

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**PLANNING AND TRANSPORT POLICY COMMITTEE**

**13 JUNE 2002**

**SUBJECT: PLANNING AID SCOTLAND  
COMMUNITY LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS RAISING (CLEAR) SEMINAR**

**REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORT**

<p><b>Abstract:</b> This report seeks authorisation to support a Planning Aid Scotland led Community Local Environment Awareness Raising (CLEAR) seminar as part of widening community involvement and education in the planning process.</p>
---

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee agree to support the CLEAR project as part of widening community involvement and education in the development planning process.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

2.1 An approach has been received from Planning Aid Scotland to undertake a Community Local Environment Awareness Raising seminar (CLEAR) as part of widening community involvement in the planning process. This seminar will assist community groups better understand the local planning process in particular and how to input their views at various stages. It is intended that the event will be undertaken on Saturday, 14 September 2002, at a venue in Forfar. Details of the venue and timing remain to be finalised.

2.2 The event will be run and managed by Planning Aid Scotland with the Council asked to contribute to the cost of the venue and for catering. Invitations to attend will be issued to Community Councils and other local interest groups by Planning Aid Scotland and there will be no cost for participants to attend the seminar.

2.3 Members may recall that a similar exercise was undertaken as part of the Dundee and Angus Structure Plan process and proved to be very successful. It is hoped that the event to be staged in Angus will be similarly successful.

**3. DISCUSSION**

3.1 The Planning & Transport Policy Committee at their meeting on 24 January 2002 approved the commencement of the review and roll forward of the Adopted Angus Local Plan (Report 89/02 refers). Work is now progressing on taking the Local Plan to the consultation draft stage.

3.2 Implementation of the CLEAR seminar is separate from but complementary to any consultation process and arrangements that will be put in place by Angus Council as part of consulting on the new Draft Angus Local Plan. Details of the timing and arrangements associated with this important stage will be the subject of a separate

report to the Planning and Transport Policy Committee at the appropriate stage later this year.

- 3.3 The CLEAR project will however assist the community to become more aware of the importance of the local planning process, the various stages involved and the importance of community involvement and representation. As such the Planning aid Scotland initiative should be supported.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The nominal costs involved in the hire of venue and catering for the day will be contained within the Planning & Transport Revenue Budget for 2002/03.

#### **5 CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Law & Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

#### **6 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

#### **7 CONCLUSION**

- 7.1 The opportunity to stage a CLEAR seminar in Angus is a proactive approach to widening the involvement and education of the community in planning matters. Given that work has now commenced on the review and roll forward of the Angus Local Plan the staging of the seminar is timely and should be supported.

#### **NOTE**

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

AA/GDP/KW  
31 May 2002

Alex Anderson  
Director of Planning and Transport