

**Growing a Sustainable Ayrshire  
Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan: 2025**

**Publicity Statement & Summary  
of Consultation**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This report sets out the process by which the three Ayrshire authorities has consulted on the preparation of the ‘Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan 2025- Growing a Sustainable Ayrshire. The plan has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, and the Town and Country Planning (Structure & Local Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 1983. The authorities have also had regard to advice contained in SPP1 – The Planning System, Planning Advice Note Pan37 - Structure Planning and recent Ministerial statements when considering the form and content of the submitted documents.

All comments that were received during the preparation of the plan have been given consideration by the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Committee and Transportation Committee prior to the submission of the Final Plan to the Scottish Ministers. The authorities within Ayrshire are grateful to all those responding for the contribution they have made.

Copies of the final plan ‘The Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan 2025 – Growing a Sustainable Ayrshire can be viewed at all Council offices and public libraries in Ayrshire or can be obtained free of charge from the offices of the **Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee, 15 Links Road, Prestwick, (Telephone 01292 673760 or downloaded from [www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk](http://www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk))**

Any representations about the plan should be sent to the Scottish Ministers and should be made on the appropriate form available from the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Committee offices at the above address. These should be sent to:

**The Secretary  
The Scottish Executive Development Department  
Planning Division  
Area 2-H  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh  
EH6 6QQ**

## **AYRSHIRE JOINT STRUCTURE PLAN & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

The preparation of a Structure Plan for Ayrshire is a statutory function, defined by the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and the Designation of Structure Plan Areas (Scotland) Order 1995. In order to fulfil these obligations and to assist the Ayrshire Councils in other matters of strategic importance a Joint Structure Plan Committee was formed in April 1996. The remit was extended in 1999 to include strategic transportation. The committee meets on a regular basis and comprises of four Councillors from each authority. The chair and servicing of the committee rotates on an annual basis between the authorities.

A technical management team comprising of the Head of Planning Service from each member authority and the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan manager meet regularly. It is the function of this group to progress the preparation of the Structure Plan, to liaise with the constituent Councils and to ensure proper integration between local and strategic issues.

The remit of the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & Transportation Committee is:

### **Planning**

- (1) The functions conferred upon the parties under Sections 4 and Sections 6-9 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.
- (2) To prepare, monitor, publish and review the Structure Plan for Ayrshire on behalf of the parties.
- (3) To carry out the formal processes of public approval of the Structure Plan, in conjunction with the parties, including its formal submission to the Scottish Ministers.
- (4) To prepare any other reports or plan relating to strategic policy as considered necessary.
- (5) To take an overview of the development control process of the parties in order to advise on matters of strategic importance.
- (6) To provide advice to the parties on the content of their local plans as it relates to conformity with strategic policy.
- (7) To assist the parties in the preparation of evidence for planning appeals and local plan inquiries that involve strategic issues and to provide specialist witnesses as appropriate.

- (8) To co-ordinate data collection and statistical standards for planning purposes in a way that allows for a consistent approach across the parties, including the preparation of appropriate forecasts and models.
- (9) To monitor, respond to, and comment upon Structure Plans and other strategic documents, planning applications and other development proposals submitted to the Joint Committee for comment by adjoining local authorities.
- (10) To liaise with, and make representations to Central Government, the Scottish Parliament, Ministers and Executive, Scottish Enterprise National, Local Enterprise Companies and other bodies as necessary on matters of relevance to Structure Plans and strategic planning in Ayrshire.
- (11) To take any other action deemed necessary to sustain the Structure Plan and strategic policy in Ayrshire.

### **Transportation**

- (12) To advise on transportation issues.
- (13) To promote Ayrshire's Strategic Transport Policy.
- (14) To ensure integration between transport, land use, economic development, social inclusion and the environment.
- (15) To provide a strategic context for local transport strategies.
- (16) To co-ordinate technical work and research, including the development of an Ayrshire Transport Model.

## **STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS-PUBLICITY AND CONSULTATION**

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, Section 8(6) requires that when a Structure Plan is submitted to the Scottish Ministers for their consideration it must be accompanied by a statement containing details on how the obligations within the Act on publicity and consultation have been met.

