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<u>To</u>: Councillor McLellan, <u>Convener</u>; Councillor Yuill, <u>Vice-Convener</u>; and Councillors Allard, Cooke, Fairfull, Farquhar, Greig, Houghton, Hutchison, Macdonald, Malik, Radley and Watson.

Town House, ABERDEEN, 5 July 2023

ADJOURNED FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Members of the **FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in **Council Chamber - Town House on <u>THURSDAY, 6 JULY 2023 at 2.00pm</u>. This is a hybrid meeting and Members may also attend remotely.**

The meeting will be webcast and a live stream can be viewed on the Council's website. https://aberdeen.public-i.tv/core/portal/home

JENNI LAWSON INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER – GOVERNANCE (LEGAL)

BUSINESS

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND TRANSPARENCY STATEMENTS

3.1. Declarations of Interest and Transparency Statements

CITY GROWTH AND STRATEGIC PLACE PLANNING

- 11.1. Reconfiguration of Working Arrangements with Arm's Length External Organisations (ALEOs) COM/23/218 (Pages 3 8)
- 11.2. Place Based Investment Programme COM/23/195 (Pages 9 20)
- 11.3. UK Shared Prosperity Fund COM/23/196 (Pages 21 32)
- 11.4. Invest Aberdeen Update COM/23/214 (Pages 33 40)

- 11.5. International Travel (Tall Ships) 2023/24 COM/23/223 (Pages 41 48)
- 11.6. <u>Development Plan Scheme and Draft Participation Statement COM/23/193</u> (Pages 49 88)

PROPERTY AND ESTATES

12.1. No Reports Under this Heading

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

13.1. <u>Union Street Partnership Ltd - COM/23/222</u> (Pages 89 - 120)

IIAs related to reports on this agenda can be viewed here

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Website Address: aberdeencity.gov.uk

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Mark Masson, mmasson@aberdeencity.gov.uk or 01224 067556

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources
DATE	05 July 2023
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Reconfiguration of working arrangements with Arm's
	Length External Organisations (ALEOs)
REPORT NUMBER	COM/23/218
DIRECTOR	Gale Beatie
CHIEF OFFICER	Craig Innes
REPORT AUTHOR	David Leslie
TERMS OF REFERENCE	2.1.1 & 2.1.2

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 At its meeting on 24 August 2022, the Council agreed the following transformation project 'Reconfiguration of working arrangements with Arm's Length External Organisations', as part of the below decision:
 - (1) to agree the Target Operating Model (TOM) 1.2 for 2022-27, attached to the report as Appendix A, to support the necessary scale of transformation to deliver the level of savings required over the next 5 years, as outlined in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).
- 1.2 Council also agreed at its Budget meeting on 3 March 2023:
 - (1) To instruct the Director of Commissioning in conjunction with the Director of Resources to begin discussions with Sport Aberdeen to review their assets and their business delivery model, with a view to Sport Aberdeen becoming financially independent from the Council and to report back to Council before the end of the financial year 2023/24; and
 - (2) to instruct the Chief Officer City Growth, in consultation with partner organisations, such as Aberdeen Performing Arts (APA), to bring back a report on how best to allocate funding to cultural organisations from both the General Fund and Common Good budgets and to report back to Council before the end of the financial year 2023/24
- 1.3 Taking those decisions into consideration and as the next step to delivering on them, the purpose of this report is to seek approval for officers, in conjunction with our ALEOs, to carry out an options appraisal, considering all potential working arrangements and delivery models for our ALEOs.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Note the previous decisions of Council at its meetings on 22 August 2022 and 3 March 2023;
- 2.2 Instruct the Chief Executive to carry out an options appraisal on all potential working arrangements with our ALEOs and develop an Outline Business Case with the output from that options appraisal, and for that Outline Business Case, accompanied by a draft project plan underpinning the preferred options(s), to be submitted to Full Council at its meeting on 11 October 2023:
- 2.3 Instruct the Chief Executive to invite the Chief Executives of all ALEOs, or a nominated representative, to be a member of an Executive Steering Group to oversee the options appraisal and development of the Outline Business Case; and
- 2.4 Instruct the Chief Executive to establish a working group to take forward the options appraisal and complete the outline business case, and invite ALEOs to nominate representatives to be part of that working group.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The Council's environment continues to be extremely complex and multidimensional, with significant demand and a high ambition for improvement. This places pressure on how we resource all elements of Council activity to the desired level and where funds are deployed for best value, meaning the Council will need to continue to reduce costs and increase income in an environment of increasing demand on Council services.
- 3.2 The TOM 1.2 focuses on further embedding the design principles and capabilities, supporting deeper and broader service redesign. Crucially it will enable the organisation to deliver savings required for the next 5 years from 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), and the Transformation Programme has been developed to align with the timeline set out in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).
- 3.3 The Transformation Programme consists of 8 projects and one of those is the 'Reconfiguration of working arrangements with Arm's Length External Organisations (ALEOs)'. The project was to look at all areas of the working arrangements with our ALEOs, starting with a fresh review of all SLAs, ALEO Business Plans and usage of estate, to inform an option appraisal on potential alternative delivery models. The project will also look to deliver clear social outcomes through enhanced collaboration of early intervention programmes.
- 3.4 The next steps in the delivery of this project is to carry out an option appraisal looking at all potential delivery models and the advantages and disadvantages of each option. The option appraisal output will be captured and submitted to Council in an Outline Business Case that will have a preferred option for each

- ALEO. This will be accompanied by a draft project plan underpinning the preferred option(s).
- 3.5 All ALEOs will be considered as part of the scope of this project:
 - Sport Aberdeen
 - Bon Accord Care
 - Aberdeen Sports Village
 - Aberdeen Performing Arts
 - Aberdeen Heat and Power
- 3.6 To oversee the work an Executive Steering Group will be established, consisting of Council employees and representatives from the ALEOs. They will provide strategic direction and oversee the work being delivered by the Working Group, also consisting of Council employees and colleagues from the ALEOs.
- 3.7 The team will firstly do an intensive exercise to collate detailed financial, contractual, legal, people, and assets, data for initial analysis and to feed the option appraisal.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.
- 4.2 Any potential financial implications will be identified as part of the options appraisal and documented in the Outline Business Case that will be presented to Council.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations in the report.
- 5.2 Any potential legal implications will be identified as part of the options appraisal and documented in the Outline Business Case that will be presented to Council.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations in this report.
- 6.2 Any potential environmental implications will be identified as part of the options appraisal and documented in the Outline Business Case that will be presented to Council.

7. RISK

- 7.1 There are no direct risks or implications arising from the recommendations in this report.
- 7.2 Any potential risks and implications will be identified as part of the options appraisal and documented in the Outline Business Case that will be presented to Council.

8. OUTCOMES

COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2023-2024			
Abandaan Oita Cassail	Impact of Report		
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	The ALEOs are a vehicle for the Council to deliver our commissioning intentions, articulated in the Council Delivery Plan, as well as the commitments in		
Working in Partnership for Aberdeen	the policy statement.		
	There are no direct implications to this arising from this report.		
Alambar O't I and O to a	1 DI - 2010 00		
Aberdeen City Local Outcome	e Improvement Plan 2016-26		
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	our commissioning intentions, articulated in the Council Delivery Plan, and these support our		
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes			
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	this report.		
Regional and City	There are no direct implications to this arising from		
Strategies and Oity	this report.		

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment		Outcome
Integrated Assessment	Impact	Not required at this stage
Data Protection Assessment	Impact	Not required at this stage

Other	None

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Council Target Operating Model (TOM) 1.2
- 10.2 General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme report to Council.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 None.

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resource
DATE	5 th July 2023
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Place Based Investment Programme
REPORT NUMBER	COM/23/195
DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie
CHIEF OFFICER	Richard Sweetnam
REPORT AUTHOR	Stuart Bews
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1.8, 1.1.11, 3.4

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to secure the Committee's approval for the allocation of grant funding from the Place Based Investment Programme (PBIP) fund 2023/24.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Approves an award of up to £59,657 to Northfield Youth Hub for the Building a brighter future for our young people project, subject to the approval of planning permission;
- 2.2 Approves an award of up to £15,212 to Scottish Women's Institute for the Archive Room project; and
- 2.3 Does not approve the request for £9,990 from Printfield Community Project for the Including Printfield project.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The 2020-21 Programme for the Scottish Government announced the creation of a PBIP with £275m of capital funding to support community led regeneration, town centre revitalisation, community wealth building and 20 minute neighbourhoods. It is a multi-annual capital fund with the Scottish Government distributing £38m this financial year to local government, of which £590,000 was allocated to Aberdeen City Council to be administered locally.
- 3.2 The main objectives of the Fund are:
 - to link and align place-based initiatives and establish a coherent local framework to implement and embed the Place Principle;
 - to support place policy ambitions such as town centre revitalisation, community led regeneration, 20-minute neighbourhoods and Community Wealth Building;

- to ensure that all place-based investments are shaped by the needs and aspirations of local communities;
- to accelerate ambitions for net zero, wellbeing and inclusive economic development, tackling inequality and disadvantage, community involvement and ownership.
- 3.3 Officers promoted the fund on the Council's website including an application form and supporting guidance documents. Four applications were received. Following assessment of all applications additional information was requested. Following this process one applicant withdrew their application at this time, recognising that additional information would be required to be able to progress their application. The three remaining applications are summarised in the table below, and further detail on each provided in Appendix 1.

Table 1 – Applications received this round.

	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Grant Requested	Officer Review	Grant Proposed to award from PBIP 22/23
Northfield Youth Hub	Building a Brighter Future For Our Young People	£89,657	£59,657	Recommended for approval – Project supports PBIP aims and objectives. Supports wellbeing and community led regeneration.	£59,657
Scottish Women's	Archive Room Project	£15,212	£15,212	Recommended for approval – Project supports PBIP aims and objectives. Supports wellbeing and community led	£15,212
Printfield Community Project	Including Printfield	£9,990	£9,990	Recommended not to approve - Links to programme objectives not fully established. Project shows limited evidence of demand with users either living within the building (flats) or	

Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Grant Requested	Officer Review Outcome	Grant Proposed to award from PBIP 22/23
Applicant	Project	Cost	Requested	accessing services within the building. Alternative play facilities/green spaces are located within a short walk. Applicant clarified that user numbers are around 15 under5's and a further 10 young people. Considered not to represent value for money as facilities exist already and are described by applicant as	
				being "safe, clean and inclusive". Officers have advised applicant to work with ACVO to identify alternative suitable sources of funding.	

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Council has been allocated £590,000 from the PBIP in 2023/24 by the Scottish Government. £484,596 was approved for allocation by committee on 29th March 2023 and £105,404 remains available for allocation by Committee.

