

Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning

Ministear airson Cumhachdachadh is Dealbhachadh
Riaghaltas Ionadail
Joe Fitzpatrick MSP/BPA



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

T : 0300 244 4000

E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Friends of St Fitticks Park

Membersofstfitticks@gmail.com

Our Reference: 202300355613

Your Reference: St Fitticks LDP

9 May 2023

Dear Friends of St Fitticks Park,

Thank you for your correspondence relating to the Aberdeen City Council Local Development Plan 2 (LDP) and specifically with regard to the site at St Fittick's Park and/or Doonies Farm. It is acknowledged that the Scottish Government has received several individual representations in regards to this matter.

I confirm that Aberdeen City Council gave notice of their intention to adopt the Aberdeen City Local Development Plan 2 on 15 December 2022, and advertised their Notice of Intention to Adopt on the 16 December 2022.

The statutory 28 day period and agreed extensions were put in place to allow Scottish Ministers to consider the plan before the Council can adopt it. The Ministers' consideration period for Aberdeen Council's LDP2 response is due by 13th May 2023.

I would confirm that the examination of the Aberdeen City Council LDP2 by the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) commenced on 5 January, 2022. The Examination report was published Tuesday 20 September, 2022.

The points you raise in your correspondence have been noted. However, under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended, there is no formal / statutory opportunity for representations on the plan to be made to the Scottish Ministers at this stage of notification prior to adoption. This is because the development plan process affords various opportunities for interested parties to put forward their views and where issues are outstanding, these are considered at the independent

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1
3DG
www.gov.scot



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Silver



examination of the plan by Reporters. Reporters are guided by Planning Circular 6/2013 Development Planning, particularly paragraphs 105-125 in ensuring proper process has been followed at Examination.

If you have complaints regarding whether or not proper planning process has been followed by the Council these complaints should be raised directly with the authority in question. If after following the Council's own complaints procedure, you are not happy with the way your complaint has been handled, you can contact the Scottish Public Sector Ombudsman (SPSO), which is the final port of call for complaints about public services including Councils. The Ombudsman investigate claims of maladministration and can make recommendations to resolve issues. Responsibility for deciding whether or not to investigate a complaint rests with the SPSO who is entirely independent from the Scottish Government.

The current final stage of Ministers' consideration of a notification to adopt a local development plan is an important one, as Ministers must decide whether to exercise their power to issue direction(s) on the plan or to not intervene. This stage involves advice to Ministers on how earlier Scottish Government recommendations on the plan have been handled during the examination process and checks on whether Reporters' modifications have been fully translated into the modified plan.

It is important that these checks are carried out adequately and in some cases legal advice must be sought. It is not uncommon for Ministers' consideration period to be extended particularly when considering the more complex and lengthy development plan examinations.

Please be assured that Ministers will issue a decision on the Aberdeen City LDP as soon as possible.

This letter will be published on the Scottish Government Planning website in due course.

Yours sincerely



JOE FITZPATRICK

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1
3DG
www.gov.scot



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Silver