Specifically, the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, Chapter 8 (part II section 8(1)) require that, when preparing a Structure Plan and before finally determining its content for submission to the Scottish Ministers, the planning authority must ensure:-

- adequate publicity is given to the report of survey and to matters which they propose to include in the plan.
- all those likely to make representations on the plan are made aware of their right to do so.
- such persons are given adequate opportunity of making such representations.
- all representations made within the prescribed period are considered by the planning authority.

The prescribed period, in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Structure and Local Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 1983, for making representations is not less than 4 weeks and is specified by the Authority at the time of publicity.

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, (Chapter 8, Part II section 4), requires that not later than the date of submission of the Structure Plan to the Secretary of State, the planning authority shall make copies of the plan as submitted to Scottish Ministers available for public inspection free of charge at their offices and at other places as it considers appropriate.

Finally, Regulation 13 of the Town and Country Planning (Structure and Local Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 1983, requires that the Planning Authority, having submitted a Structure plan to the Scottish Ministers, shall give notice by advertisement.

This document is produced to comply with these obligations.

## **CONSULTATION PUBLICITY AND PARTICIPATION**

In preparing the Structure Plan for Ayrshire the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & Transportation Committee has always sought at the earliest opportunity to consult widely on the strategic planning issues facing Ayrshire. The Committee has consistently sought to ensure that all those living and working in Ayrshire as well as regional and national were aware of the preparation of a Structure plan for Ayrshire and their opportunity to make representations on its content. They are also keen to ensure revisions to policy are subject to scrutiny and transparency. To achieve this the Joint Committee has sought to make extensive use of the opportunities presented by the web in disseminating information to interested parties, developed processes of engagement and participation, including online feedback forms, established partnership meetings on specialised issues and has consistently gone beyond the statutory minimum prescribed by regulation by extending periods of consultation..

### **Web Facilities**

To reflect the increasing growth of the web as a source of information and communication the Joint Committee updated its Web Site [www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk](http://www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk) to provide:

- facilities to monitor progress of the Structure Plan;
- copies of the Issues Leaflet and Consultation Draft and all supporting material and technical documents in support of the Structure Plan;
- a schedule of meetings, minutes, agendas and committee reports which were relevant in the preparation of the Structure Plan; and
- facilities to comment on the Structure plan and the sustainability appraisal, these included an on-line forum, specific electronic forms as well as email contact details.

All information that could be downloaded was provided free of charge.

### **Electronic Communication**

The Joint Committee established during the Consultation period, 2003-2005 an email contact list and sought to raise awareness of the stages of the Structure Plan through direct emailing. Responses to both the Issues Leaflet and the Consultation draft were encouraged through this process.

### **Distribution of Copies.**

The issues leaflet was emailed, printed and circulated widely to a list of consultees and public offices, libraries etc. The Consultation Draft was emailed to all consultees, refer Appendix 1 and was made available in a printed format free of charge if requested.

### **Advertisements and Press Release**

The formal notice of intent to prepare a new Structure Plan was advertised in the Edinburgh Gazette and all local papers within Ayrshire. A press release was issued when the Consultation Draft was circulated. Refer Appendix

### **Statutory Consultation**

The Joint Committee extended the statutory period of consultation on the Consultative Draft from the minimum 4 weeks to 6 weeks. Similarly the consultation period for comments on the issues leaflet (a non statutory consultation) was extended from the end of December 2003 to the end of January 2004. In practice views and comments made were welcomed and considered up to the formal approval by the Committee of the Consultation Draft in March 2004. During both consultations additional detail and clarification of comments was sought through meetings with consultees.

### **Public Meetings**

The Structure Plan Manager attended a number of community group meetings at which representatives of the community were present. These provided an opportunity for local concerns and issues to be raised.

### **Partnership Meetings**

During the preparation of the Structure Plan the Structure Plan manager chaired or was a member of a number of "Partnership Meetings". These groups were relevant to the content of the Final Plan in the background and content material they could provide. The Joint Committee also sought a presentation of the impacts of wind energy on aviation transmitting and receiving systems.

