

# **SUPPORTING INFORMATION STATEMENT**

**AUGUST 2021**

## **PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE OF AGRICULTURAL SHED TO STORAGE & DISTRIBUTION AT HARDFORD FARM, ST KATHERINES, INVERURIE, AB51 8TE**

In pursuance of a retrospective approval for the establishment of an agricultural building together with the subsequent change of use of the building to provide Storage & Distribution for the business of Garioch Glazing, the following information should be referenced in consideration and mitigation for its current use: -

Garioch Glazing have operated from their existing property at Unit 9, Barra Business Park, Mounie Drive, Oldmeldrum, Inverurie AB51 0GX for the past 15 years approximately and have endured ups and downs like many businesses, however, the last few years have proved testing and when compounded by the recent and ongoing pandemic the decision was taken to consolidate the operation by moving premises to a more controllable location next to the already established agricultural enterprise at Hardford Farm.

The economic climate and the pandemic have created difficulties in the property market making it hard to attract buyers for the existing business premises at Oldmeldrum, however an opportunity arose this year to conclude a deal to sell the building, after several attempts to either sell the business as a going concern or to sell the building in its own right.

When the chance came to sell, very little time was allocated for the move to a new site and pressure was applied to find alternative locations, and so the sensible solution was to move to an already established building with the floor space capable of serving the needs of the business.

The current arrangement is seen as temporary, with business and commitment to the business, likely to diminish during the next two to three years, when it is anticipated the building will gradually revert back to its originally intended use as part of the agricultural enterprise.

There is currently one employee working in the building, with Garioch Glazing administration having been sited within the farm office, which is part of the existing residential property at Hardford Farm.