

ABERDEEN CITY VOICE

3RD QUESTIONNAIRE

WELCOME

Here is the 3rd Questionnaire for Citizen Panellists. It covers some very important services and we hope you find this of interest. The questionnaire is the longest yet, therefore if you feel that the time commitment to complete the full questionnaire is too great, please consider answering those questions of greatest interest to you.

CLEAN CITY

To improve efficiency, we are considering extending the hours of the refuse collection service. It is not intended to start earlier, but instead to finish later.

1. Collection of Domestic Refuse Service

- (A) In general would you be in favour of the proposal to collect domestic refuse in your area until 7.30pm Monday to Friday?

Yes No

- (B) Would you be in favour of the introduction of a domestic refuse collection on Saturdays in your area until 7.30pm?

Yes No

- (C) What do you consider would be an alternative suitable finishing time? _____

- (D) Do you have any comments to make on these proposals which you feel have not been covered by your response to questions (a) to (c) above _____

2. Collection Of Segregated Recyclables

The Council currently has a separate collection for household paper waste, and it is also rolling out a garden waste collection service. We plan to increase the amount of waste recycled to 25% of the total produced by households within the next few years. To achieve this we need to collect other recyclable items from homes, such as glass, plastic bottles and cans. The Council is piloting a scheme of collecting recyclable waste and in order to consider how best to "roll out" this initiative across

the City we are asking Panellists for their views. Please be aware that a “Yes” response does not mean you will be immediately involved in this scheme, but depending on the responses from other Panellists in your neighbourhood area you may be involved earlier in the “roll out”.

(A) Would you be willing to take part in a voluntary scheme to collect recyclable waste?

Yes No

3. “Two Items Free” And “Special Collections”

Each household in Aberdeen is entitled to have two bulky items of household furniture collected for disposal free of charge, twice a year. There is also a special collection service, for which householders are charged according to the amount of waste involved. (Please tick relevant box or boxes.)

(A) Do you know of the service?

Two Items Free Special Collections

(B) Do you support retaining the existing service where items to be collected are left outside to await collection within the following few days.

Yes No

(C) Do you support introducing appointment times for these type of collections ie arranging a particular day when items should be left out for collection?

Yes No

Any further comments _____

4. Street Cleansing

The Litter Code, which is compulsory, requires streets be cleaned up until 8pm seven days a week. Work is now in hand to extend, over time, Aberdeen's current hours of street cleaning to comply with this.

(A) Do you support the extension of mechanical street sweeping to 8pm, 7 days of the week in the following areas:-

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|
| (1) City Centre | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (2) Shopping Centres
outwith the City Centre | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (3) The whole City | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |

ROADS/TRANSPORT SURVEY

The road network is the one service provided by the Council that is used by almost every citizen on a daily basis. Aberdeen City Council has around 880km of roads, 1200km of footways and over 30,000 street lights to manage and maintain. Roads are also locations for many other services we use, such as telephone lines, electricity, gas, water and sewers.

The following questions seek to gather your views on the wide range of ways in which Aberdeen's roads are managed and maintained.

5. Your Travel

(A) How do you usually travel to work? (Please tick one box only.)

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Car Driver | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cycle | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Car Passenger | <input type="checkbox"/> | Walk | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taxi | <input type="checkbox"/> | Motorcycle | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Train | <input type="checkbox"/> | Works Van | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bus | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

(B) Outside work, what methods of transport do you use? (Please tick one box only.)

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Car Driver | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cycle | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Car Passenger | <input type="checkbox"/> | Walk | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taxi | <input type="checkbox"/> | Motorcycle | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Train | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bus | <input type="checkbox"/> |

6. Traffic Management

The term 'traffic management' is not about forward planning of the transport network but about how existing road use is adjusted or regulated to meet agreed objectives. The Council consults with local communities over traffic management more than they are required to do by legislation.

(A) Are you familiar with the term Area Traffic Management?

- Yes No

Area Traffic Management is the process of identifying and developing proposals to change the way that roads are used. Aberdeen City Council invites input from the local community at an early stage, and uses this input to help draw up proposals. Then the Council carries out a statutory (legally required) consultation on these.

- (B) There are three stages when members of the public are invited to comment on Area Traffic Management ((1) at an early stage where problems of Traffic Management are being identified, (2) once preliminary proposals are made and (3) formal statutory consultation).

