

**REPORT TO: DUNDEE, PERTH, ANGUS AND NORTH FIFE
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 2nd OCTOBER 2012**

REPORT ON: TAYplan RESEARCH PROGRAMME

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REPORT NO: SDPA12-2012

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report sets out the proposed research programme to inform the review of the Strategic Development Plan. The Joint Committee have delegated powers to set a programme for relevant studies to assist in the preparation of the Plan.

2 SUMMARY

- 2.1 A substantial programme of research is required to inform the review of the Strategic Development Plan. This research is just commencing and will principally carry through to inform the preparation of the Main Issues Report in late 2013/early 2014.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that The Joint Committee:
- a) Delegate to the Strategic Development Planning Authority Manager the delivery of the research programme within agreed budgets, as required for the delivery of the Strategic Development Plan.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Research work which is outsourced will be delivered within the agreed TAYplan budgets. Where possible research will be delivered in partnership with other stakeholders.

5 RESEARCH PROGRAMME

- 5.1 The Strategic Development Plan requires to be informed by new research across a wide range of issues. A substantial amount of this research will be undertaken throughout 2013 with other studies being undertaken just in time to inform the preparation of the Main Issues Report, in order that information is as up to date as possible within the timescales of the Project Plan (see Report SDPA09-2012: Strategic Development Plan Project Plan).

5.2 The anticipated programme of research required is set out below, in no particular order:

1. Housing Market Areas (see Report SDPA14-2012: Housing Market Areas Refresh 2012 to this Committee);
2. Related research to inform the monitoring report including housing and employment land, and waste management;
3. Considering the 4 Council's Single Outcome Agreements and Community Plans;
4. Research into strategic landuse change through a study which considers what key societal, economic and climatic changes may occur over the next 20-40 years, how this could change the way people lead their lives and the strategic implications for landuse (joint with other agencies);
5. The Housing Needs and Demand Study is a substantial area of work which is being progressed and undertaken within the resources of TAYplan and the 4 constituent Councils wherever possible;
6. Visioning, to consider whether our vision as set out in the first Plan is still the outcomes we wish to achieve;
7. A strategic green network strategy as committed through the Action programme requires to be progressed to understand the strategic greenspace we have, how it is used and how it could be enhanced. This may be produced as Supplementary Guidance to inform the Plan;
8. Demographics and population work will be progressed. The National Records for Scotland will release new projections at TAYplan level;
9. An on-shore wind renewables strategy is now required by the Scottish Government to provide a spatial framework;
10. An understanding of energy supply and demand across the TAYplan area is required to inform future policy;
11. An update on the economy of the TAYplan area;
12. Transport modelling is likely to be required to inform decisions on the spatial strategy of where development should and should not go (it is intended this would be undertaken with Tactran and Sestran, the Regional Transport Partnerships and Transport Scotland);
13. A study to update the retail and town centre issues to inform the Plan. This would provide an update on work undertaken in 2009;
14. A Strategic flood Risk Assessment will be undertaken;
15. An infrastructure capacity study will be undertaken to inform any future potential need to allocate new strategic development areas;
16. An assessment will be undertaken of existing strategic allocations and any potential strategic development land/sites which are submitted as part of the early pre-Main Issues Report stage;
17. Utilising the Government's Spatial Planning Assessment of Climate Emissions (SPACE), a tool to help make informed decisions about the greenhouse gas implications of planning policies ;and,
18. Other studies may be required to inform the Main Issues Report and/or The Proposed Plan.

5.3 The majority of this research will be undertaken within the existing staff resource of the TAYplan core team and the 4 constituent Councils. Where work requires to be outsourced this will be accommodated within existing budgets.

- 5.4 Report SDPA14-2012: Joint Housing Market Area Refresh 2012, sets out the progress which is being made on housing analysis. In addition to this progress is being made in respect of point 4 above with a joint study being taken forward considering the strategic implications for landuse change taking account of social, environmental and economic factors. This study is being funded in a partnership with TAYplan including SEPA, SNH, Tactran, Architecture + Design Scotland and the Forestry Commission. The budget for the project is £25,000. Universities within the TAYplan area were invited to tender and the contract has been awarded to a joint team from the Universities of Dundee, Abertay and St Andrews. TAYplan's contribution is £6,000.

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 Circular 1/2009: Development Planning, Scottish Government
(<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/261030/0077887.pdf>)
- 7.2 Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006
(http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/17/pdfs/asp_20060017_en.pdf)
- 7.3 Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
(<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/01/20576/50663>)
- 7.4 Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2008/426/contents/made>)

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21st September 2012