

**AYRSHIRE JOINT PLANNING STEERING GROUP
12 JANUARY 2012**

**Ayrshire Joint Planning Steering Group: Work Programme Update and Priorities
for 2012**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To advise the Steering Group on the progress made in delivering the work programme established for 2010/11 and to confirm priorities for 2012.

BACKGROUND

2. At its meeting in November 2010 the Steering Group agreed an operational plan for the forthcoming year. This programme was developed within the parameters set by the minute of agreement established between the three Councils to facilitate and promote the concept of joint working on planning and related matters. At this meeting it was agreed that in developing a programme for a shared service in the forthcoming year a proactive image for Ayrshire working together to address social, economic and environmental issues should be created by seeking appropriate funding packages, developing new agendas and creating opportunities that sit at the interface between local and national spatial planning. The steering group agreed in the forthcoming year to focus the resources Joint Planning service on three areas. These were:
 - supporting national and regional initiatives which offer significant benefit to the Ayrshire economy;
 - developing, strengthening and supporting partnerships which will address and mitigate the impacts of climate change; and
 - Strengthening the specialist support and capacity available to the planning service in Ayrshire by introducing a range of improvements to the management of spatial data within the Councils.

It was the view of the Steering group that work undertaken in these areas would make a direct contribution to delivering national outcomes whilst also addressing the economic environmental challenges faced by Ayrshire.

WORK PROGRAMME

3. Within this context the Joint Planning Service has sought during the year to:
- Support the delivery of the Central Scotland Green Network within Ayrshire and strengthen partnership working between the Councils and key agencies. Funding from the CSGN fund of over £200,000 has stimulated and supported a number of projects addressing vacant and derelict land issues, habitat enhancement, and access improvements. These projects have also enabled organisations to work more closely together and target delivery toward priority areas. With direct funding from the Forestry Commission an ILM training programme has also been established and this is being facilitated through the East Ayrshire Woodlands Partnership. Additional funding for delivering “green network” projects has also been made available through the LEADER programme. The Joint Planning Unit currently manages a small CSGN community grant fund which targets small grants toward communities. The unit benefited from research funding to map Ayrshire’s green infrastructure.
 - Undertake mapping of habitat networks. With financial assistance from the CSGN support unit Forest Research were commissioned to map habitat networks within Ayrshire. This work has helped support the delivery of a national ecological network across Scotland. It is hoped this research when used alongside other commonly held data will highlight the opportunities to improve the “connectivity” provided by existing habitats for species and through changes in management practices encourage the development of a more integrated habitat network with Ayrshire. This project has helped inform the emerging woodland strategy and local biodiversity priorities.
 - Support the delivery of the Scottish Forestry Strategy through the re-establishment of the Ayrshire and Arran Woodland Partnership. This partnership which involves key national agencies, representations from the forestry sector and NGO’s is supporting the delivery of a revised forestry and woodland strategy. The woodland strategy is an important component of developing a future green network within Ayrshire and in the management of existing woodlands and the development of new woodlands and associated infrastructure. It is hoped that the actions emerging from the strategy will deliver a number of significant outcomes related to health and well being, supporting tourism, tackling climate change and improvements to environmental quality.
 - Progress an application to designate a biosphere covering parts of East, South & North Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway. This project was identified within the Structure Plan as key opportunity to develop the natural assets of this part of Scotland. It has strong local community support and an application was submitted to UNESCO in advance of the September 2011 deadline. Governance arrangements have been put in place, with the establishment of a Biosphere Partnership Board and Biosphere Working Group. Two biodiversity officers, funded through the LEADER programme have also been appointed. The designation of a Biosphere offers significant opportunity toward rural regeneration and continued investment in subsequent years through marketing,

small business support, environmental improvement may offer benefits to the local economy of around £80 million by 2020.

