

APPENDIX 1

Compensatory Planting Consultation Responses

Online and Exhibition Responses

Response	Identified Site	Comment Summary	Additional Site Proposed	Response
001	Tininver Park (Dufftown)	Would be great to see more trees planted, as long as football pitch is unaffected. Ground is of a boggy nature and planting has not thrived in the past so might need some after care.	N/A	<p>Any proposals for compensatory planting will be designed so as to not compromise existing uses.</p> <p>The comment on the condition of the ground is noted and specialist advice will be sought on appropriate tree species for the site. Maintenance of trees provided as compensatory planting is included in the establishment costs.</p>
002	N/A	Proposes an additional site.	Moray Golf Course, Lossiemouth	Due to the proposed additional site's established use as a golf course, compensatory planting would have the potential to be at conflict with this and therefore the site is not considered suitable.
003	Land Adj. to Seafield Primary School (Elgin)	Seeking detail of what species, how many and exact locations of tree planting.	Bowling Green, Reidhaven St, Elgin	<p>The details of planting will be determined as part of the design process. The selection of species and numbers of trees will be considered on a site-by-site basis.</p> <p>Due to the proposed additional site's established use as a bowling green, compensatory</p>

				planting would conflict with this and therefore the site is not considered suitable.
004	Land Adj. to Seafield Primary School (Elgin)	Would provide a green space in town for children to explore nature.	N/A	The supportive comment for Land Adj. to Seafield Primary School (Elgin) is noted.
005	Millbuies Country Park (Fogwatt)	A wildlife haven.	N/A	The supportive comment for Millbuies Country Park (Fogwatt) is noted.
006	N/A	Proposes an additional site.	Land Adj. to A941, Elgin (Opposite Culzean Rd)	The proposed additional site is allocated as LONG2 in the proposed Moray Local Development Plan 2020 and therefore is not considered appropriate for compensatory planting. The site forms part of the Elgin South Masterplan and landscaping will form part of any future detailed planning application.
007	Train Station (Forres)	Support site and proposes an additional site.	Thornhill Road, Forres	Support for Train Station (Forres) is noted. The proposed additional site is approximately 0.06ha and has existing mature trees. Additional planting has the potential to impact on the amenity of this site and therefore is not considered suitable for compensatory planting.
008	N/A	Should be more than merely compensatory planting – campaign should embrace Moray wide tree	Rear of Sanquhar Drive, Forres	The Council is committed to promoting significant new tree and woodland planting across

		planting, including domestic gardens. Fruit trees do not grow large and wildlife would benefit.		<p>Moray, in both urban and rural areas. This will be delivered through the policies of the emerging Moray Local Development Plan 2020 and other strategies such as Moray Woodland & Forestry Strategy and the Moray Food Growing Strategy.</p> <p>The details of planting, including species, will be determined as part of the design process. The species must be suited to the site and the objectives of management and be of a scale which compensates for the loss of environmental value.</p> <p>The proposed additional site is existing dense woodland. Compensatory planting has the potential to impact on the management of this woodland and therefore is not considered suitable for compensatory planting.</p>
009	Tininver Park (Dufftown)	Dufftown and District Community Association (DDCA) in process of upgrading the park and should be contacted about future plans for tree planting in the park.	N/A	Tininver Park is owned by the Council. It is acknowledged that the DDCA is in the process of upgrading the park and any proposals for compensatory planting will not compromise the existing uses on the site.

010	Millbuies Country Park (Fogwatt)	Compensatory planting should be closer to planned developments so that residents can benefit from the “moved” trees.	N/A	As far as possible, and in accordance with the Control of Woodland Removal Policy, compensatory planting will take place on-site or in close proximity to the site.
011	Bogton Park (Forres)	Plant more trees.	N/A	The supportive comment for Bogton Park (Forres) is noted.
012	N/A	Would make sense for all areas to be planted up with edible trees and hedgerow, ideal for humans and wildlife alike, without the need for compensatory planting.	N/A	The Council are developing a Food Growing Strategy which aims to increase the number of food growing areas across Moray by identify land potentially suitable for food growing spaces including community orchards and fruit-bearing hedges.
013	Train Station (Forres)	Forres in Bloom has been working with Scotrail to establish a biodiversity garden.	N/A	The work of Forres in Bloom is noted. Compensatory planting on this site would co-exist and complement a biodiversity garden and officers will contact Forres in Bloom and Scotrail to discuss further.
014	Bogton Park and Train Station (Forres)	Excellent places for planting trees – absorbs some of the pollution from the A96 and acts as noise barriers as well as being beautiful. Council could add its own tree planting to the compensatory planting.	N/A	The supportive comment for Bogton Park and Train Station (Forres) is noted. The Council is committed to promoting significant new tree and woodland planting across Moray, in both urban and rural areas. This will be delivered though the policies of the emerging Moray Local

