

Wednesday 14 June 2006  
Links Road Prestwick KA9 1QG

## AYRSHIRE COUNCILS SUBMIT REPLACEMENT STRUCTURE PLAN

East, North and South Ayrshire Councils today submitted their replacement Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan to Scottish Ministers for their approval. The Plan sets out the vision for the future of Ayrshire in the next 20 years, whilst continuing to respect the different needs of each individual Council's area.

To accord with planning legislation, every five years the Councils are required to prepare and submit to the Scottish Executive a joint strategic land use plan for their areas known as the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan. This sets the context for all subsequent local plans in the area. The previous Plan was approved in January 2000, and will be replaced by the new Plan if and when it is approved. Scottish Ministers have powers to formally approve, modify or reject the Plan as submitted.

Work first started on the Plan in 2003 and has been the subject of extensive consultation with communities and key agencies. In addition the Plan has also benefited from an independent Sustainability Appraisal as well as a detailed assessment of its environmental impacts.

Although the Plan has already had two formal consultation stages, before any approval process can be undertaken there is a third chance for anyone to make a comment or representation directly to the Scottish Executive through a formal process that remains open until 26 July 2006. The Plan and accompanying background information is available in full on our website and will also be available in all Council public offices.

For further information please contact:

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