Table 2 - PBIP 23/24 Allocations agreed by Committee 29th March 2023

Organisation	Project	Total awarded
ACC	The Street Design project - Woodside Gateway	£155,615
Tillydrone Community Development Trust	Benholm's Tower Project	£253,981
Camphill School	Murtle Market	£75,000
	TOTAL	£484,596
	Remaining for Allocation	£105,404

- 4.2 The full £590,000 must be committed by 31st March 2024 (evidenced by a fully awarded contract or commencement of works).
- 4.3 It is essential that the projects from PBIP comply with the set requirements to avoid issues around eligibility and potential repayment of grant to the Scottish Government.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Grant Agreements will require to be put in place between Aberdeen City Council and those external organisations which are awarded grant funding.
- 5.2 Officers will undertake Subsidy Control risk assessments for all external applicants, and ensure that any awards are made in compliance with the relevant legislation.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risk	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk level	Target Risks Level Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Does target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	No risks identified	None	L	Yes

Category	Risk	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk level	Target Risks Level Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Does target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Compliance	Non-compliance with grant conditions will require return of grant	External Funding team are familiar with the compliance requirements and will advise and monitor projects as required to ensure compliance	L	Yes
	Subsidy Control	To ensure all external grants awarded are compliant	L	Yes
Operational	No risks identified	None	L	Yes
Financial	As per the grant conditions the money must be committed by the end of Financial Year 2022/23 for all Place Based Investment Programme Projects	Projects recommended to be awarded funding have demonstrated their ability to deliver within the required timescales within the application.	L	Yes
	Any unspent, or unallocated funds will require to be returned to Scottish Government/UK Government	Close project monitoring will take place throughout to ensure these timescales will be met.	L	Yes
Reputational	Risk of reputational damage if funds are not spent in accordance to the grant conditions	Officers will work with projects to ensure proposals and applications meet the conditions of grant	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	No risks identified	None	L	Yes

8. OUTCOMES

COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN		
	Impact of Report	
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	All applicants were requested to detail the contribution of their project to Aberdeen City Council policy and strategies.	
Working in Partnership for Aberdeen	Work constructively with the Scottish Government to seek additional funding for Aberdeen.	
	Seek to gain the maximum benefits for Aberdeen's people and businesses from the Scottish Government	
Aberdeen City Local Outcor	me Improvement Plan	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	All applicants were requested to detail the contribution of their project to the LOIP as part of the application process.	
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	All applicants were requested to detail the contribution of their project to the LOIP as part of the application process.	
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	All applicants were requested to detail the contribution of their project to the LOIP as part of the application process.	

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Full impact assessment not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	Not required

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Place Based Investment Programme – COM/23/096

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 – Place Based Investment Programme – Summary of applications received.

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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Appendix 1 - Place Based Investment Programme.

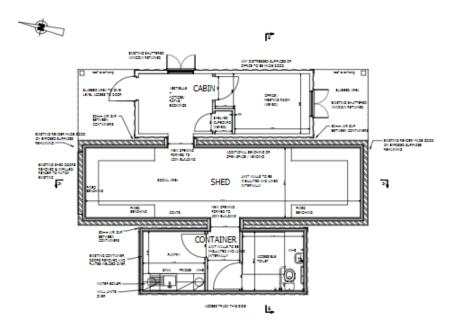
Northfield Youth Hub – Building a Brighter Future For Our Young People

Aligned with an ongoing diversionary activity provided by StreetSport and improvement works being carried out by Sport Aberdeen, it is proposed to adjoin two 20ft containers that have been donated by local companies, and a large disused brick building in the area between Northfield Academy and the AstroTurf pitch to provide a youth hub following engagement with local young people. The three items will be adapted to provide one large space, clad internally to assist efficiency and fitted out in collaboration with the young people in the area. This will include interior and exterior decoration to give the young people that sense of place and will be facilitated by a Street Artist who will co-design and help paint the mural with the young people. From lessons learned at the previously opened hub at Tesco, Rousay Drive, this approach has worked well in preventing any vandalism to the structure and giving the young people a sense of pride, community and learning new skills. Our hub at Tesco, Woodend has seen the changes lead to the area being a better place to live, work, visit and play; enhancing wellbeing and driving down anti-social behaviour related crime as per the attached analysts' report comparing the youth related trends at the Tesco site and in Northfield. This report shows a downward trend in the Woodend/Sheddocksley area since the hub was built and a rise in youth related calls across Northfield.

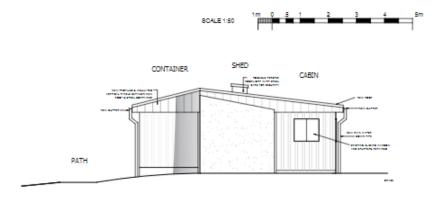
The constituted Northfield Youth Hub Steering Group comprises of Northfield Academy, Police Scotland, community members, an industry expert and partners; who are working toge ther to provide young people in the Northfield area with their own youth hub. The space will be designed by the young people for the young people by linking in with the academy and attending community events to garner ideas.

The young people who attend the hub will have the opportunity to engage with adults in their community and youth workers who will mentor them on a journey to a positive destination through access to physical and artistic opportunities, by building positive relationships with adults who offer support and guidance. In addition Sport Aberdeen are keen to collaborate to integrate our young people into their facilities including the swimming pool, gym, tennis courts and upgraded outdoor facilities that are in the planning stage and on the doorstep of the hub.

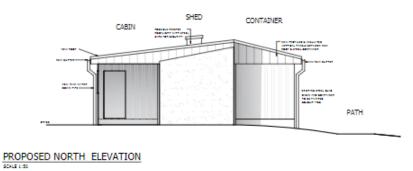
It is intended that the space will be opened up to the wider community for use during the day, such as our older people and mothers and toddlers in the area. Interest has been expressed by Northfield Academy who wish to engage with non attenders in a less formal setting in the hope they can work towards returning to education. This approach has seen three young people from the Tesco hub return to education.



PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR BLOCK PLAN



PROPOSED SOUTH ELEVATION



Printfield Community Project - Including Printfield

Printfield Community Project is based in 2 ground floor flats (11a/11b) Printfield Walk. Both of these flats have small front gardens which have been converted for community use by the instillation of fixed play equipment and protective fencing and hedging.

These play resources were installed by Aberdeen City Councils Design and Development department some 12yrs ago and require a complete refurbishment of the play surfacing. The (wet pour) surface has become an environmental hazard as the surface is peeling and moss in growing in some of the cracks. (See photographs).

This proposal, seeks to refurbish both of the community play areas, so as to enhance and make more environmentally friendly both of these settings. These settings will provide open and inclusive spaces for local residents and children to have a bit of family time. As well as providing a safe and challenging outdoor environment for the Community Projects 'Play room' children.

The proposal is supported by both the Printfield Community Projects management committee and the Printfield/Forum. We also work closely with Aberdeen City Councils Operations and Protective service team (March 2023).



*Existing play resources on site.

Scottish Women's Institute – Archive Room Project

The Scottish Women's Institutes is over a century old. The Aberdeenshire Federation has 70 institutes across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire and has had many more which have closed over the last century. When institutes close, they return their papers to our office for safe keeping. These include financial records, minute books, photographs and trophies which can date back over 100 years. As part of ongoing renovations to our premises we had planned to line the basement to safely house and protect many historical papers and items including art works and tapestries. The purpose of lining the basement is to protect the items from damp and ensure they are preserved for posterity. It is planned that professional archivers will properly sort and organise these items to ensure correct storage. However, when receiving a quotation for lining the basement it was discovered that there is asbestos in the ceiling of the basement. This will require to be removed for health and safety reasons. After removal the whole basement would require to be tanked and lined. This has significantly increased the work involved and cost of, what should have been, a straightforward job. We therefore find ourselves in the position of having to apply for separate funding in the hope that we can achieve our goal of having a safe, dry environment to house our historical paperwork and items. We are lucky enough to own our premises which has great scope for storage if it was sufficiently upgraded to ensure safety and preservation. The basement is accessed by a fairly steep set of wooden steps. We would also like to install a handrail for safety reasons to ensure safe descent and ascent from the area for our employees.

We hold and host events both locally and nationally and many of the historical items, such as tapestries, which we hold are displayed at these events. Some of these events are 2 days events, in large venues like the Beach Ballroom. These events are open to the public as well as our members. We are passionate about preserving these historical items to strengthen and preserve cultural ties and provide access to them to a wider demographic than just our members. It is therefore vital that these items are stored safely and correctly in a dry environment in order to preserve them for as long as possible.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources		
DATE	5 th July 2023		
EXEMPT	No		
CONFIDENTIAL	No		
REPORT TITLE	UK Shared Prosperity Fund		
REPORT NUMBER	COM/23/196		
DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie		
CHIEF OFFICER	Richard Sweetnam		
REPORT AUTHOR	Stuart Bews		
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1.8, 1.1.11 & 3.4		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval for the proposed allocation of grant funding of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

UKSPF Communities And Place

- 2.1 Notes that the application for up to £167,112 to Tillydrone Community Development Trust for the Benholm's Tower Project, has been withdrawn;
- 2.2 Awards up to £104,000 to Aberdeen Science Centre for the Community Engagement Project;
- 2.3 Awards up to £29,390 to the Denis Law Trail Project;
- 2.4 Awards up to £11,832 to Police Scotland for the Drugs and Alcohol Education and Resilience Project; and
- 2.5 Awards up to £103,191.60 to Absafe for the Safety Training For Aberdeen City Schools Project

3. CURRENT SITUATION

3.1 The UK Government published the UK Shared Prosperity Fund prospectus on 13 April 2022 alongside indicative funding allocations for each Local Authority within the United Kingdom. The Aberdeen City Council area received an indicative allocation of up to £7,156,832 for an initial three-year period covering 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25. This is made up of £1,235,919 for "Multiply" and £5,920,913 for the core UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The "Multiply" element

- of funding is ringfenced for activity to enhance adult numeracy skills provision and proposals for this will be taken to committee later in 2023.
- 3.2 The core UKSPF element can be used across three priority areas: Community and Place; Supporting Local business; and People and Skills.
- 3.3 In order to access the funding, Aberdeen City Council developed and submitted an Investment Plan to the UK Government in August 2022. The Investment Plan outlined the key priority areas for investment. It was approved in December 2022 and is available on the Council's UKSPF Webpages UKSPF Webpages <a href=
- 3.4 There are three routes to allocate the funding: 'Challenge Funds', 'Procurement' or 'in-house' and all proposed expenditure will require Committee approval.
- 3.5 Applications are being sought under the Communities and Place priority through a 'challenge fund route'. Officers promoted the challenge fund on the Council's website including an application form and supporting guidance documents. Four applications are presented to Committee for consideration, outlined in Table 1 below and summarised within Appendix 1.

Table 1: Shared Prosperity Fund

Communities and Place - Applications for consideration

Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Grant request 23/24	Grant request 24/25	Officer review outcome	Grant Proposed to award from UKSPF
Aberdeen	Community				Application showed strong links to fund interventions, delivering STEM education opportunities to	
Science Centre	Engagement Project	£236,800	£42,000	£62,000	all areas of Aberdeen.	£42,000 (23/24) £62,000 (24/25)
ACC	Denis Law Trail	£49,390	£23,890	£5,500	Application is a good fit for the programme benefitting a priority area of Aberdeen.	£29,390 (23/24)
Police Scotland	Drugs and Alcohol Education and Resilience Project	£20,332	£11,832	£0	Detailed application highlighting benefits to the community and strong links to intervention	£11,832 (23/24)
Absafe	Safety Training for	£137,588.80	£68,794.40	£68,794.40	Project has strong and long lasting benefits	£68,794.40 (23/24)

Aberdeen City		for young	£34,397.20
Schools		people in the	(24/25)
		City. Application	
		highlighted the	
		importance of	
		this project	
		linking well to	
		the programme.	
		Education	
		service	
		supportive of	
		the application	
		also.	

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Council has been allocated £7,156,831 of UKSPF by UK Government over the next two and a half years. The Communities and Place allocation is £3,809,693. The People and Skills priority allocation is £855,000. The Local Business priority allocation is £1,256,220. The "Multiply" priority, to improve people's numeracy skills allocation is £1,235,918. Appendix 2 provides an overview of the funds awarded to date under the Communities and Place priority.
- 4.2 The eligible costs for which the grant can be used are capital or revenue costs incurred by the local authority or third parties which are in line with the main objectives of the fund. Officers assess all bids in line with the published criteria and guidance on the Council's website. Applications which are incomplete or require further information will be returned to the applicant with feedback on the areas which require attention before being resubmitted.
- 4.3 It is essential that the projects comply with the set requirements to avoid issues around eligibility and potential repayment of grant to the UK Government if conditions are not complied with.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Grant Agreements will require to be put in place between Aberdeen City Council and those organisations which are awarded grant funding.
- 5.2 Officers will undertake Subsidy Control risk assessments for all external applications.
- 5.3 To ensure compliance with the Subsidy Control Act 2022, officers established a subsidy control scheme for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Communities and Place programme. The Council will also comply with subsidy notification requirements to the UK Government's Subsidy control database and transparency register.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risk	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk level	Target Risks Level Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Does target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	No risks identified	None	L	Yes
Compliance	Non-compliance with grant conditions will require return of grant	External Funding team are familiar with the compliance requirements and will advise and monitor projects as required to ensure compliance.	L	Yes
	Subsidy Control	To ensure all external grants awarded are compliant	L	Yes
Operational	No risks identified	None	L	Yes
Financial	Any unspent, or unallocated funds will require to be returned to UK Government	Close project monitoring will take place throughout to ensure these timescales will be met.	L	Yes
Reputational	Risk of reputational damage if funds are not spent in accordance with the grant conditions	Officers will work with projects to ensure proposals and applications meet the conditions of grant	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	No risks identified	None	L	Yes

8. OUTCOMES

COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN	<u>1</u>
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council	All applicants were requested to detail the
Policy Statement	contribution of their project to Aberdeen City
	Council policy and strategies, and these were
	assessed by officers to ensure clear links.

