

# TAYplan Strategic Development Planning Authority

## December 2011 Newsletter



### Proposed Plan Submitted to Scottish Ministers for Approval

On 25 October 2011 the TAYplan Joint Committee concluded that it wished to make no modifications to the Proposed Strategic Development Plan (June 2011). The Proposed Plan was submitted to Scottish Ministers on 1 December 2011 along with other supporting documentation.

All representations to the Proposed Plan made between June and August 2011 that seek changes are now classed as Unresolved Representations. These have been summarised in the Note of Representations, which includes the Summary of Unresolved Issues. This summarises the representations relating to similar issues and sets out TAYplan's response to them.

The Joint Committee approved updates to the Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment, the Record of Habitats Regulations Appraisal and the Proposed Action Programme, which accompany the Proposed Plan. The Joint Committee also approved the Statement of Conformity with the Participation Statement. This explains how TAYplan has met the commitments to involve the public made in the Participation Statement; contained within the Development Plan Scheme (March 2011).

The submission was advertised in the Courier and the Press and Journal newspapers on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011 and on the TAYplan website.



Back row l to r: Cllr Iain Gaul, Cllr Donald Lothian, Pamela Ewen – TAYplan SDPA Manager, Cllr David Bowes, Cllr David May  
Front row l to r: Cllr Will Dawson, Cllr John Beare (Chair 2011), Cllr Ann Gaunt and Cllr Alan Jack

### TAYplan short-listed for UK Planning Award

TAYplan's Proposed Strategic Development Plan has been short-listed for a UK Royal Town Planning Institute award in the Spatial Strategies category. TAYplan presented to a panel of judges in Edinburgh at the end of October 2011.

RTPI President Richard Summers said that the candidates have shown 'excellence in each of the award categories and the judges have identified an outstanding shortlist'. The winners for each category will be announced in February 2012.

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## Period for Representations on the Proposed Plan closed on August 1st

TAYplan completed its 8 week period for representations on the Proposed Strategic Development Plan on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011. We would like to thank all those who took the time to make comments to either support it as written or to seek a change. This was a very busy time for all involved.

Representations were received from a variety of Government bodies, community councils, voluntary groups, private sector organisations and members of the public.

188 people/organisations/groups submitted over 840 representations raising approximately 1,240 issues. Of the 840 or so representations approximately 24% were supporting elements of the Proposed Plan as written with the remainder seeking a change. Around 75% of representations were received using the online system with the rest by letter and email. Over 50% of all representations were received on the final day, 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011.

Following the close of the period for representations the TAYplan team worked hard to group the representations raising similar issues, consider and respond to them. TAYplan grouped the representations into 24 Schedule 4 Forms which summarise the responses and specific modifications proposed and set out the TAYplan response. Collectively these form the Summary of Unresolved Issues.

The Summary of Unresolved Issues formed part of the suite of documents considered by the TAYplan Joint Committee on 25 October 2011 and have been submitted to Scottish Ministers.

The updated Proposed Action Programme and Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment were also approved by the TAYplan Joint Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2011 and have been submitted to Scottish Ministers alongside the Proposed Plan.

## Positive feedback on Proposed Plan Consultation



A total of 11 information events were held across the region with display material and staff on hand to speak with interested parties. The events ran from 2pm until 8pm on pre-advertised dates.

Photo left: Pitlochry Information Event held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2011 in The Fishers Hotel, Pitlochry.

- The two briefing sessions for elected members and community councils were well received and are considered an important element of future exercises.
- The 11 information events were well received and we continue to see these as a good way of enabling participation. However, these are resource intensive and further thought will be given to allowing people to book specific time slots to speak with officers.
- The online system for making representations worked well and feedback has been positive regarding its simplicity. However, high demand on 1<sup>st</sup> August meant that some experienced a slow down (over 50% of all representations were received on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011).
- The online system saved a minimum of 70 officer days in processing and administering representations. Had this not been the case submission would have been unlikely by February/March 2012.

## The Examination Process – What is it about?

### What is the examination?

Examinations independently test the issues arising from representations made on the Proposed Strategic Development Plan. They focus on the issues raised rather than every individual representation and there is no automatic right to be heard. The examination process focuses on the Proposed Strategic Development Plan (June, 2011) and considers only the issues that have been raised in representations.

### When is an examination necessary?

This decision is taken by Scottish Ministers who will appoint a Reporter(s) to examine the plan where:

- a. There are unresolved issues; or,
- b. The proposed plan contains alternative proposals; or,
- c. They otherwise consider an examination to be appropriate.