### **Sustainability Appraisal Group**

In order that the structure plan could accord with good practice and to ensure policies were developed in a robust manner, a sustainability appraisal group was established to prepare and submit advice to the Committee at various stages. The group include representations from economic, community and environmental interests and was a key influence on final policy content.

## THE CONSULTATION PROCESS-KEY DATES

### Timetable of Events

Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan-A framework for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century approved (AJSP1)	January 2000
Monitor 2000 published	June 2000
Monitor 2002 published	June 2002
Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & Transportation Committee- <b>Approval in principle to prepare a replacement Joint Structure Plan (AJSP2)</b>	March 2003
Meeting of Chief Officers in Ayrshire- Consultation on scope of AJSP2	May 2003
Monitor 2004 published	June 2004
AJSP2-Issues Leaflet published and circulated	November 2003
Consultation on scope & issues of AJSP2	November 2003 - January 2004
<b>Publication of Notice of Intent to replace existing Structure Plan</b>	December 2003
Sustainability group established	December 2003
Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & Transportation Committee -consideration of comments on key issues to be included in AJSP2	June 2004
<b>Consultation Draft Published</b>	June 2004
Statutory Consultation Period	June 2004 – August 2004
Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & Transportation Committee Consideration of comments on Consultation Draft	September 2004

**Written Statement Approved**

Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & Transportation Committee	December 2005
Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & Transportation Committee (Housing+misc)	January 2006
East Ayrshire Council	January 2006
North Ayrshire Council	February 2006
South Ayrshire Council	February 2006
<b>Submission to Scottish Ministers</b>	June 2006

## CONSULTING ON ISSUES

At its meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2003, the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee approved the principle of preparing a replacement joint structure plan and agreed to seek the assistance of East, North & South Ayrshire Councils in its preparation. The two main drivers for this decision were:

- the outcome of the Scottish Executive's review of strategic planning. This would lead to the removal of the requirement for structure plans to be prepared except for the four main cities, but recognised that there were clear benefits for Ayrshire to continue joint working arrangements; and
- the need for a replacement plan, to take account inter alia of the Ayrshire Economic Forum's (AEF) Strategy for Economic Development; and the revised population and household projections which had recently been published by the GRO-Scotland and the Scottish Executive and the implications this would have of current housing policies.

As a first stage, following the Committee's decision in March, a half-day seminar was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2003 between senior officers responsible for planning strategy in the three Ayrshire Councils. The purpose of this initial consultation event was to establish the extent of consensus about the way forward, the role and issues the new plan would address. From this meeting five topics emerged as priorities for the new plan:

- Settlement strategy;
- Economic development strategy;
- Housing land strategy;
- Transport and infrastructure; and
- Sustainability/green issues

The only topic that proved contentious from this initial seminar was housing land. Here the main issue was whether to continue to allocate land on the basis of (declining) population and household projections, or to see housing demand as a mechanism for growth.

Following on from this seminar the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee sought to engage with a wider audience and to seek views on what issues were important in the planning of a future Ayrshire. In September 2003, it approved a pamphlet for circulation outlining the six key issues the Councils felt should be dealt with by the new replacement structure plan.

This was circulated widely in November 2003 and publicity was given through a public notice in the press. It was emailed and posted to the list of previous consultees including all relevant Government agencies, NGOs and Community Councils. The document was also placed on our website and views sought through electronic posting of the completed form. The publication of the pamphlet also provided a means by which the formal notice of intent to prepare a replacement plan could be given wider publicity.

### **Issues Paphlet - Analysis of comments**

The prime purpose of the pamphlet was to get an early engagement with potential future consultees on matters they saw as being important for the new Structure Plan to cover rather than to explore definitive views at this stage. Over 1500 copies were published and circulated. Over 600 were sent out electronically to known consultees.

Well over 50% of the responses to the consultation were received electronically, though most subsequently followed up with a formal written letter. Perhaps not unsurprisingly most comment came from Government agencies and from companies wishing to promote a particular scheme, with few responses from public or Community Councils.

