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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

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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

Scottish Land & Estates (SLE) is a member organisation that uniquely represents the interests of both land managers and land-based businesses in rural Scotland. SLE has members with interests in a great variety of land uses within Aberdeenshire. In responding to this consultation we have left the majority to be addressed by our members' individual responses. Instead, we have some general comments relating to feedback from our membership that we would like to highlight.

SLE recognises the critical role that planning can and should play in developing Scotland's rural communities, both in terms of housing provision and opportunities for business growth and infrastructure development. Along with Aberdeenshire Council we would like to see the planning system enable delivery of sustainable development that will allow communities within Aberdeenshire to thrive.

Small working rural communities that depend on land-based businesses are part of the regions heritage and helping those communities thrive and grow should be a key priority embedded into the Authority's vision. SLE members are already important delivery partners in terms of housing, tourism, employment provision and conservation etc., within Aberdeenshire. It is our desire to see continued collaboration with the planning authority to enable delivery to continue and for our rural communities to thrive.

The matter of housing clusters and the definition of small-scale is something that could have been considered in the MIR. Feedback from our members is that there is a growing perception that within the planning authority money can be saved by limiting housing in the countryside and that fragile rural communities are being excluded from development opportunity purely on the basis that they are small. We consider a way of addressing this could be to demonstrate a clear willingness to permit appropriate housing in remote rural areas that not only add to existing small clusters, but which also sit in isolation, provided they meet appropriate requirements. This could be done by revisiting the matter of housing clusters and the definition of small-scale.

There also remain concerns that the local authority is overly prescriptive in its housing allocation policies. This may be a reflection of how the Housing Needs and Demand Assessments are applied in a specific area which does not consider those people who are not on the housing list. We would suggest that a flexible approach is taken so that sparsely populated rural communities are not disadvantaged because of existing circumstances, rendering them unable to adapt when circumstances change. Broadly speaking, appropriate development should be encouraged community-wide through generous housing allocations.



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Your comments (continued)

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