What method do you think is the best method, in terms of value for money, of letting people in the area know about the consultation? (Please tick as many boxes as are relevant).

Letter to every property	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Notice in Press	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feature in the local press	<input type="checkbox"/>	Notices on the Street	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leaflets	<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio Adverts	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other Comments _____

7. (A) In the past 3 years, have you ever participated in a public consultation at any stage in the process to develop Area Traffic Management or parking proposals?

Yes No

What stage of consultation was it?

Preliminary Statutory Don't know

- (B) If you haven't, was it due to lack of awareness of the consultation?

Yes No

- (C) If you participated were the issues you raised adequately dealt with?

Yes No Don't Know

- (D) Have you ever objected to a traffic order? (If No please go to question 7(H))

Yes No

(E) Did you meet with officials to discuss the issues raised?

Yes No

(F) Did you consider that you had sufficient opportunity to highlight your comments?

Yes No

(G) Do you think your comments were adequately reported to Councillors?

Yes No Don't Know

(H) The process through the legal procedures and implementation can take over two years. Is this an acceptable timescale?

Yes No

(I) Comments _____

8. Road Safety

Statistically, Aberdeen has seen the greatest rate of reduction in road accidents over the past twenty years in the UK. This has been achieved through various methods.

Which of the following do you consider are important in continuing to make our roads safer. (Please circle the preferred number against each response.)

	Not Important				Very Important
(A) Yellow Lines preventing parking	1	2	3	4	5
(B) Advisory 20mph limits	1	2	3	4	5
(C) Mandatory 20mph limits	1	2	3	4	5
(D) Traffic Calming	1	2	3	4	5
(E) Pedestrian Refuge Islands at bus stops	1	2	3	4	5
(F) Zebra Crossings	1	2	3	4	5

	Not Important				Very Important
(G) Traffic Light Crossings	1	2	3	4	5
(H) Upgrading Roads in the Countryside	1	2	3	4	5
(I) Low speed zones around Schools	1	2	3	4	5
(J) Enforcement (Speed /Red Light/ Bus Lane) Cameras	1	2	3	4	5
(K) Road Safety Education for Children	1	2	3	4	5
(L) Road Safety Education for Adults	1	2	3	4	5
(M) Road Signs and Lines	1	2	3	4	5

Please list (using the letters A to M) which of the three areas above you consider are the most important.

9. Cycling

There is an increasing number of cyclists on our roads and there are more bicycles sold in the UK each year than there are cars. For some people cycling is a recreational activity but they are reluctant to use this as a regular means of travel to work, for various reasons.

(A) Do you have regular access to a bike?

Yes No

If no, please go to question 9(F)

(B) Do you cycle regularly?

Yes No

(C) If yes, do you cycle for commuting or for recreation/fitness?

To work Recreation
(commuting)

(D) How far do you cycle if commuting to work (single journey)? _____

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Under 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Between 5 to 10 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Between 1 to 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Over 10 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Between 3 to 5 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

(E) Do you use sign-posted routes or the most direct route

- Signed Direct

(F) If you don't cycle to work, why not?
(Tick as many boxes as apply)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Not enough time | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Distance too far | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No safe route | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No shower facilities at workplace | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Too many cars | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The weather | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No secure storage | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Routes not direct enough | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Too many parked cars obstructing route | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cycle Lanes are not continuous | <input type="checkbox"/> |

10. Buses

A key element of the Council's Local Transport Strategy is to introduce measures that could encourage greater use of public transport.

(A) How often do you use buses as a form of travel?

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Daily | <input type="checkbox"/> | Occasionally | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| More than once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> | Never | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Weekly | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

- (B) When deciding on whether to use buses, which of the following factors do you consider to be important (circle the relevant number against each response)

	Not Important				Very Important
	1	2	3	4	5
The frequency of the Service	1	2	3	4	5
The proximity to your home or destination	1	2	3	4	5
The speed of journey	1	2	3	4	5
The cost	1	2	3	4	5
Exact fare payment	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of vehicle	1	2	3	4	5
Lack of personal space	1	2	3	4	5
The reliability of the service	1	2	3	4	5
The availability of timetable and route information	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of shelters	1	2	3	4	5
Real time information on bus arrivals	1	2	3	4	5
The weather	1	2	3	4	5
Personal Security	1	2	3	4	5

- (C) Which parts of the City do you consider need better public transport? _____

- (D) In terms of bus route information, do you prefer a city street map or a 'London Underground' map style of public information?

