



## BULLETIN (53) 3 OCTOBER 2005

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### CONSULTATIONS

**CHARITIES AND TRUSTEE INVESTMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005: PROPOSALS FOR REGULATIONS UNDER SECTION 15 ON CHARITY REFERENCES IN DOCUMENTS: CONSULTATION PAPER (SE 20/09/05)** The majority of the provisions in the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 will come into force around April 2006. This consultation paper sets out the Scottish Executive's proposals for the regulations to set out the circumstances and methods by which charities in Scotland must identify themselves as charities and on which documents etc. this must be done. The Scottish Ministers have powers to make regulations on this matter under section 15 of the Act. The proposals are intended to help everyone to understand when they are dealing with a charity by ensuring that all charities always identify themselves adequately on formal documents etc. Deadline for responses: 13 December 2005.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/09/15143400/34013>

### PUBLICATIONS

**DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT RESEARCH PROGRAMME 2005-2006 (SE 23/09/05)** Information about the topics on which it is anticipated the Development Department's research programme will focus during financial year 05– 6.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/09/16120628/06291>

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF PLANS AND PROGRAMMES (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2004: SEA TEMPLATES (TRIAL VERSIONS) (SE 29/09/05)** To facilitate the implementation of SEA, the Scottish Executive has published new templates which are designed to help public authorities assess the need for, and scope of, any assessment. Early next year the Executive will be publishing comprehensive SEA guidance which will include an updated version of these templates. The SEA templates are trial versions and they are available in two formats - 1) with integrated guidance notes 2) without integrated guidance notes. Both formats are available on the Scottish Executive website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/17108/14587>

**SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005 (SP 28/09/05)** The Annual Report of the Scottish Parliament is available online at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/corporate/anrep-accts/spar/ar-05/index.htm>

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT (31/08/05)** A scoping study prepared by the Centre for Sustainable Heritage, University College London, commissioned by English Heritage.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainableheritage/climatechange/climatechangeandthehistoricenvironment.pdf>

**REVISION TO BEFS BULLETIN 51:**

**SURVEY OF THE BUILDING DESIGN PROFESSIONS' ATTITUDES TO THE POLICY ON ARCHITECTURE FOR SCOTLAND – EDUCATION RESEARCH FINDINGS NO. 6 (SE 18/08/05)** This document is available in hard copy, as well as online at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk> and also at:

<http://www.scottisharchitecture.com/education-research.html>

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### EVENTS

**PENICUIK HOUSE AND POLICIES OPEN DAYS** Friday 7 (2 – 5.30pm) and Saturday 8 (10.30 – 1.30pm) October: free demonstrations in the use of traditional materials, talks and guided tours for all the family. For further details contact: [cgregan@penicuikhouse.co.uk](mailto:cgregan@penicuikhouse.co.uk).

## SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE NEWS RELEASES

**MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (SE 14/09/05)** A new initiative to identify land for affordable housing in the Highlands and Islands has been announced. Under the initiative the Executive, as Scotland's largest crofting landlord, will work with Communities Scotland to define areas where development of affordable housing can take place without compromising crofting interests.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2005/09/14114232>

## NEWS RELEASES

**GOVERNMENT TO END CROWN IMMUNITY FROM PLANNING CONTROLS (ODPM 23/09/05)** Proposals for integrating the Crown into the planning system have been launched for consultation by the Government. Primary provisions were included in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister is now consulting on measures to bring them into effect in spring 2006. Measures include safeguards to ensure national security is not compromised and to enable quicker decisions on urgently-needed developments.

[http://www.odpm.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2005\\_0196](http://www.odpm.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2005_0196)

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## MOTIONS & BILLS

**\*S2M-3291 DR JEAN TURNER: SCOTLAND AWARDED FIRST GEOPARK BY UNESCO (SP 16/09/05)** That the Parliament welcomes the official recognition by UNESCO of Scotland's first-ever geopark, which is located north of Ullapool and reaches to Cape Wrath and Loch Eriboll; notes that this area of historic, remarkable and outstanding beauty also is the location of the Old Man of Stoer and Smoo Cave and contains Lewis gneiss, which is 3,000 million years old and Europe's oldest rock, and further notes that the North West Highlands Geopark is the first area in Scotland to win the European accolade.

**S2M-3320# SARAH BOYACK: PROMOTING ENERGY SAVING USING MICRO AND SMALL-SCALE RENEWABLE TECHNOLOGY (SP 22/09/05)** That the Parliament believes that micro and small-scale renewable technology offers huge opportunities to tackle both fuel poverty and the causes of climate change; notes the Scottish Executive's target of achieving a 20% improvement in energy efficiency on 2000 levels by 2010; believes that, to help achieve this target, building standards should be amended to include micro-renewable technology as permitted developments and should require generation capacity to be included in all new developments; particularly notes examples of good practice in Edinburgh Central such as Dunedin Canmore Housing Association's European award-nominated Slateford Green Development; believes that local authorities should be required to consider the role that micro-generation targets could deliver in achieving sustainable energy and to set appropriate targets accordingly; notes the Energy Savings Trust's proposal of a flat rate reduction on council tax or its replacement for houses which incorporate certified energy efficiency or micro-renewable technology, and believes that fiscal measures such as these should be actively considered.

## PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

**S2W-19267 DONALD GORRIE (SP 16/09/05)** To ask the Scottish Executive, whether it is satisfied, as a partner in the Management Plan of Edinburgh World Heritage, that the plan is delivering the objective "to maintain archives and collections relating to the World Heritage in the best possible condition", one of the objectives "of primary importance" referred to in chapter 6.

**S2W-19274 MARY SCANLON (SP 16/09/05)** To ask the Scottish Executive whether COSLA has agreed that all the five-year development plans proposed in the White Paper, Modernising the Planning System, are deliverable.

**S2W-19463 MARY SCANLON (SP 23/09/05)** To ask the Scottish Executive what action will be taken to enhance sustainable development by "dealing with vacant and derelict land", as outlined on page 115 of the Draft Budget 2006-07.

**S2W-19549Δ CHRISTINE MAY (SP 29/09/05)** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will give a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations made in the Review of Historic Scotland published in February 2004.

## PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ANSWERED

**Q (S2W-18518) ROB GIBSON: PLANNING**

**A** The following table (follow web link below) shows the aggregated data received from planning authorities through their statistical returns and gives the numbers of planning applications and other consents determined where there was associated work on a Section 75 agreement. To put the figures in some context we have also included the number of planning applications and consents determined during the same period. Information on how many agreements have been signed and for what purposes such agreements were concluded is not held centrally. Completion by planning authorities of the statistical return is voluntary. Therefore there are some incomplete/missing returns. **JOHANN LAMONT (SP 13/09/05)**  
[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/webapp/wa.page?clause=%20\(asked\\_by%20LIKE%20\\*Rob%20Gibson\\*\)&start\\_rec=21&qty=10&sort\\_order=date\\_answered&direction=desc](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/webapp/wa.page?clause=%20(asked_by%20LIKE%20*Rob%20Gibson*)&start_rec=21&qty=10&sort_order=date_answered&direction=desc)

**Q (S2W-18805) MARGARET JAMIESON: PLANNING**

**A** The following table (follow web link below) shows a breakdown of figures on a local authority basis concerning the number of planning applications called in by Scottish ministers in each year since 1999. **JOHANN LAMONT (SP 13/09/05)**  
[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/webapp/wa.page?clause=%20\(asked\\_by%20LIKE%20\\*Margaret%20Jamieson\\*\)&start\\_rec=11&qty=10&sort\\_order=date\\_answered&direction=desc](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/webapp/wa.page?clause=%20(asked_by%20LIKE%20*Margaret%20Jamieson*)&start_rec=11&qty=10&sort_order=date_answered&direction=desc)

**Q (S2W-18815) MARK RUSKELL: PLANNING**

**A** These issues will be explored through the strategic environmental assessment (SEA) that is being undertaken as part of the review process. The SEA will inform revised policies that will be prepared in consultation with the Environmental Advisory Forum on Renewable Energy and following full public consultation. **MALCOLM CHISHOLM (SP 13/09/05)**

**Q (S2W-18829) MARK RUSKELL: PLANNING**

**A** There are no plans at present to reform the publicity and consultation procedures specifically in relation to planning applications for agricultural buildings. However, our White Paper - Modernising the Planning System, published in June 2005, contains a package of reforms that will offer greater opportunity for local people to have stronger participation in the planning process at earlier stages. The white paper is available in the Scottish Parliament's Information Centre (Bib. number 36995) and on the internet at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/06/27113519/35231>. **JOHANN LAMONT (SP 27/09/05)**

**Q (S2W-19159) DONALD GORRIE: ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

**A** I have asked Angiolina Foster, Chief Executive of Communities Scotland, to respond. Her response is as follows: There are no current plans to provide additional ring fenced resources to cover the costs incurred by sustainable energy-conserving features in new social housing. Social housing projects which include sustainable energy-conserving features will be assessed on their merits with such measures being financially supported subject to value for money criteria. Communities Scotland will continue to encourage RSLs to consider the whole life cost of their design proposals and is considering ways of incentivising greater energy efficiency. The Scottish Executive promotes sustainable development practices for all housing development grant-funded by Communities Scotland. This involves the measurement of the following indicators for all projects: energy efficiency as measured by average performance SAP ratings; average energy (space + water heating) costs per annum (£); average CO2 emissions per annum (tonnes); number of new units built on "brownfield" sites; existence of a verifiable sustainable development policy (for RSLs engaged in housing development); space standards as per average resident capacity; the level of housing for varying needs barrier free compliance; the level of secured by design dwellings. **MALCOLM CHISHOLM (SP 22/09/05)**

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Information in the Bulletin is extracted from a number of websites; such as the Scottish Executive (SE); the Scottish Parliament (SP); Architecture and Design Scotland (A+DS); Historic Scotland (HS); Scottish Natural

Heritage (SNH); Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO); English Heritage (EH); Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE); Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM); Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS); Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA); National Assembly for Wales (NAW). For further information, links are provided to the relevant documents. 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 [jrobertson@befso.org.uk](mailto:jrobertson@befso.org.uk) at the BEFS office on 0131 556 5353.