

**REPORT TO: DUNDEE, PERTH, ANGUS AND NORTH FIFE
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 20th MARCH 2012**

**REPORT ON: PROPOSED STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN
EXAMINATION UPDATE**

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REPORT NO: SDPA01-2012

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an update for the Joint Committee on the Proposed Strategic Development Plan Examination.

2 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Proposed Plan and related documents were submitted to Scottish Ministers on 1st December 2011. Adverts have been placed in The Courier and Press and Journal on submission of the Plan and to advise of the appointment of reporters and commencement of the Examination. Within a few weeks of submission the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA) confirmed that the participation undertaken conformed to the Participation Statement. A team of three reporters are now working on the examination. Further information requests from the reporters have to date been received on a number of unresolved issues. Confirmation is still awaited on whether any hearings are to be held. A verbal update will be provided at the Joint Committee.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that The Joint Committee:
- a) Note the submission of the Proposed Strategic Development Plan to Scottish Ministers and progress with the Examination of the Plan.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The projected costs of £65,000 for the examination are contained within the approved revenue budget.

5 EXAMINATION UPDATE

- Proposed Plan Submission
- 5.1 The Proposed Plan was submitted to Scottish Ministers on 1st December 2011 following approval of the Plan by the Joint Committee and thereafter approval and adoption of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal by the four constituent Councils. TAYplan placed a statutory advert in The Courier, Press and Journal and the TAYplan website to advise of the submission.

Conformity with Participation Statement

- 5.2 TAYplan submitted a Report on Conformity with the Participation Statement. This set out all of the actions which were included within the Participation Statement (contained within the Development Plan Scheme, March 2011) and reported on how and when these actions were delivered. Legislation requires conformity with the Participation Statement which is published at the time the Proposed Plan is submitted. This is the first report which the Reporter considers prior to commencing the examination of the Proposed Plan. The DPEA advised on 20th December that TAYplan has conformed.

Proposed Plan Examination

- 5.3 Examination of the Plan commenced in late December with the appointment of two Reporters; Karen Heywood MRTPI and Scott Ferrie MRTPI. Further to this an additional Reporter, Mr Mike Cunliffe MCIWEM was appointed in early January 2012. A team of three Reporters should assist in the Examination being undertaken more speedily.
- 5.4 DPEA published a statutory notice in late December advising of the Reporters appointment and commencement of the Examination. A further notice was published on 27th January 2012 providing details on where information can be accessed on the Examination, following the establishment of the DPEA TAYplan Examination webpage.
- 5.5 TAYplan is one of the first Examinations DPEA is hosting all information through their own website. Up until our submission, the relevant Planning Authority has been required to host all the information relating to the Examination. The information includes key documents submitted and all communication during the Examination (letters, emails etc.). This is now all managed and hosted by the DPEA which is more efficient and easier for customers. The TAYplan website is being kept updated and includes links to the Examination information on DPEA website. It is for the DPEA to determine what information is published. Monthly updates are provided through the DPEA website.
- 5.6 Reporters seek further information where they consider this is required from any party. This process commenced in early February. Ten requests have been made for further information and responses have been made to DPEA. To date, the Reporters have not determined whether any hearings are to be held. Six weeks notice is to be provided ahead of any hearing date. A verbal update will be provided at the Joint Committee meeting.
- 5.7 Monthly invoices are to be received. To date only the first invoice has been received covering the period to end of January. This amounts to £4,560 which only covers initial work.

6 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Treasurer and Clerk to TAYplan, the Director of Infrastructure Services, Angus Council, The Director of City Development, Dundee City Council, The Head of Enterprise, Planning and Protective Services, Fife Council and the Executive Director (Environment), Perth & Kinross Council have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Report SDPA10-2011: Budget Update and 3 year proposed budget, Joint Committee October 2011.
- 7.2 Report SDPA04-2012: Project Plan Update, Joint Committee 20th March 2012.
- 7.3 Report on Conformity with the Participation Statement, October 2011.
http://www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk/Report%20on%20Conformity_Oct2011.pdf
- 7.4 TAYplan Examination, DPEA website:
<http://www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk/CaseDetails.aspx?id=qJ14349>

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7th March 2012