The key points to emerge from this consultation were:

- (1) the importance of Glasgow Prestwick International Airport as a key driver of the economy and a need to protect the airport, its surrounding environment and associated transport links;
- (2) some concern over retailing within Ayrshire and the balance between town centres and out-of-town retail parks;
- (3) the importance of the need to improve both road and rail access for future economic growth. The many suggestions covered both road and rail with the most often mentioned being the need to improve/upgrade the rail lines to Glasgow, improved links to M74 and improvements to A77 beyond Fenwick to Stranraer;
- (4) the significance of accessibility to many communities;
- (5) the identification of a significant number of potential development proposals available throughout Ayrshire from major development companies with several indicating a willingness to share the financial burden of resolving the difficulties associated with infrastructure;
- (6) there was a general thread running through many comments about defining the correct balance between sustainability and development - particularly regarding development in the countryside where both sides of the debate were represented;

- (7) the economic significance of tourism, leisure and recreation generally, but particularly at the coast where several consultees saw the need for integrated action;
- (8) following from that the integrated management of transport corridors both for development and greenspace initiatives was also seen as an opportunity for Ayrshire to enhance the “product” for tourism, leisure and recreation;
- (9) main focus of development should continue to be around the three towns of Ayr, Irvine and Kilmarnock, but with significant opportunities at a smaller scale on rail transport routes accessible to Glasgow;
- (10) the need for a clear direction on a renewable strategy and a robust policy on windfarms; and
- (11) comments relating to the importance of incorporating the Ayrshire and Arran Woodland Strategy into formal policies.

One final comment is worthy of note. A Community Council whilst supporting the issues raised was concerned they were more used to commenting at a local level on specific schemes rather than general policies. They asked that consideration be given to a session on how to comment on such a plan. A separate meeting with Community groups was agreed and took place during the consultative draft phase of consultation.

**Consultation on Issues- Meetings held -November 2003- June 2004**

DATE	CONSULTEE
6/11/03	Community Planning Partnership - Lead Officers
9/12/03 17/02/04 15/03/04	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire
13/01/04	South of Scotland Energy Unit
14/01/04	Health & Safety Executive
22/01/04	Entec consultants
27/02/04	South Ayrshire Council - Housing Dept.
28/01/04 13/05/04	Scottish Water
29/01/04 7/05/04	Scottish Coal
29/01/04 20/02/04 7/05/04 30/05/04	NPL Estates
6/02/04	North Ayrshire Council –Senior Management
11/02/04	Homes for Scotland
19/02/04	GVA Grimley on behalf of Glasgow Prestwick Airport
19/02/04	South Ayrshire Council- Senior Management
2/03/04	North Ayrshire Council

9/03/04	RPS Consultants
15/03/04	Scottish Executive
23/03/04	Scottish Executive- Trunk Roads
31/03/04 3/06/04	Stewart Milne Homes
15/04/04	Glasgow & Clyde Valley Structure Plan Authority
23/04/04	South Ayrshire Council- Labour Group
11/06/04	Ayrshire Economic Forum

## **CONSULTATION DRAFT**

The Consultation Draft was published in June 2004. Following on from the publication of the document, the statutory consultation period took place between the 18th June 2004 and the 27th August 2004 a period of 10 weeks. Some 430 letters were sent seeking consultation, and a further 200 sent internally within councils for information only. Some 104 individual consultations were received encompassing in excess of 800 separate issues raised. This represents a response rate of some 24% - as a comparison the equivalent figure for the last structure plan was 18%.

The response however from community organisations was very poor. To overcome this issue, two workshops were arranged with community groups, one in Arran and one in Prestwick to engage community groups further in the discussions. In addition four community meetings chaired by the Head of Planning, East Ayrshire Council and attended by the Structure Plan Manager were also held. In addition to the distribution of the Consultative Draft all supporting technical documentation was made available free of charge via the web site of the Joint Committee. During the launch week-end of the Structure Plan there was a substantial increase in the number of hits and downloads from the Committee's web site.

