

At a MEETING of the **DUNDEE, PERTH, ANGUS AND NORTH FIFE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY JOINT COMMITTEE** held at Dundee on 4th October, 2016.

Present:-

Angus Council

Councillor Rob Murray

Dundee City Council

Councillor Lynne SHORT
Councillor Tom FERGUSON

Perth and Kinross Council

Councillor Alan LIVINGSTONE
Councillor John KELLAS
Councillor Tom GRAY

Fife Council

Councillor Lesley LAIRD
Councillor Bob YOUNG

Councillor Tom GRAY, Convener, in the Chair.

I DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests.

II APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillors Duff, Dawson, Campbell and Lothian.

III MINUTE OF MEETING OF 18TH FEBRUARY, 2016

The minute of the above meeting was submitted and approved.

IV APPOINTMENT OF CONVENOR AND VICE CONVEBNOR FOR 2017

It was reported that Councillor Rob Murray of Angus Council would be the Convener and Councillor Will Dawson of Dundee City Council would be the Vice Convener for 2017.

V TAYPLAN PROGRESS REPORT

There was submitted Report No SDPA9-2016 by the Strategic Development Planning Authority Manager updating the Joint Committee on the progress of the second Proposed Strategic Development Plan, and advising that the Proposed Strategic Development Plan was submitted to Scottish Ministers on 7th June 2016 – before the 4 year legal deadline. TAYplan had commenced research activity and was working with partners on material for the next plan review and TAYplan had also continued its youth engagement programme during June 2016 and submitted the annual Planning Performance Framework to Scottish Ministers in July 2016.

VI TAYPLAN EXAMINATION UPDATE

SDPA10-2016 updated members on the progress of the 2nd Strategic Development Plan through the examination. Nick Smith advised that a hearing would be held covering housing issues in December 2016.

Councillors Laird and Livingstone asked questions relating to timing of the examination. Nick Smith advised that the examination was on time and that officers had not been advised of any expected over-run beyond March 2017. It was possible that the examination could be completed before then.

Thereafter, Councillor Laird asked a question about whether TAYplan had sufficiently resourced the examination in the budget. Nick Smith confirmed that 20K had been budgeted for TAYplan's share of the examination costs and that this was deliberately higher than the examination costs for the first SDP in order to cover any unforeseen costs. Were the examination to be delayed with further cost exceeding the 20K then this would need to be paid for from the rest of the budget.

The Joint Committee agreed to note the content of the report.

VII PLANNING REVIEW

There was submitted Report No SDPA11-2016 by the Strategic Development Planning Authority Manager updating the Joint Committee on the review of the Scottish planning system following the publication of the Independent Panel's report on 31st May 2016, noting that in September 2015, an Independent Panel had been appointed by Scottish Ministers to review the Scottish planning system. The review focused on 6 key themes – development planning; housing delivery; planning for infrastructure; development management, leadership, resourcing and skills; and community engagement.

The Joint Committee noted the content of the report.

VIII UPDATE ON STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

There was submitted Report SDPA12-2016 by the Strategic Development Planning Authority Manager updating the Joint Committee on the staffing arrangements for the Strategic Development Planning Authority and noting that since the departure of the Strategic Planning Manager in September 2015 the post had been filled on a part time basis by appropriately qualified officers from the constituent councils. This post would be filled in the interim by the Head of the Tay Cities deal, who was co-located with the TAYplan team. This would be kept under review as the proposed changes to Strategic Planning are brought forward by Scottish Ministers.

The Joint Committee noted the continuation of the interim arrangements for the TAYplan Manager post.

IX TAYPLAN BUDGET UPDATE

There was submitted Report No SDPA13-2016 by the Strategic Development Planning Authority Manager providing an update on the Strategic Development Planning Authority's budget for the year ending 31st March 2017.

The Joint Committee noted the current budget projections for current year ending 31st March 2017 as set out in Appendix 1.

X TAYPLAN ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

There was submitted Report No SDPA14-2016 by the Strategic Development Planning Authority Manager which was a response to the report prepared by the Committee's External Auditor on the audit of Tayplan Joint Committee for the year ended 31st March 2016. A draft copy of the external Auditor's report was enclosed and the Unsigned Committee's Audited Statement of Accounts would be available for Members before the Joint Committee meeting.

The Joint Committee agreed to:-

- (i) endorses this report as the formal response to the External Auditor's report; and
- (ii) noted that the External Auditor's findings and conclusions were favourable.

XI TAYPLAN PLANNING PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

There was submitted Report No SDPA15-2016 by the Strategic Development Planning Authority Manager providing an update on TAYplan's Planning Performance Framework for 2015/16, which demonstrated improved performance and progress in meeting statutory deadlines for preparing the Strategic Development Plan Framework is anticipated in October 2016.

The Joint Committee noted the Planning Performance Framework (Appendix 1) submitted to the Scottish Government.

XII TAYPLAN CUSTOMER STANDARDS UPDATE

There was submitted Report No SDPA16-2016 by the Strategic development Planning Authority Manager to update the Joint Committee on the changes to the Customer Service Procedures, which reflected changes made to Dundee City Council's complaints handling procedures.

The Joint Committee agreed to approve the updates to the TAYplan Customer Service Standards.

XIII DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 21st February 2017 – 10am at Enterprise House, Dundee.

Tom GRAY, Convener.