

Strategy -

3b Aberdeen City Council Local Development Plan

- Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the position regarding the Aberdeen City Local Development Plan, for which a Proposed Plan was approved by Council on 18 August 2010. The period for representations begins on 24 September 2010 and runs until 17th December 2010.

- Background

Local authorities are required to produce a Local Development Plan which specifies policies and land allocations for their area and conforms to the approved Structure Plan. Aberdeen City Council have now approved a proposed Plan which is the subject of public consultation.

Members will recall that at the previous Board meeting, a report was considered relating to the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. Both authorities are working closely together and with Nestrans and the Strategic Development Planning Authority, notably in respect of transportation requirements to enable the scale of development to be accommodated which is proposed.

- The Proposed Plan

The Proposed Plan complies with the Aberdeen City & Shire Structure Plan and has therefore identified sites for up to 36,000 houses and 175 hectares of industrial land.

The housing allowances are allocated in three categories – brownfield, regeneration areas and Greenfield with significant allocations in each category to ensure a balance of available sites. The principle of enabling this degree of development within the City allows for the sustainable economic growth and diversification of the region whilst recognising the need to minimise commute distances and encourage more sustainable means of transport.

Many of the policies and the strategic direction are consistent with Nestrans' objectives, including promotion of the City Centre, focus on masterplanning of major development areas and consideration of infrastructure and transportation needs.

The Plan has also benefited from the work undertaken on behalf of the two Councils and Nestrans looking at the cumulative impact of the development proposed in the Structure Plan. Nestrans also contributes to discussions on infrastructure needs through involvement in the City Council's Future Infrastructure Requirements (FIRS) group.

The Plan covers the period to 2023 in two distinct phases, with an indicative third phase up to 2030.

- Recommendation

It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report and instruct officers to respond to Aberdeen City Council supporting the strategic direction of the plan and welcoming the joint working on transport elements.

RD/8 September 2010