- Support the delivery of river basin management plan by working in conjunction with SEPA in the delivery of two river basin management pilots within the Biosphere area. The pilots are addressing issues of environmental quality and identifying local solutions.
- Support the emerging marine spatial planning process through representation on a number of partnership working groups/forums. The Joint Planning Service has supported the delivery of the action plan within the pilot Firth of Clyde Marine Spatial Plan through support for landscape/seascape analysis of the Firth of Clyde.
- Supporting the integration of Ayrshire biodiversity priorities within existing and emerging strategies (such as the Woodland Strategy) and other work streams, such as the Biosphere and CSGN. The Joint Service has provided direct support to LBAP partnership through the development of an Ayrshire Biological Records Centre GIS search engine, this contains around 250,000 biological recordings within Ayrshire.
- Supporting the delivery of national waste targets through planning representation on the Ayrshire Joint Waste management Board.
- Supporting the Ayrshire Leader Programme through representation on the Local Action Group.
- Support the planning authorities' development management and development planning functions by commenting on national consultations and providing strategic and specialist advice in LDP preparation.
- Strengthen the specialist support and capacity available to the planning service in Ayrshire by introducing a range of improvements to the management of spatial data. This has involved a consolidation of existing web sites and a review and update of spatial and electronic information on the physical, economic, environmental and social characteristics of Ayrshire held by the unit. The unit updates a number of web sites which support pan Ayrshire initiatives and maintains over 1000 spatial data sets which are reviewed on a six monthly cycle.
- Maintain awareness of the social, economic and environmental challenges faced by Ayrshire by continuing the publication of a bi-annual monitoring series.

PRIORITIES FOR 2012

4. A review of the 2010/11 programme (attached) highlights that significant progress has been made during the year to deliver the priorities established by the Steering Group in November 2010. Continued development of the areas outlined will form a core part of the 2011/12 programme and contribute significantly to national outcomes and

regional priorities sought by the Steering Group. A number of areas (highlighted in the text) however have not commenced and these will be incorporated within the future programme for 2011/12.

Emerging pan Ayrshire issues which will require to be considered in a future work programme for 2012 include the requirements of the Planning Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act and the contribution made by the steering group to the “Local Plan” for Ayrshire, the response to the emerging National Marine Plan, the response to the National Aviation Strategy - “A Sustainable Framework for UK Aviation”, which are scheduled for consultation in the New Year and the implications the National Land Use Strategy Action Plan, which will be published later this month. It will also be necessary to respond to the actions emerging from the Woodland Strategy and to integrate these into the delivery of the CSGN within Ayrshire.

CONCLUSION

5. The scale and scope of work undertaken by the Steering Group in the last year reflects the support given by a range of partners, communities and key agencies. Their contribution and support reflects the relevance of the steering groups work programme and its contribution to delivering their own priorities and national outcomes and. The strategic and collaborative working embodied within the current work programme will ensure that the resources necessary to deliver the economic regeneration and climatic change agenda identified by the steering group can continue to be delivered efficiently.

RECOMMENDATION

6. The Steering Group is asked to:
 - note the progress to date on delivering the 2010/11 work programme;
 - comment on the proposed work plan for 2011/12; and
 - approve this report incorporating today’s discussion as the basis of the work programme for the forthcoming year.

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Progress Statement: Update December 2011 - Incorporating additional Work Priorities 2011/12

The priorities for the Joint Planning Service are to:

1. Support national and regional initiatives which offer significant benefit to the Ayrshire economy
2. Develop and strengthen partnerships which will address and mitigate the impacts of climate change;
3. Strengthen the specialist support and capacity available to the planning service in Ayrshire and introduce a range of improvements to the management of spatial data within the Councils.

The operational plan for the Joint Planning Unit has incorporated these priorities within the following four sections of the work programme for 2011/12.

1. National Planning & Regional Actions*
2. Specialist Support
3. Co-ordination of spatial data and monitoring
4. Communication

* Note a number of these areas of work are identified in the NPF2 action programme. The JPU is not the lead partner but identified as a contributor to their delivery.

1. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of NPF2 Supporting delivery of Climate Change Scotland Act (2009)	Central Scotland Green Network National Development 12 NPF2 Action No. 22		JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitate partnership working. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review existing information • identify opportunities for development • mechanisms for delivery • confirm partnership opportunities. 2. Co-ordinate green network activity within Ayrshire. Facilitate workshops /training /forums and joint working to raise awareness. 3. Develop programme of workshops/training events (ongoing) 4. Develop web based communication strategy 5. Develop funding & delivery programme 	<p>The central Scotland Green Network seeks to promote a strategic network of woodland and other habitats, active travel routes, greenspace links and to enhance the setting for development and other land uses and improve opportunities for outdoor recreation and cultural activity. Elements covered by the designation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland expansion * • Creation of high quality landscape structure which supports development and settlement strategies. • Strategic routes for active travel and recreation • Strategic habitat networks and habitat development projects* • Restoration of vacant and derelict land for green network purposes; and • The integration of woodland, habitat, green space and access development with water catchment and coastal zone management 	<p>Funding awarded to audit the form and function of existing green infrastructure within Ayrshire and scope out options for future organisational arrangements to facilitate the Green Network ND within Ayrshire.</p> <p>Tender drafted & issued in December 2010</p> <p>Consultants appointed January</p> <p>Inception Meeting held</p> <p>Stakeholder meeting held 1st February- Dower House, Kilmarnock</p> <p>Report drafted</p> <p>Report completed</p> <p>Conclusions reported to May meeting of the steering group.</p> <p>Green Network Steering Group established</p> <p>Seminar on IHN pending</p> <p>Funding in place to develop Ayrshire Green Network web based site and provide communication literature</p> <p>Community programme funding administered through the Joint planning Unit. Small grants awarded.</p>

2. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Supporting delivery of NPF2 Supporting delivery of Climate Change Scotland Act (2009)	Central Scotland Green Network NPF Action No. 42	Integrated Habitat Network* Link to implementation of CSGN-NPF2	JPU/Green Network IHN Steering Group	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commission Report 2. Disseminate findings 3. Confirm habitat opportunities within the green network corridors 4. Prepare guidance in conjunction with SNH/Central Scotland Support Unit (April/October 2011) 5. Work in conjunction with SNH to incorporate IHN within Ayrshire in LDP's strategies and policy 6. Develop local actions and landscape projects which encompass large scale habitat restoration. 	The creation of ecological networks and the development of habitat restoration programmes can make a significant contribution to safeguarding and enhancing biodiversity and landscape and allow species adaptation to climate change).	<p>Funding awarded Report commissioned Work Complete GIS data available Dissemination meeting held 9th February Habitat improvement opportunities identified (HOTSPOTS) Report completed- amendments sought Further workshops to be established Guidance in preparation –JPU represented on national users group-National Guidance issued Presentation to LBAP proposed.</p>

3. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Supporting delivery of NPF2 Supporting delivery of Climate Change Scotland Act (2009)	Central Scotland Green Network National Forest Strategy SPP	Woodland Expansion* Link to implementation of CSGN-NPF2	JPU/ Green Network Steering Group	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commission report on how environmental sensitivities can be best integrated into a future Forestry and Woodland Strategy. (I.e. those that relate to Climate change/Landscape/Historic environment & Cultural Heritage/Biodiversity/Water, Soil, Air. 2. Review existing IFS and produce a monitoring statement -Review proposed to integrate with work being undertaken in conjunction with Green Network funding. 3. Data collection and analysis Scope of a future forestry and woodland strategy) 4. Draft Strategy (December/January 2012) 5. Consult on draft strategy (Spring 2012) 6. Finalise and refine strategy (Summer 2012) 7. Implement Action Programme (Summer 2012+) 	<p>National targets seek an increase in woodland cover to 25% land area of Scotland.</p> <p>The government advice “the right tree in the right place” encourages the development and review of woodland strategies A revision for Ayrshire would offer multiple benefits and contribute to national objectives.</p> <p>A review would integrate well with the development of a Green Network partnership.</p> <p>Process will require to be supported by an SEA and an Appropriate Assessment (2010/2012)</p>	<p>Funding awarded to audit the form and function of existing green infrastructure within Ayrshire and scope out options for future organisational arrangements to facilitate the Green Network ND within Ayrshire.</p> <p>Tender drafted & issued in December 2010</p> <p>Consultants appointed January</p> <p>Inception Meeting held</p> <p>Stakeholder meeting held 1st February- Dower House, Kilmarnock</p> <p>Draft report April</p> <p>Final report 31 April and model software provided.</p> <p>Support funding available to develop a revision of IFS, supporting SEA and appropriate assessment.</p> <p>Report to May steering group</p> <p>Ayrshire & Arran Woodland Partnership reformed</p> <p>LUC appointed to prepare A&AWS strategy-</p> <p>Meetings held with woodland partnership steering group.</p> <p>Timetable for delivery agreed</p> <p>Draft Strategy presented to the December steering group</p>

4. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support in delivery of Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Supporting delivery of Climate Change Scotland Act (2009)	Galloway & Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Progress Biosphere to UNESCO "Candidate Status" for Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Joint Ayrshire Structure Plan		JPU/Biosphere Steering Group/Board/	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop the support from communities and stakeholders 2. Secure delivery of funding opportunities, including LEADER/Heritage Lottery 3. Meet with Minister 4. Prepare UNESCO application (Vision/ Charter/Framework) 5. Submission to UKMAB & DEFRA for approval 6. Submission to UNESCO 7. Respond to UNESCO queries & issues (Jan/March 2012). 8. Approval expected summer 2012. 9. Facilitate Biosphere Partnership Board & support governance arrangements provide secretariat and facilitate steering group. Develop thematic groups and BOB project. Develop Biosphere Business Plan/Communications strategy and options for sustainable funding (2012) Agree baseline & performance measures. 10. Awareness raising/ communications with partners. 11. Integrate into national & local policy and programmes. 12. Maintain links with UKMAP & UK Biosphere Network (2012). 	<p>The statutory planning and other policy frameworks recognise the potential of the natural and cultural assets to be drivers of regeneration and economic development. To realise these opportunities a number of possible options were explored by the respective councils including the possibility of seeking UNESCO Biosphere status.</p> <p>The concept received statutory backing through the Joint structure plan for Ayrshire in 2007.</p>	<p>Strong support from communities and stakeholders has been confirmed. This process is continuing.</p> <p>Funding of two support officers secured through LEADER funding</p> <p>Ministerial support</p> <p>Vision & Charter prepared</p> <p>Governance arrangements and partnership board have been established.</p> <p>Application submitted to UKMAP & DEFRA</p> <p>Application submitted to UNESCO – May 2011. (In advance of September deadline).</p> <p>Progress reported to May steering group</p> <p>Board & Steering group established</p> <p>BOB officers appointed and in post</p> <p>Sector theme groups established.</p> <p>Ministerial briefings held.</p>

5. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Supporting delivery of Climate Change Scotland Act (2009)	National Land Use Strategy		JPU/ Biosphere Steering Group	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Respond to draft National Land Use consultation (November 2010) 2. Promote concept of a pilot project (Biosphere) 3. Respond to Land Use Strategy Action Plan (December 2011?) 	<p>The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 requires a land use strategy to be laid by Scottish Ministers before the Scottish Parliament by 31 March 2011.</p> <p>The strategy sets out the Government's objectives in relation to sustainable land use, as well as proposals, policies and their associated timescales for meeting those.</p> <p>An Action plan to support delivery of the strategy will be published in December 2011.</p>	<p>Response made</p> <p>Strategy issued in March 2011</p> <p>Supporting information note- “Applying an Ecosystems approach to Land Use” recognises approach in development of the green network, forest strategies and how it is being applied with reference to the Galloway & Southern Ayrshire Biosphere.</p> <p>Concept of pilot project incorporated within National Land Use Strategy</p>

6. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of NPF2 Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	Ayrshire Biodiversity Action Plan		Councils/JPU (Chair 2011/12-SAC)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Local Biodiversity Action Plan and management group meetings. 2. Ensure effective communication and co-ordination within ABAP process to enable partnership working. Integrate Green Network /Biosphere/activity within annual priorities of the partnership 3. Ensure effective review and monitoring systems of progress toward implementation are in place. 4. Ensure effective communication with Scottish BAP process, UK biodiversity process and other LBAP's. 5. Review environmental data management systems 	<p>The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 places a “biodiversity duty” on public bodies to “further the conservation of biodiversity” as they carry out work.</p> <p>The unit provides support to the Councils.</p>	<p>Unit is providing direct support through the development of an Ayrshire Biological Records centre- work has advanced and involves development of GIS capacity. Significant progress has been made.</p> <p>Records will be made available on line in GIS format for Ayrshire to registered users.</p> <p>Records “search engine” developed and presentation made to LBAP group</p> <p>Officer representation at LBAP meetings</p> <p>LBAP action programme monitored and updated every six months. Progress published online.</p> <p>Environmental data systems online reviewed and updated</p> <p>Integrating LBAP priorities into future strategies and work streams.</p>

7. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of NPF2 Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan	Deliver enhanced facilities and improvements in surface transport and other infrastructure at Glasgow Prestwick Airport. NPF2 – Action Programme		Infratil/SAC/JPU/SPT/Airport Working Group	1. Publish surface access strategy consultation-	Improvements in the surface access and enhancement of other infrastructure and facilities are identified in the Action Programme of NPF2. The unit provides support to the lead partners.	<p>Draft document prepared.</p> <p>Meeting held with airport management January 2011</p> <p>Timetable for publication agreed (Summer 2011)</p> <p>Publication date rescheduled</p>

8. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of NPF2 Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan	Strengthen the role of Ayrshire as Scotland's Western Gateway NPF2 Action programme		Councils/JPU	Councils working jointly to incorporate requirements within emerging development plans, associated action programmes, master plans, development briefs and development management decisions.	Identified as a regional action within NPF2. The Joint Planning Unit is identified as a support partner in facilitating actions which will expand business opportunities by promoting environmental quality and good connectivity, by encouraging a supply of new homes and supporting the regeneration of communities	<p>Councils within Ayrshire are working in partnership with the business community and key agencies to address recessionary issues and to take the necessary action to remove strategic inhibitors to ensure sustainable economic growth at an Ayrshire level. The sectors identified are Marine & Coastal, Tourism, Engineering, and Food & Drink & Renewables. (The latter is being led by Scottish Enterprise).</p> <p>There have been recent improvements to transport infrastructure within /to Ayrshire including half hour rail service to Kilmarnock and the ongoing improvements to the rail service between Ayr and Glasgow (new rolling stock and signalling improvements/ track investment outside Paisley which will be of benefit to the Ayrshire commuter/businesses.). Scottish Water continues to invest in water/sewerage infrastructure which is helping improve environmental quality.</p>

9. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of NPF2 Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan	Deliver regeneration focussed on Ayr, Irvine, Kilmarnock and former mining towns in East Ayrshire and promote regeneration and diversification in small towns. NPF2 – Action Programme	Irvine Bay URC//Councils/JPU	Reflect Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Irvine Bay URC master plan, objectives of the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN), in preparation of development plans, associated action programmes, master plans, development briefs and development management decisions	The NPF2 action programme identifies Irvine Bay URC and the JPU as lead partners in promoting development which helps regenerate communities and facilitates the adaptation of climate change	Strategic Priority- Town centre regeneration priorities focussed on Ayr, Irvine, and Kilmarnock and in former mining & mill towns within Ayrshire.	<p>£40 million is being invested in the Kilmarnock, with significant funds from East Ayrshire Council, the Scottish Government's Town Centre Regeneration Fund, the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme and the Heritage Lottery Fund. East Ayrshire Council is also investing £21m in Kilmarnock town centre to create a new office campus, scheduled for completion in 2011.</p> <p>East Ayrshire Council and Scottish Enterprise are in the process of developing an Integrated Urban Development Plan for Kilmarnock Town Centre. It is the intention of the Council to incorporate the plan into the new Local Development Plan.</p> <p>A Town Regeneration Plan is in place for Irvine, produced by Irvine Bay Regeneration Company. Work is progressing on the regeneration of Irvine town centre. In March 2011, a planning application was approved for the refurbishment of Bridgegate House. In February 2011, CARS funding was received from Historic Scotland to refurbish the Trinity Church in Irvine.</p> <p>In November 2010 Ayr Renaissance appointed a manager to run the Townscape Heritage Initiative and take forward the next phase of improvement works. South Ayrshire Council was awarded Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) funding towards the Townscape Heritage Initiative in February 2011. Cumnock town centre master plan was and is being implemented by East Ayrshire Council in partnership with a developer.</p>

10. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Supporting delivery of Climate Change Scotland Act (2009)	Marine Spatial Planning		JPU/Councils	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Respond to consultation on future Scottish Marine Regions 2. Attend Clyde Estuary Forum Meetings 3. Support Development of Clyde Marine Spatial Plan and its integration with land use planning. 4. Advise on implications of Marine Planning 5. Respond to consultation draft of National Marine Plan scheduled for publication in 2012. 	<p>Firth of Clyde Marine Spatial Plan was published in September 2010</p> <p>Firth of Clyde Marine Spatial Plan-Action programme being taken forward through partnership working-and a funding commitment to support a seascape study.</p>	<p>Attendance at Clyde Forum partnership meetings</p> <p>Council funding for seascape study confirmed</p> <p>Response made on Scotland Marine Region consultation .</p> <p>Response made to Pre consultation draft of National Marine Plan</p> <p>Seascape brief is in preparation- tender being prepared</p>

