

June Minutes of Community Council- para. 5.2 Fife Structure Plan.

The Structure Plan was originally published in March 2005 and was approved by Scottish Ministers in May 2009. There were a huge number of objections, including those from Dundee and Edinburgh City Councils, SNH, dozens of Community Councils and individuals, which have never been published or reported on.

What does this mean for St. Andrews? It is estimated that the built area of the town could increase by 40%, although the Strategic Study (published by the present Fife Council in 1998) concluded that St. Andrews was 'at its landscape capacity'. The previous Draft of the Local Plan said that in St. Andrews and East Fife the total urbanised land area could increase by about 15%.

In St. Andrews the proposals are for ,090 houses, plus a share of a further 930 houses in the St. Andrews Housing Market Area, with a distributor road, business and science parks (44 acres). A number of objectors have recorded concerns with statistics in the two Plans, particularly with regard to growth figures and the St. Andrews population figure.

Ms. Uprichard said that she was looking into the possibility of a legal challenge to the Structure Plan, for which a statutory six-week period is allowed after approval. She expressed disappointment that the Chairman had commented that Community Council was pleased with the progress of the Structure Plan, when so many people in St. Andrews and across Fife had objected to it. The Chairman replied that she had hoped that a line could be drawn under that matter, and that Community Council could concentrate on the Local Plan. Ms. Uprichard said that the only change of any note in the Structure Plan was that developers would in some cases now be required to 'contribute' to development, rather than funding it.

With reference to a legal challenge, Ms. Uprichard said that anybody pledging financial support would ONLY be liable for the amount pledged.