Street Map

Underground

11. Parking

The issue of parking and its availability is regularly raised with the Council and its partners. This section attempts to deal with three of the topics, availability of parking, the quality of parking, and the charges.

Availability

- (A) When parking in the city centre where do you normally park? (please tick locations). Do you also find a space easily at these locations? (please circle yes or no)

<u>Location</u>		<u>Available Spaces</u>
Trinity Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Bon Accord Centre (Loch Street)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Bon Accord Centre (Berry Street)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Denburn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
College Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Chapel Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Gallowgate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
East North Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Justice Mill Lane	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Market Stance (Justice Street)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Shiprow	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Union Row	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
Summer Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
West North Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No
On Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes / No

Others (Please name) _____

(B) Do you believe there is enough car parking in the city centre?

Yes No

(C) If not, where should more parking be provided? _____

Quality

(D) When deciding on where to park which of the following factors do you consider to be important (scale your ranking from no importance to great importance)

	Not Important				Very Important
	1	2	3	4	5
Convenience to Location Visited	1	2	3	4	5
Appearance	1	2	3	4	5
Security	1	2	3	4	5
Lighting	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of Spaces	1	2	3	4	5
Presence of Attendants	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness	1	2	3	4	5
Toilets	1	2	3	4	5
Direction Signing	1	2	3	4	5
Cost	1	2	3	4	5
Presence of Parking Wardens	1	2	3	4	5
Payment Method	1	2	3	4	5

Comments _____

Charges

- (E) There are different charges for on and off street parking, based on the closeness to the city centre and on the length of stay. There are also permits available for various groups i.e. residents and businesses. In terms of value for money how do you rate the charges for parking in Aberdeen? (Please circle the relevant number against each response. If you do not have experience of any particular charges just leave blank.)

	Very Poor		Average		Very Good
On Street in the City Centre	1	2	3	4	5
On Street in the Peripheral Areas (e.g. Ferryhill, Rosemount)	1	2	3	4	5
Off Street Short Stay (e.g. Gallowgate)	1	2	3	4	5
Off Street Multi-Storey (e.g. Chapel Street)	1	2	3	4	5
Residents Permits	1	2	3	4	5
Business Permits	1	2	3	4	5

12. Roadworks

Roadworks are becoming a more common occurrence on the network as repairs are required not only to the road but also to electricity cable, gas mains, water mains and sewers under the carriageway and footways. For public safety reasons road closures are sometimes required, causing inconvenience to road users. Prior notification and signage are important aspects of the public being aware of what is going on and why. What do you think of the way that roadworks are managed? (Please circle the relevant number against each response.)

	Very Poor		Average		Very Good
Advanced Notification of Works	1	2	3	4	5
Advanced Signage	1	2	3	4	5
Information on-site	1	2	3	4	5
Barriers and Signage at Roadworks	1	2	3	4	5
Measures for Pedestrians	1	2	3	4	5
Courtesy to General Public	1	2	3	4	5

	Very Poor		Average		Very Good
Working Hours on Site	1	2	3	4	5
Tidiness of Site	1	2	3	4	5
Standard of Completed Works	1	2	3	4	5

13. Performance

The Council has a responsibility to get the best value for the money it spends on any service. It will help us plan for the future if we know what your understanding is of the service we offer at present.

(A) Do you know which roads in Aberdeen are the responsibility of the Scottish Executive rather than the Council?

Yes No

(B) Do you know how to contact the Council to report road defects

(a) During Office Hours

Yes No

(b) Out of Hours

Yes No

(C) Do you get sufficient explanation as to why works are being undertaken?

Yes No

(D) Are you aware that grit boxes (yellow boxes) are for public use?

Yes No

In the following section could you rank your response to each category from very poor to very good.

(E) Time taken for repairs.
(Please circle the relevant number beside each response.)