Aberdeen City Local Outco	me Improvement Plan
Prosperous Economy	All applicants were requested to detail the
Stretch Outcomes	contribution of their project to the LOIP as part of
	the application process.
Prosperous People Stretch	All applicants were requested to detail the
Outcomes	contribution of their project to the LOIP as part of
	the application process.
Prosperous Place Stretch	All applicants were requested to detail the
Outcomes	contribution of their project to the LOIP as part of
	the application process.

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Full impact assessment not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	Not required

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 COM/23/097 - UK Shared Prosperity Fund

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix 1 UK Shared Prosperity Fund Summary of applications for consideration
- 11.2 Appendix 2 –UK Shared Prosperity Fund Funds awarded to date

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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Appendix 1 – UKSPF

Aberdeen Science Centre - Community Engagement Project

Our 'Community Engagement Project' would see our highly skilled team continue to engage with children, young-people, and adults from under-represented and under-served communities across Aberdeen City through the delivery of STEM sessions. These STEM sessions will include hands -on workshops and activities on a variety of STEM topics, allowing children, young people and adults the opportunity to learn STEM skills as well as social skills. These sessions will take place throughout 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

Our 'Community Engagement Project' is target to under-represented and under-served communities from a diverse range of backgrounds including individuals who live in the top 20% SIMD areas, individuals who live in rural areas, young parents, single parents, families from low-income households, and people with additional support needs.

The STEM sessions will be delivered by ASC's Community Engagement team. Our dedicated staff team are highly skilled in STEM communication and public engagement, with extensive experience of delivering STEM topics in small, manageable, understandable, relatable and engaging chunks.

The STEM sessions will be delivered either through hosting the session at Aberdeen Science Centre, or through outreach, where we will take our STEM resources directly into the heart of local communities and deliver our sessions in community halls, parks, or other appropriate settings.

A key part of our mission is to engage with under-represented audiences, allowing them to access high quality STEM education and experiences. We know that a positive experience of STEM means children and young people are more likely to go on to study STEM subjects and are more likely to consider a career within STEM. Our team are experts at providing that positive STEM experience, and inspiring people of all ages to discover more about the world we live in.

Through these engagements, our project will increase participants confidence, social skills, and STEM knowledge and skills. Participants will use what they learn in our sessions in their every-day life including skills like budgeting, meal planning, problem solving, wellbeing and more. In 2024/25 we plan to develop our Community Engagement offering even further through the addition of two mobile exhibits, allowing us to take high quality STEM engagement resources directly into local communities, therefore building resilient communities by providing places that people want to learn in.

We feel our 'Community Engagement Project' is a good investment for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund because our project helps to achieve the objective to "strengthen our social fabric and foster a sense of local pride and belonging, through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural, and social ties and access to amenities, such as community infrastructure and local green space, and community-led projects" by allowing us to continue to engage with the young generation, introducing them to vital STEM skills and topics, and therefore preparing them to be part of our future workforce. We plan to use local topics such as energy, climate change, and engineering to allow participants to relate their learning to their local environment.

Absafe - Safety training for Aberdeen City Schools

We are a charity dedicated to health, safety & wellbeing education and advancement for children and young people. We welcome all schools of Aberdeen City as well as youth groups and groups with ASN e.g., Lifestars, so all children and young people have the same levels of attainment in education and positive destinations.

From our innovative facility, Absafe Community Hub (A.C.H), we educate children and young people about personal safety and wellbeing. Our facility is designed to mimic 8 real-life environments and experiences ranging from traditional topics such as road safety and home safety, to more unconventional ones that we have seen become more prevalent in recent years: cyber security, risk of vaping, pro-social behaviour, responsible alcohol consumption and mental wellbeing. We have rooms designed as a park, beach, bedroom, kitchen etc. The young people are taken on an adventure while gaining lifesaving skills.

Our aim is to empower our young users by giving them the skills and knowledge to become aware and responsible for their own safety and wellbeing that when situations arise in their life, they have practiced for it in a safe environment and know how to handle situations, both physically and mentally. We can prove the effectiveness of the education we deliver thanks to the anonymous quizzes the children take before and after going through the 8 sets. The overall improvement is at 73% from morning to afternoon.

Our mission is directly in line with the current National Framework and LOIP stretch outcomes for young children and youth. They learn about mental health and emotional wellbeing as well as prosocial behaviour which feeds into the stretch outcomes 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the LOIP, while being shown that they matter and are being listened to. This becomes especially apparent while taking direct yet anonymous feedback from the children during the quiz at the end of the visit.

Without our services children will be at a higher risk of committing crimes and being involved in antisocial behaviours. It also seems unlikely that the stretch outcomes for children and young people in the LOIP are achievable.

We would like to keep delivering this life saving education to the next cohort of young people in the city. Annually we see over 2000 young people.

Aberdeen City Council – Denis Law Trail

Aberdeen City Councilis committed to delivering the Denis Law Trail, as outlined in the Working in Partnership Policy Statement. This grant will enable delivery of Phase 1 of the Trail.

The Denis Law Legacy Trust have developed the concept of the Trail with the aim of motivating, inspiring and engaging the Printfield community, whilst also celebrating a local hero, Denis Law – the only Scottish footballer to win the Ballon d'Or.

Phase 1 of the Trail will enable nine signposts and artworks to be erected in the Printfield area of the city. These installations will depict pivotal points of Denis Law's career and will consist of a signpost which details the milestone and an art work which depicts it. The Trail will be enhanced through the inclusion of digital technology – QR codes will enable visitors to visit a website where they can learn more about Denis Law.

It is envisioned that the Trail will be an interactive experience. A Skills Trail will be developed for young people with challenges at each of the points with the aim of increasing interest and providing

inspiration for young people to practice their own football skills on the same ground as the a great Scottish Footballer.

A marketing and events programme will complement the launch of the Trail. This will include walking tours, football practice sessions and local history talks – encouraging physical activity and championing local pride for locals and visitors alike.

The ultimate aim of the Trail is to develop a vibrant pocket of activity within the Printfield area of the city – a Priority Neighbourhood within the Locality Plan.

A business case is currently being developed to deliver Phase 2 of the Trail – large murals depicting Denis Law on a large building in the area.

MAP & LOCATIONS Denis lived in this lower right ground level flat with his sister and brothers and went to Powis Academy now St Map of proposed Walking Tour featuring points of Interaction - est. 400m distance. 1. Tower Block Murals 2. Famous Photo Recreation 3. Denis' Childhood Home 4.Man City Cutout 5. Scotland Street Art 6. Torino 7. Manchester United 8. Rest of the World XI 9. Celebrate as the King 10. Balon D'or

Police Scotland - Drugs and Alcohol Education and Resilience Project

Drugs and Alcohol have a serious impact on communities in Aberdeen. Finding solutions is critical to preventing avoidable drug and alcohol related deaths and the damage drug use causes. Part of the solution is the implementation of effective early intervention. Research shows that universal, evidence-based drug education, taking a whole family approach, can prevent or reduce harm from drugs.

Our proposal is to partner with the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation (DSMF) to run a pilot of their full drug education programme in the coming year in nine schools in the Grampian region, three in each of the authority areas of Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray. Schools have been chosen in priority areas, to ensure this makes a positive difference to those young people, their parents,

carers and the wider communities. Around 95% of drug related deaths in Aberdeen City occur within the catchment areas of the pilot schools. The University of Aberdeen will be conducting an evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of the pilot, so that any necessary adjustments can be made, and the intention is that the programme would then be rolled out across all the schools in the Grampian region in future years and for future generations

The Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation is a drug education charity founded in 2014 by Tim and Fiona Spargo-Mabbs in response to the death of their 16-year-old son Dan from an unintentional overdose of MDMA. They work with young people, parents and professionals in a rapidly growing number of schools, colleges and communities across England, more recently developing work in Scotland and registering with OSCR (Reg. No. SC052164). Their evidence based, multi-component drug and alcohol programme consists of:

- Interactive drug and alcohol education workshops
- Planning and resources for teachers to deliver effective drug education throughout secondary school and P7 primary pupils
- Training for teachers, school staff and other professionals working in schools
- Drug and alcohol awareness workshops for parents and carers
- Theatre in Education tours of 'I Love You, Mum I Promise I Won't Die' (Bloomsbury, 2017), a verbatim by Mark Wheeller, followed by workshops
- Youth Ambassadors programme for \$5/6 pupils.

We held two showcase events in February at Lochside Academy, one of the potential pilot schools. Feedback was collected by Police Scotland from delegates, which included pupils, teachers, parents and other professionals. The responses confirmed our existing knowledge about drug issues in Aberdeen and captured reactions in relation to the current educational offering, lack of confidence from teachers and pupils around their knowledge and understanding of drugs & alcohol; and the suitability of DSMF's contribution to enhancing the existing curriculum for pupils alongside the ability to upskill professionals and parents. The showcase also added knowledge about what stakeholders consider the priority issues to be and what is lacking within the current curriculum. Responses were overwhelmingly positive about the introduction of DSMF, and provided a clear mandate for action with a compelling and united voice from our young people, parents and professionals alike.

Appendix 2 – Total awarded from UKSPF

Applicant	Project	UKSFP Grant awarded 2022/23	UKSPF Grant awarded 2023/24	UKSPF Grant awarded 2024/25
Aberdeen City Council	Community Buildings Feasibility Study	£0.00	£70,000.00	£0.00
Aberdeen City Council	ClimateOS software	£0.00	£101,000.00	£0.00
Aberdeen City Council	SPECTRA Scotland's Festival of Light	£70,000.00	£85,000.00	£0.00
Aberdeen City Council	Tolbooth Museum Improvements and Structural Repairs	£0.00	£355,025.00	£0.00
Aberdeen City Council - Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	Reimaging The Cowdray Hall - Feasibility Study	£0.00	£40,000.00	£0.00
Aberdeen City Council - Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	Aberdeen Archives Centre - Feasibility Study	£0.00	£90,000.00	£0.00
Aberdeen City Council - Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	Audience Evaluation & Acquisition Feasibility Study	£0.00	£80,000.00	£70,000.00
Greyhope Bay	Phase 2 Feasibility Project	£0.00	£79,506.00	£0.00
Visit Aberdeenshire	Make a day of it in Aberdeen Campaigns	£0.00	£62,400.00	£62,400.00
Home-Start	Supporting vulnerable families	£0.00	£40,000.00	£42,468.00
Total Allocated		£70,000	£1,002,931	£174,868

Approved Budget	£70,000	£1,152,566	£2,587,127

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources		
DATE	5 July 2023		
EXEMPT	No		
CONFIDENTIAL	No		
REPORT TITLE	Invest Aberdeen Update		
REPORT NUMBER	COM/23/214		
DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie		
CHIEF OFFICER	Richard Sweetnam		
REPORT AUTHOR	Joel Evans		
TERMS OF REFERENCE	2.1.1 & 3.4		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide an update on the activities of Invest Aberdeen and agree its forward priorities.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Notes the activities of Invest Aberdeen;
- 2.2 Instructs the Chief Officer- City Growth to work with officers in Aberdeenshire Council and regional partners to support investment promotion opportunities as noted in this report; and
- 2.3 Instructs the Chief Officer City Growth to circulate a service update to the committee members by June 2024.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

Background

- 3.1 Attracting inward investment remains a key priority in the new Regional Economic Strategy (RES).
- 3.2 Invest Aberdeen is a partnership between the Council and Aberdeenshire Council and aims to promote the North East as a location for inward investment, to promote the particular regional opportunities and to provide support to Scottish Government and UK Government inward investment agencies, investors and companies looking to invest here. The core activities of Invest Aberdeen include:
 - maintaining and developing the Invest Aberdeen website and associated resources:

- proactive communication through social media;
- attending and promotion at relevant industry and investment events;
- pursuit of potential investments and supporting inward investment enquiries;
 and
- collaborating with regional, national, and international partners on relevant projects and events.
- 3.3 The work of the Team is supported by a regional forum that includes: officers from the two Councils; Opportunity North East (ONE); Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce (AGCC); the University of Aberdeen; Robert Gordon University; North East Scotland College; commercial property agents; Port of Aberdeen; Fraserburgh Harbour; Peterhead Port Authority; Aberdeen International Airport; Scottish Enterprise; Department of International Trade; and Scottish Development International.
- 3.4 The staffing commitment to the team is summarised in the table below:

Role	Aberdeen City	Aberdeenshire	
	Council (fte)	Council (fte)	
Team Leader		1	
Project Officer	1		
Project Support Officer	1		
Marketing, website, social		1	
media Officer			
Total	2	2	

3.5 From March 2020, Covid-19 restrictions resulted in reduced inward investment activity in general, and the team resource was prioritised to support the administration and distribution of the Covid business grants.

