

**DUNDEE CITY REGION STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY
INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING
19 AUGUST 2008**

**REPORT ON: PROPOSED BOUNDARY FOR THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT
 PLAN AREA**

REPORT BY: INTERIM STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN MANAGER

REPORT NO: 01-2008

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise the Interim Joint Committee of the views of each constituent authority on the proposed Strategic Development Plan (SDP) boundary for their area, to report the views of relevant interested parties on the proposed SDP boundary and to agree the proposed SDP boundary for submission to Scottish Ministers by the 25th September 2008.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Interim Joint Committee:

- approve the proposed Strategic Development Plan Area boundary as set out in Figure 1.
- refer the decision on the proposed SDPA boundary to each constituent authority for ratification before the 24th September 2008.
- forward the proposed SDPA boundary, as set out in Figure 1, with a supporting justification, including reference to the proposed changes to the Cairngorms National Park boundary, to Scottish Ministers for approval before the 24th September 2008.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Town and Country Planning Strategic Development Planning Authority Designation (No3) (Scotland) Order 2008 came into force on the 25th June 2008 and designated Angus Council, Dundee City Council, Fife Council and Perth & Kinross Council as a group of planning authorities which are to jointly prepare and keep under review a strategic development plan for a strategic development plan area.

3.2 Planning Circular 2/2008: Statutory Guidance on Strategic Development Plan Authorities (SDPAs) advises that on commencement of the designation orders, the first role of the newly designated Strategic Development Planning Authorities will be to agree boundaries for the strategic development plan areas. The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 requires each SDPA to submit a proposed boundary to Ministers within 3 months of the designation as an SDPA. Taking this into account a boundary for the Strategic Development Area must be submitted to Scottish Ministers by the 25th September 2008.

- 3.3 Circular 2/2008 advises that authorities should adopt a transparent approach to determining the most appropriate boundary, involving engagement with relevant interests. In addition, as Strategic Development Plans will form part of the statutory development plan under Section 25 of the Act, it is important for the purpose of development management that it is clear where the SDP does and does not apply. Therefore, a clear and precise boundary is essential.
- 3.4 The Circular also advises that as Strategic Development Plans will deal with genuinely strategic cross-boundary issues the proposed boundary should be drawn to allow the Strategic Development Plan to effectively address such issues. As such the Scottish Ministers suggest that boundaries that are widely drawn will be more practical than those that are tightly set around the city. Therefore, Ministers have advised that a SDP boundary that matches up with local authority boundaries is likely to be the simplest solution, still allowing for the focus of the plan content to be on the issues and areas with greatest cross-boundary implications. The exception to this will be national parks, which are expected to be excluded from the SDP areas. In addition, it needs to be recognised that Fife is in a unique position of being within two city region areas and therefore cannot include all of its area within one area.

4 THE PROPOSED BOUNDARY

- 4.1 In order to progress this matter in line with the advice of Scottish Ministers each of the constituent authorities have taken Reports to their Councils to establish the views on the proposed SDP boundary for their own administrative area. In recognition of its unique position Fife Council have carried out a separate public consultation exercise to establish the views of where the boundaries in Fife should be located. The following provides a summary of the agreed views of each constituent authority on the proposed boundary for their area.

- Angus Council

Agree that for the purposes of strategic development planning, the Angus administrative area (excluding the Cairngorm National Park area) be included within the Dundee City Region Strategic Development Plan Boundary. (Report 568/08 refers)

- Dundee City Council

Supports the view that the most logical and robust boundaries are those of the existing constituent authorities. This is with the requisite exclusion of the parts of Angus within the Cairngorm National Park and the Fife area within the Edinburgh City Region Area, given that no area may be in two SDPA's. (Report 497/2007 refers)

- Fife Council

The preferred position on the Strategic Development Plan Boundaries is that all of the St. Andrews and East Fife Local Plan Area be included in the Dundee Strategic Development Plan Area. (Agenda Item No 6 Planning Committee June 2008 refers). The remainder of the Fife Council area is to be located in the Edinburgh and South East Scotland SDPA.

- Perth and Kinross

The preferred option for the Strategic Development Plan boundary should be the entire Council Boundary, excluding the National Parks on the proviso that the name of the SDPA reflected the wider nature of the SDP area (Report 08/307 Refers).

5 VIEWS OF RELEVANT PARTIES

- 5.1 In determining the most appropriate boundary for the SDP the views of other interested parties have been sought. The interested parties that have been consulted and their responses are listed in Appendix 1. The general theme of the responses has been support for wider boundaries that allow for the proper consideration of strategic cross-boundary issues and tie in with other strategic considerations. In addition, Fife Council carried out their own consultation on the boundary within Fife given the position of being within two city region areas. All of these comments have been taken into account in proposing the boundary for the SDPA.