Despite the extended period for consultation there were a number of requests for short extensions to include comments, particularly from organisations that don't have formal committee's during the summer. Comments were therefore accepted during September 2004 and October 2004.

As with the 'Issues Pamphlet' the Joint Committee sought to maximise awareness of the "Consultative Draft", through:

- press releases to all major Scottish and local newspapers;
- the distribution and advertisement through posters in all Council Offices and libraries;
- direct mailing to key stakeholders; and
- publication of content and supporting information on the Committee's web site.

All documents were available for public inspection at the offices of the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Committee, 15 Links Road, Prestwick.

Comments made on the Consultation Draft were published on our web site.

### Consultation Draft - Analysis of Comments

All comments received by email and letters were carefully considered. A number of consultees provided substantial additional material on specific sites and locations. The general conclusion reached was that whilst many of the principles established in the Consultative Draft were well received and there was widespread support for the main thrust of the strategy, it was recognised by the Committee that not all of the comments were favourable. For example, concerns were raised that the ideas put forward did not constitute a strong enough development strategy to reverse population trends, the means which would be struck between environmental protection and accommodating the required level of development were uncertain and key policy areas, such as waste were absent.

Mixed views were also expressed on the preferred areas of search for windfarms identified in the Consultation Draft, some communities expressing strong support for their use and location whilst some within the development industry questioned the methodology for their selection. In the light of these comments the Joint Committee considered that there were a number of areas that required further evaluation prior to submission of the final plan. These were:

- the balance to be struck between population targets and a sustainable growth strategy;
- the balance between regeneration of communities and new housing land release;
- the ability to implement the plan against a background of apparent infrastructure constraint;
- alternative scenarios for housing land release and phasing of opportunity;
- the need to include a more detailed assessment and policy on retailing and waste management in Ayrshire; and
- the need to consider renewable energy as a broader topic.

## **ADDITIONAL WORK UNDERTAKEN**

In the light of the issues raised the Joint Committee commissioned further work in a number of areas. These were:

### **Waste Management**

Following an offer of funding from the Scottish Executive, a major exercise was started to prepare a Joint Waste Management Feasibility Study. Consultants reporting to a small steering group of officials undertook this. The Consultants were appointed in late June 2005. The Structure Plan Manager sat on the steering group of officials. The planning component of this study was concluded in December 2005 and the findings have subsequently been reflected in policy. A search area for a joint waste treatment plant is shown on the key diagram.

### **Water & Sewerage Constraints**

In order to break this impasse and provide advice on the suitability of development locations throughout Ayrshire the three Councils agreed to fund jointly the running of Scottish Water's strategic model. WS Atkins were appointed as consultants to do the work, with technical advice from IT specialists in Scottish Water. This gave a clearer indication at a strategic level of not only the issues but the costs necessary to overcome the problems. The report is published as a supporting background document to the Structure Plan.

### **Windfarm Policy & Prestwick Airport**

This issue was the subject of presentations to the Joint Committee. In addition a meeting was arranged in early June with the Civil Aviation Authority to discuss the broader context for the debate, and further information was requested from Glasgow Airport & Prestwick Airport. As a result of these discussions further attention has been drawn to the broader issues surrounding renewable energy, particularly wind farm development.

### **Access to Ayrshire**

With the support of the Ayrshire Councils the Scottish Executive commissioned a research study "Ayrshire Transport & the Economy". The objective of the study was to inform national and strategic policy development and lay the foundations for developing solutions to improving connectivity between Ayrshire's main centres, the Scottish motorway network and the central belt. During the consultation period work commenced with SPT to model the implications of the strategic framework proposed in the Structure Plan.

## **CHANGES TO POLICY AND CONTENT**

Following from the consultation process and the additional work undertaken the main areas of change in the finalised plan are:

- A restructuring of the Final Plan to “look and feel” similar to the existing approved Structure Plan (AJSP1).
- A rewriting of a “Vision for Ayrshire in 2025”
- A refinement of the principle objectives.
- A section on future challenges faced by Ayrshire.
- The inclusion of “Guiding Principles of Sustainable Development”.
- A concise outline of the Development Framework.
- An integrated approach to renewable energy.
- The division of the document into sections that included policies relevant to the Economy, Communities, Environment & Transport were also included.
- A section on Implementation, Monitoring & Review
- An action plan

Policies were introduced or changed to reflect the findings of the:

- Joint Waste Management Feasibility Study;
- Irvine Bay Regeneration Area;
- Opportunity presented for a future university campus for Ayrshire;
- Expansion of the green economy and tourist base.