Progress 2022/23

- 3.6 2022-23 saw the lifting of restrictions and return to more in person activities. The Invest Aberdeen team was brought up to a full complement of four staff in September 2022 and a summary of key activities for the year are noted below:
 - Supported 97 inward investment enquiries in the following sectors: energy, life sciences, food and drink and technology with support ranging from conversations and making connections to property searches and facilitating site visits. An example of a positive outcome is the securing of a Far East mooring company announcing its plans to locate in the Energy Transition Zone (ETZ). A less positive outcome was the decision of a multi nation cable manufacturer choosing to locate in one of the two areas designated as Green Freeports in Scotland;
 - Attendance and exhibiting at industry events including: All Energy, Glasgow;
 Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (AREG) Energy Futures, Aberdeen;
 Floating Offshore Wind, Aberdeen; Subsea Expo, Aberdeen; UK's Real
 Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum; Wind Energy Hamburg,
 Hamburg; and Wind Europe in Copenhagen.

- Creation, sharing and promotion of marketing material for regional investment propositions and key sectors for the above events and the Council's presence at Scottish Cities Week in London.
- Continued engagement and collaboration with regional, national and international stakeholders, developing proposals with ETZ Ltd.
- Reconvened the regional forum to inform the work of Invest Aberdeen.
- Supported inward visits Aberdeen-Houston Gateway 2022; Scottish Development International familiarisation visits from the France and Germany teams; and a French industry offshore wind trade mission to the North East.
- Continued online reach with the Invest Aberdeen website now having had 129,853 total views from 158 countries since launch in 2018. Reached totals of 1,363 followers on Twitter and 1,802 followers on Linkedln.
- Developed an updated <u>regional promotional video</u> for use at events, online and by partners.
- Provided communications and marketing expertise and coordination for the North East Scotland Green Freeport bid.

Forward Plan - 2023/24

- 3.7 As outlined in the RES, and alongside core work of supporting inward investment enquiries and developing a range of marketing material and content to promote the regional proposition, the immediate actions for the team are:
 - Promote and refine the sector propositions around Energy Transition (Hydrogen, Wind), Food & Drink, Digital and Life Sciences;
 - Work with partners to articulate and deliver a regional communications plan and specific 'projects' or propositions;
 - Work with Corporate Landlord to develop and promote investor proposition for council site development opportunities such as TECA 2;
 - Refresh the Invest Aberdeen website:
 - Continued support to the investment promotion team at Scottish Cities Alliance (SCA) and attendance at relevant events including a presence at Offshore Europe in in September;
 - Support relevant delegations to the North East through developing itineraries, introductory meetings with local partners and businesses. activities such as presenting, developing visit itineraries and organising introductory meetings;
 - Support the development of a proposal for an Investment Zone in the region;
 - Improve marketing of investable properties and sites and enhance digital reach and targeting through the Invest Aberdeen website.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Invest Aberdeen annual budget is £259,000. This is comprised of a staffing budget of £204,000 and £55,000 on supporting activity. The Council contributes £141,000 through the approved budget for the City Growth cluster. The balance is provided by Aberdeenshire Council.
- 4.2 While Aberdeenshire Council has a higher graded post, the Council has two posts that together are a higher cost. This also reflects demand, and more

product development and support for activity within the city, including Scottish Cities Alliance. The balance of funding will be reviewed during this financial year and any change will be implemented in the 2024/25 budget setting.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	Failure to secure inward investment will impair the recovery and diversification of the regional economy.	Participation in stakeholder initiatives promoting the regional strengths. Attendance at events promoting the investment opportunities and actively promoting sectors via Investment leads and enquiries.		Yes
Compliance	No significant risks identified	-	-	Yes
Operational	No significant risks identified	-	-	Yes
Financial	Costs associated with participation in events escalate beyond available resource.	Events and meeting s are now a mix of in person and virtual therefore costs for attendance can be balanced. In	L	Yes

Category	Risks	Primary	*Target	*Does
catogory		Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
		each case Officers will actively participate in planning groups, including oversight and monitoring of budgets.		
Reputational	Other major cities becoming the forerunners in the Hydrogen and wider Energy Transition activates due to a failure to capitalise on the region's first mover advantage and existing local expertise	Ensure our activities are widely promoted both locally and internationally by continuing to engage with local and international stakeholders and participating as speakers and panellists in major events.	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	Failure to adequately secure investment in pursuit of the Council's Net Zero and energy transition ambitions	Participation in stakeholder initiatives promoting the regional strengths. Attendance at events promoting the investment opportunities and actively promoting sectors via Investment leads and enquiries.	L	Yes

8. OUTCOMES

COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2023-2024
Impact of Report

Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement Working in Partnership for	The proposals within this report support the delivery of the following Policy Statement objectives in respect of "A Prosperous City".
Aberdeen	Work with partners to stimulate sustainable economic development, including a managed transition to a carbon neutral economy and work in partnership with the academic, business and other relevant sectors to ensure the long-term future of the energy industry. Review and update the council's inward investment strategy
Aberdeen City Lo	ocal Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
Prosperous Economy	The proposals within this report support the delivery
Stretch Outcomes	 of: LOIP Stretch Outcome 2 – 400 unemployed Aberdeen City residents supported into Fair Work by 2026. LOIP Stretch Outcome 3 – 500 Aberdeen City Residents upskilled/reskilled to enable them to mover into, within and between economic opportunities as they arise by 2026.

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	None

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 COM/23/150 Regional Economic Strategy (City Growth & Resources 17 May 2023
- 10.2 COM/21/030/ Invest Aberdeen Update (City Growth & Resources 3 February 2021)
- 10.3 PLA/19/282 Invest Aberdeen annual update, Plan, (Council 6 June 2019)
- 10.4 CH/17/046 Aberdeen Inward Investment Plan (Council 15 March 2017)

11. APPENDICES

None

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

	,
COMMITTEE	Finance & Resources Committee
DATE	5 July 2023
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	International Travel (Tall Ships) 2023/24
REPORT NUMBER	COM/23/223
DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie
CHIEF OFFICER	Richard Sweetnam
REPORT AUTHOR	Matthew Williams
TERMS OF REFERENCE	General Delegation (5)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek approval of proposed international travel and conference attendance by officers, required to support Tall Ships 2025 activities in 2023/24.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Approves proposed travel as detailed below, and subject to the maximum expenditure as detailed in paragraph 4.1. All approved travel will be reviewed when event schedules and programmes become available to ensure continued adherence to the criteria in paragraph 3.8 before bookings are made.
 - (a) One officer to attend Tall Ships Host Port Seminar in Fredrikstad, Norway between 15th and 18th July 2023 for up to three nights.
 - (b) Up to three officers to attend the Tall Ships Conference in Le Havre, France between the 16th and 19th November 2023 for up to three nights.
 - (c) Up to three officers to attend an additional Tall Ships Host Port event in the UK in February or March 2024 for up to two nights.
- 2.2 Delegates authority to the Chief Officer City Growth to authorise necessary and appropriate travel documentation and associated expenditure for the travel noted in 2.1, provided the cost does not exceed the budget referred to in Section 4 of this report and that all arrangements are made in line with current Council travel policies.
- 2.3 Agrees that the Chief Officer City Growth will (a) report the outcomes of proposed for 2023/24 trips to the Tall Ships 2025 Organising Committee and (b) provide, by way of a Service Update, an annual Project Update to this Committee.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The Council successfully bid, with partners Port of Aberdeen and Aberdeen Inspired, to host the Tall Ships Races 2025. An Organising Committee has been convened, chaired by Councillor Martin Greig.
- 3.2 The Tall Ships Races rights holder is Sail Training International. They organise seminars and conferences for Host Ports. The Tall Ships 2025 project requires Aberdeen as a Host Port to send representatives to these events.
- 3.3 The events will enable Aberdeen's project team to work with other Host Ports on key activities for 2025 and learn best practise from other ports hosting the Tall Ships Races in 2023 and 2024. The knowledge exchange aims to help 2025 Host Ports provide the best experience for trainees, crew and visitors to the event, and maximise the economic and social benefits of hosting.
- 3.4 Sail Training International organise a Host Port Seminar at one of the participating ports each year. They also arrange an annual conference which takes place in a future Host Port. A further meeting may be added between the conference and the following year's Races, usually in London where Sail Training International is based. Other meetings are held online by video call.
- 3.5 As contract signatory and underwriter of the event, suitable officer(s) should attend these events in order to maximise the success of the event when it comes to Aberdeen
- 3.6 Using their own funds, partners from Port of Aberdeen and Aberdeen Inspired may send additional representatives to these events to ensure that maritime and city centre commercial operations are successful.
- 3.7 Provision for international travel and associated spend was accounted for within the Tall Ships 2025 budget (COM 22/251).

Tall Ships Travel 23/24

- 3.8 To appraise the benefits of travel and/or conference attendance, the following criteria are applied:
 - 1) Engagement reflects the sectoral priorities in the RES energy; food and drink; tourism; life sciences.
 - 2) Engagement has the potential to advance the Tall Ships Aberdeen 2025 project.
 - 3) Where appropriate, travel is co-ordinated with Port of Aberdeen and Aberdeen Inspired to ensure activity meets the specific needs of hosting the Tall Ships Races 2025.
 - 4) Activity with Sail Training International ie. conferences, exhibitions, events, where attendance by officers is requested will be discussed with the Chair of the Tall Ships 2025 Organising Committee and Co-Leaders.

- 3.9 Based on this, the following overseas travel is proposed as priority for the Tall Ships 2025 project in 2023/24:
 - 1) Under criteria 1, 2, 3 and 4: Host Port Seminar in Fredrikstad, Norway from 15th to 18th July 2023
 - 2) Under criteria 1, 2 and 3: Attendance at the International Sail Training and Tall Ships Conference in Le Havre, France from 16th to 19th November 2023
 - 3) Under criteria 1, 2 and 3: Attendance at an additional Host Port Event in the UK in February or March 2024.
- 3.10 Where additional overseas travel by officers is requested beyond that referred in 3.9, officers will appraise the request against the criteria in 3.8 and discuss with Co-Leaders. A report will be brought to committee if a decision to travel is required.
- 3.11 The Council will support inward delegations from Sail Training International and facilitate involvement in these itineraries by appropriate Aberdeen businesses and stakeholders, including bid partners.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Council approval is required in relation to proposed travel in 2.1 and 3.9, with estimated costs totalled below. These costs will be met from the Council's Coastal Communities funding for 2023/24.

