

From: Tim.Gordon-Roberts [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 May 2019 17:26
To: LDP
Subject: RE: Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2022 - Main Issues Report Consultation

Dear Sirs

Thank you for consulting Scottish Forestry (SF) (formerly Forestry Commission Scotland) on the Main Issues Report for the proposed LDP 2022. Please accept my apologies for missing your deadline of the 13th and I hope that you are still able to consider the comments raised below.

SF supports the general principle of retaining much of the existing LDP principles for Natural Heritage and the key statements aimed at protecting trees, woodlands and the benefits they provide to the society, the economy and the environment, however SF would request that there is a definite statement made in the LDP to ensure that the assessment of development proposals is made against the Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy. SF also requests that the LDP adopts a general presumption against development in woodland unless there are clearly no alternatives and a definite 'no development' policy for those woodlands identified in the policy that are described as having a strong presumption against development.

SF would also ask that a green corridor structure is overlaid on the plan, so that important sites remain connected, allowing species movement and linking key areas of the city as attractive active travel routes, amenity and recreation areas, this would strengthen the protection afforded to existing woodlands.

SF would also like to see a clear steer given in the LDP to encourage woodland creation within the city boundary and would like to note that woodland creation grants are available to support this, in particular if green corridors are identified in masterplans or their equivalent, then we would encourage the establishment of these at an early date – prior to development if possible. If an application is made to us prior to full planning permission being granted and these areas being made a condition of planning permission, then we could support these applications through the Forestry Grant Scheme.

It was good to see that trees and woodland constraints had been recognised in the assessment of each of the proposal sites, however SF would like to draw your attention to the following sites as there would be a strong presumption against development under the Control of Woodland Removal Policy.

BO106, BO111, BO113, on the National Forest Inventory as broadleaved woodland 0.56ha, Ancient Woodland, this site is also an LNCS, and was previously identified as a green corridor indicating it's importance in the woodland habitat network.

BO319, on the National Forest Inventory as broadleaved woodland, 0.66ha, please also consider it's current role in natural flood management?

Yours sincerely,

Tim Gordon-Roberts
Regulations and Development Manager

Scottish Forestry



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Scottish Forestry is the Scottish Government agency responsible for forestry policy, support and regulation.

