pools. Interesting insect fauna and nesting sea birds. Part of the bay is also a Site of Special Scientific Interest, mainly due to its geological interest, although the built proposals do not include this area. Building and dredging operations could affect bottlenose dolphins and Atlantic salmon. These are qualifying species for the Moray Firth SAC and the River Dee SAC respectively.	
	Air	+	There is a likelihood that some heavy vehicle traffic will be diverted from the existing harbour and Market Street and the city centre, where air quality is currently an issue. Therefore there will be a positive impact on the Air Quality Management Area in the City Centre.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	A new harbour will generate additional vehicular traffic overall, increasing overall carbon footprints. However, part of the rationale of a new harbour facility is that it would be able to accommodate larger ships which are more energy efficient than several smaller vessels. All harbour development is likely to be in coastal areas where flooding is an issue that would have to be considered. Therefore the impact on climatic factors is mixed.	
	Soil	+/-	Whilst any new development will increase land take and result in soil sealing, the immediate coastal location means that the value of the soils here are likely to be limited. There could be the opportunity to promote a greater understanding and appreciation of the geological SSSI at Nigg Bay.	
	Water	--	Any harbour development is likely to have physical impacts upon the coastline – in particular dredging and the construction of a new breakwater.	

	Landscape	-	Nigg Bay is part of a distinctive coastal area which in turn is part of the landscape setting of Aberdeen. It is inevitable that any new harbour development will have to be located in the coastal area and will therefore impact on the coastal landscape.	
	Population	+	Development of the new harbour facility will directly create a large number of new jobs	
	Human Health	+/-	Nigg Bay and the coastal footpath are recreational resources and any development could have a negative impact on this without mitigation. However this option also presents an opportunity to improve the educational and recreation resource in the area, therefore impact will be mixed.	
	Cultural Heritage	-	Without mitigation there is the possibility of development at Nigg Bay affecting the setting of St Fitticks Church which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and Girdleness Lighthouse which is listed.	
	Material Assets	++	Expansion is needed to accommodate growth in oil and gas markets, decommissioning, offshore renewables, ferry traffic, the cruise market and the development or larger ships and vessels which cannot currently be accommodated within the confines of the current harbour. It would lead to a significant improvement in business opportunities for the city and in harbour infrastructure.	
Alternative Option - Focus future growth on the existing harbour estate. This will lead to new development, but only within the boundaries of the current built up operational area of the harbour.				Alternative Option will not be taken forward - not feasible on economic grounds
	Biodiversity	-	The current harbour is part of the River Dee SAC. Building and dredging operations could affect bottlenose dolphins and Atlantic salmon. These are qualifying species for the Moray Firth SAC and the River Dee SAC respectively.	
	Air	-	All existing and future harbour traffic will continue to access it via Market Street and the city centre, thereby reducing air quality in those areas.	
	Climatic Factors	+/-	The inverse of the preferred option – it is possible that less vehicular traffic would be generated by continuing business from the existing harbour, but it may be expected that traffic levels will continue to increase as the harbour grows and sees more activity. Also, only less fuel-efficient smaller vessels could be accommodated there. All harbour development is likely to be in coastal areas where flooding is an issue that would have to be considered.	
	Soil	0	Unlikely to have an impact on soil	
	Water	0	No significant impacts anticipated from what is already a well developed area	
	Landscape	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on landscape	
	Population	0	Intensification of existing harbour activities is likely to create new jobs, but it is possible that these would not be required on the same scale as a brand new harbour facility.	
	Human Health	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on landscape	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	0	Unlikely to have a significant impact on material assets	
7. Local Housing Needs (Affordable Housing)				

Preferred Option - Flexibility in the policy approach ensure greater on-side delivery of affordable housing. This issue concerns the proportion of new homes constructed that are affordable, not the principle or number of homes themselves. Affordable homes are not physically different from a mainstream home. This explains why there is no significant impact on the physical environmental indicators.				This option will be taken forward. See individual assessment of Policy H5 Affordable Housing.
	Biodiversity	0	No impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	No impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	0	No impact on climate	
	Soil	0	No impact on soil	
	Water	0	No impact on water	
	Landscape	0	No impact on landscape	
	Population	++	The intention of this policy is to increase the delivery of affordable housing to meet the housing needs of the population, which will have a positive effect. It is anticipated that the preferred option will help to deliver the greatest number of affordable homes.	
	Human Health	0	No impact on human health	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	+	This policy will help to improve the mix of housing in Aberdeen providing a material asset to support economic growth, by providing affordable housing for key workers who cannot afford mainstream house prices. It is anticipated that the preferred option will help to deliver the greatest number of affordable homes.	
Alternative Option - Idenify specific sites for on-site delivery. This involves identifying sites already allocated for housing where affordable housing units will be required to be delivered on site. This issue concerns the proportion of new homes constructed that are affordable, not the principle or number of homes themselves. Affordable homes are not physically different from a mainstream home. This explains why there is no significant impact on the physical environmental indicators.				This option is not being taken forward.
	Population	++	The intention of this policy is to increase the delivery of affordable housing to meet the housing needs of the population. However, it would not contribute towards the formation of sustainable mixed communities.	
	Material Assets	+	This policy will help to improve the mix in housing in Aberdeen providing a material asset to support economic growth. It is anticipated that this alternative would also help to increase the amount of affordable housing delivered relative to the current approach.	
	All other indicators	As per preferred	All other indicators for the alternative option are the same as for the preferred option.	
Current Policy Approach - Blanket requirement for 25% affordable housing on sites greater than 20 units. This issue concerns the proportion of new homes constructed that are affordable, not the principle or number of homes themselves. Affordable homes are not physically different from a mainstream home. This explains why there is no significant impact on the physical environmental indicators.				The current policy is being reworded to allow greater flexibility in how affordable housing is delivered, with the aim of delivering more overall. Therefore current policy approach will be replaced by the new H5.
	Population	+	The intention of this policy is to increase the delivery of affordable housing to meet the housing needs of the population- however the levels of affordable housing being delivered through the current approach are not as high as might be hoped through the preferred option.	

	Material Assets	+	This policy will help to improve the mix in housing in Aberdeen providing a material asset to support economic growth, however the levels of affordable housing being delivered through the current approach are not as high as might be hoped through the preferred option.	
	All other indicators	As per preferred	Impact on all other indicators for the alternative option are the same as for the preferred option.	
8. Housing for Older People and Particular Needs				
Preferred Option - Set a target of 33% of homes on sites of 50 dwellings or more to be suitable for the older population and people with physical disabilities. This will involve the layout and design of the homes, not the principle, location or number of homes themselves. This explains why there will be no significant impact on physical environment indicators.				This option is not being taken forward. There will not be a policy requirement in the LDP relating specifically to housing for older people and particular needs.
	Biodiversity	0	No impact on biodiversity	
	Air	0	No impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	0	No impact on climate	
	Soil	0	No impact on soil	
	Water	0	No impact on water	
	Landscape	0	No impact on landscape	
	Population	+	This policy will increase the range of house types provided and will ensure that the provision meets the future housing needs of the population. The policy will support an aging population. The policy preferred option should be amended to ensure that consideration is given to the location of housing for older people to allow for good access to services, facilities and public transport.	
	Human Health	+	This policy will seek to deliver more housing suitable for older people. New build properties are more energy efficient and can ensure more affordable warmth having a positive affect on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	+	This policy will help to improve the mix in housing in Aberdeen providing a material asset to support economic growth.	
Alternative Option - Use a lower % target of homes on sites of 50 dwellings or more to be suitable to the older population and people with physical disabilities.				This option is not being taken forward.
	Population	+	As per preferred, with a more significant impact the greater % of homes that is required	
	Human Health	+	As per preferred, with a more significant impact the greater % of homes that is required	
	Material Assets	+	As per preferred, with a more significant impact the greater % of homes that is required	
	All other indicators	+	As per preferred, with a more significant impact the greater % of homes that is required	
Current Policy Approach - the current approach is to rely on the market to deliver what is required; policy already indicates that an appropriate mix should be provided but does not specify what level or mix or what needs should be met.				This is the option that is being taken forward. Please see individual assessment of Policy H4 Housing Mix.
	Population	+	Through a 'do nothing' approach the LDP will not help to increase the range of house types provided or help support an aging population in this way.	
	Human Health	+	Through a 'do nothing' approach the LDP will not help to deliver more housing for older people.	

	Material Assets	+	Through a 'do nothing' approach the LDP will not help to deliver more housing for older people.	
	All other indicators	+	Impact on all other indicators for the alternative option are the same as for the preferred option - no significant impact	
9. Low and Zero Carbon Generating Technologies				
Preferred Option - 20% requirement for LZCGT in 2016; 25% requirement for LZCGT in 2020. This issue does not propose any new development, and concerns only requirements for new buildings to install low and zero carbon generating technologies.				This option is being taken forward through policy. See assessment of policy R7 Low and Zero Carbon Generating Technologies.
	Biodiversity	0	No impact on biodiversity	
	Air	-	There is the potential that the use of biomass as a LZCGT and this would have a negative impact on air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	++	The preferred option promotes the use of low carbon energy or the makes more efficient use of energy. By raising the standards this will ensure buildings are designed for with the future in mind to minimise the use of energy and the effects will be long term.	
	Soil	-	The use of ground source heat may potentially have minimal effects on soil. There may be potential impacts of vertical borehole schemes on contaminated land, on wetland sites or on pat soil. This impact is dependant on location and is unknown.	
	Water	-	The construction of micro hydro schemes would be supported by this policy and may have an impact on water resulting from construction activities and changes in water flow. This impact is not likely to be significant on a small scale.	
	Landscape	0	No significant impact on landscape	
	Population	0	No significant impact on population	
	Human Health	+	This option should promote more efficient energy and affordable energy use providing the population with more affordable warmth, which will be beneficial to human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No significant impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	+	Policy is likely to have a positive impact on material assets by helping to create a modern and energy efficient stock of buildings for the city	
Alternative Option - 15% requirement for LZCGT in 2016; 20% requirement for LZCGT in 2020				This option is not being taken forward through policy.
	All indicators	As per preferred	Impact on all indicators will be as preferred, however the impact is likely to be slightly less significant given that the requirements for LZCGT are not as high.	
Alternative Option 2 - 30% requirement for LZCGT in 2016; 35% requirement for LZCGT in 2020				This option is not being taken forward through policy.
	All indicators	As per preferred	Impact on all indicators will be as preferred, however the impact is likely to be slightly more significant given the requirements for LZCGT is higher.	
10. Energy Mapping				
Include the energy map document in the Local Development Plan in Supplementary Guidance and set out that major developments must give consideration to linking into the energy network. Exceptions would only be accepted where it is demonstrated that links are not feasible. This issue is about the creation of a document, and does not directly propose any specific new developments or locational requirements. However an indirect effect may be to encourage the creation of new links to the energy network.				This option is being taken forward through Supplementary Guidance. SG has not yet been produced and will be

	Biodiversity	0	This policy does not have any locational requirements and only sets a requirement for housing to consider links to the energy network. Therefore it will not have a direct impact on biodiversity.	subject to a full SEA assessment once this is done.
	Air	-	No direct impact on air quality	
	Climatic Factors	+	The preferred option promotes the use of low carbon energy or the makes more efficient use of energy.	
	Soil	0	No direct impact on soil	
	Water	0	No direct impact on water	
	Landscape	0	No direct impact on landscape	
	Population	0	No direct impact on population	
	Human Health	+	This option should promote more efficient energy and affordable energy use providing the population with more affordable warmth.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No direct impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	+	Policy will help to encourage a network of energy supplies in Aberdeen providing a valuable asset and longer term fuel security	
Alternative Option - As per Preferred Option, but require that where there is an opportunity to connect to a network that it will be required as a condition of the planning approval.				This option is not being taken forward.
	All indicators	As per preferred	As per preferred option, but a stricter policy will have a more significant effect, as it is more likely that developments will connect to the heat network, making efficient use of energy	
Current Policy Approach - The current approach does not provide the information, but asks developers to consider the use of district heating schemes.				This option is not being taken forward.
	All indicators	As per preferred	There will not be a significant impact of the 'do nothing' approach which provides high level general support for district heating but does not promote its use in any other way.	
11. Water Use Efficiency				
Preferred Option - Set an increasing target to achieve the gold standard for water use efficiency for domestic buildings and BREEAM level 5 for non-domestic buildings.				Water saving technologies will be required, but specific targets will not be set. See assessment of policy R7 Low and Zero Carbon Technologies and Water Efficiency.
	Biodiversity	++	The more efficient use of water will help to protect and promote watercourses as valuable landscape features and wildlife habitats. This is particularly important as all of the water for Aberdeen is abstracted from the River Dee. The preferred option is for gold standards and BREEAM level 5, which will have a more significant positive impact on biodiversity than less ambitious targets.	
	Air	0	No impact on air	
	Climatic Factors	++	The use of water efficiency technologies and the reuse of water will help to adapt to a changing climate.	
	Soil	0	No impact on soil	
	Landscape	0	No impact on landscape	
	Population	0	No impact on population	
	Human Health	0	No impact on human health	
	Cultural Heritage	0	No impact on cultural heritage	
	Material Assets	0	No impact on material assets	

Alternative Option - Set a target for domestic buildings to achieve silver standard for water use efficiency in all new buildings and BREEAM level 4 for water for non-domestic buildings.				This option will not be taken forward.
	All indicators	0/+	As per preferred option, however setting a less ambitious target will have a less significant positive impact on biodiversity, climate and water. However, it would still be more beneficial than the current policy approach.	
Current Policy Approach - Leave this issue to be dealt with through building standards				This option will not be taken forward.
	Biodiversity	-	A 'do nothing' approach will have no affect on biodiversity, but the increased house building will lead to increased demand for water to be abstracted from the River Dee, which is likely to have negative impacts on watercourses.	
	Climatic Factors	-	The alternative to not do anything will affect our resilience to climate change as summers become warmer and drier the availability of water will be less certain.	
	Water	0	The current 'do nothing' approach does not have any impact on water saving or water efficiency.	
	All other indicators	0	The impact of the current approach would be the same as for the preferred option- no impact on air, soil, landscape, population, human health, cultural heritage or material assets.	
12. Aberdeen City Recycling and Energy (Waste Management)				
Preferred Option - Locate most waste facilities in one location. Although the waste facilities proposed will have significant locational requirements, no specific sites are known at present, and therefore site-specific impacts cannot be assessed at present.				Although it is unlikely that all of the required facilities will be accomodated on one site, a limited number have been identified which will be capable of achieving an element of concentration. See indiviudal assessment of Policy R2 Sites for New Waste Management Facilities and site assessments of Altens East and East Tullos.
	Biodiversity	-	Likely that new waste facilities will have an impact on local biodiversity but these are unknown at present	
	Air	0	New waste facilities, fitted with appropriate filtering technology, are unlikely to have a significant impact on air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Facilities will help to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and promote recycling, composting and the production of energy from waste. These factors will have a positive effect on climate by helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourage the reuse of resources.	
	Soil	-	Likely that new waste facilities will have an impact on local soil but these are unknown at present.	
	Water	0	No impact on water	
	Landscape	-	Likely that new waste facilities will have an impact on landscape but these are unknown at present.	
	Population	0	No impact on population	
	Human Health	-	Likely that new waste facilities, particularly In-Vessel Composting (IVC), will have a negative impact on amenity if sited to close to existing employment or residential uses.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Unlikely that new waste facilities will have an impact on cultural heritage, but these are unknown at present.	
	Material Assets	++	Will provide new, modern and high technology waste infrastructure serving the whole city.	
Alternative Option - Locate waste facilities on a number of sites around the city				This option is not being taken forward.

	Biodiversity	-	Alternative approach likely to have a greater impact on biodiversity due to facilities being spread across the city in a number of locations, rather than being concentrated in one. There biodiversity will be affected on a number of sites.	
	Climatic Factors	+	As preferred; positive impact may be negated by increased vehicle movements between facilities	
	Soil	-	Alternative approach likely to have a greater impact on soil due to facilities being spread across the city in a number of locations, rather than being concentrated in one.	
	All other indicators	As per preferred	As per preferred option for air, water, landscape, population, human health, cultural heritage and material assets	

Appendix 7 c Assessment of Existing Policies and Supplementary Guidance in 2o12 LDP

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
Land Release											
LR1 Land Release Policy											
Part A First Phase Release	-	-	-	-	-	++/--	-	++	++	++	Policy allows the release of first phase Greenfield development, which amounts to 11,995 new homes and 105 hectares of employment land. All the sites that would be released as a result of this policy have been assessed within the allocations. This policy would result in a cumulative impact that would have a greater impact than the individual sites. However impact will be minimised by development of sites and allocations being phased.
Part B Second Phase Release	---	---	-	---	---	+++/---	---	+++	+++	+++	Policy allows the release of second phase Greenfield development, which amounts to 5,000 new homes and 70 hectares of employment land. Assessment as per LR1, but this would increase the cumulative impact on air, water and climate. Impacts on soil are short-term and there is unlikely to be a significant cumulative impact on soil as a result of additional development.
Part C Third Phase Release	---	---	-	---	---	+++/---	---	+++	+++	+++	Policy allows the release of third phase Greenfield development, which amounts to 3,440 new homes. Assessment as per LR1. Assessment as per LR1, but this would increase the cumulative impact on air, water and climate. Impacts on soil are short-term and there is unlikely to be a significant cumulative impact on soil as a result of additional development.
LR2 Delivery Of Mixed Use Communities	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	This policy ensures that new large Greenfield housing releases include a mix of housing and employment, and that the employment land is delivered along with the housing land. This will encourage more sustainable communities and reduce the need for commuting. The policy does not promote development and will have mainly neutral impacts on indicators, but the delivery of employment land will have positive benefits on material assets and population. Mixing development encourages walking which should have a positive impact on human health and reducing our reliance on the car and fossil fuels.
Infrastructure Delivery											
I1 Infrastructure Delivery and Developer Contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	++	This policy provides guidance on developer contributions and infrastructure requirements. It provides a clear and concise guide to the contributions that each developer will be expected to pay to support new development. Providing infrastructure, services and facilities would have a positive affect on a range of receptors. It would have a positive affect on material assets, human health and population as it would provide for new and improved infrastructure as well as likely improve the supply of housing – such as affordable housing and community and health facilities.
SG Infrastructure and Developer Contributions Manual	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	++	This Supplementary Guidance document provides details on the methodology and rationale for the infrastructure identified to support the sites identified in the Local Development Plan. It also sets out the criteria that should be used to calculate developer contributions for any development proposed in the City. The SG should improve the ability to secure the delivery of an appropriate level of infrastructure from new development. The provision of new infrastructure, such as public transport, walking and cycling routes, health facilities and schools would have a positive affect on material assets, human health and the population.
City Centre											

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
C1 City Centre Development – Regional Centre	-	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0/+	0	This policy promotes the city centre as a location for regional developments and ensures development does not negatively impact on the city centre. This policy will have a positive affect on material assets as it would promote the creation of more retail and business uses in the City Centre. The policy will also have a positive affect on landscape and cultural heritage as cultural heritage will be conserved or enhanced by development and landscape will be conserved outwith the city centre as development is encouraged in the built up area. The policy has no impact on water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors and human health. There may be a slight positive impact on population as a well developed city centre may attract more people to the city. There may be a negative impact on air due to the likely negative impact on the City Centre Air Quality Management Areas as a result of promoting development.
C2 City Centre Business Zone	-	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0/+	0	This policy promotes the City Centre Business Zone as the preferred first choice for major retail developments. This policy will have a positive affect on material assets as it would promote the creation of more retail in the City Centre. The policy would also have a positive affect on landscape and cultural heritage as cultural heritage will be conserved or enhanced by development and landscape will be conserved outwith the city centre as development is encouraged in the built up area. The policy has no impact on water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors and human health. There may be a slight positive impact on population as a well developed city centre may attract more people to the city. There may be a negative impact on air due to the likely negative impact on the City Centre Air Quality Management Areas as a result of promoting development.
C3 Union Street – Change of Use	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0/+	0	This policy promotes Union Street as a key retail location within the City Centre to maintain and enhance vitality and viability. This policy will have a positive affect on material assets as it would promote the creation of more retail and business uses in the City Centre. The policy will also have a positive affect on cultural heritage as it will be conserved or enhanced. The policy has no impact on air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, landscape and human health. There may be a slight positive impact on population as a well developed city centre may attract more people to the city.
Retail											
RT1 Sequential Approach and Retail Impact	-	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0/+	0	This policy promotes retail, business and leisure development to be located according to the sequential approach. This policy will have a positive affect on material assets as it would promote the creation of more retail and business uses in the City Centre. The policy would also have a positive affect on landscape and cultural heritage as cultural heritage will be conserved or enhanced by development and landscape will be conserved outwith the city centre as development is encouraged in the built up area. The policy has no impact on water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors and human health. There may be a slight positive impact on population as a well developed city centre may attract more people to the city. There may be a slight positive impact on population as a well developed city centre may attract more people to the city.
RT2 Out of Centre Proposals	+/-	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	This policy discourages retail development in out of centre locations. This policy will have no affect on water, climatic factors, cultural heritage, material assets, population and human health. The policy will positively affect soil, biodiversity and landscape as retail development on undeveloped land is discouraged. There may also be a positive and negative affect on air as more retail development is encouraged in the city centre which may affect the City Centre Air Quality Management Areas but air quality may be positively affected outwith the city centre due to the restrictions on retail development.
RT3 Town, District and Neighbourhood Centres	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	This policy discourages a change of use from retail in town, district and neighbourhood centres. This policy will have a positive impact on material assets as it would promote the retention of more retail and business uses in town, district and neighbourhood centres. The policy would also have a positive impact on population as this will maintain local facilities for residents.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
RT4 Local Shops	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	This policy discourages change of use from retail in all local shops outwith designated shopping centres. The policy will have a positive affect on material assets as it would promote the retention of more retail and business uses in areas outwith designated shopping centres. It would also have a positive affect on cultural heritage as cultural heritage will be conserved or enhanced by development. The policy has no impact on air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, landscape and human health. There will be a positive impact on population as this will maintain local facilities for residents.
RT5 Retail Development Serving New Development Areas	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	This policy encourages appropriate retail development within new housing sites. This policy will have no impact on air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, cultural heritage, landscape and human health. It will have a positive impact on material assets as it would promote the creation of more retail and business uses in new developments. It would also have a positive impact on population as this will maintain local facilities for residents.
SG Hierarchy of Centres	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	This Supplementary Guidance supports Policy RT1 Sequential Approach and Retail Development. This Supplementary Guidance will have a positive impact on material assets as it would promote the creation of more retail and business uses in the City Centre and other retail centres. The Supplementary Guidance would also have a positive affect on landscape and cultural heritage as cultural heritage will be conserved or enhanced by development.
SG Harmony of Uses	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	This is a group of Supplementary Guidance which encourages the harmony of uses in and outwith the City Centre with regards to liquor licensed premises, street cafes, amusement centres and arcades, hot food takeaways and residential uses. This Supplementary Guidance will have no impact on air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, landscape and human health. It would have a significant impact on cultural heritage as historical shutters will be maintained, keeping heritage present within conservation areas.
SG Shopfront Security	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	This Supplementary Guidance aims to enhance and maintain the high quality of life within the city by promoting shopfront security measures. It will have no impact on air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, landscape, material assets, population and human health. It would have a significant impact on cultural heritage as historical shutters will be maintained, keeping heritage present within conservation areas.
SG Union Street Frontages	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0/+	0	This Supplementary Guidance supports Policy C3 Union Street – Change of Use. This Supplementary Guidance will have a positive affect on material assets as it would promote the creation of more retail and business uses in the City Centre. The Supplementary Guidance will also have a positive affect on cultural heritage as it will be conserved or enhanced. The policy has no impact on air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, landscape and human health. There may be a slight positive impact on population as a well developed city centre may attract more people to the city.
Housing											

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
H1 Residential Areas	--	--	--	--	--	++/--	--	++	++	++	Policy identifies areas of residential development and allows compatible uses to be developed in these areas, but ensures the character and amenities of such areas are retained. Housing development is likely to have short-term adverse affects soil through soil erosion, desegregation, compaction and pollution during construction phases. Housing development could potentially have short-term negative impacts on water through a change in water table, stream flows, site water budgets, localised flooding, silt deposition and water-borne pollution. Inevitably, some localised impacts on watercourses would occur due to the development. Greenfield development is likely to impact negatively on biodiversity through the loss of habitats, habitat fragmentation or disturbance to species that use the site as a habitat. The scale of development that could be accommodated on site could have a negative impact on climate due to increased use of resources and increased emissions. Positively for population, human health and material assets, large scale housing development is likely to have long-term positive affects. Provision of new housing in conformity with new building standards can enhance good health and social justice for people with no access to housing now gaining access to housing. Since new homes are more energy efficient than the existing stock; they reduce running costs and assist in decreasing fuel poverty. Greenfield development is likely to have a negative impact on landscape. These effects may weaken the sense of place, the identity of existing settlements and landscape character in places. Depending on implementation strategies, housing development proposed on these greenfield sites could positively or adversely affect the built features, their context, pattern of past historic use, and associations of the historic environment, which encompasses built heritage features (ancient monuments, archaeological sites and landscapes, historic buildings, townscapes, parks, gardens and designed landscapes, as well as marine heritage) and the context or setting in which they sit, and the patterns of past use, in landscapes and within the soil, and also in our towns, villages and streets. The planning and design of developments, which conforms, substantially to the City's existing design, layout, material and quality is likely to have long-term positive affects. But new developments that deviate from existing designs could adversely affect the setting of historic settlements in the long-term. New housing provides the scope for creation of fixed assets, the use of natural and material assets, promoting waste minimisation, recycling and composting.
H2 Housing Density	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	Policy seeks minimum densities for new developments. The purpose is to make the most efficient use of land and to encourage higher densities around transport nodes, which will encourage more sustainable travel patterns. This policy does not promote development, but regulates the allocations made through the Local Development Plan, therefore impacts are neutral apart from positives on soil, biodiversity and climate as development will require less land.
H3 Housing Mix	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	This policy seeks to encourage a mix of house types and sizes. The purpose is to ensure that there is a wide variety of houses to support the population. This policy does not promote development, but regulates the allocations made through the Local Development Plan; therefore impacts are neutral apart from positive on material assets and population as a result of the mix of house types that would be delivered.
H4 Mixed Use Areas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	Policy allows for certain areas to be developed with a mix of uses and protects the mixed uses against the potential negative affects of each other. The policy protects the existing use, character and townscape of an area – therefore protecting the historic environment and setting. It improves the supply of housing through allowing housing development in areas not traditionally housing, e.g. above shops in the city centre, and looks to protect against development that would adversely affect the amenity of people living and working in a mixed use area. This policy does not promote any particular development but regulates any potential developments in mixed use areas to ensure that there is no negative impact on existing uses, therefore neutral impacts apart from a positive impact on material assets.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
H5 Affordable Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	Policy states a figure that is expected for affordable housing from new developments. The purpose is to ensure that sufficient affordable housing is delivered to meet the needs of those people in housing need. This policy does not promote development, but ensures a % of development is affordable to those on lower incomes. Therefore, impacts are neutral apart from positive on material assets and population as a result of the mix of house types that would be delivered. There would also be a positive impact on human health as people on lower incomes will have better access to suitable accommodation that meets their needs.
H6Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites	-	-	-	-	-	++/-	-	++	++	++	Policy allows for the development of Gypsy and Traveller sites if they can ensure that there will be no significant impact. This policy does not promote development, but does allow development if criteria can be met. Therefore policy may result in development of Gypsy and Traveller sites but will ensure that proposals for development minimise their impact. Therefore, impacts are the same as per policy **H1** Residential Areas.
H7Gypsy and Traveller Requirements for new residential developments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	Policy states a figure that is expected for affordable housing from new developments. Within specified sites a small proportion of that requirement is to be for Gypsies and Travellers. The purpose is to ensure that across the city housing is delivered to meet the needs of all people in housing need. This policy does not promote development, but ensures a % of development is developed for Gypsies and Travellers. Therefore, impacts are neutral apart from positive on material assets and population as a result of the mix of house types that would be delivered. There would also be a positive impact on human health as people in housing need will have better access to suitable accommodation that meets their needs, and is closer to schools and medical facilities.
H8Housing and Aberdeen Airport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Policy identifies areas where residential development will not be permitted in relation to the Airport. The policy will have a positive impact on human health as it stops development occurring where there are excess noise levels from the airport which would be detrimental to residential amenity. All other impacts are neutral.
SG Affordable Housing Guide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Supplementary Guidance on affordable housing provides more detailed advice on the provision of affordable housing and the process for ensuring deliver of affordable housing. The Supplementary Guidance does not promote new development or change the aim of the affordable housing policy, therefore impacts are neutral.
SG Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Supplementary Guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision provides more detailed advice on the provision of Gypsy and Traveller Sites and advice on the process for ensuring Gypsy and Traveller sites within new developments. The Supplementary Guidance does not promote new development or change the aim of the affordable housing policy, therefore impacts are neutral.
Community Facilities											
CF1 Existing Community sites and Facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	Policy seeks to protect existing community sites and facilities for their original uses and allows for extension to such sites if appropriate and in accordance with policy. The policy would have positive affects by making sure that the character and vitality of an area was kept, the promotion of key fixed assets such as hospitals and schools and improve the well-being of all age groups in the community.
CF2 New Community Facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+	+	+	Supports new community facilities provided they are in convenient locations and are readily accessible to all. Can improve brownfield land, whilst be detrimental to greenfield sites. The policy promotes the creation of fixed assets such as hospitals or schools, and cause positive changes to the well-being of all age groups.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
SG Private Children's Nurseries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	This SG does not promote development but sets out the criteria for allowing children's nurseries in residential areas. The proposal promotes safe access so there may be a small positive impact on human health. There are no significant impacts anticipated on the other SEA topics.
SG Sports Facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	This SG does not promote development but sets out the criteria for developing sports facilities. It also protects existing facilities so there are expected to be positive impacts on human health and the population. No other significant impacts are anticipated.
Design											
D1 Architecture and Placemaking (Design Quality)	0	0	0	+	++	++	++	0	+	+	Good design leads to a good quality of life and can attract people and businesses to Aberdeen. This policy may lead to an enhancement and improvement of Aberdeen's unique character, ensure more sustainable neighbourhoods are developed and ensure that new housing developments integrate with the local identity, context and settlement patterns. High quality design in all buildings and developments that enhance context, connectivity and identity are expected. Biodiversity rates as a positive as sites that are part of the masterplan process will possibly contain green corridors. Landscaping will ensure the natural elements on the landscape provide good biodiversity habitats and wildlife corridors. More sustainable and better design communities will reduce the need for driving, and encourage walking, non motorised modes of transport and the use of public transport. Also with houses that are better designed to fit within the landscape and make use of natural elements, such as solar gain. These all aim to reduce CO2 emissions and promote energy efficiency. Placemaking involves using the existing built and natural heritage as a basis for the development of new sites. It is expected that many historic buildings within development sites will be retained and/or reused thereby ensure the cultural heritage is protected. With regard to landscape new developments will look to the natural landscape and pick out traces in the landscape to be used in or to inform the design of place. Places will have a mix of uses and facilities for a wide range of people and a wide range of house type will be available for people at all ages of life. Human health will improve as there will be access to a number of walkways and multiuse paths to encourage active travel. Provision of appropriate and relevant open space will also be included in developments.
D2 Design and Amenity	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	+	+	++	This policy requires that development proposals are welcoming, safe, and pleasant places that enhance the public realm. By ensuring light does not spill into the night sky there may be an increase in biodiversity as insects and other creatures are not confused by inappropriate levels of light. Public art will increase cultural heritage, landscape and material assets by ensuring the street and other areas are interesting and welcoming places with attractive features. This policy will impact positively on the population as it protects new buildings from antisocial behaviour and will make housing more attractive, regardless of location and increasing community safety. Human health will be increased through more safely design developments. Developments will benefit solar gain and orientation to capture sunlight.
D3 Sustainable and Active Travel	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	This policy ensures that the design and layout of new development reflects the modal hierarchy identified in National Planning Policy and the principles of Designing Streets, and ensures that services, facilities and jobs are accessible to new communities. This policy has a positive affect on air, climatic factors and human health by promoting walking and cycling and sustainable public transport over car/other motorised vehicle use, a reduction in motorised vehicle use leads to less congestion and improved local air quality. This policy also encourages active travel within communities helping to tackle obesity and improve human health.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
D4 Aberdeen' s Granite heritage	0	0	+	0	0	++	++	0	+	0	Granite is an important part of Aberdeen and provides the very distinctive character of the city. There will be many positive impacts from the granite heritage policy. Reusing historic sites may involve a clean up operation to remove contamination. The historic environment will be protected and the reuse of existing buildings promoted, thereby improving our cultural heritage. The landscape features will be protected through the retention of original settled streets and granite pavements thereby maintaining the character of streets. Many disused historic buildings may be converted into dwelling houses or employment use, thereby increasing the supply of housing and employment opportunity
D5 Built Heritage	0	0	+	0	0	++	+	0	+	0	Allows for the sensitive conversion of listed buildings. Policy will have positive affects through better maintenance of historically valuable buildings and townscape, reuse of derelict buildings/land, increasing the supply of housing through conversion and improving the overall environment. Through the retention and reuse of listed buildings there is the possibility that a clean up of contamination may be required thereby improving soil quality. Also as the policy is about protecting and reusing historic buildings, cultural heritage will be protected and enhanced. A sense of place will be maintained and developed further through this policy, impacting positively on landscape and the supply of housing or employment space may be increased due to the conversation of listed buildings, impacting positively on population by giving them a choice of living and work space. Encourages sensitive conversion of buildings in rear lanes. Policy would have positive affects through retaining the character of rear lanes and the townscape. Through the retention and reuse of buildings in rear lanes in conservation areas there is the possibility that a clean up of contamination may be required thereby improving soil quality. Also as the policy is about preserving and enhancing conservation area, cultural heritage will be protected and enhanced. A sense of place will be maintained and developed further through this policy, impacting positively on landscape.
D6 Landscape	0	+	0	+	+	+	++	+	0	+	The policy protects Aberdeen's landscape setting from unacceptable development. It aims to protect the essence of Aberdeen, ensure that strategic view points that are specific to Aberdeen are protected, ensures wildlife, recreation and woodland settings and linkages are protected to ensure countryside activity and ensure coalescence is avoided. The policy also requires details of a landscape design scheme compatible with the scale and character of the overall development are submitted with planning applications. The positive impact relating to water may be that water elements within the landscape may be enhanced, as they could become riparian buffers thereby possibly improving water quality. Soil will be enhanced as Biodiversity and climatic factors will have a positive impact as wildlife corridors, open space, green corridors and landscaping will ensure that there is good habitat and the possibility to reduce CO2 emissions by encouraging active travel. Material assets will be improved as the essential character and strategic views of Aberdeen will be protected and enhanced. Human health will be improved as there will be the ability for active travel and recreation in open space. This also benefits mental health, alongside physical health.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
Landscape Planning	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	+	-/+	This policy aims to protect important landscapes which are both natural and manmade, plus, allow the creation of developments that are sympathetic to the existing landscape character. Development that is sympathetic to some aspects of landscape will have a direct significant negative affect on biodiversity, soil and water. There will also be an indirect significant negative affect on air and climatic factors. However, this policy provides protection to natural and existing manmade landscapes including the need to avoid impacts to wildlife, woodland and the physical links between them which will have a direct significant positive affect on biodiversity, soil and water, plus, an indirect significant positive affect on air and climatic factors. These effects are likely to be medium to long term, plus, temporary and permanent. Cultural heritage sites help to create landscapes, therefore, this policy should have direct and indirect significant positive affects in areas where the cultural heritage is protected or enhanced as part of new development. This should be medium to long term and temporary or permanent. Development at sites may not always benefit all areas of local cultural importance, such as historic informal playing areas which are classed as patterns of past use, and there may be some direct significant negative affects which could be long term and permanent. The aim of this policy to conserve, enhance and restore important landscapes and will have a direct significant positive affect on landscape which can be medium to long term and permanent. However, direct significant negative affects may occur on natural or scenic landscapes where development is sited in areas of little development. This will be long term and permanent. Depending on the landscape capacity of a site, the creation of new material assets may not be accepted which will create a direct significant negative affect. Direct significant positive affects will occur for new material assets that are positive to the landscape. These affects will be medium to long term and both temporary and permanent. The affects on population are expected to be direct and indirect significant positive affects due to the protection of important landscapes and the creation of development to cater for population growth which has been sympathetic to landscape. This effect will be medium term and temporary. The loss of biodiversity and associated negative affects on soil, water, air and climatic factors as a result of development will have an indirect significant negative affect on human health, however, the provision of new development that is also sympathetic to landscape will have an indirect significant positive affect on human health. These effects are likely to be medium to long term and permanent.
SG Tall and large buildings	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	+	0	The Supplementary Guidance on Tall and large buildings outlines the strategic views within the city and the criteria proposals for tall and large buildings have to consider. By ensuring tall and large buildings take account of strategic views, landmarks and landscape they will add to the overall aesthetic of the city. By being well designed they can also add architectural merit and enhance the city skyline. This supplementary guidance will ensure that cultural heritage and landscape are protected as tall or large buildings have to consider these elements thoroughly in their design and placement. Material assets will see an improvement as the city will improve its stock of tall and large building, as they will be better designed. Population will also see an improvement as there will be more places to work in the city centre.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
SG Masterplanning Process	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	The Supplementary Guidance on the Aberdeen Masterplanning Process provides guidance on the three levels of development proposal that are expected within the city, the content of the proposal and communication and engagement that is expected to be undertaken. The Masterplanning process will ensure that rounded development are proposed that ensure sustainable communities are build, with a relationship to context, identity and connection. Sites that follow the Masterplanning process are well connected internally and externally, they ensure sustainable modes of transport are present and that local facilities are located close to residential units. These factors will help to improve air quality and reduce CO2 emissions as there are opportunities to use non motorised modes of transport and public transport to travel between home, work and shopping facilities, thereby having a positive impact on climatic factors. Soil quality may be improved as sites that may be subject to contamination could be redeveloped. Biodiversity rates as a positive as site that are part of the masterplan process may contain green corridors and landscaping, that will ensure the natural elements on the landscape provide good biodiversity habitats and wildlife corridors. Cultural heritage is positive as existing historic buildings on sites will be used to inform the design process and will most likely be retained and reused with in the site. Landscape characteristics and traces on the landscape will be used to inform the design process and it is likely that many of these elements will be kept in the development, linking the development into the identity of the place. Material assets will be positive as more attractive and welcoming place to live, work and play will be developed. The population will have a wider choice in where they live, work and travel to. Finally human health will be improved due to the connectivity, internally and externally of sites and well designed and appropriate areas of open space which benefit both physical and mental wellbeing.
SG Aberdeen City and Shire Design Review Panel	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	++	0	This supplementary guidance outlines what the design review panel is, what it aims to achieve, who is involved and what the process is. The basic function of the design panel is to raise awareness of design in the North East, with the need for improvements to be made to the quality of the built environment by securing well designed places and buildings that respect and contribute positively to their settings, promote aspiration, provide a sense of place, and use resources efficiently. The design review panel will assess a variety and scale of developments ranging from individual buildings to masterplanned sites. The design review panel will draw together a number of professionals to advise and critique plans. The results will be more coherent, well rounded developments. Depending on the type of site that is being assessed there may either be no impact or a positive impact. Landscape will be impacted positively as well placed well designed buildings and development will enhance and promote landscape features. Material assets will be positively impacted as the design quality of development and buildings will be improved beyond the current standard. The population will benefit from well designed buildings and developments within which they can live and work.
SG Conversion of steadings	0	0	0	-/0	0	+	+/-	+	+	0	The aim of the guidance is aid those who are considering converting a traditional agricultural steading or other non-residential vernacular building in the Aberdeen countryside to an alternative use. This supplementary guidance will have little impact on air, water or soil. There is the potential for a negative impact on biodiversity as many buildings in poor condition are habitats for a number of wildlife species, therefore the conversion of the buildings may destroy or limit the potential roosting sites for wildlife. There is the possibility of positive impacts on cultural heritage as historic building may be protected for future generations, thereby enhancing cultural heritage. The impact to landscape is personal in nature. A person may see the redevelopment of a dilapidated building as either adding to the landscape or detracting from it. Material assets could be improved as a building that was unused is now used. The positive impact on the population as that there is now more choice of housing available.
SG Dormer windows and roof extensions	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	The Dormer windows and Roof Extensions Design Guide give guidance on the appropriate style and placement of dormer windows and roof extensions. This guidance will improve cultural heritage and material assets as it aims to eliminate poorly designed and badly placed development that will detract from the quality of the individual buildings and the street.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
SG Dwelling Extensions (in Cove and Aberdeen Addendum)	0	0/-	0	0/-	0	0	0	+	0	0	The supplementary guidance gives advice and guidance on the appropriate scale, height and placement of extensions of dwelling in Aberdeen and Cove. There will be a positive contribution to material assets as well designed and well placed extensions could add to the desirability of the dwelling. Extensions could have a negative impact on water as the rate of run off may be increased as there is less 'natural' land available as a soak away. There is also a possible negative impact on biodiversity for a similar reason, in that land will now be built on.
SG Extensions to Dwelling Houses Forward of the Build Line	0	0/-	0	0/-	0	0	0	+	0	0	The supplementary guidance gives advice and guidance on the appropriate scale and placement of extensions forward of the build line. There will be a positive contribution to material assets as well designed and well placed extensions could add to the desirability of the dwelling. Extensions could have a negative impact on water as the rate of run off may be increased as there is less 'natural' land available as a soak away. There is also a possible negative impact on biodiversity for a similar reason, in that land will now be built on.
TAN Lime Harling Guide	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	This supplementary guidance gives advice on when it is appropriate to lime harl buildings and the techniques and methods that should be used. The positive impacts will be to cultural heritage and material assets. Cultural heritage will benefit as only those buildings which were original intended to be lime harled, or are in a poor state of repair will be lime harled. This will improve the design quality of the building and its ability to breath. Material assets will be improved as lime harling could add to the desirability of the dwelling.
TAN Repointing of Granite Masonary Joints	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	The repointing of masonry joints provides guidance as to when and how to repoint a building. If done incorrectly pointing can physically damage the fabric of a building and it can also alter is appearance and character. If done correctly the cultural heritage of the city will be protected, and the material assets may be improved as buildings will not be affected by the impacts of poor pointing such as damp.
TAN Railings Guide	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	This guidance gives advice on how to repair or reinstate cast iron railings. These can add to the cultural heritage of the city by add to the sense of place, and environment of the city in a positive way. The material assets of also be improved as the railings may add to the character of the building and street.
TAN Replacement windows and doors	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	This supplementary guidance gives advice on the necessary requirements for the replacement of windows and doors in a number of building types and designations. The two factors that will be improved by this are cultural heritage and material assets. The replaced items will ensure that the windows and doors add to the character of the buildings, block or street and add to a sense of place. Material assets may improve as buildings, blocks and streets will look more attractive with windows and doors that are appropriate to their setting and fit with other buildings in the street, or block.
SG Stone cleaning	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	The stone cleaning guidance gives advice on when planning permission are necessary for the cleaning of designated buildings before outlining the types of cleaning that are available. This will allow for cultural heritage and material assets to become more attractive within their setting.
SG Temporary Buildings Guide	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	This guidance gives a definition of a temporary building and advice on where temporary buildings should be sited in relation to existing buildings. By ensuring that the temporary building is sited correctly it will not detract from the attractiveness of the existing building or street, thereby ensuring that cultural heritage and landscape are not negatively impacted.
SG Archaeology and Planning	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	0	0	This guidance is a protective policy. It will protect built features, their context, pattern of past historic use, and associations of the historic environment, which encompasses built heritage features (ancient monuments, archaeological sites and landscapes, historic buildings, townscapes, parks, gardens and designed landscapes. It is therefore likely to have long-term positive affects on landscape and cultural heritage.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
SG Sub division and redevelopment of residential curtilages	0	0	0	0/-	0	-	-/0	+/-	0	0	The supplementary guidance outlines the concerns that have to be addresses when a residential curtiltage is sub divided and redeveloped. The impact on biodiversity could be negative or not at all depending on the existing use of the areas that is to be developed. There is the possibility of a loss of wildlife habitat. Cultural heritage will be negativity impacted as the original setting of the building will be lost. The landscape could be negatively impacted as the area is used for development when it was possibly openspace. There is also the possibility that due to the proper siting of development that landscape will not be negatively impacted. Material asserts may either have a positive or a negative impact as the attractiveness of a site is based in personal opinion and people may prefer larger gardens over more dwelling houses and vice versa.
SG Conservation areas appraisals	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	The conservation area appraisals justify the designation of each conservation area and review the existing boundaries, identify important characteristics of each area in terms of townscape, architecture and history, to identify important issues which affect the conservation area and to identify scheme for enhancement. Conservation area appraisals improve the cultural heritage of the city by ensuring that those areas of special charter are enhanced and developed appropriately. This will also add a positive impact to material assets are the attractiveness of buildings, streets and areas is preserved and enhanced.
SG Landscape strategy part 2	0	0/+	0/+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	The second part of the landscape strategy sets out 14 landscape practice notes to act as a guide to the factors that needs to be considered in developments. They intent to raise the general awareness of landscape issues and standards for new developments aid the effectiveness of the development management process and address the lack of professional landscape design in some planning applications. The elements of landscaping that are proposed will add to the biodiversity of developments thereby having a positive impact. Soil is vital for some characteristic vegetation and habitat to survive, therefore the maintenance of these soils is crucial. This will either not be impacted or will be positively impacted if vegetation is added to areas and that reduced soil erosion. Water will be impacted through the placement of development that follow these guidelines, and will ensure that natural drains or open water course and their associated waterside wildlife and vegetation are reflected in the design of the development. These may even been improved through the enhancement of the area as a riparian buffer. The landscape and townscape character of a development has to be conserved and enhanced through development, and the trace on the land should inform the design process therefore this will have a positive impact on cultural heritage. The landscape will be positively enhanced as development will have to ensure that it fits within the landscape and takes account of distinguishing features. Appropriate landscaping it also advised.

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SG Airport Masterplan	-/0	-/0	-/0	0	-/0	0	-	-/0	+	0	The masterplan for Aberdeen Airport outlines the sustained and responsible growth of the airport until 2030. The masterplan aims to set out the prospects for air traffic growth up to 2030, to clearly identify the areas of land currently outside the airport's boundaries which may be required in order to allow the airport to expand to handle the forecast growth in passenger numbers, to set out the approximate timescales for the incremental phasing of additional capacity requirements, to identify the key improvements required to ground transport links (surface access), serving the airport and the surrounding area, to inform the current and future reviews of the Aberdeen City Local Plan and the North East Scotland (NEST) Structure Plan, to identify environmental impacts and set out mitigation strategies. Due to the proposed increase in fixed wing traffic at the airport it is possible that the air may become more polluted, however, due to modern advances in technology this may be not so. Soil and water course may become polluted due to run off from the airport; therefore they may be a negative impact. Climatic factors may be negatively impacted due to the volume of CO2 released due to the proposed increased volume of fixed wing flights from the airport, however, it is also predicted that there will be a reduced number of helicopter flights. Also modern technology is trying to reduce CO2 emissions. Landscape may be negatively impacted if an extension to the runway is built. Material assets may be negativity impacted if they sit below the flight path. Population may be positively impacted as people may wish to travel for work and pleasure.
SG Fire Station North Anderson Drive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	The SG outlines the proposed used for the fire station as residential use if the site becomes surplus to requirement. The positive aspects will relate to the development of residential accommodation, which may supply the population with more housing.
SG Robert Gordon University Campus	-/0	0	0	-/+	0	0	0	+	+	0	The SG for the Robert Gordon University Campus at garthdee outlines a proposal to consolidate the Robert Gordon Campus into one site and release the City Centre site, once surplus to requirement. The masterplan for this site outlines that they will have a reduced number of car parking places than is outlined in policy and they will ensure an active travel plan is in place, walking and cycling routes are also to be encouraged. This will help to mitigate air pollution, but there will be a negative impact due to the increase volume of traffic going to the site compare to at present. Biodiversity will' be impacted as habitats such as tress are to be removed, however these will be replaced and existing areas of high quality woodland and trees will be retained and protected. Material assets will be enhanced as the site will aim to consolidate all the university building into one place, and provide a high quality campus, that is energy efficient and sustainable. The population will benefit from having a campus of this nature.
Minerals energy and Waste											
R1 Minerals	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+	0	+	+/-	0	+	This policy allows for mineral extraction which will have negative affects on air, water and soil. However, this is also a controlling policy, so these negative impacts would be mitigated as far as practicable. Identifying specific sites will help to protect landscape and biodiversity assets elsewhere and this, together with the control aspect of the policy will impact positively on human health. Local extraction for local uses reduces transport requirements and impacts positively on climate change. Impacts on material assets are mixed. Although the policy allows for mineral development, there are restrictions in terms of location and operation.
R2 Degraded and Contaminated Land	0	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	This requires contaminated land to be remediated to a level appropriate to its use. This is likely to have significant positive impacts on human health, soils and possibly groundwater. No other significant impacts are anticipated.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
R3 New Waste Management Facilities	+	+	++	0	++	0	+/-	+	0	0	The main affect of this policy is to promote the waste hierarchy and reduce our reliance on landfill. Reducing landfill will have positive affects on air, water and soil quality and will reduce the amount of methane – a powerful greenhouse gas – which is released. This will have a significant positive impact on climate change. Higher recycling will make better use of resources which positively impacts on material assets. New facilities are likely to impact on the landscape but the policy requires a design statement where development is likely to have more than a local impact.
R4 Sites for New Waste Management Facilities	+/-	+	++	0	++	0	+/-	++	0	0	These are the type of facilities which are required to reduce our reliance on landfill so the scores are similar to those for Policy W1. There could be localised impacts on air quality from some of these facilities but Policy W1 would require appropriate control, mitigation and monitoring of these. These facilities will be valuable material assets and because they will also result in an increase in the recycling of resources, they warrant a significant positive affect on material resources. None of the sites identified are likely to significantly affect biodiversity or cultural heritage.
R5 Energy From Waste	+/-	0	0	0	+	0	+/-	+	0	0	Energy from Waste could cause localised impacts on air quality and the landscape but Policy W1 would require appropriate control, mitigation and monitoring of these. These facilities will be valuable material assets but because they are not as far up the waste hierarchy as waste reduction and recycling, they would not warrant a significant positive affect on material assets. Providing CHP to neighbouring users will reduce reliance on non-renewable energy sources and will impact positively on climate change. In order to ensure that these facilities do not negatively affect residential amenity, biodiversity or cultural heritage, it is recommended that the policy should include a reference directing them to industrial areas.
R6 and SG Waste Management Requirements for New Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	This policy and guidance requires appropriate storage for waste and recycling facilities in new development and is unlikely to raise many significant effects. There could be a positive impact on material assets as it could encourage businesses and householders to recycle more.
R7 Low and Zero Carbon Buildings	0	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	0	+	This policy ensures that new buildings incorporate renewable technologies to reduce their predicted carbon emissions. As a result this will encourage the incorporation of micro renewables and larger renewable technologies. The renewable technologies may have negative impacts on biodiversity, cultural heritage, landscape if not carefully sited. Some renewable technologies, for example hydro and ground source heat pumps may have negative impacts on water and soil. This policy will have positive affects on climate. Developments will have positive benefits on material assets as there will be more control over future energy supplies. There will also be positive benefits on human health as the policy will enhance good health since new homes are more energy efficient than the existing stock; they reduce running costs and assist in decreasing fuel poverty.
R8 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	This policy promotes renewable energy schemes in Aberdeen, and sets criteria to ensure that where there are no significant impacts resulting from development. Developments may have the potential to have negative impacts on water, soil, biodiversity, cultural heritage, landscape if not carefully sited, however there are provisions in the policy to ensure that there are no significant negative impacts. For larger schemes there will be a requirement for an EIA and combined there should be no negative impact on indicators. The will be positive benefits on climate as a result of reduced use of fossil fuels.
SG Low and Zero Carbon Buildings	0	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	0	+	Supplementary Guidance on Low and Zero Carbon Buildings provides more detailed advice on the provision of renewable technologies and sets increasing targets for the reduction of carbon emissions through the implementation of low and zero carbon technologies. The Supplementary Guidance does not promote new development or change the aim of the policy, but the increasing standards will have the same impacts as the Low and Zero Carbon Buildings Policy.

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Natural Environment											
NE1 Greenspace Network	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	The policy aims to create a green network throughout and surrounding the urban area. It will have a positive affect on air quality due to the protection and enhancement of a green network both in terms of vegetation, particularly trees, absorbing CO2 and NO2 and removing particles, and the use of the network to facilitate modal shift to walking and cycling. Water impacts are likely to be positive as water bodies are usually within Green Space Network and should be protected and enhanced as part of the policy. Green Space Network will protect and enhance habitats, therefore having a positive affect on biodiversity. There will also be some positive impact on climatic factors through absorbing greenhouse gases and reducing some vulnerability to flooding. No significant impact on cultural heritage although may offer some opportunities to promote and protect cultural heritage assets. One of the intentions of the policy is to protect land that contributes to the landscape setting of the city and improvements to Green Space Network land may enhance the landscape further. The provision of Green Space Network close to where people live, offering opportunities for informal recreation and sustainable travel has positive impacts on human health.
NE2 Green Belt	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	-	0	+	Identifies the green belt and protects it against inappropriate development. Policy would have a positive affect by preventing pollution in green belt areas, therefore contributing to a reduced vulnerability to climate change. The policy also protects the surrounding landscape and setting and providing open space provision for people which has consequent health benefits. Habitats are also protected. However the policy would restrict development in these areas, consequently reducing the amount of land available for material assets. Effects on the population are insignificant because green belt boundaries are adjusted in order to allow for the employment and housing requirements of the structure plan.
NE3 Urban Green Space Policy	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	The purpose of the Urban Green Space Policy is to protect green space in the urban area. It may have some positive impact on air quality as green spaces can act as the 'green lungs' of urban areas, absorbing greenhouse gases and particles. The urban green space policy should have a positive affect on biodiversity as the green space it protects can often be important habitats for wildlife. The policy should have some positive impact on climate change as land protected as green space can help to reduce flooding, reduce or mitigate some CO2 emissions and provide habitats. The policy helps to protect the landscape setting of the city. Human health will be positively impacted on by this policy through providing facilities for active recreation as well as mental health benefits that are derived from green space.
NE5 Trees and Woodland	++	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	The policy aims to protect and enhance Aberdeen's trees and woodlands with the aim of doubling the existing tree cover of the City. The policy would have a positive affect on the receptors by improving air quality in the city, helping to prevent soil disturbance and avert the likelihood of flooding. The policy also provides habitats for wildlife and provides open space which will positively impact on human health and the landscape.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
NE6 Flooding and Drainage	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	+	+	+	This policy can have a direct significant positive affect on biodiversity, water and soil through the proper control of drainage and flooding. Water quality will be improved where runoff from new builds avoid water bodies. The provision of SUDS can also be beneficial to biodiversity in terms of reducing volume and rate of runoff and in design. This will also have indirect significant positive affects on air and climatic factors. These effects are likely to be medium to long term and both temporary and permanent. Direct significant negative affects will be seen on biodiversity, water and soil where flood defences are provided in areas where there are less than significant damaging affects on natural heritage. This is due to the development of hard infrastructures and the loss of natural flooding which is a natural environmental process within an ecosystem. This will also have an indirect significant negative affect on air and climatic factors as a result of negative impacts to biodiversity, soil and water. These effects are likely to be long term and permanent. As well as the indirect significant positive and negative affects to climatic factors as a result of impacts to biodiversity, there are likely to be direct significant positive affects to climatic factors given that the policy has to take account of climatic changes in terms of flood risk management. This, therefore, helps to deal with the negative impacts of storms, tidal surges and rising sea levels. This effect will be medium term and temporary. Cultural heritage can be protected through measures to address flooding, storms and sea level rises. This will have indirect significant positive affects. However, there is potential for flood defences to have direct significant negative affect on cultural heritage that is situated on or near such a site. These effects are likely to be long term and permanent. Landscapes may be protected from measures to address effects from flooding and could even be enhanced through sympathetic steps such as SUDS that benefit the natural environment and providing a scenic aspect for people. This would be indirect significant positive affects. However, measures such as flood defences could have a direct significant negative affect on the scenery and an area that is seen as a sense of place. This would be long term and permanent. Material assets such as buildings and other hard infrastructures would be protected from flooding and runoff. These significant positive affects would be direct, long term and permanent. This policy would have indirect significant positive affects on population through the provision of housing with infrastructure to address flood risk and drainage issues, plus, the protection of existing housing already occupied and associated infrastructure. These impacts will be long term and permanent. For human health, new development would be built in areas that would have low flood risk measures to address climactic factors and drainage issues. Negative issues such as smell and runoff in new builds will be addressed in this policy, and such measures which can enhance the natural heritage and open space available, will enhance the quality of life for the population. Mental wellbeing would also be enhanced where existing developments are protected from flooding and other climatic factors. These indirect significant positive affects are likely to be long term and permanent.

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NE7 Coastal Planning	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	+	-/+	This policy aims to balance the need to identify sites suitable for development which will contribute to economic growth, with the need to avoid development at areas at risk of flooding or coastal erosion, or damaging the character of the coast which is important for natural heritage, open space, landscapes, culture and tourism. For sites identified as suitable for development, there will be a direct significant negative affect on biodiversity, water, soil and landscape. There will also be indirect significant negative affects on air and climatic factors. This will be long term and permanent. At the same time, sites identified as areas subject to significant constraints will have some protection from development which means that the policy will have some direct significant positive affects on biodiversity, water, soil and landscape. There will also be some indirect significant positive affects on air and climatic factors. These effects could be short to medium term and temporary as a result of other Council policies including further policies within this plan, plus, development directly adjacent to sites with constraints. There will be direct significant positive and negative affects on cultural heritage. This policy specifically mentions the importance of cultural heritage at the coast and these sites will be protected particularly in areas subject to significant constraints. However, some cultural heritage sites may have some direct significant negative affects as a result of development at or nearby such sites. There may be direct significant positive and negative affects on material assets. Material assets such as commercial or industrial buildings can be created in areas suitable for development. These effects will be long term and permanent. There may, however, be restrictions on the creation of material assets in areas subject to significant constraints. This effect may be short or medium term and temporary as a result of other policies. The effects on population are expected to be direct and indirect significant positive affects as a result of new development which will focus on economic growth, plus, protecting natural areas for natural heritage, open space, culture and tourism which will make the coast attractive for people to work and visit. The loss of biodiversity and associated negative affects on soil, water, air and climatic factors as a result of development will have an indirect significant negative affect on human health, however, economic growth as a result of development and tourism, plus, the protection of natural heritage, open space and cultural heritage will have an indirect significant positive affect on human health. These effects may be medium and long term, plus, permanent as a result of other policies. There will, however, be significant negative affects on any coastal site regardless of protection level where parts of the policy which allows development to occur if there are no other suitable sites and respects the environment, are exercised.

