

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **PAN 78: PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS ADVICE NOTE: INCLUSIVE DESIGN (SE 27/03/06)**

Designing Places, published in November 2001, set out the Scottish Executive's expectations of the planning system to deliver high standards of design in development and redevelopment projects. The design based Planning Advice Note (PAN) series, which has followed on and complemented Designing Places, has built up a range of advice on good practice. This PAN forms part of the series and looks at how to improve the design of places so that they can be used by everyone.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/03/07164427/0>

### **PAN 77: PLANNING ADVICE NOTE PAN77: DESIGNING SAFER PLACES (SE 27/03/06)**

This document supersedes PAN 46 Planning for Crime Prevention (published in 1994). PAN 77 highlights the positive role that planning can play in helping to create attractive well-managed environments which help to discourage antisocial and criminal behaviour.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/03/08094923/0>

### **DESIGN CHAMPIONS (CABE 24/03/06)**

CABE is calling for every publicly quoted volume housebuilder to have a 'design champion' at board level with responsibility for delivering design quality. CABE believes that an executive or a non-executive director on the board with this brief will help to ensure that design issues are placed firmly on the agenda of every team in every region throughout the company. This publication sets out why CABE thinks design champions are important and how they could operate within the company.

<http://www.cabe.org.uk/default.aspx?contentitemid=1236>

### **NEW PUBLICATION CELEBRATES ENGLAND'S 30 BEST HERITAGE-LED DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES (EH 17/03/06)**

Thirty of the 1,600 planning cases that English Heritage advises on each year have been championed as exemplary in a new English Heritage book, *Shared Interest*, launched Thursday 16th March. The successful and imaginative heritage-led schemes from developers, architects and agencies around the country highlight a new way of working which English Heritage calls "constructive conservation".

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.6235>

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## **SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE NEWS RELEASES**

### **BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (SE 19/03/06)**

A total of £500,000 has been set aside for six pilot projects which will see local authorities and businesses working together to regenerate town and city centres and boost economic growth. The pilots of Business Improvement District (BID) areas are: Business parks in Alloa, Tillicoultry and Alva, Bathgate town centre, Edinburgh city centre, Falkirk town centre, Glasgow city centre and Inverness city centre. BIDs are a partnership between local businesses, engaging with their council, all with the aim of transforming their area by creating better business environments and promoting economic growth.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2006/03/17131949>

## NEWS RELEASES

### **FREE ENTRY AT SCOTLAND'S LEADING HISTORIC ATTRACTIONS ON 1 AND 2 APRIL 2006 (HS 14/03/06)**

Free entry is being offered at some of Scotland's most impressive historic buildings and fascinating visitor attractions for Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 April. The special Spring free weekend will see Historic Scotland remove entry prices to all of the sites in its care across the country, from the Shetland Islands to the Borders, including Edinburgh and Stirling castles. Last year, 46,000 visitors took advantage of the agency's annual Free Weekend to explore castles, abbeys, palaces and prehistoric monuments throughout Scotland.

<http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/news-full-article.htm?articleid=20739>

### **LIVING WITH A CHANGING COASTLINE - GOVERNMENT SETS OUT PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE (DEFRA 14/03/06)**

Embracing sustainable solutions to coastal protection in England will be a challenging step for some communities, Environment Minister Elliot Morley has said. Mr Morley was launching the Government's revised guidance on Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) in Dorset. SMPs set policy at a local level for the strategic management of flood and erosion risk. They encompass four principal approaches: holding the existing line, by maintaining or changing the standard of protection; advancing the existing line, by building new defences on the seaward side of original defences; managed realignment, by allowing the shoreline to move backwards or forwards through controlled movement; and no active intervention, where there is no investment in coastal defences or operations.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2006/060314a.htm>

### **£12 MILLION FOR ARTS, CULTURE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS (DCMS 23/03/06)**

A £12 million cash boost for twelve DCMS-backed arts, culture and energy efficiency projects was identified by the Chancellor in his Budget. The funds are to be allocated from the Treasury's Invest to Save Budget. The purpose of the budget is to encourage new and joined-up ways of working by funding projects that develop innovative ideas, bringing together organisations in partnership to deliver more efficient and effective public services. The successful DCMS projects include a heritage park in Norwich, an arts project in a Swindon housing estate and an online learning project by a consortium of 10 National Museums, led by the Victoria and Albert Museum.