Criteria on the assessment of development for aggregate extraction were also included.

Approximately 50 meetings/seminars took place on the Consultation Draft. These are listed below:

Consultation Draft- Meetings Held - June 2003 - August 2004

<b>DATE</b>	<b>CONSULTEE</b>
11/06/04	Ayrshire Economic Forum
13/07/04	East Ayrshire Council
15/07/04	Scottish Executive
20/07/04	North Ayrshire Council
21/07/04	GBM Grimley
26/07/04	South Ayrshire Council
16/08/04	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire
16/08/04	Dawn Homes
19/08/04	Clyde Port
26/08/04	AJSP PANEL MEETING
26/08/04	Ayrshire Transport Group
31/08/04	Scottish Water
9/09/04	Strathclyde Passenger Transport
13/09/04	Glasgow & Clyde Valley Structure Plan Authority
23/09/04	Clyde Port
24/09/04	Network Rail
28/09/04	MOD
30/09/04	SEPA

Final Plan - Meetings held September 2004 - December 2005

<b>DATE</b>	<b>CONSULTEE</b>
17/10/04	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire (Tourism)
22/10/04	NPL Estates
25/10/04	Associated British Ports
5/01/04	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire (Energy Unit)
16/11/04	Scottish Natural Heritage
23/11/04	North Ayrshire Council
1/12/04	SPT
7/12/04	RPS- Consultants
8/12/04	Scottish Executive
11/01/05	Ewan Lawrence Associates
24/01/05	Scottish Water
24/01/05	Glasgow & Clyde Valley Structure Plan Authority
31/01/05	Edinburgh rail link study*
1/02/05	NPL Estates-Workshop
4/02/04	Glasgow Prestwick Airport
10/03/04	Cllr M. Toner
16/03/05	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire
22/03/04	South Ayrshire Council
4/04/05	Joint meeting between Prestwick & Glasgow airports
14/04/05	Biodiversity-Lead officers
20/04/05	North Ayrshire Council
21/04/05	East Ayrshire Council
21/04/05	Cllrs Moonie/Torrance SAC
4/05/05	South Ayrshire Council
11/05/05	NPL Estates
6/05/05	Scottish Water
6/05/05	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire (Green Jobs)
10/05/05	East Ayrshire/Scottish Water
13/06/05	North Ayrshire/Scottish Water
14/06/05	Yellow Book Consultants
10/06/05	Civil Aviation Authority
23/06/05	Irvine Bay Regeneration Seminar
2/07/05	Stewart Milne Homes
5/07/05	Greenspace
5/07/05	Dawn Homes
6/07/05	North Ayrshire Council
20/07/05	Ayrshire Councils
25/08/05	Structure Plan Panel Meeting

<b>DATE</b>	<b>CONSULTEE</b>
12/08/05	Ayrshire Councils
14/09/05	Clyde Port (Hunterston)
27/09/05	Scottish Executive
28/09/05	Barr Environmental
29/09/05	North Ayrshire Council
5/10/05	Scottish Water
25/10/05	North Ayrshire Council
9/11/05	GRO Scotland
9/11/05	Rail Freight Group
15/11/05	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire
21/11/05	Scottish Executive
30/11/05	SEPA

<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY GROUPS</b>
1/09/04	Community Group Meeting
8/09/04	Community Group Meeting (Cancelled)
3/02/05	Community Group Meeting
15/03/05	Community Group Meeting
16/03/05	Community Group Meeting