	Very Poor		Average		Very Good
(a) Street lights	1	2	3	4	5
(b) Footways	1	2	3	4	5
(c) Carriageways	1	2	3	4	5
(d) Road Drains	1	2	3	4	5
(e) Traffic Signs	1	2	3	4	5
(f) Road Markings	1	2	3	4	5
(g) Traffic Lights	1	2	3	4	5
(h) Overgrown Vegetation	1	2	3	4	5
(i) Consideration for Road Users During Repairs	1	2	3	4	5
(j) Treatment of Carriageways during Ice and Snow	1	2	3	4	5
(k) Treatment of Footways during Ice and Snow	1	2	3	4	5
(l) Tidiness of Site after completion of Works	1	2	3	4	5

Comments _____

14. The Internet

The Internet is becoming an additional tool the Council uses to improve its delivery of service. This section seeks feedback from you on how the Council website should be used in terms of roads and transport.

(A) Do you have access to the Internet?

Yes No

(B) Do you use it regularly?

Yes No

(C) Are you aware that you can report faults (traffic lights, potholes, street lights etc) via the Council's website?

Yes No

(D) Have you ever used this service?

Yes No

(E) If so, did you find the service useful?

Yes No

(F) If not how could it be improved? _____

(G) As far as the Roads service is concerned, which items of information should be prioritised for publishing on the website? (please tick a maximum of 3 boxes)

Car Parking Info	<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Performance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Info on which roads the Council is responsible for maintaining	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bus and Train Timetables	<input type="checkbox"/>
User Feedback	<input type="checkbox"/>	Info on Larger Transport Schemes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bus Route Maps	<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy Documents	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. Impression of the Network

As a road user you may have various locations where you are dissatisfied or have concerns about the condition of the network. Please complete the following questions if you wish, you do not need to respond to all the questions.

(A) As a Pedestrian can you highlight up to five locations in the City where you feel safety could be improved.

(B) As a cyclist (ignore if you never cycle) highlight up to five locations in the City where you feel safety could be improved.

(C) As a car driver or passenger can you highlight up to five locations in the City where you feel safety could be improved.

- (D) As a road user can you identify up to five locations in the City where you consider congestion affects your journey the most.

- (E) Can you identify up to five locations where major road repairs in the City are required

16. Other Information

If you have any other comments about roads in Aberdeen or information relating to one of the questions above then please use the space below.

SAFETY

17. Grampian Police have operated a CCTV system in Aberdeen City Centre for the past seven years. The system was originally funded by a group of interested parties, including the City Centre Traders Association, Grampian Police and Aberdeen City Council. Originally it only included a handful of cameras. A recent expansion of the system to include the Beach area means that there are now 71 cameras in place, monitored on a 24 hour, 7 day basis by civilian employees of Grampian Police based at Queen Street, Aberdeen.

The system has proved to be an extremely invaluable tool with regard to Crime Prevention and Detection. In the past, evidence from CCTV footage has formed part of high profile cases, including a case of Murder where the footage was used to prove the accused's involvement in the crime. The CCTV Unit regularly traces wanted and missing persons, and can alert Police Units of any impending disorder situations, hopefully preventing these incidents escalating into major incidents.

- (A) In general do you agree with the installation of CCTV in Aberdeen?

Yes No Don't Know

- (B) In your opinion what effect does CCTV have on the following crimes/types of behaviour?

	Eliminate	Greatly Reduce	Slightly Reduce	No Effect
Vandalism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drunkenness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Disorder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assault	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Violence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shoplifting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mugging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug Offences	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- (C) Please state your level of agreement with the following statements relating to CCTV in Aberdeen.

	Strongly Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Makes you feel safer at night	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Makes you feel safer during the day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Strongly Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Invades your privacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Moves crime to other areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has no effect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Costs too much	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce the number of officers patrolling the town centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Help the Police respond more quickly to street crime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(D) Has your behaviour changed with the introduction of CCTV?

Yes No

(E) Please explain your answer below

18. Project Aberdeen

This project was initiated with the aim of facilitating the implementation of Intelligence Led Policing across Aberdeen. It features a review of the Force structure and is considering ways of providing an improved policing service to our communities and making better use of our resources. 'Project Aberdeen' has already merged Bucksburn and Queen Street into one City Division as of 1 April 2003 and the application of Intelligence Led Policing across Aberdeen has since contributed very positively to the fight against crime and a reduction in certain categories of crime in the city. It is anticipated that additional benefits of this reorganisation will include:

- Further development of Intelligence Led Policing methods across the entire City.
- Greater direct contact between the community and police staff.
- Increase operational cohesion and efficiency within the City and lead to the creation of more effective relationships with the Local Authority and other partner Agencies.

