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www.shetland.gov.uk/ldp2



Welcome once again to the third issue of the Shetland Local Development Plan newsletter. This issue has all the information you need regarding the next Local Development Plan 2, and keeps you informed of how you can get involved in the planning process and how you can help shape the future of your community.

Shetland's Local Development Plan

Shetland's Local Development Plan or LDP seeks to guide development and ensure we continue to build successful places for present and future generations. The LDP consists of two parts; the Plan itself, which sets out policies and site allocations and the Supplementary Guidance (SG) part, which contain more detailed guidance on specific issues or topics. When complete, the next Shetland LDP will become the strategic tool for the Council's development priorities. In conjunction with other Council Policies (including the Local Housing Strategy), it will contribute to meeting the spatial aims of the Community Plan and the Corporate Plan.

Adopted this April is our new Supplementary Guidance on aquaculture developments – you can find it at the Adopted Supplementary Guidance section using the following link. The current LDP and other Guidance can also be found there: www.shetland.gov.uk/ldp2

The Current Position

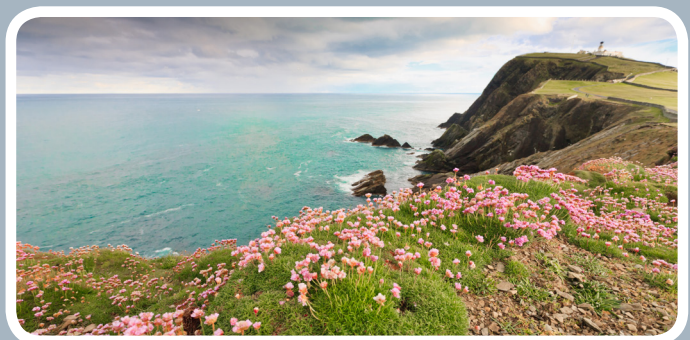
We are currently working on the evidence gathering stage of the next LDP, which requires the Development Plans team to engage with key stakeholders

and communities to gather data and information needed to inform the Main Issues Report (MIR) and set the strategic vision and spatial strategy. This all requires an up-to-date and detailed evidence base, and is the most labour intensive part of the LDP process and takes the largest percentage of preparation time.

Our Vision Statement has now been agreed, with a very successful workshop being held with key stakeholders – read more about the preparation of our Vision in part 5.

Work is also underway for the Call for Sites and is a chance if you are a landowner or a developer, to put forwards sites to the Council that you believe are suitable for development. You can read more about the Call for Sites process and how you can get involved in part 6.

More details of the various stages are described in our newsletter, along with useful information on how you can get involved in developing and shaping the future of your community.



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www.shetland.gov.uk/ldp

Please take a look at our website & Twitter for further information and regular updates on the Shetland

Local Development Plan:

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Next Local Development Plan

The graphic below shows you where we currently are in the preparation of your next Local Development Plan, and highlights the importance of the evidence gathering stage, where public participation is key.

Key	
Engagement	We will be engaging with you at these stages. Your input and engagement will help inform and shape the next LDP.
Consultation	We will be carrying out public consultations at these stages.
Informing	We will be informing you of the status of the plan throughout these stages.



(Graphic 1)

The Development Plan Scheme 2017

The Development Plan Scheme (DPS) sets out the Council's proposed timetable for review and replacement of the current LDP; it also sets out the steps the Council will take to prepare the next LDP. It also must include a participation statement, which shows where there are opportunities for consultation and participation – by stakeholders, the general public and for everyone with an interest.

The DPS must be reviewed at least annually and the Council is ultimately judged on whether or not it has sufficiently adhered to the participation statement.

This DPS provides details of:

- The Participation Statement showing the key pieces of work we propose to undertake in the coming year
- An update on the work programme
- The Supplementary Guidance List

The 2017 Development Plan Scheme can be found here:

<http://www.shetland.gov.uk/planning/LocalDevelopmentPlan.asp>

How to get involved in preparing the next Local Development Plan

Your involvement in preparing the next Local Development Plan is essential, and will help us deliver a Plan that meets the needs of our communities and helps build places that are successful and vibrant. We encourage you all to get involved from the very start - the link to our Participation Statement (found in the document after the Development Plan Scheme) sets out how and when the Development Plans team intends to consult during the LDP process: <http://www.shetland.gov.uk/planning/LocalDevelopment-Plan.asp>

Shetland Islands Council is committed to ensuring that all consultation is carried out in a constructive and respectful manner, and as such any consultation carried out by the Council will adhere to the National Standards for Community Engagement, which are set out in our LDP Newsletter No. 1 and you can also find them here: <http://www.scdc.org.uk/what/national-standards/>

Our Vision

As previously mentioned, the evidence gathering stage takes up the largest percentage of preparation time – and it should, as it's the most important part of preparing an effective, relevant and deliverable Plan.

