

Response ID ANON-B3JU-DSQQ-D

Submitted to **Local Development Plan Main Issues Report 2019 Consultation**

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About You

What is your name?

Name:

Abdul Latif - Project Director, The New Aberdeen Mosque and Community Centre Project

What is your organisation?

Organisation:

The Aberdeen Islamic Charitable Trust

On behalf of:

How can we contact you?

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1 Introduction

Section 1 provides a context for the Main Issues Report Do you have any comments in relation to this section?

Do you have any comments in relation to this section?:

We welcome and agree with the objectives set out at 1.2 and in particular regeneration and the creation of well-designed sustainable places as well as taking on the urgent challenges of climate change.

2 Settlement Strategy

Question 1 New Housing Sites

Do you agree with our preferred housing sites? Are there any other sites that would be suitable for housing?:

Question 2 Housing Allowances Beyond 2032

Is there a need for us to identify further Housing Allowances or sites for the period beyond 2032?:

Question 3 Brownfield and other Opportunity Sites

Are there any further brownfield or other opportunity sites which would be suitable for redevelopment?:

Question 4 New Healthcare Facilities

Do you have any comments on these sites? Are there any other sites in these areas that we should be considering?:

3 Aberdeen City Centre and the Network of Centres

Question 5 City Centre Boundary

Do you agree the Local Development Plan should modify its City Centre boundary to match the City Centre boundary shown in the City Centre Masterplan?:

Question 6 City Centre Masterplan Intervention Areas

Do you agree that the City Centre Masterplan intervention areas should be identified as opportunity sites within the Local Development Plan?:

Question 7 City Centre Retail Core

Should the retail core be reduced to focus on a more compact area of Union Street and the existing shopping centres?:

Union Street is the heart of the city and we agree that there needs to be investment in Union Street and the surrounding area to attract high quality retail and visitors. A pedestrian zone would be good to increase different activities within the Retail Core.

Question 8 Union Street Frontages

Should the Union Street Frontages percentages be reviewed? Do the current target percentages ensure there is a balance between a strong retail focus and allowing for other uses? What other uses should we allow on the retail core area of Union Street:

We agree with the current percentages. Other uses could include European style cafes with outdoor/sheltered seating and increased parking for cycles.

Question 9 Out of Town Retailing

Should we direct high footfall uses to existing centres including the City Centre? Should we consider new out of town retail parks? What would the impact of these be on Union Street and the City Centre, and Aberdeen's network of centres?:

We agree that high footfall uses should be directed to existing centres. New out of town retail parks could reduce footfall in existing centres and could be counterproductive for these centres.

Question 10 Commercial Leisure Uses

Should we continue to direct commercial leisure uses towards existing centres and the beach and leisure area?:

Yes, in order to preserve and increase the vibrancy of the existing areas this would be better.

Question 11 City Centre Living

How can we encourage more people to live in the City Centre? Would a document outlining the principles which need to be applied in converting a building into residential use be helpful?:

MAIN ISSUE 1 Living in the City Centre

Should we include a policy in the Local Development Plan supporting residential development in the City Centre, including the conversion of upper and basement floors of premises to provide residential accommodation?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

Question 12 Residential Development in the City Centre

Are there any other locations within the City Centre where residential accommodation could be provided?:

MAIN ISSUE 2 A 24-Hour City

Should 24-hour activities in Aberdeen be supported and encouraged to grow, especially in the City Centre? Could this be achieved through policy?:

Not Answered

Question 13 Encouraging the Creative Arts

What can we do to support and encourage the creative sector to ensure a range of distinctive experiences so that Aberdeen City Centre is like no other place?:

Provide increased space for creative sector groups/organisations to be based in Aberdeen. Devise an annual programme of cultural events. Provide increased space for smaller cultural events throughout the year.

Question 14 Proposals for Creative Arts

Are there other buildings or areas within Aberdeen that could accommodate the existing, and support an emerging creative sector for desk-based and studio-based artists?:

Question 15 Percent for Art

To ensure Aberdeen City Centre retains its distinctiveness, should developments with construction costs of £1 million or over be required to allocate at least 1% of construction costs for the inclusion of art projects in a publicly accessible/ visible place or places within the development?:

It might be a good idea for commercial developments within the City Centre Boundary to allocate an amount to a central fund for art projects in the city.

MAIN ISSUE 3 Support for Visitor Attractions

To support our existing visitor attractions should Aberdeen have a policy about protecting and growing visitor attractions?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

4 Quality Places

MAIN ISSUE 4 Minimum Internal Space Standards for New Residential Development

How can we ensure that new residential development delivers an adequate amount of internal floor space for future occupants?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

Question 16 External Space Standards

Do you think that the amenity spaces currently delivered are of a sufficient quality? Should we strive for a better quality/ quantity of private/ semi-private residential amenity space across the city and refuse planning permission to proposals which do not meet our high standards? What standards would you like to see set for new dwellings, flats, and conversions in respect of quality and quantity of external amenity space?:

Question 17 Natural Environment

Do you agree that the proposed list of policies for Natural Environment gives a clearer and more coherent structure than at present?:

Question 18 Food Growing

How can the Local Development Plan support the delivery of food growing projects in the City? Do you think food growing should be included in the next Plan by way of a new policy, or through existing policy and guidance?:

The LDP can support food growing projects by identifying new allotment sites and other areas where food can be grown. A new policy would highlight food growing and increase local and community interest.