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NE8 Natural Heritage	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	?	-/+	This policy aims to have a positive affect on natural heritage through the protection of designated sites and protected species, the need for green networks, plus, consideration of the protection of the wider environment and the precautionary principle. Through the protection of natural heritage, this policy has a direct significant positive affect on biodiversity which in turn has a direct significant positive affect on water, soil and landscape. There are also indirect significant positive affects to air and climatic factors. The protection of natural heritage also has a good effect on people's physical and mental wellbeing and overall quality of life; this policy, therefore, has an indirect significant positive affect on human health. Cultural heritage sites located on designated sites can also be protected through this policy; there is an indirect positive affect on cultural heritage. However, these effects may be negative in areas where there is little or no protection; the level of significant positive affects decreases as the level of designation decreases from international to local with less protection to non-designated areas and non-priority species. There will also be a significant negative affect on any protected site regardless of protection level where the part of the policy which allows development to occur if there are no alternative solutions, overriding public interest, or public interest outweighs the adverse effects, is exercised. Development that occurs in less protected areas or where the policy overrides the environmental effects will have a significant direct and indirect negative affect which may be long term and permanent. While natural heritage can attract people to an area other factors may influence demographics, for example the economy. Therefore, the effects of this policy on the population are unknown. This effect is anticipated to be long term and permanent. The protection of natural heritage can enhance the desirability of material assets, but the protection of sites for natural heritage purposes may prevent the regeneration of material assets found on or near protected sites. The significant effects on material assets are, therefore, both positive and negative. The regeneration of material assets may be short term and temporary where there are protected species found and subsequent mitigation measures put in place.
NE9 Access and Informal Recreation	0	0	0	+/-	+	+/-	0	0	0	+	The Access and Informal Recreation policy aims to protect and enhance opportunities for informal recreation, such as walking, cycling, horse riding and non-motorised water sports. The policy may have some positive impacts on biodiversity by enhancing access to nature, and therefore encouraging people to appreciate and care for it. The policy could also have some negative impacts on biodiversity as a result of disturbance by people, dogs or construction of paths. This should be avoided through proper planning and mitigation however. There could be some positive impacts on climate factors through achieving some modal shift by facilitating and promoting active and sustainable travel and an integrated transport system. Cultural heritage assets must be identified and taken into consideration in the construction of new paths, and could be promoted as part of the policy. The provision of access opportunities close to where people live has positive impacts on human health.
NE4 Open Space Provision in Residential Development	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	+/-	0	+	0	+	The purpose of this policy is to provide minimum standards for the quantity, quality and accessibility of open space to be provided as part of new residential development. The provision of new open space could involve enhancement of habitats and therefore positive impacts on biodiversity although there may be some negative impacts on habitats in other situations. The policy may offer opportunities to protect and promote cultural heritage. There would be positive affects on material assets and human health through an increase in the number of sports pitches, playing fields, play spaces and opportunities for physical activity.
SG on Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS)	0	++	+	++	++	0	+	0	0	0	Provides guidance on the provision and maintenance of SUDS. These are designed to capture and slow surface water run off which in turn prevents flash flooding. This will have positive impacts on issues such as water quality and climatic factors such as flood prevention. Soil erosion should also be reduced. The use of soft landscaping and ponds could also have positive impacts on biodiversity and the landscape.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
SG on Drainage Impact Assessments	0	++	+	++	++	0	+	0	0	0	The impacts of this supplementary guidance are likely to be similar to those of the guidance on SUDS which is why the scores are the same
SG Open Space	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	+/-	0	+	0	+	An SEA is being carried out on the Open Space Strategy and this will be used to inform this supplementary guidance on open space. The purpose of this policy is to provide minimum standards for the quantity, quality and accessibility of open space to be provided as part of new residential development. The provision of new open space could involve enhancement of habitats and therefore positive impacts on biodiversity although there may be some negative impacts on habitats in other situations. The policy may offer opportunities to protect and promote cultural heritage. There would be positive affects on material assets and human health through an increase in the number of sports pitches, playing fields, play spaces and opportunities for physical activity.
SG Protecting Trees and Woodland	++	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	The policy aims to protect and enhance Aberdeen's trees and woodlands with the aim of doubling the existing tree cover of the City. The policy would have a positive affect on the receptors by improving air quality in the city, helping to prevent soil disturbance and avert the likelihood of flooding. The policy also provides habitats for wildlife and provides open space which will positively impact on human health and the landscape.
SG Natural Heritage	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	This Supplementary Guidance (SG) supports the Natural Heritage policy NE7 by providing further general information on natural heritage topics that are relevant to the policy. The SG provides an indirect significant positive affect on biodiversity, air, water, soil, climatic factors, landscape and human health through the description of the legislation that has been designed to protect designated sites and protected species, plus the wider natural environment. Included are an explanation of the 'precautionary principle' and a list of the priority sites and species found within Aberdeen City which also has an indirect significant positive affect on biodiversity, air, water, soil, climatic factors, landscape and human health. Given that this is guidance to support a policy, this SG has no significant effects on cultural heritage, material assets or population. The guidance could change based on updated legislation, policy etc, therefore, all effects are anticipated to be short to medium term to temporary.
SG Buffer Strips	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	This Supplementary Guidance (SG) supports the Natural Heritage policy NE7 by providing specific guidance on buffer strips around all water bodies. This SG has direct significant positive affects on water, soil and biodiversity, as buffer strips provide a natural protection from development on all water bodies. There may also be direct significant positive affects on cultural heritage and material assets that could be protected from unnatural flooding through the implementation of buffer strips. Landscape could also be enhanced through the implementation of natural buffer strips. There will also be indirect significant positive affects on air, climatic factors, and human health. It is anticipated that there will no significant effects on population. The effects may last the time the associated policy is in existence and possibly beyond, therefore, all effects are anticipated to be medium to long term and temporary to permanent.

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SG Bats and Development	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-/+	0	+	This Supplementary Guidance (SG) supports the Natural Heritage policy NE7 by providing specific guidance on bats when dealing with a planning application. This SG has direct significant positive affects on biodiversity. Given that bats are part of a wider ecosystem, there may also be indirect significant positive affects on air, water, soil, and climatic factors, plus, human health. There may be direct significant positive affects on cultural heritage and landscape – the protection of bats may indirectly protect cultural heritage sites where bats may exist plus existing landscapes from new development. Like cultural heritage, some material assets may indirectly receive protection (indirect significant positive affects) through the direct protection of bats that exist in such material assets. However, the presence of bats may stop development in some material assets resulting in indirect significant negative affects. There is clear legislation to protect bats, however, there may be overriding reasons for development to progress, therefore, and the effects are anticipated to be short, medium and long term, plus, temporary and permanent.
Transport and Accessibility											
T1 Land For Transport	+/-	-	-	-	+/-	0	-	++	++	+	This policy identifies land that is safeguarded for existing and future transport proposals. This policy protects these areas of land from any development that is unacceptable. The sites safeguarded are identified in the policy and are also assessed cumulatively here. These are large transport proposals which are likely to contribute to an increase in traffic in some cases but also a reduction in congestion, which is why there are likely to be positive and negative impacts on climate change and air quality. These large development projects are likely to have negative impacts on water, soil and biodiversity. They will be highly visible from nearby areas and by the users of them – hence the negative landscape impact. This policy has a significant positive affect as it safeguards land for future uses such as Park & Ride sites, which are material assets for the City and which enable the use of sustainable modes of travel. This in turn will help to support a thriving economy and population as a whole. New schemes are likely to be designed with the latest safety standards in mind and positively impact in health.
T2 Managing the Transport Impact of Development	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	Provides the policy framework for minimising the impact of development on the transport network and encouraging sustainable and active travel as viable alternatives to the car. Sets requirements for Travel Plans and Transport Assessments as well as maximum car parking standards. This policy has a positive affect on air, climatic factors and human health by promoting walking and cycling and sustainable public transport over car/other motorised vehicle use, a reduction in motorised vehicle use leads to less congestion and improved local air quality. This policy also sets requirements for mitigation measures that must be carried out by developers to minimise any adverse impacts on the traffic network.
SG Transport and Accessibility Standards for Accessibility and Public Transport Services	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	Sets requirements for the minimum distances to services and facilities from new developments. The ability to access key services and facilities directly affects quality of life and is a major contributor to social inclusion. This policy ensures that new and existing communities can access services, facilities and jobs by walking, cycling and public transport. This policy has a positive impact on air and climatic factors through the promotion of walking and cycling over car/other motorised vehicle use, a reduction in motorised vehicle use leads to less congestion and improved local air quality.
SG Transport and Accessibility Access and Permeability	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	This policy sets requirements for new development to protect or enhance existing access rights including core paths, rights of way and paths within the wider network. This policy has a positive affect on air, climatic factors and human health by promoting walking and cycling and sustainable public transport over car/other motorised vehicle use, a reduction in motorised vehicle use leads to less congestion and improved local air quality. This policy also encourages active travel within communities helping to tackle obesity and improve human health.

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SG Transport and Accessibility Guidelines and Specifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	This guidance will set the appropriate design standards for roads and streets, and will positively affect the road and street patterns to allow people to move around the city effectively. It will provide pedestrian priority in more residential areas and will positively impact on population, material assets and human health. The guidance does not promote development and all other indicators are neutral.
SG Transport and Accessibility Transport Assessments	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	This policy requires that all significant traffic generating developments must submit a Transport Assessment (TA) when planning permission is requested. This policy has a positive affect on air quality and climate change as TA's promote transport choice over car-dependency. TAs also have a positive affect on human health by promoting other transport choices such as walking and cycling.
SG Transport and Accessibility Travel Plans	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	This policy requires that all proposals for development over a certain threshold submit a Travel Plan when planning permission is requested. This policy has a positive affect on air quality and climate change as Travel Plans promote transport choice over car-dependency. Travel Plans also have a positive affect on human health by promoting other more active transport choices such as walking and cycling.
SG Transport and Accessibility Parking	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	This policy sets out ACC's maximum car parking standards for across the city as well as setting out guidelines on low or no car housing and car clubs. This policy has a positive affect on air quality and climate change as the policy promotes transport choice over car-dependency. The policy also has a positive affect on human health by promoting other transport choices such as walking and cycling.
SG Transport and Accessibility Driveways Guide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	This policy requires that all applications for new driveways and parking within gardens conform to ACC's requirements. This policy restricts the amount of new driveways and car parking in front gardens to those that ACC's sees as suitable. This has a positive affect on road maintenance as roads with fewer driveways are more viable.
SG Transport and Accessibility Automatic Teller Machines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	This policy ensures that new ATM's (cash machines) are sited in suitable locations that do not obstruct pedestrian movements or lead to road safety problems. This policy has a positive affect on material assets and human health as it helps to ensure that new ATM's are provided for people across the city in safe and appropriate locations.
Air Quality											
AQ1 Air Quality	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	Resists proposals that result in deterioration in air quality unless appropriate mitigation measures are implemented. Also sets out criteria for when Air Quality Assessments will be required to be provided through the planning application process. This policy has a positive impact on air quality as its main aim is to enhance the existing air quality situation across the city and within the three declared Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs). This policy also has a positive impact on climatic factors and human health through the promotion of improved air quality across the city.

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SG Air Quality	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	Sets out criteria for when Air Quality Assessments will be required to be provided through the planning application process. This policy has a positive impact on air quality as its main aim is to enhance the existing air quality situation across the city and within the three declared Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs). This policy also has a positive impact on climatic factors and human health through the promotion of improved air quality across the city.
Business and Industrial Development											
BI1 Business and Industrial Land	-	-	-	-	-	++/--	-	++	++	++	This policy identifies areas of business and industrial land and supports the development of these sites for this use. It also safeguards them against development of other uses. This policy has a positive affect on material assets as it promotes and safeguards areas of employment. Development is likely to increase traffic into the built up area and impact negatively on air quality and specifically on Air Quality Management Areas. Development is likely to have short-term adverse effects soil through soil erosion, desegregation, compaction and pollution during construction phases. Development could potentially have short-term negative impacts on water through a change in water table, stream flows, site water budgets, localised flooding, silt deposition and water-borne pollution. Inevitably, some localised impacts on watercourses would occur due to the development. Greenfield development is likely to impact negatively on biodiversity through the loss of habitats, habitat fragmentation or disturbance to species that use the site as a habitat. The scale of development that could be accommodated on sites could have a negative impact on climate due to increased use of resources and increased emissions. Development would impact positively on population and material assets, in the provision of employment sites and jobs to support the economy. Greenfield development is likely to have a negative impact on landscape. These effects may weaken the sense of place, the identity of existing settlements and landscape character in places. Depending on implementation strategies, employment development proposed on greenfield sites could positively or adversely affect the built features, their context, pattern of past historic use, and associations of the historic environment, which encompasses built heritage features (ancient monuments, archaeological sites and landscapes, historic buildings, townscapes, parks, gardens and designed landscapes, as well as marine heritage) and the context or setting in which they sit, and the patterns of past use, in landscapes and within the soil, and also in our towns, villages and streets. The planning and design of developments, which conforms, substantially to the City's existing design, layout, material and quality is likely to have long-term positive affects. But new developments that deviate from existing designs could adversely affect the setting of historic settlements in the long-term. New employment development provides the scope for creation of fixed assets, the use of natural and material assets, promoting waste minimisation, recycling and composting.
BI2 Specialist Employment Area	-	-	-	-	-	++/--	-	++	++	++	This policy identifies areas of specialist employment and safeguards them against development of other uses. This policy is likely to have similar impacts to policy BI1.

SEA Topics / Policy Options	Air	Water	Soil	Biodiversity	Climatic Factors	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Material Assets	Population	Human health	Comment
BI3 West End Office Area	+/-	-	+/-	0	-	++/--	+/-	+	+	+	This policy identifies the West End Office Area and favours change of use to office purposes and residential use in this area. Further employment development in this location is likely to increase traffic in a built up area and impact negatively on air quality and specifically on the Anderson Drive Air Quality Management Area, but location of brownfield opportunities are close to existing services and facilities and promotes walking and cycling. New development on undeveloped sites may have short-term adverse effects on soil through soil erosion, desegregation, compaction and pollution during construction phases, but development will be required to remediate any contaminated land. Development could potentially have short-term negative impacts on water through a change in water table, stream flows, site water budgets, localised flooding, silt deposition and water-borne pollution. Inevitably, some localised impacts on watercourses would occur due to the development. This policy supports development of offices in a built up area and the impact on biodiversity will be neutral. Developments in this area may have a negative impact on climate due to increased use of resources and increased emissions. Development will provide business and housing to support the population and economy and will have positive affects on population and material assets. Any residential development is likely to have long-term positive affects on human health. Provision of new housing in conformity with new building standards can enhance good health and social justice for people with no access to housing now gaining access to housing. Since new homes are more energy efficient than the existing stock; they reduce running costs and assist in decreasing fuel poverty. While development of brownfield site has a scope for enhancement of landscapes, development may also restrict some views. These effects may weaken the sense of place, the identity of existing settlements and landscape character in places. Depending on implementation strategies, development in this conservation area could positively or adversely affect the built features, their context, pattern of past historic use, and associations of the historic environment. The planning and design of developments, which conforms, substantially to the City's existing design, layout, material and quality is likely to have long-term positive affects. But new developments that deviate from existing designs could adversely affect the setting of historic settlements in the long-term. New development provides the scope for creation of fixed assets, the use of natural and material assets, promoting waste minimisation, recycling and composting.
BI4 Aberdeen Airport and Aberdeen Harbour	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	Identifies Public Safety Zones around Aberdeen Airport. Policy favours development within the operational land of the Airport and Harbour that has associated uses with the airport and harbour. This policy has a positive affect on Aberdeen's material assets as it protects the Airport and the Harbour from inappropriate development. This policy protects health by setting out a public safety zone around the Airport.
BI5 Pipelines and Controls of Major Accident Hazards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	This policy states that ACC will take full account of advice from the Health and Safety Executive when determining all applications for development within consultation distances of hazardous installations. This policy has a positive affect by ensuring that no development takes place that will be likely to negatively impact on human health.
Key: + positive, - negative, 0 = neutral =? = uncertain											

Appendix 8 Supplementary Guidance Preferred Options				
Policy	**Topic**	**Score**	**Comments**	**Mitigation/Enhancement**
DESIGN - Landscape and Townscape				
Windows and Doors SG sets out high level principles which prioritise the repair and retention of doors and windows, followed by reinstatement and replacement where appropriate. Also describes how technical details should be treated.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will not have any impacts on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	SG will not have any impacts on air.	
	Climatic Factors	+	Repair and replacement of windows and doors may lead to a more air-tight structure, increasing energy efficiency and potentially reducing energy consumption. SG promotes the principle of repair over replace, thereby saving the existing embodied energy and potentially reducing the energy consumption required in making new windows and doors. Therefore has the potential to have a positive impact on climate depending on the nature of proposals.	
	Soil	0	SG will not have any impacts on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will not have any impacts on water.	
	Landscape	0	SG will not have any impacts on landscape.	
	Population	0	SG will not have any effect on population.	
	Human Health	0	SG will not have any effect on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	++	SG will have a significant positive impact on cultural heritage. SG promotes the repair over replace principle, thereby helping to retain original historic fabric, detailing and craftsmanship. When replacement is appropriate, the SG outlines expected high standards for the replacement, to ensure the building is respected and enhanced.	
	Material Assets	+	SG will have a positive impact on material assets across the city, by promoting the principle of good design in the repair and replacement of windows and doors.	
Shopfronts and Signs SG provides guidance on the repair and replacement of historic, existing and new shopfronts and signage, in terms of materials, design and security.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will not have any impacts on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	SG will not have any impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will not have any impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	SG will not have any impact on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will not have any impacts on water.	
	Landscape	0	SG will not have any impacts on landscape.	
	Population	0	SG will not have any impact on population.	
	Human Health	0	SG will not have any impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	++	SG will have a significant positive impact on cultural heritage. SG promotes the repair over replace principle, thereby retaining historic fabric, detailing and craftsmanship. Where replacement is appropriate, criteria is given, and SG outlines expected high standards for the replacements.	
	Material Assets	+	SG will have a positive impact on material assets, as it promotes the principle of good design in replacement shop fronts and signs, as well as those for proposed new developments.	
Big Buildings SG covers the key factors to be considered for new big (tall/bulky) buildings, including location, site, context, visual impact, uses, and environmental issues.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Biodiversity	0	The SG states that the most appropriate location for big buildings is within the City Centre; meaning they are likely to be on brownfield sites. Therefore, impact on biodiversity is likely to be insignificant.	
	Air	+/-	SG will have some mixed impacts on air. Development of big buildings would result in the release of particulate matter in the construction of the new development, as well as the demolition or downtaking of any existing building. Big buildings may also produce an increase in traffic generation, yet the SG encourages their location in the City Centre close to transport hubs, which should minimise the number of private car trips generated.	
	Climatic Factors	-/+	Concentrating a large number of people at a high density will result in less land take and a positive impact on greenhouses gases. Big buildings are likely to be located in the city centre therefore close to transport hubs, it is expected the location of the big buildings will result in an increase in sustainable and active travel. A big building will consume more energy than smaller buildings. This can be mitigated by the design, materials and use of low and zero carbon technology. Therefore the overall impact on energy consumption is uncertain due to these variables, but likely to be mixed.	
	Soil	--	SG will have a significant negative impact on soil sealing and compaction. Big buildings require large underground infrastructure. There may be the release of substances during construction, cleaning and redevelopment. A big building will also result in an increase in the volume of waste being produced.	Apply LDP policies on waste management and minimisation; requirement for Construction Environmental Management Plans
	Water	--	SG will have a significant negative impact on water. Big buildings will require to abstract water during construction and for the servicing of the development. The construction may release water-borne pollutants into the watercourses, and the new development will increase the amount of water run-off.	Policies on water-saving technologies; SuDS; CEMPs
	Landscape	+	SG will have a significant impact on landscape and views of the city. However well detailed, well placed big buildings as encouraged by the SG will add detail and interest to the city skyline, therefore overall this SG will have a positive impact.	
	Population	0	SG will not have any impacts on population.	
	Human Human	0	SG will not have any impacts on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	SG will have a significant long-term impact on cultural heritage, which have the potential to be mixed. The correct placement, detailing and design of a big building will have a positive impact on the city and its skyline, adding detail and interest. The development of a big building may mean the removal, or adaptation of an existing building. Big buildings will have a significant impact on landscape setting, again if these are located well and designed well, they can add interest to the city's landscape.	
	Material Assets	+	SG will promote good design, and will add to the housing and employment mix within the city. The SG will promote multi-functional uses, with day and night economies. SG will promote big buildings to be sustainable in their design, and to use renewable technology within the building. Big buildings in city centre locations are accessible by a range of sustainable transport modes.	
Stone Cleaning SG provides criteria on when the cleaning of listed buildings or buildings in conservation areas will be permitted.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will not have any impacts on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	SG will not have any impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will not have any impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	SG will not have any impact on soil.	
	Water	0/-	SG unlikely to have any significant impacts on water. Some stone cleaning methods require water to be used to dilute substances and wash off residue, but not in significant quantities.	
	Landscape	0	SG will not have any impacts on landscape	
	Population	0	SG will not have any impact on population	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Human Health	0	SG will not have any impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	SG will have a long term positive impact on cultural heritage. In certain circumstances, stone cleaning which is likely to enhance cultural heritage; SG outlines criteria where stone cleaning may be considered acceptable whilst outlining the risks involved. SG promotes the principle of damage limitation.	
	Material Assets	+	SG will have a long-term positive impact on material assets, by promoting the protection and enhancement of Aberdeen's buildings.	
Temporary Buildings SG provides criteria on when permission for portable and demountable buildings will be granted, and the appropriate length for the permission.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will not have any impacts on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	SG will not have any impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will not have any impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	There may be a short-term impact on soil compaction and sealing, and a short-term increase in waste production, depending on the use of the building. However these will only be short-term and will not be significant.	
	Water	0/-	There may be a short-term impact on water abstraction, depending on the use of the building. There will also be a short-term increase in surface water run-off. However these will only be short term and unlikely to be long term or significant.	
	Landscape	0/+	SG states placement of temporary building must avoid damage to the visual amenity and landscape amenity of the site. However because the buildings are temporary the impact is unlikely to be long-term or significant.	
	Population	0/+	SG supports the principle temporary accomodation for workers is required for specific infrastructure projects, which will help to support and facilitate infrastructure provision and economic growth, in the short term in association with particular projects.	
	Human Health	0	SG will not have any impacts on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0/+	SG states that placement of temporary buildings must avoid damage to visual and landscape amenity; this includes the site and setting of cultural heritage features. However impact of temporary buildings will only be short-term and therefore not significant in either direction.	
	Material Assets	0/-	SG will not have any significant impact on material assets.	
Landscape Guidance on the appropriate use of hard and soft landscaping schemes, to enhance new development in both the layout and design and details.				
	Biodiversity	++	There will be a long term positive impact from the policy as it actively promotes biodiversity and conserves, enhances or restores exiting landscape features, and encourages new landscapes where none exist. Likely to have a direct positive impact on habitat connectivity through the requirement for strategic landscape frameworks for new developments.	
	Air	+	There is likely to be indirect positive effects of this policy on air because soft landscaping can help to absorb C02 and other airborne pollutants.	
	Climatic Factors	+	There is likely to be an indirect positive effect of this policy, because soft landscaping can be strategically located to help mitigate flood risk. Soft landscaping can also help to absorb C02 and other greenhouse gases.	
	Soil	+/-	There may be an indirect positive impact from the landscape SG due to the creation of, or restoration of landscape features, which may result in contamination being remediated. New hard landscaping may have a long-term negative impact on soil due to compaction and soil sealing.	
	Water	+	SG will have indirect, long-term positive impacts on water, as soft landscape features are expected to be conserved, enhanced, restored or constructed. The use of soft landscaping can help improve water quality through natural filtration, and act as a barrier to flooding.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Landscape	++	SG will have a significant long-term positive impact on landscape. The SG outlines that development must have a strong landscape framework, and development must be informed by existing landscape features, and that these are to be conserved, enhanced, restored and created. Policy takes a proactive approach to ensuring that there is appropriate hard and soft landscaping.	
	Population	0	SG is unlikely to have any impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	SG will have direct positive effects on human health, through the provision of landscaping; the impacts of such open and green spaces can have a positive impact on people's physical and psychological health and quality of life.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	Where present, landscaping can have a positive impact by protecting and conserving the setting of build and cultural heritage features through a sensitive landscape scheme.	
	Material Assets	+	SG will have an indirect positive impact on material assets by ensuring existing built and natural features are incorporated into site plans, and for the conservation, enhancement, restoration and creation of new landscapes, thereby ensuring a pleasant and welcoming environment in which to live, work and invest.	
Energetica Design Guide The design guide provides criteria which developments in the Energetica corridor from Aberdeen to Peterhead must meet, relating to standards of design and environmental sustainability.				
	Biodiversity	+	SG will have a long term positive impact on biodiversity, by promoting the highest levels of environmental sustainability for new developments in the Energetica Corridor. Developments must also demonstrate a committment to open space and landscaping which can provide habitats and biodiversity improvements.	
	Air	0	SG is not likely to have any impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	+	SG is likely to have a long term positive impact on climatic factors, because it requires energy performance to be carefully considered in the design process; resulting in buildings with exemplary energy performance which will reduce resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.	
	Soil	0	SG unlikely to have any significant impact on soil.	
	Water	+	SG is likey to have a long term positive impact on water, because the SG promotes the pursuit of the highest levels of environmental sustainability. Although it is not specified, it is likely that this might inlclude water efficiency.	
	Landscape	+	SG will have a long term positive impact on the landscape setting and streetscape of the new development. Development must demonstrate a commitment to the provision of high quality landscaping contributing to a unified sense of place within the Framework area.	
	Population	+	SG will have a long term significant impact on population. SG aims to promote and attract new world class development to the Energetica corridor, enhancing employment opportunities for the whole of Aberdeen.	
	Human Health	+	SG has the potential to have long term positive impacts for human health, by promoting the implementation of open space requirements that emphasise the aspiration for active lifestyles for those working within the area.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	SG will not have any impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	SG supports development of the highest levels of economic, social and environmental sustainability, providing a stock of very high quality new built material assets for Aberdeen.	
DESIGN - Modifications to Existing Buildings and Curtilages				
Householder Development Guide Sets general principles for for all householder developments, as well as guidelines in relation to specific types of development, with the aim of ensuring that development does not affect the amenity of neighbours or erode the character and appearance of our areas.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Biodiversity	0/+	In most cases, SG will have no significant impact on biodiversity. A section within the SG does discuss change of use of amenity ground into private residential ground, setting criteria for the instances when this would be deemed acceptable, although this would be unlikely to have a significant impact. SG supports the retention of amenity spaces as they provide wildlife habitat, which would have a positive benefit.	
	Air	0/-	SG would have a short term negative impact on air quality in some instances. SG outlines acceptable criteria for the development of extensions, driveways, dormer windows and rooflights. During the construction of these, particulates may be released into the environment. However SG restricts the size of developments limiting the potential negative impact.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will have no impact on climatic factors.	
	Soil	-/+	SG may have a long-term, but localised, negative impact on soil compaction through the support of extensions to dwellings. The extensions are limited in size, and plot coverage; therefore there may also be a positive impact as a result of the SG. Development may result in the release of substances during construction that could potentially contaminate the soil. Overall effects will be mixed.	
	Water	-/0	SG would have short term negative impacts on water as a result of the onstruction of extensions or other additions. No significant long term impacts are expected.	
	Landscape	+	SG will have a long term positive impact on landscape setting of residential areas and streetscapes. SG provides strict criteria where change of use from amenity space to garden space would be deemed acceptable.	
	Population	+	SG will have a minor and indirect but long term impact on population. Additions and extensions to premises may provide additional living accommodation within households, which in some cases may support an ageing population.	
	Human Health	0	SG will have no impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	++	SG will have a significant long-term positive impact on cultural heritage. SG outlines accpetable criteria for the development of extensions, driveways, dormer windows and rooflights, ensuring these are acceptable for the building and setting.	
	Material Assets	0	SG will have no impact on material assets.	
Sub-Division and Re-Development of Residential Curtilages Development guidelines covering built form and townscape, design, materials, amenity, privacy and daylight, to ensure this type of development does not erode the amenity of neighbours or the character and appearance of our areas.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will have no impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0/-	SG restricts curtilage split development, unless a number of criteria are satisfied. There will be no long term significant impact on air. A small impact may be present if a curtilage split is acceptable, as a premises will be built on garden ground with the temporary release of particulate matter in constructing new development.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will have no impact on climatic factors.	
	Soil	0/-	SG will have some localised negative impacts on soil. A small impact may be present if a curtilage split is acceptable, as a premises will be built on garden ground thereby compacting soil.	
	Water	0/-	SG will have some small impacts on water in some cases. A small impact may be present if a curtilage split is acceptable, as there may be a need to abstract water during the construction process.	
	Landscape	0	SG will have no impact on landscape.	
	Population	0	SG will no significant impact on population. There may be some minor short term positive impact of a curtilage split if further housing is added to the housing mix and numbers.	
	Human Health	0	SG will have no impact on human health.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Cultural Heritage	++	SG will have a significant impact on cultural heritage. SG protects the built form of streetscapes, and ensures there is no negative impact from development on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	0	SG will have no impact on material assets.	
Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside SG provides high-level design principles for the conversion of traditional agricultural buildings and steadings, in relation to both internal and external alterations, to ensure high standards of design.				
	Biodiversity	0/-	SG may have a some negative impacts on biodiversity, but these are likely to be limited given that the SG concerns conversion and not brand new development. SG provides criteria that developments have to adhere to regarding redevelopment or conversion. If a protected species is present on the site, mitigation measures will have to be ensured if the conversion is to be acceptable.	
	Air	0/-	SG may have a short-term impact on air, if particulate matter is released during construction work.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will have no impact on climatic factors.	
	Soil	0/-	SG may have a small negative impact on soil compaction, even if the conversion/redevelopment meets the criteria of the SG, in cases where any additional land is developed or affected.	
	Water	0/-	SG may have a small negative impact on water if the conversion/redevelopment meets the criteria of the SG, owing to increased water use from new habitation.	
	Landscape	+	In some cases SG will have a positive landscape, removing local eye-sores and contributing high quality sympathetic redevelopment to the countryside.	
	Population	+	There is likely to be a positive impact as the redevelopment/conversion may provide accommodation to meet the needs of the local population, contributing to greater housing choice.	
	Human Health	0	SG will have no impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	++	SG will have a long term significant positive impact on cultural heritage. SG protects the historic environment and sets criteria to ensure any redevelopment/conversion does not negatively impact on historic assets.	
	Material Assets	+	SG will have a long term positive impact on material assets. SG promotes good design, ensuring redevelopment/conversion is suitable for the premises and surrounding area.	
City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme This SG is subject to separate SEA.				
BUSINESS				
Harmony of Uses Supplementary Guidance SG provides additional guidance on ensuring a harmony of uses within mixed use areas. Covers developments that raise amenity issues, over-concentration of these uses, protection of residential amenity, waste and litter, odour and cooking smells, road safety issues and street cafes.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will not have any impacts on biodiversity. SG relates to the use class of developments, ensuring harmony between these in an area. Does not relate directly to physical development itself.	
	Air	0	SG will not have any impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will not have any impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	SG will not have any impact on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will not have any impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	SG will not have any impact on landscape.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Population	+	SG will have a positive impact on population, by helping to protect the viability and operation of existing businesses in the City Centre, and other mixed use centres, promoting the economy and range of goods and services available. SG also explicitly encourages proposals which would bring into use vacant or under-used upper floors. Retail centres are given protection from uses that would detract from the primary retail function.	
	Human Health	++	SG will have a significant positive impact on human health, particularly by safeguarding a satisfactory residential environment and level of amenity for people living and woirking in mixed use areas. SG also ensures that litter and waste, which might compromise health, should be appropriately dealt with.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	SG includes some guidance that will positively effect cultural heritage, in terms of the criteria for external flues, which states that colour coated flues should complement the existing building materials. Proposals for flues in conservation areas or listed buildings will be subject to greater scrutiny.	
	Material Assets	0	SG will not have any impact on material assets.	
Hierarchy of Centres SG directs development to the most appropriate location, but does not apply to the physical development of the building.				
	Biodiversity	+	By encouraging significant footfall generating development to be located within a designated centre, policy protects habitats and greenfield sites outwith of designated centres or on the edge of the city from development.	
	Air	-/+	Likely to increase traffic into the City Centre and therefore will have a negative impact there; however in general, by clustering footfall generating uses together in designated centres, there will be reduced car trips and more opportunities for public transport.	
	Climatic Factors	++/-	Encouraging development in designated centres will help to reduce congestion and emission of greenhouse gases because of its accessibility and proximity to major public transport hubs which will have a significant positive impact. The topography of some centres, including the City Centre are liable to flooding for example around the Denburn area.	
	Soil	-	Development will be on brownfield sites, so there is likely to be little negative impact through soil sealing, compacion and erosion. Likely effect on waste depends on Council's waste policies. If Council improves its recycling targets this impact will be positive. If not the impact will be negative.	
	Water	-	New development in existing centres is likely to increase demand for water abstraction, however the impact will not be as significant because there is generally limited space in existing centres to increase floorspace subsantially. Unlikely to impact on run-off, water borne pollution or watercourses.	
	Landscape	+/-	SG will have a positive effect in reducing urban sprawl by encouraging major developments to locate in existing centres. Impact on landscape setting will be dependent on the design and scale of proposed developments.	
	Population	+	The policy will attract people of all diversities and ages into existing centres to visit the shops and cafes, providing retail opportunities for the population in convenient locations.	
	Human Health	0	SG will not have an impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	-/+	Impact on cultural heritage and historic environment is dependent on design. In general, the policy is likely to help conserve and enhance historic buildings and conservation areas by encouraging the reuse of historic buildings.	
	Material Assets	**++**	In general new development in existing centres will provide scope for the creation of new assets and this is likely to have a significant positive effect on material assets.	
Serviced Apartments SG provides guidance on the planning issues associated with proposals for Serviced Apartments, including amenity, accessibility, servicing and the requirement for planning obligations.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will have no impact on biodiversity.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Air	+	SG will have a small positive impact on air. The city centre is the preferred location for serviced apartments; where there is close proximity to public services, helping to reduce car trips and air pollutants. Users of serviced apartments are also more likely to reliant on public transport, thereby minimising the traffic generated by these developments.	
	Climatic Factors	+	SG will have a small positive impact on climate. The city centre is the preferred location for serviced apartments; where there is close proximity to public services, helping to reduce car trips and greenhouse gas emissions. Users of serviced apartments are also more likely to reliant on public transport, thereby minimising the traffic generated by these developments.	
	Soil	0	SG will have no impact on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will have no impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	SG will have no impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	SG will have a long-term positive impact on population. SG will help to ensure approprite provision for the accomodation needs of Aberdeen's transient population who are working or visiting Aberdeen, supporting economic growth in the city.	
	Human Health	0	SG will have no impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	SG may have a long-term positive impact on cultural heritage; serviced apartment developments may bring back into use vacant upper and basement floors within the city centre, and vacant premises outwith the city centre, improving the care and maintenance of these buildings.	
	Material Assets	0	By supporting the appropriate provision of serviced apartments, this SG will contribute to providing a range of accomodation facilities for workers and visitors to Aberdeen.	
Union Street Frontages SG promotes a mix of uses towards the west end of Union Street, so long as the proposal retains a public ground floor frontage and/or puts the whole building into use.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will have no impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	SG will have no impact on air.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will have no impact on climatic factors.	
	Soil	0	SG will have no impact on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will have no impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	SG will have no impact on landscape.	
	Population	++	SG will have a long term significant impact on population as it ensures a mix of retail, service and commercial proposals are located on Union Street, thereby supporting the provision of these services to the whole city.	
	Human Health	0	SG will have no impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	+/-	Encouraging a mix of uses will have both a positive and negative impact on cultural heritage, as some historic features may be enhanced but others may be lost, for example historic shop fronts or internal features as units are redeveloped for other uses. However the impact should not be significant if other policies on design and the historic environment are applied.	
	Material Assets	++	SG will have a long term positive impact on material assets. SG directs retail, commercial and service proposals to the most appropriate location, thereby supporting the delivery of services to the whole city.	
Children's Nurseries SG sets out criteria for children's nurseries within residential areas and non-residential areas, as well as childminding services.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will not have any impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	SG will not have any impact on air.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will not have any impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	SG will not have any impact on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will not have any impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	SG will not have any impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	SG will have a long term positive impact on population as it supports the development of children's nurseries in the most appropriate locations; thereby providing facilities to the population, while ensuring existing residential amenity or the operation of other businesses is not harmed.	
	Human Health	0	SG will not have any impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	SG will not have any impact on cultural heritage/	
	Material Assets	+	SG will have a long term positive impact on material assets as it supports the development of children's nurseries in the appropriate locations; thereby providing facilities to the population.	
HOUSING AND PLANNING OBLIGATIONS				
Developer Contributions SG provides a clear and concise guide to the methodology and subsequent contributions that may be required to support new development arising from the Local Development				
	Biodiversity	0/+	In general SG will have no significant impact on biodiversity. It will however facilitate the delivery of improvements to Core Paths and green spaces where contributions are necessary to mitigate the impact of new development.	
	Air	0/+	In some instances, SG may have some indirect positive effect on air, because it will facilitate the delivery of improvements to the public transport network where contributions are necessary to mitigate the impact of new development, which will have a positive impact on air due to reduction in private car usage.	
	Climatic Factors	0/+	In some instances, SG may have some indirect positive effect on climate, because it will facilitate the delivery of improvements to the public transport network where contributions are necessary to mitigate the impact of new development, which will have a positive impact on climate due to reduction in private car useage.	
	Soil	0	SG will have no impact on soil.	
	Water	0/+	In some instances, the SG will have some indirect positive impacts on water, by facilitating the provision and upgrading of water infrastructure necessary to mitigate the impact of development.	
	Landscape	0	SG will have no impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	SG will improve the ability to secure the delivery of infrastructure from new development. The provision of new infrastructure, such as public transport, walking and cycling routes, health facilities and schools, would have a positive impact on the population.	
	Human Health	+	SG will improve the ability to secure the delivery of infrastructure from new development. This includes water, waste and utilities infrastructure which is vital for public health, as is the opportunity for exercise through the delivery of outdoor/indoor sports facilities.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	SG will have no impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	++	SG will improve the ability to secure the delivery of infrastructure such as roads, public transport, walking and cycling routes, health facilities and schools which will have a direct and significant positive impact on material assets.	
Affordable Housing Policy requires the equivalent of 25% of new housing built to be provided as affordable housing. SG provides additional guidance on the requirements and delivery methods for affordable housing contributions as part of new residential development.				
	Biodiversity	0	Policy will not impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	0	Policy will not impact on air.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Climate	0	Policy will not impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	Policy will not impact on soil.	
	Water	0	Policy will not impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	Policy will not impact on landscape.	
	Population	++	Policy will have a long term and significant positive impact on population, by providing housing that is affordable to meet the needs of people on lower incomes, providing the opportunity of owning a home. This will support social inclusion and help to meet identified population needs.	
	Human Health	0	Policy will not impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy will contribute to providing good quality affordable housing to meet the needs of people in Aberdeen. Apart from this, policy will not lead to a material increase in the number of homes built.	
Gypsy and Traveller Sites Supplementary Guidance SG provides guidance on the siting, design and layout of Gypsy and Traveller sites (both halting and permanent) in terms of suitability and sustainability, design, access and infrastructure. The principle of development of new sites is dealt with through LDP policies H6 and H7.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will not have any impact on biodiversity	
	Air	+	SG will have a long-term positive impact on air quality, by promoting suitable and sustainable sites to be chosen, that are accessible by walking, cycling and public transport, and are acceptable distances from services, bus routes, shops and schools. This will help to reduce car movements and congestion, reducing congestion and helping to improve air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	+	SG will have a long-term positive impact on climate, by promoting suitable and sustainable sites to be chosen, that are accessible by walking, cycling and public transport, and are acceptable distances from services, bus routes, shops and schools. This will help to reduce car movements and congestion, reducing congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. SG also guides against locating sites in areas of high flood risk.	
	Soil	0	SG will not have any impact on soil.	
	Water	+	SG states that surface water drainage and storm water drainage must be installed, and that where possible, each pitch should be connected to a public sewer. This will lead to a positive impact on water.	
	Landscape	+	SG design guidance will have a positive impact on landscape. It contains guidance on boundary treatments and landscaping, which states it should be sympathetic and in-keeping with the surrounding area. Boundary treatments should foster privacy and security for residents of the site, but should not create a barrier or sense of enclosure.	
	Population	++	There will be a significant positive impact on population. Guidance on the suitable and sustainable location of sites promotes integrated co-existence between the travelling and settled community. This promotes social inclusion for all. SG also makes provision for both permanent and halting sites, providing for a range of identified housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers.	
	Human Health	++	SG places emphasis on creating visual and acoustic privacy for residents through the design of sites. SG also explicitly states that health and safety should be considered in the design and layout, particularly with regards to the dangers between children and frequent vehicle movements, which should be addressed through traffic calming measures. The provision of communal recreation and play areas for children is also promoted.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	SG will have no impact on cultural heritage.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Material Assets	+	Long-term and positive impact on material assets. SG requires that certain vital services and infrastructure are to be provided on site, including mains water, electricity, gas, surface water drainage and public sewerage for each pitch.	
TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE				
Transport and Accessibility SG provides guidance on how to best consider transport and accessibility issues in development proposals, including parking standards, electric vehicle charging points, low-car housing and car clubs, so as to best minimise the traffic impact of a development.				
	Biodiversity	+	SG requires developers to prioritise access for new development by sustainable modes of transport and adhere to maximum car parking standards; this may have an indirect positive effect because it minimises the need for new roads construction which would be likely to result in the loss of greenfield sites, green infrastructure. or the habitats and resting places of protected species.	
	Air	++	This SG will have a significant and long term positive impact on air quality. SG ensures air quality is properly considered in the planning process by requiring developers to prepare Air Quality Assessments for developments. SG requires developers to prioritise access to new development by sustainable modes of transport, prepare Transport Assessments and Travel Plans, to adhere to maximum car parking standards and to consider low car housing and car clubs, the SG will ensure that the Air Quality impacts of new development are minimised and that development does not result in an increase in vehicle trips. The addition of new vehicle charging standards for new development will have a long-term positive impact on air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	++	SG will have a significant and long term positive impact on climate. It specifically encourages sustainable and active travel modes, requiring developers to prodice Transport Assessments and Travel Plans to prioritise walking, cycling and public transport. This will reduce the number of private transport journeys, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. A new emphasis on rolling out and future-proofing development for electric vehicle charging points will also promote the use of this emission-free (at the tailpipe) mode of transport.	
	Soil	0	SG will have no impact on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will have no impact on water.	
	Landscape	+	SG requires developers to prioritise access for new development by sustainable modes of transport and adhere to maximum car parking standards; this may have an indirect positive effect because it minimises the need for new roads construction which would be likely to result in a negative impact on landscape, views, open space and green infrastructure.	
	Population	++	SG will have a significant and long term positive impact on population, by ensuring that a range of inexpensive transport facilities suitable or 21st century city life, including high quality walking and cycling networks, electric vehicle charging infrastructure and Car Clubs are accessible to all. promoting social inclusion. SG will have a long-term positive impact on economic growth by helping to reduce congestion on Aberdeen's road network. helping to make it a more attractive place to work and do business.	
	Human Health	++	Long-term positive impact on health and safety is anticipated, by ensuring that development does not impact negative on air quality. SG also helps to promote sustainable and active travel, so residents can walk and cycle for their everyday journeys. SG also helps to make sure that facilities (such as ATMs) do not create hazards for vehicles or pedestrians. SG requires developers to protect and enhance access rights and Core Paths, enabling people to seek recreation and travel around the city in a healthy and active way.	
	Cultural Heritage	+	SG will have a long-term positive impact on cultural heritage; a large part of the document concerns parking in Conservation Areas and contains guidelines to ensure that the character and distinctiveness of such areas is not eroded by car parking.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Material Assets	+	SG promotes good design and requires appropriate levels of accessibility for new developments. Promotes good quality public realm and services, and contributes to a cleaner and safer city.	
Air Quality Supplementary Guidance Sets out how air quality management should be considered in the planning process, so as to mitigate against negative effects and improve air quality, particularly within Air Quality Management Areas.				
	Biodiversity	0	SG will not have any significant impact on biodiversity.	
	Air	++	SG will have a long term significant positive impact on air quality. SG specifically concerns air quality and seeks to ensure that air quality is properly considered in the planning process, by requiring developers to submit supporting information and setting out what mitigation measures might be appropriate to reduce the impact of a development.	
	Climate	0	SG will not have any impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	SG will not have any impact on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will not have any impact on water.	
	Landscape	0	SG will not have an impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	SG will have a long term positive impact on population, by contributing to a cleaner and healthier environment, which will help to maintain Aberdeen's position as a safe and attractive place to live, visit and invest, contributing to economic growth.	
	Human Health	+	SG will have a long term significant positive impact on human health. Poor air quality is harmful to human health, and can even reduce life expectancy. Any measures to improve air quality will have clear health benefits.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	SG will have no impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	+	SG will contribute to creating a cleaner and safer city for the people of Aberdeen.	
Noise Supplementary Guidance Sets out how noise issues should be considered in the planning process, so as to mitigate and protect against noise nuisance and pollution, from a variety of sources.				
	Biodiversity	+	SG could have a positive impact on species diversity; by introducing a presumption against noisy development in or near sensitive areas, it protects species from the harmful effects of noise. Two of the Candidate Noise Management Areas are in close proximity to the River Dee. which may help to protect species in the Dee from the harmful effects of noise.	
	Air	0	SG will not impact upon air quality.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG will not impact on climate.	
	Soil	0	SG will not impact on soil.	
	Water	0	SG will not impact on water.	
	Landscape	+	SG will have an indirect positive impact on the landscape character and distinctiveness of the identified quiet areas, thus preserving the integrity of these areas of open green space.	
	Population	+	By ensuring that noisy developments are accompanied by appropriate mitigation, and that Quiet Areas are protected, the SG helps to ensure that Aberdeen remains an attractive place to live, visit and do business, contributing to economic growth in the city.	
	Human Health	+	SG will have a positive impact on human health, by ensuring that noisy land uses do not neighbour noise-sensitive uses, which will protect the population from the harmful effect of noise which may include annoyance and sleep disturbance. SG will also help to protect those areas of open space identified as CQAs which are protected from the intrusive impacts of noise-generating development.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Cultural Heritage	0	SG will not impact on cultural heritage.	
	Material Assets	0	SG will not impact on material assets.	
NATURAL HERITAGE				
Natural Heritage SG describes how designated natural heritage sites and protected species will be considered through the planning process.				
	Biodiversity	++/-	SG will have a direct and very significant positive impact for biodiversity. The SG promotes the protection and enhancement of designated and non-designated habitats and species, and designated sites of all levels. SG provides for the enhancement of water quality and aquatic biodiversity value. However SG also allows development to occur on protected sites in exceptional cases of overriding public interest - in these cases the impact on natural heritage will be negative.	
	Air	0	SG unlikely to have any impacts on air.	
	Climatic Factors	++	SG is likely to have significant positive impact, by promoting the use of riparian buffer strips adjacent to water bodies, which can help to reduce the impact of flood events along watercourses. They also help to reduce the likelihood of flooding in the first place, by slowing down and reducing the rate of surface water run-off into watercourses.	
	Soil	+	The protection of natural heritage will have an indirect positive effect on soil on those sites that are protected; and will also help to ensure that biodiversity in the soil is protected.	
	Water	++	SG is likely to have significant positive impacts, by encouraging the creation of buffer strips which will help to protect watercourses from the polluting impact of surrounding watercourses, and will help reduce the physical impact of development on watercourses. This will also help to safeguard the water quality of the River Dee SAC from developments that may release water-borne pollutants into it, damaging its qualifying interests.	
	Landscape	+	There is likely to be only an indirect positive effect, where sites protected for their natural heritage value also have landscape value.	
	Population	0	SG is unlikely to have any impact on population.	
	Human Health	+	The protection of natural heritage is likely to have a positive effect on people's physical and mental wellbeing and overall quality of life, by providing opportunities for education, recreation and sport. There may also be secondary effects on human health, by safeguarding important ecosystem services provided by natural heritage.	
	Cultural Heritage	0/+	Policy will give additional protection to any cultural heritage sites presentwhich are also designated for their natural heritage value. However this is not stipulated in the SG and in general there will be no impact.	
	Material Assets	+	The protection of natural heritage, cumulatively with other policies and SG, will help promote a green and open environment which can increase the attractiveness and value of material assets, homes and employment sites.	
Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality Provides additional information on the policy, including guidance on Drainage Impact Assessment, Flood Risk Assessment, SuDS and foul and wastewater drainage.				
	Biodiversity	+	It is likely that this SG will have a positive impact on biodiversity, mainly through the guidance it provides on Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). The SG explicitly encourages developers to seek biodiversity benefits through SuDS. SuDS are also likely to have indirect benefits for biodiversity, by reducing the rate of surface water run-off which could inundate, damage or destroy habitats.	
	Air	0	SG will not have any impact on air.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Climatic Factors	++	SG will have direct and significant positive impact on climatic factors by reducing our vulnerability to flood risk and the effects of climate change, be ensuring development is not built on land that floods, and requiring Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Impact Assessment to support development. Storing water upstream in Regional SuDS schemes will also work to limit flooding in urban areas downstream.	
	Soil	+	SG may have indirect positive effects on soil, because measures to reduce and slow down surface-water run-off will help to reduce soil erosion. The significance of this benefit is uncertain and difficult to measure.	
	Water	++	SG will have significant and direct positive impacts on water, by requiring SuDS, which have many water quality benefits. SG also protects watercourses against physical impact or engineering, and explicitly requires new development to connect to the public sewerage system.	
	Landscape	+	SuDS can be attractive landscape features in their own right, performing a function as open green space and enhancing the landscape setting of new development. SG enhances this benefit by setting out high design standards for SuDS.	
	Population	++	Likely to have long-term positive impact on population by reducing the impact of flooding on people, property and livelihoods. SuDS could also be used for educational purposes, but this would only be an indirect effect of the SG.	
	Human Health	+	SG will have a positive effect on human health, by reducing the impact of flooding which can have public health implications, for example when foul drainage overflows, and pollutants and illnesses spreading through flood water incursion.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	Policy will not have any direct significant impact on cultural heritage, although it may indirectly benefit by reducing the vulnerability of heritage assets to flooding, particularly in the city centre.	
	Material Assets	+	Policy will help to protect material assets, such as buildings and other important infrastructure, from damage or destruction from flooding. Policy also promotes the provision of suitable water infrastructure, i.e. connection to the public sewer.	
Open Space and Green Infrastructure Provides guidance on the required provision of open space in new development, the maintenance and management of open spaces, the enhancement of the Green Space Network and protection of outdoor access rights.				
	Biodiversity	++/-	Aspects of the SG which protect the Green Space Network will have significant positive effects for biodiversity, as will guidance on the provision of open space in new development, including natural greenspaces and habitats. The outdoor access and recreation aspects of the SG will increase access, enjoyment and appreciation of biodiversity, but there may be some localised negative impacts e.g. through trampling.	
	Air	+	Protection and enhancement of the GSN will have a positive and continuous effect on air quality, because the woodland and plant cover will help to absorb C02 and other airborne pollutants. New open spaces will also act as 'green lungs' for the city. The Core Paths part of the SG will also have indirect positive impacts by facilitating walking and cycling.	
	Climatic factors	++	Protection and enhancement of the GSN will have a positive and continuous effect on air quality, because the woodland and plant cover will help to absorb C02 and other airborne pollutants. New open spaces will also act as 'green lungs' for the city, and provide relief from rising temperatures and 'urban heat island' effects. A wide and coherent Core Paths network will also facilitate sustainable and active travel.	
	Soil	+	Protection and enhancement of the GSN is likely to have indirect positive effects on soil locally where a site is identified as GSN by safeguarding this land from development.	
	Water	+	By protecting and enhancing the GSN, SG is likely to have significant positive effects on water quality by safeguarding lochs, ponds, wetlands and other watercourses from development, promoting their enhancement.	
	Landscape	+	Protecting and ehnancing the GSN is likely to have significant positive impacts on landscape, because it provides an enhanced setting for development. GSN helps to protect against coalescence and urban sprawl, by safeguarding key areas of open space and linkages between them.	

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Population	+	The outdoor access aspect of the SG may have some positive effects for population, by increasing the accessibility of employment opportunities and leisure facilities for people in the city, especially those who do not have access to public transport.	
	Human Health	++	SG is likely to have direct, significant positive effects on human health, by ensuring appropriate provision of open green spaces in new development, for recreation and physical activity, encouraging active lifestyles and higher quality of life.	
	Cultural Heritage	0/+	SG will have some local positive effects on cultural heritage, by helping to protect the site or setting of historical buildings and conservation areas where present. However, this is only likely to be an indirect effect.	
	Material Assets	+	SG will result directly in improved access to the natural environment and open space for citizens of Aberdeen. Areas of green space can also increase the attractiveness and value of built material assets nearby. SG explicitly protects and enhances outdoor access rights.	
Trees and Woodlands SG supports the policy in protecting areas of trees and woodland from loss or damage through new development and encourages tree planting in new development. Provides detailed guidance on what is expected to be submitted in support of planning applications.				
	Biodiversity	++	SG will have significant, long-term positive effects for biodiversity, by protecting and enhancing trees and woodlands, which form valuable habitat for a wide variety of species, some of which may be protected. The creation and expansion of new woodland is also likely to help extend green networks and habitat connectivity.	
	Air	+	Protecting trees and woodlands will have a significant positive impact on air quality in the city, absorbing air borne pollutants. Areas of woodland act as 'green lungs' for the city.	
	Climatic Factors	++	Trees help to mitigate climate change by absorbing green house gases. They also have a positive effect on reducing flood risk by attenuating rainfall and reducing overland flow. Trees will also help people and animals adapt to the effects of climate change, for example by reducing urban heat island effects and providing relief from rising temperatures.	
	Soil	+	SG will have a positive, if localised, effect on soil, because tree roots make soil more stable and reduce erosion. They also provide organic matter, improving the health of the soil. Woodland canopy also protects soil from erosion.	
	Water	+	The protection of trees and woodland will have a positive effect on water quality. Tree cover acts as a natural filter that removes pollutants and improved water quality.	
	Landscape	+	Trees and woodlands are important features of local landscape distinctiveness. SG promotes the incorporation of trees into the design and landscaping of the development, which will have a positive effect. These benefits are likely to be local in scale.	
	Population	0/+	There may be some indirect positive effects of the SG, for example through opportunities for environmental education and community involvement, and woodland can also be a tourist attraction. However these benefits depend on how individual woodlands are managed which is not stipulated by policy.	
	Human Health	+	The protection of trees, in combination with areas of open green space and other natural heritage, has been shown to have a positive effect on people's physical and mental wellbeing and overall quality of life, for example by improving air quality and providing recreational opportunities.	
	Material Assets	+	Protecting trees and woodland throughout Aberdeen will improve people's access to natural assets. A green and leafy setting is also likely to enhance the value and desirability of many material assets, making Aberdeen a more attractive place to live, visit and invest.	
RESOURCES				
Resources for New Developments SG provides guidance on a range of factors that can help to minimise resource use and waste, with the aim of increasing the sustainability of new development, including density, energy use, waste and water use efficiency.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Biodiversity	0/+	SG is unlikely to have any impact on habitat fragmentation and connectivity, or any woodland and hedges. The water efficiency part of the SG is likely to result in positive impacts on the River Dee SAC as it will help to minimise pressure for water abstraction.	
	Air	+	Minimising resource waste from new development and working towards reducing carbon dioxide emissions will have a positive effect on air quality in the city.	
	Climatic Factors	++	SG will have a significantly positive impact on the use of renewable energy and the efficient use of energy and water, by promoting energy efficient technologies and low-carbon energy sources. This will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	
	Soil	+	SG aims to reduce the amount of waste that is produced by new developments, for example through requirements for recycling provision. This will mean less waste is sent to landfill.	
	Water	++	Minimising the use of water in all new developments will help to minimise pressure for abstraction from the River Dee. Technologies such as rainwater harvesting may also help reduce surface-water run-off into waterbodies.	
	Landscape	0	SG is unlikely to have any impact on landscape.	
	Population	+	The use of technologies such as district heating and low carbon heat and power sources may help people to make fuel costs more affordable.	
	Human Health	+	SG has a positive effect on air quality which will have a direct impact on human health.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	There will be no direct impact on cultural heritage. SG relates principally to new development and does not primarily concern retrofitting.	
	Material Assets	++	SG promotes sustainable waste management in the form of adequate kerbside collection and recycling facilities in New Developments. This will help to divert waste away from landfill. The sustainable use of resources is fully supported and actively promoted by this SG.	
Wind Turbine Development SG is primarily protective in its aims, providing stringent guidelines on the circumstances where wind turbine development would be acceptable when applications are submitted.				
	Biodiversity	+	SG is likely to have a positive effect by encouraging the protection of biodiversity through turbine development.	
	Air	0	SG does not directly promote wind turbine development; so the impact on air is likely only to be neutral.	
	Climatic Factors	0	SG does not directly promote wind turbine development; so the impact on climatic factors is likely only to be neutral.	
	Soil	+	SG is likely to have a positive effect on soil, by encouraging its protection when turbine developments are considered.	
	Water	0	SG does not directly promote wind turbine development, so the impact on climatic factors is likely only to be neutral.	
	Landscape	+	SG is likely to have a positive effect on the landscape setting of the city, by encouraging its protection when turbine developments are considered.	
	Population	0	SG does not directly promote wind turbine development, so the impact on population is likely only to be neutral.	
	Human Health	0	SG does not directly promote wind turbine development, so the impact on climatic factors is likely only to be neutral.	
	Cultural Heritage	0	SG does not directly promote wind turbine development, so the impact on cultural heritage is likely only to be neutral.	
	Material Assets		SG does not directly promote wind turbine development, so the impact on material assets is likely only to be neutral.	
Aberdeen Harbour Development Framework In general, Masterplans and Development Frameworks that are adopted as Supplementary Guidance to the Local Development Plan have been 'screened out' of SEA on the basis that they provide additional detail on the delivery of the allocated Opportunity Sites which have already been assessed. However in this instance the Aberdeen Harbour Development Framework was 'screened in' and a full assessment has been carried out. Objectives: connect, protect, improve; urban design strategy; guide the type, scale and form of future development; protect long-term viability of the harbour; safeguard existing supply of business land; avoid conflict between new mixed use development and existing harbour uses; must protect, promote and enhance the wildlife, recreational, landscape etc of the Green Space Network; interventions such as wayfinding.				

Policy	Topic	Score	Comments	Mitigation/Enhancement
	Biodiversity	-	SG promotes continued business and industrial development at Aberdeen Harbour and its environs. The River Dee SAC flows through the harbour, and there may be negative impacts on its qualifying interests. Bottlenose dolphin, which are a qualifying feature of the Moray Firth SAC, are also known to frequent the harbour mouth. There may also be an impact on adjacent Local Nature Conservation Sites. The SG does state that new development must protect, promote and enhance the wildlife value of the Green Space Network at this location, which will have positive benefits for biodiversity compared to if it did not exist. There may also be opportunities to ensure green networks are retained and enhanced through the establishment of a route along the river.	It is likely that HRA will be required for future development proposals.
	Air	--	There is likely to be a short term negative impact on air quality during construction of any new development due to the release of particulate matter (dust). Although the site is well integrated into the existing urban area and well connected to existing cycling and public transport routes, the movement of HGV associated with harbour industry is likely to increase, and this is thought to have a significant negative effect on air quality in the city centre, which is an AQMA, and Market Street, which has some of the poorest recorded air quality in Scotland.	LDP policies on transport and air quality, which aim to mitigate the negative effects of new development.
	Climatic Factors	-/+	There is likely to be a negative impact on greenhouse gas emissions as a result of the increased HGV movements which are likely from additional industrial development at the harbour. However the DF also promotes sustainable and active travel through the creation of more attractive and substantial cycle routes in and around the area. The harbour is also well connected by Core Paths. The harbour area is also at risk from both coastal and fluvial flooding; however it is accepted that harbour uses have a functional requirement to be located at the water's edge.	
	Soil	-	Site is already extensively developed and any future development is likely to be on brownfield land; therefore there is minimal risk of soil compaction, erosion or sealing. Certain types of industrial development may result in the release of substances that could potentially contaminate the ground. All new development will increase the amount of waste produced, including industrial waste, and it is likely that some of this will be sent to landfill.	Contaminated land policies which require contaminated land to be remediated suitable for development. Pollution issues are also dealt with through environmental health legislation.
	Water	-/0	All new development will increase the need to abstract water from the River Dee. During the construction and use of the development, it is highly likely that there will be the release of waterborne pollution into the harbour, given the proximity of development.	
	Landscape	+	The aims of the Development Framework will safeguard and enhance the existing public open space and green space. Specific public realm interventions proposed also seek to protect, promote and enhance the urban environment of the harbour's environs. Development may also have an overall positive impact on the townscape setting of the city centre, including the improvement of degraded areas.	
	Population	+	The SG will have significant, long-term and positive impacts for the growth of business and industry in Aberdeen, by supporting and safeguarding the viability and operation of the harbour, which is very important for Aberdeen's economy. Diversifiying the harbour in the long-term will also increase employment opportunities.	
	Human Health	+	Development Framework will safeguard and improve the quantity and quality of existing open space, and aims to deliver enhanced links between spaces, and opportunities for recreation and leisure along the River Dee.	
	Cultural Heritage	0/?	There are a number of listed buildings situated around the harbour, and the Footdee Conservation Area is also in close proximity. A specific boundary has not been established for the Development Framework area, meaning that specific impacts on cultural heritage cannot be assessed.	
	Material Assets	++	By supporting and safeguarding the future development and viability of Aberdeen Harbour, which is one of the city's most importand and valuable material assets. The SG will encourage services and opportunities for business growth. The proposals in the SG would mean that it is even better connected and integrated into the city centre and the city's transport network.	

