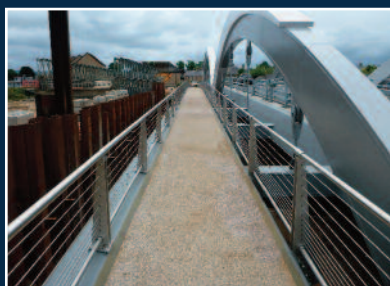




PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

# DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME

## January 16



## Introduction

The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 introduced the requirement for planning authorities to prepare a Development Plan Scheme. The Scheme sets out the Council's proposed timetable for the review and preparation of its Development Plan and explains how it will engage with community, business and other interested parties.

The Development Plan Scheme is reviewed at least annually. This Scheme sets out the key milestones for the preparation of the Moray Local Development Plan 2020, with a particular focus on the early preparatory work leading towards publication of the Main Issues Report.

### Current Development Plan

The current Development Plan for Moray is the Moray Local Development Plan 2015 which was adopted on 31st July 2015.





Diagram 1: the key stages of LDP preparation.

## New Local Development Plan

Scottish Government Circular 6/2013 identifies that there are five key stages in preparing a Local Development Plan as shown in diagram 1 above. The Circular suggest that it will normally take in the region of 31 months from beginning through to adoption.

Once adopted the LDP, along with supplementary planning guidance and other material considerations will provide the basis for determining planning applications. The LDP covers the administrative area of Moray excluding the Cairngorms National Park, which has its own LDP.

## Evidence Base

At the evidence gathering stage, the Council should gather data and monitor the effectiveness of current policies and consider the need for additional housing and employment land. Section 16 of the Act requires planning authorities to publish a Monitoring Statement which is one way of identifying the issues to be discussed in the Main Issues Report. The Council has re-introduced the preparation of annual Monitoring reports to analyse the performance of planning policies and development activity.

## Main Issues Report

Section 17 of the Act requires planning authorities to compile a Main Issues Report which should identify the authority's preferred options and consider reasonable alternatives where these are available. Extensive engagement takes place at the Main Issues Report stage.

## Proposed Plan

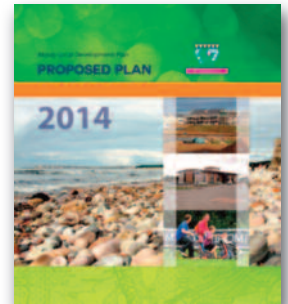
Having had regard to representations received on the Main Issues Report, section 18 of the Act requires the planning authority to prepare and publish a Proposed Plan, which addresses the spatial implications of economic, social and environmental change, identifies opportunities for development and sets out the authority's policies for the development and use of land. The Proposed Plan also includes an Action Programme which sets out what is required to deliver the action and the timescale for each action. The Action Programme will be reviewed as part of the annual Monitoring Report on the LDP.

## Examination

Unresolved representations to the Proposed Plan are forwarded to the Scottish Government with a request for a formal Examination by a Reporter(s) appointed by Scottish Ministers. The Reporter(s) will convene hearings if considered appropriate and submit a report to the Council with recommendations which are largely binding on the authority.

## Adoption

The Council is required to publish the modifications arising from the Reporter's report and within three months of receiving the Examination Report to send details of the modifications made and the Proposed Plan to the Scottish Ministers. 28 days after this, the authority may adopt the plan unless directed not to by the Scottish Ministers.



## Moray Local Development Plan 2020

The Moray Local Development Plan was adopted on 31st July 2015 and its replacement should be adopted within 5 years to meet the Scottish Government target of a 5 year cycle.

Early work and project management is currently progressing to ensure the target date for the Moray Local Development Plan 2020 of July 2020 is met. A process review has highlighted the following key actions to help streamline and improve the process;

- Annual monitoring reports to be prepared which will help make the process more cyclical and less linear
- Better engagement with Community Planning partners
- Better alignment of internal and external partners infrastructure requirements to reflect them in the LDP
- Better engagement with community groups
- Better engagement with young people

The first of the above actions has already been implemented. To support this a "policy log" has been introduced which records issues arising and how they have been resolved.

The other four actions relate to how the Development Plans section engage throughout the process and this will be the subject of a Communications Plan to be reported to P&RS Committee in December 2016.

Considerable work was done to ease the transition of the new LDP as a series of awareness raising events were held with community groups, developers and agents and this platform will be built upon.

Table 1: Moray Local Development Plan 2016 timetable

	2016				2017				2018				2019				2020			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Evidence Gathering																				
Housing Need and Demand Assessment																				
Monitoring Report																				
Employment Land study																				
Communications Plan																				
Elected Member focus groups																				
Community Engagement Group																				
Community Planning Partnership Engagement																				
Engagement with Young People																				
Main Issues Report																				
Call for Bids																				
Prepare Main Issues Report																				
Approve MIR																				
Neighbour Notification and public consultation																				
Proposed Plan																				
Prepare Proposed Plan and report to Committee																				
Neighbour notification and public consultation																				
Prepare Schedule 4's and report back to Committee																				

[illegible]



