

Doing things digitally is our preference. Tick the box if you are not happy to receive correspondence via email:

Tick the box if you would like to subscribe to the Aberdeenshire LDP eNewsletter:

Fair processing notice

Please tick to confirm your agreement to the following statements:

By submitting a response to the consultation, I agree that Aberdeenshire Council can use the information provided in this form, including my personal data, as part of the review of the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. This will include consultation on the Main Issues Report (including any subsequent Proposed Plan).

I also agree that following the end of the consultation, i.e. after 8 April 2019, my name and respondent identification number (provided to you by Aberdeenshire Council on receipt of your submission) can be published alongside a copy of my completed response on the Main Issues Report website (contact details and information that is deemed commercially sensitive will not be made available to the public).

The data controller for this information is Aberdeenshire Council. The data on the form will be used to inform a public debate of the issues and choices presented in the Main Issues Report of the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021. It will inform the content of the Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.

Aberdeenshire Council will only keep your personal data for as long as is needed. Aberdeenshire Council will retain your response and personal data for a retention period of 5 years from the date upon which it was collected. After 5 years Aberdeenshire Council will review whether it is necessary to continue to retain your information for a longer period. A redacted copy of your submission will be retained for 5 years beyond the life of the Local Development Plan 2021, possibly until 2037

Your Data, Your Rights

You have got legal rights about the way Aberdeenshire Council handles and uses your data, which include the right to ask for a copy of it, and to ask us to stop doing something with your data.

If you are unhappy with the way that Aberdeenshire Council or the Joint Data Controllers have processed your personal data then you do have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Officer, but you should raise the issue with the Data Protection Officers first. The Data Protection Officers can be contacted by writing to:

- Mr Andrew Lawson, Data Protection Officer, Aberdeenshire Council, Business Services, Town House, 34 Low Street, Banff, AB45 1AY

If you have difficulty understanding this document and require a translation, or you need help reading this document (for example if you need it in a different format or in another language), please phone us on 01467 536230.

Which document(s) are you commenting on?	Main Issues Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Draft Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Strategic Environmental Assessment Interim Environmental Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your comments

Westhill GR133 - Land at Souterhill Farm, North West of Westhill

I welcome the general conclusion that it is not considered appropriate to allocate any new major opportunity sites for housing in Westhill. I do wish to register my disappointment that after almost two decades it has not been possible to robustly discourage any future consideration for development of site GR133. The rejection of the site leans heavily on undesirable visual impacts, which, while valid, should in my view be reinforced with more irrefutable and conclusive justifications.

Site GR133 would be one of the most elevated developments in Westhill and would be fully exposed to the worst of the winter storms. Previous and current proposals rely on completely inadequate secondary access, which would not provide independent access to the majority of proposed housing. Experience on Blacklaws Brae makes it inevitable that the majority of houses would be isolated by severe winter storms with the added complication of multiple cars having to be abandoned, blocking Blacklaws Brae and backing into Westhill Drive. The site, by the Planning Departments' own admission, is technically difficult to develop and requires relaxation of road construction standards. The site does not conform with development policy with respect to making best use of south facing slopes and making best use of direct sunlight or seeking to shelter developments from cold winds. The proposal for development does not comply with the style and setting of existing housing at elevation in Westhill.

I do not know if the Planning department or the council have powers to permanently remove sites from future consideration but would appreciate consideration of any means to discourage future proposals for this particular site. It must be apparent that, of all the potential housing sites in Garioch, site GR133 is one of the least suited for development.