



REPORT TO: PLANNING AND REGULATORY SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 16 AUGUST 2022.

SUBJECT: 22/00900/PAN – NEW DISTILLERY PROCESS BUILDING BIO-PLANT OFFICES WAREHOUSING ACCESS ROAD AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AT MILTONDUFF DISTILLERY, MILTONDUFF, ELGIN, MORAY, IV30 8TQ

BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND FINANCE)

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee that a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) was submitted on 17 June 2022 on behalf of Chivas Brothes Limited.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (E) (1) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to exercising the statutory functions of the Council as a Planning Authority.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that:

- (i) in noting the terms of this report, the Committee advise upon any provisional views/relevant issues that Members of this Committee (or any other Member(s) of the Council) wish to raise about the proposed development so that these matters can be recorded and thereafter fed back to the prospective applicant in order to inform the development of their proposed formal application for planning permission; and
- (ii) the matters raised by the Committee also be forwarded to consultees likely to be involved in any formal application for planning permission for the proposal.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Scottish Government has published guidance which encourages elected members to highlight any issues with a proposed development at the pre-

application stage which they would wish to see taken into account within any formal application for planning permission.

- 3.2 Following consideration by this Committee on 11 November 2014 it was agreed that any PAN received after this date would be reported to Committee to give Members of the Committee, and the Council, the opportunity to identify any key issues/provisional views about the proposed development and that these matters be reported back to applicant (paragraph 4 of the Minute refers).
- 3.3 This current report is not about the merits of the proposed development but rather, based on local knowledge of local issues and wider concerns, etc. Members are invited to identify any matters relevant to the proposal. These will be reported back to the prospective applicant for their information and attention, and to inform the development of the proposed application. It is also proposed that, for information, Members' comments be forwarded to consultees likely to be involved in any formal application for planning permission for the proposal.
- 3.4 This PAN relates to a proposed new distillery process building, bio-plant, offices, warehousing, access road and associated infrastructure at MiltonDuff Distillery and land to the north east stretching north as far as the C class Elgin to Pluscarden Road. A plan is appended showing the location and extent of the site (**Appendix 1**). The site is large and extends to approximately 28 hectares and lies mostly within the Elgin Countryside Around Towns (CAT) designation as defined in Moray Local Development Plan 2020. There are several heritage assets of interest upon the site too such as archaeology records at the distillery itself and the C-listed Milton Dovecot west of the distillery. Some of the site covers the existing distillery with the remainder currently occupying agricultural land.
- 3.5 A formal response has been issued to the applicant's agent to confirm that the proposed arrangements for engaging with the local community are sufficient. The applicant proposes to consult with the Heldon Community Council, and undertake a previously advertised public consultation event in Miltonduff Village Hall.
- 3.6 For validation purposes for a major application, the applicant is required to submit a pre-application consultation report setting out the steps taken to consult with the local community together with details of comments made on the proposal and how the applicant has responded to all comments made on the proposal in the development of the application.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

Identifying key issues at an early stage to assist with front loading major planning applications is a vital aspect of supporting and facilitating the Council's priority for economic development in Moray.

(b) Policy and Legal

Scottish Government guidance on the role of councillors in pre-application procedures affords elected members the opportunity to offer general provisional views on forthcoming developments which are the subject of a PAN where the details of the development have yet to be finalised.

(c) Financial implications

None.

(d) Risk Implications

None.

(e) Staffing Implications

None.

(f) Property

None.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

None.

(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts

None.

(i) Consultations

Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), the Head of Economic Growth and Development, the Legal Services Manager, the Development Management and Building Standards Manager, the Equal Opportunities Officer, the Strategic Planning & Delivery Manager, and Lissa Rowan (Committee Services Officer) have been consulted, and comments received have been incorporated into the report.

Members of Moray Council who are not on this Committee have also been consulted and any views received on the proposal will be made known at the meeting

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Council has received a PAN intimating that a formal application for planning permission will be submitted for a major development proposal, in this case for permission for the development of a new distillery process building, bio-plant, offices, warehousing, access road and associated infrastructure. The Committee (and any other Member(s) of the Council) are asked to identify any provisional views/relevant issues which they would wish to see taken into account and inform the development of the proposal.**

Principal Planning Officer

Background Papers:

Ref:

22/00900/PAN