Cumulative Effects Assessment						
Topic						Comment
	Greenfield Development	Brownfield Development	Development Policies	Protective Policies	Cumulative Effects	Cumulative effects including: **Time Crowding** (when the effects are frequent and repetitive); **Time Lag** (when there is long delays in cause and effect); **Space Crowding** (where there is a high spatial density of the effects); **Cross-Boundary** (where the effects occur at a distance from source); **Synergistic** (where the effects from multiple sources combined, are different from the nature of the individual effects); **Indirect** (where there is secondary effects resulting from the primary activity) **Nibbling** (where the effects are incremental or gradual)
Air	--	--	--/+	+	--/+	There are areas in the City which are Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA), so the large number of houses proposed on greenfield and brownfield sites is likely to create air quality hotspots or further reduce air quality in existing management areas. This would be caused by the time-crowding effects of increased vehicular movements created by development. Some of this impact will be mitigated by proposed transport improvements contained in the infrastructure section of the LDP and the Local Transport Strategy, as well as LDP policies that seek to promote sustainable and active travel, which will help to reduce congestion in the City. Greenfield and brownfield development will combine with development of a new harbour and new retail developments to increase traffic in the City. Depending on the timing of the developments, there is the possibility that dust nuisance will be generated by developments or demolition works on brownfield sites, leading to elevated levels of particulate matter in localised areas. The same issue will arise from policies promoting renewable energy and district heating, including biomass fuel facilities. The effects will result in space-crowding effects on air. There is likely to be cross boundary effects with development in Aberdeenshire that has already been identified in the the Aberdeenshire LDP, as the city is a destination for traffic generated by development in Aberdeenshire, particularly within the Housing Market Area, as people travel to Aberdeen for work, shopping and leisure. Although the Nitrous Oxide levels continue to exeed national objectives, these instances are limited to AQMA in Aberdeen City and are not likely to be so significant as to cause acid rain. Again, it is not considered that there will be significant indirect air pollution issues for the City arising from the deposition of air pollutants on other indicators (for example water). If the proposed transport improvements do not go ahead, small additional traffic pressures will act cumulatively in the long term to increase overall emissions of air pollutants through gradually increasing nibbling effects. The different objectives of the plan are likely to create mixed effects on air. On the one hand, greenfield and brownfield developments are likely to have negative implications for air. However, sustainable development objectives and policies to promote mixed use development are likely to have positive benefits for air in the long run. However, policies and proposals focused on sustainability do not necessarily have a neutralising effect, since some aspects of that provision (such as the development of biomass energy facilities) have air quality issues inherent in them. Overall, the strategic, housing allocation, economic growth and population options are likely to have negative effects on air in the City, compounded by cross-boundary development in Aberdeenshire. Overall, the LDP is likely to have mixed effects because of the positive effects in measures such as sustainable development and renewables, as well as negative effects from indirect long-term traffic build up and biomass fuel.
Water	--	--	+	+	--	In the future, an increase in water abstraction is likely because of the water demands of a large number of houses proposed on greenfield and brownfield sites. If agreements are not reached with SNH, SEPA and Scottish Water on future solutions, the LDP is likely to create an incremental burden on water resources through space-crowding effects. If new, efficient water technologies and new ways of harvesting water are not implemented, it is likely that the requirement for water abstraction will lead to adverse effects on the River Dee as well as protected species through longer-term time lag effects. The developments in Aberdeen City will have a cross-boundary effect with developments in Aberdeenshire where developments are within the same river catchment. Over-exploitation and synergistic effects of multiple developments on water resources are likely. However, the protective policies proposed on water use efficiency will reduce water consumption and the cumulative impact would be more significant without this mitigation measure. The vision for the LDP is to promote sustainable economic growth while addressing climate change issues. Therefore, unsustainable planning will not be allowed to affect our water environment or cause secondary, induced or indirect effects on this indicator. The implementation of the LDP will not permit incremental adverse effects on the water environment without appropriate mitigation measures. The scale of development on greenfield and brownfield sites combined is so large that the LDP is likely to have long-term implications for water abstraction, water pollution, run-off, localised flooding and morphology. Although the LDP promotes water efficienct technologies through the protection policies, these may not be sufficient to compensate for the volume and quality of water resources needed to support the allocations. There will be synergistic effects resulting from the overall housing and employment allocations, and economic growth and population options that are likely to have more significant effects on water than individually.
Soil	--	--	?	+	--	Future development on greenfield and brownfield land is likely to result in compaction, loss, sealing and erosion of soil. Some of these effects are likely to be only short-term in nature. Peat soil is rare in Aberdeen, and no sites identified in the greenfield and brownfield assessments are located on known peatland. There is potential through the development policies to allow wind turbine developments in the Green Belt, which may be located on peatland, although wind development in Aberdeen is likely to be only limited in extent. There may be secondary effects on climate if development takes place which distubs peat soil, through the release of greenhouse gases. Secondary impacts may also result from the large-scale infrastructure needed to accomodate development on greenfield sites, which is likely to compound soil sealing effects. It is unlikely that there will be any cross-boundary effects on soil. Sealing and compaction of soil on greenfield sites could lead to secondary impacts on water as a result of increased surface run-off affecting aquatic ecosystems and increasing flood risk. It may also lead to excessive sediment loadings that could result in pollution. Incremental sealing, erosion and compaction through continuous development activities in the next 25 years could cause nibbling effects unless safeguards are in place. From our assessment, the scale of development envisaged is so large that the LDP is likely to have long-term implications for soil in terms of soil loss, soil sealing, soil structural degradation and compaction and perhaps potential for contamination if more industrial developments take place. Overall, the development options on greenfield and brownfield land are likely to have significant adverse effects on soil.

Topic						Comment
Biodiversity	--/+	--/+	--/++	+	+/--	The land identified for development on greenfield and brownfield sites, as well as other developments covers a significant area (approximately 1,782ha of greenfield land). This is likely to affect biodiversity through land take, habitat fragmentation, disturbance to species, and habitat loss through time-crowding effects and space-crowding effects, since the developments are phased to continue over the whole of the plan period. The sites identified, both greenfield and brownfield, are generally those with the lowest biodiversity value. However, the Strategic Development Plan has set housing and employment land targets which we are required to meet and there are individual sites where negative impacts on biodiversity have been identified. There is potential for development to enhance the biodiversity value of some areas, although these will be subject to a time-lag effect. Large scale developments taking place on land which was otherwise undeveloped could have secondary effects on biodiversity from increased recreational pressure, thereby causing disturbance to protected species or valuable habitats. This is a space-crowding effect. Most of the impacts resulting from the greenfield and brownfield developments will be local impacts, but in combination with other developments in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire will have a more significant impact for the region. Within the policies there is an allowance for wind turbines in the Green Belt and there is the possibility for these to have cross-boundary effects on habitats and species in Aberdeenshire, however wind development in Aberdeen is likely to be limited in extent. Overall, adverse synergistic effects on biodiversity are likely, but the combined effects of improving biodiversity through urban landscaping, structure planting and improving the biodiversity of poor quality land and habitats may have positive synergistic effects. While increased recreational activity will arise from tourism promotion, new development will indirectly increase informal recreational activity likely to cause disturbance to protected species if safeguards are not in place. The scale of development envisaged is so large that the LDP is likely to have long-term implications for biodiversity in terms of land take, habitat fragmentation, disturbance to species through increased recreational use, and habitat loss, particularly in the case of sites where there is an LNCS designation in close proximity. There is, however, the possibility that species-and-habitat-poor land (such as agricultural land) can be enhanced through development which makes it possible to have some positive effects. The scoring reflects this reasoning.
Climatic Factors	--/+	--/+	++/--	++	++/--	Aberdeen has high domestic fuel consumption and has the largest carbon footprint per person in Scotland. The allocations proposed in the LDP are likely to have secondary impacts on climate as a result of increased energy use associated with new housing and employment development. The cumulative impact is significant, considering the scale of the allocations that being promoted. Peat soil is rare in Aberdeen and no sites identified in either the greenfield and brownfield assessments are located on known peatland. There is potential through policy to allow wind turbine developments in the Green Belt, which may be located on peatland, although any wind development would be limited in extent. If development does take place on peat soil, there may be secondary effects on climate through the release of greenhouse gases contained in the soil, subject to a time lag. In the longer term, improvement of private transport infrastructure encourages more vehicles on the roads. This will lead to future consumption of more fossil fuels, affecting climate change with a time lag. It will be important to take steps to 'lock in' the benefits of road improvements, by ensuring that sustainable modes of transport are increased concurrently. High density, mixed use development can also reduce the need to travel long distances, although if travel habits remain unchanged, fuel consumption through travel will increase with further development. Thus, in terms of space crowding, the effects are likely to be mixed. The effects of climate change trascend regional and national boundaries, and for this matter cross-boundary effects are possible. The likely effect of development will be to increase greenhouse gas emissions, and in turn there will be impacts on Aberdeen as a result of global climate change. The LDP policies may result in positive synergistic effects, as they seek to increase the efficiency of the existing housing stock and new housing, and create mixed communities that reduce the need to travel. On the other hand, planning cannot guarantee behavioural changes and an increased population and housing stock is likely to increase energy consumption through increased travel and domestic energy use. The combined effects of energy use in the existing and new housing stock (no matter how efficient they are) can accumulate to significant impacts on climate. The combined effects of housing development in all these areas can be nibbling in effect. With a changing climate, there is the potential for wetter winters, drier summers, more severe weather conditions and temperature extremes. This may increase the probability and extent of flooding and increase the possibility of drought. Development close to areas at risk from flooding will be more vulnerable to these future effects of climate change. Development of these sites may also have secondary impacts on other areas if the conveyancing capacity of the flood plain is altered, or if they prevent future flood prevention measures from being implemented effectively. Overall, the different objectives of the plan are likely to create mixed effects on climate. On the one hand, the housing and employment land developments as well as transport options are likely to have negative implications for climate. However, sustainable development objectives and the promotion of mixed use development is likely to have positive benefits for this indicator in the long run. Policies and proposals focused on sustainability do not necessarily have a neutralising effect on climate change issues, since some aspects of that provision (such as biomass fuel use) have climate issues inherent in them. Overall, the strategic, housing allocation, economic growth and population options in the LDP are likely to have negative effects on climate, which are likely to be compounded by development taking place in Aberdeenshire.
Cultural Heritage	-	-	+/-	+	-	Historic buildings and conservation areas are more likely to be concentrated in the existing built environment. Some of the brownfield opportunity sites involve the reuse of listed buildings, and some are located within conservation areas. The impact in these cases is mixed and is highly dependant on the design of the proposed development. A good design could have a positive effect, but a badly designed development or inappropriate demolition could result in a negative impact. It is not considered that the cumulative impact of these sites is any more significant. The protective policies ensure that listed buildings and conservation areas are protected and the cumulative impact of the LDP is more likely to be positive than if it did not exist. Greenfield and brownfield site allocations avoid areas of archaeological importance, but there may be unrecorded evidence that would require further investigation. In the case that there are heritage features present, multiple developments may have a negative synergistic impact.

Topic						Comment
Landscape	-/+	-/+	-/+	+	-/+	The site allocations on greenfield land, as well as development at Nigg bay (harbour expansion) and the Nigg solar farm will change the landscape setting of Aberdeen. However, on the whole, the preferred options are the most inconspicuous and minimise the impact on landscape and important views. Cumulatively, there will be space crowding effects on the landscape, as development will change land form, land use and land cover, water, forests, woodlands and trees, agriculture, relationship between land form and land use, buildings and structures in the landscape, urban landscape/settlement pattern, linear and/or point features, openness, scale, colour, texture, visual diversity, line, pattern, movement, solitude, naturalness and historical and/or cultural associations. To mitigate this impact, new forms of screening (e.g. tree cover) could be incorporated into new developments that will help to minimise impact on the landscape. This would be achieved in combination with the policies. Because of these potential improvements to the landscape, the effects in terms of time-crowding are mixed. The phasing of the developments over the next 25 years is likely to be cumulative in terms of time lag for how the landscape is shaped in the future. The reasons given for time lag effects are also relevant to space crowding effects. Large scale infrastructure needed to accomodate the scale of development is likely to affect land form, land use and land cover of the city. Developments close to the boundary with Aberdeenshire, will have the potential to have cumulative cross-boundary effects with developments in their Shire. If safeguards are not in place, the effect of loss of landscape features will lead to potential adverse effects for Aberdeen City's landscape in terms of synergistic effects. Continuous development activities in the next 25 years could cause nibbling effects unless safeguards are in place.
Material Assets	++	++	++	0	++	The allocations to support the development of 24,500 homes, 105 hectares of employment land, a new harbour, a solar farm and increased retail provision in the city centre is likely to result in the acquisition of new assets for a range of investors and also result in the improvement of existing infrastructure for the whole city. The development identified will support significant amounts of new housing, creation of new employment opportunities, new infrastructure and local facilities and services to support an increase in population. The policies promote waste minimisation, recycling and composting, and sites are identified for recycling centres to reduce the amount of waste that is landfilled. The cumulative effect of more recycling facilities and alternative facilities, for example an Energy from Waste plant, will reduce waste to landfill and increase the reuse of waste, creating secondary effects on soil and climate. Depending on the timing of development, there may be short term cumulative space crowding effects on existing material assets, such as infrastructure, before new assets can be provided.
Population	++	++	++	+	++	The allocations to support the development of 24,500 homes, 105 hectares of employment land, a new harbour, a solar farm and increased retail provision in the city centre is likely to meet the identified needs of many people and enhance their quality of life. The policies in the LDP seek to ensure that there is a mix of house sizes and tenures, to support the future housing needs of the population and this positive impact is enhanced in combination. There will be positive cross boundary effects with development identified in the Aberdeenshire LDP. There will also be positive synergistic effects with the Local Housing Strategy in meeting housing need (i.e. meeting the needs of people that cannot afford market housing). It is not envisaged that there will be any adverse effects accumulating through time-crowding, time lag, and space crowding effects, synergistic or nibbling effects. The LDP is likely to have significant positive effects overall.
Human Health	-/+	-/+	-/+	+	+/-	This indicator is partly related to air quality issues. As already mentioned, there are air quality issues in parts of Aberdeen City. The effects of large scale housing development, and the use of biomass energy sources, have been assessed to have cumulative effects through time-crowding, time lag, space crowding, synergy and nibbling. Since respiratory diseases are related to the quality of the air, there is a potential for adverse or beneficial human health effects, depending on how air quality improves or deteriorates. Improved energy efficiency standards for new development will help to reduce fuel poverty. The cumulative impact of the greenfield and brownfield developments will have a greater positive effect on the health and wellbeing of the people of Aberdeen City. However, there will potentially be some mixed effects on human health arising from the LDP, for example exposure to high noise levels and transport-induced vibration. LDP policy protects existing areas of open space, and requires new development to provide new or contribute towards existing open spaces. The greenfield developments are identified in areas that are not of a significant recreational value and will not have a negative effect on human health. Cumulatively, new housing and new employment developments will create opportunities for growth and assist in the regeneration of priority areas within Aberdeen, which will have a positive effect. The promotion and enhancement of green networks will encourage people to make use of them for recreational activities such as walking and cycling. This may have a positive effect on health issues such as obesity, high blood pressure and other cardio-vascular diseases.

Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) Record for Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017

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- **1 Background to Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA)**

Natura 2000 sites are a network of protected sites of international importance which include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and candidate SACs and proposed SPAs. Under Article 6 (3 & 4) of the European Habitats Directive, any plan, project or strategy (PPS) likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, must undergo a Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) to determine its implications for the site. The competent authority can only agree to the plan or project going forward once it has ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned (Article 6.3). In exceptional circumstances, a plan or project may still proceed, in spite of a negative assessment, provided there are no alternative solutions and the plan or project is considered to be of overriding public interest. In such cases the Member State must take appropriate compensatory measures to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 Network is protected (Article 6.4).

This document comprises a HRA for the proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan (ALDP) 2017 to analyse the implications of the Plan on the Natura 2000 sites in the area.

- **2 The Aberdeen Local Development Plan (ALDP) 2017**

The ALDP 2017 outlines a vision for the spatial development of Aberdeen City to 2035. It identifies sites for future development, supported by planning policies and supplementary planning guidance, in support of meeting the Plan's vision. This HRA will concentrate on the polices and opportunity sites identified in the Plan, with the Supplementary Guidance subject to a separate assessment forthwith.

- **2.1 Vision and Objectives**

The vision for the ALDP 2017 replicates that of the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan (SDP):

> *Aberdeen City and Shire will be an even more attractive, prosperous and sustainable European city region and an excellent place to live, visit and do business.*
> *We will be recognised for:*
> - *our enterprise and inventiveness, particularly in the knowledge economy and in high-value markets;*
> - *the unique qualities of our environment; and*
> - *our high quality of life.*
>
> *We will have acted confidently and taken the courageous decisions necessary to further develop a robust and resilient economy and to lead the way towards development being sustainable, including dealing with climate change and creating a more inclusive society*.

- **2.2 Policies**

When identifying policies for inclusion in the ALDP, the previous plan (ALDP 2012) has been reviewed, consultation undertaken with members of the public and key stakeholders, and the implications of National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3) and the revised Scottish Planning Policy

(SPP), both published in summer 2014, have been taken into account. The policies to be included, and which will therefore require to be subjected to assessment, are listed in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1: Policies in the Proposed Local Development Plan

Policies	Description
Aim	
The Spatial Strategy	
LR1 Land Release Policy	Provides for a phased release of land for housing and employment developments.
LR2 Delivery of Mixed Use Communities	Ensures larger sites include a mix of housing, employment and other uses.
Network of Centres	
NC1 City Centre Development- Regional Centre	Encourages all major footfall-generating uses to locate in the City Centre, according to the sequential approach.
NC2 Retail Core & Union Street	The City Centre Retail Core is the preferred location for all major retail developments. Protects existing retail in the City Centre from change of use.
NC3 West End Shops and Cafes	Protects the West End Shops and Cafes from change of use that would damage the character of the area.
NC4 Sequential Approach & Impact	All significant footfall-generating uses appropriate to town centres should be located in accordance with the hierarchy and sequential approach.
NC5 Out of Centre Proposals	Discourages significant footfall-generating uses from locating outwith designated centres.
NC6 Town, District, Neighbourhood & Commercial Centres	Promotes retail as the preferred use within these designated centres; however a mix of uses is desirable.
NC7 Local Shops Units	Protects local shop units outwith centres from change of use.
NC8 Retail Development Serving New Development Areas	Masterplans for sites allocated for major greenfield residential development should allocate land for retail and related uses at an appropriate scale to serve the convenience shopping needs of the expanded local community.
NC9 Beach & Leisure	Sets out what types of development are appropriate to the Beach and Leisure area, with a presumption against large-scale retail.
Design	
D1 Quality Placemaking by Design	Requires new development to have a strong and distinctive sense of place, demonstrating the six essential qualities of successful placemaking.
D2 Landscape	Requires new development to improve and enhance the setting and visual impact of new development.
D3 Big Buildings	Big buildings must be a high quality design which complements or improves the existing site context.
D4 Historic Environment	Protects, conserves and enhances the historic environment, ensuring new development respects the character, appearance and setting of the historic environment.
D5 Granite Heritage	Seeks the retention and appropriate re-use, conversion and adaptation of all granite features, structures and buildings.
Infrastructure Delivery	
I1 Infrastructure Delivery and Planning Obligations	Development must be accompanied by the infrastructure, services and facilities required to support new or expanded communities and the scale and type of development proposed.
T1 Land for Transport	Safeguards land for strategic transport projects
T2 Managing the Transport Impact of Development	Requires that new developments demonstrate sufficient measures to minimise traffic generated and to maximise opportunities for sustainable and active travel.
T3 Sustainable and Active Travel	New development must be accessible by a range of transport modes

	with an emphasis on active and sustainable transport, and internal layout of new development must prioritise walking, cycling and public transport.
T4 Air Quality	Proposals which may have a detrimental impact on air quality will not be permitted unless measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants are in place.
T5 Noise	Presumption against noise-generating developments being located next to sensitive developments such as housing. Protects Noise Management Areas and Quiet Areas from noise.
Business & Industrial Development	
B1 Business and Industrial Land	Retains B1 land for business and industrial uses only, with directly supporting facilities, and safeguards it from conflicting development types. New business and industrial developments must safeguard existing residential amenity.
B2 Specialist Employment Areas	Retains B2 land for high-quality office development only, with directly supporting facilities.
B3 West End Office Area	Promotes office development in the B3 area. Requires development proposals to respect the special historic and architectural character of the area.
B4 Aberdeen Airport	Safeguards Aberdeen Airport for airport-related uses and ensures that development across the city does not compromise the safety or operations of the airport or associated radars.
B5 Aberdeen Harbour	Safeguards Aberdeen Harbour for harbour-related uses and other compatible uses.
B6 Pipelines, Major Hazards and Explosives Storage Sites	States that the Council will take account of advice from the HSE in determining planning applications within consultation zones for pipelines, hazards and explosives storage sites.
Housing & Community Needs	
H1 Residential Areas	Safeguards existing residential areas from inappropriate or conflicting development types that would negatively affect residential amenity.
H2 Mixed Use Areas	Ensures that applications within Mixed Use areas take into account the existing uses and character of the surrounding area and avoid undue conflict with adjacent land uses and amenity.
H3 Density	Seeks an appropriate density of development on all housing allocations and windfall sites, with a minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare.
H4 Housing Mix	Housing developments of more than 50 units are required to achieve an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes reflecting accommodation needs of specific groups.
H5 Affordable Housing	Housing developments of five units or more are expected to contribute the equivalent of 25% of the total number of units as affordable housing.
H6 Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites	Supports sites for Gypsies and Travellers in principle provided certain criteria can be met.
H7 Gypsy and Traveller Requirements for New Residential Developments	Requires certain LDP allocations to make contributions towards the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers.
Community Facilities	
CF1 Existing Community Sites and Facilities	Protects existing community sites and facilities for that purpose and supports extensions to community sites and facilities in principle.
CF2 New Community Facilities	Proposals for new community facilities will be supported in principle provided they are convenient and readily accessible.
Natural Environment	
NE1 Green Space Network	Protects areas identified for their biodiversity, habitat and natural heritage value from development.
NE2 Green Belt	Identifies and protects land around Aberdeen from development.
NE3 Urban Green Space	Identifies parks, open space and recreational and sporting facilities and protects them from development.
NE4 Open Space Provision in New Development	Ensures new residential and employment developments make adequate provision of open spaces.
NE5 Trees and Woodlands	Protects areas of trees and woodland from loss or damage through new development and encourages tree planting in new development.

NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality	Restricts development in areas at risk of flooding, protecting the capacity of the floodplain to store and convey water. It requires SUDS to be incorporated into all new development and makes provision for regional SUDS. New development must make connection to the public sewer. Includes a presumption against excessive engineering or culverting of watercourses.
NE7 Coastal Planning	Safeguards the undeveloped coast from inappropriate development, directing development that requires a coastal location to the most appropriate areas of already-developed coast. Provides safeguards in that any development in the undeveloped coast must also respect and enhance the natural, historical and recreational value of the coast. Development will not be permitted in areas at risk of coastal erosion and flooding.
NE8 Natural Heritage	Describes how designated natural heritage sites and protected species will be considered through the planning process.
NE9 Access and Informal Recreation	Protects the integrity of existing and potential recreational opportunities, particularly access rights and Core Paths, including provision for new and improved public access in new development.
Using Resources Sustainably	
R1 Minerals	States that mineral extraction proposals are acceptable in principle, subject to strict criteria regarding impacts on amenity and the environment. Minerals sites are safeguarded from sterilising development.
R2 Degraded and Contaminated Land	Requires that all degraded or contaminated land is either restored, reclaimed or remediated to a level suitable for its proposed use.
R3 New Waste Management Facilities	Proposals for waste management facilities must comply with the waste hierarchy. Proposals for waste management facilities will be supported provided they meet certain criteria, and existing facilities will be safeguarded from developments that compromise their operation.
R4 Sites for New Waste Management Facilities	Identifies sites safeguarded for the development of new waste-related uses.
R5 Energy From Waste	States that applications for energy from waste facilities should be accompanied by EIA and should consider connection to the electricity grid and ability to provide heat and power.
R6 Waste Management Requirements for New Development	All new developments should have sufficient space for the storage of general waste, recyclable materials and compostable waste where appropriate. Also requires Site Waste Management Plans in some cases.
R7 Low and Zero Carbon Buildings and Water Efficiency	All new buildings must install low and zero-carbon generating technology (LZCGT) to reduce predicted carbon dioxide emissions by at least 20% below 2007 building standards. Also requires new buildings to use water saving technologies and techniques.
R8 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments	Development of renewable and low carbon energy developments will be supported in principle if the technology can operate efficiently and the environmental and cumulative impacts can be satisfactorily addressed. Wind energy developments will also be required to meet stringent environmental and amenity standards.
Communications Infrastructure	
CI1 Digital Infrastructure	All new residential and commercial development will be expected to have access to modern, up-to-date and high-speed communications infrastructure.
CI2 Telecommunications Infrastructure	Proposals for telecommunications infrastructure will be permitted provided they comply with PAN62 in relation to appearance and the environment.

○ 2.3 Supplementary Guidance

Supplementary Guidance provides additional detail on the interpretation and implementation of the policies contained in the LDP. The SG to be included, and which will therefore require to be subjected to assessment, are listed in Table 2.2 below.

Table 2.2: Supplementary Guidance in the LDP

Design Townscape and Landscape	
Windows and Doors	Sets out high-level principles which prioritisethe repair and retention of doors and windows, followed by reinstatement and replacement where appropriate. Also describes how technical details should be treated.
Shopfronts and Signs	Provides guidance on the repair and replacement of historic, existing and new shopfronts and signage, in terms of materials, design, security etc.
Big Buildings	Covers the key factors to be considered for new big (tall/bulky) buildings inc. location, site, context, visual impact, uses, environmental issues.
Stone Cleaning	Provides criteria on when the cleaning of listed buildings or buildings in conservation areas will be permitted.
Temporary Buildings	Provides criteria on when permission for portable and demountable buildings will be granted, and the appropriate length for the permission.
Landscape	Guidance on the appropriate use of hard and soft landscaping schemes to enhance new development in both the layout and design and details.
Energetica Design Guide	Provides criteria which developments in the Energetica corridor must meet, relating to standards of design and environmental sustainability.
Design (Modifications to Existing Buildings and Curtilages)	
Householder Development Guide	Principles for all householder developments, as well as guidelines in relation to specific types of development, with the aim of ensuring that development does not erode the character and appearance of our areas.
Sub-Division & Redevelopment	Development guidelines covering built form and townscape, design, materials, amenity, privacy, daylight etc to ensure this type of development does not erode the character and appearance of our areas.
Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside	Provides high-level design principles for the conversion of traditional agricultural buildings and steadings, in relation to both internal and external alterations, to ensure high standards of design.
City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme	
City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme	Provides a concept and vision for the city centre and outlines a number of projects and intervention areas. Further briefs, which will be subject to their own HRA as required.
City Centre (Business)	
Harmony of Uses	Aimed at reducing the scope for conflict between different uses within mixed use areas, for example between residential, offices, food and drink and leisure. Provides criteria where applications will be refused in the interests of amenity, safety and viability.
Serviced Apartments	Provides guidance on the planning issues associated with proposals for Serviced Apartments, including amenity, accessibility, servicing and the requirement for planning obligations.
Hierarchy of Centres	Outlines the hierarchy of centres to be used in assessing applications for significant footfall-generating uses according to the sequential approach.
Union Street Frontages	Aims to maintain an appropriate mix and location of shopping, service and commercial leisure functions on Union Street, by applying minimum percentages of ground floor retail required on each sector of Union Street.
Children's Nurseries	Sets out main planning considerations for development/change of use

	for children's nurseries in residential and non-residential areas.
Housing and Planning Obligations	
Developer Contributions	Development must be accompanied by the infrastructure, services and facilities required to support new or expanded communities and the scale and type of development proposed.
Affordable Housing	Guidance on the requirements and delivery method of an affordable housing contribution as part of new residential development.
Gypsy/Traveller Sites	Guidance on the planning and design of new sites for Gypsies and Travellers, including spacing, boundaries, health and safety, access, infrastructure etc.
Transport and Infrastructure (Transport)	
Transport and Accessibility	Guidance on how to best consider transport and accessibility issues in development proposals including parking standards, electric vehicle charging points, low-car housing and car clubs, so as to best minimise the traffic impact of a development.
Air Quality	Sets out how air quality management should be considered in the planning process, so as to mitigate against negative effects and improve air quality, particularly within Air Quality Management Areas.
Noise	Sets out how noise issues should be considered in the planning process, so as to mitigate and protect against noise nuisance and pollution, from a variety of sources.
Natural Environment	
Natural Heritage	Describes how designated natural heritage sites and protected species will be considered through the planning process.
Open Space	Provides guidance on the required provision of open space in new development, the maintenance and management of open spaces, the enhancement of the Green Space Network and protection of outdoor access rights.
Trees and Woodlands	Protects areas of trees and woodland from loss or damage through new development and encourages tree planting in new development.
Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality	Restricts development in areas at risk of flooding, protecting the capacity of the floodplain to store and convey water. It requires SUDS to be incorporated into all new development and makes provision for regional SUDS. New development must make connection to the public sewer. Includes a presumption against excessive engineering or culverting of watercourses.
Resources	
Resources for New Development	Provides guidance on a range of factors that can help to minimise resource use and waste, with the aim of increasing the sustainability of new development, including density, energy use, waste and water use efficiency.
Wind Turbine Development	Purpose is to clearly set out the information and requirements the Council will have to take into account when determining applications for wind energy developments. Also includes Onshore Wind Spatial Framework which describes the environmental and planning constraints for turbine development in Aberdeen City.
Energy Mapping	*Not yet produced.*

○ 2.4 Opportunity Sites

The ALDP allocates land for development in order to meet the requirements of the SDP. A list of the proposed sites is provided in Table 2.3 below. These must also be subject to assessment.

Table 2.3: Sites Allocated in the Proposed Local Development Plan

Sites Carried Forward		Policy
Bridge of Don and Grandhome		
OP1	Murcar	Land Release
OP2	Berryhill, Murcar	Business and Industrial Land/ Green Space Network
OP3	Findlay Farm, Murcar	Specialist Employment Area
OP4	Dubford Community Facilities	Residential/ Urban Green Space
OP5	Balgownie Centre, Bridge of Don	Residential
OP6	Balgownie Primary School	Residential
OP7	Aberdeen College Gordon Centre	Residential
OP8	East Woodcroft North	Residential
OP9	Grandhome	Land Release Policy/ Green Space Network
OP10	Dubford	Residential/ Green Space Network
OP11	Balgownie Home Farm	Mixed Use
OP12	Former 'One' Sports Centre (Barracudas)	Mixed Use
OP13	AECC Bridge of Don	Mixed Use
OP75	Denmore Road	Commercial Centre
Dyce, Bucksburn and Woodside		
OP14	Bankhead Academy	Residential
OP15	Former Carden School	Residential
OP16	Muggiemoss Mill	Mixed Use
OP17	Stoneywood	Residential/Green Space Network
OP18	Craibstone North and Walton Farm	Land Release Policy/ Green Space Network
OP19	Rowett North	Specialist Employment Area/ Green Space Network
OP20	Craibstone South	Land Release Policy/ Green Space Network
OP21	Rowett South	Land Release Policy/ Green Space Network
OP22	Greenferns Landward	Land Release Policy/
OP23	Dyce Drive	Business and Industrial Land/ Green Space Network
OP24	A96 Park and Ride	Land for Transport
OP25	Woodside	Residential/ GSN/ Green Belt
OP86	Dyce Railway Station	Land for Transport
Kingswells and Greenferns		
OP26	Auchmill Golf Course	Green Belt/ Green Space Network
OP27	Greenferns Infant School	Residential
OP28	Greenferns	Residential
OP29	Prime Four Business Park	Specialist Employment Area/ Green Space Network
OP63	Prime Four Business Park Phase 5 Extension	Specialist Employment
OP30	Kingswells D and West Huxterstone	Residential/ Green Space Network
OP31	Maidencraig South East	Residential/ Green Space Network
OP32	Maidencraig North East	Residential/ Green Space Network
OP33	Greenferns	Land Release/ GSN
OP34	East Arnhall	Land Release
OP63	Prime Four Extension	Specialist Employment
OP111	Skene Road, Maidencraig	Residential
Countesswells		

OP38	Countesswells	Land Release Policy/ Green Space Network
Deeside		
OP39	Braeside Infant School	Residential
OP40	Cults Pumping Station	Residential
OP41	Friarsfield	Residential
OP42	Kennerty Mill	Residential
OP43	Milltimber Primary School	Residential
OP44	North Lasts Quarry	Green Belt
OP45	Peterculter East	Residential
OP46	Culter House Road	Residential
OP47	Edgehill Road	Residential/ Green Space Network
OP48	Oldfold	Land Release Policy
OP49	Grove Nursery Hazlehead	New Community Facilities
OP50	Skene Road Hazlehead	Green Belt/ Green Space Network
OP51	Peterculter Burn	Residential
OP52	Malcolm Road, Peterculter	Residential
OP109	Woodend, Peterculter	Residential
OP112	West of Contlaw Road	Residential
OP113	Culter House Road	Residential
OP114	Milltimber South	Mixed Use
Loirston and Cove		
OP53	Aberdeen Gateway	Business and Industrial Land/ Green Belt/ Land Release
OP54	Altens East and Doonies	Business and Industrial Land
OP55	Blackhills Quarry	Green Belt
OP56	Cove	Residential
OP57	Craighill Primary School, Kincorth	Residential
OP58	Stationfields, Cove	Residential
OP59	Loirston	Land Release Policy/ Green Space Network
OP60	Charleston	Land Release Policy
OP61	Calder Park	Land Release Policy
OP62	Aberdeen Harbour Nigg Bay	Aberdeen Harbour/ Green Space Network
OP64	Ness Solar Farm	Green Belt/ Solar farm
OP103	Former Torry Nursery School	Residential
OP104	Craiginches Prison	Residential
OP105	Kincorth Academy	Residential
OP107	East Tullos Gas Holder	Business and Industrial
OP110	Wellington Circle	Business and Industrial
OP115	34-40 Abbotswell Road	Mixed Use
City Centre and Urban Areas		
OP35	Granitehill Road	Business and Industrial
OP36	Charlie House	New Community Facilities, respite centre
OP37	Burnside Centre	Business and Industrial Land
OP65	Haudagain Triangle, Middlefield	Residential/ Land for Transport
OP66	Manor Walk, Middlefield	Urban Green Space
OP67	Aberdeen Market	City Centre Retail Core
OP68	1 Western Road	Residential
OP69	140 Causewayend	Mixed Use
OP70	35 Froghall Road	Mixed Use
OP71	41 Nelson Street	Mixed Use
OP72	Aberdon House	Residential
OP73	Balgownie Machine Centre	Mixed Use
OP74	Broadford Works	Mixed Use
OP75	Denmore Road Retail	Commercial Centre
OP76	Causewayend Primary School	Mixed Use
OP77	Cornhill Hospital	Existing Community Sites and Facilities

OP78	Cotton Street	Business and Industrial Land
OP79	Crown House	Mixed Use
OP80	Bon Accord Masterplan Area	Mixed Use
OP81	Denburn and Woolmanhill	Mixed Use
OP82	Dunbar Halls of Residence	Residential
OP83	Energy Futures Centre South Beach	Urban Green Space, reserved for Energy Futures Centre
OP84	Hilton Nursery School	Residential
OP85	King Street/ Beach Esplanade	New Community Facilities
OP87	Pittodrie Park	Residential
OP88	Shore Porters Warehouse	Mixed Use
OP89	Smithfield Primary School	Residential
OP90	St Machar Primary School	Residential
OP91	Marischal Square	City Centre Retail Core, mixed use development
OP92	St Peter's Nursery, Spital	Mixed Use
OP93	Former Summerhill Academy	Residential
OP94	Tillydrone Primary School	Residential
OP95	Triple Kirks, Schoolhill	City Centre Retail Core, office development
OP96	Upper/Basement Floors 73/149 Union Street	City Centre Retail Core
OP97	Victoria Road Primary School	Mixed Use
OP98	VSA Gallowgate	Mixed Use
OP99	The Waterfront, Torry	Mixed Use
OP100	Water Lane	Mixed Use
OP101	Woodside Congregational Church	Residential
OP102	George Street/ Crooked Lane	City Centre Retail Core
OP106	Beach Esplanade (Jimmy Chungs)	Beach and Leisure
OP116	Froghall Terrace	Mixed Use

- **3 Natura 2000 Sites**

Listed in Table 3.1 are the Natura 2000 sites with the potential to be significantly affected by future development in Aberdeen City. The criteria used for the selection of sites are: the effect on the aquatic environment, effect on mobile species, their vulnerability to recreational pressure, their potential to be affected by increased development and the effects on the coast.

Table 3.1: List of Natura 2000 sites

	European sites	Effect on aquatic environment	Effect on mobile species	Vulnerable to recreational pressure	Increase amount of development	Could affect the coast
1	River Dee SAC	√	√	√	√	√
2	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle loch SPA		√	√	√	√
3	Loch of Skene SPA		√		√	
4	Moray Firth SPA	√	√		√	
5	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC: Grey seal	√	√		√	√
6	Isle of May SAC: Grey seal	√	√		√	√

○ 3.1 Analysis of Natura 2000 sites

In Table 3.2, these sites are analysed in terms of their conservation objectives, qualifying interests, the conditions of the sites, factors influencing the sites and their vulnerability to changes.

Table 3.2: Information about Sites Selected

Site & Conservation Objectives	Conservation Objectives	Qualifying Interest	Condition of Site	Factors influencing Site	Vulnerability to changes or potential effects of PPS
1. **River Dee** SAC (2446.82 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: • Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species • Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species • Structure, function and supporting	Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) Otter (Lutra lutra) Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera)	Favourable Maintained (10/09/2004) Favourable Maintained (30/09/2004) Unfavourable No change (07/08/2003)	Site is affected by housing developments, water abstraction and river engineering. The site is subject to recreational use	River Dee Integrated Catchment Management Plan is in place. There is guidance on best practice for river engineering works. **Summary of Key Issues** • Habitat loss • Disturbance • Potential Recreational impact • Coastal squeeze • Water abstraction

		processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species				
2.	**Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch** SPA (1016.24 ha) designated on 30/03/1998	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: • Population of the species as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species	Little tern (Sternula albifrons), breeding	Favourable Maintained (29/06/2008)	Factors that influence the site include tourism / leisure developments, Onshore Wind, Microrenewables, and Other developments	Burning will damage sensitive habitats and species. Tern colonies are vulnerable to damaging activities and disturbance. Tern breeding is vulnerable to predation and the periodic overtopping of the favoured shingle beds by sand. Shooting of geese is not an issue. Effects of eutrophication on the estuary and its flora and fauna. Invertebrates, which are the prey of waterfowl, are vulnerable to build up of algal mats. Fox control measures and bye laws are thought to be helping. **Summary of Key Issues** • Disturbance • Predation • recreational impacts • eutrophication
			Sandwich tern (Sterna sandvicensis), breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/07/2008)		
			Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (02/09/2007)		
			Eider (Somateria mollissima), non-breeding	Favourable Declining (21/08/2012)		
			Redshank (Tringa totanus), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/01/2002)		
			Common tern (Sterna hirundo), breeding	Unfavourable No change (01/08/2012)		
			Pink-footed goose (Anser brachyrhynchus), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/10/2002)		
			Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/01/1999)		
3.	**Loch of Skene** SPA/RAMSAR (120.89 ha) designated on 01/10/1986	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: • Population of the species as a viable component of the site	Greylag goose (Anser anser), non-breeding	Unfavourable Declining (01/11/2008)	The site has been subject of onshore wind and housing development applications. Loch subject to sailing activities, sports fishing and wildfowling.	SPA is vulnerable as hypertrophication - increase algal bloom which in turn affects aquatic flora and fauna and reduces food availability to the SPA interest. **Summary of Key Issues**

	• Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species			Hypertrophication from sewerage and agriculture	• Hypertrophical & pollution • Potential disturbance from site activities
4. Moray Firth SAC (151347.17 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term: • Extent of the habitat on site • Distribution of the habitat within site • Structure and function of the habitat • Processes supporting the habitat • Distribution of typical species of the habitat • Viability of typical species as components of the habitat • No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are established then maintained in the long term: • Population of the species as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species	Subtidal sandbanks	Favourable Maintained (12/08/2004)	Dolphin Watching. Need to restore bottlenose dolphin population to a viable level.	The species are vulnerable to disturbance, harassment, contamination, reduction of food availability, traumatic death and injury. There is a recently introduced code of conduct for boats within the harbour. **Summary of Key Issues** • Disturbance • Harassment • Contamination • Injury • Potential poaching • Recreational impact
		Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)	Favourable Recovered (21/09/2010)		
5. Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC (65045.5 ha) designated	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate	Grey seal	Favourable Maintained (10/11/2009)	Tourism / leisure developments developments, Offshore wind farm, maritime activities,	A mixture of cliffs, rocky shores and sandy bays attract a variety of recreational users for angling, diving, watersports, etc. Difficulties

17 March 2005	contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: • Population of the species as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species			telecommunications, transport infrastructure, harbour infrastructure railways, other utilities	arising from recreational activities are addressed by the site management scheme. The estuarine reef communities support an important crustacean fishery whilst offshore fisheries exist for *Nephrops* and some pelagic and demersal fish species. Wastewater discharges could have a localised effect on the site but will be subject to EC water quality legislation. **Key issues:** • Recreational Impact • Recreational Impact • Disturbance (to seals and their prey), • collision with shipping, • water quality, • habitat modification
6. Isle of May SAC (356.75 ha) designated on 17 March 2005	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: • Population of the species as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species	Grey Seal (*Halichoerus grypus*)	Favourable Maintained (14/11/2009)	Tourism / leisure developments developments, Offshore wind farm, maritime activities, telecommunications, transport infrastructure, harbour infrastructure	The terrestrial part of the cSAC is a National Nature Reserve with a history of recreational pressure. However, the site is owned and managed by SNH, which ensures adequate protection for nature conservation. Visitor pressure to the island is concentrated outwith the seal-breeding season and is managed by a permit system for tourist boats. No landings are allowed during the seal-breeding season except by special permission and permit. At present, pressure from recreational divers is principally during the seals' non-breeding season. **Key issues** • Recreational Impact • Disturbance (to seals and their prey),

					• collision with shipping, • water quality, • habitat modification

- **4 Screening**

The purpose of screening is to determine whether any part of the ALDP, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on the Natura 2000 sites listed in Table 3.2 above. In doing so, those aspects of the plan which would be unlikely to have a significant effect are eliminated from further consideration.

- **4.1 Screening the Policies and Sites**

Aspects of the Plan are screened out on the basis of the following considerations:

- They are general policy statements;
- It is not possible to identify effects on any particular European site because proposals are too general;
- Projects are referred to in, but not proposed by, the ALDP;
- They are elements of the ALDP that are intended to protect the natural environment,
- They are elements of the ALDP which will not in themselves lead to development or other change;
- They are elements of the ALDP which make provision for change but which could have no conceivable effect because of the absence of a link or pathway between the plan and European sites;
- They are elements of the ALDP which make provision for change but effects are likely to minimal; and
- They are elements of a plan that could have no likely significant effect on a site, alone or in combination with other aspects of the same plan, or with other plans or projects

Table 4.1 comprises the first part of the screening process whereby proposed policies and sites are screened in or out of the assessment with reference to the above considerations.

Table 4.1: Screening of Policies & Opportunity Sites

Policies, objectives, actions and projects	PPS likely to have significant effects	General policy statements	Projects not generated by this PPS	Protective, enhancement and conservation	Does not generate development and change	Provision of change with no link or pathway to qualifying features	Provision of changed with no or minimal effects	Too general nature of PPS with no information on where, how, or when of implementation	Screen in / Screen out
POLICIES									
Spatial Strategy									
Vision Statement		X							Out
LR1 Land Release Policy	X								In
LR2 Delivery of Mixed Use Communities		X							Out
Network of Centres									
NC1 City Centre Development- Regional Centre							X		Out
NC2 Retail Core & Union Street							X		Out
NC3 West End Shops and Cafes							X		Out
NC4 Sequential Approach & Impact							X		Out
NC5 Out of Centre Proposals							X		Out
NC6 Town, District, Neighbourhood & Commercial Centres							X		Out
NC7 Local Shops Units				X					Out
NC8 Retail Development Serving New Development Areas								X	Out
NC9 Beach & Leisure		X						X	Out
Design									
D1 Quality Placemaking by Design				X					Out
D2 Landscape				X					Out
D3 Big Buildings				X					Out
D4 Historic Environment				X					Out
D5 Granite Heritage				X					Out
Infrastructure and Transport									
I1 Infrastructure & Developer Contributions		X						X	Out
T1 Land for Transport	X								In
T2 Managing the Transport Impact of Development		X							Out
T3 Sustainable and Active Travel		X						X	Out
T4 Air Quality				X					Out
T5 Noise				X					Out
Business and Industry									

B1 Business and Industrial Land					X			X	Out
B2 Specialist Employment Areas					X				Out
B3 West End Office Area							X		Out
B4 Aberdeen Airport				X					Out
B5 Aberdeen Harbour	X								In
B6 Pipelines, Major Hazards and Explosives Storage Sites				X					Out
Housing									
H1 Residential Areas				X					Out
H2 Mixed Use Areas				X					Out
H3 Density								X	Out
H4 Housing Mix								X	Out
H5 Affordable Housing								X	Out
H6 Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites							X		Out
H7 Gypsy and Traveller Requirements for New Residential Developments							X		Out
Community Facilities									
CF1 Existing Community Sites and Facilities							X	X	Out
CF2 New Community Facilities				X					Out
Natural Environment									
NE1 Green Space Network				X					Out
NE2 Green Belt				X					Out
NE3 Urban Green Space				X					Out
NE4 Open Space Provision in New Development				X					Out
NE5 Trees and Woodlands				X					Out
NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality				X					Out
NE7 Coastal Planning				X					Out
NE8 Natural Heritage				X					Out
NE9 Access and Informal Recreation				X					Out
Resources									
R1 Minerals		X						X	Out
R2 Degraded and Contaminated Land				X					Out
R3 New Waste Management Facilities								X	Out
R4 Sites for New Waste Management Facilities							X		Out
R5 Energy From Waste				X					Out
R6 Waste Management Requirements for New Development							X		Out
R7 Low and Zero Carbon Buildings and Water Efficiency				X					Out
R8 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments								X	Out
Communications Infrastructure									

CI1 Digital Infrastructure		X							Out
CI2 Telecommunications Infrastructure		X							Out
SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE									
Design – Landscape and Townscape									
Windows and Doors				X					Out
Shopfronts and Signs				X					Out
Big Buildings				X					Out
Stone Cleaning				X					Out
Temporary Buildings				X					Out
Landscape				X					Out
Energetica Design Guide				X					Out
Design – Modifications to Existing Buildings and Curtilages									
Householder Development Guide							X		Out
Curtilage Split and Redevelopment							X		Out
Conversions of Buildings in the Countryside								X	Out
City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme									
City Centre Masterplan and Delivery Programme *not yet produced*									
Businesses									
Harmony of Uses							X		Out
Serviced Apartments							X		Out
Hierarchy of Centres							X		Out
Union Street Frontages							X		Out
Children's Nurseries							X		Out
Housing and Planning Obligations									
Developer Contributions		X							
Affordable Housing								X	Out
Gypsy/Traveller Sites							X		Out
Transport and Infrastructure									
Transport and Accessibility								X	Out
Air Quality				X					Out
Noise				X					Out
Natural Environment									
Natural Heritage				X					Out
Open Space				X					Out
Trees and Woodland				X					Out
Flooding and Drainage				X					Out
Resources									
Resources for New Development				X					Out

Wind Turbine Development								X	Out
Energy Mapping *Not yet produced*									
OPPORTUNITY SITES									
Bridge of Don and Grandhome									
OP1 Murcar	X								In
OP2 Berryhill, Murcar	X								In
OP3 Findlay Farm, Murcar	X								In
OP4 Dubford Community Facilities							X		Out
OP5 Balgownie Centre, Bridge of Don							X		Out
OP6 Balgownie Primary School							X		Out
OP7 Aberdeen College Gordon Centre							X		Out
OP8 East Woodcroft North						X			Out
OP9 Grandhome	X								In
OP10 Dubford	X								In
OP11 Balgownie Home Farm						X			Out
OP12 Former 'One' Sports Centre Barracudas						X			Out
OP13 AECC Bridge of Don						X			Out
OP75 Denmore Road	X								In
Dyce, Bucksburn and Woodside									
OP14 Bankhead Academy						X	X		Out
OP15 Former Carden School							X		Out
OP16 Muggiemoss Mill	X								In
OP17 Stoneywood	X								In
OP18 Craibstone North and Walton Farm	X								In
OP19 Rowett North	X								In
OP20 Craibstone South	X								In
OP21 Rowett South	X								In
OP22 Greenferns Landward	X								In
OP23 Dyce Drive						X			Out
OP24 A96 Park and Ride						X			Out
OP25 Woodside						X			Out
OP86 Dyce Railway Station						X			Out
Kingswells and Greenferns									
OP26 Auchmill Golf Course						X			Out
OP27 Greenferns Infant School						X			Out
OP28 Greenferns	X								In
OP29 Prime Four Business Park	X								In
OP63 Prime Four Business Park Phase 5 Extension	X					X			In

OP30 Kingswells D and West Huxterstone						X			Out
OP31 Maidencraig South East	X								In
OP32 Maidencraig North East	X								In
OP33 Greenferns	X								In
OP34 East Arnhall						X			Out
OP63 Prime Four Extension						X			Out
OP111 Skene Road						X			Out
Countesswells									
OP38 Countesswells	X								In
Deeside									
OP39 Braeside Infant School							X		Out
OP40 Cults Pumping Station	X								In
OP41 Friarsfield	X								In
OP42 Kennerty Mill	X								In
OP43 Milltimber Primary School	X								In
OP44 North Lasts Quarry						X			Out
OP45 Peterculter East	X								In
OP46 Culter House Road	X								In
OP47Edgehill Road	X								In
OP48 Oldfold	X								In
OP49 Grove Nursery, Hazlehead						X			Out
OP50 Skene Road, Hazlehead						X			Out
OP51 Peterculter Burn	X								In
OP52 Malcolm Road	X								In
OP109 Woodend, Peterculter	X								In
OP112 West of Contlaw Road	X								In
OP113 Culter House Road	X								In
OP114 Miltimber South	X								In
Loirston and Cove									
OP53 Aberdeen Gateway	X								In
OP54 Altens East and Doonies	X								In
OP55 Blackhills Quarry	X								In
OP56 Cove	X								In
OP57 Craighill Primary School, Kincorth							X		Out
OP58 Stationfields, Cove	X								In
OP59 Loirston	X								In
OP60 Charleston							X		Out

OP61 Calder Park						X			Out
OP62 Aberdeen Harbour Nigg Bay	X								In
OP64 Ness Solar Farm	X								In
OP103 Former Torry Nursery School						X			Out
OP104 Craiginches Prison						X			Out
OP105 Kincorth Academy							X		Out
OP107 East Tullos Gas Holder						X			Out
OP110 Wellington Circle							X		Out
OP115 34-40 Abbotswells Road	X								In
City Centre and Urban Areas									
OP35 Granitehill Road						X			Out
OP36 Charlie House						X			Out
OP37 Burnside Centre						X			Out
OP65 Haudagain Triangle, Middlefield						X			Out
OP66 Manor Walk, Middlefield						X			Out
OP67 Aberdeen Market						X			Out
OP68 1 Western Road						X			Out
OP69 140 Causewayend						X			Out
OP70 35 Froghall Road						X			Out
OP71 41 Nelson Street						X			Out
OP72 Aberdon House						X			Out
OP73 Balgownie Machine Centre						X			Out
OP74 Broadford Works	X								In
OP75 Denmore Road Retail						X			Out
OP76 Causewayend Primary School						X			Out
OP77 Cornhill Hospital						X			Out
OP78 Cotton Street						X			Out
OP79 Crown House						X			Out
OP80 Bon Accord Masterplan Area						X			Out
OP81 Denburn and Woolmanhill						X			Out
OP82 Dunbar Halls of Residence						X			Out
OP83 Energy Futures Centre South Beach	X								In
OP84 Hilton Nursery School						X			Out
OP85 King Street/ Beach Esplanade						X			Out
OP87 Pittodrie Park						X			Out
OP88 Shore Porters Warehouse						X			Out
OP89 Smithfield Primary School						X			Out
OP90 St Machar Primary School						X			Out

OP91 Marischal Square						X			Out
OP92 St Peter's Nursery Spital						X			Out
OP93 Former Summerhill Academy						X			Out
OP94 Tillydrone Primary School						X			Out
OP95 Triple Kirks Schoolhill						X			Out
OP96 Upper/Basement Floors 73/149 Union Street						X			Out
OP97 Victoria Road Primary School	X								In
OP98 VSA Gallowgate						X			Out
OP99 The Waterfront, Torry	X								In
OP100 Water Lane						X			Out
OP101 Woodside Congregational Church						X			Out
OP102 George Street/ Crooked Lane						X			Out
OP106 Beach Esplanade (Jimmy Chung's)	X								In
OP116 Froghall Terrace						X			Out

○ 4.2 Screening for LSE on Natura 2000 Sites

In the next stage of the HRA process, those policies and sites that have been screened in are subject to a second round of screening. This stage also considers in-combination effects, both with other elements of the ALDP (including aspects of the Plan screened out) and with other plans, projects and strategies already approved around the site in the wider area by Aberdeen City Council and other neighbouring local authorities. Taking this information into account, a conclusion is reached as to whether or not these policies and sites will have a Likely Significant Effect (LSE) on any Natura 2000 sites. Those judged to have no LSE are then eliminated from the assessment, while those that are likely to have LSE will proceed to the next stage of the assessment.

4.3 Risk of LSE

Table 4.2 summarises the assessment undertaken to ascertain whether any of the screened in policies or sites will have a LSE on any Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other sites and plans.

Table 4.2: Risk of LSE from Policies and Opportunity Sites

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
LR1 Land Release Policy	HL, RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water abstraction to support additional development may create conditions of low water flow, damaging the habitats and species it hosts • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Loss of habitat to housing developments	RI, EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • For proposed developments in coastal locations there may be a potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Projects listed in Appendices 1-3.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	• Development in low lying areas and flood plains may be affected by climate change • Disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats							
	•							
T1 Land for Transport	EoP, D, EoN • Water quality affected through soil and sediment deposition, waste disposal, and release of oil and fuel from infrastructural activities • Disturbance through activities associated with soil and sediment deposition, waste disposal, and release of oil and fuel from infrastructural activities • Specific impact on the River Dee SAC may result from construction of the AWPR and improved rail services, in particular sections that cross the River Dee	RI, D, EoN • Any transport development in coastal areas has the potential to impact negatively on Bottlenose dolphins particularly noise impacts	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Projects listed in Appendices 1-3.	Yes
Policy B5 Aberdeen Harbour	River Dee SAC for Atlantic salmon. Atlantic salmon are also sensitive to barriers to migration and reductions in water quality. Whilst freshwater pearl	RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development	No impact	No impact	Physical damage (of habitats and species) – collision risk through	Physical damage (of habitats and species) – collision risk through	Policies and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 3.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	mussel will not occur in the development site, impacts to Atlantic salmon could have subsequent impacts on the mussels due to the role of the salmon in the mussels' lifecycle Moray Firth SAC - RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN Isle of May SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification, Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification	• Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated			increased vessel movement Non-physical disturbance – noise and vibration that may disturb the species Toxic contamination toxic effects on marine species from potential oil spillages etc. Non-toxic contamination – increases in suspended sediment and turbidity potentially affecting marine habitats and species modification to the structures and processes of the habitats that the seals and their prey rely on (including impacts on water quality); effects of	increased vessel movement Non-physical disturbance – noise and vibration that may disturb the species Toxic contamination toxic effects on marine species from potential oil spillages etc. Non-toxic contamination – increases in suspended sediment and turbidity potentially affecting marine habitats and species modification to the structures and processes of the habitats that the seals and their prey rely on (including impacts on water quality); effects of increased shipping activity arising from the harbour		

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
					increased shipping activity arising from the harbour expansion causing disturbance to seals (and their prey) within and outwith the harbour area; and increased risk of propeller collision causing injury and mortality.	expansion causing disturbance to seals (and their prey) within and outwith the harbour area; and increased risk of propeller collision causing injury and mortality.		
	•							
OP1 Murcar	No impact	EoP, D, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP2 Berryhill, Murcar	No impact	EoP, D, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
OP3 Findlay Farm, Murcar	No impact	EoP, D, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP9 Grandhome	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP10 Dubford	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	RI, EoP, D, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1-3.	Yes
OP75 Denmore Road	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	RI, EoP, D, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated.	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1-3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP16 Muggiemoss Mill	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
OP17 Stoneywood	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP18 Craibstone North and Walton Farm	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP19 Rowett North	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP20 Craibstone South	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP21 Rowett South	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP22 Greenferns Landward	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP28 Greenferns	WA Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP29 Prime 4 Business Park	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP31 Maidencraig South East	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP32 Maidencraig North East	WA • Water abstraction to support additional	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	development							
OP33 Greenferns	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP38 Countesswells	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP40 Cults Pumping Station	RI, D, EoP, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP41 Friarsfield	RI, WA, D, EoP, WQ • Water abstraction to support additional development • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	activity							
OP42 Kennerty Mill	RI, D, EoP, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP43 Milltimber Primary School	RI, EoP, D, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity.	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP45 Peterculter East	RI, EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	• Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity.							
OP46 Culter House Road	RI, EoP, D, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity.	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP47 Edgehill Road	RI, EoP, D, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP48 Oldfold	RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ • Water abstraction to support additional development • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity							
OP51 Peterculter Burn	EoP, D, WQ • Water abstraction to support additional development • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Potential for future requirements for flood defences and subsequent impacts on floodplain. • Adjacent to Peterculter Burn which forms part of the SAC.	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP52 Malcolm Road	RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water abstraction to support additional development may create conditions of low water flow, damaging the habitats and species it hosts • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	development • Disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats							
	•							
OP109 Woodend, Peterculter	RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water abstraction to support additional development may create conditions of low water flow, damaging the habitats and species it hosts • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP112 West of Contlaw Road	RI, EoP, D, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity.	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP113 Culter House Road	RI, EoP, D, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Disturbance to qualifying features	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	from construction activity.							
OP114 Milltimber	RI, EoP, D, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works • Disturbance to qualifying features from construction activity.	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP53 Aberdeen Gateway	No impact	EoP, WQ • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP54 Altens East and Doonies	No impact	EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP55 Blackhills Quarry	No impact	EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP56 Cove	WA	RI, EoP, WQ, EoN	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	• Water abstraction to support additional development	• Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated					listed in Appendices1 – 3.	
OP58 Stationfields, Cove	No impact	RI, EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development. • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated.	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP59 Loirston	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP62 Aberdeen Harbour Extension Nigg Bay	River Dee SAC for Atlantic salmon. Atlantic salmon are also sensitive to barriers to migration and reductions in water quality. Whilst freshwater pearl mussel will not occur in the development site, impacts to Atlantic salmon could have subsequent impacts on the mussels due to the role of the salmon in the mussels' lifecycle Moray Firth SAC - RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN Isle of May SAC - RI, D,	RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	Physical damage (of habitats and species) – collision risk through increased vessel movement Non-physical disturbance – noise and vibration that may disturb the species Toxic contamination	Physical damage (of habitats and species) – collision risk through increased vessel movement Non-physical disturbance – noise and vibration that may disturb the species Toxic contamination	Policies and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 3.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification, Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification				toxic effects on marine species from potential oil spillages etc. Non-toxic contamination – increases in suspended sediment and turbidity potentially affecting marine habitats and species modification to the structures and processes of the habitats that the seals and their prey rely on (including impacts on water quality); effects of increased shipping activity arising from the harbour expansion causing disturbance to seals (and their prey) within and	toxic effects on marine species from potential oil spillages etc. Non-toxic contamination – increases in suspended sediment and turbidity potentially affecting marine habitats and species modification to the structures and processes of the habitats that the seals and their prey rely on (including impacts on water quality); effects of increased shipping activity arising from the harbour expansion causing disturbance to seals (and their prey) within and outwith the harbour area; and increased risk of propeller collision causing injury and		

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
					outwith the harbour area; and increased risk of propeller collision causing injury and mortality.	mortality.		
OP63 Prime Four Business Park Phase 5 Extension	WA • Water abstraction to support additional development	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP64 Ness Solar Farm	No impact	EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP115 37-40 Abbotswells Road	EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Development in low lying areas and flood plains may be affected by climate change • Disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP74 Broadford Works	WA • Water abstraction to	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	support additional development							
OP83 Energy Futures Centre South Beach	No impact	EoP, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
OP97 Victoria Road Primary School	EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Development in low lying areas and flood plains may be affected by climate change • Disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes
OP99 The Waterfront, Torry	EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Development in low lying areas and flood plains may be affected by climate change	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Plans and sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2.	Yes

Content of PP/Sites	River Dee SAC	Moray Firth SAC	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Loch of Skene	Isle of May SAC:	Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC:	In-combination effects	Risk of LSE?
	• Disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats							
OP106 Beach Esplanade (Jimmy Chung's)	No impact	EoP, D, WQ, EoN • Water quality may be affected through run-off from constructional works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development • Potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated	No impact	No impact	No impact	No impact	Sites listed in Appendix 3.	No – the site is set back from the coast enough to remove the likelihood of LSE.
Key			HL – Habitat Loss RI – Recreational Impact CC – Coastal Squeeze WA – Water Abstraction EoH – Effects on Hydrology EoP – Effects on Pollution D – Disturbance WQ – Water Quality EoN – Effect of Noise River Dee SAC (HL, D, RI, CS) Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch SPA (D, RI, EoP) Loch of Skene SPA/RAMSAR (EoP, D) Moray Firth SAC (D, EoP, RI, EoN)				

o 4.4 Summary of Screening and Mitigation Applied

The second screening exercise undertaken on the policies and opportunity sites recommended for inclusion in the ALDP has identified that there remains a risk of significant adverse effects on the integrity of the River Dee SAC , Moray Firth SAC, Isle of May SAC, and Berwickshire and North Northumberland SAC for their qualifying features, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, should these proposals proceed.

