



## **Full Speed Ahead for New Energy Community in Aberdeen City and Shire**

***“By 2025 Bridge of Don to Peterhead could be totally transformed”***

ACSEF has today announced that the delivery plans for the development of Energetica have been fully approved. The new energy community stretching north from the Bridge of Don to Peterhead and west to the airport could generate £750 million of investment in the region with much of the development taking place between 2011 and 2014.

In the plan ACSEF reveals how Energetica will link a string of highly attractive and distinct business and residential developments within the corridor, including the Trump golf resort, and create new transport links, including a unifying green network of coastal and inland footpaths and cycleways all of which will be energy efficient and low carbon.

Focused on key housing and industrial developments at Bridge of Don, Dyce, Balmedie, Potterton, Ellon and Peterhead, Energetica will create neighbourhood centres with high levels of local amenity.

All development will be subject to specific planning design criteria – Energetica Supplementary Guidance – which will ensure high quality, energy efficient buildings in attractive landscaped settings.

Key components of this new environment could include electricity generated by the European Offshore Wind deployment Centre in Aberdeen bay, an Energetica Smart Grid system to transport and deliver electricity, a pump storage facility to store any excess electricity produced through wind generation, test and research facilities for other forms of renewable energy and high quality, low carbon commercial and industrial accommodation.

ACSEF chairman, Tom Smith, said: “Already the Energetica concept has been included in the region’s structure plan and local development plans and progress has been made by Scottish Enterprise in ensuring the continued development of the science and energy parks with £9m of private investment and securing of land at Upperton for a new business park.

“The concept started as an idea by a handful of business people involved in shaping our vision for the future. With the publication of the delivery plan, Energetica has now become a tangible project that has the potential to significantly grow the economy and put Aberdeen City and Shire firmly on the map as a global energy hub. It is a true partnership project led by ACSEF but with much of the work being done by Scottish Enterprise, Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Council.”

Energetica is now central to Aberdeen City and Shire’s future economic ambition to position the region as a global energy hub with a focus on energy technologies. The aim is to create a unique business, leisure and residential destination that is built on low carbon, highly sustainable principles and capable of competing with the best locations in the world. This will involve:

- Attracting business founded on and inspired by the energy industry which promote and use renewable technologies
- Design criteria that promote sustainability and has low energy requirements
- High quality, low emission energy efficient buildings for business and residential use
- Sympathetic development that enhances the natural environment
- Radically improved transport arteries that make use of low emission technologies

The delivery plan sets out the investment required over the next two to three years, assessing potential impact and identifying the actions and associated resources needed. The plan drills down into the detail of the critical physical infrastructure that needs to be in place and identifies the opportunities for inward investment in terms of energy technologies and development of the existing energy supply chain. It also outlines how Energetica will offer a world-class place to live and work through the creation of an attractive environment offering high quality leisure and retail facilities.

The next step is to appoint a project director and project managers to manage the implementation of the delivery plan and progress the multi-strand workstreams, including preparing the business case and investment appraisals.

Ends (date)

***Issued on behalf of ACSEF by The BIG Partnership. For more information contact Zoe Corsi on 01224 615014 or 07973983243***

#### Notes to Editors:

The key actions in the delivery plan will focus around six distinct zones:

#### Peterhead Development Zone

- Complete feasibility study to create up to 16 acres of new, waterside development land.
- Deliver bespoke decommissioning/renewables infrastructure at the Port (utilising £1.5M ERDF)
- Deliver the 55 acre Energetica Industry Park - a centre for technical innovation in the service and maintenance of renewable power generation (wind, wave and tidal) equipment and light assembly of components used in renewable power generation.
- Facilitate/influence the Peterhead western residential development area providing 100 hectares of residential development land to the west of the town (£25 million).

#### Central Development Zone

- Facilitate/influence the proposed 40 hectares business park fronting the A90 to the north of Ellon for the development of high quality, energy efficient office and industrial accommodation powered by renewable energy sources.
- Complete the dualling of the A90 between Balmedie and Tipperty by 2014 at an estimated cost of £27 million.

## Blackdog Development Zone

- Influence the development of a strategically located 'gateway' development site at the junction of the proposed Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR) and the north bound A90 with a significant traffic junction that will provide stimulus for growth of existing Blackdog settlement including 600 new homes, a primary school, hotel, a park and ride facility and a destination regional food hall showcasing the best of the North East's culinary offer.

## Coastal Development Zone

- Deliver 100 hectares of development land stretching northwards from AECC to A90/B999 at Murcar, including:
  - Hotel development and AECC re-development.
  - Aberdeen Science and Energy Park expansion.
  - Kingfisher Business Park and Park & Ride (£150 million).
- Create a connection to Airport development Zone via the new Energetica Boulevard and a potential fourth Don crossing.
- Complete a feasibility study for the creation of an Academic Centre of Excellence in Energy technologies.

## Bridge of Don/Grandholme Residential Development Zone

- Support/facilitate the development of up to 2000 hectares of residential development land North of current Bridge of Don residential area, stretching Westwards from the A90 to the river Don, East of Dyce. Potential to accommodate up to 12,000 new family houses.
- Ensure a global Section 75 agreement is in place to ensure basic road and social infrastructure (schools, shops etc) are constructed during phase 1, with the remainder phased to match future provision.
- Ensure the development incorporates 50 hectares of economic development land to service a range of commercial requirements from community centre incubator and small business space to Grade A office pavilions and green sheds.
- Require the development to incorporate substantial element of public open space, parks and open leisure facilities (golf courses, sports parks etc).

## Airport Development Zone:

- Facilitate the delivery of 67 hectares of land with outline planning consent for a Business park and associated Hotel development(s).
- Deliver the AWPR/Airport Dual Carriageway Link Road and by 2013 and the remaining northern leg of the AWPR to Blackdog by 2014.
- Support BAA in its investment case for a runway extension.
- Deliver the Dyce Park & Ride site by 2013.
- Continue to work with private landowners to support investment in high quality employment developments on a phased basis.

- Market as a premier 'headquarter location' for companies.