



CONSULTATIONS

RENEWABLES OBLIGATION 2005 Proposals to increase the amount of electricity generated from renewable sources. Deadline from comments is 3 December 2004. Please see the web-link below for more details:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations/enterprise/renewables.pdf>

WORLD HERITAGE SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN The draft plan will be subject to a three month consultation period in order to obtain the views of as many organisations and individuals as possible. The final document is expected early next year. To view the consultation document please go to the following web-link:
http://www.ewht.org.uk/management_page.htm

PUBLICATIONS

MAKING DEVELOPMENT PLANS DELIVER CONSULTATION RESPONSES The following publication shows the responses to the above consultation. To view the consultation go to the following web-link.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/planning/mdpdcr-00.asp>

NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON PLANNING – REPORT OF FIRST MEETING: FEBRUARY 2004, GLASGOW The following publication is the Scottish Civic Forum's report to the Scottish Executive on the first National Consultative Group on Planning, held on 23 February 2004, at St Francis Centre, Glasgow. To view the report please go to the following web-link.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/planning/ngcpr.pdf>

SCOTTISH BUILDING STANDARDS AGENCY NEW WEBSITE The SBSA have just launched a new website. To view the website please go to the following web-link.
<http://www.sbsa.gov.uk/>

THE INTERACTION BETWEEN LAND USE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION The Scottish Executive Central Research Unit, carried out a review of planning system and various environmental consenting regimes operated by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. To view the publication, please go to the following web-link.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/planning/iblu-01.asp>

THE PLANNING RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE (ODPM) The ODPM recently launched new advice on climate change for planners called "The Planning Response to Climate Change". This document provides planning professionals with an overview of current thinking and the state of knowledge on the planning response to climate change. To view the publication, please go to the following web-link.
http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_032088.pdf

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE DRAFT BUDGET 2005-06 details of the Scottish Executive's spending Plans for 2005-06 can be viewed at the following web-link.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/finance/db0506.pdf>

EVENTS AND TRAINING

CENTRE FOR CULTURAL POLICY RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES 2004-05 The Centre for Cultural Policy Research is to host a series of seminars to explore and debate current policy issues in culture in Scotland. The three seminars will debate cultural rights cultural governance and creativity and the artist. The Cultural Rights takes place on Tuesday 14 December 2004 at Gilmorehill Centre, University of Glasgow. There is no charge for the seminar, however, places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. To reserve your place, contact Nicola Sneddon - N.Sneddon@arts.gla.ac.uk tel 0141 330 3806, or complete the online booking form at <http://www.culturalpolicy.arts.gla.ac.uk/seminars2004-05.htm>

VACANCIES

THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND is currently seeking a new Director. The post is based in Edinburgh with a salary ranging from £25,699-£33,230 pa. Candidates should possess the minimum of a good honours degree and have several years experience in management preferably in an area relevant to the historic environment. Candidates should have good communication, and leadership skills and an understanding of associated Scottish legislation. The deadline for applications is the 31 October. For further information please contact Pauline Robinson AHSS Administrator on 0131 557 0019 or email her at administrator@ahss.org.uk.

HISTORIC SCOTLAND: Following on from the recent review of Historic Scotland, the agency is to appoint three non-executive directors to the management board. Details of the role of the non-executive directors and how to apply are on the Historic Scotland web site at www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/about/non_executive_directors

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE NEWS RELEASES

CABINET RESHUFFLE ANNOUNCED (04/10/2004) First Minister Jack McConnell has announced changes to his Ministerial Team. Finance and Public Services Minister Andy Kerr has moved to take over the Health and Community Care portfolio with Rhona Brankin MSP as Mr Kerr's deputy. Margaret Curran, who was Communities Minister, has taken over the Parliamentary Business portfolio from Patricia Ferguson who has moved to become Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport. Malcolm Chisholm, who was Health Minister, has become Communities Minister with Johann Lamont MSP as his deputy. Tom McCabe, deputy Health Minister, has become Minister for Finance and Public Service Reform. Allan Wilson, Deputy Environment and Rural Development Minister, and Lewis Macdonald, Deputy Enterprise and Lifelong Learning Minister have swapped roles. The posts of Tourism Culture and Sport and of Transport are now full salaried Cabinet posts to reflect added responsibilities in the portfolios.

NEW CHIEF FOR RCAHMS (01/10/2004) Diana Murray has now taken over as Secretary (Chief Executive) of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Mrs. Murray was previously Curator Depute of the National Monuments Record of Scotland at the Royal Commission has an MA in Archaeology and Anthropology from Cambridge University and has been employed by the Royal Commission since 1976.