(A) Were you aware of the recent unification of the Queen Street and Bucksburn Command Areas?

Yes No

(B) Do you feel that this unification will assist Grampian Police to be able to deploy resources in a more efficient manner?

Yes No Don't Know

(C) Intelligence Led Policing (ILP) has indicated that by targeting resources to identify crime trends Grampian Police will be afforded the opportunity to direct their resources more effectively.

Do you think that consideration should be given to further develop this concept?

Yes No Don't Know

(D) By restructuring the resources of Grampian Police it is intended to further develop and improve joint approach methods utilised by the police, Local Authorities and other associated agencies. This may involve an Inspector taking direct responsibility for a particular area to improve these relationships.

Do you feel that this reorganisation would allow these improvements to take place?

Yes No Don't Know

PLANNING18. (A) Local Plan Preparation

This part of the questionnaire is designed to identify the level of awareness amongst Panellists of the consultation on the Local Plan

- (a) Are you aware that a New Local Plan is being prepared for Aberdeen?

Yes No

- (b) Do you think the publicity for how to get involved in the Local Plan Process is adequate?

Yes No

- (c) What knowledge do you have of the Local Plan preparation process so far?

- (d) Has the message of the New Local Plan 'Green Spaces -New Places' been spread to you by your local community council or local community group?

Yes No

(B) Involvement

- (a) Have you been to any Local Plan events in the past three months?

Yes No

- (b) How involved do you feel in the Local Plan preparation process?
-
- Please circle the relevant response

Not Involved Aware

Involved Actively Involved

- (c) What steps could be made to make you feel more involved?

- (d) How do you wish to be consulted on any changes affecting your area which are included in the local Plan?

CONTENT OF THE NEW LOCAL PLAN

19. (A) Development Strategy

The Development Strategy for the new Local Plan “Green Spaces - New Places” was approved for consultation at the Development Plan Sub-Committee on the 11th September, 2003. If you wish to obtain a copy of this document, it is available on the council’s website at: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk Copies can also be obtained from the Planning Service in St. Nicholas House. These questions are designed only for those Panellists who wish to comment in detail on the Plan, please do not feel you must answer these questions or track down a copy of the document referred to. Part of what we are trying to analyse is what knowledge Panellists have as members of the public. **If you are not aware of the paper “Green Spaces - New Places” or do not wish to submit a view please go to question 19(B).**

(1) Does the Development Strategy contained in “Green Spaces - New Places” strike the correct balance between economic growth and protecting and enhancing the unique countryside of Our City?

Yes No

(2) The document sets out four development scenarios, what are your views on these?

- Incremental expansion

- High Density Urban

- WPR Development Corridor

- Green Network and Development Fingers

(B) Greenfield : Brownfield Shift

The Structure Plan, North East Scotland Together (NEST), allocates 5700 new homes to Aberdeen between January 2000 - December 2010 of which
1200 homes (21% of 5700 total) were on greenfield sites
4500 homes (79% of 5700 total) were on brownfield sites

Due to severe shortages of affordable family housing in the City, a slow down in the development of new housing compared to flats, and a lack of brownfield sites in Aberdeen; it was decided whilst working within the total allocation of new housing to Aberdeen that the New Local Plan should **adjust** the split between the greenfield and brownfield housing to:

2700 homes (47% of 5700 total) on greenfield sites
3000 homes (53% of 5700 total) on brownfield sites

Do you agree with the proposed adjustment?

Yes No

(C) Development Land Requirements

The Structure Plan NEST approved by the Scottish Ministers in 2001 requires that 2300 new housing units and 40-75 hectares of marketable employment land be provided in Aberdeen. These must be allocated through the New Local Plan "Green Spaces - New Places", where do you think it would be most appropriate for this to be accommodated?

(D) Distribution

Which of the following options do you prefer:

- (a) spread the new development land throughout the City so that all areas take a share
- (b) focus on a development corridor to ensure a critical mass for new services, shops, schools, etc. is reached

(E) Development Area

Is there a need for more housing / employment / business land / facilities in the following areas. If you don't wish to comment on any particular area please leave blank.