These risks largely relate to the scale of development proposed in the Plan and the effects that this will have on the River Dee SAC, in particular the need to abstract water from the River which may create conditions of low water flow, damaging the habitats and species that the river hosts. The cumulative effect of development in the vicinity of the River is also likely to put pressure on the SAC in terms of water quality, pollution and noise during construction which could lead to disturbance and habitat loss, as well as increasing the recreational impact once residential developments are occupied.

In terms of the Moray Firth SAC, Isle of May SAC, and Berwickshire and North Northumberland SAC, although the ALDP proposes development in the vicinity of the coastline, in most cases this is set back far enough from the coasts so that the impact on the qualifying features of the SAC, particularly bottlenose dolphins and grey seals, is not likely to be significant. The only proposal of any significance relating to the Moray Firth SAC, Isle of May SAC, and Berwickshire and North Northumberland SAC that still remains screened is the Aberdeen Harbour extension as this will involve development directly on the coast with no buffer.

It is Aberdeen City Council's obligation to either amend the plan or incorporate mitigation measures to ensure that the ALDP does not adversely affect the integrity of the SACs.

In mitigating the effects of the plan on the protected sites, a choice has been made from the following alternatives:

- Deleting the policy or proposal that may cause the likely significant effect;
- Changing the nature or type of potentially damaging proposals;
- Reducing the scale of the potentially damaging provision, whether it is an overall level of growth across all or part of the plan area, or a single proposal of a specific scale or size;
- Relocating or altering the spatial distribution of the potentially damaging provision;
- Phasing or timing of a proposal so that its possible effects can be adequately managed over time;
- Programming a proposal so that it is dependent on key infrastructure provision or upgrading, such as water supply or waste water treatment, being in place before it could proceed;
- Requiring buffer zones to be put in place; and
- Requiring lower-tier plans to undertake HRAs, SEAs or EIAs.

A summary of the policies and sites still judged as having a likely significant effect and the mitigation measures proposed is provided in Table 4.3 below:

Table 4.3: Initial Mitigation

Aspects of PP likely to have significant effects	Nature of likely significant effects	Mitigation measures	Any persisting risk of LSE?
LR1 Land Release Policy	River Dee SAC – HL, RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ, EoN Moray Firth SAC – RI, EoP, D, WQ, EoN	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
		•	
T1 Land for Transport	River Dee SAC – EoP, D, EoN Moray Firth SAC – RI, D, EoN	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce its scale, because it relates to long-standing projects that have been carried forward from the previously approved LDP and have already received commitment/permission from the Council and/or the Scottish Government. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Individual schemes will require to undertake HRA/EIA to ensure that LSE are fully mitigated.	Yes
Policy B5 Aberdeen Harbour	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ Moray Firth SAC - RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN Isle of May SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as this is identified as a national development in the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3). The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated. • Impacts on these Isle of May SAC and Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC should be considered in the	Yes

	Modification, Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification	HRA and EIA for the proposed development • HRA for the development should ensure that development avoids an adverse effect on the integrity of the SACs. • The Harbour Authority should take these effects into account when considering options for the harbour expansion.	
OP9 Grandhome	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP, and this allocation was made in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP10 Dubford	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP16 Muggiemoss Mill	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP17 Stoneywood	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP18 Craibstone North and Walton Farm	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012.	Yes

		The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	
OP19 Rowett North	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP20 Craibstone South	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own individual assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP21 Rowett South	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP22 Greenferns Landward	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP28 Greenferns	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time;	Yes

		• Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	
OP29 Prime 4 Business Park	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP31 Maidencraig South East	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP32 Maidencraig North East	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own individual assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP33 Greenferns	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP38 Countesswells	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and	Yes

		• Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	
OP40 Cults Pumping Station	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, D, EoP, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP41 Friarsfield	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, D, EoP, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP42 Kennerty Mill	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, D, EoP, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP43 Milltimber Primary School	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, D, EoP, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP45 Peterculter East	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ, EoN	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes

OP46 Culter House Road	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP47 Edgehill Road	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP48 Oldfold	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP ad this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP51 Peterculter Burn	River Dee SAC - EoP, D, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP52 Malcolm Road	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release due to the housing need identified for the Peterculter area and the need to support the local primary school. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
		•	
OP109 Woodend,	River Dee SAC -	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release due to the housing need identified for	Yes

Peterculter	RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	the Peterculter area and the need to support the local primary school. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	
OP112 West of Contlaw Road	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release due to the housing need identified for the Peterculter area and the need to support the local primary school. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP113 Culter House Road	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release due to the housing need identified for the Peterculter area and the need to support the local primary school. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	yes
OP114 Milltimber South	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release due to the housing need identified for the Peterculter area and the need to support the local primary school. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP56 Cove	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP59 Loirston	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012.	Yes

		The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own individual assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	
OP62 Aberdeen Harbour, Nigg Bay	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ Moray Firth SAC - RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN Isle of May SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification, Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification	• We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as this is identified as a national development in the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3). • • The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated. • Impacts on these Isle of May SAC and Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC should be considered in the HRA and EIA for the proposed development • HRA for the development should ensure that development avoids an adverse effect on the integrity of the SACs. • The Harbour Authority should take these effects into account when considering options for the harbour expansion.	Yes
OP63 Prime Four Business Park Phase 5 Extension	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release due to the exceptional demand for business land in the area. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • The site will be subject to a masterplanning exercise; • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP115 34-40 Abbotswell Road	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP74 Broadford Works	River Dee SAC - WA	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time;	Yes

		• Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; and • Individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	
OP97 Victoria Road Primary School	River Dee SAC - EoP, D, WQ, EoN	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes
OP99 The Waterfront, Torry	River Dee SAC - EoP, D, WQ, EoN	We cannot delete the policy, change its nature or reduce the scale of land release, as land allocations for housing and employment are dictated by the approved SDP and this site was allocated in the approved ALDP 2012. The following mitigation measures will therefore apply: • Development will be phased so that effects can be adequately managed over time; • Development will be programmed so that it does not proceed without the necessary infrastructure being in place; • Buffer zones will be put in place; and • Any individual development proposals with LSE will be subject to their own assessments (HRA/EIA) before planning permission is granted to ensure effects are fully mitigated.	Yes

- **5 Conclusion on Likely Significant Effects**

Following screening of the policies and development sites identified for inclusion in the proposed ALDP 2016 and the application of initial mitigation measures, we can conclude that those policies and opportunity sites still screened in have been judged to have the potential for remaining LSE on the Natura 2000 sites listed in this assessment. A further appropriate assessment must therefore be undertaken.

- **6 Appropriate Assessment**

Table 6.1 - Assessment of parts of plan with LSE

Aspects of PP having LSE	Sites/features affected/ Nature of effects	LSE individually and in combination (parts of plan and with external PP)	Mitigation measures	Risk of adverse effects on the integrity of sites?
LR1 Land Release Policy	River Dee SAC – HL, RI, WA, EoP,	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with development	A range of mitigation measures include prohibitions, case-specific explicit policy restrictions, case-specific policy caveats, contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy,	No

	D, WQ, EoN Moray Firth SAC – RI, EoP, D, WQ, EoN	policies such as Delivery of Mixed Use Communities, Land for Transport and Managing the Transport Impact of Development. External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan; Moray Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Transport Strategy; Aberdeen Core Paths Plan; Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy; Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route; Nestrans Regional Transport Strategy and Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm. LSE in-combination effects are due to increased demand for water abstraction to support additional development which may create conditions of low water flow; poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; loss of habitat to housing developments; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats. For proposed developments in coastal locations there may be a potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated.	management plans/construction method statements, lower-tiers assessments and additional policies. These are as follows: **Prohibitions** • **Policy NE1** refuses to permit developments likely to destroy or erode the character and/or function of the Green Space Network. • **Policy NE7** will prohibit development in areas at risk from coastal erosion and flooding (strong). In addition to the requirement for a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), protection and promotion of public access to and along the coast will be protected and promoted wherever possible. • **Policy NE6** requires all development to be connected to the public sewers. Private wastewater treatment systems in sewered areas will not be permitted. **Case-specific explicit policy restrictions** • **Policy I1** is a case-specific explicit policy restriction requiring developers to provide infrastructure, services and facilities to support new development. • **Policy T4** is another a case-specific explicit policy restriction where development will not be permitted unless the impact on air quality is assessed and measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants are proposed and can be agreed with the Planning Authority. **Contributing to the Council's mitigation strategy** • **Policy I1** requires developers to meet or make a contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy through meeting the cost of providing or improving such infrastructure or facilities. • **Preamble to Policy NE6** proposes a strategic-level Regional SuDS by Aberdeen City Council to provide sustainable flood risk management at a strategic scale to which developers will contribute. This will be detailed out in Supplementary Guidance on Transport and Infrastructure (Planning Obligations) and Natural Environment (Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality). **Case-specific policy caveats** • **Policy T2** is a case-specific policy caveat requiring developers to demonstrate that sufficient measures have been taken to minimise traffic generated and to maximise opportunities for sustainable and active travel. • **Policy NE6** requires developers to demonstrate that there will be no adverse effects on the environment, amenity and public health when providing a private sewerage system where there is no public sewerage system. • **Policy NE7** is also a case-specific policy caveat requiring developers to demonstrate through appropriate marine noise modelling that adverse impacts on Bottlenose Dolphins and Atlantic Salmon are avoided.	

			Management plans • Developers will be required to submit a Construction Method Statement to include pollution prevention safeguards, drainage arrangements, sewerage treatment arrangements, how locations of outfalls are provided (detailing timing and method of installation), information on important habitats and species in the immediate vicinity, wildlife surveys, riverine buffer strip of approximately 10m from the river bank to the edge of the development ground to reduce disturbance to otters foraging along a riverbank, and information on the proximity of otter holts and resting if relevant. **Other Provisions** • **Policy T5** requires that, in cases where exposure to noise is likely to arise from development, a Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) will be required and submitted with the planning application by the applicant. • **Policy H2** requires applicants for development or change of use within Mixed Use Areas to take into account the existing uses and character of the surrounding area and avoid undue conflict with the adjacent land uses and amenity. • **Policy R7** requires a reduction in the pressure on water extraction from the River Dee and the pressure on water infrastructure, and for all new buildings to use water saving technologies and techniques. • **Policy R7** also requires developers of major infrastructure projects or other developments that will cross the Green Space Network to protect and enhance the coherence of the network. **Lower-tier Assessments - SEA/HRA/FRA/DIA** • In addition to the requirement of SEA and HRA for lower tier plans and strategies, **Policy NE6** requires applications to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) for areas liable to flooding and for developments of any size that affect sensitive areas. **Water Abstraction** • **Consistent with SDP HRA we will** *avoid having to increase the amount of water Scottish Water are licensed to take from the River Dee, as a result of the new development proposed in the plan*". • We *support* our mitigation measure with the following explicit confirmation from Scottish Water thus*:* ***"****Taking into consideration all proposed developments in both the City and Shire Local Development Plan's, the amount of water required from the River Dee is forecast to still fall below the current volume that Scottish Water is licensed to abstract. Therefore, we do not foresee the need to change the CAR Licence limit in response to growth anticipated in the North East.*	

T1 Land for Transport	River Dee SAC – EoP, D, EoN Moray Firth SAC – RI, D, EoN	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with development policies such as Land Release Policy, Delivery of Mixed Use Communities and Managing the Transport Impact of Development. External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan; Moray Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Transport Strategy; Aberdeen Core Paths Plan; Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy; Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route; Nestrans Regional Transport Strategy and Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm. LSE in-combination effects are due to increased demand for water abstraction to support additional development which may create conditions of low water flow; poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; loss of habitat to housing developments; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats. For proposed developments in coastal locations there may be a potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated.	A range of mitigation measures include prohibitions, case-specific explicit policy restrictions, case-specific policy caveats, contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy, management plans/construction method statements, lower-tiers assessments and additional policies. These are as follows: **Prohibitions** • **Policy NE1** refuses to permit developments likely to destroy or erode the character and/or function of the Green Space Network. • **Policy NE7** will prohibit development in areas at risk from coastal erosion and flooding (strong). In addition to the requirement for a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), protection and promotion of public access to and along the coast will be protected and promoted wherever possible. • **Policy NE6** requires all development to be connected to the public sewers. Private wastewater treatment systems in sewered areas will not be permitted. **Case-specific explicit policy restrictions** • **Policy I1** is a case-specific explicit policy restriction requiring developers to provide infrastructure, services and facilities to support new development. • **Policy T4** is another a case-specific explicit policy restriction where development will not be permitted unless the impact of the development on air quality is assessed and measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants are proposed and can be agreed with the Planning Authority. **Contributing to the Council's mitigation strategy** • **Policy I1** requires developers to meet or make a contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy through meeting the cost of providing or improving such infrastructure or facilities. • **Preamble to Policy NE6** proposes a strategic-level Regional SuDS by Aberdeen City Council to provide sustainable flood risk management at a strategic scale to which developers will contribute. This will be detailed out in Supplementary Guidance on Transport and Infrastructure (Planning Obligations) and Natural Environment (Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality). **Case-specific policy caveats** • **Policy T2** is a case-specific policy caveat requiring developers to demonstrate that sufficient measures have been taken to minimise traffic generated and to maximise opportunities for sustainable and active travel. • **Policy NE7** is also a case-specific policy caveat requiring developers to demonstrate through appropriate marine noise modelling that adverse impacts on Bottlenose Dolphins and Atlantic Salmon are avoided.	No

			Management plans • Developers will be required to submit a Construction Method Statement to include pollution prevention safeguards, drainage arrangements, sewerage treatment arrangements, how locations of outfalls are provided (detailing timing and method of installation), information on important habitats and species in the immediate vicinity, wildlife surveys, riverine buffer strip of approximately 10m from the river bank to the edge of the development ground to reduce disturbance to otters foraging along a riverbank, and information on the proximity of otter holts and resting if relevant **Other Provisions** • **Policy T5** requires that, in cases where exposure to noise is likely to arise from development, a Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) will be required and submitted with the planning application by the applicant. • **Policy H2** requires applicants for development or change of use within Mixed Use Areas to take into account the existing uses and character of the surrounding area and avoid undue conflict with the adjacent land uses and amenity. • **Policy R7** requires developers of major infrastructure projects or other developments that will cross the Green Space Network to protect and enhance the coherence of the network. **Lower-tier Assessments - SEA/HRA/FRA/DIA** • In addition to the requirement of SEA and HRA for lower tier plans and strategies, **Policy NE6** requires applications to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) for areas liable to flooding and for developments of any size that affect sensitive areas.	
Policy B5 Aberdeen Harbour	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ Moray Firth SAC - RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN Isle of May SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification, Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with development policies such as Land Release, Delivery of Mixed Use Communities and land for Transport and with other Opportunity Sites affecting the coast. External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with other plans like Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan and Moray Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off	**Dredging** Project HRA will need to demonstrate that there are no adverse effects on the integrity of European sites from projects either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects. Potential mitigation available at this point includes: • Avoid construction on sensitive habitat (e.g. SPA bird roosting sites) through project planning and design. • Use project level planning and design to ascertain whether dredging will result in local changes to erosion / deposition patterns. Design mitigation accordingly. • Undertake dredging work at times of the year appropriate for the species in question i.e. avoiding bird overwintering and breeding periods, the most intense periods of fish migration, seal breeding season (September-late November for grey seals). Consult with SNH on most appropriate times. • Adhere to careful dredging practice and use a precautionary approach to avoid or reduce impacts. Timing of dredging and disposal operations, selection of Best Available Technique (BAT) dredging methods. • Requirement for mitigation measures is subject to further detailed assessment at project level (e.g. numerical modelling) • Sensitive areas (e.g. intertidal mudflat) subject to potential erosion could be	

	Modification	from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change and disturbance to species and supporting habitats. There may also be a potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated. On Isle of May SAC and Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC, the main effects include: • Recreational Impact • Recreational Impact • Disturbance (to seals and their prey), • collision with shipping, • water quality, habitat modification	recharged with sediment (e.g. by overspilling during dredging). • Use dredging techniques most appropriate to the seabed type to avoid excessive sediment mobilisation and adverse impacts on interest features (e.g. minimising overspill). **Piling** Avoid construction on or close to sensitive habitat (e.g. SPA bird roosting sites) through project planning and design. If avoidance is not possible, provide mitigation habitat elsewhere. • Use project planning and design to ascertain whether proposed piling and introduced structures will result in local changes to erosion/deposition patterns. Design mitigation accordingly. • Undertake construction work at times of the year appropriate for the species in question i.e. avoiding bird overwintering and breeding periods, most intense periods of fish migration, seal breeding season (September-late November for grey seals). Consult with SNH on most appropriate times. • Use less intrusive piling methods (e.g. passive gas and soft start) and noise screens (e.g. bubble curtains) during sensitive periods i.e. during fish migration and seal breeding season • Adhere to careful practice and use a precautionary approach to avoid or reduce impacts. Selection of Best Available Technique (BAT) methods. **Land Use Change** Avoid construction on sensitive habitat (e.g. SPA bird roosting sites) through project planning and design. • Use project planning and design to ascertain whether development will result in local changes to erosion/deposition patterns. Design mitigation accordingly. • Undertake construction work at times of the year appropriate for the species in question i.e. avoiding bird overwintering and breeding periods, most intense periods of fish migration, seal breeding season (June and July for harbour seals; September-late November for grey seals). Consult with SNH on most appropriate times. • Mitigation and monitoring measures applied to the source of impact will mitigate this impact (e.g. implementing measures to avoid adverse effects on prey species will avoid effects on marine mammals / birds) • **Increased levels of vessels** Time construction activities to reduce noise impacts and physical dangers posed by increased vessel traffic. • General good housekeeping measures to avoid spillages and implementation of contingency plans should spills occur. • Time construction activity to avoid the most intense periods of fish migration	

			Building construction / demolition (including site clearance, land remediation) Avoid construction on sensitive offsite habitat (e.g. SPA bird roosting sites) through project planning and design. • Use project planning and design to ascertain whether development will result in local changes to erosion/deposition patterns. Design mitigation accordingly. • Undertake construction work at times of the year appropriate for the species in question i.e. avoiding bird overwintering and breeding periods, most intense periods of fish migration, seal breeding season (September-late November for grey seals). Consult with SNH on most appropriate times. • Mitigation and monitoring measures applied to the source of impact will mitigate this impact (e.g. implementing measures to avoid adverse effects on prey species will avoid effects on marine mammals / birds). • Planning and design measures required to minimise	
OP9 Grandhome	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	This will be mitigated by the following policies: • **Policy R7** requires a reduction in the pressure on water extraction from the River Dee and the pressure on water infrastructure, and for all new buildings to use water saving technologies and techniques; and • In addition to the requirement of SEA and HRA for lower tier plans and strategies, **Policy NE6** requires applications to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) for areas liable to flooding and for developments of any size that affect sensitive areas. Water Abstraction • **Consistent with SDP we will** *avoid having to increase the amount of water Scottish Water are licensed to take from the River Dee, as a result of the new development proposed in the plan*". • *We* support our mitigation measure with the following explicit confirmation from Scottish Water thus*:* ***"****Taking into consideration all proposed developments in both the City and Shire Local Development Plan's, the amount of water required from the River Dee is forecast to still fall below the current volume that Scottish Water is licensed to abstract. Therefore, we do not foresee the need to change the CAR Licence limit in response to growth anticipated in the North East.*	No
OP10 Dubford	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74).	As above.	No

		External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.		
OP16 Muggiemoss Mill	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP17 Stoneywood	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP18 Craibstone North and Walton	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other	As above.	No

Farm		development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.		
OP19 Rowett North	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP20 Craibstone South	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified	As above.	No

		in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.		
OP21 Rowett South	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP22 Greenferns Landward	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP28 Greenferns	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River	As above.	No

		Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.		
OP29 Prime 4 Business Park	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP31 Maidencraig South East	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen	As above.	No

		Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.		
OP32 Maidencraig North East	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP10, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP33 Greenferns	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP10, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP38 OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP38 Countesswells	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33,	As above.	No

		OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.		
OP56 Cove	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP59, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP59 Loirston	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP63 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No

OP63 Prime Four Business Park Phase 5 Extension	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, , OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59 and OP74). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP74 Broadford Works	River Dee SAC - WA	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP10, OP16, OP17, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP38, OP41, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP59 and OP63). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.	As above.	No
OP41 Friarsfield	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, D, EoP, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP16, OP17, OP10, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP44, OP48, OP56, OP63, and OP74) and with other developments not listed here	A range of mitigation measures include prohibitions, case-specific explicit policy restrictions, case-specific policy caveats, contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy, management plans/construction method statements, lower-tiers assessments and additional policies. These are as follows: **Prohibitions** • **Policy NE1** refuses to permit developments likely to destroy or erode the character and/or function of the Green Space Network.	No

		which are in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP51, OP97 and OP99). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are an increase in the need for water abstraction to service new development; poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.	• **Policy NE6** requires all development to be connected to the public sewers. Private wastewater treatment systems in sewered areas will not be permitted. **Case-specific explicit policy restrictions** • **Policy I1** is a case-specific explicit policy restriction requiring developers to provide infrastructure, services and facilities to support new development. • **Policy T4** is another a case-specific explicit policy restriction where development will not be permitted unless the impact of the development on air quality is assessed and measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants are proposed and can be agreed with the Planning Authority. **Contributing to the Council's mitigation strategy** • **Policy I1** requires developers to meet or make a contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy through meeting the cost of providing or improving such infrastructure or facilities. • **Preamble to Policy NE6** proposes a strategic-level Regional SuDS by Aberdeen City Council to provide sustainable flood risk management at a strategic scale to which developers will contribute. This will be detailed in Supplementary Guidance on Transport and Infrastructure (Planning Obligations) and Natural Environment (Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality). **Case-specific policy caveats** • **Policy NE6** requires developers to demonstrate that there will be no adverse effects on the environment, amenity and public health when providing a private sewerage system where there is no public sewerage system. • **Policy NE7** is also a case-specific policy caveat requiring developers to demonstrate through appropriate marine noise modelling that adverse impacts on Bottlenose Dolphins and Atlantic Salmon are avoided. **Management plans** • Developers will be required to submit a Construction Method Statement to include pollution prevention safeguards, drainage arrangements, sewerage treatment arrangements, how locations of outfalls are provided (detailing timing and method of installation), information on important habitats and species in the immediate vicinity, wildlife surveys, riverine buffer strip of approximately 10m from the river bank to the edge of the development ground to reduce disturbance to otters foraging along a riverbank and information on the proximity of otter holts and resting if relevant **Other Provisions** • **Policy T5** requires that, in cases where exposure to noise is likely to arise from development, a Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) will be required and submitted with the planning application by the applicant.	

			• **Policy R7** requires a reduction in the pressure on water extraction from the River Dee and the pressure on water infrastructure, and for all new buildings to use water saving technologies and techniques. • **Policy R7** also requires developers of major infrastructure projects or other developments that will cross the Green Space Network to protect and enhance the coherence of the network. **Lower-tier Assessments - SEA/HRA/FRA/DIA** • In addition to the requirement of SEA and HRA for lower tier plans and strategies, **Policy NE6** requires applications to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) for areas liable to flooding and for developments of any size that affect sensitive areas. **Water Abstraction** • **Consistent with SDP HRA we will** *avoid having to increase the amount of water Scottish Water are licensed to take from the River Dee, as a result of the new development proposed in the plan*". We **support** our mitigation measure with the following explicit confirmation from Scottish Water thus*:* ***"****Taking into consideration all proposed developments in both the City and Shire Local Development Plan's, the amount of water required from the River Dee is forecast to still fall below the current volume that Scottish Water is licensed to abstract. Therefore, we do not foresee the need to change the CAR Licence limit in response to growth anticipated in the North East.*	
OP48 Oldfold	River Dee SAC - RI, WA, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals of a significant size which will require water abstraction from the River Dee (OP9, OP16, OP17, OP10, OP18, OP19, OP20, OP21, OP22, OP28, OP29, OP31, OP32, OP33, OP41, OP44, OP56, OP63 and OP74) and with other developments not listed here which are in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP51, OP97 and OP99). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic	As above.	No

		Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are an increase in the need for water abstraction to service new development; poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.		
OP40 Cults Pumping Station	River Dee SAC - RI, D, EoP, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP97, OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.	A range of mitigation measures include prohibitions, case-specific explicit policy restrictions, case-specific policy caveats, contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy, management plans/construction method statements, lower-tiers assessments and additional policies. These are as follows: **Prohibitions** • **Policy NE1** refuses to permit developments likely to destroy or erode the character and/or function of the Green Space Network. • **Policy NE6** requires all development to be connected to the public sewers. Private wastewater treatment systems in sewered areas will not be permitted. **Case-specific explicit policy restrictions** • **Policy I1** is a case-specific explicit policy restriction requiring developers to provide infrastructure, services and facilities to support new development. • **Policy T4** is another a case-specific explicit policy restriction where development will not be permitted unless the impact of the development on air quality is assessed and measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants are proposed and can be agreed with the Planning Authority. **Contributing to the Council's mitigation strategy** • **Policy I1** requires developers to meet or make a contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy through meeting the cost of providing or improving such infrastructure or facilities. • **Preamble to Policy NE6** proposes a strategic-level Regional SuDS by Aberdeen City Council to provide sustainable flood risk management at a strategic scale to which developers will contribute. This will be detailed in Supplementary Guidance	No

			on Transport and Infrastructure (Planning Obligations) and Natural Environment (Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality). **Case-specific policy caveats** • **Policy NE6** requires developers to demonstrate that there will be no adverse effects on the environment, amenity and public health when providing a private sewerage system where there is no public sewerage system. • **Policy NE7** is also a case-specific policy caveat requiring developers to demonstrate through appropriate marine noise modelling that adverse impacts on Bottlenose Dolphins and Atlantic Salmon are avoided. **Management plans** • Developers will be required to submit a Construction Method Statement to include pollution prevention safeguards, drainage arrangements, sewerage treatment arrangements, how locations of outfalls are provided (detailing timing and method of installation), information on important habitats and species in the immediate vicinity, wildlife surveys, riverine buffer strip of approximately 10m from the river bank to the edge of the development ground to reduce disturbance to otters foraging along a riverbank and information on the proximity of otter holts and resting if relevant **Other Provisions** • **Policy T5** requires that, in cases where exposure to noise is likely to arise from development, a Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) will be required and submitted with the planning application by the applicant. • **Policy R7** also requires developers of major infrastructure projects or other developments that will cross the Green Space Network to protect and enhance the coherence of the network. **Lower-tier Assessments - SEA/HRA/FRA/DIA** • In addition to the requirement of SEA and HRA for lower tier plans and strategies, **Policy NE6** requires applications to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) for areas liable to flooding and for developments of any size that affect sensitive areas. **Water Abstraction** • **Consistent with SDP HRA we will** *avoid having to increase the amount of water Scottish Water are licensed to take from the River Dee, as a result of the new development proposed in the plan*". • We support our mitigation measure with the following explicit confirmation from Scottish Water thus*:* ***"****Taking into consideration all proposed developments in both the City and Shire Local Development Plan's, the amount of water required from the River Dee is forecast to still fall below*	

			the current volume that Scottish Water is licensed to abstract. Therefore, we do not foresee the need to change the CAR Licence limit in response to growth anticipated in the North East.	
OP42 Kennerty Mill	River Dee SAC - RI, D, EoP, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP97, OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115).. External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.	As above.	No
OP45 Peterculter East	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ, EoN	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP97, OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115).. External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are	As above.	No

		poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.		
OP46 Culter House Road	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP97, OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.	As above.	No
OP47 Edgehill Road	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP97, OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic	As above.	No

		Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.		
OP51 Peterculter Burn	River Dee SAC - EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP97, OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115).. External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.	As above.	No
OP52 Malcolm Road	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP97, OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115).	As above.	No

		External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.		
OP109 Woodend, Peterculter	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP97 , OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.	As above.	No
OP112 West of Contlaw Road	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close	As above.	No

		proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP97 , OP99,, OP113, OP114 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.		
OP113 Culter House Road	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP97 , OP99, OP112, OP114 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and	As above.	No

		disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.		
OP114 Milltimber South	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP97 , OP99, OP112, OP113 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.	As above.	No
OP115 34-40 Abbotswell Road	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP99, OP112, OP113, and OP114). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land	As above.	No

		management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.		
OP97 Victoria Road Primary School	River Dee SAC - RI, EoP, D, WQ	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP99, OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.	As above.	No
OP99 The Waterfront, Torry	River Dee SAC - EoP, D, WQ, EoN	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the River Dee (OP40, OP41, OP42, OP43, OP45, OP46, OP47, OP48, OP51, OP52, OP97, , OP112, OP113, OP114 and OP115). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; and the Aberdeenshire Local	As above.	

		Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species (otter) and supporting habitats.		
OP62 Aberdeen Harbour, Nigg Bay	Moray Firth SAC - RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN Moray Firth SAC - RI, CS, EoP, D, WQ, EoN Isle of May SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification, Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC - RI, D, Collision, WQ, Habitats Modification	Internally, there is LSE in-combination with other development proposals in close proximity to the coast (OP1, OP2, OP3, OP7, OP53, OP54, OP55, OP56, OP58 OP78, OP83, OP85, OP88 and OP99.). External to the proposed plan, there is LSE in-combination with development allocations identified in other plans such as the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012; the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan and the Moray Development Plan. LSE in-combination effects are poor water quality through run-off from construction works, diffuse and point pollution from land management and development; development in low lying areas and flood plains exacerbating the effects of climate change, and disturbance to species and supporting habitats. There may also be a potential negative impact on Bottlenose dolphins if noise is generated.	A range of mitigation measures include prohibitions, case-specific explicit policy restrictions, case-specific policy caveats, contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy, management plans/construction method statements, lower-tiers assessments and additional policies. These are spelt out as follows: **Prohibitions** • **Policy NE1** refuses to permit developments likely to destroy or erode the character and/or function of the Green Space Network. • **Policy NE7** will prohibit development in areas at risk from coastal erosion and flooding (strong). In addition to the requirement for a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), protection and promotion of public access to and along the coast will be protected and promoted wherever possible. • **Policy NE6** requires all development to be connected to the public sewers. Private wastewater treatment systems in sewered areas will not be permitted. **Case-specific explicit policy restrictions** • **Policy I1** is a case-specific explicit policy restriction requiring developers to provide infrastructure, services and facilities to support new development. • **Policy T4** is another a case-specific explicit policy restriction where development will not be permitted unless the impact of the development on air quality is assessed and measures to mitigate the impact of air pollutants are proposed and can be agreed with the Planning Authority. **Contributing to the Council's mitigation strategy** • **Policy I1** requires developers to meet or make a contribution to the Council's mitigation strategy through meeting the cost of providing or improving such infrastructure or facilities. • **Preamble to Policy NE6** proposes a strategic-level Regional SuDS by Aberdeen City Council to provide sustainable flood risk management at a strategic scale to which developers will contribute. This will be detailed out in Supplementary Guidance on Transport and Infrastructure (Planning Obligations) and Natural	No

			Environment (Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality). **Case-specific policy caveats** • **Policy NE6** requires developers to demonstrate that there will be no adverse effects on the environment, amenity and public health when providing a private sewerage system where there is no public sewerage system. • **Policy NE7** is also a case-specific policy caveat requiring developers to demonstrate through appropriate marine noise modelling that adverse impacts on Bottlenose Dolphins and Atlantic Salmon are avoided. **Management plans** • Developers will be required to submit a Construction Method Statement to include pollution prevention safeguards, drainage arrangements, sewerage treatment arrangements, how locations of outfalls are provided (detailing timing and method of installation), information on important habitats and species in the immediate vicinity, wildlife surveys, riverine buffer strip of approximately 10m from the river bank to the edge of the development ground to reduce disturbance to otters foraging along a riverbank and information on the proximity of otter holts and resting if relevant. **Other Provisions** • **Policy T5** requires that, in cases where exposure to noise is likely to arise from development, a Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) will be required and submitted with the planning application by the applicant. • **Policy R7** requires developers of major infrastructure projects or other developments that will cross the Green Space Network to protect and enhance the coherence of the network. **Lower-tier Assessments - SEA/HRA/FRA/DIA** • In addition to the requirement of SEA and HRA for lower tier plans and strategies, **Policy NE6** requires applications to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) for areas liable to flooding and for developments of any size that affect sensitive areas. Water Abstraction • **Consistent with SDP we will** *avoid having to increase the amount of water Scottish Water are licensed to take from the River Dee, as a result of the new development proposed in the plan*". We **support** our mitigation measure with the following explicit confirmation from Scottish Water thus*:* ***"****Taking into consideration all proposed developments in both the City and Shire Local Development Plan's, the amount of water required from the River Dee is forecast to still*	

			fall below the current volume that Scottish Water is licensed to abstract. Therefore, we do not foresee the need to change the CAR Licence limit in response to growth anticipated in the North East.	

7 Conclusions

We have carried out appropriate assessment of aspects of the Proposed Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 which we have screened to have LSE effects on Natura 2000 sites either alone or in combination with other aspects of the plan or with other plans or projects. Mitigation measures we have applied include:

- Case-specific explicit policy restrictions;
- Case-specific policy caveats;
- HRA/SEA/DIA/FRA for lower-tier plans and projects;
- Contractors method statements;
- Contribution to Aberdeen City Council's mitigation strategy; and
- Other protective policies

In light of the assessment carried out, mitigation measures applied and the explicit confirmation letter for Scottish Water that *"taking into consideration all proposed developments in both the City and Shire Local Development Plan's, the amount of water required from the River Dee is forecast to still fall below the current volume that Scottish Water is licensed to abstract. Therefore, we do not foresee the need to change the CAR Licence limit in response to growth anticipated in the North East,"* we can ascertain that the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of the sites listed in this assessment.

Appendix 1 – Plans and Projects With In-Combination Effects on the River Dee SAC and Moray Firth SAC

- Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan
- Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012
- Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan
- Moray Development Plan
- Aberdeen City Local Transport Strategy (LTS)
- Aberdeen Core Paths Plan (CPP)
- Aberdeen Local Housing Strategy (LHS)
- Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR)
- Nestrans Regional Transport Strategy (RTS)
- Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm.

Appendix 2 – All Sites with Potential In-Combination Effects on the River Dee SAC

- OP39 Braeside Infant School
- OP40 Cults Pumping Station
- OP41 Friarsfield
- OP42 Kennerty Mill
- OP43 Milltimber Primary School
- OP45 Peterculter East
- OP48 Oldfold
- OP52 Malcolm Road
- OP57 Craighill Primary School, Kincorth
- OP59 Loirston
- OP62 Aberdeen Harbour, Nigg Bay
- OP64 Ness Solar Farm
- OP69 140 Causewayend
- OP70 35 Froghall Road
- OP71 41 Nelson Street
- OP74 Broadford Works
- OP75 Denmore Road Retail
- OP76 Causewayend Primary School
- OP79 Crown House
- OP81 Denburn and Woolmanhill
- OP87 Pittodrie Park
- OP95 Triple Kirks
- OP97 Victoria Road School
- OP98 VSA Gallowgate
- OP99 The Waterfront, Old Torry
- OP51 Peterculter Burn
- OP102 George Street/ Crooked Lane
- OP103 Former Torry Nursery School
- OP104 Craiginches Prison
- OP105 East Tullos Gas Holder
- OP106 Beach Esplanade (Jimmy Chung's)
- OP109 Woodend Peterculer
- OP112 West of Culter Road
- OP113 Culter House Road
- OP114 Milltimber South

- OP115 34-40 Abbotswell Road

Appendix 3 - All Sites with Potential In-Combination Effects on the Moray Firth SAC

- OP1 Murcar
- OP2 Berryhill, Murcar
- OP3 Findlay Farm, Murcar
- OP7 Aberdeen College Gordon Centre
- OP13 AECC Bridge of Don
- OP53 Aberdeen Gateway
- OP54 Altens East and Doonies
- OP55 Blackhills Quarry, Cove
- OP56 Cove
- OP58 Stationfields, Cove
- OP62 Aberdeen Harbour, Nigg Bay
- OP64 Ness Solar Farm
- OP78 Cotton Street
- OP83 Energy Futures Centre, South Beach
- OP85 King Street / Beach Esplanade
- OP88 Pittodrie Park
- OP106 Beach Esplanade (Jimmy Chung's)
- OP75 Denmore Road

Appendix 4 – All sites will Potential In – Combination Effects on the Isle of May SAC , and Berwickshire and North Northumberland SAC

- OP62 Aberdeen Harbour, Nigg Bay

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Appendix 5 – Statutory Adoption Process

1. Publish a notice in one or more local newspapers stating the Council's intention:

   - To adopt the proposed Plan;
   - Stating that the Plan has been modified following examination; and
   - Where and at what times the Plan and modifications may be inspected.

2. Make copies of the proposed plan (as modified) and the modifications available to inspect at the planning office, in all public libraries and on the internet;

3. Notify people who made representations on the proposed Plan prior to the examination that the Plan has been published in the form in which we propose to adopt it, and where and when it can be viewed.

4. Within 3 months of receiving the Examination Report, section 19(12) of the Act requires authorities to send to the Scottish Ministers:

   - The modifications made following receipt of the Examination Report;
   - The Plan the Council wish to adopt;
   - The report of the examination;
   - The advertisement of the intention to adopt the Plan; and
   - Any environmental assessment carried out into the proposed plan as modified.

5. 28 days after this, the Council can adopt the plan unless directed not to by the Scottish Ministers. Following this 28 day period we will:

   - Send 2 copies to Scottish Ministers;
   - Publish it, including electronically;
   - Place copies in public libraries;
   - Notify people who made representations on the proposed or modified plan of its publication and its availability in public libraries; and
   - Advertise its publication and availability in a local newspaper.

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14 December 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Proposed Supplementary Guidance and Non-Statutory Planning Guidance to accompany Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/16/158
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 Local Development Plans and their associated statutory Supplementary Guidance have to be replaced at least every 5 years. In order to replace Supplementary Guidance documents, a statutory public consultation exercise is required.

1.2 This report presents proposed Supplementary Guidance on a selection of planning policy matters and development sites and masterplan zones. This report also presents Officer's proposals with regards non-statutory planning guidance.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that Members:

a. Note the representations previously received on Proposed Supplementary Guidance documents on planning policy matters, and approve Officers' responses to representations (where relevant) (Appendices 2 and 3);
b. Approve the Proposed Supplementary Guidance documents (Appendix 1 - planning policy and site specific), and instruct Officers to consult on these documents for six weeks;
c. Instruct Officers to report the results of the public consultation, and any proposed revisions to the Proposed Supplementary Guidance, to a subsequent Council meeting;
d. Adopt the Proposed Supplementary Guidance documents as Interim Planning Advice from the adoption date of the new Aberdeen Local Development Plan (expected to be 17th January 2017) so as to ensure no gap in planning policy provision;

e. Adopt the following documents as non-statutory planning guidance from the adoption date of the new Aberdeen Local Development Plan (expected to be 17th January 2017):
   - Aberdeen Harbour, Balgownie Centre, Bridge of Don; Broadford Works; Denburn Valley; Fire Station Site, North Anderson Drive; Hillhead Campus; Pinewood / Hazledene; River Don Corridor Framework; Robert Gordon's University City Centre; Aberdeen Masterplanning Process and Design Review Panel.

f. Instruct Officers to make any minor technical drafting updates which may be required to other non-statutory planning guidance in order to ensure all planning policy references are up-to-date and consistent with the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report. The cost of preparing and consulting on the Supplementary Guidance, and the cost of updating the non-statutory documents, can both be met from existing budgets.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 As a major landowner in the city, proposals for the development of land and assets owned by Aberdeen City Council will, where this is applicable, be subject to assessment in line with the principles and standards set out in both the statutory Supplementary Guidance and the non-statutory planning policy documents. This may have financial implications for the Council as a developer.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 As part of the Local Development Plan, statutory Supplementary Guidance provide certainty for the public, development industry and businesses in Aberdeen as to where and what kind of development will take place, and are an important means of securing investment and funding for development.

5.2 Local Development Plans and their associated statutory Supplementary Guidance have to be replaced at least every 5 years. Aberdeen City Council will be the first local authority in Scotland to adopt a second Local Development Plan, and will therefore be the first local authority to go through the process of replacing Supplementary Guidance documents. In reading this Report, Members will appreciate the cumbersome nature of this process; something which we assume was not the intention of the legislation when it was first drafted. Members will be aware that the Scottish Government is currently undertaking a review of the Scottish planning process, and we will feedback our experiences to this review process.

5.3 Report CHI/15/157 to this same Council meeting recommends that Members agree to adopt the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 unless directed otherwise by Scottish Ministers, and following completion of the statutory procedures. Local Development Plans focus on vision, the spatial strategy and key policies and proposals. Statutory Supplementary Guidance can be adopted by the planning authority in connection with a Local Development Plan, and can contain more detailed planning policy guidance. Statutory Supplementary Guidance forms part of the Local Development Plan and has the same status for decision making in line with Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended. Non-statutory planning guidance can also be adopted by the planning authority in order to provide additional detail on a range of subject areas, however does not form part of the Development Plan. Non-statutory planning guidance can, however, be treated as a material consideration in decision making where it has been adopted by the Council. Appendix 4 presents a list of those statutory Supplementary Guidance and non-statutory planning guidance documents which, at this time, are proposed to accompany the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017.

5.4 The extant Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012 has 66.no associated statutory Supplementary Guidance documents covering individual planning policy areas such as affordable housing, flooding, and householder development, as well as site specific masterplans and development frameworks. Upon formal adoption of the next Local Development Plan, all of these documents will "fall", and will need to be readopted or replaced with new Supplementary Guidance to support the new Plan.

Supplementary Guidance – Planning Policy (Appendix 4: Table 1)

5.5 In January 2015, Members of the Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee were presented with a single suite of Proposed Supplementary Guidance documents on planning policy matters to support the Proposed Local Development Plan. A single document suite was prepared to reduce repetition whilst still ensuring that that the detailed policy content of the Guidance remained intact. It is intended that all individual documents within the suite will be individually adopted as separate Supplementary Guidance documents. A period of public consultation on the Proposed Supplementary Guidance Policy Suite was held from 20th March 2015 to 1st June 2015. A total of 23.no representations were received during this period, copies of which are available to view in Appendix 3.

5.6 Officers have reviewed the representations received and, where considered necessary, have made changes to the proposed policy document suite. Our responses to the comments received are presented in Appendix 2. Additional changes to the planning policy suite have also been made over the last 18 months in order to make the documents easier to interpret, to reflect current thinking, and to take account of Modifications to the Proposed Local Development Plan

made via the Reporter's Examination Report. An additional document has also been added to the suite, namely a new Supplementary Guidance on The Repair and Replacement of Windows and Doors (which was previously a Technical Advice Note). The numbering of Topic Areas has also been updated, and it is intended that in the future a composite Glossary and Further Reading List will be provided at the end of the document suite to enhance usability.

5.7 The primary changes made to the Supplementary Guidance Policy Suite over the last 18 months are summarised below. Edits relating to spelling and grammar have also been made across the suite however, due to the minor nature of these changes, these are not listed in detail.

5.8 *Topic Area 1: Townscape and Landscape*

- *The Repair and Replacement of Windows and Doors*
- *Shops and Signs*
- *Big Buildings*
- *Stonecleaning*
- *Temporary Buildings*
- *Landscape*
- *Energetica*

5.9 Existing design related guidance has been streamlined within the Townscape and Landscape Topic Area, and a new piece of Supplementary Guidance included on The Repair and Replacement of Windows and Doors. This SG reflects changes in policy from the April 2016 approved reworked Technical Advice Note (TAN): The Repair and Replacement of Windows and Doors. This change in policy focusses on the replacement of historic timber windows in conservation areas on both public and non-public elevations.

5.10 Within the Big Buildings SG, the introductory section has been streamlined and within the main body of the text further detail has been added to the Green Credential section. Within the Shops and Signs SG, the introductory section has been streamlined and, within the main body, the document has been presented to clarify what is expected for shops and signs within conservation area and/or listed buildings and with new build sites. No significant changes have been made to the Stonecleaning SG.

5.11 Within the Temporary Buildings SG, further information is provided on Permitted Development Rights, and the both General and Specific Principles have been updated to reflect current Development Management practices. The time limits associated with planning permissions for temporary buildings have also been clarified.

5.12 The Landscape SG has had a comprehensive review since the last public consultation exercise and now provides much clearer guidance to developers and officers. Within the Energetica SG, reference to Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Future (ACSEF) has been updated

and further detail provided on when an Energetica Compliance Statement will be required.

5.13 *Topic Area 2 – Modifications to Existing Buildings and Curtilages*

- *Householder Development Guide*
- *Sub-Division and Redevelopment of Residential Curtilages*
- *Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside*

5.14 All SGs within this Topic Area have been streamlined to make them more accessible, but no changes have been made to the main aims of the guidance.

5.15 *Topic Area 3 – Retail and Commercial*

- *Hierarchy of Centres*
- *Union Street Frontages*
- *Harmony of Uses*
- *Serviced Apartments*
- *Children's Nurseries*

5.16 Terminology in Figures 1 and 2 of The Hierarchy of Centres SG has been clarified to expand the centre type for 'City Centre' to 'City Centre and City Centre Retail Core' in line with the Scottish Government's Town Centre First Principle. The term "Retail Park" has been also been replaced with "Commercial Centre" for consistency with Local Development Plan Policy NC4. Appropriate uses in Commercial Centres have also been updated further to changes made to the Local Development Plan following the Examination.

5.17 Within the Union Street Frontages SG, the introductory section has been streamlined, and the most up-to-date occupancy figures have been presented in Figure 4. Within the Harmony of Uses SG, the introductory section to the SG has been streamlined and contact information has been provided for the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. Text relating to single ownership has been removed from the Serviced Apartments SG. No changes have been made to the main aims of the Children's Nurseries SG, although text within the document has been reorganised to improve flow.

5.18 *Topic Area 4 – Planning Obligations and Specialist Housing Provision*

- *Planning Obligations*
- *Affordable Housing*
- *Gypsy and Traveller Sites*

5.19 Minor changes have been made to the Planning Obligations SG to ensure consistency with the Reporter's Report and to reflect the role of statutory agencies in the developer obligations and contributions process. Text relating to the Strategic Transport Fund has also been updated.

5.20 Within the Affordable Housing SG, although the majority of the guidance remains unchanged, additional options have been included around delivery. This is to provide more flexibility to the process to allow the Council to achieve better outcomes. The guidance also now asks for Affordable Housing contributions from housing for the 'elderly'. No changes have been made to the main aims of the Gypsy and Traveller Sites SG.

5.21 *Topic Area 5 – Transport, Air Quality and Noise*

- *Transport and Accessibility*
- *Air Quality*
- *Noise*

5.22 The Transport and Accessibility SG has been reworked to make it more succinct. Additional information has been included under the 'Car Club' section stating contributions for smaller and larger developments. Information repeated across the rest of the policy suite, e.g. on trees, has been removed. Within the Air Quality SG, additional information has been provided on Biomass Installations. No changes have been made to the main aims of the Noise SG.

5.23 *Topic Area 6 – Natural Environment*

- *Natural Heritage*
- *Trees and Woodlands*
- *Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality*
- *Green Space Network and Open Space*

5.24 There have been minor amendments to the Natural Heritage SG to improve clarity and to remove information that is a repetition of other guidance. Within the Trees and Woodlands SG further guidance has been added in relation to construction within Root Protection Areas and the proximity of structures and infrastructure to trees.

5.25 Within the Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality SG, reference is now made to how the changing climate will impact on flooding and the role and benefits of adaptation measures, such as SuDS, buffer strips and blue, green and grey infrastructure. Within the Green Space Network and Open Space SG reference is now made to identifying low quality space as an opportunity for improvement and not as a priority for development. The flowchart with the SG has also been reworked to better illustrate the process for planning and designing open space.

5.26 *Topic Area 7 – Resources*

- *Resources for New Development*
- *Wind Turbine Development*
- *Heat Mapping (To Be Prepared)*

5.27 Within the Resources for New Development SG, there have been minor changes to the Low and Zero Carbon aspect of the guidance to

bring it in line with LDP Policy R7. Waste Services have also made changes to the waste guidance to bring it in line with their future vision and programme. Finally water saving targets have been amended to align with Aberdeenshire Council, to support a consistent approach across the Strategic Development Plan area.

5.28 There have been very minor changes made to the Wind Turbine Development SG to reflect some changes in technical terminology used in Scottish Planning Policy. This does not however impact on the approach taken by the guidance which remains unchanged.

5.29 Preparation of the Heat Mapping SG is ongoing and a draft of this SG will be reported to a future meeting of the Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee. This SG will be new guidance which will deal with heat mapping and district heating across the city.

Supplementary Guidance – Site Specific (Appendix 4: Table 2)

5.30 It is not proposed to take forward all existing pieces of Site Specific Supplementary Guidance as new Supplementary Guidance to the Aberdeen Local Development 2017. Some of these documents are no longer required as the development has been completed, and others are dated and require a full review exercise. Appendix 5 of the Local Development Plan states which documents can be progressed for adoption as Supplementary Guidance. The following lists those site specific documents presented to Members as part of this report:

- *Countesswells Development Framework and Phase One Masterplan*
- *Dubford Development Framework*
- *Former Davidson's Mill (Bucksburn) Development Framework and Phase One Masterplan*
- *Friarsfield Development Framework*
- *Grandhome Development Framework*
- *Kingswells (Prime Four) Development Framework and Phase One Masterplan*
- *Kingswells (Prime Four) Phases Two and Three Masterplan*
- *Kingswells (Prime Four Expansion) OP63 Development Framework*
- *Loirston Development Framework*
- *Maidencraig Masterplan*
- *Newhills Development Framework*
- *Oldfold Development Framework and Masterplan*
- *Persley Den / Woodside Masterplan*
- *West Huxterstone Masterplan*
- *Stoneywood Development Framework and Masterplan*
- *Aberdeen Harbour at Bay of Nigg*
- *Replacement AECC - Rowett North Masterplan*
- *Existing AECC - Bridge of Don Development Framework*

5.31 Members will note that the above list is made up of Development Frameworks and Masterplans that either already form Supplementary

Guidance to the extant Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012, or have recently been agreed with the view of becoming Supplementary Guidance to the emerging Local Development Plan 2017.

5.32 In order to adopt these documents as Supplementary Guidance to the emerging Local Development Plan, Officers have undertaken an exercise to ensure that all planning policy references in the documents are up-to-date. Opportunity Site references have been updated, as well as references to LDP policies. National and regional planning policy references have also been updated where required. These updates are clearly highlighted in red text throughout the documents.

5.33 It is important to make clear that a number of the above sites already benefit from planning permissions and construction works are underway. As such, the only changes made to these documents are references relating to the new Local Development Plan or National and Regional Planning. In all other ways these documents remain as previously approved by Members. The only document where this is not the case, and where new detail has been added, is the Countesswells Development Framework and Phase One Masterplan which now includes information for Phase One B. The Planning Development Management Committee agreed the updated text and to consult on an update to this document on 27th October 2016.

Supplementary Guidance – Strategic Environmental Assessment

5.34 An Environmental Report has been prepared for the Local Development Plan and the Planning Policy Supplementary Guidance documents, and this includes the Habitats Regulation Assessment for the River Dee Special Area of Conservation. The Environmental Report is attached as Appendix 3 to Report CHI/15/157 to this same Council meeting.

5.35 A number of the Site Specific Supplementary Guidance documents have already completed the Strategic Environmental Assessment Process. For those documents which still require to go through this process, Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Reports have been prepared and submitted to the SEA Gateway and Consultation Authorities for comment. The outcome of this process will be reported back to Council following the consultation period. The Bay of Nigg Development Framework has been subject to its own Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Supplementary Guidance - Next Stages

5.36 The Council must publicise Supplementary Guidance and give people the opportunity to comment on it; however there is no set period for which Supplementary Guidance must be consulted on. We intend to publish the revised Proposed Supplementary Guidance Policy Suite for a period of 6 weeks, which we consider is a sufficient period to allow scrutiny of the updates proposed. Normally documents of this type would be subject to a 4 week consultation period however, given the

upcoming Christmas break, a 6 week period is proposed in order to ensure as many people have the opportunity to engage in the consultation process as possible.

5.37 Following the consultation period, Officers will report the results of the public consultation, and any proposed revisions to the documents, to a subsequent Council meeting, and ask for approval to send the documents to the Scottish Government for their ratification to become adopted Supplementary Guidance. This formal adoption will likely be in mid-2017.

5.38 As noted above, upon the adoption of the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017, all existing pieces of Supplementary Guidance documents will "fall" and a gap in planning policy guidance will result until the new SGs are approved by Scottish Government. In order to address this policy gap, we recommend that Members agree to adopt the Proposed Supplementary Guidance as Interim Planning Advice from the date of adoption of the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 (expected to be 17th January 2017). Taking this approach will ensure that any applications to be determined by the planning authority can be considered in the context of the Council's agreed planning policy position, as adopted Interim Planning Advice (as a type of non-statutory planning guidance) can be afforded some weight as a material consideration in determining planning proposals. Approving this Interim Planning Advice status would be in the interests of ensuring the planning authority can act in a consistent and efficient manner. Not having an up to date policy framework in place could mean less certainty for developers, agencies and the public in respect of Aberdeen's growth and development, cause deterioration in customer service, and detrimentally affect the quality of development

Non-Statutory Planning Guidance (Appendix 4: Tables 3 and 4)

5.39 As mentioned at the beginning of this report, a number of non-statutory pieces of planning guidance are also prepared by the planning authority, and also require to be regularly up-dated. Unlike the statutory Supplementary Guidance documents however, these non-statutory documents do not require to be wholly replaced at least every five years. It is however important that these piece of guidance are kept up-to-date. The pieces of non-statutory planning guidance which the Council currently has adopted that we believe should be taken forward are as follows:

- *Technical Advice Note – Repair and Replacement of Cast Iron Railings*
- *Technical Advice Note – Retail Impact Assessments*
- *Technical Advice Note – Aberdeen Airport*
- *Technical Advice Note – Student Accommodation*
- *Local Planning Advice – Bon Accord Baths*
- *Local Planning Advice – Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Plan*
- *Local Planning Advice – Murcar*

- *Local Planning Advice – Station Gateway*
- *Local Planning Advice – St Peter's Nursery Site*

5.40 In addition to the above list, it is recommended that Members also agree to adopt the following additional pieces of non-statutory planning guidance following the expiry of the current Local Development Plan, as it is not our intention that all pieces of existing statutory Supplementary Guidance are taken forward as statutory guidance to the next LDP. These documents are listed below:

- *Technical Advice Note – Aberdeen Masterplanning Process*
- *Technical Advice Note – Design Review Panel*
- *Local Planning Advice – Aberdeen Harbour*
- *Local Planning Advice – Balgownie Centre, Bridge of Don*
- *Local Planning Advice – Broadford Works*
- *Local Planning Advice – Denburn Valley*
- *Local Planning Advice – Fire Station Site, North Anderson Drive*
- *Local Planning Advice – Hillhead Campus*
- *Local Planning Advice – Pinewood / Hazledene*
- *Local Planning Advice – River Don Corridor Framework*
- *Local Planning Advice – RGU City Centre*

5.41 A number of the non-statutory planning guidance documents have completed the Strategic Environmental Assessment Process. The results concluded the documents will have no likelihood of significant environmental effects; therefore no further strategic environmental impact is required. Of those documents where technical updates are required, once these have been completed, a Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report will be prepared and submitted to the SEA Gateway and Consultation Authorities for comment. The outcome of this will be reported back to Council following the consultation period.

5.42 For all pieces of non-statutory planning guidance notes above (existing and proposed), it is recommended that Members instruct Officers to undertake a solely technical review of these documents in order to ensure that, for example, all planning policy references are up-to-date and consistent with the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017. No other content would be changed with first seeking Member approval. This review would be undertaken over the next few months, and the updated documents directly uploaded onto the Council's website. Given the minor drafting nature of the changes proposed, officers feel that no public consultation exercise is required to support this process.

6. IMPACT

6.1 **Improving Customer Experience –** both statutory Supplementary Guidance, as part of the Local Development Plan, and non-statutory planning guidance and provide certainty for the public, agencies and development industry.

6.2 **Improving Staff Experience –** both statutory Supplementary Guidance and non-statutory planning guidance provide guidance to

staff dealing with planning matters and helps to ensure that applications are dealt with in a consistent manner.

6.3 **Improving our use of Resources –** the Local Development Plan states that development should be encouraged in the right places, be efficient, and make the best use of existing infrastructure capacity. Where that capacity does not exist, developers will be expected to provide the infrastructure, services and facilities which are required as a result of the development. Guidance on doing so is provided within Supplementary Guidance and non-statutory planning guidance.

6.4 **Corporate –** both the statutory Supplementary Guidance and non-statutory planning guidance will support the Smarter City Vision in helping to make Aberdeen a great place to live, bring up a family, do business and visit. They promote the future growth of the city, encourages a sustainable approach to 21st century living, the city centre, new communications technology and transport.