5 Transport and Infrastructure

Question 19 City Centre Parking

Should we reduce car parking in the City Centre to support the City Centre Masterplan? If so, how?:

We agree that car parking in the city centre should be reduced. This could be achieved through increased pedestrian areas, park and ride, increased facilities to encourage cyclists (cycle lanes, parking for cyclists), car sharing lanes on routes into the city centre and car sharing parking spaces.

MAIN ISSUE 5 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

How best can we encourage the provision of infrastructure to support changes in transport technologies? :

Option 2 - Preferred Option

Question 20 Digital Infrastructure

Should high speed broadband be mandatory in all new residential developments with 5 or more units? Do you wish to suggest any other proposed changes to the Digital Infrastructure and Telecommunications Infrastructure policies?:

We agree that all new residential developments with 5 or more units should have mandatory high speed broadband.

Question 21 Developer Obligations and Infrastructure Delivery

Do we need to change our approach to securing developer obligations for future development proposals?:

6 Resource and Business Policy

MAIN ISSUE 6 Low and Zero Carbon Generating Technologies and Water Efficiency

Should the requirement of existing Policy R7 be changed?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

Question 22 Low and Zero Carbon Generating Technologies and Water Efficiency

What methodology should the Council use in calculating compliance with Policy R7, specifically how should the target of reducing carbon dioxide levels be calculated?:

Question 23 Solar Farm Developments

Do you agree that Solar Farms should be supported within the Council's policy on Renewable and Low Carbon Energy developments, and should specific guidance be included within Policy R8?:

Yes, we agree.

MAIN ISSUE 7 Heat Networks

Should we include a policy in the Local Development Plan supporting the development of Heat Networks within the City?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

Question 24 Supporting Business and Industrial Development

Should we carry forward our current policy approach to safeguarding existing business and industrial areas from other development pressures into the next Local Development Plan?:

Yes, we agree.

MAIN ISSUE 8 West End Office Area

Should the policy support a mix of uses in the West End Office Area? If so, what types?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

7 Affordable Housing

Question 25 Affordable Housing

Do you agree with the Local Development Plan's current affordable housing approach being carried forward? What other measures could the Council consider in order to assist with the delivery of affordable housing units via the Plan? Should the threshold of not applying affordable housing requirements to developments smaller than 5 units remain in place?:

Yes, we agree with the current approach being carried forward.

Question 26 Private Rented Accommodation and Build to Rent

Are there ways that the Local Development Plan can facilitate Build to Rent development, through policy?:

8 Sustainable Mixed Communities

MAIN ISSUE 9 Inclusive Housing Mix (Housing for the Elderly and Accessible Housing)

How can the Local Development Plan ensure a greater mix of housing types is achieved in new developments?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

MAIN ISSUE 10 Residential Care Facilities

How should the Local Development Plan cater for proposals relating to Residential Care Facilities?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

MAIN ISSUE 11 Student Accommodation

How can the Local Development Plan cater to proposals relating to student accommodation?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

MAIN ISSUE 12 Houses in Multiple Occupation

How can the Local Development Plan support sustainable mixed communities, with regards to HMOs?:

Option 2 - Preferred Option

Percentage limit of HMOs in each area:

Option 1 - Preferred Option (15%)

Please explain why you chose your answer:

We believe this will provide a good mix of different types of accommodation.

Geographical boundary of each area:

Option 1 - Preferred Option (Ward Boundaries)

Please explain why you chose your answer:

These are the largest boundaries of the three options and will ensure that HMOs are more evenly spread in the housing mix.

Threshold for when planning permission is required for a HMO:

Option 1 - Preferred Option (6 or more people in a flat, 6 or more people in a house)

Please explain why you chose your answer:

This strikes the right balance for the policy to be effective without a disproportionate number of planning applications.

Question 27 Community Planning

Is there anything else that the Local Development Plan can do to support the objectives of the LOIP or the aims of Community Planning?:

Question 28 Changing Places Toilets

Should large new developments that require public access provide Changing Places toilets? What types of venues should provide them?:
We agree that large new developments that require public access should provide these facilities. All large public access venues should provide them.

Appendix 1 Proposed Draft New Policies

Policy D2 Amenity

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy D5 Advertisements and Signage

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy D8 Shopfronts

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy D9 Windows and Doors

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy H4 Housing Mix and Housing for Particular Needs

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy H8 Residential Care Facilities

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy H9 Student Accommodation Developments

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy H10 Houses in Multiple Occupation

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy NC9 City Centre Living

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

Policy NC10 24-hour City

Do you have any comments on the policy?:

Policy NC11 Visitor Attractions and Facilities

Do you have any comments on the policy?:
We agree with this policy.

The New Aberdeen Mosque and Community Centre will help to attract international investment, tourism and support the knowledge economy led by the two Universities as part of a shared vision to include everyone and develop community facilities.

Policy NC12 Public Art Contribution

Do you have any comments on the policy?:

It might be a good idea for commercial developments within the City Centre Boundary to allocate an amount to a central fund for art projects in the city.

Additional Documents

Please include comments on other documents below:

Please include comments on other documents below::

Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report - page 912 - OP85 - King Street/Beach Esplanade

Quantity of Open Space - The proposal allows for an area of open space as required in the Open Space policy in the LDP and this should mitigate any loss of open space.

Soils - This is a former landfill site. Any land contamination will be remedied as a result of the development and should be included as a mitigating factor.

Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report - page 914 - OP85 - King Street/Beach Esplanade

Landscape - landscaping of the site and retention of open space will mean there is no detrimental effect on the landscape setting of the area, rather it will be enhanced. In addition there is already existing development around the site - the petrol station, public conveniences, a supermarket, public house and residential tower blocks.

Additional Files

If you have further information you would like to provide you may upload it here.:

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