



DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME 2024 UPDATE – PARTICIPATION STATEMENT

Report by Chief Planning Officer

PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update Members on the consultation of the draft Participation Statement of the 2024 Development Plan Scheme and to seek approval of the Participation Statement.

BACKGROUND

- 2.1 There are legal and financial implications to the recommendations being implemented. It is a statutory requirement for Planning Authorities to prepare, consult on and publish the Participation Statement which forms part of the Development Plan Scheme (DPS) and to review and update it annually.
- 2.1 The DPS is a document that sets out the Comhairle's proposed programme and processes for preparing and reviewing its Development Plan including Local Development Plans (LDPs), and other associated and supporting documents. The DPS includes a Participation Statement, which sets out how the planning authority will engage with the public and other stakeholders in relation to the Development Plan. There is a statutory requirement to publicly consult on the Participation Statement aspect of the DPS and this report provides an update on this.
- 2.3 Subject to Comhairle approval the Participation Statement will be published as part of the previously approved Development Plan Scheme 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 **It is recommended that the Comhairle:**

- (a) **Approve the Participation Statement as detailed in the Appendix;**
- (b) **Authorise the Chief Planning Officer to publish the Development Plan Scheme incorporating the Participation Statement**

Contact Officer: Hannah Morrison: hmorrison@cne-siar.gov.uk
Mairi Maciver: mairi.maciver@cne-siar.gov.uk
Appendix: Development Plan Scheme - Participation Statement
Background Papers: Development Plan Scheme 2024 SD Committee 18 June 2024

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The following implications are applicable in terms of the Report.

Resource Implications	Implications/None
Financial	There are legal and financial implications arising from the commencement of parts of the Planning Act and subsequent secondary legislation and regulations, including the Development Planning Regulations and in relation to the DPS. This includes a number of new and unfunded duties relating to delivery of Development Planning functions.
Legal	Local authorities are required to maintain an up to date Development Plan and publish a Development Plan Scheme.
Staffing	There are a number of new and un-resourced duties relating to delivery of Development Planning functions arising from the Development Planning Regulations.
Assets and Property	None
Strategic Implications	Implications/None
Risk	None
Equalities	None
Corporate Strategy	2.1.3 Economic investment, development and research is increased within the Outer Hebrides and people are provided with a safe, sustainable and healthy environment in which to live, work, visit or do business.
Environmental Impact	No EIA or SEA required for DPS. Individual elements of the Development Plan e.g. LDP, SGs will be screened for environmental assessment.
Consultation	None

5 BACKGROUND

5.1 Further to the Development Plan Scheme (DPS) 2024 Report presented at the June series, a consultation has taken place on the draft Participation Statement. The Development Plan Scheme and draft Participation Statement were published on the Comhairle's website, Key Agencies and wider stakeholders were also consulted, and it was notified through a wider mailing advising of the work on the new LDP.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 There has been a very limited response to the consultation. Two responses were from Agencies that offered no specific comment on the Participation Statement. SEPA welcomed the inclusion of a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and a Blue and Green Infrastructure Audit, which has now been commissioned.

6.2 The third response was from a member of the public who sought clarification on who the key agencies are in the DPS and if certain information would be looked at in the Local Development Plan. In response to this the participation statement has been amended to include a link to the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 where the Key Agencies are defined. If there are further consultation responses received prior to the Committee, these will be reported verbally.

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 The Participation Statement will be incorporated in the previously approved DPS and published. The DPS will continue to be monitored as the preparation of the Local Development Plan progresses, and this will be reported to Members as appropriate.