

# Supporting Statement for ABOYNE Local Place Plan



Prepared by: Mid Deeside Community Council

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# Aboyne Local Place Plan – Supporting Statement

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## Introduction

This Supporting Statement forms part of the Local Place Plan submission to Aberdeenshire Council and is accompanying the Aboyne Local Place Plan dated 30 December 2024.

This Local Place Plan has been prepared by a sub-group of Mid Deeside Community Council comprising representatives from Mid Deeside Community Council and the wider Aboyne community.

This plan will guide Aberdeenshire Council about what our community would like to see in relation to our place in the next Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. This plan will also guide developers about the type of development and investment that our community desires.

This plan sets out Initiatives and Proposals to help Aboyne be a sustainable, liveable and productive place and a vibrant inclusive community. The Initiatives and Proposals can be implemented by our community in collaboration with Aberdeenshire Council and other stakeholders. This plan will also help our community to obtain external funding and other forms of investment and support for local projects.

## Contact details

The Aboyne Local Place Plan is submitted by Mid Deeside Community Council. The plan has been prepared on behalf of Mid Deeside Community Council by its Local Place Plan group.

Contact email address: [middeesidecommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:middeesidecommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

Further information on the work of the Mid Deeside Community Council Local Place Plan group, along with contact details for the group, can be found at <https://www.aboynelocalplaceplan.info>.

## **Regard given to the Local Development Plan**

The Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2023 (2023 LDP) was formally adopted on 13 January 2023. It was written in accordance with National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3). One piece of Supplementary Guidance “Developer Obligations and Affordable Housing” was adopted as part of the 2023 LDP in January 2024.

Following adoption of the 2023 LDP, the Scottish Government published National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4). NPF4 is now part of the development plan for Aberdeenshire.

Aberdeenshire Council is now reviewing the 2023 LDP and preparing the next Local Development Plan (LDP) for the period 2029-2039 (see information on the Development Plan Scheme [here](#)). The Aboyne Local Place Plan should be taken into account in the next LDP process when registered as a Local Place Plan.

The Aboyne Local Place Plan sets out Initiatives and Proposals for the development or use of land and buildings in Aboyne. These Initiatives and Proposals complement the development plan as a whole and demonstrate how our community would like the 2023 LDP policies to be implemented. The Aboyne Local Place Plan Initiatives and Proposals do not compete with, conflict with or oppose the 2023 LDP. Appendix 1 at page 56 of the plan sets out which Initiatives and Proposals are intended to have Local Place Plan status.

The Aboyne Local Place Plan also proposes changes to the town centre map for Aboyne in the next Aberdeenshire LDP (see Figure 16 on page 52 of the plan) and to the Settlement Map for Aboyne (see Figure 17 on page 53 of the plan).

## **Regard given to the National Planning Framework**

NPF4 is the national spatial strategy for Scotland and includes the Scottish Government’s national planning policy. NPF4 sets out six overarching spatial principles for the planning of future places: just transition; conserving and recycling assets; local living; compact urban growth; rebalanced development; and rural revitalisation.

In preparing the Aboyne Local Place Plan, regard has been given to NPF4’s aims which include that places should be sustainable, liveable and productive.

Regard has also been had to the priorities that NPF4 identifies for North East Scotland where Aboyne is located. These are as follows (grouped according to theme):

- Green spaces
  - Create multi-functional blue and green networks.
  - Improve green spaces in and around settlements.
  - Access to good quality open space and opportunities for social food growing.

- Transport
  - Encourage sustainable travel options.
  - Promote low emissions vehicles, active travel and public transport connectivity.
  - Create connected, walkable, liveable and thriving places.
  - Connect with the national long-distance cycling and walking network.
- Local living
  - Community-led climate action to help provide locally-driven solutions.
  - Focus on “local living” to help address high levels of car ownership and respond to the area’s dispersed settlement pattern.
  - More compact growth through better use of brownfield sites and increased density.
  - Local access to the wider range of facilities, services and amenities.
- Town centre regeneration
  - Help communities adapt to current challenges and future change.
- Network of places
  - Design social and community infrastructure as a “network of places” with different settlements working in clusters.

The Initiatives and Proposals of the Aboyne Local Place Plan complement and further the aims and priorities of NPF4 and demonstrate how our community would like the policies of NPF4 to be implemented. The Aboyne Local Place Plan Initiatives and Proposals do not compete with, conflict with or oppose the aims, priorities and policies of NPF4.

## **Regard given to the Locality Plan**

There is no Locality Plan for the Aboyne area.

## **Reasons for amendments being sought to the Local Development Plan**

In support of the Initiatives and Proposes set out in the plan, the Aboyne Local Place Plan proposes specific changes to the town centre map for Aboyne in the next Aberdeenshire LDP (see Figure 16 on page 52 of the plan). This is to include areas which host existing retail and community facilities which contribute to the vitality and viability of Aboyne town centre – see Initiative #20 on page 43 of the plan.

In support of the Initiatives and Proposes set out in the plan, the Aboyne Local Place Plan proposes changes to the Settlement Map for Aboyne (see Figure 17 on page 53 of the plan). This is to make the changes to the Town Centre boundary described above, and to protect areas of open space in Aboyne which may be vulnerable to unplanned development but which play an important contribution to Aboyne’s green-blue network or as community open space – see Initiative #8 on page 27 of the plan.

## Community support for the Local Place Plan

This Local Place Plan is underpinned by the responses of more than 400 individuals to a survey in 2023, followed by engagement with community groups throughout 2024 and community consultation on the draft plan in November 2024. Further information on how community support for the plan can be demonstrated is included at Appendix 6 of the plan (page 71).

## Evidence of compliance with Regulation 4

The proposed Local Place Plan and information Notice (in the form of a covering email) were sent on 30 December 2024 to:

### List of Councillors to whom the proposed Local Place Plan was sent

- Aberdeenshire Council Ward 15 Councillors:
  - Councillor Sarah Brown ([cldr.s.brown@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.s.brown@aberdeenshire.gov.uk))
  - Councillor Anouk Kloppert ([cldr.a.kloppert@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.a.kloppert@aberdeenshire.gov.uk))
  - Councillor Geva Blackett ([cldr.g.blackett@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.g.blackett@aberdeenshire.gov.uk))
- Aberdeenshire Council Ward 16 Councillors:
  - Councillor Yi-Pei Chou Turvey ([cldr.y.chouturvey@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.y.chouturvey@aberdeenshire.gov.uk))
  - Councillor Eileen Durno ([cldr.e.durno@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.e.durno@aberdeenshire.gov.uk))
  - Councillor Ann Ross ([cldr.ann.ross@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.ann.ross@aberdeenshire.gov.uk))

### List of adjoining Community Councils to whom the proposed Local Place Plan was sent

- Birse and Ballogie Community Council ([b2c2chair@icloud.com](mailto:b2c2chair@icloud.com))
- Cromar Community Council ([secretary@cromarcc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@cromarcc.org.uk))
- Lumphanan Community Council ([Lumphanan.community.council@outlook.com](mailto:Lumphanan.community.council@outlook.com))

## APPENDIX

### Aboyne Local Place Plan:

[www.aboynelocalplaceplan.info](http://www.aboynelocalplaceplan.info)

## ATTACHMENTS

Copy Information Notices dated 30 December 2024 and 8 January 2025 to:

- Aberdeenshire Council Ward 15 Councillors
- Aberdeenshire Council Ward 16 Councillors
- Adjoining Community Councils