6 NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARIES

- 6.1 The statutory advice (Circular 2/2008) issued by Scottish Ministers recommends that the National Parks are excluded from Strategic Development Plan areas. In regard to this it is noted that Scottish Ministers are currently bringing forward a proposal to review the boundary of the Cairngorms National Park which may result in an extension into Perth & Kinross. A consultation on the proposal is being carried out by Scottish Natural Heritage on behalf of the Government over the summer of 2008 seeking the views of people on exactly where the new boundary should be drawn. The current timetable would see revised detailed proposals for the extended boundary submitted by SNH to Scottish Ministers by November/December 2008. The Scottish Parliament would then consider a revision to the Cairngorms National Park Designation Order for approval during 2009.
- 6.2 This clearly has implications for the proposed Strategic Development Plan Boundary within the Perth & Kinross administrative area. As it stands the SDPA boundaries require to be submitted to Scottish Ministers by the 25 September 2008. At this time the details of the proposed extension to the Park into Perth & Kinross will not be known and will have no statutory basis. However, the details of the extension to the Park are likely to be approved during the timescale for the preparation of the first Strategic Development Plan. If this area is then to be excluded in line with Ministers' advice it could raise complications of an amendment to the SDPA boundary during the Plan preparation process and cause unnecessary delay.
- 6.3 In light of this it is considered that Scottish Ministers are requested to acknowledge that any proposed change to the national park boundary within the SDPA area will, without recourse to the SDPA submitting revised proposals to Scottish Ministers, automatically amend the proposed SDPA boundary to exclude any expansion of the national park boundary.

7 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 Taking the position of each of the constituent authorities into account and the views put forward by the interested parties the boundary as set out in Figure 1 is produced. This boundary is very much in line with the guidance contained in Circular 2/2008 as it follows the existing administrative boundaries (excluding National Parks) with the exception of Fife where a decision had to be made on where the boundary between the two SDP Areas was to be drawn.

8 CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 The Director of Infrastructure Services, Angus Council, The Director of Planning and Transportation, Dundee City Council, The Head of Development Services, Fife Council and The Executive Director of the Environment Service, Perth & Kinross Council have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006
- 9.2 The Town and Country Planning Strategic Development Planning Authority Designation (No3) (Scotland) Order 2008
- 9.3 Circular 2/2008: Statutory Guidance on Strategic Development Planning Authorities.
- 9.4 Angus Council Report 568/08: Dundee City Region Strategic Plan Authority, Infrastructure Services Committee, 3 June 2008.
- 9.5 Dundee City Council Report No 497-2007 Strategic Development Planning Authorities: designation Orders and Statutory Guidance Consultation Paper by the Scottish Government 2007, Planning and Transport Committee, 22 October 2007.
- 9.6 Fife Council Agenda Item No 6 Strategic Development Planning Boundaries-Fife's Recommendations, Planning Committee, 17 June 2008.
- 9.7 Perth & Kinross Council Report No 08/307 Strategic Development Plan Authorities, Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee, 4 June 2008