MAKING HISTORY - NEW SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT (09/10/04) The Parliament began its modern life in temporary premises while a new building was constructed at the foot of the Royal Mile beside Holyrood Palace in the lee of Salisbury Crags. That building, designed by the late Catalan architect Enric Miralles, is now ready to be the Parliament's permanent home. MSPs held their first debate in the main chamber on Tuesday, 7 September and it has been regularly used since then. The Queen performed the official opening ceremony on Saturday, 9 October. First Minister Jack McConnell and other Scottish Ministers were in attendance alongside MSPs and invited guests from Scotland and overseas.

FORUM ON RENEWABLE ENERGY (06/10/2004) A new advisory forum is to be established to help shape Scottish planning guidelines for renewables developments. The forum will bring together experts from across Scotland with an interest in renewable energy and "might include heritage bodies, environment groups, local authorities as well as industry and organisations such as Scottish Natural Heritage, which can feed into the planning review".

INVESTMENT IN FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEMES (30/09/2004) Additional investment to protect 4,200 more homes and businesses from the threat of flooding has been announced. Executive funding of £89 million will allow local authorities to invest a total of £111 million in a Programme of flood prevention schemes. Deputy Environment Minister Allan Wilson announced the allocation of new money from the Scottish Budget at the National Flooding Conference in Edinburgh.

NEWS RELEASES

PLANS FOR CHARITY ACCOUNTING IN SCOTLAND CAUSE CONCERN (SCVO 8/10/04) Scottish charities may be forced to adhere to English regulation when it comes to their accounting and reporting practice, according to SCVO. The warning was made in SCVO's response to the Exposure Draft of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, which was published by the Charity Commission and OSCR. In the submission SCVO states that the proposed revised SORP has expanded its remit beyond the interpretation of accounting standards for charities and is venturing into regulation.

MOTIONS & BILLS

S2M-1807 MARILYN LIVINGSTONE: NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION WEEK, 6 TO 13 OCTOBER 2004 That the Parliament supports National Construction Week from 6 to 13 October 2004 and recognises the many economic advantages for Scotland that an expanding construction industry will bring, notably in employment preservation and creation, training, skills and provision of the built environment.

NEW PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

S2W-11096 Ms SANDRA WHITE (01/10/04) To ask the Scottish Executive what monitoring or guidelines exist to ensure compliance by building managers with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 in respect of disabled access to public buildings?

S2W-11107 ROB GIBSON (01/10/04) To ask the Scottish Executive how it intends to remove any loopholes in its legislation for community land purchases that could potentially prevent communities buying out the full value of estates' assets due to landowners leasing key portions of estates to companies controlled on their behalf.

S2W-10973 RICHARD LOCHHEAD (29/09/04) To ask the Scottish Executive whether it has any plans to introduce regional or local authority area targets for renewable energy production.

S2W-11350 TOMMY SHERIDAN (04/10/04) To ask the Scottish Executive what plans it has to introduce a local land valuation tax to generate income for local communities.

S2W-11236 PHIL GALLIE: (07/10/04) To ask the Scottish Executive whether there have been any instances where the procedures to be followed for the identification of land for development on brownfield sites, as set out in *Scottish Planning Policy 3 - Planning for Housing*, have not been adhered to.

S2W-11305 PAULINE McNEILL: (04/10/04) To ask the Scottish Executive whether it has any proposals to strengthen legislation regarding planning and houses in multiple occupations to ensure that work carried out to such properties complies with planning and building warrant regulations

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q (S2W-10739) Ms ROSEMARY BYRNE: REGENERATE TOWN CENTRES

A No specific support is available to local authorities to regenerate town centres. However, Scottish local authorities are now responsible for deciding how much they can afford to spend on investment in capital infrastructure. Additionally, local authorities are receiving above inflation increases in revenue grant, but it is up to each local authority to decide how best to allocate these resources based on local needs and priorities. **MARGARET CURRAN (29/09/04)**

Q (S2O-3389) JOHANN LAMONT: PLANNING

A Reporter will consider any information placed before her or him and will decide its relevance, in land use planning terms, as a material consideration in the particular case. As a general rule though, land use planning relates to the "use" of land, rather than the "user" and any planning permission granted runs with the land and is not personal to the applicant. **MARGARET CURRAN (30/09/04)**

Q (S2W-10875) MURRAY TOSH: HISTORIC BUILDINGS

A I expect to receive the current structural condition report and the statement of cultural significance by the end of October. I will send a copy of these reports to the owner and to relevant stakeholder groups. I will also place copies in Parliament's Reference Centre. **FRANK McAVEETY (04/10/04)**

Q (S2W-10232) STEWART STEVENSON: RURAL DEVELOPMENT

A Work on this guide is well advanced and publication is planned for the early part of 2005. **ROSS FINNIE (29/09/04)**

Information in the Bulletin is extracted from a number of websites (mainly Scottish Executive and Scottish Parliament). If you have any questions or comments on the above, or would like to submit information to be included, please get in touch with Jo Robertson or Chris Stuart at the BEFS office on 0131 556 5353.