Partnership Meetings 2003 - 2005\*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FORUM</b>
2003-2005	Ayrshire & Dumfries Waste Strategy
2003-2004	Ayrshire Transport Group
2004-2005	Galloway Biosphere Reserve
2003-2005	Ayrshire Strategic Flood Appraisal Group
2003-2005	Timber Transport Working Group
2003-2005	Prestwick Airport Consultative Committee
2003-2005	WESTRANS
2003-2005	Clyde Estuary Forum
2003-2005	Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan Group
2003-2005	South of Scotland Regional Forestry forum
2004-2005	Ayrshire Strategic Waste Options Group
2003-2005	South Ayrshire Council Sustainability Forum

\*Partnership Meetings, relevant to the preparation of the AJSP2 , on which the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Manager chaired or was a member and where update and discussion was provided on progress and policies.

Topic Group Meetings 2003 - 2005\*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC GROUP*</b>
2003-2005	Housing
2003-2004	Retail
2004-2005	Renewables
2003-2005	Transport

A series of topic group meetings were convened to discuss the detail of future policy these were held at various stages during the preparation of the Structure Plan.

## SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL GROUP

The aim of the appraisal group was to ensure that the new structure plan accords with good practice and to ensure that policies were developed in a robust manner. In particular it sought to assess the emerging plan from a perspective that sought a joined-up approach to economic, social and environmental policies. It was not a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), though the approach adopted had much in common with the SEA process.

It was conducted over a two-year period from December 2003. This was a significant innovation. The 15 members of the Group were drawn from a wide range of agencies and interests in Ayrshire, including business and enterprise, community planning, and environmental bodies, together with an independent facilitator and adviser, the membership is set out below. The appraisal was undertaken in tandem with the plan preparation, working alongside and interacting with the plan team, and it added a significant additional channel of participation. As a result it has been an iterative process designed to assess if the plan adequately addresses sustainable development.

### Timeline of the Structure Plan and the work of the Group

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Group Meetings</b>	<b>Sustainability Appraisal Group - Main Activity</b>	<b>Structure Plan Progress</b>
		November 2003: Plan preparation initiated; publication of issues leaflet
17 December 2003	Group formed initial views on content of plan and initial criteria for assessing sustainability	Preparation of Consultation Draft underway
12 January 2004		
19 March 2004	Briefing and debate on new key issue of population retention	26 March 2004: Consultation Draft approved by Joint Committee
21 May 2004	Presentation on, and Group response to, emerging Consultation Draft	3 Ayrshire Authorities approve consultation
		18 June 2004: Public consultation on Consultation Draft for 10 weeks
13 October 2004	Preparation and submission of Group's	3 December 2004: Joint Committee note

	Interim Report to Joint Committee	content of Group's Interim Report
18 April 2005	Update on evolution of the Plan; debate on how to take sustainability appraisal forward; and revision of criteria	Work continuing on topics including waste, water, windfarms and access
13 June 2005	Working session on monitoring & indicators	
	Circulation of 'Route Map' on how to complete appraisal	2 December 2005: revised Structure Plan to Joint Committee
13 December 2005	Briefing on, and responses to, the revised Structure Plan	20 January 2006: Joint Committee approve Finalised Draft Plan
	February 2006: Preparation and submission of Final Report	

## GROUP MEMBERS

### Facilitator:

Tim Birley                      Adviser on Sustainable Development

### Members:

Ian Anderson/Zoë Kemp	SNH Planning Adviser
Scott Cameron	Communities Scotland
Zoë Clelland	RSPB Scotland
Robin Cole	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire
June Dawson	SEPA
Carol Gilbert	SPT
Bob Leitch/Jim Spiers	Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce
Nan McFarlane	South Ayrshire Association of Community Councils
Iain Matheson	SEERAD
Liz Marquis/Alan McGonigle	South-West Scotland Energy Agency
Blair Melville	Homes for Scotland
Justina Murray/Sandra Bale	Community Planning, North Ayrshire Council

Adrian Shaw

Community Planning, South Ayrshire  
Council

Helen Sinclair

Community Planning, East Ayrshire Council

In addition to its membership, the Group benefited from participation by the Joint Structure Plan Team, and by observer (and corresponding) members from the three Ayrshire Councils:

