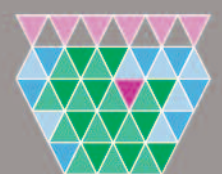


PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
**DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME**

FEBRUARY 2018



**morgy**  
council



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Moray Local Development Plan Area



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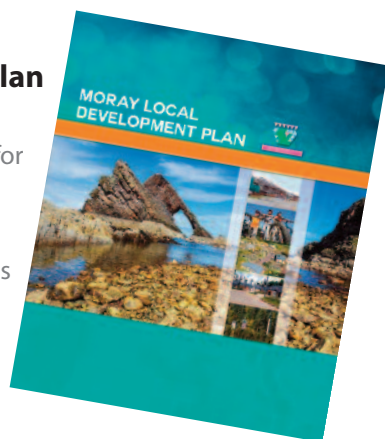
## INTRODUCTION

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.

### Current Development Plan

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



### 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 on page 5. The Circular suggests 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 gathers data and monitors the effectiveness of current policies and considers 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 - Progress

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.

Two Call for Sites exercises have been undertaken, with submissions subject to technical consultations as appropriate. Site checklists have been completed and assessed by planning officers. A series of 5 Topic Papers, a State of the Environment Report and draft Strategic Environmental Assessment have been prepared, along with the annual Monitoring Report to form the evidence base for the Main Issues Report, which was approved for consultation at a special meeting of the Planning and Regulatory Services Committee on 15th December 2017.

Extensive engagement is ongoing, with a series of presentations given to a variety of audiences. A series of drop in exhibitions have been organised during the consultation exercise on the MIR, running from 8th January to 30th March. Elected members have been engaged early through their initial induction following the May 2017 local government elections, followed by a workshop for all members on 4th September 2017 which discussed the main land uses planning issues

facing Moray and this was followed up with a series of ward level briefings on both strategic and local planning policy issues at the end of October 2017.

Stakeholders have been engaged early through a series of 1-2-1 meetings, through presentations at Community Planning Officers Group and through a key stakeholder session on 27th September 2017 and through the Infrastructure Delivery Group. A special event is being organised with the Joint Community Councils in February 2018.

Planning officers are working with local primary and secondary schools and aim to organise an event for Moray College students as part of the consultation towards the end of March 2018. Neighbour notification is also being undertaken at Main Issues Report stage to ensure neighbours are informed early in the process.

At the end of the consultation period, officers will collate responses and report these back to the Planning and Regulatory Services Committee with the Proposed Plan, which will represent the "settled view" of the Council. Progress is on target to ensure the new Local Development Plan will be adopted within 5 years of the 2015 Plan being adopted, although the Proposed Plan Stage will be delayed to ensure transportation issues are fully addressed.

The Council is also participating in a pilot "Gatecheck" exercise with the Scottish Government to examine the evidence base for the Local Development Plan at an early stage, as part of the new emerging planning legislation. The Gatecheck is planned for March 2018.

The Local Development Plan process is managed by the Principal Planning Officer Development Plans, with progress reported through project management software, monitoring of the Service Plan, regular project team meetings, the Infrastructure Delivery Group and meetings with key stakeholders including other Council services. This Development Plan Scheme sets out the key milestones which is supported by a detailed project plan.



The 5 key stages are summarised in Table 1 with further detail provided in Table 2.

**Table 1:** The key stages of LDP preparation.

<b>EVIDENCE GATHERING</b> Aug 2016 – May 2017	LDP process presentation to community representatives	Nov	2016
	Issue 1st call for informal bids	Nov	2016
	Issue 2nd call for bids	March	2017
<b>MAIN ISSUES REPORT</b> June 2017 – March 2018	Early engagement with elected members	May - Nov	2017
	Stakeholder Session	Sept	2017
	Main Issues Report approved by Committee	Dec	2017
	Housing Need and Demand Assessment submitted to centre for Housing Market Analysis	Jan	2018
	12 week public consultation	Jan - Mar	2018
	Neighbour Notification	Jan	2018
	Series of drop in exhibitions throughout Moray	Jan - Mar	2018
	Proposed workshop for community representatives	Feb - Mar	2018
<b>PROPOSED PLAN</b> April 2018 – July 2019	Report representations to Main Issues Report	Sept	2018
	Proposed Plan presented to Committee for approval	December	2018
	12 week public consultation	Jan - Mar	2019
	Neighbour Notification	Jan	2019
	Series of drop in exhibitions throughout Moray	Jan - Mar	2019
	Prepare Schedule 4's and report objections to Committee	Apr - Jun	2019
<b>EXAMINATION</b> Aug 2019 – Mar 2020	Submit Plan for Examination	August	2019
<b>ADOPTION</b> Apr 2020 – Jun 2020	Adopt Plan	June	2020
	Awareness raising session on implementation of the plan for developers and agents	May/June	2020





Table 2

	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
<b>Evidence Gathering</b>																				
Housing Need and Demand Assessment																				
Monitoring Report																				
Employment Land Study																				
Communications Plan																				
Elected Member Focus Groups																				
Community Engagement Group																				
Community Planning Partnership Engagement																				
Engage with Communities																				
Engage with Council Staff																				
Informal Call for Bids																				
Establish Infrastructure Delivery Group																				
Engagement with Young People																				
<b>Main Issues Report</b>																				
Call for Bids																				
Prepare Main Issues Report																				
Approve MIR																				
Neighbour Notification and Public Consultation																				
<b>Proposed Plan</b>																				
Prepare Proposed Plan and report to Committee																				
Neighbour notification and public consultation																				
Prepare Schedule 4's and report back to Committee																				
<b>Examination</b>																				
Examination process, respond to further information requests																				
Examination report published																				
Report Examination Report to Committee																				
<b>Adopt</b>																				
Publish Notice of Intention to adopt																				
Adopt new Plan																				
<b>Supporting Implementation Work</b>																				
Rural Groupings review																				
Wind Energy Policy Guidance																				
Open Space Strategy																				
Woodlands Strategy																				
Masterplan preparation and implementation for Findrassie, Elgin South and Dallas Dhu (Forres)																				
Developer Obligations Guidance																				
Bilbohall Masterplan																				
Wards Wildlife Site Management Plan																				





