

Introduction

1. Status of Supplementary Guidance

Statutory Supplementary Guidance is a *material consideration* in the determination of planning applications, and carries the same weight as the policies in the Local Development Plan itself.

Supplementary Guidance can only be adopted by Aberdeen City Council if:

- it has been referred to within the Local Development Plan;
- a public consultation process has been undertaken; and,
- it has been approved by Scottish Ministers.

There are two types of Supplementary Guidance which support the Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2017: **Policy** Supplementary Guidance and **Site Specific** Supplementary Guidance. In addition, Technical Advice Notes (TANs) and Local Planning Advice (LPA) provide non-statutory guidance on more specialised topics and sites.

This suite of Supplementary Guidance expands upon existing **Policies** within the adopted Aberdeen Local Development Plan. For ease of reference (and to avoid a great deal of repetition) we have grouped individual Supplementary Guidance documents into a related 'Topic Area'.

Each individual piece of Supplementary Guidance does, however, stand alone and, if it requires amending or updating during the lifetime of the Local Development Plan, then we will update and consult on the individual piece of Supplementary Guidance rather than the whole document suite.

Site Specific Supplementary Guidance related to larger development sites (e.g. Development Frameworks, Masterplans and Planning Briefs) are not part of this Suite but can be found on the Local Development Plan [website](#).

2. Legislative Context

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act (1997), as amended by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act (2006), is the main piece of legislation governing the planning system in Scotland. Aberdeen City Council is required to follow the procedures of the Act in preparing development plans and determining planning applications.

Other pieces of legislation may also have important implications for the Local Development Plan, on topics such as climate change, natural heritage, the environment, waste and conservation. Where necessary, key legislation is highlighted in the relevant Supplementary Guidance.

Regulations and Circulars contain Scottish Government policy on implementing legislation. The key Circulars for planning are Development Planning and Development Management Procedures.

3. Policy Context

The detailed policies contained in the Local Development Plan and Supplementary Guidance are in general accordance with the following national and regional planning policy statements, interpreting them for the Aberdeen context:

3.1 Scottish Planning Policy

Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) is a statement of Scottish Government policy on how nationally important land use planning matters should be addressed across the country. SPP outlines four desired outcomes for the planning system, which development plans should contribute to:

1. A successful, sustainable place;
2. A low carbon place;
3. A natural, resilient place; and,
4. A more connected place

3.2 National Planning Framework 3

The National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3) describes how the future spatial development of Scotland can contribute to the four planning outcomes noted above. It shows where there will be opportunities for growth and regeneration, investment in the low carbon economy, environmental enhancement, and improved connections across the country.

Aberdeen is identified in NPF3 as the energy capital of Europe, a city which is well placed to take advantage of the continued exploitation of North Sea oil and gas reserves, and develop its expertise in serving the energy sector, including the growing renewables sector. Food and drink, life sciences, universities, creative industries and tourism are also identified as key sectors for Aberdeen and the North East. Two *National Developments* are identified for Aberdeen; a new harbour and strategic improvements to Aberdeen International Airport.

3.3 Creating Places and Designing Streets

Creating Places is the Scottish Government's policy statement on architecture and place. Designing Streets contains policy and technical guidance on street design.

3.4 Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement

The Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement sets out Scottish Ministers' policies for the historic environment.

3.5 Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Guidance Notes

Managing Change in the Historic Environment is a series of guidance notes published by Historic Environment Scotland for use by planning authorities and other interested parties. The series explains how to apply the policies contained in the Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement and Scottish Planning Policy.

3.6 Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan

The Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan (SDP) contains policy on issues that are of strategic importance to the North East of Scotland region. The SDP has its own relevant Supplementary Guidance which will also be implemented by the respective City and Shire Councils.

4. Further Information

Although each Supplementary Guidance produced by Aberdeen City Council is relevant to a specific topic / site, the documents must be read in the context of other local, regional and national plans, policies and strategies as relevant.

Applicants / developers must ensure that they are aware of their individual responsibilities to obtain any other statutory consents outwith the planning process, e.g. Building Warrant / Roads Construction Consent, as may be required.

Applicants / developers are encouraged to seek pre-application advice from the Planning Authority at the earliest possible opportunity, and to liaise with any relevant utility providers as may be required.

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