

1. INTRODUCTION

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The new Moray Local Plan 2008 replaces the Moray Local Plan 2000, and will remain in force for five years, when it will again be Reviewed.

Moray Local Plan 2008 interprets the strategic direction provided by the Moray Structure Plan 2007 into detailed policies and proposals for use in the determining of planning policies.

The adoption of the 2008 Local Plan is the culmination of a Review process commenced in August 2005 with the publication of a Consultative Draft. The Finalised Version of the Plan was then published in September 2006, and attracted around 700 objections. A Public Local Inquiry was held in November and December 2007 to consider all unresolved objections, with the Reporters recommendations having been received by the Council in July 2008.

Following the advertisement of Post-Inquiry Modifications the Council was ultimately in a position to formally adopt the new Local Plan in November 2008. The Scottish Government requires local Authorities to maintain up to date development plans and expects Councils to Review and Replace these every five years. The Moray Local Plan 2008 will be monitored annually in order to review its performance and assess land supplies, but "mid-term" alterations are not anticipated, with any changes being introduced through the Review process.

The Council is committed to the production of Supplementary Planning Guidance, on several topics, which will expand on policy statements and assist in the consistent interpretation and implementation of these policies.