Destination	Attendance	Dates	Estimated Costs
Host Port Seminar, Fredriksad	One officer	15 – 18 July 2023	£1,200
International Sail Training and Tall Ships Conference, Le Havre	Three officers	16 - 19 November 2023	£3,000
Host Port Event, UK	Three officers	March 2024	£1800
TOTAL			£6000

- 4.2 The Host Port Seminar attendee would be the interim Project Manager (Service Manager Commercial) and is the first opportunity to attend both the seminar, make links with project leads and ship owners, and see the event running in a Host Port.
- 4.3 The annual conference is the first chance to present Aberdeen as a Host Port destination to the wider Tall Ships community. This includes a video presentation at the opening event, introductory seminar from 2025 Host Port representatives to delegates, and a trade stand to represent the city throughout

the event. This is vital to liaise with other Host Ports for 2025, recruit ships to join the Aberdeen leg of the Races, make links with trainee recruitment organisations, and learn about best practice for event delivery; including maximising commercial revenue. Attendees would be the Senior Project Manager, and workstream leads for City Operations and Commercial (Team Leader – City Events and Service Manager – Commercial).

- 4.4 The third event will include the Senior Project Manager, and workstream leads for Trainees and Volunteers.
- 4.5 Port of Aberdeen would, at their own cost, send the workstream leads for Comms and Port Operations to the conference and second host port event to ensure a joined-up approach between event partners.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Local authorities have a statutory duty to secure best value as per section 1 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003. The Council has travel policies for both members and officers. All travel should be booked in accordance with these policies to ensure cost-effective travel arrangements.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The report recommendations have a negative environmental impact, namely an increase in carbon emissions due to air travel. To minimise this, regular meetings to fulfil Tall Ships contractual commitments take place virtually, and where travel is proposed as necessary, the itinerary will be full and valuable. Consideration will also be given to minimising the carbon footprint when booking travel i.e. booking a train rather than flight for any in-country connections (when the itinerary allows) or booking 'green' airfares only.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	Failure to maintain and establish Host Port and Tall Ships relationships will reduce social and economic gains from hosting	Alignment with RES priority for tourism. Alignment with 365 Events Strategy, alongside further strategies for tourism and events from VisitAberdeenshire and EventScotland.	M	Yes

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
	the Tall Ships 2025 in Aberdeen	Continued benchmarking of successful major events to ensure we can deliver best practice and excellent participant experience.		
Compliance	Travel, accommodation and/or subsistence arrangements not in line with Council policies.	All travel and accommodation arrangements will be made via the Travel Team in accordance with the Council's travel policies for officers.	L	Yes
Operational	Safety and security risks of travel to certain locations.	Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office travel advice and any entry requirements still associated with Covid-19 will be followed. A thorough risk assessment exercise will be completed prior to any travel outside of the UK. This forms part of the pre-travel briefing. The Council has sufficient travel insurance in place.	L	Yes
Financial	Actual costs exceed those estimated in this report.	A costing exercise has been undertaken to inform those costs estimated in this report.	L	Yes

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite
		No travel will be booked if it exceeds the total approved budget.		Set?
Reputational	Reputational risks if the city does not actively maintain and participate in relationships with fellow Host Ports, Sail Training International and the vessels participating in the Tall Ships Races. Repuational risk to the city's global profile as an excellent host of major international events.	Fulfilling the Council's obligation in terms of the Tall Ships 2025 contract. Close working relationships with Sail Training International, other Host Ports, EventScotland, VisitAberdeenshire and bid partners Port of Aberdeen and Aberdeen Inspired	M	Yes
Environment / Climate	Carbon footprint of air travel.	Travel plan has been streamlined to only include priority and necessary overseas trips.	M	Yes

8. OUTCOMES

COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2022-2023		
	Impact of Report	
Aberdeen City Council	The proposals within this report - maintaining and	
Policy Statement	establishing relationships with Tall Ships Races,	
	events and tourism networks, particularly those	
Working in Partnership for	focused on major international events - support the	
<u>Aberdeen</u>		

	delivery of the following aspects of the policy statement:	
	 A Prosperous City Develop our tourism and events economy in a genuine partnership with the private sector, third sector and residents Work with partners to stimulate sustainable economic development, including growth in tourism and events working in partnership with business, education and other relevant sectors to ensure the city's reputation as a tourism destination. 	
	 A Vibrant City Enhance and promote the city centre as a place to meet socially, live and visit. Strengthening the appeal and attraction of Aberdeen to a wide range of visitors Showcasing the significant natural and cultural assets of the city 	
Aherdeen City Lo	ocal Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	The proposals within this report will contribute to Economy Stretch Outcomes 2 and 3 as international relationships forged by hosting the Tall Ships 2025 will increase tourism and skills opportunities for local industries and businesses, with the event legacy including training and new employment opportunities.	
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	The proposals within this report will contribute to Place Stretch Outcome 13. Knowledge and best practice sharing with our international partner cities who hold similar tourism, training and events goals.	
Regional and City Strategies	The proposals within this report conform with the objectives of the Regional Economic Strategy, with regard to tourism as a key economic driver for the city and region.	

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Not required

Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	Not required

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 COM 22/251 Urgent Business Committee, Friday 21st October 2022

11. APPENDICES

11.1 None

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources
DATE	5 July 2023
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Development Plan Scheme and Draft Participation
	Statement
REPORT NUMBER	COM/23/193
DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie
CHIEF OFFICER	David Dunne
REPORT AUTHOR	John Todd
TERMS OF REFERENCE	3.3

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report presents the first Development Plan Scheme for the fourth Aberdeen Local Development Plan, and a Draft Participation Statement. The report seeks approval of the Development Plan Scheme and approval to undertake public consultation on the Draft Participation Statement, with the results of the consultation and any revisions reported back to Committee prior to formal adoption of the Development Plan Scheme.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Approve the content of the Development Plan Scheme and Draft Participation Statement (Appendix 1) and instruct the Chief Officer Strategic Place Planning to, subject to any minor drafting changes, publish the Development Plan Scheme and Draft Participation Statement for an eight-week period of public consultation, seeking comment only upon the Draft Participation Statement; and
- 2.2 Instruct the Chief Officer Strategic Place Planning to report the results of the public consultation and any proposed revisions to the Draft Participation Statement to this Committee on 22 November 2023.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

3.1 A Development Plan Scheme is a document setting out the authority's programme for preparing and reviewing their local development plans. Within the development plan scheme a participation statement is required which the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 sets out as an account 'of when consultation is likely to take place and with whom and of its likely form and of the steps to be taken to involve the public at large in the stages of preparation or review.'

- 3.2 The Planning Service is required to prepare a Development Plan Scheme (DPS) every year. The Development Plan Scheme attached as Appendix 1 is the first DPS for the next Aberdeen Local Development Plan (anticipated for adoption in 2028). It gives a background to the recent changes to the planning system arising from the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, such as National Planning Framework 4 and the Local Development Plan now constituting the core documents which are material to decision making, with Scottish Planning Policy and the Strategic Development Plans no longer applicable.
- 3.3 The Development Plan Scheme sets out and explains each stage of preparing the new Local Development Plan, beginning in Summer 2023 and ending in Spring 2028. The first stage concerns production of an Evidence Report and the Development Plan Scheme outlines in greater detail how the Planning Service will organise and consult upon the Evidence Report in the coming year.
- 3.4 The Draft Participation Statement is located at the end of the Development Plan Scheme. It sets out the main bodies and groups who will be engaged during the preparation of the new Local Development Plan. The proposed manner in which stakeholders and the public will be notified of consultation is also set out. Finally, each stage of the new plan process is included, with an explanation as to the purpose and method of consultation proposed.
- 3.5 The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 requires that 'In preparing the development plan scheme the planning authority are to seek the views of, and have regard to any views expressed by the public at large as to the content of the participation statement.'
- 3.6 Subject to Committee approval, an eight-week period of public consultation on the Draft Participation Statement will commence in July 2023. A six-week period for consultation was considered in line with the approach taken by other authorities however it was deemed appropriate to extend this in order to compensate for the consultation coinciding with the school holiday period.
- 3.7 The consultation will be publicised through the Local Development Plan newsletter and the Council's website and social media platforms. Key groups and stakeholders such as Community Councils would also be notified of the consultation via email. Interested parties will be encouraged to submit comments via the Council's online consultation hub (Citizen Space). All comments will be reviewed by Officers and taken into account to help formulate a final version of the Participation Statement.
- 3.8 Subject to approval, Recommendation 2.2 of this report recommends that any consultation comments and proposed amendments be reported back to Members for review..

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The cost of preparing and consulting on the Development Plan Scheme and Draft Participation Statement can be met through existing budgets.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 requires that a Development Plan Scheme is to be prepared by each planning authority within 1 year after last preparing such a scheme. The last Development Plan Scheme was published approximately a year ago. To comply with the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 it is therefore necessary to seek the views of, and have regard to any views expressed by the public at large as to the content of the Participation Statement when preparing the Development Plan Scheme.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no significant environmental implications with regards to the Development Plan Scheme and Draft Participation Statement.
- 6.2 The Local Development Plan itself will be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic	If the Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement aren't timeously adopted then a new a new plan process will begin without the publication of a document that sets out the processes and methods of engagement. This directly conflicts with the Local Outcome Improvement Plan - Stretch Outcome 5 which seeks to ensure that children and young people feel listened to in terms of the consultation process in the preparation of a	Adopt the Development Plan Scheme and agree to the Draft Participation Statement being put forward for an 8 – week public consultation period in order for the Council to comply with legislation prior to a new plan process beginning.		Yes

	new Local			
	Development Plan.			
Compliance	Ensuring that the Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement can be adopted at the earliest opportunity in order to comply with the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019.	Agree to the Draft Participation Statement being put forward for the 8 – week public consultation period in order for the Council to comply with legislation in a timeous manner.	L	Yes
Operational	Ensuring that the Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement can be timeously published in order to support the new plan process.	Agree to the Draft Participation Statement being put forward for an 8 – week public consultation period in order for the Council to comply with legislation in a timeous manner which allows for the smooth and transparent operation of the new local development plan process.	L	Yes
Financial	It is important that the planning authority complies with legislation and publishes a Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement in a timeous manner prior	Agree to the Draft Participation Statement being put forward for an 8 – week public consultation period in order for the Council	L	Yes

	to the beginning of the new plan process otherwise it leaves the Council open to complaint and possible legal challenge in the future with respect to whether proposed consultation has been sufficiently set out in advance.	to comply with legislation in a timeous manner which allows for the smooth and transparent operation of the new local development plan process.		
Reputational	The planning authority has consistently published a Development Plan Scheme each year to allow for clarity and transparency of the development plan process. Failure to continue this could damage the Council's reputation as a planning authority.	Agree to the Draft Participation Statement being put forward for an 8 – week public consultation period in order for the Council to comply with legislation in a timeous manner which allows for the smooth and transparent operation of the new local development plan process.	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	Ensuring that the Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement are in place as they include provision for consultation with bodies, groups and individuals who wish to protect the natural environment and reduce carbon emissions.	Agree to the Draft Participation Statement being put forward for an 8 – week public consultation period in order for the Council to comply with legislation in a timeous manner which allows for the smooth and transparent operation of the new local	L	Yes

	development plan process.	

8. OUTCOMES

COUNC	IL DELIVERY PLAN 2022-2023
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	The proposals within this report support the delivery of the following aspects of the policy statement:-
Working in Partnership for Aberdeen	 Empowering Aberdeen's Communities – the Development Plan Scheme including the Draft Participation Statement sets out the Council's commitment to working with communities and other entities in the preparation of a new local development plan. This includes collaboration with Community Councils with regards Local Place Plans which may include aspirations of community wealth building and other community assets. A Transparent, Accessible and Accountable Council - the Development Plan Scheme sets out in Plain English how we will work with communities to develop the next Local Development Plan.
Aberdeen City Lo	ocal Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	The proposals within this report support the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 5 by ensuring that children and young people feel listened to in terms of the consultation process in the preparation of a new Local Development Plan.
Regional and City Strategies City Strategies and Strategic Plans Local Development Plan	The proposal within this report supports the production of a future Aberdeen Local Development Plan which will eventually replace the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2023.

