

ABERDEEN, 26 September 2018. Minute of Meeting of the STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY.

Present: Councillor Marie Boulton, Chairperson; Councillor John Cox, Vice-Chairperson; and Councillors Cooke, Forsyth (as substitute for Councillor Aitchison), Graham, Grant, Latham, Topping and Yuill.

Apologies: Councillors Bell and Johnston.

Officers: **Strategic Development Planning Authority:** Ms C McArthur, Acting Team Leader and Mr T Walsh, Senior Planner.
Aberdeen City Council: Ms G Beattie, Chief Officer, Strategic Place Planning, Ms L Christie, Solicitor and Ms K Lines, Committee Services.
Aberdeenshire Council: Mr B Allan, Accountant and Mr R Gray, Head of Planning and Building Standards.
Audit Scotland: Ms A MacDonald, Senior Audit Manager.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

1. There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Authority had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 24 August 2018.

The Authority resolved:
to approve the minute.

SDPA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2017-18

3. The Authority had before it the Audited Annual Accounts, 2017/18.

The report recommended:
that the Authority approve for signature the audited Annual Accounts for 2017/18.

Mr Brian Allan, Accountant, Aberdeenshire Council, spoke to the accounts and advised that the narrative contained within the accounts had been amended slightly to make them easier to understand by those not fully conversant with accounting terms.

The Authority resolved:

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to approve the recommendation and note that the accounts would be published online.

ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT 2017-18 (REPORT BY AUDIT SCOTLAND)

4. The Authority had before it the external auditor's annual report in respect of the 2017/18 audit of the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority's (SDPA) annual accounts.

The report recommended:-

that the Authority note the auditor's report including the action plan.

Ms Anne MacDonald, Audit Scotland, explained that Audit Scotland had provided unqualified opinions on the annual accounts; the appropriateness of the governance statement, including the management commentary and the remuneration report; and the review of financial sustainability.

The Authority resolved:

to note the auditor's report and the action plan.

BUDGET MONITORING POSITION AS AT 30 JULY 2018 - REPORT BY THE TREASURER

5. The Authority had before it a report which outlined the budget monitoring position as at 30 July 2018.

The report recommended:

that the authority note the budget monitoring position as at 30 July 2018.

Mr Allan spoke to the report and advised that as at 30 July the only costs incurred related to staffing costs.

The Authority resolved:

to approve the recommendation.

UPDATE ON THE PLANNING (SCOTLAND) BILL 2017 - STAGE 2 AMENDMENTS

6. Ms Claire McArthur, Acting Team Leader, the Strategic Development Planning Authority, provided a verbal update on progress with regards to the Planning (Scotland) Bill 2017. As part of this briefing, members of the SDPA were advised that, at the meeting of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government and Communities Committee on 19 September 2018, an amendment to delete Section 2 of the Bill, that being the

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section that details the removal of the Strategic Development Plans and associated governance arrangements, was agreed to.

Ms McArthur further advised that this was not however the “end of the road” and that further Stage 3 amendments would be brought forward for consideration later this year.

The Authority resolved:
to note the verbal update.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7. The Authority were advised that the next scheduled meeting would be Wednesday, 30 January, 2019 at 2.00pm to be held at Woodhill House and that the remaining meeting dates for 2019 would need to be discussed.

- **Councillor Marie Boulton, Chairperson.**