	Housing		Employment / Business Land		Services	
Murcar	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Mundurno	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Whitestripes	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Dyce	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Newhills	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Maidencraig	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Hazlehead	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Deeside	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Cove/Loirston	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

(F) Community Identity

Do you think the new development areas / communities should be bound in with existing areas, to allow sharing, support and regeneration for existing and new facilities, or kept more separate to develop unique identities?

Bound in Separated

20. Masterplans

What are the main points you think need to be considered in the masterplanning of the new development areas and City GreenSpace? Please circle the relevant number beside each response.

	Not Important				Very Important
	1	2	3	4	5
Housing Design, house types	1	2	3	4	5
Provision of Affordable Housing	1	2	3	4	5
Urban Design	1	2	3	4	5

	Not Important				Very Important
	1	2	3	4	5
Designing Out Crime	1	2	3	4	5
Mix of New Uses	1	2	3	4	5
Linkages to countryside areas	1	2	3	4	5
Pedestrian and Cycle Routes	1	2	3	4	5
Maintenance of GreenSpaces	1	2	3	4	5
Protection of wildlife and biodiversity	1	2	3	4	5
	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Other factors you feel if it is important to consider: _____

21. New Uses

Which of the following types of new uses do you feel it is appropriate to include in the new development areas / communities?

Housing

Flats	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Housing	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sheltered Housing	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Affordable Housing	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business/Employment Land	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Schools

Primary Schools	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Academy	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Shops

Supermarket	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local / District Centre	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Community Facilities

Health Care facilities

Yes

No

Library

Yes

No

Other Uses (please state)

BUDGET

There are two main Revenue Budgets prepared by the Council on an annual basis.

1. **The General Fund Revenue Budget** - provides details of planned expenditure on all Services – apart from Council Housing. The Current year's General Fund Revenue Budget is around £330 million. The funding of these services comes from three sources:

- a) Revenue Support Grant funding from the Scottish Executive
- b) Council Taxes
- c) Fees and charges for the use of specific Council Services

The majority of funding comes from Scottish Executive grants (75% of the annual funding requirement). The remainder is generated by Council Taxes (23%) with fees and charges generating around 2% of the overall funding requirement.

There is a big difference in the proportion of the Council income that comes from the Scottish Executive Grant compared to Council Tax income, a ratio of approximately 3:1.

This means that any shortfall in Scottish Executive funding to maintain an acceptable level of services will result in a disproportionate percentage increase in the level of Council Taxes.

The City Council, like all other local authorities, has a difficult balancing act to perform between providing adequate levels of service provision and affordable Council Tax increases.

The Band D Council Tax, i.e. the middle banding is £1,020 per annum, which equates to £19.61 per week.

2. **The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget** – meets the cost of maintenance, administration and management of the Council's housing stock. The annual HRA budget is around £55 million. The main source of income to meet this expenditure is from Council House rents.

The Council is not permitted to make any contribution from the General Fund Budget to the HRA Budget, i.e. the Council Taxpayer makes no contribution toward the cost of Council Housing. The average weekly rent is £43.22.

22. Overall, do you think that Aberdeen City Council does the best it can with the money available?

- Yes No Don't Know

Are there any areas where you think that Council services do not provide value for money?

When making decisions about future spending plans, which of the following options do you think the Council should take? (Please tick one box only)

- Maintain current levels of service, even if this means an increase in Council Tax
- Improve current levels of service, even if this means a greater increase in Council Tax
- Reduce the current levels of service to keep any Council Tax rises to a minimum

GENERAL COMMENTS

Are there any comments you wish to make about being a Panellist, the information you receive or this questionnaire which you wish to make

Name _____

Address _____

Questionnaires will be accepted until 14th January (to recognise the Christmas mail situation) but only those questionnaires received by 19th December will qualify for the prize draw of £20 Marks & Spencer vouchers for two Panellists. Please tick the box below if you do not want your name (we would never print addresses under any circumstances) to be included in the next newsletter if you are a prize winner.
Questionnaires should be returned in the post paid envelope provided to:

**Hazel Spalding
Assistant Director (Committee)
Legal and Democratic Services
Town House
Aberdeen
AB10 1AQ**

If you have any questions Hazel can be contacted on Direct Dial 522607 or e-mail at hspalding@legal.aberdeen.net.uk

Thank you for your help.