

REPORT TO: DUNDEE, PERTH, ANGUS AND NORTH FIFE
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 14th OCTOBER 2014

REPORT ON: TAYPLAN PROGRESS REPORT

REPORT BY: PAMELA EWEN, STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN
AUTHORITY MANAGER

REPORT NO: SDPA 01-2015

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Joint Committee on the progress of TAYplan's work, TAYplan's achievement in winning an award for Community Involvement in the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning 2014, and the Minister's feedback on the Planning Performance Report.

2 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The project plan continues to be delivered on time without any substantial change. The Strategic Development Plan is continually reviewed through 4 year cycles to ensure it is kept up to date and meets legislative requirements. Following approval of the Proposed Plan (Report SDPA03-2015 to this Committee) an 8 week period for representations will provide interested parties the opportunity to support or object. Thereafter, representations will be considered and the Joint Committee in December 2015 will consider whether the Proposed Plan should be submitted to the Scottish Ministers without any modifications or modified. After submission, an examination of the Plan would follow. The Proposed Plan requires to be submitted to Ministers within 4 years of approval of the first Plan, i.e. 8th June 2016.
- 2.2 This report also summarises the Scottish Government's response to TAYplan's Planning Performance Report (2013/14).

3 RECOMMENDATION

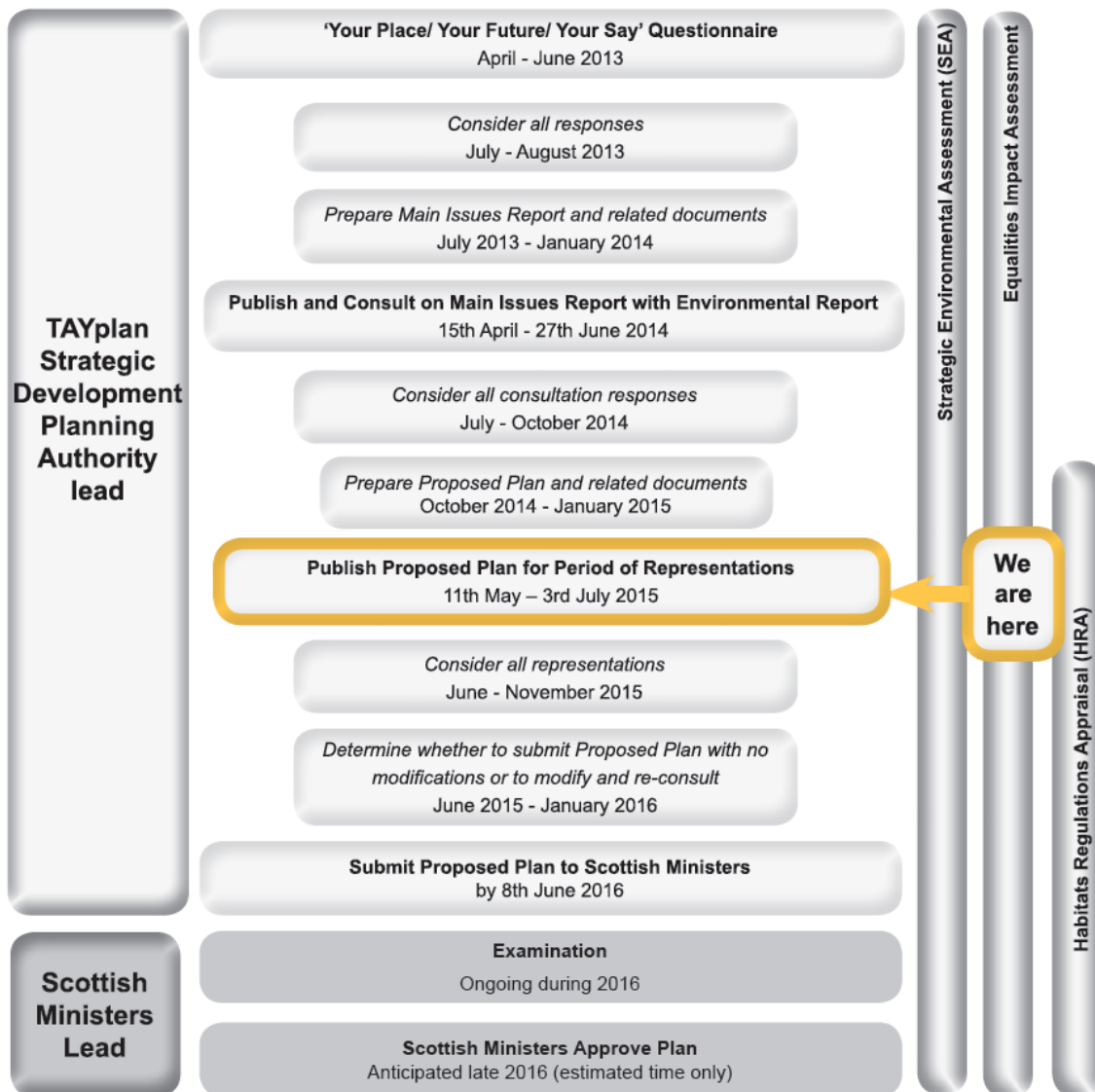
- 3.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee:
- a) Note the progress to date in implementing the Project Plan and the Planning Performance Framework feedback.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The financial implications of delivering the Plan over the current budget year are set out in Report SDPA06-2015: TAYplan Budget Update.

