



Aberdeen Local Development Plan Review

Pre- Main Issues Report Questionnaire 2018

Aberdeen City Council is currently in the early stages of reviewing the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017(ALDP). The 2018 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 contact 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, Strategic Place Planning, 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

**Our consultation runs from the 19th March to the 8th of May 2018.
Please note the deadline has been extended to Monday 28th May 2018.**



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?

Bridge of Don Community Council

- 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:

Gavin Clifford

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?

- Access to wide varied greens space, for example: Hazelhead Park, Westfield Park and the various golf courses run by Sport Aberdeen
- Beach and Beach Boulevard
- Good access to the wider area out with the city

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

- Provision of more affordable housing by the council and also private developers
- Reduced priorities for private housing developers
- A change in approach to housing, it's easy to build thousands of properties through private development but it's another to fill them and make them affordable. Currently it seems that ACC is only interested in figures and how many houses the city can boast to have
- More emphasis put on private developers to provide for the community in the event of private developments being accepted and not just build private houses
- Protection of green space within the city as a whole
- Development of green space access making parks easier to visit and spend time in
- Development of green space areas making them more appealing to residents and visitors to come to
- Development of Union Street in particular making it more attractive to businesses to invest in
- Investment in the Aberdeen Harbour area

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?

- Green spaces must be protected at all costs, they are at the heart of communities and encourage residents to stay locally
- Aberdeen should pave the way in recycling especially given it's new recycling plant in Altens. Access to local recycling areas needs to be protected and more provisions made for those not able to reach these areas affordably.
- Affordable housing is a huge issue in Aberdeen and must be tackled, the huge surge in private developments in and around the city is saturating the market and pricing most normal families out of the market not to mention devaluing many of the properties already in existence.
- ACC needs to invest in it's poorer communities and help improve infrastructure, appearance, resources and housing.

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?)

- Top of the list needs to be Union Street, it's continual decline is shocking and too much emphasis is put on shopping centres and areas out with Union Street. This should be the heart of the city attracting residents and visitors alike, it's currently a granite morgue propped up by To Let signs and empty business units.
- Better parking provisions for all city centre users
- More affordable parking provisions in and around the city centre

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

- Development of the Haudigan as already planned but to ensure that this does happen.
- Development of the Berryden Corridor to ensure better access into the city centre
- Ensure access to the AWPR from all areas of the city is the best it can be and improve where potential pinch points may occur

It's not up to me to suggest how it is paid for, that's the job of the elected members and not a question that should be asked of residents of the city.

- 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?)

- Union Street should not be pedestrianised and this should certainly not be on the cards. All over the country the decline of main streets through pedestrianisation is very evident, do not make the same mistake as the likes of Inverness.
- I agree certain streets in the city centre around Union Street could be pedestrianised or made into bus/taxi only zones but not to the detriment of free flowing traffic.
- Unless the provision of a decent bus service from all areas of the city is improved, pedestrianisation of any area of the City Centre especially Union Street will only drive people away and stop them coming in as frequently as they do just now.

- 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?)

- That would be the role of the planning department to ensure that all developments within areas of heritage are kept within strict parameters and within the keeping of the area and surroundings.
- More emphasis put on protecting older buildings and applications for listed status being made
- Discouragement of developers wishing to knock down and start again with more emphasis put on regeneration of existing buildings and stock

- 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?)

- Make it financially viable for businesses to invest in the area, don't cripple them with huge business rates. What's the point in having huge areas for businesses when they sit empty
- Focus on what the city does have and push businesses towards utilising current stock before building from scratch.

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

- Force developers to provide more affordable housing in all areas
- Redevelopment of existing housing that currently sits empty or under utilised

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?)

- There should be no emphasis put on new out-of-town retail parks, it only pushes a problem from one area to the next namely traffic and pollution.
- The emphasis instead should be on existing retail centres, making them more affordable to potential investors and developers and improving the transport links to each.
- Currently for most you need to have a car to get to them easily
- As mentioned in 2.4, a huge emphasis should be put on Union Street, this should be the retail centre for the city with other shopping areas feeding from it and not the other way around as it currently is

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

- As mentioned in various sections above, the protection of green space should be the number one priority in and around the city. Once it is gone, it's gone and developers think nothing of ripping up these areas given the chance. It's ACC's duty to protect these for their residents and citizens.
- Both mouths of the Don and Dee rivers need to be preserved and protected especially the Don and around Donmouth Nature Reserve.
- Our many wooded areas around the city should be protected, it's essential for wildlife and along with green space creates harmonious areas to live in and around

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 renewable energy should be encouraged and given the success Scotland has with renewable energy ACC should be looking into how it has been achievable nationally and how they can implement that locally.
- Waste should be seen as a resource and not just something to get rid of, ACC should make further investments into the collection of waste and investigate how this waste can generate an income for the city on a longer term.

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
Strategic Place Planning
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 28 MAY 2018.

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