6.5 **Public –** Given the wide range of policy areas the statutory Supplementary Guidance and non-statutory planning guidance cover, an Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment has been carried out. It shows that there will be some positive impacts of the Plan on a range of equalities groups.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

7.1 Both the statutory Supplementary Guidance and non-statutory planning guidance contain policies aimed to improve the quality of development and ensure a consistent approach in deciding planning applications. Not having an up to date policy framework in place could lead to a higher risk of planning by appeal, meaning less certainty for developers, agencies and the public.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Appendix 1 – Proposed Supplementary Guidance to accompany Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 (Policy and Site Specific)
- Appendix 2 – Summary of Representations Received, and Officer Responses
- Appendix 3 – Full Copies of Representations Received
- Appendix 4 – List of Statutory Supplementary Guidance and Non-Statutory Planning Guidance to accompany the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017

Further Reading:

- Aberdeen Local Development Plan – Examination Report http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning_environment/planning/local_development_plan/pla_aldp2016_examination.asp

- Aberdeen Local Development Plan – Proposed Plan
  http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning_environment/planning/local_development_plan/pla_2016_proposed_plan.asp

  - Aberdeen Local Development Plan – Proposed Action Programme
    http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=62528&sID=26036

  - Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority: Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan 2014
    http://www.aberdeencityandshire-sdpa.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=1111&sID=149

  - Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006
    http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/17/pdfs/asp_20060017_en.pdf

  - Scottish Planning Series: Planning Circular 6/2013: Development Planning
    http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0044/00441577.pdf

  - The Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2008
    http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2008/426/pdfs/ssi_20080426_en.pdf

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Appendix 2: Summary of Representations Received to SG Policy Consultation 2015, and Officer Responses

Report Number – CHI/16/158
Council – 14th December 2016

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
Retail and Commercial	Hierarchy of Centres	34(1) John Handley Associates obo Standards Life Assurance Ltd	Welcome the Proposed Plan's identification of Denmore Road as an important retail centre (zoned as Commercial Centre in Proposed Plan). However, it has the potential to become a new centrally-located 'District Centre' for the new housing development at Bridge of Don/Grandhome and Dubford. It is a well-established and well-used retail development, and benefits from an open Class 1 retail consent. The Aberdeen City and Shire Retail Study 2013 also identified the Denmore Road area as a key retail opportunity, being an area which already has a significant concentration of retail activity.	The request for Denmore Road to be identified as a 'District Centre', rather than a 'Commercial Centre', was considered as part of the examination on the Local Development Plan. See Issue 21 Policy NC4, NC5, NC6, NC7, NC8 & NC9: Supporting Retail Centres. No modification was recommended by the Reporter and therefore no change has been made to the Supplementary Guidance.
Retail and Commercial	Hierarchy of Centres	34(4) John Handley Associates obo Standards Life Assurance Ltd	Welcome the Proposed Plan's identification of the Boulevard Retail Park as an important retail centre (zoned as Commercial Centre in Proposed Plan). However, it should be zoned as a 'District Centre', in recognition of its established role in the existing retail hierarchy. It is a highly accessible, well-located retail centre which contains a wide range of shopping and leisure uses. It is accessible from the city centre, and is in close proximity to the Queens Links Leisure Park and Aberdeen Beach leisure, hotel and recreation facilities. Zoning it as a District Centre would be consistent with the advice in Scottish Planning Policy, which recognises the need for district centres to be a focus for a mix of uses including retail, leisure, entertainment, recreation, cultural and community facilities. The Boulevard Retail	The request for Boulevard Retail Park to be identified as a 'District Centre', rather than a 'Commercial Centre', was considered as part of the examination on the Local Development Plan. See Issue 21 Policy NC4, NC5, NC6, NC7, NC8 & NC9: Supporting Retail Centres. No modification was recommended by the Reporter and therefore no change has been made to the Supplementary Guidance..

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			Park clearly demonstrates these attributes and provides the range and quality of shopping, wider economic and social activity in both the day and the evening, and integration with residential areas which are considered by SPP to be the key elements of successful town centres.	
Retail and Commercial	Hierarchy of Centres	88(1) Montagu Evans obo Zurich Assurance Limited	Welcome the identification of Kittybrewster Retail Park as a Commercial Centre in the Proposed Plan and note that it forms the role of a commercial centre; part of a wider network of centres across the plan area. Figure 1: Retail Hierarchy and Sequential Approach states that the policy approach to new development within commercial centres will be to "support large bulky goods and comparison only". It continues that general principles for the sequential approach relate to such centres being 'appropriate for large bulky comparison if city centre/town centre sites are not available - i.e subject to sequential test.' The approach in the Proposed Plan is inconsistent with SPP. Commercial centres play an important role in the retail hierarchy where a range of investment and development opportunity may be appropriate. Respondent quotes SPP paragraph 24 and 27 in relation to sustainable economic growth. Respondent quotes paragraph 68 and 69 relating to sequential town centre first approach when planning for uses which generate significant footfall and the flexible and realistic approach to be taken in applying the sequential approach. SPP does not preclude uses which generate significant footfall within commercial centres, but that development plans should adopt a sequential town centre first approach. Preference within SPP is to develop allocated sites over isolated out-of-centre sites. This is partially reflected by policy NC4 of the Proposed Plan but the	The issues raised were considered as part of the examination on the Local Development Plan. See Issue 21 Policy NC4, NC5, NC6, NC7, NC8 & NC9: Supporting Retail Centres. Modifications to Policy NC4, NC5 and NC6 were recommended by the Reporter and subsequent consequential amendments have been proposed to SG: Hierarchy of Centres. In line with Scottish Planning Policy (SPP), the Local Development Plan and associated SG have adopted a sequential town centre first approach when planning for uses which generate significant footfall. Locations for uses which generate significant footfall will be considered through a hierarchy of centres as set out in the local development plan and associated SG. With reference to SPP paragraph 63 which states “Where necessary to protect the role of town centres, plans should specify the function of commercial centres, for example where retail activity may be restricted to the sale of bulky goods”. Both the SG: Hierarchy of Centre and Policy NC4 state that bulky goods should only be located in commercial centres if the sequential test demonstrates that a suitable site is unavailable in the first, second or third tiers of the hierarchy. To acknowledge that floorspace could be developed outwith the town centre could threaten the town centre first approach advocated. This is why a sequential test must be carried out to assess any development proposals

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			Supplementary Guidance appears to contradict this. As a 'commercial centre' in the context of SPP, there is support for investment and improvement where such investment will not undermine town centres. The policy should: Support investment in Commercial Centres and acknowledge the significant potential benefits this could bring to the wider retail hierarchy including in relation to employment opportunities, investment, retention of expenditure and town centre prospects. Acknowledge that floorspace could be developed outwith the town centre also where its operational or location requirement ordinarily requires; and Support proposals for retail and / or commercial leisure developments in such identified Commercial Centre where their function complements that of other centres within the network of centres such s Kittybrewster Retail Park, having particular care not to undermine town centres. Figure 1 should be updated to accord with SPP. The policy should also include reference to their being an appropriate location for leisure related development where there are no sites available, either suitable or available, within the town centre of edge of centre sites (in accordance with the sequential approach).	outwith the town centre. As per Figure 1; leisure related developments are listed as being suitable in city centre, town centre, and district centre and neighbourhood centre locations. Any proposal submitted for leisure related developments in a commercial centre would be assessed using Policies NC4, NC5 and NC6 and the sequential approach identified in SG: Hierarchy of Centres.
Retail and Commercial	Hierarchy of Centres	88(2) Montagu Evans obo Zurich Assurance Limited	Welcome the identification of Kittybrewster Retail Park as a Commercial Centre in the Proposed Plan and note that it forms the role of a commercial centre; part of a wider network of centres across the plan area. Figure 2 is unnecessarily confusing in seeking to preclude forms of development that otherwise may be demonstrated to be supportable	The issues raised were considered as part of the examination on the Local Development Plan. See Issue 21 Policy NC4, NC5, NC6, NC7, NC8 & NC9: Supporting Retail Centres. Modifications to Policy NC4, NC5 and NC6 were recommended by the Reporter and subsequent consequential amendments have been proposed to SG: Hierarchy of Centres.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			in the context of SPP including where there is an operational or locational requirement. The approach in the Proposed Plan is inconsistent with SPP. Commercial centres play an important role in the retail hierarchy where a range of investment and development opportunity may be appropriate. Respondent quotes SPP paragraph 24 and 27 in relation to sustainable economic growth. Respondent quotes paragraph 68 and 69 relating to sequential town centre first approach when planning for uses which generate significant footfall and the flexible and realistic approach to be taken in applying the sequential approach. SPP does not preclude uses which generate significant footfall within commercial centres, but that development plans should adopt a sequential town centre first approach. Preference within SPP is to develop allocated sites over isolated out-of-centre sites. As a 'commercial centre' in the context of SPP, there is support for investment and improvement where such investment does not undermine town centres. The Local Development Plan should: ▪ Continue to identify Kittybrewster as a Commercial Centre, in the context of SPP; ▪ Support investment in Commercial Centres and acknowledge the significant potential benefits this could bring to the wider retail hierarchy including in relation to employment opportunities, investment, retention of expenditure and town centre prospects. ▪ Acknowledge that floorspace could be developed outwith the town centre also where its operational or location requirement ordinarily requires; and	In line with SPP, the Local Development Plan and associated SG have adopted a sequential town centre first approach when planning for uses which generate significant footfall. Locations for uses which generate significant footfall will be considered through a hierarchy of centres as set out in the local development plan and associated SG. Figure 2 does not seek to preclude forms of development – the numbers represent the preferred order in the sequential approach as is explained in the notes section of the SG. To acknowledge that floorspace could be developed outwith the town centre could threaten the town centre first approach advocated by the local development plan, and in line with SPP. This is why a sequential test must be carried out to assess any development proposals outwith the town centre. Any proposal for retail development in commercial centres would be assessed as per the policy provision in the local development plan and sequential approach outlined in supplementary guidance.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			▪ Acknowledge that retail development of less than 1,000 sqm could be appropriate and justifiable in commercial centres.	
Retail and Commercial	Hierarchy of Centres	101(3) Turnberry obo The Grandhome Trust	Phase 2 of Grandhome will serve as a Town Centre for the development as well as the wider Bridge of Don area. Grandhome Trust object to the omission of Grandhome as a Tier 2 Town Centre within the Supplementary Guidance.	The issues raised were considered as part of the examination on the Local Development Plan. See Issue 21 Policy NC4, NC5, NC6, NC7, NC8 & NC9: Supporting Retail Centres. As per the response to Issue 21; the designation of the site as a town, district or neighbourhood centre will be agreed, and identified in the Local Development Plan, once it has been built, and is in operation.
Retail and Commercial	Hierarchy of Centres	120 (11) Scott Hobbs obo Scottish Enterprise	There will be no need for the sequential assessment for office and business developments if they are to be located in in B1, B2, B3, B4 sites and this should be made explicit. Paragraph 5.1.2 add text Within the hierarchy, the City centre is identified as being the preferred location for retail, commercial, leisure and other significant footfall generating developments servicing a city wide or regional market, other than business uses locating on allocated B1, B2, B3, B4 and OP land.	The issues raised were considered as part of the examination on the Local Development Plan. See Issues 20: Policy NC1, NC2 & NC3: City Centre and West End Retail and 21: Policy NC4, NC5, NC6, NC7, NC8 & NC9: Supporting Retail Centres. An amendment to Policy NC1 was recommended by the Reporter. A consequential amendment has been proposed in SG: Hierarchy of Centres. As per the response to Issues 20 and 21; an employment proposal on land zoned for employment use would not be subject to sequential assessment. An opportunity site or zoning establishes the type of use acceptable on the site/area, with Appendix 2 providing further information pertaining to usages acceptable on the OP sites. Principle of business use is established in areas zoned as B1, B2, B3 or B4.
Retail and Commercial	Hierarchy of Centres	139(6) CBRE obo John Lewis	This SG intends for commercial centres to be the focus for retail developments compromising of large bulky comparison goods where city centre sites are not available. We accept the allocation of these	Support for the SG is welcomed. The issues raised were considered as part of the

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			sites within the retail hierarchy if there are clear parameters set for new retail and leisure developments in these locations. The SG is not robust enough to protect the vision for a healthy city centre. Any guidance or policy which relates to commercial centres should ensure that development in these locations supports, and is complementary to the role of the city/town centres. This SG should be strengthened to ensure that any proposal in these commercial centres still has to demonstrate that it will not have significant adverse impact on other city/town centres, or future strategies for enhancing the vitality and viability of the city centre, by providing an impact assessment. We also suggest including criteria that requires the proposal to address a qualitative or quantitative deficiency within the catchment area and a restriction on the type of goods that can be sold in these locations.	examination on the Local Development Plan. See Issue 21 Policy NC4, NC5, NC6, NC7, NC8 & NC9: Supporting Retail Centres. Modifications to Policy NC4, NC5 and NC6 were recommended by the Reporter and subsequent consequential amendments have been proposed to SG: Hierarchy of Centres. As stated in Issue 21: Policy NC4 states "In all cases, proposals shall not detract significantly from the vitality or viability of any centre listed in the Supplementary Guidance, and shall accord with all other policies in the Plan…." The Local Development Plan, associated supplementary guidance and other planning advice are intended to form a suite of documents to be used in the assessment of development proposals. Read together, a robust policy framework is in place to assess development proposals and their impact on the city centre. SG: Hierarchy of centres supports policies NC1, NC2, NC4, NC5 and NC6 by providing guidance on how developments will be expected to assess and demonstrate their compliance with policy. It provides guidance on the retail hierarchy, sequential approach thresholds and designated centres. Further advice is provided through Technical Advice Note 6: Retail Impact Assessments. Where applicable, retail impact assessments (or impact assessments for smaller proposals) can be used to assess the significance of impact on the current and future vitality and viability of the surrounding centres.

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Retail and Commercial	Hierarchy of centres	158(8) Savills obo Hammersons	Support the SG. Request table at figure 1 be modified. In the 'Centre Type' column City Centre should be City Centre and City Centre Retail Core are the two boundaries vary slightly. This approach should be repeated in the Centre Location column.	It is agreed that clarity can be provided in expanding the centre type for city centre to be City Centre and City Centre Retail Core in line with the town centre first principle. Similarly repeated in the centre location column. An amendment is proposed to similarly clarify Figure 2.
Retail and Commercial	Harmony of Uses	124(15) SEPA	The Proposed Plan states (Page 20) Criteria: Six Qualities of Successful Placemaking Safe and Pleasant • avoids unacceptable impacts on adjoining uses, including noise, smell, vibration, dust, air quality, invasion of privacy and overshadowing. Request text is added to make reference to the requirement of when a development proposal will be regulated by SEPA for consultation to ensure consentability under SEPAs regulatory requirements and confirmation of potential impacts which will be regulated. SEPAs regulation generally covers impacts during operation but not during construction. Reference should also be made to consultation with SEPA when a proposed development may be impacted by an existing process regulated by SEPA.	A sentence will be added to the SG to ensure developers/owners are aware some operations aspects, such as waste management and flooding will be regulated by SEPA, and to ensure developers/owners are made aware a proposed development may be impacted by an existing process regulated by SEPA.
Retail and Commercial	Harmony of uses	136 (21) Aberdeen Civic Society	There is a section on Residential Developments in the City Centre which mentions the challenges of allowing residential development to occur in the centre, but it should also provide some encouragement. Wording should therefore be included saying something like 'despite the fact that there are challenges accommodating residential development in a thriving city centre, where there are a mix of uses, it is to be encouraged as a way of ensuring vitality of the centre, particularly in buildings that otherwise would not have a use above ground floor level.'	Agree. The suggested wording has been added. Reference has been made to below ground also.
Retail and Commercial	Union Street Frontages	140(3) Savills obo Tiger Aberdeen	Section 5.2.2 It is unclear whether a proposal leading to the minimum threshold being breached would be refused outright, or, in the event that it does breach, consideration would be given to the merits of the	As it the case of every application submitted, it will be judged on its own merit, using a number of material considerations. There is a focus on ensuring retail use is retained within the city centre and in particular within the

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			proposal. This should be clarified. Suggest that policy goes too far in preventing the clustering of non-retail uses in the City Core and instead each proposal should be considered on its own merits. The SG states there will be greater degree of flexibility for change of use from Class 1(retail) to Class 3 (food and drink) but it is not stated how this flexibility would be applied.	city centre retail core, which encompasses Union Street. The City Centre, as outlined at the start of the supplementary guidance, 'now hosts a mix of uses all appropriate for a thriving city centre. Proposals to enhance the vitality and viability of Union Street will be supported'. This thereby ensures a town centre first approach is supported, as is outlined in Scottish Planning Policy. With regard to the clustering of non-retail uses – the guidance is specific in that it noted, this will be discouraged where it is likely to have a significant adverse effect on retail use of existing groups if retail units or on amenity. The guidance does not state outright that clustering of non-retail uses will be refused, it notes there are specific considerations which need to be addressed. With regard to the flexibility from change of use from Class 1 to Class 3 again each application will be judged on its own merit, with a town centre first approach principle. As outlined in the supplementary guidance, 'Proposals to enhance vitality and viability of Union Street will be supported.'
Resources	Wind Turbine Developments	38(4) John Handley Associates obo Shell UK Limited	The Further Information section of the SG should make reference to the United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline Operator's Association (UKOPA) Guidelines.	This reference has been included.
Resources	Wind Turbine Developments	42(2)NATS Safeguarding Office	NATS information pack for wind turbines applicants document could be referenced	This reference has been included.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
Resources	Wind Turbine Developments	76(8) Scottish Water	We would request that any proposals or applications for wind farms or fuel storage are submitted to Scottish Water for review, to identify whether there are Drinking Water Protection Areass present which would require protection through mitigation actions. Wind farms can have other potential impacts on our operations. For example, our below ground assets such as water and sewer mains can be affected by heavy construction traffic and may require protection. Some of our radio telemetry signals can be interfered with by wind turbine blades, depending on the location of the turbines. We would request that the document advises all proposals and applications be sent to Scottish Water for review so that vve can assess for any impact on the following:- Drinking water quality and quantity Below-ground assets Radio telemetry interference	This will be considered by the case officer depending on the scale of the development.
Resources	Wind Turbine Developments	164(17) Scottish Government	The running order of Maps in Section 9.29 appears to be incorrect, as it does not reflect the earlier reference on page 25 of the SG under the title 'Onshore Wind Spatial Framework'. The second paragraph under the heading “Onshore Wind Spatial Framework” on page 25 should be amended from "Map 1 in Section 9 shows...." to read "Map 2 in Section 9 shows...". The supporting text for Map 5 in Section 9.29 on page 36 could be clearer in describing that there are no Group 3 areas. Request the inclusion of some additional text under the heading 'Map 5' to clearly explain how the entire Aberdeen City area is impacted by constraints. For example, it would be helpful to know how the community separation areas have been defined and how the Council have arrived at this outcome.	These sections have been amended to reflect the comments provided.
Resources	Wind Turbine Developments	164(18) Scottish Government	Within the section 'Onshore Wind Spatial Framework' on page 25 of Supplementary Guidance, Topic Area 9 – Energy and Resources the terms "community buffer zones" and "areas of search are used". In	The terminology has been amended.

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			the context of developing spatial frameworks for wind farms, as defined in SPP (2014) these terms are no longer used. It is appropriate to maintain consistency of language between National policy (SPP), Local Development Plans and guidance documents to prevent any confusion. We therefore recommend the revision of these terms to comply with SPP. Within the section 'Onshore Wind Spatial Framework" on page 25 of Supplementary Guidance, Topic Area 9 - Energy and Resources: - Replace the term "Community Buffer Zones" with "community separation areas". - Replace the term "areas of search" with "areas with potential for wind farm development (Group 3)".	
Resources	Wind Turbines for New Developments	54(24) SNH	Page 80 - Reference to SNH guidance at the end on assessing the impact of small scale wind energy proposals should be to Version 2 (2014) available on our website via http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/renewable-energy/onshore-wind/general-advice-and-information Page 81-82 - Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. - A better reference to SNH guidance (given that 'Assessing the impact of small scale wind energy proposals on the natural heritage' has already been referred to) would be to 'Siting and Design of small scale wind turbines between 15m and 50m in height' (2012) available on our website via http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/renewable-energy/onshore-wind/landscape-impacts-guidance/ Page 90-95 - Maps - In due course we suggest a map should be added of carbon-rich soil, deep peat and priority peatland habitat in terms of the Group 2 area in SPP. The recent consultation document and draft map can be seen on our website	The references noted have been included, as has a carbon rich soil map. The comment in relation to Map 4 is noted however this is outside the Councils administrative area.

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			http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/advice-for-planners-and-developers/soils-and-development/cpp/ Map 4 – European sites in Aberdeenshire omits the part of Cairngorms Massif SPA that is within Aberdeenshire.	
Resources	Resources for New Developments	54(2) SNH	This should require Gold sustainablity level for domestic buildings and BREEAM level 5 standard for non-domestic buildings from the date of the adoption of the plan. The water standards proposed as not as high as those proposed in the Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. As both LDPs area affected by the same constraint in terms of water resource we suggest developments in both LDPs should be subject to the same water efficiency standards. This will create a more joined up approach	This has been amended to align with the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.
Resources	Resources for New Developments	76(4) Scottish Water	Support the commitment to reducing the pressures on water infrastructure and the amount of water abstracted from the River Dee	Support noted.
Resources	Resources for New Developments	85(11) Ryden obo Stewart Milne Homes	A "fabric first" approach should be adopted ahead of the requirement to install low and zero carbon generating technologies. The Sullivan Panel specifically noted that concerns can arise from requirements and prescription on low carbon equipment within the Scottish Planning System. The Panel also acknowledged that delivery of zero carbon objectives through an entirely onsite strategy is not currently a realistic approach for mainstream housing production, due to issues of cost and practicality of building to such a standard on many sites. Improving water efficiency are technical measures best addressed through Building Regulations rather than through a land use Planning Policy document	While “fabric first” approaches are supported, Section 3F of the Climate Change Act requires Local Development Plans to “avoid a specified and rising proportion of the projected greenhouse gas emissions from their use……through the installation and operation of low and zero-carbon generating technologies”. Section 4.17 of the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan requires “Local development plans (and supplementary guidance) will encourage water efficiency and water saving measures in all relevant developments”

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
Resources	Resources for New Developments	164(15) Scottish Gov	Section 9.2.8 of Topic Area 9 'Decommissioning' omits any suggestion of a decommissioning or restoration guarantee. This section should be amended to reflect SPP. Para 169 pf SPP includes a list of DM considerations for energy infrastructure developments. This includes: - Need for conditions relating to the decommissioning of developments, including ancillary infrastructure, and site restoration; - Need for robust planning obligation to ensure that operators achieve site restoration. Heads of Planning Scotland recent submission to Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee, Security of Supply Inquiry highlights the possible future requirement to cover decommissioning guarantees to ensure site restoration. See - www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/89359.aspx It is recommended that an additional sentence is included at the end of Section 9.2.8 'Decommissioning' to read as follows: "The need for conditions relating to the decommissioning of developments, including ancillary infrastructure and site restoration, will be considered. In addition robust planning obligations to ensure operators achieve site restoration will also be considered.	This section has been amended to reflect the suggested comments.
Resources	Resources for New Developments	164(16) Scottish Gov	The text under the heading 'Borrow Pits' in Section 9.2.3 of Supplementary Guidance Topic Area 9 - Resources does not properly reflect paragraph 243 of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP). This section should be amended to reflect paragraph 243 of SPP which states: "Borrow pits should only be permitted if there are significant environmental or economic benefits compared to obtaining material from local quarries; they are time-limited; tied to a particular project and appropriate reclamation measures are in place".	This section has been amended to reflect the suggested comments.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			An additional sentence should be added to the end of this section to read as follows: "Borrow pits will only be permitted if there are significant environmental or economic benefits compared to obtaining material from local quarries; they are time-limited; tied to a particular project and appropriate reclamation measures are in place"	
Natural Environment	Natural Heritage	54(10) SNH	Accordingly, the text in the second paragraph under the heading of 8.1.4 Protected Species on page 5 of the Supplementary Guidance should be amended to read applies to a particular species. For protected species, licenses will only be granted if tests are met. SNH's website provides…	In line with the recommendation to amend the wording to Policy NE8 we note the comment, regarding the Supplementary Guidance, and will change the wording to "protected species".
Natural Environment	Natural Heritage	54(18) SNH	Page 6 To highlight that development within Aberdeen has the potential to affect protected areas outwith Aberdeen. Amend wording: Table 1 notes the various site designations found within the City of Aberdeen. Please note that development within Aberdeen has the potential to affect protected area outside Aberdeen. For example, bottlenose dolphins from the Moray Firth SAC and grey seals from the Isle of May SAC and the Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC.	The comment is noted and the text has been amended accordingly.
Natural Environment	Natural Heritage	54(19) SNh	Table 2 Protected Species - refers to section 2.6 for further guidance, but this does not exist. 8.1.7 Bats and Licensing refers to paragraph 2.2 for more information on the three tests, but again this does not exist. Delete or amend text to provide an accurate reference to guidance on Bats.	The incorrect paragraph referencing is noted and the numbering has been amended.
Natural Environment	Natural Heritage	54(20) SNH	8.1.6 Construction Environmental Management Plans. We welcome the requirement for CEMPs and draw your attention to	There is currently reference to the appointment of an Ecological Clerk of Works on sensitive sites within the Trees and Woodland Supplementary Guidance. This

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			guidance prepared by The Highland Council http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/2644/construction_environmental_management_process_for_large_scale_projects. ECOWs are an effective way of ensuring CEMPs are followed. Suggest that for larger developments on more sensitive sites, the Council should require an Ecological Clerk of Works would be appointed.	alongside the explanation of when a Construction Environmental Management Plan may be required, within the Natural Heritage SG, is felt to adequately address how developments will avoid, minimise and mitigate environmental impact during the construction phase of development.
Natural Environment	Natural Heritage	54(21) SNH	8.1.10 Habitats Regulations Appraisal To ensure sites outside the area are not overlooked. Under 'Natura Sites', as well as reference to River Dee SAC, we suggest you add "Other Natura sites may be affected by development within the jurisdiction of the Council, eg Moray Firth SAC, Isle of May SAC and the Berwickshire & North Northumberland SAC ".	This section of the SG has been amended to prevent the repetition of information provided by SNH and instead the link to the information is provided. The comment is noted but as it refers to a section of text that has been removed no amendments will be made.
Natural Environment	Natural Heritage	124(17) SEPA	Requested the following policy changes: NE8 - allow development on peatland and carbon rich soils with the agreement of the planning authority in consultation with SEPA. NE8 - amended to afford specific protection groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems NE6 - amended to prevent all unnecessary engineering works affecting the water environment. Request that text is incorporated into the SG to explain and support this position. Suggested text change, see rep.	The issues raised have been considered as part of the examination into the Local Development Plan. See: Issue 32: Policy NE5 Trees and Woodland & Policy NE8 Natural Heritage; and Issue 33: Policy NE7 Coastal Planning & Policy NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality. There is currently reference to Peatland within the Resources Supplementary Guidance and it is felt to adequately address the issue. In regard to Ecosystems additional text has been added to the introductory section of the SG and so as not to repeat SEPA guidance a link has been provided.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
Natural Environment	Flooding Drainage and Water Quality	54(22) SNH	Paragraph 8.3.6 refers to the multiple benefits of SuDS. It would be helpful to cross reference this to the Supplementary Guidance on landscaping.	The comment is noted and cross references have been added to the SG.
Natural Environment	Flooding and Drainage	76(7) Scottish Water	Sewers for Scotland has now been superseded by Sewers for Scotland 3rd Edition. In relation to SUDS, work to confirm the technical specification requirements for swales and filter trenches is on-going. These will take the form of additional clauses to be added into Sewers for Scotland 3rd Edition. We understand that one of the biggest challenges is to ensure SUDS are appropriately maintained before Scottish Water is in a position to vest. We have begun to implement "early vesting" of new assets, which will result in Scottish Water vesting SUDS as soon as they are operational rather than when the development has been completed. This will give the developers confidence that their asset will be vested and will give our customer comfort that they are appropriately maintained and operated.	To ensure the most up to date reference is included within the Supplementary Guidance the text has been amended to refer to 'Sewers for Scotland 3'.
Natural Environment	Flooding, Drainage and Water	124(18) SEPA	Request that reference is made to the requirement for access to maintenance to waterbodies in order that regular maintenance can be carried out as part of flood risk management work and also that reference is made to the flood risk benefits of buffer strips as they promote connectivity. Reference should be made to clarify that excessive engineering and culverting of all waterbodies including watercourses is unacceptable, including for land gain. This includes the diversion of watercourses around development sites unless it results in improvements to a previously modified or canalised watercourse.	It is agreed that reference should be made regarding access to maintain waterbodies. Text to this effect will be added. The benefits of buffer strips are already addressed within the Natural Heritage SG, but for clarity cross references will be added. Policy NE6 Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality currently states that "there is a presumption against excessive engineering and culverting of watercourses….." As the SG is an extension to the Local Development Plan policy it does not need to repeat the content contained within the Policy, therefore no amendments are proposed to the SG.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
Natural Environment	Trees and Woodland	54(23) SNH	The Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy, sets out the role that compensatory planting can make to mitigating woodland removal and the situations where compensatory planting may be appropriate. Indeed the role of compensatory planting in addressing impacts of woodland removed is one of the policy's 'Guiding Principles'. A section should be added to require compliance with the Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy (see para 218 of SPP). The need for compensatory planting should in particular be set out. It would also be helpful to include a cross-reference to the Supplementary Guidance on the Natural Environment (with regard to protected species in particular).	Reference to the Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy will be added to the SG. The issue regarding compensatory planting is being considered as part of the examination into the Local Development Plan, see Issue 32: Policy NE5 Trees and Woodland & Policy NE8 Natural Heritage.
Natural Environment	Trees and Woodland	126(2) Forestry Commission Scotland	Supplementary Guidance does not adequately cover forest and woodland habitats. Consider revising the Trees and Woodland Strategy (2006) and publish it as SG. If not possible, considerable revisions to the current SG to address management of woodland areas within the City.	Currently, there is the 'Forest and Woodland Strategy for Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City' but it is acknowledged that it is overdue for review. Our environmental policy team are currently considering how best to take this forward, the options being a stand-alone strategy or integration into a wider climate adaptation strategy. The work is on-going however it will undoubtedly include revised planting and re-stocking policies and be adopted as a Council strategy.
Modifications to Existing Buildings and Curtilages	Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside	54(17) SNH	Section 3.3.3 As well as referring to bats, it would be useful to refer to birds because species such as swallows and barn owls frequently nest in farm buildings. All birds are given some protection whilst breeding and some species, such as barn owl, have additional protection. Our website provides information on this and what actions can constitute an offence: http://www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/protected-species/which-and-how/birds/. For bats and licensing, it would also be useful to cross reference to the	We agree with the suggested amended wording and have updated the document to reflect. Additional reference has also been made to the Natural Heritage Supplementary Guidance.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			Supplementary Guidance on the Natural Environment. To ensure natural heritage interests and laws are considered. Amend the wording to read Farm buildings, and any associated drystane dykes and surrounding trees may be home to protected species such as bats and birds	
Modifications to Existing Buildings and Curtilages	Curtilage Splits and Redevelopments	136(20) Aberdeen Civic Society	There is an increasing desire in the city for existing buildings in streets to be demolished and rebuilt. There should be a policy that covers this as it is likely to become more prevalent. Buildings that undergo the type of re-development should respect the environment in which they are placed, in terms of scale and massing, proportions and materials. We support a SPG that addresses the issue of the re-development of existing properties within any area. In general we would like to see developments that involve the demolition of existing buildings and the re-building of new ones to be carefully considered in the context of their surroundings. The policy covers this to some extent, but it needs to ensure that there is not an over development of a single house in a group, and that any redeveloped property is sympathetic in terms of scale, design, height and materials. We do acknowledge that there may be occasions when this needs to be reviewed (for example the retrofit of a neighbourhood centre in a specific location to which this can be supported) but in general the priority in cases such as these has to be that the character of the existing neighbourhood is retained.	The consultation comment focuses on the redevelopment aspect of the SG. The demolition of buildings which are not listed, or outwith conservation areas is subject to permitted development rights under Class 70 of the General Permitted Development Order 1992. A number of conditions are outlined with Class 70 which need to be adhered to. Proposals which involve the demolition of more than 0.5 hectares are required to carry out EIA procedures. To write a policy as suggested, Aberdeen City Council would be required to submit to, and have approved by the Scottish Ministers an Article 4 Direction on the whole of Aberdeen for the removal of Class 70. This would not sit comfortably with the modern planning ethos which proposes a system which is fit for purpose and efficient. There is also no justification/reason outlined in the consultation comment as to why demolition and rebuilt will become more prevalent. Policy D1: Quality Placemaking by Design already outlines development needs to respond to the site context and be designed with due consideration to siting, scale, massing, colour, orientation, details, footprint, proportions and materials, and for it be well planned with high quality design, materials and craftsmanship. The SG already outlines criteria new development must adhere to. These criteria include: respecting scale, massing, density and the established pattern of

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				development. This includes ensuring over-development does not occur. Further to this, Policy D1: Quality Placemaking by Design and, if relevant, Policy H1: Residential Areas, give guidance on design criteria required in all new developments and ensuring over-development does not occur. The guidance within the SG and design policy does indicate development must respond to, respect and reflect local distinctiveness.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Affordable Housing	63(4) Ryden obo University of Aberdeen	Object to the failure to identify student and key worked accommodation within the definition of affordable housing. There is an expanding student and staff population at both universities, and an increase in house prices and flat rents - housing is unaffordable for the majority of students and key workers, thereby not attracting staff and students to the city. By allowing affordable housing contributions arising from surplus land sold by the University of Aberdeen to be retained either for the provision of on-site or off-site new or refurbished students and key worker accommodation. Aberdeen City Council have recently shown willingness to accept the retention of affordable housing units by the University for provision as key worker accommodation at the cala homes development at Balgownie Farm.	Student Accommodation and Key Worker Accommodation have both been identified within the revised Supplementary Guidance. In the case of Key Worker Accommodation a definition including income thresholds has also been included. The specific case identified within the submission, that of Aberdeen University acting as a Register Social Landlord, was considered under 2.3.3 Other Options, of the current Supplementary Guidance. This category allowed the council to accept alternative methods of delivery for Affordable Housing. While this option will remain, in the case of Aberdeen University the new Key Worker Accommodation category would now deal with the issue.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Affordable Housing	85(9) Ryden obo Stewart Milne Homes	The sequential approach to provision is not acceptable and off-site provision should be as acceptable as onsite provision. The key is the delivery of affordable housing in areas of need and all methods of delivery must be recognised and considered when faced with funding constraints. Commuted sums can play an important role in the delivery of affordable housing potentially acting as a catalyst for delivery on specific sites. Accordingly, there should be a wider acceptance of the benefit of commuted sums. Objection is also taken to the method of calculation of commuted	The sequential approach is the approach taken in the current supplementary guidance and is the preferred approach of the Council, it is therefore being carried forward to the new Supplementary Guidance. This does not however prevent the Council from accepting options from further down the list should they be deemed more suitable. Off-site provision has been included and will be accepted in certain circumstances as set out within the guidance. In

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			sums and the prospect of that sum being reviewed on an annual basis. The Guidance provides no indication of how the sums were derived or how each market area is defined. Such an approach removes any certainty from the Planning Process and is entirely un-acceptable. Many land deals can take over a year to conclude and the potential for costs to increase with such regularity is unacceptable and fails to provide the development industry and landowners with any deg ree of certainty. SG should be amended to omit the sequential approach to provision and permit a more flexible approach to the provision of affordable housing in terms of on-site and off-site provision and the range of tenures acceptable. There should be greater scope to address the provision of affordable housing through commuted sums, but the calculation of those commuted sums must be transparent and should not be determined by sub-market areas. Any review of those sums should be through the Local Development Plan review process and not on an annual basis. Planning Advice Note 2/2010 promotes four additional or alternative means of delivering affordable housing, which could be considered by Planning Authorities. These include: 1. Allocating new sites in Local Development Plans specifically for affordable housing. 2. Identifying plots for self-build dwellings. 3. Using Compulsory Purchase powers to support the delivery of a new supply and regeneration. 4. Making appropriate surplus Local Authority land or buildings available for affordable housing. The SG makes reference to sub-market areas. This is not acceptable and a flexible approach should be taken to the location of off-site provision throughout the city. Aberdeen City, along with its	relation to commuted payments these are only of value to the Council where sites are available to use the funds collected. At present securing affordable housing units is of more benefit that collecting additional funding. The process of calculating the commuted sums and determining the market areas was an open process involving the development industry. All the calculations and methodology were provided and the work was undertaken by the District Valuer as set out in PAN 2/2010 Affordable Housing. The proposal to review these on an annual basis has however been removed and this will only be done at the time of the review of the plan every five years. In relation to the alternative means of delivering Affordable Housing suggested from PAN 2/2010 all of these options are currently being used by the Council. As no additional sites have been allocated within the plan no new Specific Affordable Housing sites have been included.

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			immediate hinterland lying within Aberdeenshire, comprise a single housing market area and it is not appropriate to divide this into sub-market areas.	
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Affordable Housing	90(4) Ryden obo Dandara	It should be more flexible in terms of on-site and off-site provision and the range of tenures acceptable. There should be greater scope to address the provision of affordable housing through commuted sums, but the calculation must be transparent and should not be determined by sub-market areas. Any review should be throught the LDP process and not on an annual basis. Any review of commuted sums and benchamark prices should be undertaken in consultation with the development industry. Surplus Local Authority land or buildings should be identified for affordable housing as advocated by PAN 2/2010. It is not appropriate to divide the housing market area into sub market areas. If these are to be adopted then the SDP should identify the housing requirement for those areas. There is a danger that the approach advocated could distort the housing market. The scale of commuted sums set out in Table 1 is unacceptable. There is not indication of how the sums were derived.	Increased flexibility has been introduced into the guidance with the inclusion of options such as Off-site delivery and key worker accommodation. The sequential approach is the approach taken in the current supplementary guidance and is the preferred approach of the Council, it is therefore being carried forward to the new Supplementary Guidance. In relation to commuted payments these are only of value to the Council where sites are available to use the funds collected. At present time additional funding is not required. The process of calculating the commuted sums and determining the market areas was an open process involving the development industry including Stewart Milne Homes. All the calculations and methodology was provided and the work was undertaken by the District Valuer as set out in PAN 2/2010 Affordable Housing. The proposal to review these on an annual basis has however been removed and this will only be done at the time of the review of the plan every five years.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Affordable Housing	132(3) BurnessPaull	There should be more detail on what will be taken into account in considering the percentage requirement. Market conditions and funding will also be relevant. Para 6.2.2 advises that intermediate housing will have a significant role to play in meeting housing need, yet social rented housing is the preference. This is contrary to the mix of tenures required by the SDP and means that the Council planning officers would have to be	The level of Affordable Housing has been set in Aberdeen at 25% since 2008, as such the overwhelming majority of sites within the plan were purchased in full knowledge of the level of Affordable Housing required in Aberdeen. Where the viability of a development is questioned this will be considered on a development by development basis.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			persuaded that other tenures are appropriate. The preference for social rented housing should be deleted. In reference to "instances when contributions may be reduced" it is not clear what is considered to be "unviable" in terms of developer profit and how this applies to a landowner. Paras 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 suggests flexibility on the method of provision but the subsequent sections on developments of fewer than 20 units or 20 units and over is more prescriptive and removes the ability to come forward with a mix of provision. In relation to on site/ off site provision there is no reference to taking into account the views of RSLs who could indicate that the site is not suitable for them. The SG should implement the flexible approach to the provision of affordable housing which the Plan claims to support. It should be clear that the value relates to its end use of affordable housing and is not to be transferred at nil value. It is also noted that RSLs may be entitled to dispose of social housing/land which has been provided. If this is at full market value the landowner/developer should be entitled to a clawback of part of the uplift in value on the sale. The conditions for off-site provision will not work in practice and may impact the delivery of a 5 year effective supply of housing land. It cannot be a pre-condition of delivery on the main site that all land for affordable housing must be transferred to the Council or an RSL first. There are similar concerns about preventing units being constructed on the primary site where the developer is also providing units off site. This may result in a hiatus in development. The timing of off site provision should be agreed on a site by site basis. The conditions require the alternative site to be located in the same submarket area but there is no definition of "submarket area". This	In relation to the preference shown in the guidance for social rent all forms of tenure will be considered, however many forms such as LCHO and Mid-Market Rent can still be outside the reach of people in need of Affordable Housing. Increased flexibility has been introduced into the guidance with the inclusion of options such as Off-site delivery and key worker accommodation. This does not however alter the Councils obligations under SPP to provide sustainable mixed communities. While the Council will be flexible in examining alternative means of delivery, and has included additional approaches within the guidance, the Council still has an obligation to maximise the provision of affordable housing for those in need. It is clear in the guidance that off-site provision will only be accepted where it is discussed in advance with the council. As such the applicant has the opportunity to put forward all the proposed reasons for off-site delivery including the views of RSL's, which as partners in the process, will always be considered. The Council recognise that any uplift in value due to a future sale of land/housing at market value should be recoupable by the landowner/developer however this is a matter for the contract between the landowner/developer and RSL. To date developers have taken a rather haphazard approach to proposals for off-site delivery, most of which have been proposed very late in the delivery process. This has been very challenging and time consuming for

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			reference should be deleted. It should be clear that the amount of units provided off site is equivalent to the percentage requirement on the primary site. In recent discussions the council has added the total number of units on the primary site to the number of off site units then applied a 25% requirement, inflating the off site provision. The SG proposes to introduce new levels for commuted sums in lieu of on site affordable housing. It is not clear how these sums reflect PAN 2/2010 which suggests that the value equivalent to the cost of providing serviced affordable housing land should be determined by a valuer and the commuted sum should be a negotiation between the developer and the local authority. However, in Table 1 the commuted sums will be fixed for 3 submarket areas and differ for flats and houses. There is no detail provided on arriving at these numbers. The proposed amounts listed as commuted sums should be deleted. Either the amount should revert to £25,000 or there should be no stated value and the amount will be worked out on a case by case basis. If the submarket areas are retained the Council must use the commuted sum in the submarket area which the primary site is located. Table 2 has no information as to how the figures for the sale of Low Cost Home Ownership have been calculated. The prices apply across the City but commuted sums differ depending on the submarket area. If the price of Low Cost Home Ownership is based on affordability thresholds and is fixed then it needs to be recognised that not all sites will be suitable at these prices. The SG does not consider student accommodation as affordable housing but acknowledges it as a specific need in the City. The lack of student accommodation places pressure on the private rented sector	officers to deal with and would be completely unacceptable going forward for both officers and elected members. As such only where a developer comes forward with a well-considered proposal which is of greater benefit to the residents of Aberdeen, than delivering the affordable housing units on the primary site, will such a proposal be considered. The issue of the number of affordable housing units to be delivered in off-site scenarios seems to have presented some arithmetical difficulties to the development industry. The 25% requirement applies to the overall number of units to be delivered for that development. In cases where the affordable housing is relocated to another site and additional units are provided on the primary site the 25% requirement will also apply to those additional units, ie the 25% applies to the total number of units to be delivered. The process of calculating the commuted sums and determining the market areas was an open process involving the development industry including. All the calculations and methodology was provided to the development industry and the work was undertaken by the District Valuer as set out in PAN 2/2010 Affordable Housing. The proposal to review these on an annual basis has however been removed and this will only be done at the time of the review of the plan every five years. The process of calculating the Low Cost Home Ownership Values was also an open process involving the development industry. All the calculations and methodology was provided to the development industry.

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			by increasing rental prices and making it inaffordable for more people. It has a direct impact on affordable housing and should be considered as meeting a site's affordable housing contribution. The SG should set out relevant criteria for key worker accommodation and confirm that it will be considered as provision of affordable housing.	Student Accommodation has been identified within the SG as being exempt from the requirement to provide affordable housing.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Affordable Housing	183(27) Bancon	The Council has recently revised this Guidance and, against all advice from the housing industry (including RSLs) is seeking levels of commuted sum payments which are unviable and which will, in the terms of paragraph 3.82 of the Plan, "jeopardise the delivery of housing". The Council should revert to the previous approach on commuted sums of a commuted sum based on transaction evidence in the market. A figure of £25,000 is currently used, and this represents the value which both developers and RSLs find practical and viable.	The revised commuted sums are based on an assessment of the housing market by the District Valuer service, and that information was made available to the development industry. The Supplementary Guidance includes an option to challenge the level of Commuted Sum where there is disagreement.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Planning Obligations	164(14) Scottish Gov	Under the heading 'Securing of Contributions' on page 5 of the Supplementary Guidance, paragraph 3 states: "The applicant will be required to cover the costs of preparing and registering the Planning Obligation and will be responsible for their own legal costs". Note that a charge cannot be made unless the power to charge is given by express words or by necessary implication. The Fees Regulations provide for planning fees and charges but do not enable charges of this nature to be made. Under the heading 'Securing of Contributions' on page 5 of the Supplementary Guidance, we recommend that paragraph 3 is removed. This currently states: "The applicant will be required to cover the costs of preparing and registering the Planning Obligation and will be responsible for their own legal costs".	The Planning Review being undertaken by The Scottish Government is looking at this matter. Recommendations put forward by the panel were published on 31 May 2016 and Scottish Ministers published their response in July 2016. A commitment was made to deliver a White Paper, which will include proposals for legislative change, by the end of 2016.

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Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Planning Obligations	85(6) Ryden obo Stewart Milne Homes	Fail to mention or have proper regard to Scottish Government Circular 3/2012: Planning Applications & Good Neighbour Agreements. Similarly, it makes no reference to the tests set out in that Circular, all of which must be met before Planning Obligations can be sought. The Supplementary Guidance should also be amended to outline the tests which must be satisfied before Planning Obligations can legitimately be sought. Standard practice is for the monies to be held for a period of 5 years and the 7 year period now proposed is entirely unacceptable. So too is the proposal to charge 9% of the interest to cover administration costs. This should be removed. The formulaic approach currently used to calculate the scale of contributions takes no account of individual site and local circumstances. It further provides no information on how the various costs are arrived at and then applied to each of the requirements. Greater transparency is required on the cost of providing community infrastructure and if the cost of that infrastructure is ultimately less than the Planning Obligations made then there should be scope for the return of any unspent funds.	The issues raised by the respondents were considered by the reporter during the examination on the Local Development Plan (Issue 22). The Reporter did not recommend the inclusion of explicit reference to Circular 3/2012 or to quote selectively from its contents. Section 1.14 of the LDP specifically states that reference should be made to appropriate supplementary guidance and national policy. The plan does not specifically reference individual guidance and policy documents as to do so would not futureproof the plan for its 5 year lifespan. Policy I1 outlines the tests as per Circular 3/2012. When read in conjunction with Policy I1, the supplementary guidance complies with Circular 3/2012 and there is no need to repeat the tests in the supplementary guidance. Where developers opt to phase payments, which assists the development process, it is to be expected that costs must be recouped at a later date. This is in line with Scottish Planning Policy guidance. The utilisation of a percentage of the overall interest to support the monitoring and management of developer obligations phased payments is required as a result of the development proposed. The alternative to this option is the requirement for full payment towards the provision of infrastructure to be made upfront by the developer, severely impacting on the viability of schemes and delivery of the required infrastructure at the appropriate time. If the objective is to assist developers to address infrastructure impacts and to deliver development then phased funding is a means of achieving this. Where a longer period of capital programming is required for

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
				major projects, contributions may require to be retained over a longer period due to longer ongoing cost provision. Each planning permission is considered on a site by site basis taking individual and local circumstances into account. Section "Developer Contributions" of the SG is clear that return of funds will be made in the event of all, or some of the contribution not being spent within the agreed time period. Background working on costs and formulae are available from the Developer Obligations Team by request. It is not an appropriate level of detail to include within the main text of the supplementary guidance document.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Planning Obligations	124(16) SEPA	Request text is added at para 6.1.5 to explain the current position with potable water provision within Aberdeen City. Scottish Water should provide an update on the current position and plans for future work in light of development proposals and policies. Provision should come from within existing abstraction limits and the Council should liaise with Scottish Water to ensure this is achievable. Request text is added at para 6.1.5 to clarify the position with the requirement to connect to mains foul drainage. Scottish Water should provide an update on the current position and plans for future work in light of development proposals and policies. Where there is not sufficient mains foul drainage capacity, developers should explore the option of triggering additional capacity provision from Scottish Water before seeking permission for private drainage.	Section "Developer Contributions" of the SG is clear that the provision of water and drainage is not directly relevant to the developer obligations supplementary guidance and that early contact is encouraged with the relevant suppliers. No change is required.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist	Planning Obligations	132(4) Burness Paull	The wording needs to be amended to comply with Circular 3/2012. Should be justified on a case by case basis and contributions should relate to the impact that the specific development would have on particular infrastructure. It must be clear that contributions sought	Policy I1 outlines the tests as per Circular 3/2012. When read in conjunction with Policy I1, the supplementary guidance complies with Circular 3/2012 and there is no need to repeat the tests in the supplementary guidance.

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Housing Provision			under each heading will relate to the impact the development has and not just to a general need. The guidance advises that contributions will be used within 7 years but there is no justification for this period. Currently the period in legal agreements is 5 years. The Council's obligation to use the contributions within 7 years will mean that in most developments the Council won't actually provide the facilities until many years after the development has been completed. It should be reduced to 5 years and the contributions should be used in a phased manner to ensure they comply with Policy I1. Interest which has been accrued on money which the Council has held on deposit should be put towards the cost of providing the infrastructure and potentially set off against the index linking which the council applies to the level of contribution. The applicant should not be required to pay for the Council's costs of preparing a legal agreement. This is a requirement sought by the council, not the applicant. It should already be covered by the planning fee paid to process the application. Concerned that external agents are appointed to negotiate the terms of draft agreements without seeking approval from the applicant who will be required to pay the fees. The requirement to meet the Council's costs for preparing a legal agreement should be removed from the SG. It is unfair to give the non-statutory guidance on the Strategic Transport Fund a statutory status through a cross reference in the LDP without putting forward the guidance for examination as part of the LDP process. Pending ratification of any supplementary guidance on strategic transport contributions by the Scottish Ministers, the LDP must either remove reference to contributions being required or make the guidance available for examination by the Scottish Ministers as part of the LDP process.	The supplementary guidance is clear that contributions can only be requested for elements that would otherwise have been unnecessary, or which have been provided in anticipation of that need. The cumulative impact of new developments can be identified and apportioned. The scale of allocations has been planned to ensure that there is sufficient value in sites to deliver the infrastructure required. Infrastructure requirements remain the same as the extant local development plan. Where developers opt to phase payments, which assists the development process, it is to be expected that costs must be recouped at a later date. This is in line with Scottish Planning Policy guidance. The alternative to this option is the requirement for full payment towards the provision of infrastructure to be made upfront by the developer, severely impacting on the viability of schemes and delivery of the required infrastructure at the appropriate time. If the objective is to assist developers to address infrastructure impacts and to deliver development then phased funding is a means of achieving this. Where a longer period of capital programming is required for major projects, contributions may require to be retained over a longer period due to longer ongoing cost provision. The interest accrued on any one particular development is related to that tranche of payments associated with that development. To use the interest to offset index linking would not allow transparency in the developer obligations process. There needs to be a direct link between the contributions taken and that specific development. To use the interest in the manner

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			The LDP seeks contributions towards medical, dental and pharmacies which provide NHS funded services. The majority of medical practices own their existing premises and the NHS pays them rent. They are being gifted land within developments to enable them to move to new facilities, funded by developer contributions, leaving them free to sell or rent their existing premises. This contravenes the principles of Circular 3/2012. The Plan should only seek contributions towards the expansion of existing facilities when the development generates a need or the provision of new facilities where there are no existing. The SG advises that sites have been identified with the potential to construct Regional SUDS but no information as to where and how the Council intends to compensate a landowner/developer for the loss of developable land. No background information is provided on the contribution/rates to be paid towards SUDS, education, healthcare, core paths, open space, community and sports/recreation facilities. Justification is required to demonstrate the amount is fairly and reasonably related to the provision of relevant facilities. No detail on assessing the impact of developer contributions on the viability of a development. The use of a formula based on floorspace does not reflect a proper assessment of whether a development creates a need for additional facilities. It does not specify how the Council is going to seek contributions from residential development where the school roll is expected to exceed planned capacity. The methedology for calculating the impact of a development on a school is flawed and lacking in transparency. It ignores the phasing of the development and that as the development proceeds existing children will be leaving and space will be released.	suggested would break the direct link. With regards to the applicant paying for the costs of preparing a legal agreement; the Planning Review being undertaken by The Scottish Government is looking at this matter. Recommendations put forward by the panel were published on 31 May 2016 and Scottish Ministers published their response in July 2016. A commitment was made to deliver a White Paper, which will include proposals for legislative change, by the end of 2016. With regards to the recent Court of Session judgement on the Strategic Transport Fund; the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority has sought leave to appeal the decision of the Court of Session. A change has been proposed to the associated SG following the Reporters recommendations. The issues raised by the respondents, with regards to the contribution topic areas, were considered by the Reporter during the examination on the Local Development Plan (Issue 22). The Reporter did not recommend amendment to the contribution topic areas, with the exception of renaming “water and drainage/regional SUDS” to “regional SuDS”. Appendix 3 of the plan and the Action Programme provide detail on infrastructure requirements. The supplementary guidance is clear that contributions can only be requested for elements that would otherwise have been unnecessary, or which have been provided in anticipation of that need. The cumulative impact of new developments can be identified and apportioned.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			The Council should be required to look at the phasing of the development. Providing land for the school should be provided at nil cost for the proportion needed in support of the new development. It is not fair for a development to provide land to meet existing need outwith the site. The requirement to pay contributions towards a school which is not at 100% capacity should be deleted.	With regards to Regional SUDS the SG is clear that the schemes would be built on land owned by the Council and 'space' made available through agreement. There would be no requirement to compensate. Background working on costs and formulae are available from the Developer Obligations Team by request. It is not an appropriate level of detail to include within the main text of the supplementary guidance document. The proposed supplementary guidance states (Development Viability and Indexation section) "where the developer asserts that the development contributions have an impact on the viability of a development the developer will be required to submit a viability assessment to the council which may require to be independently reviewed. Given the nature of viability, the impact of developer obligations is carried out on a site by site basis. It would be impractical to include further details in supplementary guidance. The advice contained within Circular 3/2012 has been implemented regarding the use of stages or phased payments as a potential solution to issues of viability. All assessments are carried out on the basis of consideration of the impact the proposed development would have on services in terms of capacity only, and not to resolve any deficiencies in infrastructure. This is sufficiently addressed in the supplementary guidance. The use of a formula based approach is a well tested and established process to determine likely contribution levels based on the use class proposed. All applications are considered on a site by site basis to determine

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
				specific need created as a result of proposed development. The methodology for calculating the impact of proposed development on school roll forecasts is available on request. This is too detailed for inclusion within the supplementary guidance. General methodology principles are included within the supplementary guidance. The housing land audit provides phasing of the development with that information provided by the developer/agent/landowner – this is shared with education colleagues. Land is part of the overall cost of delivering a new school. Proportional land values would be apportioned commensurate with the scale of impact and a land valuation undertaken. Where land is being provided by a developer for a school which would address some existing need and/or cumulative need then the value of land provided to the council could be offset against the required financial contribution for education proportionately to the impact of the development. The supplementary guidance is clear that contributions will be sought where the capacity of the school will be exceeded e.g. over 100% as a result of development.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Planning Obligations	149(4) Homes for Scotland	Generally, the Plan does not include some policy matters contained in Supplementary Guidance, notably around periods for which the Council will retain monies and mechanisms for holding and accounting for monies. There is also no justification in the SG for the costings for facilities.	Policy I1 outlines the tests as per Circular 3/2012. When read in conjunction with Policy I1, the supplementary guidance complies with Circular 3/2012 and there is no need to repeat the tests in the supplementary guidance or procedural matters such as retention of monies and mechanisms in the plan. Circular 6/2013 (paragraph 139) is clear that a suitable topic for supplementary guidance is “exact levels of developer contributions or methodologies for their calculations”.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
				Background working on costs and formulae are available from the Developer Obligations Team by request. It is not an appropriate level of detail to include within the main text of the supplementary guidance document.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Planning Obligations	149(8) Homes for Scotland	The Plan does not include some policy matters contained in Supplementary Guidance, notably around periods for which the Council will retain monies and mechanisms for holding and accounting for monies. There is also no justification in the SG for the costings for facilities.	Policy I1 outlines the tests as per Circular 3/2012. When read in conjunction with Policy I1, the supplementary guidance complies with Circular 3/2012 and there is no need to repeat the tests in the supplementary guidance or procedural matters such as retention of monies and mechanisms in the plan. Circular 6/2013 (paragraph 139) is clear that a suitable topic for supplementary guidance is "exact levels of developer contributions or methodologies for their calculations". Background working on costs and formulae are available from the Developer Obligations Team by request. It is not an appropriate level of detail to include within the main text of the supplementary guidance document.
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Planning Obligations	183(25) Bancon	Healthcare is a statutory requirement. Services are not typically delivered by Councils. Healthcare is not governed by requirements around the location of services, and the tendency in healthcare has been centralisation and specialisation. There is no immediate and automatic relationship between new development and the provision of new local facilities. The decisions on if and where to provide new facilities are taken by Health Boards and local bodies such as Primary Healthcare Trusts, or even by GP/dentist surgeries themselves. Therefore it is unclear what evidence the Council can produce of service deficiencies, pressures placed on services by new development, or programmes of new provision. Without the evidence, the planning obligation would not meet the 5 tests of circular 1/2013. See planning appeal in England (Planning Inspectorate Ref: 2157515:Moat House Farm, Elmdon Road).	The issues raised by the respondents were considered by the reporter during the examination on the Local Development Plan (Issue 22). The Reporter made no recommendations with regards to health contributions. Appendix 3 of the Plan and the Action Programme provide detail on infrastructure requirements. Circular 6/2013 (paragraph 139) is clear that "items for which financial or other contributions, including affordable housing, will be sought, and the circumstances (locations, types of development) where they will be sought" is a matter for inclusion within the plan and not supplementary guidance.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			The proposed SG would have to contain clear and firm proposals from the NHS as to what it intended to provide, where and when. As this is an operational matter from the NHS, it is not clear that the Council will be able to prodice SG which would meet the tests of Circular 1/2013. Developer contributions are typically provided through planning conditions or agreements. They are paid to the Council and held in clearly-differentiated accounts with the provision for repayment if unused within their anticipated timescales. No such arrangements are in place with the NHS. It is inappropriate for developers to be replacing/supplementing UK taxation expenditure.	
Planning Obligations, Affordable and Specialist Housing Provision	Noise	90(2) Ryden obo Dandara	It should be amended to reflect PAN 1/2011. It fails to acknowledge that the level of detail in a Noise Impact Assessment must be balanced against risk. The SG advises that. "Acceptable noise levels should be achieved within dwellings with windows sufficiently open for ventilation," whereas the PAN advises that "…Preferable that satisfactory noise levels can be achieved within dwellings with windows sufficiently open for ventilation." Where mitigation is necessary it should be conditioned and implemented prior to the occupation of development.	The Proposed Supplementary Guidance was prepared with PAN 1/2011 Planning and Noise as a guide and is considered to be in alignment with national advice. PAN 1/2011 provides advice on the role of the planning system in helping to prevent and limit the adverse effects of noise. Early discussions with the Council will help to determine the suitability of a site for a proposed development and the level of detail and mitigation required from an application in respect of noise.
Transport, Air Quality and Noise	Noise	153(12) NLP Planning obo British Airways	Supports the presumption against the development of sites within the Leq 57dB contour for residential purposes as set out in this SG (para 7.3.3)	Support is noted.

