

**REPORT TO: GREENER STRATEGIC GROUP – 21 JANUARY 2010**

**SUBJECT: MORAY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**BY: HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

1.1 To advise the Group of the timetable for Review of the Moray Development Plan, and production of any Policy Statements and opportunities for involvement by the Group.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 **The Group is asked to note the proposals and timetable for the review of the Development Plan, and production of any supplementary policies.**

2.2 **The Group is recommended to submit any comments of the Supplementary Planning Guidance on Urban Design by 21 January 2010**

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 The Moray Development Plan (Local Plan) was adopted by The Moray Council in December 2008. The timetable for its Review is attached as an appendix. The Plan included a number of commitments to produce Supplementary Planning Guidance and other projects or policy guidance. The main ones being:-

Housing in the Countryside  
Trees and Development  
Affordable Housing  
Development Requirements  
Wind energy

At the meeting of the Planning Regulatory Services committee on 24 November 2009 the committee approved for consultation purposes the Supplementary Planning Guidance on Development Briefs and Urban Design Guide, these documents can be viewed at [http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_1650.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_1650.html) Responses to the consultation document are sought by Friday 22 January 2010.

- 3.2 Other proposed Supplementary Planning Guidance documents which may be of interest to the Group in future are :-

Parking Standards  
Transport Assessment Thresholds

The Group may be interested in commenting on and discussing these Guidance documents, and if so the Group can be included as a consultee. The consultation documents are approved by Committee and thereafter any responses are made available to the Committee prior to a final decision being made on the Guidance documents. Once approved the Supplementary Planning Guidance is used as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

- 3.3 The Group can decide if it wishes to have the opportunity to comment on the consultation documents either directly by Group members responding to the Council, or having the consultation documents as part of the agenda for the Group if the timescales are appropriate, prior to the end of any consultation period.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

##### **(a) COMMUNITY PLAN, THEME PLANS, PARTNER PLANS**

The Moray Development Plan includes a number of planning policies, designations or projects which will help achieve various elements of the Moray Community Plan, and the Single Outcome Agreement.

##### **(b) POLICY AND LEGAL**

The Moray Development Plan has been adopted by The Moray Council and is the statutory document which is the main material consideration in the determination of planning applications. The content of the Plan also commits the Council and Partners to a number of planning projects.

##### **(c) RESOURCES**

The production of Supplementary Planning Guidance requires input from planning officers, and Partner Organisations as appropriate, and there is no financial commitment associated with them, other than use of staff time.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The preparation and consultation of Supplementary Planning Guidance, enables the Council to prepare more detailed policies relating to the Development Plan. Consultation on these draft documents allows Community Planning Partners and other stakeholders the ability to provide input to and influence the final content of these documents, and thereby having an involvement in policies which will ultimately be used to determine planning applications.**

**Author of Report: Stewart Halkett, Head of Development Services**

**Background Papers:**

**Ref:**