11. National Planning and Regional Actions Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of Ayrshire joint Structure Plan Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting Best Value	River Basin Management Plan		JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Clyde Area Advisory Group Meetings 2. Support the delivery of river basin management planning and assist in the co-ordination of river basin planning with other plans and programmes. Support Pilot projects established within Ayrshire. 3. Integrate catchment summaries into GIS systems. 4. Disseminate information through a presentation by project officer at future steering group meeting 	<p>Planning authorities are legally designated responsible authorities in respect of WFD interests.</p> <p>RBMP's have identified pressures on the water environment and are developing programmes to mitigate impact.</p>	<p>Representation on Clyde Area Action Group</p> <p>Supporting delivery of river basin management pilots within Biosphere</p> <p>Information requested from SEPA. Licence arrangements being negotiated.</p> <p>To be carried forward to 2011/12 programme</p>

12. Specialist Support Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006-promoting Best Value	Take an overview of development management on local development plans preparation; Assistance at public inquiries		JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide specialist support (Wind Farm Enquiries) 2. Comment on consistency of applications with Structure Plan policy. 3. Representation on South Ayrshire LDP Board 4. Advice LDP North Ayrshire 5. Support preparation of LDP East Ayrshire 	Support and give evidence at public enquiries if required. Support LDP preparation	<p>Comment on strategic applications Precognition prepared for Layland Moor (NAC) wind farm appeal. (enquiry cancelled) Support in position taken on Cowans Law (EAC) windfarm hearing. Strategic advice given during MIR & LDP preparation</p>

13. Specialist Support Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting Best Value	Develop specialist services to support development management and development planning		TMT	1. Reports by TMT to the Ayrshire Joint Steering Group	The consultation on “resourcing a high quality planning system” identified the important role joint planning services can play. Partnerships included those that were developing shared services in relation to planning gain, strategic environmental assessment and local review bodies or where there was an opportunity to share expertise on cross boundary issues such as wind farms.	Work programme priorities identified. Discussions on going.

14. Specialist Support Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Supporting delivery of Climate Change Scotland Act (2009)	Planning & Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009		Councils/JPU	1. To be clarified, identify /Support Council needs.	<p>This is a developing area of work for Councils and involves preliminary flood risk assessments, flood risk and hazard mapping and flood risk management plans. This will require close collaboration between SEPA, local authorities and bodies involved in managing flooding. A consultation on "Planning for floods-planning the future" closed on the 15th October 2010. It sets out proposed geographical areas for "local plan areas" together with partnership working arrangements. A consultation on National Flood Risk Assessment (nFRA), began on the June 13th 2011 and closed on 5 August 2011.</p> <p>Final "local plan "boundaries will be confirmed by December 2011. A lead parter Council has to be identified.</p> <p>Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Regulations (Scotland) 2009 Planning authorities require applicants to provide an assessment of flood risk where a development is likely to result in a material increase in the number of buildings at risk of being damaged by flooding</p>	<p>Draft national guidance on sustainable flood management published. January/March 2011</p> <p>National Flood Management Advisory Group established (April 2011)</p> <p>Flooding in Scotland: A consultation on Potentially Vulnerable Areas and Local Plan Districts- issued June 2011</p> <p>Ayrshire identified as one of 14 proposed "Local Plan Districts". Lead authority within Ayrshire has still to be confirmed.</p>

15. Specialist Support	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting best value	Renewables		JPU/Councils	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor existing and future developments. 2. Advise on any change necessary to existing wind farm guidance. 3. Review implications of revised policy 		<p>6 month update- information has been published on line, web map.</p> <p>Single/small scale proposals monitored.</p> <p>Revision of current wind farm guidance being considered – resources to be confirmed.</p> <p>Attendance at South West Scotland Regional Aviation Group.</p>
Support delivery of Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan	Aviation		JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide secretarial support to the Airport Consultative Committee. 2. Prepare agendas 3. Prepare papers 4. National Aviation Strategy- “A Sustainable Framework for UK Aviation (Spring 2012) 		<p>Meetings held every quarter.</p> <p>Agendas & papers prepared</p>
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting best value	Minerals		JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor existing consents 2. Review existing guidance 	An adequate and steady supply of minerals is essential to support sustainable economic growth. Planning authorities are required to have regard to the availability, quality, accessibility and requirement for mineral resources in their area when preparing development plans.	<p>Assessments of existing consents and production levels have been drafted.</p> <p>Discussions scheduled with mineral industry.</p> <p>An Ayrshire wide strategy for mineral development in line with AJSP policy ENV 12 has been requested by EAC to feed into the LDP due for publication in March 2013.</p> <p>Resources have not been confirmed.</p> <p>Meeting scheduled with industry and Scottish Government.</p>