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact	An Integrated Impact Assessment was undertaken and
Assessment	no negative impacts have been identified.

Data Protection Impact	Not required.
Assessment	
Other	N/A

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None.

11. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Development Plan Scheme and Draft Participation Statement

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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ABERDEEN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2028

DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME 2023

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Aberdeen City Local Development Plan Scheme 2023

What is a Local Development Plan?

The Local Development Plan is at the heart of the planning system. It sets out policies to guide development and manages spatial land use. The plan sets out the vision and framework for an area and covers a range of topics including housing, placemaking, the economy, infrastructure, community facilities, environmental assets and climate change.

At the time of writing the 2017 Aberdeen Local Development Plan is currently in use. Aberdeen City Council notified Scottish Ministers of an intention to adopt our latest Local Development Plan on the 15th of December 2022. It is anticipated that the Aberdeen Local Development Plan will be adopted in June 2023.



The Proposed Plan is anticipated to be adopted in 2023.

Current Status of Planning Documents

Strategic Development Plans and Scottish Planning Policy no longer have materiality in the decision-making process. Local Development Plans now sit alongside the National Planning Framework 4 as the core documents which are material to planning decisions. Other plans, strategies and guidance documents are interlinked.



Diagram 1 showing the Local Development Plan and National Planning Framework 4 at the heart of decision making in the planning system.

When the new Local Development Plan is adopted in 2023 it will be accompanied by non-statutory Aberdeen Planning Guidance which will support its interpretation. There will be a single statutory guidance document which outlines Developer Obligations.

What is a Development Plan Scheme?

This document is the Development Plan Scheme. The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (the Act) requires all Councils to prepare one at least annually.

As our latest plan is set for adoption, work begins on the preparation of the next Local Development Plan to be adopted in 2028 and this Development Plan Scheme sets out the timetable.

This document provides information on the following issues:

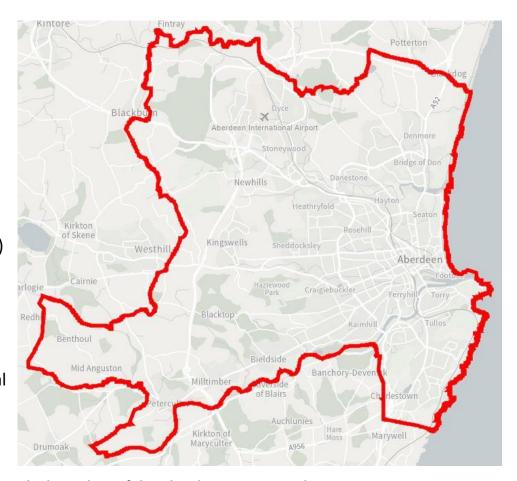
- Why we need to progress a new Local Development Plan (LDP)
- Stages of the new plan process
- The timetable for preparing and adopting the 2028 Plan
- Evidence report contents
- Stages of the evidence report
- The timetable for the evidence report

A Participation Statement is included at the end of the document, and this sets out how consultation and engagement will be undertaken.

Why We Need to Progress a New Local Development Plan

There have been a number of changes to the way in which Local Development Plans are produced since the Scottish Government introduced its planning reform agenda. The next Local Development Plan will follow a very different process to the Plans which have preceded it. Previously Planning Authorities were required to prepare a new plan every 5 years. The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (the Act) now requires plans to be refreshed every 10 years.

The Scottish Government has acknowledged that the transition to the new planning system will have implications for LDP timescales. It expects that every Local Authority will have a new plan developed under the new system within 5 years of the new development plan regulations coming into force, i.e. spring 2028.



The boundary of the Aberdeen City Council area.

Stages of the New Plan Process

The passing of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (the Act) by the Scottish Parliament invoked a number of changes to the way in which Local Development Plans are produced.

- Main Issues Reports are no longer a part of plan making.
 Instead, an Evidence Report is required to inform the proposed LDP.
- The Evidence Report is subject to a Gate check examination.
- There is to be a 'call for ideas' to inform the proposed LDP.



Diagram 2 showing the 5 stages of plan development.

Stage 1 Evidence Report: Financial Quarter 2 (July – September) 2023 to Financial Quarter 3 (October – December) 2024

An Evidence Report is the first formal stage in plan preparation. It is required to set out robust data in order to inform the planning authority on its approach to specific issues prior to a proposed plan which sets out where development should take place. It will include a range of information including research, early engagement and technical reports on a range of topics including;

- economic, cultural and social characteristics of an area
- built heritage, environmental issues, infrastructure
- city demographics
- housing, education and healthcare needs
- site appraisal methodology
- scoping for strategic environmental assessments (SEA)

The Evidence Report must include a statement on the steps the planning authority have taken in preparing the report to seek the views of the public and in particular other specific groups such as disabled persons, gypsy/travellers and children and young people.

Stage 2 Gate Check/Call for Ideas: Financial Quarter 3 (October – December) 2024 to Financial Quarter 1 (April – June) 2025

The Evidence Report undergoes a 'gate check' examination, undertaken by a Reporter from the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals. The Reporter will ascertain whether the planning authority has adequate information to prepare a proposed Local Development Plan. They will assess the outcomes that are sought from the plan (e.g. housing numbers), proposed departures from national policy (if relevant), and methods for plan preparation including engagement, alignment with community planning and scope of environmental assessments. In considering any disputes that have arisen from engagement, the Council may be asked to present additional information.

The Scottish Government has set out a 'call for ideas' stage to inform the proposed plan. The public would be invited to submit ideas for any aspect of the plan such as proposed policies or development sites. Submissions should support the outcomes from the Evidence Report otherwise there may be no justification for considering them further. Local Place Plans that communities have prepared would ideally be shared with the planning authority by this stage so that they can be considered for integration within the proposed plan.

Assessments will be undertaken by the Council on all considered proposals during the analysis of the call for ideas stage. This may include equalities assessment, environmental assessment, flood risk assessment etc.

Stage 3 Preparation of Proposed Local Development Plan: Financial Quarter 1 (April – June) 2025 to Financial Quarter 1 (April – June) 2026

The Proposed Local Development Plan will include proposals that will achieve the objectives that are set out in the Evidence Report. It will identify areas where significant change is required that the planning system can support. It is anticipated that Local Development Plans will have an emphasis on maps, site briefs and masterplans to set out a spatial strategy and they will have minimal wording to reflect the new role of National Planning Framework 4 as a parallel primary document. New sites for development will have to be confirmed as deliverable and free from constraints as far as possible.

Stage 4 Formal Consultation and Modifications: Financial Quarter 1 (April – June) 2026 to Financial Quarter 1 (April – June) 2027

The proposed Local Development Plan and Evidence Report will then be published, and a formal consultation will take place. The Council will decide whether it wishes to make modifications to the proposed plan and publishes a Modification Report. The Council will also prepare its response to unresolved issues prior to submission to Scottish Ministers.

Stage 5 Examination and Adoption: Financial Quarter 1 (April – June) 2027 to Financial Quarter 1 (April – June) 2028

Scottish Ministers will then instruct the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals to conduct an examination of the modified proposed Local Development Plan which is expected to take between 6 and 9 months to complete. Aberdeen City Council will then adopt the plan in accordance with any findings of the examination. Only in exceptional cases will there be scope to decline a Reporter's recommendations.

Other Responsibilities

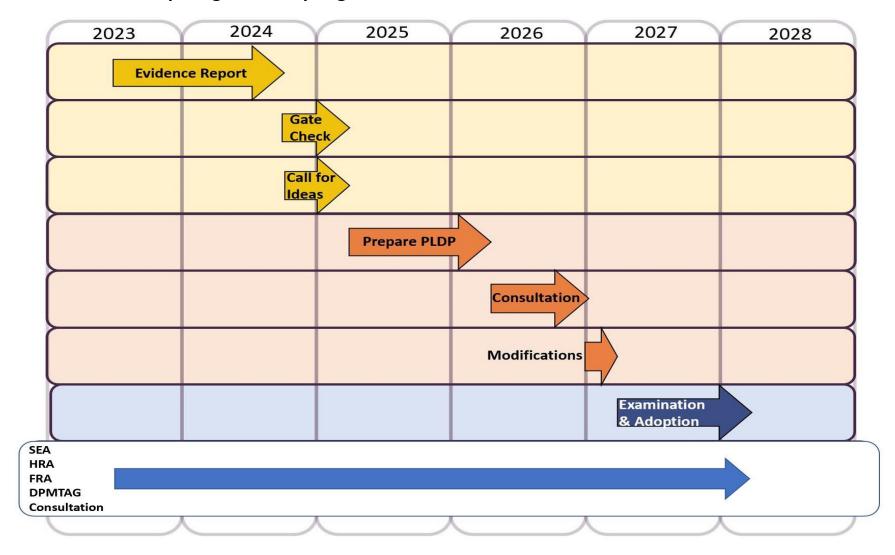
Other Responsibilities to be undertaken in parallel are as follows:

- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
- Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA)
- Transport Appraisal (DPMTAG)
- Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)

All of these Assessments/Appraisals will run from July 2023 to January 2028

A Delivery Programme will be worked upon in parallel to the preparation of the plan. It is required to achieve an outcome-based approach to development planning and will support the delivery of the LDP. The programme will outline a clear timetable for delivery of sites and proposals by managing the timing of the authority's financial investment and any co-ordination with private or other funding identified as being needed to deliver intended plan outcomes.

Timetable for Preparing and Adopting the 2028 Plan



Evidence Report Contents

The new plan process begins with the preparation of the Evidence Report which will be the focus of Aberdeen City Council between Summer 2023 and Autumn 2024. Local Authorities are still awaiting clarity on the process and consequently this Development Plan Scheme cannot go into great detail at present.

National Planning Framework 4 and the Local Development Plan are now the primary documents by which planning decisions must be assessed in Scotland. Beyond the planning system, Aberdeen City Council's Local Outcome Improvement Plan provides the blueprint for how community planning partners will work with people to improve outcomes for individuals, families and communities in Aberdeen.

The Local Development Plan has a role to play in ensuring the outcomes of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan are met. There is some cohesion between the main 3 themes of the National Planning Framework 4 and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan. The next Local Development Plan will also set out 3 main themes which seek to continue this alignment. Definitions are set out for clarity in tables 1 and 2 that follow.

Table 1: Cohesion between themes in the National Planning Framework 4 and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.

Document	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3
National Planning	Sustainable Places – where	Liveable Places – where we can	Productive Places – where we
Framework 4	we reduce emissions, restore	all live better, healthier lives	have a greener, fairer and more
(NPF4)	and better connect	(NPF4 definition)	inclusive wellbeing economy
	biodiversity (NPF4 definition)		(NPF4 definition)
Local Outcome	Prosperous Place –	Prosperous People –	Prosperous Economy – inclusive
Improvement	addressing climate change	supporting health and	economic growth agenda
Plan (LOIP)	and the nature crisis	wellbeing (interpreted	(interpreted definition)
	(interpreted definition)	definition)	

Table 2: The themes and interpretations we have chosen for the forthcoming Local Development Plan.

Document	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3
Local	Climate Change and Nature	Place and People – supporting	Equality and Economy –
Development	Crisis - addressing climate	places that put the health and	promoting a sustainable and
Plan (LDP)	change and restoring nature	wellbeing of people first	inclusive economy
	and biodiversity		

Table 3 on the next pages sets out the 9 topic groups for the evidence report, the NPF4 policy subject papers that each group covers and highlights which of the themes each NPF4 policy focuses upon. **Appendix 1** at the end of this document outlines the LDP content for each of the NPF4 policy subject papers.