A key stage of the evidence gathering process is the preparation of a Vision Statement. A Vision Statement sets out realistic aspirations for Shetland over the next 20 years and identifies how our communities should be developed and any barriers to that proposed development. Policies within the new Plan will be structured to help achieve those aspirations.

Our Vision for the next LDP was developed through analysis of the Scottish Government's sixteen National Outcomes, including their four National Planning Outcomes. Importantly, we also undertook detailed analysis of key local and national stakeholder strategies and also fed in the results of the recent Place Standard consultation.

To help categorise the goals contained within the various strategies, the Development Plans team developed four key themes – Economy; Community; Connectivity and Environment/Heritage. In order to test the robustness of our four themes, Development Plans held a very successful workshop where key stakeholders from various departments and agencies attended. The workshop also discussed key land use priorities within each theme and the results of these excellent discussions helped inform our key priorities.

We are confident that our four themes and the key priorities identified within each theme (see graphic No. 2) covers the many goals set within our key stakeholder and partner strategies, and that they help build a robust, credible and realistic Vision for the next Local Development Plan 2.



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Our Vision Statement

Our Vision Statement will help us develop our Spatial Strategy for the successful development of Shetland's communities. Further workshops will be undertaken with our key stakeholders, along with extensive consultation with communities across Shetland.

We will keep you updated with our progress during the next key stages.

Community

We will enable sustainable, healthy communities by:

- Balancing the population structure, by seeking to increase the economically active populations across all communities
- Providing housing land in areas where most need is identified
- Assisting in the provision of housing developments which cater for the specific needs of our aging population
- Recognising the important role in housing solutions played by windfall development and promoting this as a solution in areas where that is most appropriate

Economy

We will support the Growth and Strengthening of our Economy by:

- Providing land allocations to allow economic development in the areas of recognised need

By recognition that economic activity is core to the sustainability and viability of our natural settlements and enabling appropriate economic growth where possible

Connectivity

We will seek to improve our Connectivity throughout the isles by:

- Encouraging and promoting delivery of telecommunications network across all areas of Shetland
- Recognising the importance digital connectivity plays in maintaining sustainable communities and promoting business growth
- Promoting the principles of designing streets in all applications and reducing the dominance of the car
- Promoting active travel plans and the inclusion of green corridors

Environment

We will continue to safeguard our Environment by:

- Ensuring the special qualities of Shetlands natural and built heritage are protected and enhanced
- Promoting accessibility to the natural environment
- By ensuring place-making principles are incorporated in all new developments

(Graphic 2)



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Place Standard

Development Plans team were part of the working group for the Council's Place Standard Public Consultation, which ran through June to July 2016. There were an impressive 975 responses to the consultation from across the length and breadth of Shetland. The results of the Place Standard were fed into our Vision and will continue to inform the next LDP2, including the development of our Spatial Strategy. More information about the Place Standard response can be found here: <http://www.shetland.gov.uk/placestandard.asp>

The 'Call for Sites' and How You Can Help Shape Shetland's Future.

Over its lifetime, the new LDP2 must provide deliverable sites for all types of developments across Shetland. To achieve our goal of meeting demand in all areas – be it for housing or industry - the new Plan must identify sites that are suitable and are available for development.

If you are a land owner or developer, the Call for Sites process is an opportunity for you to help us deliver an effective land supply for housing development or for business and industry expansion, within our next LDP.

This autumn the call for sites process starts, so we encourage you to put forward for assessment, sites to the Council that you believe are suitable for immediate development, and for development throughout the next 10 – 15 years. Although the call for sites process does not begin until autumn we would encourage you to get in touch with us if you have any questions regarding the process of submitting a site. More information can be found here: <http://www.shetland.gov.uk/planning/CallforSites.asp>

People, Places and Planning: A consultation of the future of the Scottish Planning System

In 2015, Ministers commissioned an independent panel to undertake a review of the planning system. This independent review included opportunities to get involved through both written, oral and an online discussion forum. The independent panel met with a wide range of stakeholders, community representatives and public and private sectors to explore changes to the planning system.

In the Programme for Government, Ministers signalled that a Planning Bill would be brought forward early in the Parliamentary Session – Year 2. (Source: <https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/planning-architecture/a-consultation-on-the-future-of-planning/>)

To enable that, consultation on the key components of the legislation was scheduled to run between 10 January to 4 April 2017.

The Review proposes twenty wide-ranging changes that seek to help improve the planning system; this includes how Local Development Plans are prepared and how communities may get involved in the planning process.

Shetland Islands Council will be responding to the Planning Review and we will keep you up-to-date on its progress. If you want to read more about the Planning Review, the consultation document can be found here https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/planning-architecture/a-consultation-on-the-future-of-planning/supporting_documents/694570_v4_20170109.pdf

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