[http://www.culture.gov.uk/global/press\\_notices/archive\\_2006/dcms038\\_06.htm](http://www.culture.gov.uk/global/press_notices/archive_2006/dcms038_06.htm)

### **NEW MEASURES TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE (ODPM 28/03/06)**

A package of measures to increase carbon savings through the planning system and through the work of local authorities was announced today as part of the Government's Climate Change Programme Review. A new planning policy statement will set out how the Government expects participants in the planning process including local authorities and developers to work towards the reduction of carbon emissions in the location and design of new development. New best practice guidance will be provided by ODPM and DEFRA to help raise performance by local authorities on tackling climate change and promoting sustainable energy. In addition the post 2008 local government performance framework will focus on action on climate change to incentivise more authorities to reach the levels of the best.

<http://www.odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1002882&PressNoticeID=2118>

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## RECENT MOTIONS & BILLS PROGRESS

**MOTION: S2M-4138 CHRISTINE GRAHAME: THE BORDERS FOREST TRUST (17/03/06)** That the Parliament congratulates The Borders Forest Trust which celebrates 10 years of restoring native woodlands this year; notes that since its establishment in 1996 it has planted over 800,000 native trees and shrubs and currently supports 29 community woodlands, reconnecting people with their local woods and utilising local hardwood timber resources and woodworking talent; further notes that these ideals were merged in 1996 to form the Trust and Woodschool, which itself received double honours in 2005 at the Dynamic Places Awards, winning the Sir Robert Grieve Award for sustainability and being highly commended in the Connected Places category; recognises that the Trust and Woodschool have had a substantial effect on the Borders' economy and are fine examples of sustainable and sympathetic development, and therefore encourages people of the Borders and beyond to take part in the many events running throughout the year in celebration of this 10th anniversary.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-06/bb-03-20f.htm>

**EDINBURGH AIRPORT RAIL LINK BILL (16/03/06)** A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to authorise the construction of new railways to link Edinburgh Airport to the national rail network; to make provision concerning planning agreements and developer contributions relating to the railway; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 58) (Private Bill) Introduced by: Tie Limited  
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-06/bb-03-20g.htm>

**TOURIST BOARDS (SCOTLAND) BILL (20/03/06)** A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to rename the Scottish Tourist Board, to increase the maximum number of members of that body and to abolish area tourist boards (SP Bill 60) (Executive Bill) Introduced by: Patricia Ferguson  
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-06/bb-03-21g.htm>