Ian Johnson, John Esslemont  
and Toby Wilson


Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Team

East Ayrshire Council, Planning

North Ayrshire Council, Planning

South Ayrshire Council, Planning

## CONSULTATION & PUBLICITY EXTRACTS



**East Ayrshire**  
COUNCIL

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO START  
PREPARATION OF JOINT STRUCTURE PLAN  
Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997  
Replacement Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan**

East Ayrshire Council, North Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council intend to prepare the above-named structure plan in respect of the lands of East, North and South Ayrshire. Further information on the plan can be obtained from the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee offices, by mail at 15 Links Road, Prestwick, Ayrshire KA9 1QG; by telephone at 01292 476716; by email at [ajspmail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:ajspmail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk) or the website at [www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk](http://www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk).

Date: 28 November 2003  
Signed  
David Mitchell  
Head of Administrative and Legal Services  
East Ayrshire Council on behalf of  
East, North and South Ayrshire Councils



**Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee**

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Feedback

Please use this form to provide us with feedback. The views and comments you provide to us here will be treated as confidential.

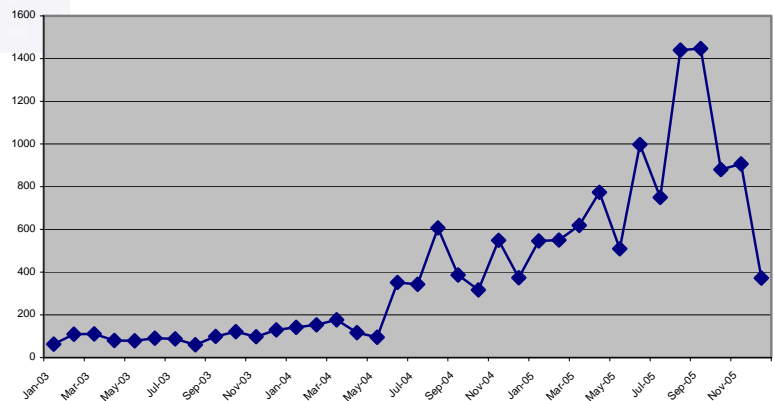
Your Comments:

Name:   
Company:   
Telephone:   
Email:   
Address:

FAST LINKS: Key Facts, Publications, Your Views, Census 2001, Web Map, Contact Us, NEWS

Sustainability Appraisal, Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan 2025 Consultation Draft, New Structure Plan

Bandwidth



## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

All information relating to the Structure Plan and the consultation process has been published on the web site of the Joint Committee.

[www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk](http://www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk)

Copies of any material on the web site can also be obtained on a computer disc or in paper format from:

Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & Transportation Committee  
15 Links Road  
Prestwick  
KA9 1QG  
01292-476716  
Contact: Liz Neill  
E-mail: [AJSPmail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:AJSPmail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

## **ADDITIONAL WEB INFORMATION**

[PUBLICITY STATEMENT & SUMMARY of CONSULTATION](#)

[LIST OF CONSULTEES](#)

[CONSULTATION DRAFT](#)

[Consultation Draft - Comments received.](#)

[Consultation Draft - Summary of comments received.](#)

[Consultation Draft - Detailed responses to comments made.](#)

[EMAIL & WEB BASED CONSULTATION](#)

[Web Questionnaire](#)

[On line forum](#)

[Email Circulation](#)

[Web Usage](#)

[PUBLICITY of ISSUES REPORT](#)

[Letters](#)

[Issues Leaflet](#)

[PUBLICITY of CONSULTATION DRAFT](#)

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[Poster](#)

[Press Release](#)

APPENDIX 1 - LIST OF CONSULTEES

APPENDIX 2 - RESPONDEES TO CONSULTATION DRAFT

APPENDIX 3 - WEB ANALYSIS AND USAGE

APPENDIX 4 - ADVERTISEMENTS

APPENDIX 5 - PUBLICITY OF ISSUES REPORT

APPENDIX 6 - PUBLICITY OF CONSULTATION DRAFT

APPENDIX 7 - RESPONSE TO COMMENTS RECEIVED