Table 3. Topic Groups and NPF4 policy contents (LDP context of policies in appendix 1)

Topic G	roup	NPF4 Policies	Ther	nes	NPF4 Theme	Related LOIP Theme/s	Related Topic Groups
1.	Spatial Strategy	Green Belt			Sustainable Places	Prosperous PlaceProsperous People	All other Topics
		Brownfield, Vacant & Derelict Land & Empty Buildings			Sustainable Places	Prosperous Economy	
		Coastal Development			Sustainable Places		
		Business & Industry			Productive Places		
2.	Delivery of Homes	Quality Homes			Liveable Places	Prosperous PlaceProsperous People	 Spatial Strategy Infrastructure, Transport and Communication Energy and Resources
3.	Historic Environment	Historic Assets & Places			Sustainable Places	Prosperous PeopleProsperous Economy	Spatial Strategy
4.	Infrastructure, Transport and Communication	Sustainable Transport			Sustainable Places	Prosperous PlaceProsperous PeopleProsperous Economy	Spatial StrategyDelivery of HomesWellbeing of Community
		Infrastructure First			Liveable Places		 Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation Energy and Resources
		Blue & Green Infrastructure			Liveable Places		Centres of Business and Culture

		Digital Infrastructure		Liveable Places		
5.	5. Wellbeing of Community	Design, Quality & Place		Liveable Places	 Prosperous Place Prosperous People Prosperous Economy 	 Spatial Strategy Delivery of Homes Infrastructure, Transport and Communication Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation
		Local Living & 20 Minute		Liveable Places		
		Play, Recreation & Sport		Liveable Places		 Energy and Resources Centres of Business and Culture
		Health & Safety		Liveable Places		
		Community Wealth Building		Productive Places		
6.	Change, Mitigation and	Climate & Nature Crisis		Sustainable Places	Prosperous Place	Spatial StrategyDelivery of HomesInfrastructure, Transport and
	Adaptation	Climate Mitigation & Adaptation		Sustainable Places		 Communication Nature & Biodiversity Energy and Resources Centres of Business and Culture
		Flood Risk & Water Management		Liveable Places		

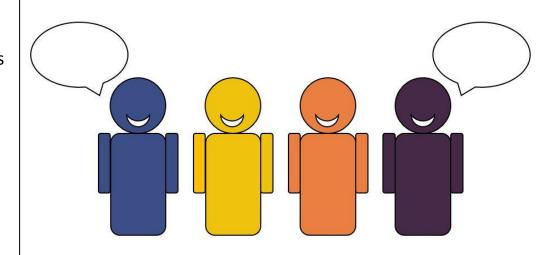
7. Nature & Biodiversity	Biodiversity			Sustainable Places	Prosperous PlaceProsperous People	 Spatial Strategy Infrastructure, Transport and Communication Wellbeing of Community Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation
Biodiversity	Natural Places			Sustainable Places	riosperous reopie	
	Forestry, Woodland & Trees			Sustainable Places		
	Soils Sus	Sustainable Places				
8. Energy and	Energy			Sustainable Places	 Prosperous Place Prosperous People Prosperous Economy 	 Spatial Strategy Delivery of Homes Wellbeing of Community Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation
Resources	Zero Waste			Sustainable Places		
	Heating & Cooling			Liveable Places		
	Minerals			Productive Places		
9. Centres of Business and Culture	City, Town, Local & Commercial Centres			Productive Places	Prosperous PlaceProsperous PeopleProsperous Economy	 Spatial Strategy Delivery of Homes Infrastructure, Transport and Communication Wellbeing of Community
	Retail			Productive Places		Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation
	Tourism			Productive Places		
	Culture & Creativity			Productive Places		

Stages of the Evidence Report

Early Engagement with Communities

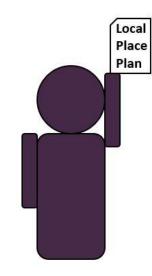
The Evidence Report is split into 9 different topic groups which allows members of the public to focus on any particular subject that they have an interest in, avoiding stakeholders from becoming overwhelmed by a document so wide in scope that meaningful consultation becomes difficult.

There will be an early opportunity for the public to feedback online or by post. Meetings with Community Councils and other key groups will also take place.



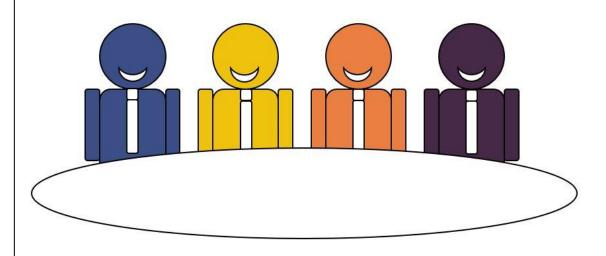
Engage with Communities to Include Local Place Plans

Local Place Plans were introduced by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. These plans are to be produced by communities setting out their ambitions for development and use of land within their area. These may be led by Community Councils, but other Community groups are eligible to create their own Local Place Plans. For Local Place Plans to be considered in the preparation of the proposed Local Development Plan, it is necessary for communities to submit them to the planning authority by the **31**st of **December 2024**.



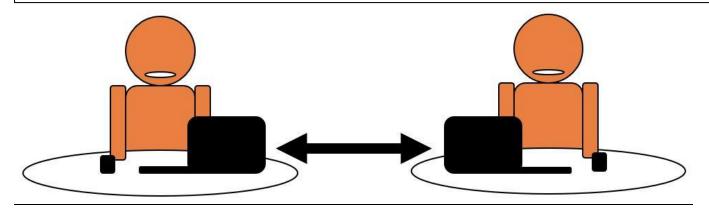
Review Group

There will be Review Groups for each of the 9 topic groups. These groups will be focussed and will involve Individuals who have expressed an interest, and who have relevant expertise. The aim of the review group is to look over and discuss draft topic papers and provide focused insight which the Local Development Plan team can utilise to make improvements.



Internal Consultations

Internal consultations with other Council services will take place in order to inform the Evidence Report. As the Evidence Report will inform the Proposed Local Development Plan, it is important that there is alignment between the evidence base and the visions and strategies that other services have.



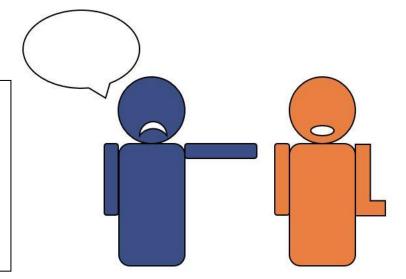
Public Feedback

There will be a 6 week formal consultation period where the public and other stakeholders have the opportunity to comment upon the Evidence Report Topic Papers. Again, this will occur online via the consultation hub. We will also accept postal correspondence.



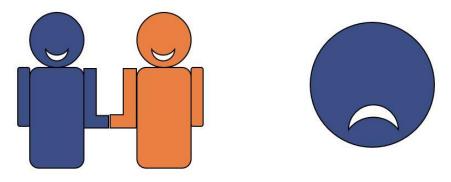
Identify Disputes

'Dispute' is a term used in the Guidance on Local Development Planning where people disagree with the evidence collected, consider that there are alternative sources of information that should be used, or disagree with the conclusions made.



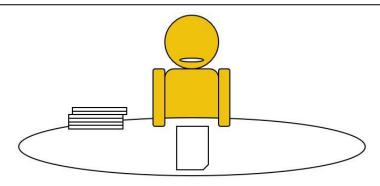
Resolve or Unresolved Disputes

Disputes will either be resolved, and the topic paper modified, or remain unresolved and passed on to the Scottish Government at the Gate Check. Elected Members will have the opportunity at Committee to discuss and debate any disputes and request modification to resolve should they see fit.



Gate Check

A Reporter from the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals will determine whether the Council is required to provide any further information with respect to the submitted Evidence Report and the attached unresolved disputes.



Evidence Report Programme

- 2023 Financial Quarter 2 (July-September) Advertisement for early engagement
- 2023 Financial Quarter 2 (July-September) Early engagement meetings with communities
- 2023 Financial Quarter 3 (October-December) Community engagement to include local place plan outcomes
- 2023 Financial Quarter 3 (October-December) Internal consultations
- 2024 Financial Quarter 2 (July-September) Draft of evidence report topic papers
- 2024 Financial Quarter 3 (October-December) Review groups review the topic papers
- 2024 Financial Quarter 3 (October-December) Advertisement for formal consultation
- 2024 Financial Quarter 3 (October-December) Formal consultation
- 2024 Financial Quarter 2 (July-September) Proposed evidence report finalised
- 2024 Financial Quarter 2 (July-September)—Identify disputes
- 2024 Financial Quarter 2 (July-September) Targeted discussion relating to disputes
- 2024 Financial Quarter 3 (October-December) Final evidence report and unresolved disputes
- 2024 Financial Quarter 3 (October-December)- Committee
- 2024 Financial Quarter 3 (October-December) Gate Check

Participation Statement

We are strongly committed to encouraging interest and wide public involvement in the preparation of the new Local Development Plan, beginning with the Evidence Report. This Participation Statement explains how local communities and other stakeholders will be engaged and how they will have an opportunity to be involved in the preparation of a new Local Development Plan.

The participation statement will include the following:

- Consultation partners
- National Standards for Community Engagement
- Advertisement and awareness of consultations
- Consultation engagement

Consultation partners

Planning legislation sets out the requirement for community engagement. It has been enhanced by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 which includes specific provisions for children and young people, gypsy/travellers, and disabled people. The Scottish Government published a draft document titled 'Effective Community Engagement in local development planning guidance' on 24 May 2023. Consultation on this draft will run until 13 September 2023. The document informed the Council's approach.

Engagement and consultation of the new Local Development Plan will be based upon a collaborative approach. This will include the following bodies and groups:

- Community Councils
- Other Community Groups
- Landowners and Developers
- Businesses and business groups
- Children and young people
- Disabled persons
- Elderly persons
- Gypsy/Travellers
- Minority groups

- Nature Scot
- SEPA
- Historic Environment Scotland
- NHS Grampian
- Scottish Forestry
- Scottish Water
- Transport Scotland
- NESTRANS
- Scottish Enterprise
- Marine Scotland
- Aberdeenshire Council

National Standards for Community Engagement

Our approach to engagement for our next Local Development Plan will adopt the following principles as set out by the National Standards for Community Engagement.



Diagram 3. Principles from the National Standards for Community Engagement.

Advertisement and awareness of consultations

The local development plan newsletter, found on the Council's website, will include details of all upcoming public consultation events. This will also be emailed directly to interested parties. The planning service will raise awareness of public consultations by advertising on social media (facebook and twitter). Key stakeholders and those on our mailing list will be informed directly by email, or letter if sought instead. Anybody can be added to our mailing list or subscribe to our newsletter upon request by contacting:

Idp@aberdeencity.gov.uk

With regards to final consultation upon the evidence report final draft, the call for ideas stage consultation and consultation upon the proposed Local Development Plan, these will also be advertised in the local newspaper.

Stakeholders and the general public who have made representations in response to a consultation event will be notified for future consultation events in relation to the proposed local development plan.

Statutory notification will take place of owners, lessees or occupiers of land of neighbouring sites (within 20 meters) which the proposed plan specifically sets out to be developed and which would have a significant effect on the use and amenity of the neighbouring land. Notification is only required where there are premises on the site or neighbouring land.

Copies of the evidence report final draft and the proposed local development plan will be available to examine at Marischal College and every Council library across the city.

Consultation Engagement

Table 4 below sets out the purpose and methods for consultation at each stage of the next plan process.

Table 4. Stages of the plan process and engagement.

