

IRVINE, 20 January 2006 - At a Meeting of the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee in Cunninghame House, Irvine at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Councillors Tom Barr, John Moffat and David Munn (North Ayrshire Council); Robert McDill, Eric Ross, and George Smith (East Ayrshire Council); Peter Convery, Margaret Toner and Helen Moonie (South Ayrshire Council).

In Attendance

I. Johnson, Structure Plan Manager and J. Esslemont, Senior Policy Advisor (Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan); A. Neish, Head of Planning and Building Control (East Ayrshire Council) and J. Kane, Head of Roads and Transportation (East Ayrshire Council); I. McLarty, Head of Planning and Building Standards and K. Murray Strategy and Design Services (South Ayrshire Council); B. MacDonald, Assistant Chief Executive and R. Forrest, Planning Services Manager (Development and Promotion); and M. Anderson, Corporate and Democratic Support Officer (Chief Executive's) (North Ayrshire Council).

Chair

Councillor Thomas Barr (North Ayrshire Council) in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Councillors John Reid (North Ayrshire Council), James Raymond (East Ayrshire Council) and I. Fitzsimmons (South Ayrshire Council).

1. Minutes

Submitted the Minutes of the Joint Committee held on 2 December 2005.

The Joint Committee approved the Minutes of the last meeting.

2. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee will be held on 3 March 2006 at 2.00 p.m. in the Meeting Room, East Ayrshire Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock.

Noted.

3. Exclusion of Public

The Committee resolved, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the Meeting the press and the public for the following item of business on the grounds indicated in terms of Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

4. Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan 2005-2025: Finalised Draft

Submitted report by the Joint Structure Plan Manager on the Joint Structure Plan 2005-2025: Finalised Draft.

At its last meeting, the Joint Committee agreed to conditional approval of the Draft Structure Plan subject to a number of considerations, including a remit to officers from the three Councils and the Structure Plan Manager to re-examine the housing figures and associated text contained in COMMs 2 to 3, the merging of COMMs 5 and 6 under a single heading and the inserting of a section on the implementation of affordable housing policies, recognising the role of Communities Scotland and with an appropriate policy inclusion. The revised plan set out in Appendix 1 of the current report, incorporates revisions following discussion by officers.

The Finalised Draft Structure Plan represents the culmination of a process begun in December 2003 and involving communities, agencies and the private sector in the preparation of a plan for the twenty years until 2025. In addition to the approval of the Joint Committee, the Plan requires to be agreed by each of the three Ayrshire authorities individually prior to submission to the Scottish Executive. It is intended that the Plan be submitted to the Scottish Executive by mid-February 2006.

A Draft Action Plan for the implementation of the policies contained within the finalised Structure Plan was circulated at the meeting. The document has been drafted following discussions at officer level and, subject to further discussion on the priorities identified, it is intended that the Action Plan will form an appendix to the finalised Structure Plan in due course.

The Joint Committee agreed (a) to approve the remaining sections of the finalised draft of "Growing a Sustainable Ayrshire: the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan 2005 – 2025" as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, for submission to the three Ayrshire authorities for their individual approval; (b) that the Structure Plan Manager continue to be authorised to make any necessary minor editorial changes not involving amendment to the technical content of the document; and (c) that a Chair's Sub Committee being convened as necessary to deal with all subsequent issues relating to the submission of the Plan to the Scottish Executive, including consideration of the draft Action Plan.

The meeting ended at 2.25 p.m.