16. Co-ordination of spatial data and monitoring Outcomes	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting best value	Monitor changes to the physical, economic and social characteristics of Ayrshire		JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish Monitor 2010 2. Maintain supporting data sources 3. Publish Monitor 2012 (November 2012) 	Maintain the set of baseline reports against which the wider objectives of sustainable development can be measured.	Monitor 2010 has been published Supporting data is being updated Meta data & sources are being updated. (completion scheduled for December 2011)
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting best value	Review existing web based data systems		JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify best practice 2. Establish an inter authority working group 	The aim of the working group would be to explore the opportunities for maintaining web based spatial data management systems	Consolidation of existing web based mapping facilities
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting best value	Monitor changes to land uses		JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish online audits for housing, retail, industrial , vacant & derelict land ,waste and minerals for 2009 & 2010 	The aim would be to co-ordinate data collection and <u>set standards</u> which would allow a consistent approach across the three Councils	Housing Audit 2010 completed. Meetings held with house building industry. 2010 Audit concluded-Report to May steering group. Vacant & Derelict land for 2009 /10 is complete. Update of retail information scheduled for postponed to Spring 2012 Minerals- preliminary work has begun Waste information available. Industrial land- not complete.

17. Co-ordination of spatial data and monitoring	Activity & Origin	Sub Activity	Lead and Resource Implications	Tasks/Targets	Commentary	Progress to date
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting best value	Monitor changes to the function of town centres and the retail market.		Councils/JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake bi-annual survey of floor space units and publish key findings. (2012) 2. Prepare retail capacity study 3. Maintain information on retail trends 	<p>The information provides historical background to changes within retail centres in Ayrshire</p> <p>Purchase MINTEL retail rankings; Purchase Expenditure and Trend Projections</p>	<p>Bi annual survey of floor space rescheduled for spring/summer 2012</p> <p>Not completed- not resourced</p> <p>Information purchased</p>
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting best value	Monitor changes within the housing market		Councils/JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor house sales (Sasines) 2. Publish housing audits 3. Maintain information on demographic and housing trends. 	Support for HNDA	<p>Updated on a monthly basis 2010 audit completed and published online (GIS)</p> <p>Demographic and housing trends updated regularly</p>
Support delivery of Planning etc(Scotland) act 2006- promoting best value	Transport Modelling		Councils/JPU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support national and regional land use models by maintaining relevant zonal land use data 	The information is require to support LATIS (Land Use and Transport integration model for Scotland)	This requires up to date data- see above-

18. Communications	Activity	Sub Activity		Task/Targets	Commentary	Progress & Timescales
4.1	Annual Report		Councils/JPU	1. Publish an Annual Review on progress toward planning outcomes. (November 2011)	Intended to raise awareness of the joint planning activity within Ayrshire	Scheduled publication for November steering group- views sought on content
4.2	Web site		JPU	1. Promote greater awareness of existing web based systems (e.g. Housing Land Supply/ environmental mapping facility/wind farm guidance/ Biosphere)(2010/2011) 2. Develop Green Network component 3. Develop Biodiversity Record System	The web mapping facilities provided by the unit are recognised as useful tools. These have developed on a piecemeal basis future development through consolidation is being considered.	Biodiversity Record System- significant progress has been made. The wind farm web mapping guidance tool is regularly used. Consideration is being given on how this system can develop further by adding more detailed to the records? i.e. no of turbines, output capacity etc A web based approach to green network may also be useful and this will be considered within the context of a rationalisation of existing systems.
4.3	Briefings		JPU	1. Provide regular briefings on strategic issues. (2010/2011)		On going.

Ayrshire Joint Planning Service

Ayrshire Joint Planning Steering Group

Technical Management Team

Joint Planning
Unit Manager

Joint Planning
Unit

Inter Council
Working/Topic
Groups

Financial
/Legal/IT
support