



Aberdeen Local Development Plan Review

Pre- Main Issues Report Questionnaire 2013

Aberdeen City Council is currently in the early stages of reviewing the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012 (ALDP). The 2013 Development Plan Scheme provides a timetable for the review of the ALDP and the opportunities to participate throughout the process.

It is available to view online at: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan

This questionnaire forms part of the pre-Main Issues Report consultation activities we are undertaking. It is designed to gather views on the main planning issues in Aberdeen to be considered by the next ALDP.

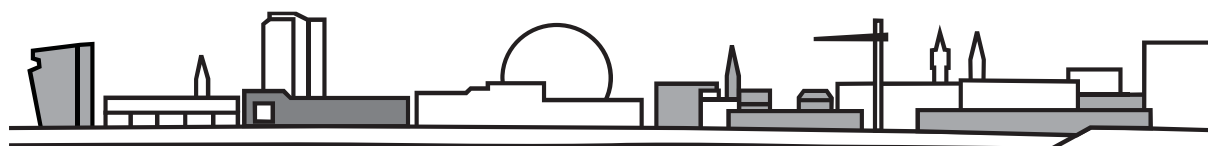
Using your Personal Information

Information you supply to Aberdeen City Council (ACC) in this questionnaire will be used to prepare the Local Development Plan. ACC will not share the personal information provided in this questionnaire with other parties or organisations. ACC will not disclose any information about you to any organisation or person unless it is authorised or required to do so by law.

The Local Development Plan team may use your contact details to contact you about the comments you have made. Your name and organisation may be published alongside your comments but contact details will not be made public. If you chose not to provide a name or contact details, your comments will still be valid but we will not be able to contact you in the future.

For further information on how your information is used, how ACC maintain the security of your information, and your rights to access information ACC holds about you, please contact Andrew Brownrigg, Team Leader, Local Development Plan Team, Enterprise Planning and Infrastructure, Aberdeen City Council, Business Hub 4 Marischal College, Broad Street, Aberdeen AB10 1AB.

A separate form for submitting development sites for consideration can be found on our website at: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan



1. YOUR DETAILS

1.1 Please let us know the capacity in which you are completing this questionnaire. Are you...

- A member of the public
 A community representative e.g Community Council

If yes, which area do you represent?

- A developer/ their agent
 A landowner/ their agent
 From a Key Agency
 Other

1.2 Please provide your name and contact details:

Name and Organisation:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

1.3 If you are acting as an agent or completing this on behalf of an organisation, group or landowner, please provide their details:

Organisation/group/landowner:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

2. ABERDEEN'S MAIN PLANNING ISSUES

Feel free to continue on separate sheets if necessary and attach to the questionnaire. You do not have to answer every question.

Vision

2.1 What do you think are the most important things that make Aberdeen a good place to live, visit and/or work?

Cleanliness, availability of cheap parking and a lively street culture.

2.2 What do you think should be the Council's top priorities for the next Aberdeen Local Development Plan?

Improve access to and around the town centre. Focus on high quality building design. Ensure provision for 'downsizers' in new developments.

2.3 Do you have any particular aspirations for your community or Aberdeen as a whole that you think should be taken forward through the ALDP? For example, what are your views on recycling of waste, affordable housing, access to green space or ways to reduce CO₂ emissions?

Environmental issues should be high priority as well as improving the built environment. More publicity of what happens to recycling would be welcome and may encourage some to 'try harder'

Policy Topic Areas

What do you think should be our main planning priorities for...

- 2.4** ...the City Centre? (For example, what should the role of Union Street be? Does the City Centre have all the uses we want, or should there be more uses there - and if so where could they go?)

Union Street needs cleaned up, residents brought back and more cafe/restaurant/entertainment venues - The malls have retail covered. But to achieve that parking must be abundant and at the very least cheap, if not free.

- 2.5** ...providing infrastructure? (For example, how should new infrastructure be provided and how might it be paid for?)

Surely that can only really be from development. Radical idea but what about a Kickstart type local campaign for smaller projects? www.kickstarter.com

- 2.6** ...transport and accessibility? (For example, how can we make it easier to travel in and around Aberdeen? Should we look at pedestrianisation in the City Centre?)

NO to pedestrianisation. There is no where sensible to route traffic and pedestrianisation killed the Castlegate. A Street is meant to have traffic travelling along it by definition. We'd be better improving the bus station, subsidising bus travel £5 round trip from Mannofield to town is no inducement to take the bus!) Free/cheap parking would be even better - it's no wonder people go straight to the malls - £1 per hour is still expensive but far better than the City's own rates.

- 2.7** ...ensuring we have high quality buildings and places? (For example, how can we better protect our built heritage and ensure high quality and sympathetic architecture and landscape design?)

Strict City Design Code, possibly tiered with the most severe restrictions applying to the city centre and gradually lessening the further out you go. Possibly more could also be made of the Design Review Panel - broader scope of panel members? Wider remit on what they review?

- 2.8** ...meeting the needs of business and industry? (For example, what can be done to retain existing businesses and attract new employment opportunities to Aberdeen?)

Business rates must be lowered in town centre locations. We know from 1st hand experience that rates kill new business in town. New businesses should also be given a long amnesty period to get going - 100% relief in yr 1, 75% yr 2, 50% yr 3 etc.

- 2.9** ...meeting Aberdeen's housing and community needs? (For example, how can we meet the needs of people who cannot afford mainstream housing?)

Already well addressed through developer contributions/affordable housing allocation/more recent mixed dwelling type developments.

2.10 ...supporting retail centres across Aberdeen? (For example, should we be safeguarding existing centres, and what are your thoughts on new out-of-town retail parks?)

Out of town retail has issues but they are very attractive to people for a reason - easy to get to and free to park. I suggest we leave the City Malls and retail parks to cater for the majority of retail and focus our City Centre on service and leisure with a small offering of more boutique shops, preferably in one easily accessed area.

2.11 ...protecting and enhancing the natural environment and preventing flooding? (For example, what areas or features should we be safeguarding?)

No comment

2.12 ...ensuring that resources and waste are managed sustainably? (For example, can we make more innovative use of waste as a resource? Should we encourage renewable energy use? How could we do these things?)

Yes encourage renewables where feasible - easier on new developments than in existing buildings. I think more advertising of government schemes to existing properties would help take up - many people seem unaware, or distrustful of scheme that are out there - possibly because they are often offered by the providers rather than by an independent body such as the Council.

2.13 If you have any views on topics not covered above, please write them below.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Please return completed questionnaires to:

Local Development Plan Team
Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 4
Ground Floor North
Marischal College
Broad Street
Aberdeen
AB10 1AB

Twitter: **@AberdeenLDP**

You can also visit the Aberdeen Local Development Plan Facebook page.

COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES SHOULD BE WITH US BY NO LATER THAN 14 JUNE 2013.

If you wish to be added to the LDP E-Mailing list to be kept informed of our progress in producing the next Local Development Plan, please tick here.

If yes, please provide an email address