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Transport, Air Quality and Noise	Transport and Accessibility	85(15) Ryden obo Stewart Milne Homes	The Council seek to impose a minimum garage size. This is unacceptable and reference to it should be removed. Any such changes require to be subject of full consultation with the house building industry and not simply 'slipped in' under the guise of Transport and Accessibility.	The Proposed size is a local variation that was taken from the Scottish National Roads Development Guide specifications. The proposed sizes are appropriate for the average vehicle being parked inside. They encourage garage use, functionality and reasonable access and egress from a car.
Transport, Air Quality and Noise	Transport and accessibility	158(7) Savills obo Hammersons	Support the guidance provided within Section 7.1, and the general presumption against the creation of free-standing, publicly-accessible car parks, especially in city centre locations. Union Square acts as a strategic car park and should provide additional car parking to help reduce private cars crossing the city centre and encourage walking, in line with the city centre masterplan. This is key to ensure Union Square continues to meet its strategic function, and to facilitate Union Square's growth in floorspace. Support the proposed increase in non-residential maximum car parking standards, proposed for food retail, non-food retail and restaurants and cafes within the city centre.	Support is noted. Comments regarding Union Square acting as a strategic car park have been dealt with in the Proposed Plan Schedule 4's under Issue 23 – Transport and Accessibility. No modification was recommended by the Reporter.
Transport, Air Quality and Noise	Transport and Accessibility	179(3) Old Aberdeen Heritage Society	Section 7.1.9 - 'Parking in Conservation Areas'; pp 192-193 - 'Parking in Front Gardens' This SG does not take full account of the Council's guidance on Conservation Areas. It does not mention the need to assess the possible impact of parked cars directly in front of a property in a Conservation Area. The Conservation Area Strategic Overview and Management Plan contains 'generic guidance for all Conservation Areas'. The Management Plan (p17) states that "Parking in all but the largest front gardens, which already have been designed with driveway access in mind, will have a detrimental effect on the setting of buildings in the Conservation Area, potentially obscuring important features." This statement should be added to Section 7.1.9, Transport	This section of the Guidance was prepared in collaboration with the Masterplanning, Design and Conservation Team who produced the Council's guidance on Conservation Areas. It takes into consideration Scottish Planning Policy and the Council's Conservation Area Strategic Overview and Management Plan. The guidance gives specific requirements of when planning permission is required for parking in Conservation Areas and it also specifies and gives the criteria for assessing applications for parking in front gardens. The criteria set out emphasise the need for applications to have careful consideration of the site characteristics of the relevant Conservation Area. The SG takes full account of Scottish

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			and Accessibility SG. Without this addition, there is no consideration in the SG of the effect a parked car in front of a building can have on the setting of that building, especially in a relatively confined space. SPP (section 139 & 143) states that LDPs and SGs should 'provide a framework for protecting, and where appropriate, enhancing all elements of the historic environment'; and that 'proposals for development within conservation areas and proposals outwith which will impact on its appearance, character or setting should preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area'. The proposed Transport and Accessibility SG, in the section referred to within this comment does not accord with SPP because it does not provide a framework for protecting all elements of the historic environment. It fails to take into account the clear guidance in the Council's Conservation Area Management Plan, thus making the SG inadequate and misleading to potential applicants, planning officers and the general public. The Government's 'Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) 2011', and 'Our Place in Time, the Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland' highlight the importance of retaining the setting of the building or landscape. This SG does not fully consider the possible visual impact on a building of a parked car in a Conservation Area, especially in a confined space. This is contrary to advice from Historic Scotland's 'Managing Change in the Historic Environment' document which notes that 'one of the factors to be considered in assessing the impact on the setting of a historic asset is the visual impact of the proposed change relative to the scale of the historic asset or place and its setting'. This factor has not been addressed in this SG. The final part of paragraph J - p17 in the Conservation Area Management Plan should be included in this SG to make it clear that this kind of development would have a detrimental effect on the setting of buildings in the Conservation	Planning Policy, Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (2016) and the Council's guidance on Conservation Areas.

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			Area, and so, in line with planning legislation, would not be granted permission.	
Townscape and Landscape	Energetica	85(14) Ryden obo Stewart Milne Homes	The SG places an additional burden on development in this area. These burdens are likely to deter development with developers focussing elsewhere. For Energetica to be successful the focus should be on reducing bureaucracy and making it easier to secure planning permission. In particular the need to provide 'compliance statements' should be removed.	It is not considered that any additional 'burden' is placed on development by this Supplementary Guidance. The SG itself recognises that "many of the planning and design actions required to achieve this ambition are common for all developments across Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire". The 'Compliance Statement' is considered an appropriate means for encouraging developers to think about how their proposals contribute to the Energetica project. Compliance Statements need not be lengthy, additional documents, and may form part of existing documents such as Design and Access Statements. It is not considered that removing the need for a 'Compliance Statement' would be appropriate as it remains a useful tool in assessing whether a development proposal has considered its location within the Energetica Corridor.
Townscape and Landscape	Energetica	120(18) Scott Hobbs obo Scottish Enterprise	Welcomes the enhanced status of Energetica through the publication of specific Supplementary Guidance to guide development within its boundaries. Pleased to note the entire Energetica corridor is shown in the SG. Encouraged to note that the SG is consistent with the Aberdeenshire Council PP.	Support for the SG is noted.
			In relation to the 'Compliance Statement' there is a risk that the requirements may be perceived as an additional stringent test. They are not required for development outside the corridor area and may be interpreted as a requirement to provide more detailed and costly levels of information. SG would be improved if the benefits of preparing a 'Compliance Statement' and clarity on the required	The 'Compliance Statement' is considered an appropriate means for encouraging developers to think about how their proposals contribute to the Energetica project. Compliance Statements need not be lengthy, additional documents, and may form part of existing documents such as Design and Access Statements. Further detail is

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			contents were outlined.	provided within the Energetica Planning Advice document which sits alongside the SG. It is not considered necessary to provide further explanatory detail on the expected content of a Compliance Statement within the SG as the level of information to be provided will differ depending on the scale of the development proposed.
			Requests that further consideration is given to the tests in the SG for the Energetica corridor (para 2.7.2) to ensure that the Council is satisfied that it is supportive of development proposals and does not introduce unnecessary assessment.	Due consideration has been given and it is considered that no unnecessary additional assessment is being proposed.
			Delete the following second paragraph from Energetica SG 2.7.1 - "The guidelines set out in this document shall apply, on a city-wide basis to listed buildings and those within conservation areas, unless otherwise stated. The document is applicable to residential, commercial, indusial and institutional buildings."	Requested sentence deleted.
			Revise and/or prepare all plans to show Eneregtica connections into Aberdeenshire Council area.	The entire Energetica Corridor area (covering areas of both Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire) is illustrated in map form within the Supplementary Guidance.
			Address within the SG the risk that the SG may be perceived as creating more stringent tests for Energetica compared with other locations within and outwith the region.	The suggestion that Energetica is a more 'stringent' test is not supported (see justification above), and therefore no change to the SG is proposed.
			Emphasis that the purpose of the SG is to create a comparatively better quality living and working environment so people are attracted to live and work there, and that planning applications will be considered in this context.	It is considered that the Introductory part of the SG adequately explains both the purpose of the SG and the positive transformations in the Energetica area that is expected with the application of the policy.
			Giving greater clarity relating to the types or sizes of development against which the SG criteria should be tested.	A reference to the Scottish Government's Planning Hierarchy has been included in the SG in order to clarify what is meant by 'Major' and 'Local' developments.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
Townscape and Landscape	Big Buildings	90(1) Ryden obo Dandara	Object to the statement that developments should adhere to and go beyond low and zero carbon measures. The second para in 2.3.1 should be amended to state that the document will apply on a city wide basis. It is not clear why it applies in a city wide basis to Listed Buildings and those within a Conservation Area. The paragraph "Green Credentials" in section 2.3.2 should be deleted. This is already covered in Policy R7 and should not be duplicated. There is no justification for this requirement and it is not appropriate to impose different requirements from those in Policy R7.	As outlined in the objection, development will have to adhere to the low and zero carbon measures, and water efficiency measures as is outlined under Policy R7 of the plan. There is no requirement to delete this sentence but reference should be made to the policy to add clarity. The introductory text is generic. This is being reworked to be more specific to each SG. Big buildings can help to encourage and embraced a low carbon sustainable agenda through the promotion of innovative design solutions such as green walls, green roofs, and rain water management systems. Text to this effect will be added to the SG for clarity.
Townscape and Landscape	Big Buildings	136(22) Civic Society	When considering views to the building from a distance, the context should include views from 360 degrees around the building rather than just one or two selected views. Buildings granted consent in Aberdeen recently have had a big impact from views in directions other than envisaged and presented as part of the planning application. Buildings should refrain from having standard floor to ceiling heights that tend to horizontalise the elevation. Consideration should also be given to the building's surroundings and historical context to ensure that a large building does not overpower existing buildings that show off Aberdeen's granite heritage. The list must include the fact that a big building must respect it's surroundings and improve rather than detract or overpower the existing heritage.	The supplementary guidance outlines a visual impact and analysis assessment is required. This text should have read a landscape and visual impact assessment is required to be submitted. The LVIA is an industry standard. The requirement to ensure the building has well designed proportions and a vertical emphasis is already outlined in the SG. The requirement for big building to respect, consider and improve the site context is already outlined within the SG. This includes complementing or improving the existing site context, consider the natural topography, scale and height of structures, urban grain, streetscape and built form, open spaces, effect on the skyline, and respect, reinforce and, where applicable create opportunists for enhanced views and vistas and make a positive contribution to the skyline when viewed from all angles from near, middle and distant views, both during the day and at night

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
Townscape and Landscape	Big Buildings	158(6) Savills obo Hammersons	Hammerson agree generally with the guidance provided, and the recognition of the positive impact [big buildings] can play within the surrounding urban context. In particular, they support the acknowledgement in Para 2.3.2 that "big buildings must be situated in close proximity to good public transport links.. .." We further support the paragraph below and request that the text "city centre retail core" is added to the paragraph as the boundaries of each area vary slightly ("The most suitable location for big buildings is in the city centre, CITY CENTRE RETAIL CORE, and the immediate surrounding area.. .." With regard to building design, the recognition that appropriate design can be both complementary or contrasting with granite is supported.	We note and welcome the support of the text. The City Centre Retail Core is located within the city centre boundary, with the exception of a small block to the south, which is immediate adjacent to the city centre boundary. The requirement to add 'City Centre Retail Core' would appear to be unnecessary as the location of the said designation is already encompassed within the area expressed within the SG.
Townscape and Landscape	Big Buildings	179(1) Old Aberdeen Heritage Society	There are several concerns in relation to the Big Buildings SG. There is no reference to the colossal impact big buildings would have on the character of Conservation Areas. In their response to the Draft Character Appraisal for Old Aberdeen Conservation Area, Historic Scotland noted the possibility of including a policy relating to extremely large buildings and they noted the threat of the visual impact of new development /tall buildings on the setting of the core of Old Aberdeen. They advocated a Tall Buildings Strategy to address this issue. Historic Scotland also emphasised Old Aberdeen as 'one of Scotland's most outstanding historic townscapes'. The Planning Officer's response to Historic Scotland's comments was to draw attention to the new SG on 'Big Buildings', which would apply to any proposed large/tall buildings in the University areas of Old Aberdeen. The Big Buildings Supplementary Guidance is insufficient as it has not recognised the sensitivities of siting big buildings beside Conservation Areas, and also the detrimental impact they could have on the setting	The SG notes proposals for big buildings will need to have a thorough understanding of their context. This includes development proposals respect and consider: form, mass, scale, height, colour, texture, landscape, climate, connectivity, changing seasons, noise, urban grain and permeability. Further to this big buildings should complement or improve the existing site context, consider the natural topography, scale and height of structures, urban grain, streetscape and built form, open spaces, effect on the skyline, and respect, reinforce and, where applicable create opportunists for enhanced views and vistas and make a positive contribution to the skyline when viewed from all angles from near, middle and distant views, both during the day and at night. The SG is specific in stating the site context has to be investigated, acknowledged, complemented and improved. A competent appraisal of site context will note

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			of the small-scale vernacular character of Old Aberdeen. This SG concentrates on big buildings in the city centre and the immediate surrounding area but adds that if a big building is proposed beyond these locations (such as Old Aberdeen), it will be "assessed against the criteria within this document". It is a shock that there is no criteria in reference to the character, appearance or setting of Conservation Areas. Old Aberdeen has outstanding historical and architectural value and so should be given special consideration and strict safeguards should be in place to protect its setting. The Big Buildings SG is inadequate, in that it does not place at the heart of its concerns the imperative to protect the setting of buildings, streetscapes and views in the City's conservation areas. It needs to be re-written to take account of all the comments made, and incorporate effective policy to protect conservation areas from the detrimental impact of Big Buildings on their setting.	if a site is located within a conservation area. This will itself flag that developments have to be assessed to ensure there is a neutral or positive impact on the character, appearance of setting of the conservation area. As is outlined in the SG big buildings can have a positive impact on their environments.
Townscape and Landscape	Temporary Buildings	179(2) Old Aberdeen Heritage Society	Section 2.5.1 - Introduction to the Topic The SG notes that "*The placement and length of time a temporary building is in place can have a significant impact on the appearance of the building next to which it is located and to the streetscene*." This is an inadequate assessment of the impact of these buildings. It assumes that the temporary building is in a street. This is often not the case. Very often it is placed in the grounds of a public building or institution and it can often, unfortunately, be placed in a landscaped area; or, indeed, in a conservation area, or even a landscaped area within a conservation area. This needs to be reflected in the SG. Perhaps it could read "*can have a significant impact on the appearance of neighbouring buildings, and of the streetscene, or grounds within which it is located. This impact is particularly*	This sentence has been reworded in order to better reflect the potential impact that a temporary building could have without proper consideration.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			detrimental if it is sited within a landscaped area and/or a conservation area, where it will cause harm to their character and amenity".	
			Section 2.5.2 - General Guidance -The first sentence should be more prescriptive, as it was in the 2012 SG, and so read "are designed to cater for short term needs only, and not for longer term accommodation purposes"	Due to advances in their design and technologies, some modular buildings are now of a high enough standard that the Council may, in some circumstances (as described in the SG) consider these structures appropriate for longer term purposes. As such, no change to the noted section is proposed.
			Section 2.5.2 - General Guidance -The heading 'Commercial Buildings', should read 'Commercial and Institutional Buildings', as institutional buildings are otherwise not adequately covered by this SG. These represent a significant proportion of temporary buildings, especially in the grounds of educational institutions.	To ensure clarity, the headings have been changed.
			-Under 'Demountable Buildings', the SG must include provisions which ensure that these buildings do not significantly exceed the required amount of time originally stipulated in the planning permission. There have been occasions in the past where permission was granted for demountable buildings on landscaped amenity areas with established tree and shrub planting. This was allowed despite being contrary to Council guidance by virtue of exceptional circumstances.	Any breaches of planning consent can be reported to the Council's Enforcement Team for their investigation. The SG has been amended to read that temporary buildings should "*avoid areas of landscaping, especially those with established tree or shrub planting*. *In exceptional circumstances this may be unavoidable, and where this is the case, appropriate justification must be provided to demonstrate why development in areas of landscaping is necessary. In such circumstances, a Condition will be attached to any planning permission requiring new landscape to be planted in an agreed timescale following removal of the temporary building."*

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			After the following sentence on demountable buildings *'Thereafter, units may be considered for additional shorter periods if:-'*, we suggest a third bullet point be added: *'the building is not sited on what was formerly a landscaped amenity area, especially one with established tree and shrub planting. If it is, then no extension to the permission will be given, and the landscaping must be fully restored'*. This addition is essential to prevent the abuse of the planning system by applicants wishing to find cheap and easy solutions to accommodation problems with no regard to the environment or amenity of the area.	As noted above, the SG has been amended to read that temporary buildings should "*avoid areas of landscaping, especially those with established tree or shrub planting*. *In exceptional circumstances this may be unavoidable, and where this is the case, appropriate justification must be provided to demonstrate why development in areas of landscaping is necessary. In such circumstances, a Condition will be attached to any planning permission requiring new landscape to be planted in an agreed timescale following removal of the temporary building."*
Townscape and Landscape	Shops and Signs	179(4) Old Aberdeen Heritage Society	This SG is to be used for listed buildings and those within conservation areas, however there is little reference to the distinctive character of these areas and buildings. -Shopfronts There is little acknowledgement of the kind of 'shopfront' found on some historic buildings that are from the 18th or 19th century vernacular. It's important that the shopfront should be true to the character of the building and appropriate to its historical context. -Materials (p21) The guidance is ambivalent as it notes that timber is traditional for Aberdeen and it is therefore to be expected. However it also notes that other traditional materials are also acceptable. This does not address the need for shopfronts in Conservation Areas to follow the traditional pattern. The kind of clear guidance that is needed is noted in the 1993 'Conservation Area Report' for Old Aberdeen. It notes that 'new or replacement shopfronts should be to a design contemporary with the building to which they are attached'.	The SG on Shop and Signs provides general guidance on a city wide basis for all retail and commercial premises, and for developments which are still being built out. The guidance is also to be used on advertisements in industrial areas and the west end office area. The SG covers listed building and buildings within conservation areas. The role of the SG is to provide guidance for those developing shop and signs. Understanding the shopfronts and designing for the context are two general principles outlined on the second page of the SG. Therefore, designers/owners will be expected to assess this prior to developing a design, therefore have an understanding of the age and period of their shop. Historic Environment Scotland have publications on shops and signs which can aid understanding on this topic, such as the online Traditional Shopfronts: A short guide for shop owners and the hard copy Scotland's Shops. These publications will be referenced in the SG

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			-Signage The guidance on fascia signage carries little weight as it talks of 'the expected' method but does not affirm the appropriate and correct method that required. It is unclear what 'painted lettering within the shopfront window' means. This would be inappropriate and historically incorrect for listed buildings. The suggestion that 'individual cut out metal or coated metal letters may be appropriate if fixed to a rail' is out of character with the historic 18th and early 19th century buildings of the High Street in Old Aberdeen, for instance. The Conservation Guidance for Old Aberdeen (1993) notes that 'shop signs should be painted timber'. In sensitive areas like the High Street, this should be so. -Hanging and Projecting Signs This section notes that (non-illuminated) box projection signs with brackets will be permitted if the design is of very high quality and they project no more than 650mm. This is unacceptable as there are many listed buildings where box projection signs would be out of character and historically incorrect. The High Street in Old Aberdeen is an example of such areas. Illuminated sign are not appropriate for historically important buildings where no such signs would have existed. This highlights a lack of regard for the character of Conservation Areas or for the integrity of listed buildings. Moreover, if one illuminated sign is given permission, this will set a precedent which will damage the historic character and integrity of a conservation area/historic building. The Conservation Area Report for Old Aberdeen states that for the core heart of Old Aberdeen, 'no illuminated signs will be permitted'. Conservation Areas are there to be preserved, protected and	-Materials Aberdeen has examples of timber, brass, tile and 1950's style chrome detailed shopfronts. These are also traditional materials used on shopfronts. The SG is to be used citywide and also gives guidance to all conservation areas and listed buildings. The SG outlines, traditional features and proportion which are in situ must remain, the street and surrounding context has to be established and then a design suitable for this needs to be worked up. It is not a requirement to design a shopfront contemporary with the building to which they are attached. Modern interventions can be appropriate. The sentence on fascia signs for listed buildings and conservation areas will be modified to state, *'the preferred lettering method is painted or applied lettering of wood, metal or porcelain onto a timber fascia'.* With regard to the painted lettering within the shopfront window, this will be explained by the associated image in the final SG. To explain, the shop name can be painted/gilded to the window. Typically, this is associated with high-class retailers. The guidance is city wide, and as is outlined above designers need to understand the shopfront and have an awareness of the context. There may be instances where 'individual cut out metal or coated metal letters may be appropriate if fixed to a rail' may be appropriate. The SG has been modified to make it more explicit what is expected as general guidance, what is expected in conservation areas and listed buildings, and what is expected in completely new developments. On listed

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
			enhanced. Illuminated box signs don't contribute to this aim and so should not be permitted within Conservation Areas or on listed buildings. This guidance fails in these respects and instead poses a threat to buildings that the Council has a duty to protect. While non-listed buildings in some Conservation Areas could have box projecting signs, these would be inappropriate in other Areas. This guidance has taken a 'one size fits all' approach to all of Aberdeen's Conservation Areas. However Aberdeen's Conservation Areas differ from each other in terms of size, geographical setting, historical background and distinctive character. This diversity should be the prime consideration when forming policies/guidance on listed buildings/conservation areas. This SG has failed to take account of this diversity. Moreover, the Conservation Management Plan (2013) and Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Old Aberdeen also do not contain guidance on shopfronts or signage. This SG should be re-written to present a robust and protective policy on shopfronts and signage in the historic environment. A specific policy should also be included in the Character Appraisal to protect High Street and its environs. This is because it has long been acknowledged as worthy of exceptional attention, demonstrated by its designation as the City's only Area of Special Control for advertisements before the creation of any of Aberdeen's Conservation Areas.	buildings and in conservation areas where a fascia exists, the preferred lettering method is painted or applied lettering onto the fascia. -Hanging and Projecting Signs As outlined in the general guidance at the start of the document, the context has to be considered and though needs to be given to the impact of the proposed sign on the surrounding area. The guidance now states bespoke well-crafted, generally top hung hanging signs, supported from brackets are preferred and will be supported. Box projecting signs may be used outwith conservation areas and on buildings with no statutory designation if they comply with the general guidance. The guidance on illumination now states, 'External illumination should be sympathetic and appropriate to the commercial frontage, and discrete.' The Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Old Aberdeen has replaced the 1993 Conservation Area Report. Signage has to, as is outlined under paragraph 2.2.2 Guiding Guidelines (now 1.2.2 General Principles), states signs should complement the character, height and period of the building and be in proportion with the building in which is it proposed. A new sentence has been added to the General Principles to states signs are requires to be a positive impact on the building and setting from the signage. This can include not allowing illuminated signs.

SG Topic	SG Name	Rep ID and name	Comment	Response
				The SG is used for the whole city but within it the guiding principles as the start of the document ensure the context of the shopfront, streetscape and signage is addressed, and that interventions are appropriate. The SG does present a robust and protective policy on shopfronts and signs. The SG will not be used in isolation to assess applications, policies from the local development plan and other material considerations will also be used. The Area of Special Control will only add to strengthen arguments ensure signs adhere to the general principles.
Townscape and Landscape	Landscape	179(5) Old Aberdeen Heritage Society	An addition should be made to this SG which would give protection to areas of landscaping around buildings in years to come, to protect them from proposals for further building in these areas. There have been examples of planning permission being given for a large building with conditions that certain landscaping be provided, only to be followed some years later by an application to build on that landscaped area. It is our view that if the landscaped area was judged important enough to be required for permission for the original building, then it must be protected against further development in the future, which would then detract from the setting of that building.	Additional text has been inserted into the Supplementary Guidance to provide further information on what is expected of development proposals. This advises that a thorough assessment of a site is expected, and that this will include consideration of any existing landscape features. Applications for planning permission will be considered on this basis.

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Appendix 4: List of Statutory Supplementary Guidance and Non-Statutory Planning Guidance to accompany the Aberdeen Local Development Plan (ALDP) 2017

Report Number – CHI/16/158
Council – 14th December 2016

- **46** pieces of Supplementary Guidance (Statutory Guidance and part of the Local Development Plan)
  - **28** Policy Supplementary Guidance, in 7 Topic Areas, and
  - **18** Site Specific Supplementary Guidance (with more likely to follow during Plan period)
- **19** pieces of Non-Statutory Planning Guidance (with more likely to follow within the Plan period)

Table 1 - Supplementary Guidance - Policies

ALDP 2017 Status	Title of Document
Supplementary Guidance	**Topic Area 1: Townscape and Landscape (7 docs)**
	- The Repair and Replacement of Windows and Doors (previously TAN)
	- Shops and Signs
	- Big Buildings
	- Stonecleaning
	- Temporary Buildings
	- Landscape
	- Energetica
Supplementary Guidance	**Topic Area 2: Modifications to Existing Buildings and Curtilages (3 docs)**
	- Householder Development Guide
	- Sub-Division and Redevelopment of Residential Curtilages
	- Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside
Supplementary Guidance	**Topic Area 3: Retail and Commercial (5 docs)**
	- Hierarchy of Centres
	- Union Street Frontages
	- Harmony of Uses
	- Serviced Apartments
	- Children's Nurseries
Supplementary Guidance	**Topic Area 4: Planning Obligations, Affordable & Specialist Housing Provision (3 docs)**
	- Planning Obligations
	- Affordable Housing
	- Gypsy and Traveller Sites
Supplementary Guidance	**Topic Area 5: Transport, Air Quality and Noise (3 docs)**
	- Transport and Accessibility
	- Air Quality
	- Noise
Supplementary Guidance	**Topic Area 6: Natural Environment (4 docs)**
	- Natural Heritage
	- Trees and Woodlands
	- Flooding, Drainage and Water Quality
	- Green Space Network and Open Space
Supplementary Guidance	**Topic Area 7: Resources (3 docs)**
	- Resources for New Developments
	- Wind Turbine Development
	- Heat Mapping (To Be Prepared)

Table 2 - Supplementary Guidance – Site Specific

ALDP 2017 Status	Title of Document
Supplementary Guidance	Bay of Nigg Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Bridge of Don AECC (Existing) Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Countesswells Development Framework and Phase One Masterplan
Supplementary Guidance	Dubford Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Friarsfield Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Former Davidson's Mill Development Framework and Phase One Masterplan
Supplementary Guidance	Grandhome Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Kingswells (Prime Four) Development Framework and Phase One Masterplan
Supplementary Guidance	Kingswells (Prime Four) Phases Two and Three Masterplan
Supplementary Guidance	Kingswells (Prime Four Expansion) OP63 Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Loirston Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Maidencraig Masterplan
Supplementary Guidance	Newhills Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Oldfold Development Framework and Masterplan
Supplementary Guidance	Persley Den / Woodside Masterplan
Supplementary Guidance	Rowett North AECC Development Framework
Supplementary Guidance	Stoneywood Development Framework and Masterplan
Supplementary Guidance	West Huxterstone Masterplan

Table 3 - Non-Statutory Planning Guidance - Technical Advice Notes (Policy)

ALDP 2017 Status	Title of Document
Technical Advice Note	Repair and Replacement of Cast Iron Railings
Technical Advice Note	Aberdeen Airport
Technical Advice Note (previously SG)	Aberdeen Masterplanning Process
Technical Advice Note (previously SG)	Design Review Panel
Technical Advice Note	Retail Impact Assessments
Technical Advice Note	Student Accommodation

Table 4 - Non-Statutory Planning Guidance - Local Planning Advice (Site Specific)

ALDP 2017 Status	Title of Document
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	Aberdeen Harbour (Development Framework)
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	Balgownie Centre, Bridge of Don (Planning Brief)
Local Planning Advice	Bon Accord Baths (Planning Brief)
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	Broadford Works (Design Brief)
Local Planning Advice	Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Plan
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	Denburn Valley (Planning Brief)
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	Fire Station Site, North Anderson Drive (Planning Brief)
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	Hillhead Campus (Planning Brief)
Local Planning Advice	Murcar (Development Framework)
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	Pinewood / Hazledene (Planning Brief)
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	River Don Corridor Framework
Local Planning Advice (previously SG)	RGU City Centre (Planning Brief)
Local Planning Advice	Station Gateway (Development Brief)
Local Planning Advice	St Peter's Nursery Site (Redevelopment Brief) (DM Committee 8th December)

6- EHRIA Summary and Action Planning				
Report Title	Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017 and supplementary guidance (policy and site specific)			
Assessment not required	**Evidence** **N/A**			
Assessment completed	**As a result of completing this assessment, what actions are proposed to remove or reduce any risks of adverse outcomes which were identified.**			
Identified Risk and to whom:	**Recommended Actions:**	**Responsible Lead:**	**Completion Date:**	**Review Date:**
None identified	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**

7: Sign off	
Completed by (Names and Services) :	Andrew Brownrigg Planning and Sustainable Development
Signed off by (Head of Service) :	

Only sections 6 and 7 will be attached to the committee report

The full EHRIA will be published on Aberdeen City Council's website under http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/xeq_EHRIA_Search.asp

Please send an electronic format of the full EHRIA without signature to: SHoward@aberdeencity.gov.uk

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14 December 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Berryden Corridor Improvements Scheme, Compulsory Purchase Order
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/16/240
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update Council of scheme progress and advise Council of the extent of land to be acquired though compulsory purchase order (CPO) to facilitate the construction of the scheme.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

a) notes the content of this report;

b) approves progression of the scheme on the basis of the plan attached in Appendix A;

c) instructs Officers to prepare a Compulsory Purchase Order and supporting information to acquire the necessary land that cannot be secured by voluntary acquisition through a negotiated process;

d) instructs Officers report to a future meeting of Council to seek a resolution to make the Compulsory Purchase Order once the supporting documents are completed;

e) instructs officers, in tandem with the CPO preparation, to continue to attempt voluntary acquisition using delegated authority as granted by Council on 17 August 2016;

f) authorises transfer of required land from the Common Good account to the General Fund Account at current market value.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Budget for land costs are included within the existing non-housing capital plan for land and property purchase costs associated to the Berryden Corridor

Voluntary acquisition has been offered in cases where there is likely to be a significant impact upon private ground for individual houses. Any properties acquired for the scheme which are not demolished will be resold on completion of the project with the proceeds being returned to the project budget. This will generally be the case where property may have a significant reduction in private ground and resultant value but are not demolished.

3.2 Current estimated costs for various elements of the project are still at a high level with a varying level of contingency to reflect the risks. As the project is more defined and greater information becomes known, assurances around costs will improve.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Resources from both Communities, Housing and Infrastructure and Corporate Governance will be required to complete the land acquisitions necessary to implement the scheme. Due to the size and scale of the scheme, these services will require to be supported by external resource.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

The Berryden Corridor was identified as a key project within the Strategic Infrastructure Plan, which was approved in October 2013 and has been included in the Council's Non-Housing Capital Programme.

Policy Context

The Berryden Corridor is included in the following polices:

- The Local Transport Strategy;
- the section that is subject to planning approval is identified within the Local Development Plan;
- the City Centre Masterplan identifies Berryden as a committed scheme that will contribute to the measures necessary to implement this proposal;
- the Roads Hierarchy will seek to lock in the benefits of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route by influencing how traffic moves in and around the city centre.

As there have been many changes within the city that have a potential bearing on the project e.g. new and committed developments, the City Centre Masterplan (CCMP), the Local Development Plan, transport policies and priorities etc the previously approved design has been reviewed and updated to reflect the above factors.

As a result the modelling was refreshed in 2014/15 to take account of the most recent data at that time, alongside the work that was then being carried out for the City Centre Masterplan and the proposed Roads Hierarchy.

The Berryden scheme improves a key strategic transport corridor that currently suffers from significant congestion during peak periods. The proposals at this location will allow flexibility in the implementation of wider measures identified in the City Centre Masterplan which is aimed at improving the city centre for all those who live in, work in and visit it. This will be achieved by encouraging city centre traffic to travel via appropriate strategic routes into the city centre and therefore allowing certain key city centre streets to be accessed by more sustainable modes such as pedestrians, cyclists and public transport. The scheme also seeks to improve the overall standard of this key strategic corridor.

Along with the modelling update, the opportunity was also taken to review the 2009 preliminary design, particularly along Caroline Place as the previous design contained compromises in footway and cycleway widths as well visibility splays to preserve the existing residential buildings.

Various alternate options were identified that considered the balance between improving the design and the consequential impact upon the built environment. Following consultation with affected residents the current proposal was presented to and subsequently approved by Council on 17 August 2016.

The current design also proposes to replace the Elm Place roundabout with a set of traffic signals. This will have a limited impact on capacity but it does significantly improve crossing facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, albeit with the removal of a U-turn facility for traffic on the corridor.

The design also strives to introduce separation strips alongside the footway. These strips essentially provide a visual buffer between the footway/cycleway and to give pedestrians a sense that they are more remote from traffic. Due to the constrained nature of the corridor this facility may be reduced or removed along certain sections where there simply isn't enough room to fit these strips in.

The proposed scheme is outlined in the plan attached in Appendix A.

The next step

It is proposed that the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) be finalised on the basis of the design attached to the report.

If CPO is used it is highly likely that objections will be raised. However, without a CPO it is unlikely that the Council will secure the land voluntarily in all cases. As a consequence it is likely that a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) will be held, although this is at the discretion of Scottish Ministers.

There are certain issues that have been raised as concerns by various consultees both in the past and as part of the more recent stakeholder engagement. It is likely that the following issues in particular will be raised at PLI:

- Traffic impact along the corridor
- Impact upon air quality
- Noise impacts

Air quality and noise consultants have been appointed to provide a report on the likely impacts based upon the current design as proposed and to give advice on what mitigation measures may be practically incorporated into the scheme. As these measures may involve increased land take it is proposed to seek authorisation from Council to make the finalised Order and formally progress the CPO process.

Completing such assessments ahead of the CPO process would allow for the results to be made publically available to those affected by the CPO ahead of any PLI. This would also mean that supporting documentation will be available at PLI to reduce the risk of challenge or rejection of the CPO.

It is anticipated that these assessments will be completed early in 2017 but this will be contingent on the availability of adequate traffic modelling data to inform the assessments.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –
The Berryden Corridor Improvement would represent a substantial upgrade to the local and strategic transport network and would benefit a variety of users whether motor vehicle, bicycle or pedestrian. Improvement of this corridor also helps the delivery of other Aberdeen City Council policies.

Improving Staff Experience –
Improvement of this corridor helps the delivery of other Aberdeen City Council policies.

Improving our use of Resources –
The scheme would represent investment in our transport infrastructure and will extend the operational life of sections of existing road infrastructure thereby allowing for maintenance budget to be invested elsewhere on the network.

Corporate -
The project is in accordance with the Council's Community Plan where it assists in the delivery of the aim to "maintain and improve the range of transport choices available to, from and within the city" and it is a significant contribution to the achievement of outcomes 10, 12 and 14 within the Single Outcome Agreement which, in a local context, seek to improve sustainable travel options.

Aberdeen – The Smarter City has the priority of "provid[ing] and promot[ing] a sustainable transport system, including cycling, which reduces our carbon emissions." The project contributes to this.

The scheme is identified within the Local transport Strategy (LTS), the Strategic Infrastructure Programme and the City Centre Masterplan (CCMP).

Public –
There will be public interest in the scheme, in terms of its contribution to reducing congestion in the area, other local effects of the changes in the transport network and the impact it will have upon the built environment.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

A number of key risks are currently identified with the delivery of this project.

- The need for and duration of the PLI is a matter for Scottish Ministers and their appointed Reporter.

- The CPO may face challenge or rejection if a suitably robust case is not made and sufficient supporting documentation made available.

- Statutory consents such as planning approval have yet to be secured and may be considered barriers to the delivery of the scheme. The PLI Reporter / Scottish Ministers may take this into consideration on whether or not to confirm the CPO or may delay the CPO until these matters are resolved.

- The compensation values may exceed the estimate.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

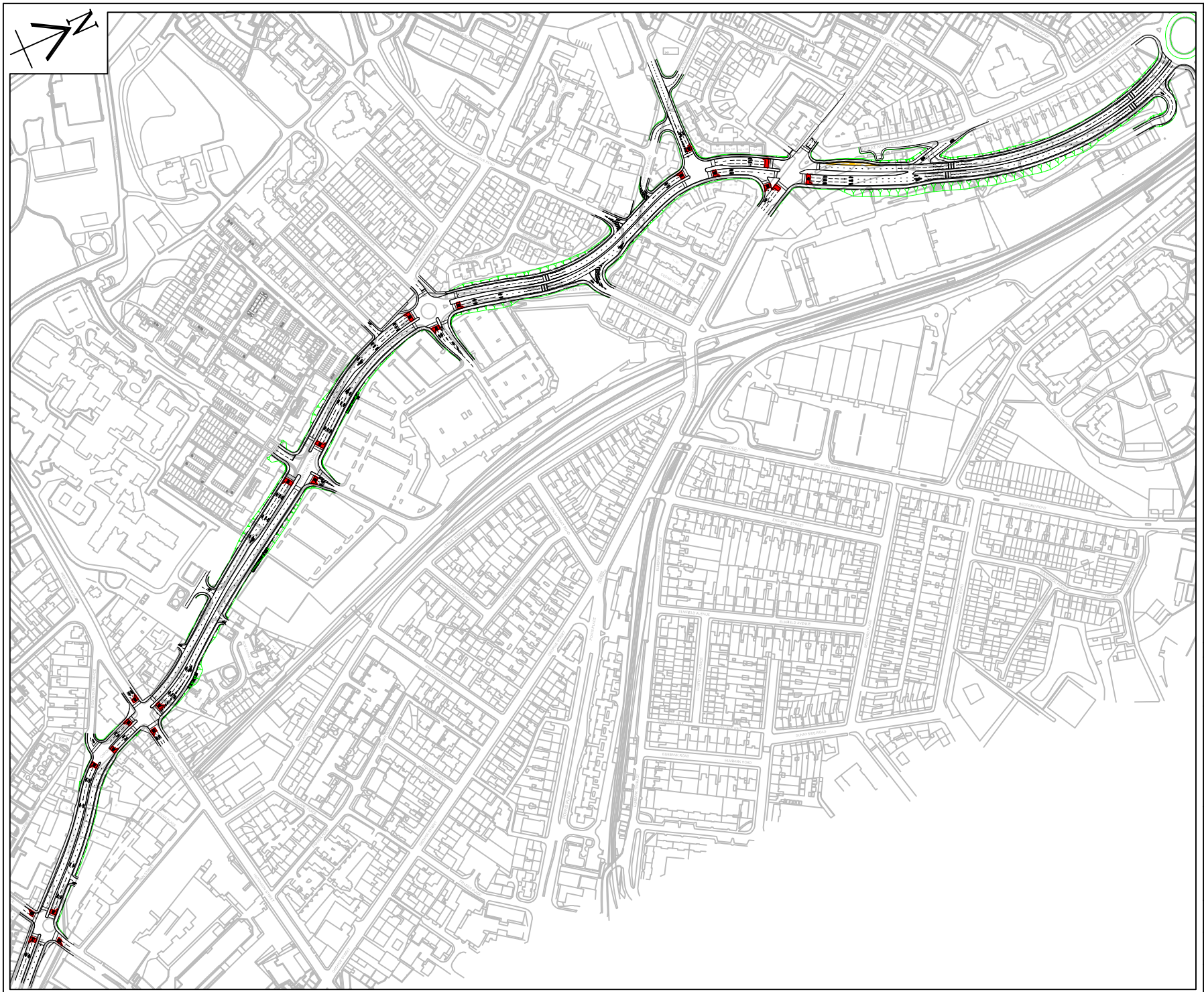
Council – May 2016

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Appendix A

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Rev.	Drawn	Checked	Description	Date

Client.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

Project.

BERRYDEN CORRIDOR

Title.

INDICATIVE LAYOUT PLAN 2016

Drawn (init./date)	Checked (init./date)
W.F. 30/11/16	M.M. 30/11/16

Scale & sheet size

NOT TO SCALE

Drawing No.

1/R/D5121/R/100-A4

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14 December 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Shaping Aberdeen Housing LLP Business Plan Update
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/16/223
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on progress regarding the production and timescale for the Business Plan for Shaping Aberdeen Housing LLP.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

To note the contents of this report and the associated timescale for the production of the Shaping Aberdeen Housing LLP Business Plan. To note that the Business Plan will be reported to Communities Housing and Infrastructure Committee on the 24 January 2017, then to Full Council immediately thereafter for Council ratification.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for the Council arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications for the Council arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

A Progress Report was made to Council on 17th August 2016 entitled 'Strategic Mixed Tenure Housing for Aberdeen City: Progress Report'

Report No. CHI/16/182, this progress report stated that: “It is intended that the finalised business plan will be reported to the next meeting of the Council on 6th October 2016” The LLP’s financial Business Plan is currently still under preparation by Places for People who have intimated a draft Business Plan being submitted to the Council on the 25 November 2016. Council officers will then review the validity and assumptions of the travelling draft Business Plan prior to reporting to Council. It is anticipated, subject to receiving the travelling draft Business Plan, that a report and recommendation to approve the Business Plan will be made at the next appropriate Full Council meeting or extra ordinary Council meeting.

The Business Plan will require to be formally agreed and approved by Shaping Aberdeen Housing LLP’s Management Board, then approved by both the Council and Places for People Homes Limited and implementation thereafter by Shaping Aberdeen Housing LLP. It should be noted that the travelling draft Business Plan being prepared still demonstrates viability over the 30 year term with the same commentary as reported in Appendix 1 of the ‘Strategic Mixed Tenure Housing for Aberdeen City: Progress Report’ Report No. CHI/16/182 dated 17 August 2016.

The delays in the production of the Business Plan are directly related to a number of issues including:-

i. The deletion of 270 affordable homes from the ‘three’ sites at Tillydrone, namely, the Former St Machar Primary School site, the Former Tillydrone Primary School site and the Former Aberdon Care Home site from the proposed Business Plan (reference ‘Future Primary Education Provision in Tillydrone and Old Aberdeen’ reference: ECS/16/060 dated 6 October 2016).

   The Former Aberdon Care Home site is considered unviable in isolation resulting from the deletion of the former Tillydrone P.S. site and the former St Machar P.S. site. Reference should also be made to the key development sites referenced in Appendix 1 of Council report dated 17 August 2016 ref: CHI/16/182 of which the three sites at Tillydrone contribute in excess of 25% of the total new build housing numbers.

   The aforementioned has resulted in modifications to the Shaping Aberdeen Housing Business Plan due to change in asset base, change in funding requirements, change in rental stream and importantly changes in available cash / loan note facility from Places for People to the LLP.

ii. The Business Plan has necessitated considerable review in respect of the previously reported “significantly more mezzanine finance” reference Appendix 1 of Council report dated 17 August 2016 ref: CHI/16/182 this relates to scenario testing of each site which has impacted again on the production timescale of the Business Plan.

iii. Changes in the Aberdeen Housing Market which have impacted on the Business Plan and necessitated review in relation to the core rental market and Private Sector Rental levels, together with 'time to let' being assessed relative to MMR rental need and demand. The changes within the housing market in Aberdeen impacts on the bench marking process for the Business Plan.

The Business Plan provides comfort in relation to the MMR and the core market of key workers (Public Sector Workers such as teachers / nurses / etc.) on modest incomes. The fundamental element to the changing market in Aberdeen is that of residential property valuations and their impact on Shaping Aberdeen Housing LLP's borrowing capacity. In simple terms this is based upon the Market Valuation (MV) of property. MMR borrowing is based upon 80% of MV with lending based upon 70% of the principle i.e. 56% of MV. Therefore as property valuations reduce the amount that can be borrowed against the properties reduces and the mezzanine debt levels increase. The updated Business Plan takes cognisance of this in its assumptions and solutions and again this has impacted on the production of the Business Plan and timescale.

iv. Appendix 1 of Council report dated 17 August 2016 ref: CHI/16/182 stated "The recent Brexit vote has introduced a degree of uncertainty in the future of the economy and local markets. Over the coming weeks a detailed review of the tenure mix on the existing sites together with the delivery programme will be undertaken while the impact of the Brexit vote is monitored." This work has now concluded and ironically the availability of funding in the housing rental market has improved significantly as a direct result of Brexit this is due to the greater degree of certainty in respect of housing need and demand as demonstrated in the significant under supply of all tenures in Scotland and the UK as a whole. This was demonstrated in the Places for People bond issue of (£400m) which was twelve times oversubscribed. This 'testing' of Brexit is important in relation to the Business Plan and the timing thereof.

The aforementioned challenges have necessitated review, scenario and stress testing of the travelling draft Business Plan in relation to tenure mix and funding options, this in turn has created the delay in finalisation of the Business Plan being reported to Full Council in October / December 2016. The draft Business Plan will be received on the 25th November 2016 when Council officers will then review the validity and assumptions of the Business Plan prior to reporting to Communities Housing and Infrastructure and thereafter to full Council for ratification.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –

Impact of proceeding with this Strategic Mixed Tenure Housing Project was previously reported to the Council meeting on 8th October 2015.

Improving Staff Experience –

Not Applicable.

Improving our use of Resources –

Impact of proceeding with this Strategic Mixed Tenure Housing Project was previously reported to the Council meeting on 8th October 2015.

Corporate -

This report is in accordance with the Council's Strategic Infrastructure Plan as reported • 20th August 2014 (H&E/14/054)

Public –

The Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) form has been completed and an impact assessment is not required.

Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) screening has been undertaken and a PIA is not necessary.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

There are no decisions required of the Council in relation to this report and therefore there is no consequential requirement for an assessment of risks identified with the potential to impact negatively or positively.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Strategic Infrastructure Plan
Committee Reports:

- 20th August 2014 (H&E/14/054)
- 10th June 2014 (EPI/14/165)
- 8th October 2014 (CHI/14/038)
- 8th October 2015 (CHI/15/241)
- 17 August 2016 (CHI/16/182)
- 6th October 2016 (ECS/16/060)

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Full Council
DATE	14 December 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Aberdeen and Mokpo, South Korea
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/16/316
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval for the planned visit by the Lord Provost to Japan in early 2017 to be extended to include a visit to Mokpo, South Korea, to enable the signing of the outstanding Memorandum of Understanding with Mokpo to be undertaken.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Council:

1. Approve the inclusion of Mokpo, South Korea to the planned trip by the Lord Provost and one accompanying officer to Japan in February or March 2017.

2. Instruct officers from the Economic and Development Service to report back to Council on this trip as part of the Elected Members Overseas Travel Bulletin submitted to Council.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The approved 2016/2017 International Trade Plan includes an estimated budget of £6,000 to cover the costs of the Lord Provost and two accompanying officers for the trip to Japan. In order to accommodate the additional Mokpo element it is proposed that one officer accompanies the Lord Provost, therefore releasing up to £2,000 of the allocated budget to cover the additional costs incurred.

There are no State Aid implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Staffing: The Council's Economic Development Service will provide the staffing resource required through the International Trade and Investment team that is comprised of three FTE staff.

The 2016/2017 International Trade and Investment Plan approved at Committee in January 2016 states the international trade priorities by sector (energy); and by market (US, Canada, Norway, Mozambique, Mexico, Japan and the World Energy Cities Partnership) and the capacity of officers to support trade development activities in these areas.

A visit to Japan, to build on relationships with Kobe, Nagasaki and the Mitsubishi Corporation, is already planned to take place in the early part of 2017. Given the relative proximity to Mokpo, this additional leg to the trip to enable the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding is proposed.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

The Scottish Government Economic Strategy lists internationalisation as one of its 4 key pillars and the 2014 Wilson Review of Support for Scottish Exporting calls for further coordinated support for more Scottish businesses to export more products to more markets.

The Regional Economic Strategy also has internationalisation as one of its 4 key themes, underlining the importance of exporting to the success of the Aberdeen economy.

The Council's International Trade and Investment team helps to create the conditions for sustainable economic growth in the City by providing tailored support to City businesses to enhance their internationalisation (ie increase their export of products and services).

Officers support trade missions, host inward business delegations (over 30 in 2015), facilitate contacts between local and international companies, hold business seminars, attend key industry conferences and exhibitions and provide market intelligence – including leading in the creation of new international cooperation links in specifically identified niche markets in which Aberdeen City Council is particularly well placed as a facilitator compared to other trade support organisations.

Aberdeen City Council approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mokpo in an Enterprise, Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Committee decision taken in January 2014 [report number EPI/13/260]. The MoU was not subsequently signed, in part due to a ferry disaster in Mokpo that resulted in the deaths of over 300 people in April 2014 and which meant that planned activity with Mokpo was postponed.

In 2014 South Korea was the world's 13th largest economy by Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) according to the

International Monetary Fund (IMF). It has a GDP per capita (PPP) of USD 35,277 – 3 times that of China and almost equal to Japan's.

Benefits for UK companies exporting to South Korea include:

- the European Union (EU)-Korea Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the only EU FTA in east Asia/Pacific, is estimated to be worth over £500 million to UK business each year
- South Korea is a designated high growth market for UK exports, increasing year on year since 2009
- Korean public has a taste for British culture and respect for UK goods
- President Park's 'creative economy' policy is pushing Korean businesses towards sectors and industries of traditional UK strength
- close proximity to the wider Asia-Pacific region and markets

Strengths of the Korean economy include:

- world leader in electronics, shipbuilding, steel and automotive
- ranked first in Bloomberg's Global Innovation Index 2015
- 74% of South Koreans undertake postgraduate-level education, with 7% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) spent on education
- highest level of broadband penetration in the world, with speeds of 100 megabytes
- leads the world in 4G mobile usage, with plans to invest USD1.7 billion in 5G by 2020
- 15 Free Trade Agreements (FTA) currently in place and 11 more under negotiation

The particular focus of the Aberdeen-Mokpo MoU will be on renewable energy (especially offshore wind and wave/tidal), marine engineering and higher education links over an initial three-year period, as outlined in the January 2014 report.

6. IMPACT

Corporate - The contents of the report relate to supporting the Regional Economic Strategy for the North East of Scotland and in particular, the internationalisation priorities and anchoring the oil and gas sector and diversifying the economy – within the energy sector itself; and into other key sectors. The contents of the report also relate to delivering some economic development aspects of the Administration's Smarter Aberdeen vision.

Public – Neither an Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment nor a Privacy Impact Assessment is required for this report. There may be some public/media interest in overseas travel by Elected Members and Officers.

Improving Customer Experience – The Depute Provost's trade ambassadorial role supports the customer (the Aberdeen business community) experience by:

- Paving the way for Aberdeen companies to win new export business by facilitating direct business to business links

- Maintaining and building on the profile of Aberdeen as a global energy capital and world centre of excellence for subsea technology

Improving Staff Experience – Supporting the Lord Provost's civic and ambassadorial role provides the staff involved with valuable experience of dealing with a wide range of internal (Elected Members, senior officers) and external (businesses, Government personnel, diplomats etc) customers from a range of countries, cultures and backgrounds.

Improving our use of Resources – By working in partnership with North East Scotland Trade Group partners on the delivery of coordinated trade development activities, the Council is able in some cases to share the workload and take lead or supporting roles where appropriate, without compromising the level of service delivered to the customer – the Aberdeen business community.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Health and Safety: The health and safety implications of all overseas journeys are taken into account during planning, with any exceptional implications to be addressed at the time. Officers regularly review the travel advice provided by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and are in contact with counterparts in-country to ensure information is accurate and up-to-date. When participating in overseas journeys, Council officers and Elected Members are covered by the Council's insurance policy. A risk assessment is carried out for each overseas journey.

Risk Management: The risks associated with **not** undertaking international trade development work in general are:

- City companies would have significantly reduced opportunities to enter new export markets and exploit export opportunities;
- Aberdeen's position as a global energy capital would be compromised if there was no local support, for example, to host high-level visiting business delegations; likewise, there would be a serious risk of loss of visibility on the world energy industry stage if profile was not maintained and enhanced at key overseas trade events;
- The Council would not be fulfilling its obligations in the Single Outcome Agreement, the vision for Smarter Aberdeen, or the Scottish Government Economic Strategy, which has internationalisation as one of its four pillars, as does the Regional Economic Strategy.
- Aberdeen-based companies are increasingly exposed to competition from international suppliers all looking to service the global oil and gas supply chain from locations around the world, some of which have a lower cost base than the North Sea. Targeted export market entry support makes a key contribution to sustaining the competitive edge of Aberdeen companies.
- Loss of targeted local support to local businesses could contribute to their failure, or their decision to relocate from Aberdeen.
- With the current low oil price and general downturn in the global oil and gas sector, the greatest opportunities for growth are to be found in

established and emerging export markets, so support to enable businesses to exploit these opportunities is much needed.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Scottish Government Economic Strategy
- 2014 Wilson Review of Support for Scottish Exporting
- Proposal for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Aberdeen and Mokpo, South Korea (EPI/13/260)
- 2016/2017 International Trade and Investment Plan CHI/15/300 approved at Communities Housing and Infrastructure Committee on 20/1/16
- Bulletin reports on the outcomes of each overseas visit undertaken by Elected Members submitted to Council 16/12/15, 29/06/16

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	14th December 2016
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report
REPORT NUMBER	ECS/16/083
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents to Elected Members, the Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report for 2015/16 financial year. The purpose of the report is to inform members of the role of the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO); to provide information on statutory decision making in the period and; to give a progress report on key areas of social work and social care provision within Aberdeen City.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that members of the Council:

(i) Note the content of the Annual Report, as attached at Appendix 1 and;

(ii) Offer comment and observations on the content.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications arising from this report, as it offers observation on social work activity in the preceding year.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

The role of the Chief Social Work Officer is a statutory post in accordance with the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, as amended by

the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994. This requires Local Authorities to appoint a single CSWO for the purposes of listed social work functions.

The required qualifications of the CSWO are set out in regulations. National Guidance on the role of the CSWO was published by the Scottish Government in 2009 and was revised in July 2016. The guidance provides an overview of the Chief Social Work Officer's role, outlining the responsibility for values and standards, decision making and leadership. The guidance also covers accountability and reporting arrangements. For members' interest, the guidance is attached as Appendix 2.

The Chief Social Work Officer provides advice to the Council on social work matters; undertakes decision making in respect of statutory functions and; provides professional governance, leadership and accountability for the delivery of social work and social care services, whether they are provided by the Council or on behalf of the Council by another agency. *Social Work in Scotland*, an Audit Scotland Report published in September 2016 outlined the increased complexity of the role as follows: "With integration and other changes over recent years, the key role of the chief social work officer (CSWO) has become more complex and challenging. Councils need to ensure that CSWOs have the status and capacity to enable them to fulfil their statutory responsibilities effectively".

This report is consistent with the guidance laid down by the Chief Social Work Adviser, with regard to the content and format of Chief Social Work Officers' annual reports. The annual report does not provide a complete account of social work activity over the year. Rather it is an opportunity to provide an overview of the range of services and initiatives in social care and to highlight key achievements and challenges.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience – there is no direct impact on the customer experience as this report provides a historical overview of social work activity during the 2015/16 financial year. However, the report does contain key actions to be delivered during the present financial year, which are designed to improve the social work services we deliver and commission.

Improving Staff Experience – there is no direct impact for staff, as the report provides a historical overview of social work activity during the 2015/16 financial year. The major developments contained within the report, such as Health and Social Care Integration and Reclaiming Social Work impact upon staff and will be reported on and monitored through reports to the relevant committees, within the Council and the Health and Social Care Partnership.

Improving our use of Resources – there is no direct impact on the use of resources, as the report provides a historical overview of social work activity during the 2015/16 financial year. The impacts of major developments, such as the going live of the Health and Social Care Integration and the implementation of Reclaiming Social Work are reported on and monitored through reports to the relevant committees.

Corporate - the report provides a historical overview of social work activity. As it is written to a standard template, there are no direct links expressed within it to key Corporate priorities. However, the report and the developments within it are consistent with Corporate priorities.

Public – it is unlikely that this report will be of significant interest to the public. An EHRIA and a PIA have not been completed, as the report covers historical activity.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

There is no risk associated with this paper, as it presents a historical review of activity. There are risk registers in place within the Education and Children's Services Directorate and for the Health and Social Care Partnership.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The report is based on information provided by officers both within the Council and from partner agencies, information available on the Council website and statistical information provided from the Council's management information systems.

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ANNUAL REPORT BY LOCAL AUTHORITY CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER 2015-2016

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

1. Foreword

I am pleased to present the Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report for Aberdeen City for 2015-2016. This provides an overview of the social work services provided, information on statutory decisions made by the Chief Social Work Officer on behalf of the Council and some of the key challenges facing the service in 2016-2017 and beyond.

Every local authority is required to have a professionally qualified Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO), as set out in Section 45 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994. The qualifications are set down in regulations that state that the CSWO must be registered as a Social Worker with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC).

The overall aim of the CSWO role is to ensure that the Council receives effective, professional advice and guidance in the provision of all social work services, whether these are provided directly, in partnership with other agencies, or purchased on behalf of the local authority. The CSWO has a responsibility for overall performance improvement and the identification, management and reporting of corporate risks as these relate to social work services. To fulfill these responsibilities, the CSWO has direct access to elected members, reporting through the Education and Children's Services Committee and has direct links to the Chief Executive.

The CSWO provides professional leadership and promotes values and standards of professional practice, ensuring that only Registered Social Workers undertake those functions reserved in legislation and that social service workers meet the requirements of their regulatory body and the SSSC Codes of Practice. Any social service worker may approach the CSWO for professional advice.

A number of specific statutory responsibilities are discharged by the CSWO. These relate primarily to decisions about the curtailment of individual freedom and the protection of individuals and the public, which must be made by the CSWO or by a professionally qualified social worker to whom the responsibility has been delegated by the CSWO and for which the CSWO remains accountable.

There must be CSWO cover 24 hours a day, every day of the year. The Head of Children's Social Work is the Chief Social Work Officer. To ensure that CSWO cover is in place at all times, the Council has in place a scheme of delegation of the statutory responsibilities to the two Lead Service Managers in Children's Social Work and the Head of Joint Operations, Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership, all of whom are registered social workers.

Since the last Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report, there have been significant changes in the delivery of social work within the City. On 1st April, the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership "went live" and social work services for Adults, Older People and those in receipt of Criminal Justice Services are now provided by the Partnership. The Council has also seen the introduction of the first Reclaiming Social Work Units and the development of new commissioning arrangements for children's social work. All of these have the potential to fundamentally change the delivery landscape of social care and social work across the City and across our partner agencies.

All of these changes are being and will continue to be delivered against a challenging economic and financial backdrop. The City Council will face significant budget pressures in the next and subsequent years, with difficult decisions requiring to be made about the future shape and size of service provision. These pressures are felt not just by ourselves, but also by our colleagues in the third and private sectors.

The City Council commissions high volumes of social care and the difficulty of securing care has continued over the past year. These are challenges that the City Council and the Health and Social Care partnership are addressing through innovative commissioning approaches, which are outlined later in this report.

Both the City Council, the Health and Social Care Partnership and our stakeholders and partners face recruitment challenges, with difficulty in filling key posts. Some pressure has been eased, due to the downturn in the local economy, which has seen increased application for some types of posts. However, professional vacancies remain hard to fill and some services are holding more vacancies than we would like. Approaches to filling posts and tackling our workforce priorities are outlined later in the report.

Despite these challenges, as Chief Social Work Officer, I believe that we are in a good place to deal with these challenges, due to the motivated and hard working staff group that we have in place.

Bernadette Oxley
Chief Social Work Officer and Head of Children's Social Work

2. Summary Reflections - Key challenges and developments during the past year

Reclaiming Social Work - Changing the focus of children's social work services

Children's social work is a statutory, targeted service working with those families who are among the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in the city. Many of the children of these families are required to work with us on a compulsory basis.

The Reclaiming Social Work model is a whole system redesign of social work services for families in need in Aberdeen. It recognises the important role that social workers play in helping and supporting families in need and we want to make sure that they are free to focus on this work. This is why we have made a number of changes to enable social workers to work more collaboratively and concentrate on social work, not unnecessary bureaucracy. To achieve this, we are redesigning our service into systemic Social Work Units which will replace traditional teams, as well as providing training in systemic practice for our staff.

Following a review of the proposed structure, some changes were made to the focus of some Units who will retain an element of "specialism" i.e. Children with Disabilities and Children who require permanence. The initial Units commenced operation in February 2016. Following a job matching process all staff have been matched into a post in the new structure. This has been an unsettling but necessary exercise to go through to ensure we have the right staff with the right skills in each post.

Each Unit is headed by a consultant social worker and includes a social worker, a clinical practitioner and a unit co-ordinator who provide an enhanced admin role. Some Units will contain 2 social workers reflective of the statutory nature of the work and the need for them to visit children often placed out of the city. Units will have responsibility for a number of families, contrasting with the current position where each social worker works with a number of individual children.

Implementation of the Reclaiming Social Work model will significantly contribute to children's social work's continuing efforts to improve the services delivered to and the outcomes of the most vulnerable children and young people in Aberdeen. This will include a reduction in the number of children accommodated by the local authority including those placed in high cost residential and foster placements.

Putting it into practice

Scoping work on introducing Reclaiming Social Work began in 2013. Although work on the introduction of the model began in 2013, the proposed structure was only approved in January 2015 and full implementation began in June 2015. Governance is provided by a Programme Board which includes internal and external representation, whilst a Project Team has managed the process.

In preparation for moving to the new structure, 110 frontline staff completed an Association of Family Therapy accredited 18 day practitioners course in systemic practice during 2014 and 2015. Further training for new staff as well as shorter courses is planned during 2016/17. This will include a 2nd year of systemic training allowing 20 staff, clinical practitioners and consultant social workers, to further develop their knowledge and skills.

An independent evaluation of how the model is being introduced in Aberdeen is being undertaken and annual reports are provided during the implementation process. Reports have been insightful and provided a learning opportunity to further consider the views of staff and stakeholders.

Aberdeen is the first local authority in Scotland to implement Reclaiming Social Work. We are extremely proud of this and how we work with our partners during the implementation of Reclaiming Social Work is really important to us. This is a time of change for many of our staff and we are grateful for their continued dedication to Children's Social Work at this time.

