PLANNING & ECONOMY

BENEFITS

A project like this is unique, and imaginative. Mains of Luther services has approached leading business and economic bodies in the area to gain advice and guidance through the planning process, and beyond.

The core aspirations of the project could create a number of benefits for the economy, the community and sustainability. These include;

- Tourism objectives set out by leading agencies such as Visit Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council strive to promote the food and drink sector which could be assisted by a high-quality facility such as this, on the doorstep of both Aberdeenshire and Angus.
- Showcasing the best of local produce will support local suppliers and raise their profile in the area.
- Open days at Mains of Luther can encourage local schools and community groups to engage with the natural environment and learn about farming and agriculture.
- Local events held at Mains of Luther can help community groups and charities host events for fundraising.
- The buildings at Mains of Luther will aim to have sustainability at the fore with careful design, materials and use of technologies.

There is nothing quite like this proposal on offer in Scotland. This will help support tourism, local businesses, provide local jobs and support other economic and region-wide tourist-related initiatives.

PLANNING PROCESS

There is a clear lack of up-to-date planning policy and guidance for new 'roadside services' developments in Scotland. However, each planning application is assessed by Local Authorities on its own merits through the process.

We have undertaken Pre-Application meetings with the Council's Planning and Transportation departments to assist us with the preparation of our forthcoming planning application.

Due to the lack of guidance available for new development like this, we will prepare a suite of supporting documents to explain and evaluate the proposed development, including; a planning statement, assessment of cumulative impact, transportation assessment, drainage statement and ecological statement.

The forthcoming planning application to Aberdeenshire Council will seek Planning Permission in Principle. This means that the principle of the development will be sought first, with further design and technical details to be agreed with the Council as part of a later process.
The design aspiration shown previously are therefore indicative, but give a clear idea of the intended design standards.

bottom 30cm (beneath 214.5cm) will be in roller