5 PROJECT PLAN UPDATE

- 5.1 The project plan, as updated by the Joint Committee in October 2012 (Report SDPA09-2012: Project Plan Update), continues to be delivered on time. There have not been any delays in preparing the Proposed Plan and all the related assessments and documents.
- 5.2 TAYplan is now at a key stage, with the Proposed Plan setting out the Strategic Development Planning Authority's view of what the Plan should contain. Subject to approval by the Joint Committee and ratification by the 4 Constituent Councils, the next stage will be the period for representations to be made. Following this all the representations received will be considered. As outlined in the diagram below this work requires to be undertaken between June – November 2015 commencing immediately after the period closes for representations.



- 5.3 Consideration will be given as to whether TAYplan wish to make any modifications to the Proposed Plan in light of representations received prior to submission. The Scottish Government (Circular 6/2013: 'Development Planning', para. 87) highlights that *'From the Proposed Plan stage, Scottish Ministers expect an authority's priority to be to progress to adoption as quickly as possible'*. The Circular strongly points out that *'modifications can cause significant delay and so should not be undertaken as a matter of course, but only where the authority is minded to make significant changes to the plan'*. The Circular goes on to advise *'The Examination also provides an opportunity to change the plan, so if authorities see merit in a representation they may say so in their response to the reporter, and leave them to make appropriate recommendations'*. The Joint Committee will consider whether any modifications should be made in December 2015.
- 5.4 On the basis of no modifications being made, it is expected that the Proposed Plan, on approval, can be submitted to the Scottish Ministers by 8th June 2016. If an examination is to be held this would fall into Autumn 2016, with a decision anticipated on the Strategic Development Plan by late 2016.
- 5.5 Early work for the preparation of the 3rd Strategic Development Plan for the TAYplan area is programmed to commence in mid/late 2016

6 Project Plan: Key Stages

- 6.1 The next key stages in the Project Plan are outlined below:
- Ratification of decisions/approval by the 4 Constituent Councils (by 21st April 2015);
 - Publish updated Development Plan Scheme (April 2015);
 - Publish Proposed Plan, Proposed Action Programme and related documents together with response to comments on Main Issues Report (May 2015);
 - 8 week period for representations on Proposed Plan Proposed Action Programme and Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment (11th May-3rd July 2015);
 - Overview of representations received, grouped into key issues (July-November 2015);
 - Prepare note on representations/unresolved issues (September-December 2015);
 - Joint Committee consider Proposed Plan, Proposed Action Programme and related documents for submission (December 2015);
 - Submission of Proposed Plan, Proposed Action Programme, Environmental Report and related documents to the Scottish Ministers (by early June 2016);
 - Examination of Proposed Plan and thereafter Ministers consideration of examination report and decision (Ongoing mid-late 2016);
 - Approval of Plan (anticipated by end December 2016);
 - Publish approved documents (within 3 months of the Scottish Minister's decision); and,
 - Adopt Action Programme and publish within 3 months of the Strategic Development Plan being approved.

