

PP0864

Planning Policy Team
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28 July 2020

Dear Sirs

Your Reference: **LDP 2021 NN**

I wish to object to the Proposed Local Development Plan with respect to the alteration to the Greenbelt boundaries in Potterton to include two development sites, OP1 and OP2 for the following reasons:

Up until now the village of Potterton has nestled within the greenbelt area of Aberdeen. Any alteration to the greenbelt in this area constitutes erosion of the greenbelt and has implications for its long-term integrity

There are already plans for housing developments within the surrounding villages and neighbouring Bridge of Don suburbs, which allow more than 6000 residential units to be built. With the current contraction of the oil industry in Aberdeen and the decline of North Sea oil assets, there are less employment opportunities in the area. Hence forth there will be less demand for housing. With innovative technologies, the world is moving away from its reliance on petroleum and moving towards green energy. Technology now allows us to manufacture plastics from bacteria and ecologically sustainable materials. Our distance from the central belt and over reliance on the oil industry of the past, means that innovative manufacturing will not be inclined to locate in this area.

Recently with the Covid 19 pandemic our lives have irretrievably changed. We no longer require to be in the same location or country to access our work. This has implications for the housing of the area, as we discover we do not require to relocate to work.

Changing the boundaries of Potterton to accommodate a new residential development of 233 houses would increase the village size by 60%. This has implications for transport, sewage, education and village amenities. At present the bus service is one bus every 2 hours. Increased vehicle traffic on the narrow country roads with their passing places and blind summits and within the village, has safety implications and the potential to damage the roads and verges. There are already traffic calming measures on Panmure Gardens, which when residents' vehicles are parked outside their homes, cause major traffic flow obstructions. Any increase in vehicle traffic would exacerbate existing problems. Balmedie sewage treatment works is already operating at capacity for the existing proposed housing, without the addition of any additional residential developments within this proposed plan. Balmedie primary school is already operating at near capacity. The children from Potterton are zoned for secondary schools in Bridge of Don, not Ellon. With the tremendous expansion of the Bridge of Don suburbs and the creation of the Granholm settlement, secondary school provision for our children is already compromised.

Due to both the Bridge of Don suburbs and this area's current expansion, there are existing problems with healthcare provision. New residential development will only make the problem worse.

The residents of Potterton have not been consulted by the Community Council or any authority over potential movement of the village boundaries, in this proposed plan. Should the community not have been consulted for their opinions and input before alterations were made that would affect the residents?

I was brought up in Potterton and I prefer the rural small village environment. It feels safe and has a strong sense of community and belonging. Potterton may have few amenities, but this is easily accessible with modern transport. It would be a shame if others cannot experience the same or similar upbringing as I experienced, by living in a small community such as Potterton.

Please consider the above points before any final decisions are taken

Yours sincerely

Miss E Jenkins