In the coming year to implement Reclaiming Social Work we are going to:

- Learn as we go from the experience, further Units will go live throughout the course of 2016/17;
- explore the appropriateness/need for an interim "hybrid structure" to manage the transition between the two models;
- deliver further systemic training for new staff, those wishing to become clinical practitioners and those in residential and community services;
- work with HR colleagues to recruit internally and externally to fill remaining vacancies;
- promote Aberdeen's work in implementing Reclaiming Social Work in order to attract interest and potential new recruits from across the UK but also to take our stakeholders with us on our implementation journey;
- Develop an evidenced based performance framework to report on the impact of Reclaiming Social Work.

The Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership

The Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership "went live" on 1st April 2016. The strategic priorities of the Partnership for the next three years are laid out in the Partnership's Strategic Plan. They are to:

- Develop a consistent person centred approach that promotes and protects the human rights of every individual and which enable our citizens to have opportunities to maintain their wellbeing and take a full and active role in their local community;
- Support and improve the health, wellbeing and quality of life of our local population;
- Promote and support self-management and independence for individuals for as long as reasonably possible;
- Value and support those who are unpaid carers to become equal partners in the planning and delivery of services, to look after their own health and to have a quality of life outside the caring role if so desired;

- Contribute to a reduction in health inequalities and the inequalities in the wider social conditions that affect our health and wellbeing;
- Strengthen existing community assets and resources that can help local people with their needs as they perceive them and make it easier for people to contribute to helping others in their communities;
- Support our staff to deliver high quality services that have a positive impact on personal experiences and outcomes.

Further detail regarding the Health and Social Care Partnership is contained within the body of this report.

3. Partnership Structures/Governance Arrangements

Integrated Children's Services

Joint Inspection Action Plan

The Care Inspectorate's report on the joint inspection of services for children and young people in the Aberdeen City Community Planning Partnership area, undertaken during 2014, was published on 6 March 2015. The Inspection evaluated services positively and identified that the partnership had a positive platform to build on.

It also recognised the need to improve performance in respect of all Quality Indicators. An Action Plan was submitted to the Care Inspectorate in June 2015 outlining how the partnership planned to address the inspection's findings. This was overseen by the multi-agency Integrated Children's Services Board (ICSB), chaired by the Director of Education and Children's Services. All agencies who provide services to children within the partnership have been collectively responsible for delivering the Action Plan and the majority of actions have required agencies to work together to achieve successful outcomes.

The multi-agency Improvement and Performance Group (IPG), under the chair of the Head of Service for Policy, Performance and Resources in Education and Children's Services, has monitored the progress of delivering the Action Plan on behalf of the ICSB. Progress has in turn been ultimately reported to the Integrated Children's Services Chief Officers Group (COG).

The Care Inspectorate signed off the progress report in July 2016 and noted positive progress and a number of actions have been effectively subsumed into current multi-agency workstreams to ensure consolidation of the progress to date.

In February 2016 the Scottish Government announced its intention to review how Child Protection Inspections are to be undertaken. It is anticipated that this review will propose changes in terms of the focus and nature of future inspections.

Whilst ultimately focussed on outcomes for children and young people, a key challenge identified by the Inspection in 2014, was the need for agencies across Aberdeen City to improve how individually and collectively they analyse and utilise data to evidence improved outcomes. Consequently, a major element of the Action Plan has been to develop a quality assurance framework which draws upon best practice and delivers:

- clarity of roles and responsibilities;
- accurate management information;
- regular performance reporting and analysis;
- embedded audit and improvement cycles;
- engagement and feedback from children and families;
- a positive and energised workforce.

Using the Council's Covalent performance reporting system, an evidence gathering data framework has been developed across the Partnership. Although there have been challenges in developing and utilising this system, the learning from this experience will be invaluable to track and measure the impact of implementing the 2017-2020 Children's Services Plan, which all local authorities are required to have in place by 31 March 2017 and thereafter to report on annually to the Scottish Government.

Multi-agency practice

Over the last year the ICS partnership has also anticipated the implementation of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. Further revisions to the multi-agency Child's Plan have been made and the multi-agency training programme, provided in partnership with Aberlour, has sought to develop greater consistency in its use whilst also encouraging continuous practice improvement.

The city has also prepared for the launch of the named person provisions and has revised its approach to the multi-agency screening of Police Concern Reports. However, this has been undertaken against the backdrop of the challenge to the legislation in the UK Supreme Court.

The partnership is proud of the commitment of by the range of professionals within the city working with children and young people, something that is reflected in the attendance by over 400 at the annual ICS Conference each September.

The Health and Social Care Partnership

A meeting of the Full Council on 2nd March 2016, approved a report which set out the powers to be delegated by the Council to the Integration Joint Board (IJB) for Health and Social Care. At that meeting, the Council instructed the Chief Executive to provide an update report to members of the Council on matters relating to the IJB that she considered to be of interest to them, including financial matters, on a quarterly basis.

The first of these quarterly reports was presented to the Council on 17th August 2016 and set out the central elements of governance for the IJB.

Aberdeen City Council has delegated a range of statutory functions in respect of social care services to the IJB. These functions have been delegated and not transferred and legal responsibility for these functions still sits with the City Council, under the direction of the IJB.

Legislation requires the IJB to set out a mechanism for implementing the Strategic Plan. This takes the form of directions from the IJB to the City Council, which sets out the services and functions to be delivered by the Council and the associated budget for this.

The IJB agreed its strategic plan 2016-2019 in March 2016. The strategic plan set out the partnership's strategic vision statement, its values and its strategic priorities for the next three years.

The IJB has also agreed a Board Assurance and Escalation Framework, which describes the means by which the board secures assurance on its activities. The framework sets out the governance structure, systems and performance and outcome indicators through which the IJB receives assurance. The framework describes the process for the escalation of concerns or risks and describes the regulatory framework within which the IJB operates.

Through an interim Clinical and Care Governance Framework, arrangements have been put in place by the IJB to comply with the National Framework for Clinical and Care Governance. A Clinical and Care Governance Group and a Clinical and Care Governance Committee haven been established to oversee the framework. The C&CG Committee provides assurance to the IJB in relation to the quality and safety of services planned and/or delivered by the IJB. Its key role is to ensure that there are effective structures, processes and systems of control in place.

The role of the Clinical and Care Governance Group is to oversee and ensure provision of a coordinated approach to clinical and care governance issues within the Partnership. The Group reports to and provides assurance to the C&CG Committee that there are robust mechanisms in place for reporting clinical and care governance issues.

The Chief Social Work Officer's responsibilities in relation to local authority social work provision continue to apply to functions which have been delegated under the integration arrangements. The Health and Social Care Partnership will shortly appoint a Lead Social Work Manager, who will link with the Chief Social Work Officer with regard to the governance arrangements, continuous improvement, quality assurance and management of adult social care services. The Lead Social Work Manager is a member of the Care and Clinical Governance Group and the CSWO has a freestanding invite to attend.

4. Social Services Delivery Landscape for Aberdeen

About Aberdeen

Aberdeen's Economy

Aberdeen is one of the most competitive, innovative and economically productive cities in the UK, and provides Scotland with 15% of its Gross Value Added (GVA). Much of the success of Aberdeen has been built on the traditional oil and gas sector; it also has a successful small business economy. Since the end of 2014, the local economy has suffered as a result of the global oil price decline. Business growth is slowing and, while this downturn is not the first of its kind, it highlights a growing and urgent need to diversify the economy to ensure economic sustainability.

Due to the historical success of the City workers in Aberdeen benefit from average salaries that are almost **£6,000 higher** than the Scottish average, and unemployment levels are low. Some of the most affluent areas of Scotland are within Aberdeen City, but equally within the City boundaries are some of Scotland's most deprived areas.

Despite low headline deprivation figures, almost **30%** of households in Aberdeen are in fuel poverty, **18%** of children in Aberdeen are living in poverty. The **majority** of children that are living in poverty are living in a working household.

Aberdeen's Population

The estimated population of Aberdeen City on 30 June 2015 was 230,350. This was 1,430 higher than the previous year and 21,660 higher than the mid-2005 figure. Of the 1,430 increase, 1,085 was due to migration.

In terms of age profile, Aberdeen City has a high proportion of the population in 16-24 and 25-44 age groups. They account for almost half (46.7%) of the total population of Aberdeen City. Compared to Scotland as a whole, Aberdeen has a relatively high proportion of young adults – those in the 16-29 year age group make up over a quarter (25.1%) of Aberdeen's total population. The comparable figure for Scotland is 18.3%. In contrast, Aberdeen has a smaller proportion of older people. Those aged 60 years and over make up only 20.1% of Aberdeen's population compared to 24% for Scotland.

In the period up to 2037, the population of Aberdeen City is projected to rise to 288,788. It is forecast that the 65+ age group in Aberdeen City will increase by 55.4% and the number of children (aged 0-15 years) is projected to increase 44.8%.

In Aberdeen City (2012-2014), life expectancy at birth for women is 81.1 years and for men it is 76.8 years. These figures are very close to the Scottish averages of 81.1 years for women and 77.1 years for men. Life expectancy has increased for both men and women over the past 10 years. The increase has been higher for men (2.4 years) than for women (1.2 years). However, rates of increase have been lower in

Aberdeen City than for most other local authority areas. As a result, Aberdeen's position relative to other council areas has worsened in the past 10 years – dropping from 18th to 23rd in the rankings for males and from 12th to 19th for females.

Life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation. In Aberdeen City, life expectancy at birth was 71.9 years for men in the 15% most deprived areas of the city compared to 77.8 years for men in the 85% least deprived areas. For women, the respective figures were 78.0 years and 81.8 years.

Life expectancy at birth is an estimate of the average number of years a new-born baby would survive if he/she experienced an area's age specific mortality rates throughout his/her life. Healthy life expectancy at birth is higher for women than for men. In Aberdeen City, males born in the period 2009-2013 had a life expectancy at birth of 76.9 years and a healthy life expectancy of 65.0 years, giving an expected period of 'not healthy' health of 11.9 years. For women, the figures were 81.2 years and 67.4 years, giving an expected period of 'not healthy' health of 13.8 years. Compared to other local authority areas, healthy life expectancy in Aberdeen City ranks slightly above mid-point – ranking 15th (out of 32) for males and 14th for females.

As with life expectancy, healthy life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation. In Scotland, for both males and females, healthy life expectancy decreased with increasing deprivation, and length of time in 'not healthy' health increased with increasing deprivation. Additionally, the gap between men and women also increased with increasing deprivation

There are strong associations between health, health-behaviours and level of deprivation. Those with the highest levels of deprivation are more likely to have poorer health and health-behaviours. The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is the Scottish Government's official tool for identifying small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland. It assesses information from 7 domains (health, income, employment, education, housing, access and crime) to provide an overall measure of deprivation based on the small area geography known as data zones. The Scottish Government uses a 15% cut-off to define the most deprived data zones. By that measure, 22 (8%) of Aberdeen's 267 data zones were among the most deprived in Scotland

When only the health domain of the SIMD is considered, the picture for Aberdeen City is slightly worse with 48 (18%) of Aberdeen's 267 data zones being in the 15% most deprived data zones in Scotland. Almost all of these data zones are located in the seven priority neighbourhoods identified in the Community Regeneration Strategy.

Information on self-rated health was collected in the 2011 Census. When asked "How is your health in general?" most people in Aberdeen rated their health as either very good (54.3%) or good (31.4%), slightly higher than the corresponding Scottish figures (52.5% and 29.7%). 10.4% rated their health as fair and the remaining 3.9% rated it as bad or very bad. Rates were very similar for males and females, however, the proportion rating their health as good or very good decreased with age.

The 2011 Census also collected information on the presence of a long-term health problem or disability. People were asked “Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?” In Aberdeen, 7% of people reported a health problem or disability which limited activities ‘a lot’ and 9.0% which limited activities ‘a little’. Both these figures are slightly below comparative figures for Scotland of 9.6% and 10.1%.

Cancer and circulatory diseases (such as coronary heart disease and stroke) together account for over half of all causes of death in Aberdeen City. In 2013, almost a third (30.3%) of male deaths and a quarter (24.6%) of female deaths were caused by cancer, and 28.8% of male deaths and 30.6% of female deaths were caused by circulatory diseases.

In 2013, over a quarter of Aberdeen’s adult population were smokers. More men (31.4%) than women (20.2%) reported smoking. Comparison with other areas showed Aberdeen to have the highest proportion of male smokers of any local authority area in Scotland. Counter to the downward trend for Scotland as a whole, in recent years smoking prevalence in Aberdeen has increased for both men and women. In Aberdeen, 5% of 15 year-olds and 1% of 13 year-olds reported being regular smokers. Aberdeen currently has the lowest reported rate of smoking in school children across all local authority areas in Scotland.

In 2012/13, almost 2% (3,100 individuals) of Aberdeen’s population (aged 15-64 years) were estimated to have a problem drug use. Prevalence of problem drug use was higher in males (2.4%) than in females (1.4%) and higher in Aberdeen than in Scotland as a whole (1.7%). Since 2009/10 the overall estimated prevalence of problem drug use been falling in Aberdeen. However, the estimated problem drug use for women has increased slightly over this period.

In 2013, 1.1% of 13 year-olds and 10.8% of 15 year-olds reported having used illicit drugs in the past year. This is lower than the equivalent rates for Scotland of 9.4% and 15.5%. Use of illicit drugs in 15 year-olds has dropped substantially, from 39% in 2002 to 10.8% in 2013. Approximately 34% of 15 year-olds and 13% of 13 year-olds reported that they had been offered drugs in the past year – most commonly cannabis.

Children’s Social Work Public Social Partnership

In September 2015, the Head of Children’s Social Work commissioned a review of all commissioned services and invited internal audit to become involved. A cross council project was implemented involving colleagues from the commercial and procurement service, finance, ICT and the transformation unit, and a recovery plan is now in place. A strategic needs assessment and commissioning framework are key parts of the plan.

Recovery plan & service reviews

At the time of the review, of the 105 services funded from the Children’s Social Work budget only three local providers had an up to date contract in place. Seven services were provided under the National Framework for Fostering or Residential Services

and the remaining 95 services, most of which were individual placements or packages of care, either had no contract or an expired contract.

Many of these needed to be brought under the appropriate National frameworks or, where the service was not part of a national framework, a contract needed to be put in place. Separate work is being undertaken in relation to this latter group.

Seventeen of the services that were out of contract were considered to be 'high risk' because of high levels of funding, risk related to the client group, or concerns that without a contract the council could not provide assurance of best value. Seven of these, however, related to individual care packages where a level of agreement was in place or needed to be further developed and/or needed to be properly recorded on the system.

The reviews were commissioned earlier this year from an independent consultant and the findings were subsequently reviewed by Children's Social Work and the Contracts and Commissioning Team to determine:

- the strategic relevance of the service;
- whether the service was delivering value for money;
- the cost of the service; and
- whether the contract had been awarded in compliance with the council's financial regulations and with applicable procurement regulations.

The reviews have been completed and meetings arranged with providers to discuss the findings and put in place interim arrangements. This includes short term contracts and performance measures, pending the development of the Public Social Partnership (PSP) framework.

Public Social Partnership Model

Reclaiming Social Work is predicated on a robust and strategic approach to commissioning in recognition of the staff intensive nature of the model and the importance of commissioning services that are targeted at identified areas of need.

The changing focus and new skills mix in Social Work Units will inevitably lead to different requirements of support services. Existing in-house Family & Community Services have already been re-configured and residential services are being similarly re-designed. Re-commissioning external services is a fundamental requirement of the implementation of Reclaiming Social Work by setting out the council's purchasing intentions to meet local need.

The PSP model has already provided the basis of a series of planning sessions between the service and third sector representatives. These have focussed on the identification and analysis of need as well as the parameters of the model's use. This has resulted in a move from the current service led commissioning approach towards a strategic commissioning framework, which sets out clear commissioning intentions, processes for the regular review of contracts and makes clear how the impact that services are having will be monitored. These planning sessions were supported and facilitated by Ready for Business, a third sector led consortium that

works with commissioners and buyers to encourage the adoption of social value in public procurement, including promotion of the PSP model.

The resulting Strategic Commissioning Framework for Children's Social Work and Strategic Needs Assessment are currently draft documents which will subsequently be approved at Directorate level - although the Needs Assessment will remain a 'live' document and be updated as and when further data becomes available. They include information not only about levels of need and existing services, but also sections covering the market position, commissioning priorities and performance management. They will help the service to pro-actively plan to meet future levels of demand by anticipating the needs and expectations of children and young people who are eligible to receive support from Children's Social Work as well as their families and carers.

One key aspect of the approach being developed is a clear shift towards monitoring and reviewing all services based on evidence of need and improved outcomes. This will be underpinned by a culture of performance management led by the Council as the commissioning organisation and a culture of continuous improvement and accountability by the providers. The principles of 'Results Based Accountability', a model developed by Mark Friedman, will be used to develop performance accountability in commissioned services and this will be reflected in interim contracts, highlighted above, ahead of the PSP.

As well as focussing on the identification and analysis of need, consultation with both representatives from current providers and a range of our own staff has also begun work on the co-production and design elements of the PSP. Work has also been undertaken to gain a range of views from service users, although this has proved a challenge and the work to gather their opinions is on-going.

From these consultations, implementation of the approach in three phases over the next year has been proposed. These will be:

- intensive support services;
- family support services;
- services for children with disabilities.

The benefit to Children's Social Work will be that each phase will be aligned to the needs of the part of the service that it will complement and support. For example, the first phase, which it is proposed will be tendered for later this year, will support early intervention and prevention, and particularly the work of the Youth Team. By contrast, the second phase will follow the roll out of further Units and provide support to children and families at that stage. The third phase, which will not be tendered until later in 2017, will follow on from work being undertaken to better understand the relationship between the Children with Disabilities Team.

H&SCP Commissioning

The Integrated Joint Board approved its approach to Strategic Commissioning and Transformation on 26th April 2016. The programme of commissioning and transformation is governed by the Audit and Systems Performance Committee.

The IJB agreed that focussing on a smaller number of transformative projects would have the biggest effect on the whole system and support the partnership in delivering the shift towards more person centred and community focussed health and care economy. Delivery of these programmes is supported by a three year investment programme in the first instance.

The process undertaken to develop strategic priorities included a range of partners:

- Integration and Transformation Programme Board – participated in a workshop to identify a number of "big ticket" items that are key building blocks for delivery of the partnership's strategic ambitions as set out in the strategic plan. These big ticket items were mapped against the partnership's strategic priorities.
- The Strategic Planning Group – considered the outputs of the workshop of the Integration and Transformation Programme Board workshop and linked these to the delivery of the strategic plan.
- The Integration and Transformation Programme Board – considered and agreed the six priority strategic commissioning areas.

The strategic investment priorities of the Health and Social Care Partnership are:

- Acute Care at Home
- Supporting management of long term conditions – building community capacity
- Modernising Primary Care
- Culture Change / Organisational Change
- Strategic Commissioning and Development of Social Care
- Information and Communication Technology and Technology Enabled care

5. Finance

Aberdeen City Council in 2011 undertook a Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) exercise that reviewed all its costs over a 5 year period. As a result of this, a transformation programme was implemented, including the development of alternative family services and locally based preventative services to reduce the number of out of authority placements for children; the redesign of Learning Disability services with new models for accommodation with support and day opportunities; and the establishment of a Local Authority Trading Company, known as Bon Accord Care Ltd.

These actions, along with prudent financial management and monitoring, have ensured that the service continues to operate within available resources.

The current Council 5 Year Business Plan lays out the net budget for social work services until 2019-20, showing an increase of 13% from 2015-16. This is based on agreed savings and the building in of growth to the base budget.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES	**2015-16 £'000**	2016-17 £'000	2017-18 £'000	2018-19 £'000	2019-20 £'000	2020-21 £'000
Total Budget	**127,332**	130,048	136,148	138,432	141,282	143,939
Adults	**88,199**	90,605	95,414	97,787	100,166	102,563
Children	**37,517**	37,797	39,058	38,939	39,390	39,610
Business Management	**1,616**	1,646	1,676	1,706	1,736	1,766

The projected growth in net budget is predicated on increases in nationally and locally agreed rates for commissioned services, demographic pressures in Learning Disability and Older People's services, purchasing of additional home care to meet need and increase in demand for alternative family services, based on growth trends in children's services and looked after children numbers.

Children's Social Work

Social Work Services meet commitments within budget. However, Children's Services in 2015-16 were overcommitted through increase in demand, particularly against the joint budget with Education for specialist residential placements through the Children's Hearing and additional requirements for foster placements. The budget has now been re-profiled to effectively meet the demographic changes facing the City and the year on year increase in residential care charges.

As demand projections indicate an ongoing budget pressure, a sustainable solution is being developed through a range of initiatives. Investment is being made in service transformation to improve outcomes and constrain demand pressures, in particular the adoption of the Reclaiming Social Work Model, which gives the opportunity for an outcome based approach to setting the Children's Services budget. The Inclusion Review in Education will enable joint approaches to managing demand and meeting the needs of looked after children within City resources.

The integration of Children's Social Work services and universal services for children will offer further opportunities to strengthen and develop prevention and early intervention strategies to constrain growth in demand for more costly interventions. Particular consideration needs to be given to changes in relation to commissioned services and the impact of market forces.

Overview of joint financial planning and management of financial arrangements for the H&SCP

Due diligence processes have been applied to the creation of the consolidated Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership budget for the 2016/17 financial year. This is to ensure that the budget provided for the Partnership is sufficient, identifies current and historical pressures and demands and allows the Partnership to proceed on a sound financial basis.

In subsequent years the Chief Officer and the Chief Financial Officer will develop a business case for its resources in line with the method set out in the Integration Scheme.

The budget for the Partnership will be derived from the funding allocated to the IJB from Aberdeen City Council and NHS Grampian Health Board. In 2016/17 it is likely that the majority of funding will continue to be used as per existing budgets but in future years the IJB may choose to use the funds to provide services in an alternative manner. This would involve the reallocation of funding between health and social care budgets.

The Scottish Government Local Government Finance Settlement (Circular 7/2015 version 4) imposed a range of conditions on Councils, which were reflected in the creation of the consolidated budget. £250 million, for Scotland as a whole, will be transferred from the Health Budget to integration authorities in 2016/17, whereby £125 million is to support additional spend on expanding social care to support the objectives of integration; and £125 million is provided to help meet a range of existing costs faced by local authorities in the delivery of effective and high quality health and social care services.

The Aberdeen City IJB share of the £250 million is £9.5 million. £4.75m to fund additional capacity and £4.75m to meet local authority budget pressures. This includes a requirement that all social care workers including those in the independent and third sectors are paid the Living Wage.

This gives a total delegated budget of £251.699m for 2016/17 for the Aberdeen City and Social Care Partnership budget.

There is also additional capacity/transformational funding available of £9.625m. This consists of additional social care capacity £4.75m, Integrated Care Fund £3.75m and Delayed Discharge Funding £1.125m. The Chief Officer will consider an investment strategy for this funding.

6. Service Quality and Performance

Performance Frameworks

Children's social work performance framework and approaches to improvement

The Children's Services Management Team has created a performance dashboard for reporting key performance information to managers within the service. This will be developed to all management tiers during the next year and will provide drivers to improving performance throughout the service. The Children's Services Management Team actively review performance information on a quarterly basis and commission audits of specific parts of the service or reviews of particular data. These are used to shape and re-design parts of the service or key processes within it.

The appointment of a Service Manager to manage and oversee the work of the Independent Reviewing Officers for looked after children is driving up the quality and consistency of such reviews. The previously developed outcomes framework is being applied within their plans and we aim to be able to monitor progress against these outcomes as part of our Carefirst client records system during the next year. This will give us additional evidence to highlight areas for improvement across the service.

H&SCP Performance Framework

At its meeting on 29th March 2016, the Integrated Joint Board approve a Framework to Support Planning, Governance and Performance Improvement in Aberdeen City: "The Intelligent IJB". The IJB adopted a framework for performance, governance and improvement, underpinned by good intelligence and effective practice.

The underlying principles of the framework are that for intelligence to have an impact on improving health and care, it is important to work together at all levels, to co-produce intelligence, aiming to improve ownership, responsibility and collective leadership.

The main components of the approach include:

- Managing the information challenge – developing processes to ensure that important intelligence is not missed;
- Establishing a systemic cycle of reporting for IJB business – ensuring a balanced approach to the discussion of operational performance and strategic considerations;
- Clarifying delegated accountability – empowering people to take leadership and responsibility at all levels of the organisation;
- Enabling constructive challenge – supporting people to interpret data and ask intelligent questions.

The H&SCP is introducing a system of tiered intelligence, where information is packaged to support effective service delivery, performance improvement, governance and strategic planning.

An early performance dashboard approach has been agreed, with indicators grouped under each of the nine outcome indicators. These indicators include the national core suite of indicators, health and social care national and local indicators and areas where we would wish to develop indicators to evidence achievement of outcomes. This continues to be an evolving piece of work, led by a cross-service Performance Working Group, with the intention of providing regular reporting and intelligence for use at three layers – operational, performance and governance.

As the Locality Leadership Groups develop, each has a performance sub-group, looking at co-ordinating the information required to develop Locality Plans. Over time these sub-groups will also look to develop local outcome indicators, to evidence the delivery of locality plans.

Risk Management

Risk Management within Children's Social Work

Risk management within Children's Social Work is governed by the City Council's Risk Management Strategy, which was agreed in January 2015.

The Strategy is designed to meet the following requirements:

- To promote the development of an Enterprise Risk Management culture across the Council and its Group.
- To support Principle 4 of the Local Code of Corporate Governance which requires transparent informed decision making which is subject to effective scrutiny and the management of risk.
- To assist the achievement of objectives.
- To provide a framework for the application of risk management practices to partnership activity in which the Council leads.
- To enhance the value of services provided to communities.
- To establish the methodology that identifies our appetite for risk.

The management of risk at the strategic level is informed by the implementation of controls and mitigation at both the strategic and service / operational levels. For example, developments in the management of a *Protecting Children* risk at the service level, will be linked at the strategic level to *Harm* and *Compliance* to ensure these key areas of risk are timeously updated and subject to dynamic management activity.

Beneath the strategic level, all services maintain registers which include risks with the potential to impact on their Service and Improvement Plan priorities and outcomes. All services take account of the corporate key dependencies in their consideration of risk:

- Financial Management and Planning
- Customer relations
- Employee engagement

- Business Continuity Planning
- Health, Safety and Wellbeing

The risks for Children's Social Work are contained within the service risk register for Education and Children's Services. Each identified risk has a risk owner, responsible for monitoring the risk. This risk register is a standing item at the E&CS Directorate Leadership Team meetings and will be approved at the meeting of the Council's Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee on 27th September 2016.

Risk Management within the Health and Social Care Partnership

The Aberdeen City Integration Join Board recognises that health and social care provision and the activities associated with care for patients/people who use services, employing staff, providing premises and managing finances are all, by their very nature, risk activities and will therefore involve a degree of risk.

The IJB, through its strategic plan, will seek to establish a culture that ensures that risk management is an integral part of everything it does. Effective risk management helps the board to meet its objectives.

The Risk Management Framework for the Health and Social Care Partnership was approved by the Integrated Joint Board on 29th March 2016. The development of the risk management framework was underpinned by a risk management workshop facilitated for the shadow IJB in October 2015. This workshop presentation outlined the principles of risk management, its importance to core business dependencies and the wider context of economic, political, demographic and environmental change. The role of risk management in supporting good governance and informed decision making was stressed. The Good Governance Institute facilitated additional workshops to support the board's exploration of risk appetite.

A strategic risk register frames the risks associated with the H&SCP's progress in achieving its strategic priorities. The Chair of the Strategic Planning Group owns this risk register. The Chair provides the Audit and Performance Systems Committee with an update of the risk register and updates the Chief Officer through the Executive Group. The Audit and Performance Systems Committee provides the Integration Joint Board with an update of the strategic risk register.

In addition, a Corporate Operational Risk Register has been developed, showing the high level business dependencies and operational risks that need to be managed. The Head of Operations owns this risk register and it is a standing item for discussion at senior operational management team meetings. The Head of Operations reports changes to the risk register to the Chief Officer through the Executive Group. As with the strategic risk register, the Audit and Performance Systems Committee will provide the IJB with an update of the corporate risk register.

7. Delivery of Statutory Functions

Children's Social Work

Children's social work is now very much part of the Education and Children's Services Directorate led by a single Directorate Leadership Team. Service Managers are now located with Education Colleagues and four of the new Social Work Units are based on a School site. The Virtual School Head Teacher has been appointed to provide educational continuity for looked after children.

As part of the implementation of Reclaiming Social Work, as outlined above, we have completed a review of our commissioning framework in partnership with stakeholders, including service providers. This is being taken forward during the next twelve months with the development and tendering for three tranches of services under a Public Social Partnership.

A key aim for 2016 - 17 will be to fully implement the Reclaiming Social Work model. Recruitment of sufficiently qualified and experienced staff in key roles, such as that of Consultant Social Worker, has been a challenge. Targeted recruitment for vacant posts is ongoing and whilst we are actively seeking to recruit new staff to these roles, both internally and externally, the pace of recruitment will determine the pace at which we roll out subsequent phases of the new service model.

It is therefore our intention to move to a "hybrid structure" while efforts to recruit the staff that we need continue. The hybrid structure will see staff who have yet to move to a Unit move to a team directly aligned to the area of work they have been matched to. Cases will also move to the appropriate teams. This change will minimise further change for service users; ensure clear line management structures; allow staff to begin to practice in the area of service delivery that they have been matched to; and enable a smoother transition to future Units.

Implementation of Part 4 (Named Person) and Part 5 (the Child's Plan) of the Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 have implications for children's social work as well as the universal services of health and education. It will be important that the eligibility criteria for children's social work reflects these statutory changes and sets out how we will work with other agencies to deliver effective services to all children who meet the eligibility criteria. We are working closely with colleagues in the universal services to ensure that local guidance is clear and we have participated in training ahead of the implementation of these aspects of the Act.

Extension of entitlement to continuing care and aftercare for care experienced young people, under the Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, will pose a challenge for children's social work. Whilst we wholeheartedly recognise and support the catalyst for these legislative changes, that is the acknowledgement that the longer term outcomes for care experienced young people are among the poorest in society, these provisions do pose challenges for children's social work.

For example, registering our Children's Homes to care for both adults and children; providing care for 12 - 13 year olds within the same setting as 20 - 21 year olds;

supporting foster carers to not only provide support for adolescents and teenagers, but also for young adults; recruiting foster carers to compensate for those caring for young people for longer periods; and taking account of the fact that young adults may be in employment or have an entitlement to their own benefits when determining the allowance paid to carers.

We are preparing for these challenges and as part of the implementation of Reclaiming Social Work we have already established a Youth Team whose core responsibilities will include providing aftercare support for care leavers. The Team will also forge positive links with other services both within the Council and externally. The change in statutory responsibilities will place added demands on the Youth Team, and it is anticipated that there will be additional capacity issues over the coming years which we will continue to monitor and respond to. In preparation for this we are doing modelling work to understand the number of young people who may wish to take advantage of these entitlements. In addition, we are working on the financial arrangements for supporting continuing care placements as well as understanding how many foster carers will be willing to support young adults and how a variety of residential settings will manage this change.

Kinship care, which is when a child is looked after by their extended family or close friends when they cannot remain with their birth parents, should be the first consideration when a child requires to be accommodated. Research highlights that children placed in kinship placements generally have better outcomes than children placed in other care settings. However the research also highlights the practical and financial challenges experienced by kinship carers. The Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 sought to formalise aspects of the support provided to kinship carers and extended the scope of those children who qualify for kinship support. Whilst additional funding has been provided by the Scottish Government to provide parity between kinship carers and foster carers the additional funding is unlikely to cover full cost of implementing these changes.

The increased expectations around assessing kinship carers and providing practical and financial supporting to them will have resource implications for the Alternative Family Care Service. We do not underestimate the complexity of the care task that kinship carers provide and we will need to undertake assessments timeously and provide flexible and responsive support, if we are to ensure that kinship placements do not disrupt contributing to poorer outcomes for children.

Like most urban authorities Aberdeen City Council has more children who require adoption than it has approved adopters. Positive relations exist with neighbouring authorities who are often in the opposite position. This allows for prospective adopters to be directed to us where we can assume responsibility for assessing their suitability. Whilst these placements offer the best long term outcomes for children who cannot be cared for by their family, the cost of purchasing adoptive placements can be significant. It will therefore be incumbent upon us to ensure that every effort is made to source a local placement within the three month time frame.

The Reclaiming Social Work redesign established a team whose focus is the recruitment and assessment of carers (adopters and foster carers). This will ensure every effort is made to recruit carers locally for children who require adoption. The

ability to attract sufficient numbers of adopters to meet the demand of children requiring an adoptive placement remains challenging though and the economic downturn in the city has resulted in a drop in the number of enquiries from people interested in adoption.

Over the course of the coming year it is our intention to: implement the next phase of Reclaiming Social Work with further small groups of social workers working in Social Work Units, although full implementation is unlikely to be completed before late 2017; introduce the first tranches of a Public Social Partnership approach to the commissioning of support services from third sector providers to work alongside the Social Work Units; begin to see a managed reduction in the numbers of children placed in out of authority placements as planned for within the delivery of the Reclaiming Social Work Model and complete the re-design of residential services.

Child Protection

The Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee (CPC) was established in June 2013, from the disaggregation of the North East Scotland Child Protection Committee that covered three local authority areas. The CPC is chaired by the Aberdeen City's Lead Nurse.

The CPC's Operational sub-committee is responsible for driving forward the work of the child protection programme. It is chaired by the Head of Children's Social Work and CSWO. A child sexual exploitation (CSE) sub group has been created to work exclusively on CSE for a concentrated period of time. The Operational sub-committee fulfils the function of the Safe outcome group of the Integrated Children's Services Board.

A Child Protection Partnership with Aberdeenshire and Moray local authority areas collaborates over the child protection register (CPR) and 9 core child protection training courses. Aberdeen City holds and administers the CPR, co-ordinates the core training programme and leads the organisation of the Partnership.

The CPC brought the 2011-15 child protection programme to an end in August 2015. This coincided with the report from the Care Inspectorate following the Joint Inspection of Children's Service in Aberdeen City. In August 2015, the CPC endorsed the new child protection programme consisting of the CPC contribution to the joint action plan 2015-2016 and a separate action plan relating to CSE.

The Child Protection Landscape in Aberdeen

The number of children on the CPR is variable with need. Throughout the period, the number of children on the CPR remained comparable with the Scottish average of around 3 children per 1000 population of 0-16 year olds.

Number of children on the Aberdeen City CPR
31.07.11 to 31.07.16

31.07.11	31.08.12	31.07.13	31.07.14	31.07.15	**31.07.16**
96	86	92	73	98	**118**

Children remain on the CPR for as long as necessary, 83% were de-registered within 12 months and 52% within 6 months, a total of 112 children in 2015-16. 40 children who were registered over the year from 1 August 2015 to 31July 2016 had previous registration history, with a range of time intervals between individual registrations. Aberdeen City's rate of re-registrations has fluctuated between 16% and 25% over the course of the year.

The majority of children on the CPR (67%) are under 5 years old, including pre-birth registrations which indicates that we respond at an early stage to children in need of protection. Short periods of registration indicate that the supports put in place and intervention made reduces the risks to the child within a shorter time-frame. 10% of children on the CPR are aged 11-15 years which reflects an awareness of and response to the risks to that age group, in particular of child sexual exploitation.

The main risk factors for children on the CPR are emotional abuse 45%, domestic abuse 38% and parental drug misuse 37% (as at 31.07.16). Neglect is recorded as a risk factor in 31% of cases and non-engaging family in 25% of cases.

Contribution to Joint Inspection

Members of the CPC and its supporting groups were extensively involved in the Joint Children's Services Inspection of Services for Children and Young People in the Aberdeen City Community Planning Partnership area. The report was published on 4 March 2015. Child protection across Aberdeen City is commended throughout the report.

The summary states:
"*Urgent concerns about a child's safety were now much better recognised and dealt with effectively and promptly across services. Staff shared and reviewed information together and took swift action to ensure children and young people were protected*."

On the CPC itself, the report states:
"*Aberdeen City CPC in its first year from the disaggregation of the NESCPC had secured its identity, membership, structure and documentation. Phase 1 of an action plan had been successfully completed and phase 2 was in place*."

The CPC considered the report in detail and identified areas for improvement in child protection which have been incorporated into the CPC contribution to the joint action plan:

- Improved use of data and performance information has been focussed upon. A data framework, or suite of questions which the CPC wish asked of the

data, has been established. The Operational sub-committee now analyse the data from a multi-agency perspective and report in the new format to the CPC;

- A multi-agency case file audit took place in February- March 2016. The audit team focussed on post registration support, chronologies, risk assessments and outcomes for children and considered the findings in accordance with the Care Inspectorate scale of 1-6 (unsatisfactory through to excellent). The findings of the audit will inform elements of the new child protection programme from 2016 onwards;
- The Practitioners Guide to Information Sharing, Confidentiality and Consent was the CPC focus at the Integrated Children's Services Conference in October 2015. The evaluation was positive and provided a useful benchmark in relation to use of the guide;
- The improvement methodology has been utilised to gather feedback from families attending case conferences;
- Work in relation to child sexual exploitation is carried out by the CSE group under a separate action plan.
- Links with other strategic partnerships such as the Aberdeen Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and the Aberdeen Violence Against Women Partnership continue to be forged. A joint event with ADP called "Phases and Stages" explored the tensions between timely planning for children and the rate of parental recovery from substance misuse. The shadowing programme which followed the event is underway. The first cohort of professionals have reported positively on the programme which will now be extended.

Child Sexual Exploitation

Work in relation to child sexual exploitation is carried out by the CSE group, currently, under a separate action plan. The CSE action plan focusses on the national priorities of Prevention, Disruption & Prosecution and Recovery.

Considerable awareness raising and training has been undertaken – through Barnardo's training, Child Protection Partnership training and the CSE Conference which was held in October 2015. A total of 361 attendees at various training in the last year. CSE procedures and guidance for professionals have been published and made available to all multi-agency staff.

Connections were made with the UK Safer Internet centre who have now delivered online safety updates for the last 2 years.

The CPC promotes use of " Abby's Room" as a resource. Abby's Room is set up to illustrate the connection between a young person's actual and virtual worlds and to promote safe use of social media.

The 16 days of action event showcased the City's CSE strategy of Zero Tolerance in November 2015

Both the local Taxi Consultation Group and First Bus responded positively to the approach from the CSE group and it is hoped that awareness raising and reporting procedures can be developed with these key providers of transport in Aberdeen.

Future focus will be on working with schools, the night time economy, and shopping centres.

New courses were developed in the Child Protection Partnership to address CSE, on line safety and cultural issues impacting on child protection.

Our Child Protection Programme: 2016-19

The extended child protection programme for the period 2016-2019 will encompass any work outstanding from the 2015-16 phase of the programme in addition to the following priorities identified by the CPC:

- The CSE group to continue to implement its action plan;
- Significant Case Review procedures to be revised following the new National Guidance for Significant Case Reviews in Scotland;
- The launch of revised multi-agency guidance documents used locally and across the north east;
- Impact of the implementation of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014;
- Violence against women and domestic abuse to be developed collaboratively with the work of other outcome groups across integrated children's services and in conjunction with the work of the Aberdeen Violence against Women Partnership;
- Child protection and disability;
- Abuse, culture and child protection (Forced Marriage, FGM, honour violence, human trafficking);
- Implementing improvements following the findings of the multi-agency case file audit;
- Responding to other national priorities as identified by the Scottish Government or to local need as identified through performance data and other self-evaluation activity.

Changing demand for children's social work services

The population growth of Aberdeen City is putting pressure on all children's services, including social work. The last decade has seen a significant rise in both the population and the birth rate in Aberdeen and this is now reflected in the work being undertaken by children's social work, with a marked swing to working with younger children.

Over the last three years the service has undertaken 6 monthly case file audits. The results of these highlight a continuing growth in the proportion of children aged 0-2 open to social work. By contrast, over the same period there has been a corresponding decrease in the proportion of young people aged 12 - 16 within the workload, reflecting of the decrease in the overall population of this group of young people.

As of 31 March 2016 children's social work services were supporting 1805 children and young people.

	31-3-12	31-3-13	31-3-14	31-3-15	31-3-16
No. of children open to Social Work	1802	2016	2064	1829	1805

The number of referrals received by children's social work has increased in recent years. Although the number fluctuates from quarter to quarter, there has been an upward trend. Currently the service receives approximately 800 referrals per quarter. Of these approximately 40% will necessitate a social work assessment as to whether intervention is required or not. As we await the implementation of the Named Person Service, Children's Social Work will continue to support colleagues in universal services to consider how they can actively support families in a way which does not necessitate a referral to the Children's Social Work.

In the year 2015/16 there was a slight increase in the numbers of referrals to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) – 349 compared to 339 for the year 2014/15 and 483 for the year 2013/14. The increase in the past year was also observed in other areas. It is suggested that this was, at least in part, due to changes introduced by the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 and new non-offence grounds for referral to a Children's Hearing. Despite this increase the number of referrals represents a significant reduction from previous years - 81% fewer than the historic high of 1856 referrals in 2006 - 07.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 gave young people who are looked after new rights to request continuing care up to the age of 21 and aftercare to the age of 26. It also introducing enhanced duties to provide support and assistance for kinship carers and increased support for vulnerable children and families. However, as the changes have been implemented incrementally it is too early to tell what their full cost or impact will be on the service. This is something the service will actively plan for in the coming year.

Family and Community Support Services

Service Development has continued during 2016 with Family & Community Support Services refocusing some of their role and remit as we implement Reclaiming Social Work across Children's Social Work Service. There has been a continuing focus on Intensive Support Services which offer a community based alternative to children considered on the "edge of care".

There has been a refocusing of the Crisis team, now known as **IFIT (Intensive Family Intervention Team)** which delivers an intensive response to crisis within families to prevent, where possible, children and young people being accommodated; or where children are already within a placement, and that placement is at risk of breaking down. Family work is focused on improving relationships and reducing risk so that children can remain with their family, within their school and community.

The staff team of Family & Community Support Officers, (who are qualified Social Workers) and Family Resource Workers work intensively with families often very early in the morning and into the evening to support them at key times of the day.

The majority of the staff team have undertaken the 18 day Systemic Family Therapy training and this has been key to supporting them better understand family dynamics, build positive working relationships and achieving positive outcomes for children and their family.

The Young Women's Service (YWS) recently moved into their new premises in the Pittodrie area of the city having previously been based in Westburn Intensive Support Service. The YWS provides a gender specific facility for vulnerable girls and young women within Aberdeen City. The development of the service was in response to the increasing numbers of girls and young women involved in or experiencing a range of difficulties including sexual exploitation, substance misuse, domestic violence and self-harm.

Moving to their new premises has gone some way to help develop the tailored support these young women require. They have been involved in the refurbishment of the building making it fit for purpose, offering them an opportunity to "claim" a space that offers them a level of security and nurturing whilst addressing identified need, building self-esteem and resilience. The Service also provides a base from which care, education, health and employability services can be utilised.

Teachers based at Westburn can provide support for education and learning and there are also links with the Young Person's Mental Health Practitioner who is also part of the services provided at Westburn.

Looked After Children

Although there has been a downward trend in the number of children and young people looked after by the local authority over the last three years, they still represent a quarter of all cases open to children's social work services. Of the overall number of looked after children and young people, the proportion who are looked after and accommodated has over the past 5 years seen a consistent year on year increase - from 70% as of 31.03.12, to 81% as of 31.03.16.

The overwhelming majority of looked after children continue to be placed in a 'family' home. For example, at 31.03.16 493 children were cared for within a family setting; 108 (19%) were cared for by parents; 114 (21%) by friends/relatives; and 271 (49%) by foster carers/adopters. In contrast, only 11% of looked after children were accommodated in a residential setting. This latter figures compares to a national picture of 10% of looked after children being in residential care.

Although the proportion of children and young people accommodated in community based placements has risen slightly, in line with our strategic aim of shifting the balance of care, the proportion of children looked after at home with their parent(s) or with friends/relatives remains below the national average.

It is anticipated that, in line with other areas that have introduced the Reclaiming Social Work model, its implementation will start to impact upon the numbers of children accommodated by the authority and in particular the number placed in expensive out of city residential placements. Whilst there has been a 50% decrease in the use of such placements since 2010, the aim is to continue to reduce this.

Over the course of the RSW implementation a reduction of further 10 placements is planned for. The expectation is that this will also help deliver our strategic aim of increasing the proportion of looked after children cared for by their family.

The Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 extended the duties on Local Authorities to deliver on the "staying-put" agenda, supporting looked after children to remain in care, beyond their 16th birthday possibly up to the age of 21. This new legislation aims to delivering improved long term outcomes for care experienced young people. The required changes identified by the Review along with how we deliver on our new statutory duties and ensure the residential service operates in line with Reclaiming Social Work are being actively taken forward.

There are five Children's Homes maintained by the local authority, each accommodating five or six young people. In addition, there are two 'satellite' homes each with two places, within the city. Separately there is one Children's Home managed by Barnardo's and one Throughcare Home managed by Action for Children.

Work to refurbish the Throughcare Unit over the past year has meant they have, on a temporary basis, decanted into one of the Children's Homes. Separately recruiting sufficient staff to provide safe staffing levels to meet the needs of the young people has meant one of the other Children's Homes has had to close while efforts to recruit staff are progressed. The net effect is that we have continued to operate without two of the Children's Homes. This is likely to continue into 2016/17 while we take forward the implementation of the Service Review and support the upskilling of staff to meet the needs of this vulnerable group of young people.

In 2015 the Scottish Government announced a new qualification for residential staff. All staff will need to complete this over the coming years. How the service supports staff obtain this qualification and continue to have the skill set appropriate to working in residential care, is a focal part of the workforce development plan.

The educational attainment of looked after children in Aberdeen has been considerably lower than that of looked after children throughout Scotland. Consequently, raising the attainment for looked after children is a local and national priority. The appointment of the Virtual Head Teacher, the first in Scotland, during the past year is providing a focus on how schools and services are supporting looked after children to achieve their full potential. It is anticipated that the impact of this post will begin to see an improvement in the attainment levels of our looked after population. The integration of the Education and Children's Social Work will also contribute to services continuing and increasingly to work collaboratively to develop flexible and improved ways of improving the attainment of looked after children.

Youth Justice

The Whole System Approach (WSA) for youth justice in Aberdeen has been embedded within the GIRFEC framework. Youth offending has fallen continually over the last 5 years, showing a 42% reduction.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
No. of Offences	3768	2826	2583	2372	2169
No. of CrimeFiles	2484	1946	1796	1588	1548
No. of Juveniles	1630	1271	1111	995	1050

For the first time the number of offences committed by 8-15 year olds marginally exceeded the number of offences committed by 16-17 year olds.

The number of young people referred to SCRA on offence grounds has remained unchanged from the preceding year (73 referrals). However, this still represents a significant drop in the numbers since 2010/11 - a 70% reduction.

Through collaborative working and shared decision making, the WSA offers early intervention for low level offences, diversion from statutory measures, prosecution and custody, and community alternatives. An Intensive Support Service (ISS) makes a range of provision available, including services provided by Third Sector colleagues. This partnership approach enables social Workers to undertake more direct work with young people and families.

WSA processes are continually reviewed and the approach strengthened. Decision making and resource finding should be improved around alternatives to secure care and custody for the Court and Children's Panel, especially for 16-17 year olds who are on Compulsory Supervision Orders.

The ISS needs to be more 'intensive' in relation to measures to tackle persistent offending, including car crime. Closer working and learning from Adult Criminal Justice in relation to youths 16 years and over would be beneficial.

Over the next year we aim to:

- reduce the number of young people placed in residential provision out of Aberdeen City and we will recommission services that provide Intensive Support, building on evidence of what works and reflective of the current need;
- support the skills and knowledge of staff in assessing the needs of young people who present high risk offending behaviour via AIM 2 training;
- further develop our approach to CARM (Care and Risk Management) meetings drawing upon national best practice in collaboration with CYCJ;
- Establish a Youth Team to better support our young people transitioning out of residential and secure care;
- Re-examine the interface between CJS & Children's SW to appropriately divert and support young people in the Court system.

Corporate Parenting

Following the implementation of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, Aberdeen City, like other local authorities throughout Scotland, has a duty to provide

support, Council advice and guidance to children who are looked after and specified young people leaving care, up to their 26th birthday.

In advance of the introduction of the responsibilities laid out in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, the Aberdeen City Council corporate parenting policy 2012 - 15 provided a clear framework for identifying specific actions and interventions to close the outcome gap between looked after children and care leavers, and their peers. The focus of the policy was to improve their educational attainment and achievement; enable them to take up and sustain positive post-school destinations in education, employment and training; reduce their involvement in the criminal justice system; reduce levels of homelessness for care leavers; and to help them live full and healthy lives.

The increase in numbers of those young people and care leavers entitled to support from the local authority over the next few years, highlights the need to have meaningful intervention, change and opportunities to ensure that they have positive outcomes and are supported to be successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors. The Act extends the range of public bodies required to act as corporate parents; it introduces new responsibilities on corporate parents to plan and collaborate to promote the wellbeing of care experienced young people. The Act requires local authorities to develop a corporate parenting plan detailing how it intends to deliver on its responsibilities. The action plan for the development of the Champions Board and associated areas provides the basis for Aberdeen City Council's corporate parenting plan.

We continue to work closely with a range of partners to raise awareness of corporate parenting, whether this be sharing corporate parenting action plans and strategies; participation in multi-agency meetings and events; or sharing resources for the benefit of care experienced young people. Aberdeen City Council and its partners send practitioners to attend networking and information sessions hosted by the Scottish Government or national organisations about corporate parenting.

Champions Board

In 2015, Aberdeen City participated in a competitive three stage application process to receive funding from the Life Changes Trust to help further develop our Champions Board and associated activities. The Life Changes Trust, is an independent charity established with a Big Lottery Fund endowment of £50 million to improve the lives of two key groups in Scotland: care experienced young people and people affected by dementia.

The application process included a self-assessment as well as an intensive residential that helped to inform the final bid for the funding. It also helped us produce an ambitious action plan for both developing the Champions Board and consolidating corporate parenting duties over the next three years.

We were delighted when it was announced in April 2016 that Aberdeen City Council was being awarded funding from the Trust as one of eight local authority areas receiving a share of £2 million funding to support or establish a Champions Board.

Aberdeen's share of £220 thousand will be further boosted by contributions of in kind support from partners.

The three year Champions Board action plan details the plans to work with Who Cares? Scotland and our local corporate parents, to build on young people's participation, as well as ensuring that the Board is making a meaningful contribution to improving outcomes for individual young people.

Future plans include the appointment of an Advocacy & Participation Worker; the development of a participation group; the appointment of care experienced Development Assistants; and the introduction of individual grants for young people. We will also hold an annual residential for care experienced young people where they will develop ideas and challenges to present to the Champions Board.

Our Children's Rights Officers are also working closely with young people and our partners to develop a website specifically for looked after children, again funded through the Life Changes Trust. This website is being developed with SHMU (Station House Media Unit) and includes input from our newly appointed Virtual School Head Teacher and the LAC Teacher with additional input from residential services and the Youth Team. The website is scheduled to be launched in autumn of 2016.

Family Firm

The corporate parenting agenda is both a Council and public authority wide commitment and inspires enthusiasm from all directorates. The continued support that corporate parenting receives from the Council leadership has contributed to the momentum that, for example, continues to create work experience placements as part of our Family Firm policy. The Family Firm policy has helped raise awareness of the corporate parenting responsibilities amongst staff who would not otherwise be aware of them.

In 2015 Aberdeen City Council entered into a joint venture with Action for Children to deliver the Keen4Work programme part funded by Inspire and the EU. It allows for 40 young people per year to take part in the programmes and will offer intense support tailored to the needs of the individual young person throughout their employment journey, from the pre-programme stage through to a sustained economic destination.

Keen4Work offers a 12 week (two days per week) supported work experience opportunity alongside an SCQF Employability Award qualification. These placements which are non-employment training opportunities can be matched with the interests of the young person. This allows them to both experience the working environment and to help them to develop transferrable knowledge and skills. Young people are expected to be at stage three on the Employability Pipeline prior to commencing a work experience placement thus ensuring that they are being set to succeed on the programme. Where a young person is not ready young people's practitioners can work with them to develop the necessary skills and knowledge to progress. Referrals are accepted from care experienced young people between 16 – 26 years.

Since July 2014 there have been seven intakes on the Keen4Work programme. The spring 2016 cohort saw four young people on placements, whilst the summer intake began in July 2016 with eight young people. The aim is to have 40 young people annually supported through Keen4Work.

The previous focus of Family Firm was on creating two year internship opportunities for care experienced young people. These were full time positions with the goal of encouraging the young person to gain employability skills whilst furthering their education and/or training. The internship programmes have had mixed success due to a variety of reasons but not limited to, structure; individual skills and knowledge; and interests. In future, the plan is to provide equality of opportunity for a Modern Apprenticeship with the Council, for care experienced young people as part of the Youth Employment Strategy being developed by Human Resources, in place of further internships.

Family Firm opportunities are also interlinked with Aberdeen Guarantees in promoting positive destinations to the most vulnerable groups at risk of negative destinations. In developing Family Firm opportunities the links and communication to the Aberdeen Guarantees team has proved vital in getting the right opportunity for the right young person. In addition, Family Firm opportunities are advertised and included on the Aberdeen Guarantees website.

In partnership with and the support of Who Cares? Scotland, and with funding from the Life Changes Trust, we aim to increase the levels of participation of care experienced young people in the work of the Champions Board. Also with the support of Life Changes Trust funding, we will promote paid employment opportunities for care experienced young people to develop their skills and confidence in championing the needs of looked after children and establish an individual grants scheme to increase opportunities for care experienced young people and to increase their involvement in decision making processes.

We will further develop the Champions Board to be fully representative of all corporate parents within the recent legislation and ensure that the interests of care experienced young people are championed throughout the respective organisations.

Secure Applications for Children

A very small number of young people present a significant danger to themselves or to other people and for these few, a placement in secure care may be warranted. These placements can be instigated through Court proceedings, or by the CSWO. The CSWO decides whether to implement a secure authorisation by a Children's Hearing and whether to remove a child from secure accommodation. The CSWO must be satisfied that the criteria for secure placements are met and that such is in the best interest of the child. Such placements are used for the minimum possible time, though this will vary according to the needs of the child.

Use of Secure Accommodation – number of children placed in a year:

PLACEMENTS	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	**2015/16**
Total New Placements	6 (5 children)	5	3	10 (9 children)	**7 (6 children)**
Placed by Court	3	1	1	1	**0**
Placed by Hearing & CSWO	3	1	0	2	**0**
Placed by CSWO	0	3	2	7	**7**
Hearing request - declined	1	2	2	2	**1**

The criteria for secure care are set out in legislation and the CSWO as decision maker declined to implement one authorisation from a Children's Hearing on the basis there was insufficient evidence that the grounds were met. Where there is a feasible alternative to a secure placement, this would be pursued vigorously and options would include a specialist residential placement, an Intensive Support Service in Youth Justice and, support through the Crisis Team or Young Women's Service.

Emergency transfer of children

The CSWO will from time to time be asked to give consideration to moving a child, who is subject to a Compulsory Supervision Order, to a more suitable placement, before the child's circumstances can be presented to a Children's Hearing. There can be a range of circumstances which can trigger the need for such a move including where the carers/establishment is unable to meet the needs of the child or where the child's behaviour is posing a risk to themselves or others.

Research tells us that children do best when there is careful planning in the lead up to a move of placement. The use of emergency moves should consequently be kept to a minimum, reflective of the emergency nature of the child circumstances.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	**2015/16**
Number of Emergency Transfers	14	12	16	17	**10**

Adoption and Fostering

The CSWO/Head of Children's Social Work is the Agency Decision Maker, a statutory role to consider the approval of plan's that are presented to the Adoption & Permanence Panel and the Alternative Family Care Panel. While the Court determines whether an Adoption Order is granted, the CSWO is the ultimate local authority decision maker on matters pertaining to adoption.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	**2015/16**
Adopters approved	15	19	14	34	**29**
Adoption Plans approved	25	19	19	32	**24**
Children adopted	21	24	21	19	**28**
Foster carers approved	16	13	6	7	**9**

In March 2014 Aberdeen City were chosen as one of the pilot authorities to be involved in the PACE programme. The PACE, (Permanence & Care Excellence) programme recognised that delay and drift occurred in the planning for children at every stage of the permanence process. For some this drift and delay can make it difficult for the permanence plan to be achieved resulting in children remaining within the "care system" for the duration of their childhood.

Aberdeen City is taking a multi-agency approach to making changes that can speed up the process of decision-making for permanence. Working with the Scottish Government and CELCIS (Centre of Excellence for Looked after Children in Scotland) since March 2014 we have begun to see a reduction in the length of time it is taking for children's plans to be agreed. Further improvement is still required and the emphasis on permanence planning for children is reflected in the RSW structure.

The need to have an increased supply of foster carers and adopters is critical to meeting the needs of local children who cannot be cared for by their family. It is estimated there is a need for 800 foster carers is Scotland. The service operates in a very competitive environment with a number of Independent Fostering Agencies operating in the area. The whole service re-design as part of RSW will see the establishment of a team dedicated to the recruitment, assessment and preparation of new carers (adopters and foster carers). This team will be critical to minimising the need for children to be placed often far from Aberdeen and the associated dislocation such brings for the child with links to their family and community.

The downturn in the oil industry has seen an associated downturn in the numbers coming forward interested in adoption. Conversely there is an initial indication that there has been a marginal increase in the numbers coming forward for foster care.

In 2015/16 there were 137 children, in external foster placements, commissioned by Aberdeen City Council at a cost of £5.8m. Reducing this number, supporting more children to remain within their family or placing them with our own foster carers is a priority of RSW and will actively contribute to shifting the balance of care.

We will in the coming year aim to recruit 20 new foster carers.

Adult Support and Protection

Aberdeen City Adult Protection Committee (APC) shares an Independent Convener with Aberdeenshire and Moray APCs. This helps to facilitate consistency between the agencies across the Grampian Adult Protection Partnership. Through the Grampian Adult Support and Protection (ASP) Working Group, the three APCs develop and maintain the Grampian Interagency Policy and Procedure for the Support and Protection of Adults at Risk of Harm and this contributes to the success

of multi-agency working. The Policy has been reviewed and is about to be circulated for consultation. The Grampian Adult Protection Committees' Significant Case Review and Review Protocol has also been reviewed.

The Lead Service Manager is the Adult Protection lead for the Council. Around 125 Council Officers have been trained to a level that allows them to carry out adult protection investigations and discharge specific legislative functions. A rolling programme of training is in place to ensure a supply of Council Officers. In recognition of the increasing complexity of the nature of adult protection investigations, there is to be a third Advanced Council Officer training course, previously provided by The Robert Gordon University in 2012 and 2013. The intention is to give Council Officers additional skills and confidence in working with complex issues, including capacity, consent and undue pressure. RGU will run this course, again including a focus on risk assessment and risk management. It is now mandatory for Council Officers to attend an 'Adult Support and Protection Refresher course' every two years and these courses are run by the Aberdeen Adult Protection Unit (APU).

During the Biennial Reporting period 2013/15, the Scottish Government set 5 National Priorities for Adult Support and Protection: Financial Harm; ASP in A&E; Service User and Carer Involvement; ASP in Registered Care Homes; and Data Collection. The APC incorporated each of these priorities into its own action plan. In relation to data collection, the new national ASP Dataset has been incorporated into the APU reporting mechanism, which produces a full suite of information for monitoring, management and development purposes. This data is reported to each meeting of the APC for information and discussion and also on a biennial basis to Scottish Government. Raising awareness of ASP remains a local priority. A variety of means and continuing efforts are made to promote awareness, resulting in increased referrals from individuals themselves, family members, the public, care homes, care at home staff, NHS staff, Fire and Rescue Service staff and the Ambulance Service.

The second Adult Support and Protection national publicity campaign was launched in March 2016. The materials in leaflet and poster form arrived after the campaign and were distributed.

Financial harm continues to be a clear focus of the Grampian Financial Harm Sub Group. Two of the four half day Grampian Financial Harm Events were held in Aberdeen City and two in Keith in February 2016. These were planned along with multi-agency Grampian ASP colleagues. The events were well attended and well evaluated. Presentations were provided by a range of professionals, including the Adult Protection Unit Coordinator, Police Scotland, the Office of the Public Guardian, Aberdeen City Council Trading Standards staff and the Royal Bank of Scotland. The workshop discussions were evaluated as particularly worthwhile. A significant number of Adult Social Care staff, Aberdeen City Council Communities, Housing and Infrastructure staff, as well as NHS staff and third sector and care agency staff reported that these workshops enhanced their learning significantly for addressing financial harm and developing knowledge and skills.