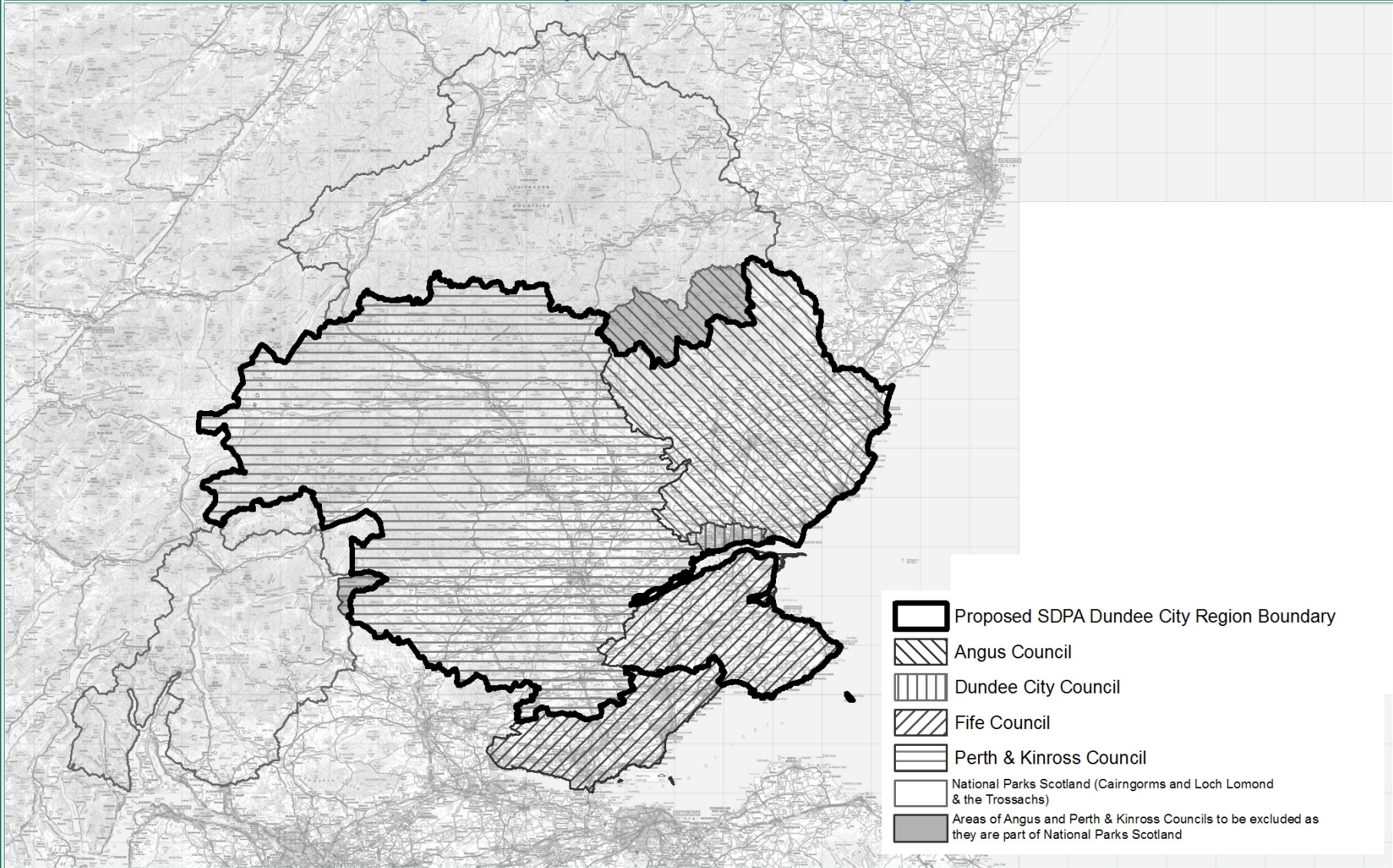
Gordon Reid
Interim Strategic Development Plan Manager

APPENDIX1

Organisation	Response	Comment
TACtran	26 June 2008	TACtran endorses the desirability of the new SDP boundary including all of the Angus, Dundee and Perth & Kinross Council areas (excluding the areas covered by National Parks), in the interests of maximising consistency of strategic transportation and land-use planning.
SEStran	27 June 2008	SEStran supports maximising the extent of the new Edinburgh City Region boundaries to comply, as closely as possible, with the SEStran boundaries, to maximise synergies between the two areas. However it is noted that there is overlap of influence in North Fife with Dundee.
Scottish Water	No response	
Homes for Scotland	No response	
SEPA	No response	
Scottish Natural Heritage	10 June 2008	While there could be a justification for including Loch Leven catchment in the Edinburgh SDPA, it is recognised that a SDPA boundary that fits with local authority boundaries is likely to be the simplest solution. This would be advantageous for SNH's Areas from an operational point of view and we agree that the local authority boundaries should be intact wherever possible within the strategic framework required. Perth and Kinross Council is already familiar with Loch Leven planning and natural heritage issues. There are no overriding natural heritage issues which we feel are important in defining the boundary of the SDPAs within Fife.
Scottish Enterprise	1 August 2008	Advised that they considered that City Regions are important economic units, generally comprising a single urban hub which has a set of

Organisation	Response	Comment
		systematic relationships with its surrounding regional area. It is considered that Dundee City Region demonstrates the key features of a functional city region.
Cairngorms National Park Authority	28 May 2008	Confirm that, in line with Scottish Government guidance, we do not expect the Cairngorms National Park to be included in the Dundee Strategic Development Plan. This is in line with the approach being taken in Aberdeen.
Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority	No response	
Highland Council	No response	
Aberdeenshire Council	No response	
Clackmannanshire Council	8 July 2008	No comments to make on the extent of the boundaries of the Dundee Strategic Development Plan Area at this time. May wish to comment on the proposed boundary when it is published.
Stirling Council	No response	
Edinburgh Council	6 August 2008	We are supportive of the approach being adopted by the Dundee SDPA and in particular the importance being given to ensuring a consistent boundary adjoining between the two SDPAs through Fife. This joint working approach will ensure there are no anomalies.

Figure 1 : Proposed SDPA Boundary August 08



This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. 100023371 2008

Dundee City Council
CHANGING FOR THE **FUTURE**
www.dundee.gov.uk

Department: Planning and Transportation
Printed by: Lesley Coult
Print date: 7/8/08

Scale - 1:1,076,950 