7 SCOTTISH QUALITY IN PLANNING AWARDS 2014

- 7.1 A submission to the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning 2014 was made for the TAYplan Main Issues Report Consultation and Engagement. The award ceremony was in November 2014 where TAYplan were successful in receiving an award for community involvement with the work on engagement including with young people through school workshops and the appointment of Young Placemakers. The Judges commented that they: *'...could see how the TAYplan team, along with other partners, had made a conscious decision to engage more with young people, as well as trying to captivate more of the local community into understanding the importance of strategic planning.'* The Judges also noted that: *'TAYplan worked with a limited budget but used many creative ideas and media channels to try and maximise awareness. They also took the time to try and ensure that their documents were easy to read. The two subjects which came across, quite strongly, throughout the consultation were health and transport. These issues have, consequently, helped to shape the plan.'* The Judges also wanted TAYplan's commitment to the Youth Camp to be credited.
- 7.2 This was excellent news for TAYplan and was testament to the quality of work that had been delivered by the core team with the support of the Constituent Councils and the key stakeholders working closely in partnership. The submission and interview was supported by Tactran, with the consultation feeding into help inform the refresh of the Regional Transport Strategy. TAYplan were represented at the award ceremony by Cllr Dawson (Convenor), Pam Ewen (TAYplan Manager), Eric Guthrie (Tactran), Katy Rodger (1 of TAYplan's Young Placemakers) and Lorna Sim (TAYplan Planning Officer).

8 SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO TAYplan's PLANNING PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK (2013/14)

- 8.1 TAYplan has received feedback from the Scottish Government on the Planning Performance Framework (2013/14). The overall feedback is noted below:
- TAYplan has demonstrated a strong emphasis on engagement and partnership working with a range of stakeholders, including continued work to engage with young people. This was supported by useful examples in the main body of the performance report.
 - TAYplan clearly recognise the importance of delivering the Strategic Development Plan in an open for business manner, which is based on close partnership working, certainty and encouraging investment in your area.
 - The Authority is continuing to be pro-active in taking forward work to develop and improve services. The Scottish Government look forward to hearing how this has benefited your Proposed Strategic Development Plan in TAYplan's next report.
 - TAYplan's strong project planned approach to something the Authority may wish to consider sharing more widely as good practice, with other planning authorities.

- 8.2 The Scottish Government rated one of TAYplan's performance markers as amber, suggesting additional actions for next year. It was noted that TAYplan's report lacked detail of how good practice, knowledge and skills are shared with other Strategic Development Planning authorities. It was recommended that future reports need to explain this in more detail. All other performance markers were marked as green.

9 CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 The Treasurer and Clerk to TAYplan, the Director of Communities Directorate, Angus Council, The Director of City Development, Dundee City Council, Executive Director of Environment, Enterprise and Communities, Fife Council and the Executive Director (Environment), Perth & Kinross Council have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Report SDPA05-2015: TAYplan Budget Update: 18th February 2015.
- 10.2 Report SDPA09-2012: Project Plan Update: 2nd October 2012
- 10.3 Circular 6/2013: Development Planning, Scottish Government (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0044/00441577.pdf>)
- 10.4 Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 (http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/17/pdfs/asp_20060017_en.pdf)
- 10.5 Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/01/20576/50663>)
- 10.6 Town & Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2008/426/contents/made>)
- 10.7 Consultant's report on the Review of Strategic development Plans (April, 2014) and the Scottish Government's Response (June, 2014) <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/Development-Planning/Strategic-Planning/ReviewDocs>

Pamela Ewen
Strategic Development Plan Authority Manager
4th February 2015