The Adult Protection Committee's continued commitment to prioritising financial harm is reflected in the APU Coordinator's membership of the Grampian Financial

Harm Sub Group. There were also successful meetings between the Adult Protection Unit Trainer and the Police Scotland Adult Protection Coordinator, with Royal Bank of Scotland staff to discuss ways of improving awareness and developing processes that the banks could use in relation to ASP. During subsequent meetings, closer links and joint working were established. The APU Trainer and the Police Adult Protection Coordinator provided a presentation and led discussion in the Queens Cross Branch on Adult Support and Protection. The APU continues to work closely with colleagues in Police Scotland and in Trading Standards to address the issues of illegal activities in relation to scams of all descriptions. The APU's role is the support and protection of adults harmed by this activity. In addition, the APU works closely with operational colleagues and partner agencies to disseminate information on scams and what to do if affected to adults at risk and their families. Trading Standards have provided materials on financial harm and scams, to enhance the ASP Training provided by the APU.

The NHS Joint Training Coordinator along with a Speech and Language Therapist, have developed a Training for Trainers course and training materials for working with service users: 'Keeping Yourself Safe From Harm'. There is significant interest nationally in this course and the materials. A number of the courses have been run for an hour by two trainers in a range of Aberdeen services and have been well received by service users, to enhance their own understanding and awareness of harm and how to keep themselves safe. More of these courses are planned.

Over the past year 1055 referrals were submitted to the Adult Protection Unit; 34 fewer referrals than during the previous year. 89 older people accounted for almost half of the referrals which progressed to Inquiries and Investigations, followed by 60 people with mental health problems, 53 people with dementia and 52 people with a physical disability. For the first time annually, financial harm was the most common concern for 82 people, followed by physical harm for 69 people, which had been the largest group reported by concern in the previous year. Self harm was the next highest concern, for 56 people, followed by psychological harm for 38 people, with neglect for 33 people and sexual harm for 15 people. The main location of harm was for around 65% of people in their own home, which represented a significant increase from 51% in their own home during the previous year. Around 16% of people investigated were residing in a care home which is a slightly lower proportion than the 22% in the previous year.

Around 31% of referrals continue to a formal ASP intervention by Initial Inquiry, which is 5% fewer than the previous year, with only 1% of these proceeding to Full Investigation. The remainder of referrals are often redirected to social work services for assessment and support or to other relevant services/agencies. There is clear evidence from local audits that provision of immediate supports at Initial Inquiry stage often addresses risk of harm at an early point, thereby reducing the need for more substantive ASP intervention and in accordance with the principles of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007; the principles of 'most beneficial' and 'least restrictive'.

Over the coming year the APC will continue to focus on financial harm, which is the largest form of harm investigated under Adult Support and Protection procedures in Aberdeen. We will continue to promote service user and carer awareness of ASP

and continue delivery of the 'Keeping Yourself Safe From Harm' courses to service users.

Following the independent internal review of Adult Support and Protection, the Chief Officer has convened a short life working group to address and develop the findings. A series of rapid improvement events will take place in the autumn of 2016.

Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice Social Work service is now in the transition phase between the Northern Community Justice Authority (NCJA) and Community Justice. Whilst the NCJA continues to disburse the funding from Scottish Government, monitor the delivery of the area plan for reducing offending and have oversight of the performance of Criminal Justice Social Work, these will become local authority functions from April 2017. Work is ongoing to ensure that strategic and operational structures are in place for the implementation of the new model.

Current NCJA Criminal Justice Social Work partners have expressed a desire to maintain a degree of collaborative working in terms of benchmarking, quality assurance and best practice.

Although Aberdeen follows the national and international trend in that offending continues on a downward trajectory, both the number of reports requested by the court and Community Payback Orders imposed has increased in the past year.

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
CJSW Reports to Court	1,586	1,550	1,291	1,443
Community Payback Orders	968	1,054	1,116	1,132

Sentencers can impose any of nine Requirements on a Community Payback Order but, in reality, the Scottish average is 1.5 per order. In Aberdeen 90% of CPOs have an Unpaid Work and Other Activity Requirement, 10% above the Scottish average. This poses significant challenges in terms of unpaid work placements and it has been necessary to increase capacity by sourcing as many individual placements as possible. Whilst these are not as visible as some of the bigger work party environmental projects, they are rated very highly by both clients, who learn new skills and by recipients of the service, many of which are charities who gain additional workers.

We aim to be as responsive as possible to local need as identified by Councillors, MPs, MSPs, charities, environmental services, other ACC services and members of the public.

Pre-Disposal Team

The Pre-Disposal Team was set up 18 months ago as part of a restructuring of service in response to need and capacity issues. The Team is based in the Town House adjoining the Sheriff Court and the location has greatly improved relationships with Sheriffs as well as providing an improved court service to clients.

Since November 2015, the Team has been working in partnership with the Scottish Government and Scottish Court Service to pilot a Problem Solving Court for women offenders. This Problem Solving Approach was rolled out to men in August 2016.

Women's Services

The Connections Women's Centre has now been operational in Spring Garden for over a year and feedback has been almost universally positive. In addition to working with women who have offended, the Centre also provides support to women who have been harmed by domestic abuse and, more recently, to women who are subject to Structured Deferred Sentence imposed by the Problem Solving Court.

Women have the opportunity to undertake a range of activities and programmes such as crafts, therapeutic photography, confidence to cook, acupuncture, safety planning and the Connection's Women's Programme. Whilst the Connection's Café and Caledonian Drop-in provide opportunities for informal advice, socialising and peer support.

In addition to our community based service, our Women's Support Workers continue to meet with Aberdeen women in Scottish prisons on a regular basis. A strong working relationship is developing with staff at HMP Grampian.

Domestic Abuse

The Caledonian System continues to offer effective intervention with higher level domestic abuse perpetrators plus support for women and children harmed. This work is labour intensive, but initial feedback from Ipsos Mori who are currently evaluating the System are very positive.

CJSW was involved in Operation Gains, a pilot initiative with Police Scotland, Aberdeen Cyrenians and Alcohol and Drugs Action in the past year. This was aimed at providing support to women harmed by domestic abuse at the earliest possible opportunity in order to offer advice, safety planning and support throughout the legal process if required. In tandem with this, perpetrators whose offending was drug or alcohol related were offered support from ADA. The outcomes from the pilot were very positive, particularly in respect of the women, but unfortunately funding has now run out.

MAPPA

From 1st April 2016 MAPPA was extended to Other Risk of Serious Harm Offenders; i.e. those who are neither registered sex offenders nor restricted patient but who, by reason of their conviction, are subject to supervision in the community and are

assessed by the responsible authorities as posing a high or very high risk of serious harm to the public. These offenders are the "critical few" who require high levels of multi-agency support and management. We are very fortunate to have extremely good relationships with our partners in this respect with excellent communication, information sharing and joint working.

Over the coming year, the Criminal Justice services will work with Community Planning Partners to produce a Community Justice Plan which will deliver effective services to reduce reoffending and embrace the opportunities for even more creative partnership working inherent in the Community Justice model. We will use the Connections Women's Centre to further develop services to Women in the Criminal Justice system and those who have been harmed by domestic abuse and work with the Scottish Court Service and other agencies to successfully roll out the Problem Solving Approach to men.

Learning Disability Services

In line with local and national policy and practice drivers, Learning Disability services continue to adapt to meet the needs and outcomes of the individuals it supports whilst addressing the challenges posed in the market place.

Over the past year we have:

- Rolled out a series of training event for care management and in house staff on Essential Lifestyle Planning and Support Planning. Lessons learnt from this have been shared within the service and to operational managers;
- Engaged with colleagues regarding Health & Social Care Integration, including commencing a dialogue regarding joint commissioning or budgets to support people with a Learning Disability;
- Continued to work in ways which promote people with Learning Disabilities as equal partners;
- Commenced work to support the development of a co-produced Vision for Learning Disabilities in Aberdeen;
- Continued to assess and review the best value of contracted services;
- Built and maintained good working partnerships with colleagues in health services and 3rd Sector organisations.

The programme of work in 2015-16 has highlighted that the service continues to face both challenges and opportunities. The key aspects of which are summarised below.

Market Pressures

A successful large scale tendering process for Care at Home and Housing Support for people with a reputation to challenge services took place during the year, giving the Learning Disability Service the opportunity to redefine the way in which we look at services for people with complex needs in Aberdeen. Further developments within this area are required and the methodology used for this tender exercise will be built upon in future commissioning activity.

Changes in national legislation in relation to working practices has led to increased dialogue with Provider Organisations. At times this has proved challenging due to the economic pressures placed on both statutory and 3rd/Independent Sector organisations. We continue to work closely with all contacted organisations to ensure a supportive and open dialogue is maintained. Provider Organisations have analysed their position in the North East of Scotland, with some making the decision to cease business in the area. These circumstances have highlighted to us that further support must be offered to organisations and good relationships require to be maintained.

Over the coming year we will need to ensure we support provider organisations to deliver good outcomes for individuals in a flexible and responsive manner whilst addressing legislative demands regarding working practices. To address this, we will continue with a programme of successful provider engagement, focusing on how we can commission and contract services/supports in more effective and person-centred ways for all stakeholders. Ensuring the Learning Disability service commissions services in a sustainable way whilst offering best value. To do this we will continue to review our commissioning arrangements and ensure these are in line with our financial position as a service.

Changing Need

Increased referrals have been made to the LD Care Management Teams with more people being assessed as Eligible for support. Individuals currently supported are often being reassessed due to increased need. As a result, further work has been undertaken in relation to mapping of our financial position and of our current services. This work will feed into the development of a Vision/Strategy for Learning Disabilities.

As part of reassessing the suitability of service provision work has commenced on the design of a replacement day centre facility for people with Learning Disabilities, due to open in late 2016. In addition, an extensive refurbishment programme was undertaken at Stocket Parade, ensuring that individuals have safe and well maintained homes.

Work has been ongoing to ensure, where possible, individuals are supported to live as tenants with associated rights within service provision. Close working relationships with a variety of stakeholders has been crucial to this aspect of work, and continues to be a priority.

Supporting the Workforce

All Care Management staff and In-house Team Leaders/Seniors have attended training on Essential Lifestyle Planning & Support Planning. This training opportunity has been crucial in supporting the design and development of support arrangements, particularly for people entering the Learning Disability Service from Children's services.

With the increased demand for Care Management assessments and reviews additional staff resource has been provided to the teams. Successful recruitment

has resulted in staff workloads being managed more effectively. However, an increase in Adult Support & Protection concerns and statutory reviews of Guardianship powers have resulted in higher workloads and further pressures for staff. This is an area of concern and further work is required to review how staff can be supported to undertake their professional role.

Throughout the year processes within the service have been seen to require review and at times redesign. This covers aspects of Care Management function such as assessment and screening as well as how we review services and commission support. These changes are a crucial part of making the service more effective and future focussed.

We need to support our workforce to cope with the challenges of their workloads, including how to work with complex cases. To address this, we will adapt our processes to ensure they are supportive of our staff whilst ensuring they provide good governance for the service.

Mental Health Services

The Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 Section 32 (the 2003 Act) places a responsibility on Local Authorities to appoint sufficient Mental Health Officers (MHOs) for their local area to undertake statutory duties. The 2003 Act stipulates that MHOs must be Registered Social Workers working for the local authority who are experienced and who have completed specialist training. Within the context of the integration of health and social care this duty clearly remains with the local authority. This point is particularly important as it maintains a visible and tangible separation of health and local authority services.

Aberdeen City Council secures accredited MHO training in partnership with The Robert Gordon University, with the University hosting the academic elements of the course. The Council provides the practice setting and Practice Assessors who are qualified, practising MHOs who oversee and assess the knowledge and practice of MHOs in training. Numbers of suitably experienced Social Workers coming forward for training vary and the demands of the course and on the service in which the worker is based are significant. Practice Assessing is also a demanding role. Recruitment, retention and training of MHOs is an ongoing challenge.

	2013	2014	2015	2016
NO. OF MHOs	34	32	30	34
TRAINEES	NO COURSE	4	4	4

There are 29.5 MHOs located across adult services, with 19.5 working within Mental Health teams and 5 in the Out of Hours team. There are 14.7FTE core MHOs who are paid at a higher grade, these posts are MHO/SW posts and are mostly aligned to multi-disciplinary teams in Adult and Older Adult Mental Health at Royal Cornhill Hospital. There is one higher graded MHO in Learning Disability Services and one

Peripatetic MHO. All Senior Social Worker Posts at Royal Cornhill Hospital are also MHOs.

The above figures are intended to provide an overall picture and does not take in to account MHOs on Maternity Leave, Sick Leave and those who have moved to promoted, seconded posts. The actual numbers of MHOs providing a service are less than those given above.

MHOs have statutory duties in situations where compulsory detention or treatment under the 2003 Act is being considered, to assess and either consent or withhold consent to the detention and/or treatment. Once a person is detained the local authority has a duty to designate an MHO to the case and they remain involved with the person and exercise particular functions and duties for the duration of their detention. These duties include the identification of a Named Person, the writing of a Social Circumstances Report (SCR) as well as advising the person of their rights and supporting the person to exercise these rights.

The deprivation of a person's liberty and the giving of compulsory treatment is a grave infringement of human rights and the involvement of a social worker trained in mental disorder and the law – the MHO – is intended to provide independent checks and balances which take a holistic view of the person.

In relation to the civil provisions of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 the figures below are in relation to statutory interventions by MHOs in Aberdeen City.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Compulsory Treatment Order	49	65	56	52	62
Emergency Detention in Hospital	20	30	36	36	28
Short-term	156	186	180	157	170

Recent and current Consultations by the Scottish Government propose changes to the Mental Health Act which will increase further still the role of the MHO under this piece of legislation. For example, the 2015 Act implemented in part earlier this year proposes the provision of mandatory MHO reports in certain circumstances when Compulsory Treatment Orders and Compulsion Orders are extended, changes to the Named Person provisions, the introduction of a role for MHOs in the transfer of prisoners for treatment and a brand new provision relating to Victim's Rights. Consideration is also being given to whether people with a learning disability or autism should be dealt with under mental health legislation.

Adults with Incapacity – Guardianship

For those adults who lack capacity to make decisions or take action to safeguard their own welfare, their property or their financial affairs, the Sheriff Court can appoint a guardian under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 (the 2000 Act).

The local authority has many duties under the 2000 Act including the duty to make application to the Sheriff Court to have the Chief Social Work Officer appointed as Welfare Guardian where this is necessary and no one else is doing so. This duty applies also to financial and property matters and application must be made to appoint a private solicitor as Financial Guardian. Private individuals also can apply to be appointed as welfare and/or financial guardians. In all cases where welfare powers are sought, a report from an MHO is required.

People on Guardianship tend to be diagnosed with dementia, a learning disability or some other condition which affects cognitive abilities such as Huntington's Disease, stroke and alcohol related brain damage.

Numbers of Guardianships have been increasing year on year. For example, the annual number of new orders granted in 2014/15 is 84% higher than in 2009/10. The use of this piece of legislation is also influenced by judgements made in Sheriff and European Courts around deprivation of liberty as it applies to the provision of care and this, alongside the introduction of Self Directed Support is partly responsible for the increase in the use of Guardianship.

The CSWO is Welfare Guardian for 99 people, this has increased by 20, the previous year's figure being 79. Private individuals are welfare guardian for 286 people, this is up from 247 last year. In cases where a private individual has been appointed the local authority has a duty to supervise the guardian at least once a year.

The increasing use of Guardianship, places a growing demand on social work services across the board. There are more Guardianships in place for people with a learning disability than for any other client group.

Judgements made in the European Courts around Deprivation of Liberty have impacted on views about the authority of the 2000 Act. A recent consultation by the Scottish Law Commission is proposing the introduction of measures to authorise holding adults who lack capacity in both general hospitals for treatment of medical problems and also in care homes. It is unclear what the overall implications of such measures may be but it may well result in a further increase in the numbers of welfare guardianships.

Older People

Integration with health into the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership has proved to be a major factor within Older People's Services. Significant work has been done with our health colleagues to improve services within Older People's Services across the partnership.

Practice Improvement

In recognition of our difficulties in delivering an assessment and intervention service for urgent and high priority referrals, we undertook a review of the functions and processes of care management. As a result, a Response Team was introduced within the Older People's service. This team is able to undertake urgent

assessments in order to meet the needs of citizens quickly. The use of a scheduling tool across the services then allows a planned reallocation from a worker in the Response Team to one in one of the locality teams.

Practitioners are continually striving to improve the service they provide to older people in Aberdeen. Managers and some staff in Older People's Adult Social Care, have developed a core skills training and development programme. This has been rolled out to all care management staff and this training is being developed further to include Learning Disability Services over the next year.

Continuous improvement of Assessment and Review processes

Ongoing feedback from frontline staff indicated that Assessment and Review tools and processes required further improvement. All paper work was reviewed as planned over the last working year and new assessment, care plan and risk assessments were piloted and will be rolled out to all Older Adults Care Management Teams during the rest of 2016.

As a way of undertaking our statutory duty to review annually all care packages, we have introduced innovative, less-time consuming ways of completing reviews, for some cases. Reviews of care were traditionally carried out through a face to face meeting with the individual, care provider, and family/informal carer. However, given the volume of high and urgent work within teams, it was not possible to regularly review less complex cases. Thus, our Care Managers and Care Co-ordinators have piloted the use of initial telephone reviews and day surgeries within care homes, which allow residents and families to attend if they have queries or wish to arrange a formal review. Traditional reviews remain a significant tool, particularly in more complex caring situations.

Partnership Working to address capacity issues

Shifting the balance of care to enable more people to live at home, or in homely settings, continues to be a strategic objective, for Older People's Services. However, this has been subject to market forces, and the supply of care has challenged the social care system over a number of years. Recruitment and retention problems remain difficult within this sector and this continues to impact on waiting times for care and on discharge from hospital.

Money has been received from the Scottish Government to provide for the Living Wage which will be rolled out to Care Providers from October 2016. It is intended that this will address the issue of low wages in relation to this sector.

Because of recruitment issues, care at home providers are still not able to fully meet all the demands for care across the city. However, there is ongoing discussion with Care at Home Providers to look at locality based models of care delivery, which in the longer term should improve our ability to provide care to those increasingly complex care demands we face. In the meantime, the pressures of resource finding are placing a significant strain on capacity in care management teams, who continue to illustrate a high degree of persistence in trying to source care.

In relation to care home provision, in 2015-16 embargos on admissions because of staffing problems or poor standards have reduced, with only 1 Large Scale Investigation being undertaken into a care home. Staff at the home worked closely with council officers, health partners and residents and their families over a 6 month period to improve the standards of care. Although this was a difficult process for all to work through, the commitment of those involved, to improve outcomes for individuals, has proved to be successful. Ongoing partnership working with the home and health staff will continue to ensure that the improved standards continue.

Integrated Practice around Hospital Discharge

Delayed Discharge remains a challenge and the national standard for 0 delays over 2 weeks is not presently being achieved, although the flow of people supported to leave hospitals is steady and delays have been gradually decreasing over the last year.

The main reason for delay continues to be the shortage of care to meet demand. However, the introduction of interim beds in for those patients assessed as requiring a care home place has enabled people to move from hospital to a care home, while they wait for a bed in their home of choice. There are plans to increase the resources available for this from September 2016, from 6 beds within 1 care home, to 19 across the city. The number of interim, residential beds will remain constant at 8, as will those for individuals awaiting care at home services who currently have access to 8 interim flats within the Clashieknowe Intermediate Complex.

Another major initiative to address this issue was the introduction of a Discharge Hub at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (ARI). Care Management (Older Adults) Staff have been part of this and have worked in partnership with health colleagues to develop pathways for discharge, that minimise delayed discharge. Following the success of the Discharge Hub at ARI, a similar initiative has now been introduced at Woodend Hospital to ensure that an integrated approach to discharge is taken across services. The ARI and Woodend team gained three extra care managers (funded over a two year period) to facilitate the implementation of these initiatives.

Further Development and Improvement in 2016/17

A Planning and Development Manager (Older People) is recently in post, for up to 1 year, to support the service in improving and moving further into integration. The post holder will have a lead role in:

- Improving financial information in CareFirst and ensuring that all staff are adequately trained in this area. Improving our financial data recording will improve commitment monitoring and ensure that budgetary information is reliable.
- The introduction of a new resource co-ordinator, to reduce duplication and improve efficiency when care searches are being undertaken by staff.
- Review of our current eligibility criteria in relation to Care Homes and Very Sheltered Housing, in order to ensure consistency and transparency across services. This is being done with partners in health, ACC housing and third sector.

- Redesign of administrative services to improve administrative function, both in supporting frontline staff and to improve business processes across different ACC departments and within the H&SC Partnership.
- Our updated assessments and care plans are outcomes focussed tools, in line with Self Directed Support (Scotland) Act 2013. All staff will undertake training throughout 2016/17 around Self Directed Support and training will also be developed with Bon Accord staff develop training around outcomes focussed assessment.

Aberdeen City Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

The Aberdeen City ADP meets on a quarterly basis. It has representation from a range of stakeholders, including:

- The Chair of the Alcohol, Drugs and BBV forum - which is an open forum for members of the community to share their views on local alcohol and drugs issues.
- Aberdeen in Recovery (AIR) – an alcohol and drugs peer recovery support group
- Civic Forum – a city wide community representative group

The ADP is tasked with helping deliver on nationally set Scottish Government outcomes for alcohol and drugs. It also works to deliver on its alcohol and drugs strategies and on priorities contained in its Delivery Plan 2015-18. This latter document contains four priorities: Prevention; Early Intervention; Reducing deaths; Quality.

Although no new commissioning took place during the year, a public consultation on what services, service users and the public think previously took place prior to the current third sector alcohol / drugs services being commissioned.

In addition, the ADP jointly ran a local alcohol and drugs conference in November 2015, which attracted service users, family members and the general public.

Aberdeen City operates an:

- Integrated Alcohol Service (IAS)
- Integrated Drug Service (IDS)

Both services have multi-disciplined staff, including Doctors, Nurses, Social Workers and third sector Support Workers. The Support Workers are currently commissioned from the local third sector organisation, Alcohol & Drugs Action.

In 2015/16 there were 913 people referred to the IAS and 907 people referred to the IDS. During this time the IAS and the IDS consistently met Scottish Government health waiting times targets for alcohol and drugs services, which require that at least 90% of people are seen within three weeks from initial referral to treatment commencing.

The IAS and IDS has consistently met Scottish Government NHS treatment waiting times targets over the last year.

Work needs to continue to be done on helping clients to move through their recovery and in having robust methods for capturing outcomes around this.

Work with the Care Inspectorate

Early in 2016, the Care Inspectorate began a programme of work, across the whole of Scotland, to support the validation of Alcohol and Drug Partnerships and services' self-assessment of performance and progress in implementing and embedding the National Quality Principles: Standard Expectations of Care and Support in Drug and Alcohol services.

The Care Inspectorate programme included: questionnaires for service users and staff; a self-evaluation template; case file reading; and meetings with service users, staff and ADP members.

The Care Inspectorate intends producing a national report during 2016/17, as well as providing local feedback for each ADP. This information will help inform the ADP on areas for ongoing improvement.

Work on dealing with people found drunk & incapable

Work took place during 2015/16 in preparation for the closing of the Designated Place of Safety (DP). The DP had been commissioned jointly by NHS Grampian and Police Scotland for temporarily caring for people found drunk & incapable.

New improved partnership processes were developed for implementing in 2016/17, which included having a Social Worker based within the Community Safety Partnership HUB at Frederick Street, Aberdeen. This worker assists the overall care management for this cohort, particularly for those people who are regularly found drunk and incapable. The new processes aim to reduce the impact upon emergency and health & social care staff.

Delivery of alcohol brief interventions

There is good evidence that the delivery of Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI) can help reduce alcohol consumption. The Scottish Government set NHS Boards targets around ABIs. The ABI target for Aberdeen City in 2015/16 was 2889. Over the year, a total of 4,418 ABIs were delivered.

Supply of naloxone

Naloxone can temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose and can therefore save life. Over the year, 544 naloxone kits were supplied to key individuals across Aberdeen.

Supply of methadone boxes

Methadone Safe (Home) Storage boxes are issued by IDS staff as part of ongoing risk-assessment processes for people in drug treatment services who care for children. In 2015/16 there were 29 boxes issued.

Complaints About Social Work / Social Care Services

The CSWO has awareness of the volume and nature of statutory complaints received and can sign off on appeals against complaint decisions. Using an excel spreadsheet register and CareFirst version 6 to record data on complaints, allows for analysis and ensures that complaint information is available for services and committees and to inform service improvements.

Complaint trend information and analysis is reported quarterly to both the Council's Education and Children's Services Committee and the Clinical and Care Governance Committee of the Health and Social Care Partnership. Complaint information is also reported separately to the CSWO and the H&SCP Chief Officer and forms part of the CSWO performance dashboard.

A regulated process applies to the methods and timescales for responding to complaints by persons who receive or are in need of social care service and persons whose request for a service has been refused by the local authority. This report considers statutory complaints, where the requirement is for a formal investigation and a full written response under the procedure; appeals against original statutory complaint decisions and complaints heard by the Complaints Review Committee.

In the period April 2015 to March 2016, 138 statutory complaints were recorded, (compared with 78 for 2014-15 and 95 in 2013-14).

These 138 complaints contained a total of 426 separate complaint points. Of these 426 complaint points, 59 points were upheld, 37 were partially upheld, 266 were not upheld, there 43 were no decision could be made and 21 were withdrawn.

Children services received 85 complaints, which contained 302 separate complaint points, 32 of which were upheld, 24 partially upheld, 204 were not upheld, 33 were no decision could be made and 9 were withdrawn.

Adult services received 51 complaints, which contained 116 complaint points, 26 of which were upheld, 13 partially upheld, 55 not upheld, 10 were no decision could be made, and 12 were withdrawn.

There were 2 complaints which covered both Children's and Adults Services, which had 8 complaint points, 1 of which was upheld and the remaining 7 not upheld.

In 2015-16, 87% of complaints that required formal acknowledgement were done within the required 5 day timescale, compared to 90% in 2014-15. In total, 70% of complaints were responded to within the 28 day deadline, compared to 29% in 2014-2015. Children's services responded in time to 70% and adult services responded in time to 72% of their respective complaints, the two joint complaints were both responded to on time.

In 2015 -16, 24 complaints were taken to the appeal stage, compared with 3 in 2014-15.

In 2015-16, 2 complainants took their case to the Complaints Review Committee, as compared to 3 in 2014-15.

Many factors can influence the number of complaints received and it is difficult to quantify the exact reasons. The rise in the number of complaints in 2015-16, can partly be attributed to particular complainants, who have made regular and voluminous complaints, but otherwise, it has to be accepted that the volume of complaints will fluctuate.

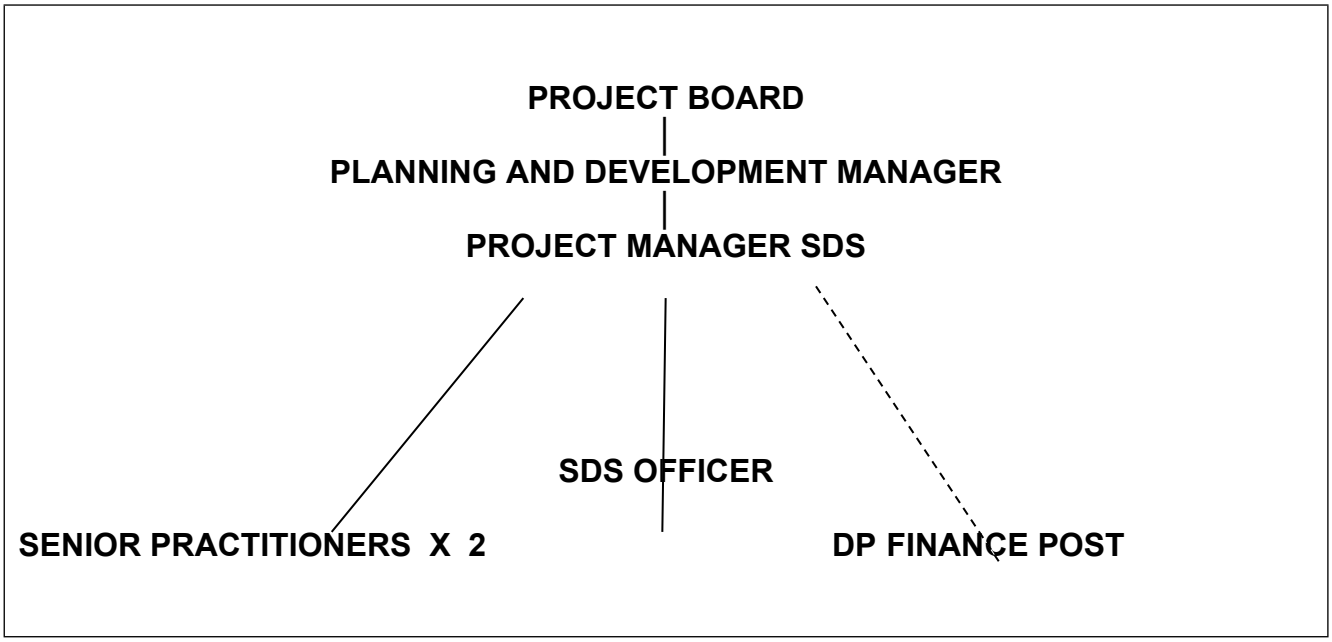
Likewise, the ability of the service to respond to a complaint within 28 days can be varied. In an effort to improve compliance, changes have been to how complaints are investigated. The Complaints, Rights and Enquiries team now take a more active role in the investigation of complaints, to aid social work staff. As can be seen by the improvement in compliance from 2014-15, this has been hugely successful and has been done whilst training all social work teams in complaints handling, which has also had a positive impact.

8. User and Carer Empowerment

Self-Directed Support

Aberdeen City Council is progressing with the implementation of Self -directed Support across the city.

SDS Team Structure



My Life Portal

On 1st June 2016, the City's MyLife portal went live to the citizens of Aberdeen.

MyLife is a website dedicated to Self-Directed Support within Aberdeen and covers all service areas. The hope is that it will be the one stop information and advice website for SDS. The portal contains sections of information to support individuals with SDS.

"What is SDS" and the four options provide the supported person with a generic SDS leaflet, factsheets on each of the 4 options available through SDS explaining the systems and process, front facing documentation used to set up a direct payment (option1), Information on financial monitoring and the process of becoming an employer, links to useful support organisations.

Providers of support, goods and activities resource directory providing both supported people with easy access to providers and their services and providers with a medium on which to advertise their services. Providers have full administrative rights to their own page.

Financial section where we have numerous links to internal and external financial support, documentation that the supported person can view before the practitioner discusses them with them (open and transparent).

Useful links is broken into 5 sections for Links to SDS legislation, Children, Transitions, Adults service specific information and Carers which provide links to documentation used by practitioners, eligibility for services information.

Frequently asked questions provide the supported person and the practitioner with answers to commonly asked questions.

Films and stories provide real life examples of how SDS has empowered individuals to have more choice and control over their assessed care and support needs. This is to be further developed to include stories

The future focus is to advertise the portal to the wider community, ensure that all information, systems and processes are updated as required. Consult with supported people, representatives, support groups and providers January 2017 re functionality of MyLife.

Progress on Implementing SDS

The main focus of work has been to implement a suite of forms and a clear process to enable practitioners to be confident in using option 1 successfully.

This has necessitated a complete overhaul of the processes and we now have a clear system from discussion, through set up, ongoing maintenance and closure of a direct payment. This overhaul has been informed through discussion with Finance, Carefirst, Service Managers, Supported People and Practitioners.

There is a comprehensive guidance document for practitioners, which will act as a day-to-day tool to enable them to work confidently within direct payment processes and systems.

An important part of successful implementation of option 1, DP has been the development of a robust escalation process. This is necessary for those situations where correct monitoring statements and accompanying paperwork have not been submitted to Finance, and as such has been developed through close working with Finance, Legal and Practitioners. There is now a comprehensive range of letters covering standard communication, alteration and escalation process available to Finance. There is an agreed time scale, process and a flowchart has been developed alongside written guidance to support this change.

The SDS team recognise that practitioners are developing their skills as we implement new processes.

There is an overarching guidance document for supported people to enable them to feel informed and capable in relation to their choice of a direct payment.

Additionally, there are comprehensive guides in relation to Personal Assistants and Self-Employed carers. For this particular aspect there has been consultation and discussion with Police Scotland and Adult Protection Unit to ensure we are meeting our responsibilities in relation to vulnerable adults and enabling people to make choices where it is safe to do so.

There are supported people who have, historically not been maintaining their DP in line with statutory requirements. With this in mind, over the coming months the SDS team will be supporting and establishing a guide for practitioners to help them think about and deal with these historical cases and ensure processes and systems are implemented to support and not disadvantage Supported People.

Supporting Independent Living

A large concentration of work within the Learning Disability service has centred on enabling people to live as independently as possible. To do this we commenced a programme of re-registering services from care homes to care at home and housing support services, within our In-House estate. Following this, Provider Organisations were supported to identify which resources should adapt into more independent living environments, with individuals benefiting from having rights as occupants or tenants as well as income maximisation through full entitlement to benefits.

Our own In-House estate of Care Homes was the first step for such work. There have been benefits to the organisation and to the individuals we provide direct support to. This can be seen in the ways in which people have more choice and control of their homes and support arrangements in order to meet their identified outcomes and the way in which we model our services and support our staff to deliver high quality, individualised care.

In addition to this a key aspect of independent living is about extending individuals' rights to have choice in relation to their support arrangements. We have worked with our LD Care Management staff to ensure they are knowledgeable of different ways in which someone may be supported, including the person self-directing their support. Our aim is that individuals supported by the service will be given the opportunity to contribute to their own Essential Lifestyle Plan and Support Plan, providing detail on their needs, outcomes and how they will be supported. This gives individuals more opportunity to say what works for them and how their support should be delivered. It also provides detail on the cost of their support so it is clear how the money provided for support/services is used and this assists with reviewing the effectiveness of the support and whether it delivers good outcomes and best value.

We continue to look at ways of supporting people to live in their own homes or homely environments, working with individuals and other stakeholders to support the success of this work.

Active Ageing and the Wellbeing Team

The achievements and progression of our wellbeing team have featured in the CSWO Annual Report since 2012.

The team has continued to support initiatives that promote physical activity and social opportunities and work with many partners and colleagues including Aberdeen Sports Village, Sport Aberdeen, The Robert Gordon University, local churches, the public health team, allied health professionals, Alzheimer's Scotland, Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust, Age Scotland, the Health and Care Village, Royal Cornhill Hospital, GP practices, care homes, Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations, carers services, Footprints Connect and many others to increase the number of older people, many with long term conditions, getting active and involved in their local communities.

Some examples of what we did in 2015-16:

- We coordinated a programme that introduced new activities over a six month period in four separate sheltered housing complexes. The activities are now being led and delivered by Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust;
- We expanded our 'Meaningful Activities' network to reach more people living in their own homes and in care homes with long term conditions and worked with partners to create activities that are tailored to specific needs and conditions including dementia;
- We have worked with volunteers to support and empower them to meet needs in local areas. One community centre now runs a social group for isolated older citizens and a local Sports Centre hosts a wellbeing group for people with long term conditions and their unpaid carers;
- We have been actively involved in a design led approach facilitated by an external organisation called THRIVE in two neighbourhoods of Aberdeen and with GP surgeries in all localities to seek collaborative solutions to local issues. More specifically, we undertook a pilot project of 'wellbeing visitor' with one GP practice in a local neighbourhood to address loneliness and isolation among a small number of elderly patients;
- The work of the wellbeing team was promoted at the annual NHS Scotland Event in 2016 and was also shortlisted for a national award at the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations in the 'Perfect Partnership' category;
- We have promoted good practice and learning with one example being the discussion of a person's wellbeing as a central part of multi- disciplinary team meetings within primary care.
- We have continued to use approaches in community settings that have resulted in older people and volunteers taking ownership and responsibility for the running of initiatives in local areas such as volunteers running sessions of 'Technogym Easyline' in local neighbourhoods. 'Technogym Easyline' is a low level seated circuit class which is predominantly used for people aged 65 and above. It aims to help improve overall body strength. Technogym operates using a hydraulic bar which targets resistance for specific muscle groups.

During 2015/16 the wellbeing team also continued to support the 'Golden Games' which is a local partnership approach to a sports and physical activities festival for people over the age of 65 in Aberdeen. Initially developed in 2011, the 'Golden Games' have helped to create and promote an ever increasing range of active ageing events with partners that now take place throughout the year in Aberdeen.

During 2016/17 we hope that the Aberdeen partnership of local sports providers will take on the leadership for further development and delivery of the Golden Games.

Over the course of the next year, the wellbeing team will align itself with the public health team as part of Aberdeen City's Health and Social Care partnership (H&SCP).

Limited evaluation from previous projects makes it more difficult to know what learning and projects to prioritise and scale up.

Limited evaluation from previous projects has made it more difficult to know what learning and projects to prioritise and scale up. Therefore, the wellbeing team will undertake some evaluative learning on our successes and activities from previous years and make our function clear to a wide range of partners and colleagues in line with the priorities in the H&SCP's three year strategic plan.

We will continue to educate, support and empower communities to develop their own wellbeing opportunities and develop more locally focussed wellbeing activities and events. We plan to develop a range of wellbeing opportunities for people living with long term conditions, including people with dementia.

Locality Planning

The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, requires the H&SCP to divide Aberdeen's geographical area into at least two localities to enable to effective planning and deliver of integrated services.

The partnership has agreed to base its localities on the four existing GP cluster areas that have existed for a number of years, to take advantage of established relationship and activities. The agreed localities are:

- Aberdeen North;
- Aberdeen South;
- Aberdeen West;
- Aberdeen East.

The development of localities reflects that citizens will naturally associate themselves with communities rather than necessarily by the "locality" within which they live, the boundaries of which are set for administrative purposes.

Localities will be critically important from a planning perspective as they will enable the partnership to understand the health and wellbeing of the populations of these areas. The partnership will seek to use these localities to develop local solutions and will start small by testing proposals, understand the impact of implementation and then, where appropriate, seek to develop them further.

Some communities in Aberdeen already have established networks or planning groups and where these are in place, it is intended to seek to use this existing community asset infrastructure. A bottom up approach will be taken rather than placing a community or neighbourhood structure down onto a community, on order to increase the likelihood for sustainability.

The creation of Locality Leadership Groups has commenced and the four localities are planning and developing services on the basis of what we already know about the health and wellbeing of the local population and what assets and resources are available locally. All activities will be co-ordinated through the partnership, in line with the strategic plan, but recognising that localities may want to pursue some different approaches given their identified priorities. Mature and trusting relationships in and between the localities and the partnership as a whole, will help ensure that local emphases are within the parameters of the strategic plan.

9. Workforce Planning and Development

The public sector generally in Aberdeen faces challenges in recruitment of staff. In all social work services there are few experienced applicants for professional posts and, especially in children's social work, recruits are often recently qualified. There continues to be a significant shortage of residential child care staff. Promoted posts at any level attract few applicants and particular posts with 'acting up' arrangements remain unfilled on a permanent basis, despite middle management salary levels that are higher than the norm.

The Council has recently undertaken a comprehensive succession planning exercise for key workforce/occupational groups across the Council including Children's Social Work and Adult Health & Social Care, focusing on hard to fill, business critical posts. The aim of the exercise is to develop strong succession plans to help the Council attract people with the knowledge, skills and abilities we need, retain key employees, develop our existing teams and prepare suitable ready replacements internally through a variety of learning and development activities.

The workforce skills required to meet the legislative agendas of personalisation and self-directed support have been considered in a joint workforce planning exercise between NHS and Aberdeen City Council. Further details of this are provided below.

At the operational level, we have a SMART Supervision policy linked to the Scottish Social Services Council's (SSSC) continuous learning framework, which ensures that social work staff receive professional supervision to support the development of their professional practice. The supervision policy is linked to a Performance Review and Development (PR&D) scheme, which has been adapted from the Corporate scheme to support social work staff. Since 2013 annual increments in pay scales have been linked to positive performance as assessed through PR&D.

Interest in workforce development extends to the independent sector as recruitment and retention difficulties there are impacting significantly on capacity for service delivery through commissioning.

In the summer of 2015, the Council launched its Key Worker Housing Initiative, offering Council housing to identified key workers for a 6 month period following their appointment to a hard to recruit to post. However, due the downturn in the oil industry, renting in the private sector became cheaper and easier and there was no take up for the scheme.

Children's Social Work

The implementation of Reclaiming Social Work presents a new way of working for the entire Children's Social Work Service. This has required comprehensive training of existing staff as well as cognisance of the fact that potential applicants from elsewhere in the country are unlikely to have undertaken training or have a qualification in systemic practice. Professional social work employees are being trained in systemic practice and as the implementation of the new Social work units go live, all staff in each unit are benefiting from a comprehensive five day induction

programme that covers the reclaiming vision, systemic practice, role definition, practical guidance and information on how the new team will operate and team building.

We are currently progressing a wholescale redesign of the Children's Residential Service. The redesign takes account of the national workforce development framework, the proposed SSSC registration requirement that staff within residential child care achieve the new SCQF level 9 awards in residential child care.

It is a key priority that action is taken to alleviate the recruitment and retention challenges facing Children's Social Work. A working group has been tasked with considering the workforce planning challenges facing the service and proposing an action plan to meet these challenges in the future, looking at career pathways, creative advertising solutions and a review of recruitment and selection tools to ensure we get the right people into these key roles.

Health and Social Care Partnership

The draft workforce plan for the Health and Social Care Partnership outlines a number of HR workstreams that will support the integration of our health and care services. It gives an indication of the strategic direction/vision and suggests the short and medium term actions that are required to achieve that direction, and to identify appropriate outcomes for each action.

The workstreams for the HR elements of Health and Social Care Integration have previously been agreed by the Heads of HR as:

- HR Support to the new Partnerships;
- Staff Governance and Staff Partnership Working;
- Workforce Planning and Development;
- Recruitment and Resourcing;
- Organisational Change and OD;
- Health, Safety and Wellbeing;
- Workforce Performance and Reporting;
- Policies;
- The Integration Scheme.

It is understood that our draft workforce plan will develop and that it should therefore be viewed as a working document that is expected to undergo a number of iterative changes. Changes will be agreed by the NE HR Group, Chief Officers and Staff Side/Trade Union Representatives from Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council, NHS Grampian and Moray Council – through the HR Sub Groups of the IJBs.

As the Partnership develops and delivers its strategic priorities, it is expected that the workforce will need to develop and change in line with changes in service delivery and the move to locality working.

Employee Opinion Survey

In October 2014, the Council commissioned BMG research to undertake an organisation wide survey of employees. The fieldwork was completed in December 2014 and the findings from the survey were published to all staff on 12 February 2015.

Following the publication of the results, a series of Directorate wide workshops were held with staff focusing on the key outcomes and highlighted areas for improvement. A separate follow up survey for managers was undertaken in May 2015.

Directorate level actions plans have been developed for Education and Children's Services and Adult Social Care, to take forward issues highlighted through the Employee Opinion Survey. The Action Plan for Adult Social Care was reviewed and updated in July 2016.

As part of the implementation of Reclaiming Social Work, the service has commissioned an external organisation to engage with staff to evaluate the impact of the implementation of the approach. This is used as a 'temperature check' of the morale and motivation of staff at key points during the change process. Evaluation activity is reported and monitored through the RSW Programme Board.

Learning and Development and Training

Training for social care staff is provided, in part, through the contract with Bon Accord Care. Corporate training is also available, to support the embedding of the Council's Core Behaviours.

In 2015/16, staff attended 293 training sessions run by Bon Accord Care.

The review of the L&D contract with BAC is a priority in 2015/16 to ensure that the contract continues to deliver high quality training, tailored to the strategic policy objectives of the Education and Children's Services Department and Adult Social Care services.

K**ey Challenges for 2016/17**

The five key workforce planning challenges facing social work services for 2016/17 are:

1. A significant challenge is supporting employees to meet the increasing demand on social work services within budget constraints. This is a challenge faced by both children's social work due to the increasing number of young people and their families requiring support from professional social work staff and within Adult Health and Social Care due to the population demographics. To meet this challenge, the directorates will continue to review and design the way we deliver our services and upskill and prepare staff to meet the future challenges and new ways of working.

2. Recruitment of staff with the right skills, values and behaviours. Plans to address this include reviewing recruitment strategies and the use of robust selection processes and grow our own initiatives.
3. The integration of Adult Health and Social Care services is likely to have workforce implications as a result of different ways of delivering services, although at this point in time it is not yet possible to determine what these might be. The HR workstream will continue to review the progress of the integration agenda and anticipate the work force planning implications.
4. The attraction and promotion of a diverse workforce. In most areas within social work services the current workforce is largely female, aged 25 to 55. Equality and diversity is a key priority for the Council and focus over the coming year will be given to youth employment and attracting and promoting talent with cognisance of the Equality Act.
5. Retention of staff with the right skills, values and behaviours. There is a risk that during periods of change and significant service demands staff may leave or lack engagement. Plans to address this include ongoing consultation and communication with staff during periods of change,

10. Improvement Approaches and examples/case studies of improvement activities

Reclaiming Social Work

Following completion of the staff matching process in 2015 a planned and managed roll out of the new Reclaiming Social Work structure began as planned in February 2016. Two thirds of staff are now matched into their new posts and we have already:

- Introduced the revised structure for our in-house Family and Community Support Services.
- Created and introduced a revised structure for the Alternative Family Care Service.
- Established the first 8 Social Work Units.
- Established a Youth Team to work with care leavers and 16 - 18 year olds who are in the Criminal Justice system.
- Established a revised Children with Disabilities team to focus on those children receiving care packages.

Although it is still early days in the implementation of Reclaiming Social Work and we do not as yet have hard data, direct feedback from service users has been extremely positive and encouraging. Families have spoken of feeling a difference in how social work staff are engaging with them. The Unit model is beginning to evidence that social work staff are managing risk more effectively and supporting families to identify solutions to their own difficulties. It is hoped that this will lead to more children being supported to remain within their family and community and over time contribute to a reduction in the numbers of children accommodated by the local authority.

In preparation for the roll out of Reclaiming Social Work we have developed a 'Go to Guide' for staff covering roles and responsibilities as well as key policies and procedures. It also incorporates what has become known as the 'Wiring Diagram'. This is an interactive resource for staff to explore and understand processes and systems around the care of children, whether they be in the child protection, looked after children or court systems. It includes live links to legislation and guidance as well as forms and procedures. Carefirst, our client record system, has in turn been updated to reflect this and to reduce the amount of data that social workers collect about a child by ensuring that where possible data is collected once and used to populate subsequent processes. The 'Go to Guide' and 'Wiring Diagram' are invaluable resources which staff, who may not always be familiar with all aspects of the social work job, have welcomed.

Opiate replacement therapy (ort) peer support group

In January 2016, a Peer support group was set up at the Timmermarket Clinic under the title of 'ORT & Me'. This group meets weekly and is open to anyone who wants to discuss ORT and ways that they can stop requiring the need for its use in a controlled and supportive way. The group has been very successful, and regularly has a good attendance of about ten people who are currently on ORT. A number of these people have managed to reduce the dosage of their ORT and at least one

member has become abstinent in the time that it has been in operation. As it is a Peer support group, it is being run at no cost to statutory services.

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The Role of Chief Social Work Officer

Guidance Issued by Scottish Ministers

pursuant to Section 5(1) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968

Revision of Guidance First Issued In 2009

Revised Version – July 2016

This guidance has been developed in partnership with local government and supported by COSLA

July 2016

The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

INTRODUCTION

1. The Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 (the 1968 Act) requires local authorities to appoint a single Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) for the purposes of listed social work functions.

2. This document contains statutory guidance. It is issued to local authorities by Scottish Ministers under section 5 of the 1968 Act. The local authority must have regard to this guidance. It must follow both the letter and the spirit of the guidance. It must not depart from the guidance without good reason. The Guidance replaces guidance previously issued in 2009.

PURPOSE

3. The guidance is for local authorities and will also be of use to bodies and partnerships to which local authorities have delegated social work functions. Local authorities must have regard to this guidance when carrying out their functions under the 1968 Act. Recognising the democratic accountability which local authorities have in this area, clarity and consistency about the role and contribution of the CSWO are particularly important given the diversity of organisational structures and the range of organisations and partnerships with an interest and role in delivery of social work services.

4. This guidance summarises the minimum scope of the role of the CSWO. It will assist elected members in ensuring that the role is delivered effectively and that the local authority derives maximum benefit from the effective functioning of the role. Effective delivery of and support for the role will assist local authorities to be assured that there is coherence and effective interfacing across all of their social work functions.

5. The guidance is intended to:

(a) support local authorities in effective discharge of responsibilities for which they are democratically accountable;

(b) help local authorities maximise the role of the CSWO and the value of their professional advice – both strategically and professionally;

(c) provide advice on how best to support the role so that the CSWO can be effective in their role both within the local authority and in regard to other entities, such as Community Planning Partnerships, whilst recognising that local authorities operate with different management and organisational structures and in different partnership landscapes;

(d) assist Integration Joint Boards (IJBs) to understand the CSWO role in the context of integration of health and social care brought in through the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the 2014 Act).

(e) be read alongside the wide range of guidance relevant to social work functions of local authorities and relevant guidance issued relating to the 2014 Act.

(f) be sufficiently generic to remain relevant in the event of future management or organisational structural change.

REQUIREMENT

6. The requirement for every local authority to appoint a Chief Social Work Officer is set out in section 3 of the 1968 Act. This requirement is for the purposes of the local authority functions under the 1968 Act and the enactments listed in section 5(1B) of the Act. The role provides a strategic and professional leadership role in the delivery of social work services. In addition there are certain functions conferred by legislation directly on the CSWO by name.

7. The Scottish Office explicitly recognised that the need for the role was driven by "*the particular responsibilities which fall on social work services in that they affect personal lives, individual rights and liberties to an extent that other local authority services do not*." (Circular: SWSG2/1995 May 1995)

8. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 provides for the delegation of certain social work functions by a local authority to an integration authority. The CSWO's responsibilities in relation to local authority social work functions continue to apply to functions which are being delivered by other bodies under integration arrangements. However, the responsibility for appointing a CSWO cannot be delegated and must be exercised directly by the local authority itself.

THE CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER ROLE

Overview

9. The CSWO role was established to ensure the provision of appropriate professional advice in the discharge of a local authority's statutory functions as described in paragraph 6. The role also has a place set out in integrated arrangements brought in through the 2014 Act. As a matter of good practice it is expected that the CSWO will undertake the role across the full range of a local authority's social work functions to provide a focus for professional leadership and governance in regard to these functions.

10. The CSWO should assist local authorities and their partners in understanding the complexities and cross-cutting nature of social work service delivery – including in relation to particular issues such as corporate parenting, child protection, adult protection and the management of high risk offenders - and also the key role social work plays in contributing to the achievement of a wide range of national and local outcomes. The CSWO also has a contribution to make in supporting overall performance improvement and management of corporate risk.

11. It is for local authorities to determine the reporting and management structures that best meet their needs. Where the CSWO is not a full member of the senior management team or equivalent, elected members must satisfy themselves that the officer has appropriate access and influence at the most senior level and is supported to deliver the complex role described in this guidance.

Competencies

12. Scottish Ministers' requirement is that the CSWO role will be held by a person who is qualified as a social worker and registered as such with the Scottish Social Services Council. Local authorities will also want to require this as they will need to ensure that the CSWO:

- can demonstrate extensive experience at a senior level of both operational and strategic management of social work and social care services and;
- has the competence and confidence required to provide effective professional advice at all levels within the organisation and with the full range of partner organisations
- receives effective induction to support them in full delivery of their role

(NB At the time of writing, SI 1996/515, which sets out minimum qualifications for a CSWO is being reviewed with a view to amendment so that the social work degree is specifically included.)

13. Further information on the skills and competencies required of a CSWO is available in the Standard for Chief Social Work Officers (issued by the Scottish Social Services Council in July 2015) which underpins the Level 11 Award for CSWOs which was launched in August 2015 as a further professional accredited qualification aimed at enhancing CSWO competence.

Scope

14. The scope of the role relates to the functions outlined in paragraph 6 whether provided directly by the local authority; through delegation to another statutory body or in partnership with other agencies. Where social work services and support are commissioned on behalf of the authority, including from the independent and voluntary sector, the CSWO has a responsibility to advise on the specification, quality and standards of the commissioned services and support. The CSWO also has a role in providing professional advice and guidance to an Integration Joint Board or NHS Board to which social work functions have been formally delegated.

Responsibility for values and standards

15. The CSWO should:

(a) promote values and standards of professional practice, including all relevant national Standards and Guidance, and ensure adherence with the Codes of Practice issued by the Scottish Social Services Council for social service employers.

(b) work with Human Resources (or equivalent function) and responsible senior managers to ensure that all social service workers practice in line with the SSSC's Code of Practice and that all registered social service workers meet the requirements of the regulatory body;

(c) establish a Practice Governance Group or link with relevant Clinical and Care Governance arrangements designed to support and advise managers in maintaining and developing high standards of practice and supervision in line with relevant guidance, including, for example, - the *Practice Governance Framework: Responsibility and Accountability in Social Work Practice* (SG 2011);

(d) ensure that the values and standards of professional practice are communicated on a regular basis and adhered to and that local guidance is reviewed and updated periodically.

16. The CSWO must be empowered and enabled to provide professional advice and contribute to decision-making in the local authority and health and social care partnership arrangements, raising issues of concern with the local authority Elected Members or Chief Executive, or the Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board as appropriate (or the Chief Executive of a Health Board if appropriate in the context of a lead agency model), in regard to:

(a) effective governance arrangements for the management of the complex balance of need, risk and civil liberties, in accordance with professional standards.

(b) appropriate systems required to 1) promote continuous improvement and 2) identify and address weak and poor practice.

(c) the development and monitoring of implementation of appropriate care governance arrangements;

(d) approaches in place for learning from critical incidents, which could include through facilitation of local authority involvement in the work of Child Protection Committees, Adult Support and Protection Committees and Offender Management Committees where that will result in the necessary learning within local authorities taking place;

(e) requirements that only registered social workers undertake those functions reserved in legislation or are accountable for those functions described in guidance;

(f) workforce planning and quality assurance, including safe recruitment practice, probation/mentoring arrangements, managing poor performance and promoting continuous learning and development for staff;

(g) continuous improvement, raising standards and evidence-informed good practice, including the development of person-centred services that are focussed on the needs of people who use services and support;

(h) the provision and quality of practice learning experiences for social work students and effective workplace assessment arrangements, in accordance with the SSSC Code of Practice for Employers of Social Service Workers;

Decision-Making

17. There are a small number of areas of decision-making where legislation confers functions directly on the CSWO by name. These areas relate primarily to the curtailment of individual freedom and the protection of both individuals and the public. Such decisions must be made either by the CSWO or by a professionally qualified social worker, at an appropriate level of seniority, to whom the responsibility has been formally delegated and set out within local authority arrangements. Even where responsibility has been delegated, the CSWO retains overall responsibility for ensuring quality and oversight of the decisions. These areas include:

- deciding whether to implement a secure accommodation authorisation in relation to a child (with the consent of a head of the secure accommodation), reviewing such placements and removing a child from secure accommodation if appropriate;
- the transfer of a child subject to a Supervision Order in cases of urgent necessity;
- acting as guardian to an adult with incapacity where the guardianship functions relate to the personal welfare of the adult and no other suitable individual has consented to be appointed;
- decisions associated with the management of drug treatment and testing orders
- carrying out functions as the appropriate authority in relation to a breach of a supervised release order, or to appoint someone to carry out these functions.

18. In addition to these specific areas where legislation confers functions on all CSWOs, there will be a much larger number of areas of decision-making which have been assigned by individual local authorities to Chief Social Work Officers reflecting "*the particular responsibilities which fall on social work services in that they affect personal lives, individual rights and liberties to an extent that other local authority services do not"* noted in paragraph 7. These areas may include responsibilities assigned through guidance or other routes. For example:

- the 2014 guidance on Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) makes explicit reference to the role of the CSWO in responsibility for joint arrangements, in co-operation with other authorities.
- although mental health services are delegated to Integration Joint Boards, some of these functions require to be carried out by local authority officers with a social work qualification (Mental Health Officers). Local authorities will want to be reassured via the CSWO that these functions are discharged in accordance with professional standards and statutory requirements

It is for each local authority to make transparent which additional specific areas of responsibility in regard to their social work functions they have assigned to their CSWO

Leadership

19. The CSWO is responsible for providing professional leadership for social workers and staff in social work services. The CSWO should:

(a) support and contribute to evidence-informed decision making and practice – at professional and corporate level – by providing appropriate professional advice;

(b) seek to enhance professional leadership and accountability throughout the organisation to support the quality of service and delivery;

(c) support the delivery of social work's contribution to achieving local and national outcomes;

(d) promote partnership working across professions and all agencies to support the delivery of integrated services;

(e) promote social work values across corporate agendas and partner agencies.

The CSWO role in the context of partnerships and integration

20. In the context of Health and Social Care Integration and the 2014 Act, the CSWO is required to be appointed as a non-voting member of the Integration Joint Board (IJB) (or, in lead agency models, the Integration Joint Monitoring Committee). Scottish Ministers are strongly of the view that the influence of high quality professional leaders in the integrated arrangements is central to the effectiveness of improving the quality of care locally and nationally.

21. The CSWO also has a defined role in professional and clinical and care leadership and has a key role to play in Clinical and Care Governance systems which support the work of the Integration Joint Board, as set out in the partnership Integration Schemes and relevant guidance.

22. The local authority should ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to include the CSWO in relevant strategic and operational forums that provide direct access to the Chief Executive and elected members so that the CSWO is in an optimum position to support and advise them in regard to their social work function responsibilities in their partnership contexts.

Reporting

23. The CSWO has a role in reporting to the local authority Chief Executive, elected members and IJBs – providing comment on issues which may identify risk to safety of vulnerable people or impact on the social work service and also on the findings of relevant service quality and performance reports, setting out:

- implications for the local authority, for the IJB, for services, for people who use services and support and carers, for individual teams/members of staff/partners as appropriate;
- implications for delivery of national and local outcomes;
- proposals for remedial action;
- means for sharing good practice and learning;
- monitoring and reporting arrangements for identified improvement activity.

24. The CSWO should also produce and publish a summary annual report for local authorities and IJBs on the functions of the CSWO role and delivery of the local authority's social work services functions (however these are organised or delivered). A template for this report is available from by the Office of the Chief Social Work Adviser, Scottish Government.

ACCESS, ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

25. To discharge their role effectively, the CSWO will need:

(a) direct access to people and information across the local authority, including the Chief Executive, elected members, managers and frontline practitioners and also in partner services, including in Health and Social Care Partnerships. Specific arrangements will vary according to individual councils, but should be clearly articulated locally;

(b) to be able to bring matters to the attention of the Chief Executive to ensure that professional standards and values are maintained;

(c) to be visible and available to any social services worker and ensure the availability of robust professional advice and practice guidance;

(d) to provide professional advice as required to senior managers across the authority and its partners in support of strategic and corporate agendas.

26. Local authorities will need to agree:

(a) how the CSWO is enabled to inform and influence corporate issues, such as managing risk, setting budget priorities and public service reform;

(b) the specific access arrangements for the CSWO to the Chief Executive and elected members;

(c) the relationships, responsibilities and respective accountabilities of service managers and the CSWO;

(d) a mechanism to include an independent, professional perspective to the appointment of the CSWO;

(e) procedures for removal of a CSWO postholder, bearing in mind the need for continuity in the provision of the CSWO functions, the value of independent professional advice and the arrangements for the appointment and removal of the local authority's other proper officers;

(f) clear and formal deputising arrangements (with similar skills and experience available) to cover any period of absence by the CSWO and appropriate delegation arrangements where scale of business requires this.

27. This document complements the wide set of guidance underpinning the delivery of safe, accountable and effective social work practice and high quality social services in Scotland.



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