In TAYplan's case there are unresolved issues.

### Who runs the examination?

The Scottish Government's Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA) has the responsibility to administer and carry out any examination. It will be for the Reporter(s) to determine the format(s) the examination takes; for example hearing sessions or by correspondence.

Should the Reporter(s) need more information from certain parties they will write to them requesting it. Should they wish to hold a hearing or inquiry session as part of the Examination they will invite those who they wish to hear from in order to clarify specific points that help them to make recommendations to Scottish Ministers. There is no automatic right to be heard.

DPEA will determine which documentation is to be published.

### Who advertises the examination?

The DPEA will advertise the appointment of an independent Reporter(s) by Scottish Ministers to examine the Plan and the commencement of the examination of the Plan.

### Where can I find information on the TAYplan examination?

All information related to the examination will be available once the examination commences through DPEA website. TAYplan will keep its website updated with links to the relevant part(s) of the DPEA website. The process will be run by DPEA not TAYplan. To access the DPEA Development Plan Examinations web page visit: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/decisions-appeals/Appeals/PlanInquiries>

### Who can I contact DPEA?

Morag Smith  
Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals  
Telephone: 01324 696460  
E-mail: [morag.smith@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:morag.smith@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

### Where can I find out more about examinations?

More details can be found on the website of the DPEA - <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/decisions-appeals/Appeals/PlanInquiries/Q/editmode/on/forceupdate/on>

### What happens after the examination?

The Reporter(s) will prepare a report of their findings from the Examination for Scottish Ministers.

Scottish Ministers may approve, modify or reject the Plan. If Ministers make modifications in approving the plan they will set out reasons for these. TAYplan will publish the approved Strategic Development Plan (with modifications if so directed). On approval this will supersede existing Structure Plans for the area.

To find out more on process visit Circular 1/2009: Development Planning at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/261030/0077887.pdf>

## Finding Information on TAYplan documents

The publication of documents submitted to Scottish Ministers is a matter for the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals to consider. However, TAYplan have published some documentation for our Joint Committee process, and have now made these more widely available.

Proposed Strategic Development Plan (June 2011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk">www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk</a> and then click on publications</li> <li>• All public libraries and all Council Planning/Area/Access/Local Offices in Dundee City, Angus, Perth &amp; Kinross and North Fife during normal opening hours.</li> </ul>
Proposed Action Programme (Oct 2011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk">www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk</a> and then click on publications</li> <li>• TAYplan Office, Enterprise House, 3 Greenmarket, Dundee, DD1 4QB</li> </ul>
Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment (Oct 2011)	
Record of Habitats Regulations Appraisal (Oct 2011)	
Report of Conformity with Participation Statement (Oct 2011)	
Overall Summary (Oct 2011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk">www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk</a> and then click on publications</li> <li>• Paper copies in the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-TAYplan Office, Enterprise House, 3 Greenmarket, Dundee;</li> <li>-Dundee House, North Lindsay Street, Dundee;</li> <li>-Pullar House, Kinnoull Street, Perth;</li> <li>-County Buildings, Market Street, Forfar;</li> <li>-County Buildings, St. Catherine Street, Cupar; and,</li> <li>-St. Andrews Library, Church Square, St. Andrews</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Summary of Unresolved Issues (Oct 2011) – Including Schedule 4s	
Actual representations received	<p>Paper copy only at the following location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-TAYplan Office, Enterprise House, 3 Greenmarket, Dundee, DD1 4QB</li> </ul> <p>To arrange an appointment contact 01382 302180.</p>
Library Schedules of documents and extracts referred to by respondents	

## Strategic Planning Leaflet and Video

TAYplan has worked with Scotland's other three Strategic Development Planning Authorities, the Scottish Government Directorate for the Built Environment and Architecture and Design Scotland to produce a leaflet to help people understand Strategic Planning and why they should get involved.

This was published in May 2011 and has been widely circulated to community councils and other interested parties. A web-video is currently being finalised and will be available soon. Community Councils and other organisations will be able to link this to their websites. Further details will follow.



## Registering with us or amending your contact details

If you would like to be kept informed of TAYplan's progress and take part in future consultations and events.

Go to <http://tayplan-sdpa-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>  
**to register:** click login and register – then follow the onscreen instructions.  
**to amend your details:** login and click on 'my account'  
**Need Help?** - Please call us on 01382 307180 and we will try to assist.

Website: [www.tayplan.sdpa.gov.uk](http://www.tayplan.sdpa.gov.uk)  
 Email: [contactus@tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk](mailto:contactus@tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk)  
 Phone: 01382 307180

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