

2017 Consultation Response Sheet

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Document title / ref	Consultation: (CPP / EconDevGeneral/ SHB ref)
Key	Black - Q1 – priority; Orange - Q2 – do different; Red - Q3 – stop doing; Q4 – start doing; Q5&6 – community; Staff
Heads of Service / Partner / Rep	Rhona Gunn Corporate Director: EDP&I
Categories	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We like & will investigate it 2. We are & this is an update 3. We can't take this forward & this is the reason why 4. We like & will explore more with the public 5. We acknowledge & can explain 6. We have reflected on our priorities & your comments will inform our future direction

Feedback/Comments Received:
Partnerships: Economic Development: General
Refer to:
CPP 230-18863 / Page 9 / Bullets 1-7
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic Development - because HIE do this 2. Economic development - stop 3. Enabling participation, so that under-employment and economic inactivity is stemmed. 4. Improved broadband and mobile phone network - no reception in areas - vital in digital age 5. spending unnecessary money on studies for this and that where there will be no economic benefit 6. Stop using the Economic Development section as everyone knows it is not fit for purpose. Perhaps use some of the savings to support Business Gateway and HIE. 7. Supporting rural communities.

Partner Response:
<p>On the suggestion that the Council should stop economic development because HIE does it the response is category 3: We can't take this forward as Economic Development involves a wide range of activities not undertaken by HIE, the community needs to provide and maintain the infrastructure to support and grow the local economy (employment) and local authorities are expected to help to drive economic growth largely because they are well placed to do so.</p> <p>On the suggestion of enabling participation, the response is category 2: The Moray Economic Partnership brings the public and private sectors together to facilitate employment and to attract and retain, skilled employment which is generally better paid.</p> <p>On the suggestion that improved broadband and mobile phone networks should be a priority Lead by HIE the response is category 2- this is a priority, in March 2017, 91% of premises have access to superfast broadband. The Scottish Government has committed to achieving 100% by 2021. Private sector Mobile Phone network providers are upgrading networks and improving coverage to enable 4G by the end of 2017.</p> <p>On the suggestions of not spending money on studies and the Council's economic development section, the response is that studies are required to determine the feasibility of investment,</p> <p>On the suggestion of that the Council's economic development section is not fit for purpose and to stop using it, we advise that economic development is not confined to the work of one</p>

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section in the Council, it cuts across several services. This misunderstanding likely lies in that the primary function of the Council's "economic development section" is to help Council services attract external funding and to provide business support, which includes Business Gateway support for small and medium sized enterprises. HIE's focus is providing support for large enterprises over 50 employees in key sectors of the economy as well as help to stimulate the economies of the more fragile rural communities.

On the suggestion of start supporting rural communities, the response is category 2: For example the National Park Authority, the Moray Council and Highlands and Islands partnership are facilitating the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Regeneration Plan, including the Landscape Partnership.

More information about [Economic Development](#)

The local government's role in Economic Development is guided by the Scottish Government's priorities and strategies. In partnership with organisations across all sectors, the Council is working on a [strategic plan](#) and operational level to maximise economic benefits through its strategies, decision making, investment and services. [Economic Development Annual Review 2015-16](#)

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