



T: 0300 244 4000  
E: [scottish.ministers@gov.scot](mailto:scottish.ministers@gov.scot)

Ms Annemarie O'Donnell  
Chief Executive  
Glasgow City Council  
Chief Executive Office  
City Chambers  
George Square  
Glasgow  
G2 1DU  
By email to: [Annemarie.odonnell@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:Annemarie.odonnell@glasgow.gov.uk)

Our ref: A16321077

22 December 2016

*Dear Annemarie,*

**Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997  
Notice of Intention to Adopt – Glasgow City Local Development Plan (LDP)**

I refer to correspondence from your colleague Andrew Dale of 4 November 2016, certifying notice of Glasgow City Council's intention to adopt the Glasgow City Local Development Plan.

I write to confirm that Scottish Ministers do not propose to issue a Direction in the case of this plan. The Council may, in accordance with the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, therefore proceed to adopt the proposed plan as submitted to Ministers. Two copies of the Glasgow City Local Development Plan should be sent to Scottish Ministers in due course.

My decision to approve the plan has not been made lightly. During my consideration, I have noted with real disappointment the serious deficiencies highlighted by the examination Reporters regarding housing and economic development matters. Despite this, I accept their recommendations that the most appropriate means of dealing with these deficiencies is to carry out an early review of the plan. Adopting the Glasgow City LDP will mean it will replace the current local plan, which being over 7 years old does not provide a strong basis on which to make decisions on planning applications.

You will be aware of the Scottish Government's commitment to providing much needed housing in Scotland and I am of the view that planning has a significant role in enabling this, particularly for our country's largest city. As the Minister with responsibility for planning and housing I am very concerned that the shortfall of housing provision is of such a significant scale at the start of the plan period. I hope that you share this serious concern.

With regard to the review of economic development sites, the Reporter found that it was highly unsatisfactory that it did not take place as part of the preparation of the local development plan. I welcome the fact that that review is now progressing. However, had it been resolved earlier it may have provided contributions to sustainable economic growth, regeneration and potentially, the above housing situation.

I fully support the recommendation to carry out an early review of the LDP and expect this will be carried out expeditiously. It will be in the context of the second Strategic Development Plan for the Clydeplan area, which is due to complete its process in early 2017. I expect the Council's leadership of the review process to fully address the issues around housing provision and to result in a plan in which communities and investors can have greater confidence.

In notifying me of your intention to adopt the plan, you also indicated that in a large number of instances you were declining to accept the Reporters' recommendations. This was on the basis that the appointed persons could not have reasonably reached their conclusion based on the evidence considered in the course of the examination. It is the responsibility of the planning authority to satisfy itself that it has met the terms of the Town and Country Planning (Ground for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009.

Due to the number of modifications declined it would be appropriate to provide a clear and concise explanation of them on the webpage where the plan will be published. This will assist with transparency, enabling readers to understand differences between the recommendations in the Examination Report and the plan as adopted.

I would welcome a meeting with you to discuss the above issues further.

Yours sincerely,  
Kevin Stewart

**KEVIN STEWART**

Copied by email to:

Forbes Barron, Head of Planning ([Forbes.Barron@glasgow.gsx.gov.uk](mailto:Forbes.Barron@glasgow.gsx.gov.uk))  
Andy Dale, Principal, City Development Plan Team ([Andy.Dale@glasgow.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:Andy.Dale@glasgow.gcsx.gov.uk))  
Sam Taylor, City Strategic Policy ([Sam.Taylor@glasgow.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.Taylor@glasgow.gcsx.gov.uk))