				Development Plan 2020 and other strategies such as Moray Woodland & Forestry Strategy and the Moray Food Growing Strategy.
015	Train Station (Forres)	Would be fantastic to plant around the station as it is soulless and very industrial looking. Edible fruit trees would be suitable.	N/A	The supportive comment for Train Station (Forres) is noted. The details of planting, including species, will be determined as part of the design process. The species must be suited to the site and the objectives of management and be of a scale which compensates for the loss of environmental value.
016	Bogton Park, Mannachie Park and Train Station (Forres)	Great idea.	N/A	The supportive comment for Bogton Park, Mannachie Park and Train Station (Forres) is noted.
017	Train Station (Forres)	A must – many trees.	N/A	The supportive comment for Train Station (Forres) is noted.
018	Mannachie Park (Forres)	Very good idea – the more trees, the merrier.	N/A	The supportive comment for Mannachie Park (Forres) is noted.
019	Blaven Court, Bogton Park, Califer Road, Mannachie Park and Train Station (Forres)	All proposed sites in Forres are good – sad that these sites are not planted with trees already. Encourage Council to plant as many trees as possible on top of the compensatory planting scheme.	N/A	The supportive comment for Blaven Court, Bogton Park, Califer Road, Mannachie Park and Train Station (Forres) is noted. The Council is committed to promoting significant new tree and woodland planting across

				Moray, in both urban and rural areas. This will be delivered through the policies of the emerging Moray Local Development Plan 2020 and other strategies such as Moray Woodland & Forestry Strategy and the Moray Food Growing Strategy.
020	Train Station (Forres)	Area needs enhanced, not necessarily a woodland but tree plants/shrubs.	N/A	The details of planting, including species, will be determined as part of the design process. The species must be suited to the site and the objectives of management and be of a scale which compensates for the loss of environmental value.
021	N/A	Proposes an additional site.	Playing Fields, Robertson Rd, Lhanbryde	The proposed additional site is of a suitable size and location. The site provides links to wider habitats and is considered suitable for compensatory planting.
022	N/A	Don't believe any trees should be felled or woodland disturbed to provide an area for these projects. Different insects and animals would be disturbed by tree felling. Build raised planting areas near schools etc.	Land Adj. to Cameron Cres, Buckie	Woodland removal will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that the impact on the woodland is clearly outweighed by social or economic benefits of national, regional and local importance, and if a programme of proportionate compensatory planting has been agreed with the Planning Authority.

				<p>The proposed additional site is open space with mature trees within a high-density development. Additional planting has the potential to impact on the amenity of this site and therefore is not considered suitable for compensatory planting.</p>
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Consultee Responses

Consultee	Comment Summary	Response
<p>Elgin Community Council</p>	<p>Concerns about approving housing development in woodland. At a time when there is a growing recognition of the climate emergency, it appears to be contradictory to support a policy which removes woodland that plays a vital role in maintaining air quality, sequestering and storing carbon.</p> <p>Although better than doing nothing, no amount of compensatory planting (in the short-medium term) can make up for what is lost. Many of the existing woodland have been woodlands continuously for centuries and forest soils have been largely undisturbed, allowing for a rich ecology to develop.</p> <p>Planting trees on non-woodland sites may compensate for some of the carbon sequestration that has been lost but cannot compensate for the loss of a complex habitat and ecology. New planting should be contiguous with existing woodland or be planted in a way that will provide linkages between woodland.</p>	<p>The Council's position on compensatory planting reflects the Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy in that there is a strong presumption in favour of protecting Moray's woodland resources. The contribution of trees towards addressing the climate emergency is acknowledged and the Council are developing a Climate Change Strategy to meet their target of net-zero carbon emissions for Council activities by 2030.</p> <p>Policy EP7 in the emerging MLDP 2020 introduces a stronger approach towards a presumption against woodland removal and seeks to protect the amenity, landscape, biodiversity, economic and/or recreational value of Moray's trees and woodlands. Woodland removal will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that the impact on the woodland is clearly outweighed by social or economic benefits of national, regional and local importance, and if a programme of proportionate compensatory planting has been agreed with the Planning Authority.</p> <p>The importance of ancient woodland ecosystems is</p>

	<p>Planting woodland close to Seafield Primary School could provide an asset for environmental education and would be a good thing to do even without compensatory planting.</p>	<p>acknowledged in the proposed Moray Local Development Plan 2020. Policy EP7 states that woodland removal within native woodlands identified as feature of sites protect under EP1 or woodland identified in the Ancient Woodland Inventory will not be supported.</p> <p>The supportive comment for Land Adj. to Seafield Primary School (Elgin) is noted.</p>
<p>Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)</p>	<p>Sites identified are likely to benefit from tree planting.</p> <p>Sensitivities such as plant species which are of value to invertebrates and pollinators should be identified and protected (in particular the Former Railway Lines, Buckie). The 2 types of habitat – open habitat and woodland – can co-exist with considerate and imaginative planting plans.</p> <p>The use of amenity grass areas for planting will add biodiversity value to the parks identified but the choice of tree and planting style will determine the positives it can bring to local landscapes and people.</p>	<p>The comments regarding the protection of plant species are noted. As part of the design process, the Council will undertake an ecology assessment of the site and implement any recommendations into the design of compensatory planting.</p> <p>The details of planting, including species, will be determined as part of the design process. The species must be suited to the site and the objectives of management and be of a scale which compensates for the loss of environmental value.</p>