



Minute of the Meeting of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan Joint Committee

Friday, 27 June 2008
in the City Chambers, Edinburgh

Committee Members Present:

Councillor J Lowrie (Convener), City of Edinburgh Council
Councillor J Mowat, City of Edinburgh Council
Councillor J Beare, Fife Council
Councillor A Martin, Fife Council
Councillor R Imrie, Midlothian Council
Councillor V Davidson, Scottish Borders Council
Councillor C Riddell-Carre, Scottish Borders Council
Councillor R de Bold, West Lothian Council

Council Officials Present:

Mr J Inman, City of Edinburgh Council
Mr K Tippen, City of Edinburgh Council
Mr K Scott, City of Edinburgh Council
Ms P Ewen, Fife Council
Mr R Presswood, Fife Council
Ms J Long, Midlothian Council
Mr I Young, Midlothian Council
Mr B Frater, Scottish Borders Council
Mr M Wanless, Scottish Borders Council
Mr J Dickson, West Lothian Council
Mr C McCorrison, West Lothian Council

Apologies:

Councillor B Turner, East Lothian Council
Councillor P McLennan, East Lothian Council
Councillor D Milligan, Midlothian Council
Councillor M Day, West Lothian Council

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1 Welcome

Councillor Lowrie (Convener) welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan Joint Committee.

2 Creating the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan Joint Committee

The Interim Joint Committee had previously considered an update on the Scottish Government's timetable for introducing the new Strategic Development Plans system.

The Designation Order for the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian, West Lothian, Fife and Scottish Borders had come into force on 25 June 2008, formally constituting the new Strategic Development Planning Authority.

Details were provided of statutory guidance on how planning authorities should work together to prepare Strategic Development Plans. It was proposed to convert the Interim Joint Committee to a permanent Joint Committee for the newly constituted Strategic Development Planning Authority. A proposed constitution for the Joint Committee was detailed. The main changes from the interim arrangements related to the proposed provisional support arrangements, an advisory role in considering referred planning applications and formalised financial arrangements.

John Inman and Ken Tippen (City of Edinburgh Council) spoke to the report and highlighted the key areas.

Decision

- 1) To adopt the branding "**SESplan**. The Strategic Development Planning Authority for Edinburgh and South East Scotland" for the Authority and Joint Committee.
- 2) To endorse the draft constitution and refer it to member Councils for approval subject to –
 - a) Paragraph 5.2 being amended to read "The Joint Committee shall appoint a Convener from the Committee members representing the authority which is currently chairing and servicing the Joint Committee, to hold office for the period to 31 December of the following year. The Joint Committee shall appoint a Vice-Convener from the Committee members representing the authority to next take

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on the role of convening and chairing the Joint Committee, as below.”

- b) Item 5.4 being amended to read “The Convenership of the Joint Committee will rotate annually among the member Councils. The Vice-Convenership of the Joint Committee will rotate annually among the member Councils, being from the authority to take on the role in the subsequent year. The sequence of rotation of Convenerships and Vice-Convenerships will be alphabetical by Council, unless otherwise determined by the Joint Committee.”
- 3) To agree that Scottish Borders Council take on Convenership and servicing of the Joint Committee from 1 January 2009.
- 4) To agree that Fife Council take on Convenership and servicing of the Joint Committee from 1 January 2010.
- 5) To appoint Councillor Riddell-Carre as Vice-Convenor for the remainder of the current year.
- 6) To note progress on the proposal to co-locate with SEStran.
- 7) To agree that, subject to being able to agree satisfactorily terms, the City of Edinburgh Council would assume the role of legal sub-tenant in relation to leasing any office space for the dedicated team on behalf of the Joint Committee.
- 8) To note that further reports on a Scheme of Delegation and a voluntary Code of Practice for planning application referrals will be presented to future meetings.

(References – Interim Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development Joint Committee 28 April 2008 (item 2); report by the Director of City Development, City of Edinburgh Council, submitted).

3 Proposed Strategic Development Plan Boundaries

The Interim Joint Committee had previously noted that, if possible, a report would be presented to this meeting making a recommendation to the six partner authorities on the Strategic Development Plan boundary.

Details were provided of a way forward in relation to the requirement for the Strategic Development Planning Authority to establish the boundaries for its area for submission to the Scottish Ministers.

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Martin Wanless (Scottish Borders Council) spoke to the report and provided an update on the preferred boundaries for the Dundee city region.

Decision

- 1) That consultation should be undertaken on the basis of the boundary preferences set out in Paragraph 2.5 of the report by the Director of Planning and Economic Development, Scottish Borders Council.
- 2) To recommend to constituent Councils that the engagement on the boundary for the Strategic Development Plan area should be undertaken principally through consultation with the relevant Community Planning Partnership organisations.
- 3) To ask that a report on the preferred boundary is prepared for the meeting of the Joint Committee on 25 August 2008.
- 4) To authorise the Steering Group to respond to the letter from Dundee City Region Strategic Development Plan Joint Committee consulting on their Strategic Development Plan boundary.

(References – Interim Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan Joint Committee 28 April 2008 (item 3); report by the Director of Planning and Economic Development, Scottish Borders Council, submitted).

4 Future Meeting Arrangements

Decision

- 1) To agree to meet on 25 August and 24 November 2008.
- 2) To discuss meetings arrangements for 2009 at the meeting on 25 August 2008.