Plan Stage	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Methods
Development Plan Scheme – Summer 2023	To give stakeholders including the public a say on how the Council engages with them in the preparation of the next Local Development Plan.	A survey will be created for stakeholders for the public to fill out otherwise general comments will be accepted by means of post or through consultation hub via the Council website. The consultation period will last for 8 weeks.
Evidence Report early consultation: July-December 2023	To make the public aware that a new Local Development Plan process has begun and to	There will be meetings with community council groups with a particular focus on the inclusion of elements from prepared local place plans. Events conducted in person and/or online will take place to engage with the gypsy/traveller community, disability groups and children and young people. The place standard tool may be utilised where it is deemed appropriate.

	gather information to	We will engage with key agencies and organisations to gather evidence.
	inform the	We will also engage with Councillors on the planning issues facing their
	evidence report	communities.
	draft.	Ma will consult the relevant authorities upon the scope of the Strategic
		We will consult the relevant authorities upon the scope of the Strategic Environmental Assessment.
		Environmental/issessment.
		Once an early draft of the evidence report is finished, review groups will feed back opinion upon each of the 9 topic groups.
Evidence	To identify any	The public will have the opportunity to feed back upon the final draft of the
Report	· ·	evidence report online via the consultation hub. The key agencies, councillors,
•	areas of dispute	, ,
consultation on	for the purposes	gypsy/traveller community, disability groups and children and young people will
final draft:	of preparing for	specifically be notified to feed back into the process. <u>Circular 2/2021</u> provides
October-	the gate check.	guidance on the promotion and use of mediation in the planning system, and there
December	Attempting to	may be opportunities to use such techniques when attempting to resolve disputes
2023	resolve disputes	at this stage.
	where	
	appropriate.	
Gate Check:	To inform the	The Council will publicise the submission of the Evidence Report to Scottish
October 2024	public and	Ministers and the outcome of the Gate Check in our newsletter which will be
to March 2025	stakeholders	available on the Council website.
Proposed Plan	To provide an	The public will be invited to feed back into the process during the 'call for ideas'
call for ideas:	opportunity for	stage of the plan. This will primarily be conducted online via the consultation hub or
October 2024	people and	by postal submission. Meetings will be held with key agencies and other significant
to March 2025	organisations to	groups.

Finalised Proposed Plan consultation: April 2026 to March 2027	put forward ideas and sites for inclusion in the Proposed Plan and to shape its content To publicise and explain the connect of the Proposed Plan and allow peoples to make formals representations	A minimum 12 week period of consultation on the Proposed Plan, the Proposed Delivery Plan and the Environmental Report will take place. This will primarily be conducted online via the consultation hub or by postal submission. A summary of all comments will be produced and published alongside the Council's response to the comments and any proposed modifications that the Council seeks to make in response.
Examination	to it. To inform the	The submission of the plan for examination will be publicised in our newsletter on
and adoption of plan: April 2027 to March	public and stakeholders	the Council website. All parties with unresolved representations to the Proposed Plan will be notified that the plan has been submitted for examination.
2028.		

Appendix 1. Local Development Plan definitions for subject papers is abridged from National Planning Framework 4.

Topic Group	Content	Subject papers Subjec
1. Spatial Strategy	The subjects in this topic group have a particularly strong spatial focus – they concern decision making or allocation upon a map. These subject areas may also include elements which are not spatial.	 Green belt – A management tool to restrict development around the city, green belts should be identified or reviewed as part of the preparation of LDPs. Boundary changes may be made to accommodate planned growth, or to extend, or alter the area covered as green belt. Detailed green belt boundaries should be based on evidence and should be clearly identified in plans. Brownfield, Vacant & Derelict Land & Empty Buildings - LDPs should set out opportunities for the sustainable reuse of brownfield land including vacant and derelict land and empty buildings. Coastal Development - LDP spatial strategies should consider how to adapt coastlines to the impacts of climate change. They should identify areas of developed and undeveloped coast, explore opportunities to use nature-based solutions to improve resilience and should align with national, sectoral and regional marine plans. Business and Industry - LDPs should use land audits to inform the allocation of a range of sites (location, size and quality in terms of accessibility and services) for business and industry. Allocation should take account of local economic strategies and support broader sustainability and wellbeing objectives.
2. Delivery of Homes	The subject in this topic group concerns housing land allocations.	 Quality homes - LDPs are expected to identify a Local Housing Land Requirement (10 year minimum all tenure housing land requirement) in locations that create quality places for people to live taking into account local living, 20 minute neighbourhoods and an infrastructure first approach. Areas that may be suitable for new homes beyond 10 years are also to be identified.
3. Historic Environment	The subject in this topic group concerns the historic environment.	 Historic assets and places - LDPs, including through their spatial strategies, should support the sustainable management of the historic environment. They should identify, protect and enhance valued historic assets and places.

4.	Infrastructure, Transport and Communication	The subjects in this topic group have a focus upon travel, connections and communication.	 Sustainable Transport - LDPs should prioritise locations for future development accessible by sustainable modes. The spatial strategy should make best use of existing infrastructure and services. LDPs should promote a place-based approach to consider how to reduce cardominance. Consideration should be given to the type, mix and use of development and the accessibility for users of all abilities. LDPs should be informed by an appropriate transport appraisal. Infrastructure first - LDPs and delivery programmes should be based on an integrated infrastructure (schools, roads, community assets etc) first approach. Plans should be informed by evidence on infrastructure capacity, condition, needs and deliverability. LDPs should set out infrastructure requirements needed to deliver the spatial strategy and indicate the type of financial or in kind contribution required. Plans should align with relevant national, regional and local infrastructure plans. Blue & Green Infrastructure - LDPs should be informed by audits and/or strategies, covering the multiple functions and benefits of blue and green infrastructure. The spatial strategy should identify and protect blue and green infrastructure assets and identify enhancement and expansion priorities. LDPs should encourage the permanent or temporary use of unused or under-used land as green infrastructure. LDPs should safeguard access rights and core paths, including active travel routes, and encourage new and enhanced opportunities for access linked to wider network.
			 Digital Infrastructure - LDPs should support the delivery of digital infrastructure, including fixed line and mobile connectivity, particularly in areas with gaps in connectivity and barriers to digital access.
5.	Wellbeing of Community	The subjects in this topic group all concern matters which directly affect the wellbeing of local communities	 Design, Quality & Place - LDPs should be place-based, created in line with the Place Principle. The spatial strategy should be underpinned by the six qualities of successful places. LDPs should provide clear expectations taking account of the local context, characteristics and connectivity of the area. They should identify where design frameworks, briefs, masterplans and design codes are required. The Place Standard tool should be used in preparing LDPs and guidance to engage with communities and other stakeholders. Its use in early design discussions on planning applications should be promoted. Local Living & 20 Minute - LDPs should support local living through the spatial strategy, associated site briefs and masterplans. The approach should take into account the local context, consider the local settlement pattern and reflect the particular characteristics and challenges

		faced by each place. Communities and businesses will have an important role to play in informing this process. • Play, Recreation & Sport - LDPs should identify sites for sports, play and outdoor recreation for people of all ages. This should be based community consultation and informed by the planning authority's Play Sufficiency Assessment and Open Space Strategy. These spaces can be incorporated as part of enhancing and expanding blue and green infrastructure, taking account of relevant agencies' plans or policy frameworks, such as flood risk and/or water management plans. New provisions should be well-designed, high quality, accessible and inclusive. • Health & Safety - LDP spatial strategies should seek to tackle health inequalities particularly in places which are experiencing the most disadvantage. They should identify the health and social care services and infrastructure needed in the area, including potential for co-location of complementary services, in partnership with Health Boards and Health and Social Care Partnerships. LDPs should create healthier places for example through opportunities for exercise, healthier lifestyles, land for community food growing and allotments, and awareness of locations of concern for suicide. Spatial strategies should maintain appropriate distances between sites with hazardous substances and areas where the public are likely to be present and areas of particular natural sensitivity or interest • Community Wealth Building - LDPs should be aligned with any local strategy for community wealth building. Spatial strategies should address community wealth building priorities; identify community assets; set out opportunities to tackle economic disadvantage and inequality; and
6. Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation	The subjects in this topic group are all directly related to managing and mitigating climate change and its impacts.	 Climate & Nature Crisis - LDPs must address the global climate emergency and nature crisis by ensuring the spatial strategy will reduce emissions and adapt to current and future risks of climate change by promoting nature recovery and restoration in the area. Climate Mitigation & Adaptation - The LDP spatial strategy should be designed to reduce, minimise or avoid greenhouse gas emissions. The six spatial principles help to guide development to, and create, sustainable locations. LDPs should support adaptation to the current and future impacts of climate change by taking into account climate risks, guiding development away from vulnerable areas, and enabling places to adapt to risks.
	and its impacts.	 Flood Risk & Water Management - LDPs should account for probability of flooding from all sources and use flood risk and river basin management plans. Resilience should also be supported by managing the need to bring previously used sites in built up areas into positive use; planning for adaptation measures; and identifying opportunities to implement improvements to

		the water environment through natural flood risk management and blue green infrastructure. A precautionary approach should be taken, regarding the calculated probability of flooding as a best estimate, not a precise forecast. For areas where climate change is likely to result in increased flood exposure that becomes unmanageable, consideration should be given to alternative sustainable land use.
7. Nature & Biodiversity	The subjects in this topic group are all directly related to managing and mitigating the nature crisis.	 Biodiversity - LDPs should protect, conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity in line with the mitigation hierarchy. Nature recovery and nature restoration should be promoted alongside nature networks and connections, restoring and creating habitats and incorporating measures to increase biodiversity, including populations of priority species. Natural Places - LDPs will identify and protect locally, regionally, nationally and internationally important natural assets, on land and along coasts. Spatial strategies should also better connect nature rich areas by establishing and growing nature networks to help protect and restore the biodiversity, ecosystems and natural processes in their area. Forestry, Woodland & Trees - The LDP spatial strategy should identify and set out proposals for forestry, woodlands and trees in the area, including their development, protection and enhancement, resilience to climate change, and the expansion of a range of types to provide multiple benefits. This will be supported and informed by a Forestry and Woodland Strategy. Soils - LDPs should protect locally, regionally, nationally and internationally valued soils, including land of lesser quality that is culturally or locally important for primary use.
8. Energy and Resources	The subjects in this topic group are concerned with energy and resources.	 Energy - LDPs should seek to realise their area's full potential for electricity and heat from renewable, low carbon and zero emission sources by identifying a range of opportunities for development. Zero Waste - LDPs should identify appropriate locations for new waste management infrastructure to support the circular economy and meet identified needs in a way that moves waste as high up the waste hierarchy as possible. Heating & Cooling - LDPs should take into account the area's Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES). The spatial strategy should take into account areas of heat network potential and any designated Heat Network Zones (HNZ). Minerals - LDPs should support a landbank of construction aggregates of at least 10-years at all times in the relevant market areas, whilst promoting sustainable resource management, safeguarding important workable mineral resources, which are of economic or conservation value, and take steps to ensure these are not sterilised by other types of development.

9. Centres of Business and Culture	The subjects in this topic group are	 City, Town, Local & Commercial Centres - LDPs should support sustainability and enhancements for the city centre and local and commercial centres. LDPs should identify a network of centres that reflect the principles of 20 minute neighbourhoods and the town centre vision. LDPs should be informed by evidence on where clustering of non-retail uses may be adversely impacting on the wellbeing of communities. They should also consider, and if appropriate, identify any areas
		where drive-through facilities may be acceptable where they would not negatively impact on the principles of local living or sustainable travel.
		• Retail - LDPs should consider where there may be a need for further retail provision. This should be informed by a retail study. There may be need for new centres to support new housing allocations. LDPs should identify areas where proposals for healthy food and drink outlets will be supported.
		 Tourism - LDPs should support the recovery, growth and long-term resilience of the tourism sector. The spatial strategy should identify locations for tourism development by taking full account of the needs of communities, visitors, the industry and the environment. Relevant national and local sector driven tourism strategies should be taken into account. The spatial strategy should identify areas of pressure where existing tourism provision is having adverse impacts and where further development is not appropriate
		 Culture and Creativity - LDPs should recognise and support opportunities for jobs and investment in the creative sector, culture, heritage and the arts.

Agenda Item 13.1

Exempt information as described in paragraph(s) 6 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

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