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Please tick to confirm your agreement to the following statements: **Confirmed.**

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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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	YES <input 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

Following discussion with various representatives at the Banchory Town Hall Open Day on 7/03/2019, we would like to make the following comments regarding the MIR and the Banchory section of its MAR Appendix.

1) Banchory High Street Sustainability

We strongly support the recognition of the need to ensure sustainability of the original town centre in Banchory High Street as far as is practical. There are (too) many empty retail units in the high street. The proposed imposition of car parking fees apparently as part of an Aberdeenshire Policy is unlikely to assist. One large retail unit has already moved to the east of Banchory.

The proposed “modest” retail park MR014 would need careful handling in consultation with appropriate parties representing the existing High Street Businesses to ‘limit competition’ as noted in your text.

2) We note that several developments (MR040, MR041, MR056, MR062...) are not preferred since, amongst other observations, they are seen as “not integrating well with the existing settlement pattern”. We would support this view and would add that Development of Increasingly Car Dependant (Satellite) sub-communities without public transport would likely compound the degradation of Banchory High Street.

3) Cycleway and Pathway provision and development. The introduction to the Banchory Section notes that “Opportunity should be taken to improve footpath and cycle path provision and utilising the Deeside Way for greater connectivity throughout the town”.

The Deeside Way and the cycle path network are excellent for recreation, but from a cycle-commuting perspective are remote from, and not connected to, the town centre and many of its existing retail and sport centre destinations

We feel that cycling to new retail and sporting developments should be facilitated. For example by providing on-road or off road cycle-lanes to allow those who commute by bicycle to reach these destinations more safely, and provision of cycle storage facilities at those destinations.

The introductory sentence might be reworded as “Opportunity should be taken to improve footpath and cycle path provision and utilising the Deeside Way and *facilitating on-road cycling where necessary* for greater connectivity throughout the town”.

4) South of the River (MR028/MR030/MR031)

We strongly support the Council Officers Views that developments south of the river would impact negatively on the character and attractiveness of the town. The vista of Scolty Hill and the hills beyond are a large part of what defines Banchory for residents and visitors. Approvals to begin even small developments South of the River in any form would fast become the thin end of the wedge.

Your comments (continued)