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## PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- Q S2W-23660 ROBIN HARPER (01/03/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive which local authorities have commenced greenspace audits.
- A ANSWERED BY JOHANN LAMONT (09/03/06)** This information is not held centrally. However, as part of independent research part-funded by the Executive on Minimum Standards for Open Space, researchers contacted all Scottish local authorities seeking information on progress towards the preparation of open space audits and strategies. As of August 2004 the following local authorities indicated that they had begun preparation or completed an open space audit for all or part of their district.
- Q S2W-23763 DAVID McLETCHE (03/03/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will amend the terms of Scottish Planning Policy SPP3: Planning for Housing to make it clear that residential gardens do not fall within the definition of brownfield land.
- A ANSWERED BY MALCOLM CHISHOLM (16/03/06)** There are no immediate plans to review SPP3: Planning for Housing. SPP3 gives a definition of brownfield land, which neither includes nor excludes residential gardens specifically. The main criterion for brownfield land is "land that has been previously developed". Not all sites can therefore be categorised easily as either brownfield or greenfield. Any residential garden which is proposed for development would need to be considered on its merits.
- Q S2W-23770 DONALD GORRIE (03/03/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive what action it will take to ensure that funding will continue to be available for projects currently supported by the New Opportunities Fund when the fund closes in July 2007 and whether such decisions will be made known to organisations in a timely fashion to avoid uncertainty to the organisations and their employees.
- A ANSWERED BY PATRICIA FERGUSON (20/03/06)** The Executive expects the Big Lottery Fund to announce its new programmes for Scotland in the spring, which will bring a further £257 million to Scotland between 2006–09. The continuation or closure of existing programmes of the New Opportunities Fund is a matter for the fund. Ministers set the strategic framework for lottery bodies, but operational matters and programme design are a matter for the lottery distributors themselves.
- Q S2W-23839 ALEX NEIL (03/03/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S2W-22467 by Patricia Ferguson on 31 January 2006, whether it will outline how it believes the investment made in transport by it in 2005-06 to 2007-08 will bring "competitive advantage" to Scotland.
- A ANSWERED BY TAVISH SCOTT (22/03/06)** Transport Scotland will work with First ScotRail, Network Rail and industry partners to ensure that the services delivered on these new links maximise the benefits to the people of Scotland and the economy. In addition, the planned investment in rail links to Edinburgh and Glasgow Airports will improve Scotland's connectivity.
- Q S2W-24325 BRUCE CRAWFORD (15/03/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive how it will ensure that the proposed national planning framework has a robust, transparent and accountable approval mechanism.
- A ANSWERED BY MALCOLM CHISHOLM (21/03/06)** The Planning etc. (Scotland) Bill provides for the final version of the national planning framework to be submitted to Parliament for scrutiny and debate. On publication of the framework, a report will be produced detailing the changes which ministers have made in the light of parliamentary consideration.

- Q S2W-24326 BRUCE CRAWFORD (15/03/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will consider including, as part of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Bill, a statutory requirement on the Executive to consult the public on the content of the proposed national planning framework.
- A ANSWERED BY MALCOLM CHISHOLM (21/03/06)** The Planning etc. (Scotland) Bill already contains a provision requiring the Scottish ministers to consult on the National Planning Framework. Ministers are committed to ensuring that the public are given opportunities to express their views on its scope and content.
- Q S2W-24327 BRUCE CRAWFORD (15/03/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive how it will provide the public with the opportunity to object to proposals contained in the National Planning Framework, as referred to in the Planning etc. (Scotland) Bill.
- A ANSWERED BY MALCOLM CHISHOLM (21/03/06)** Scottish ministers are keen to encourage people to engage positively with the National Planning Framework. The public will have the opportunity to make representations on a consultative draft of the second National Planning Framework.
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## EVENTS

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS, 11-13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2006, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**

The Institute of Field Archaeologists is the professional body for archaeologists in the United Kingdom and its conference is the premier gathering for the profession.

**For booking and further details contact: <http://www.archaeologists.net>**

### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN SCOTLAND, ONE DAY CONFERENCE (SUPPORTED BY ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN SCOTLAND), 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2006, THE ROYAL MUSEUM, EDINBURGH**

This conference aims to define what is meant by affordable housing and how to assess and address Scotland's need for it. Speakers and delegates will also be able to discuss how the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006 and "Homes for Scotland's People" will affect homeowners, tenants, homebuyers, builders and others involved in affordable housing, as well as issues of community engagement, sustainability, design, environment and infrastructure.

**For booking and further details contact Holyrood Events 0131 272 2116, [www.holyrood.com](http://www.holyrood.com), [housing@holyrood.com](mailto:housing@holyrood.com).**

### **INSTITUTE OF HISTORIC BUILDING CONSERVATION SUMMER SCHOOL 'SUSTAINABLE CONSERVATION ON THE WATERFRONT', 22-24 JUNE 2006, PORTSMOUTH**

An annual event incorporating lectures from a wide range of speakers including tours of specific sites and buildings of conservation significance in and around Portsmouth. Event is also open to non-IHBC members.

**For booking information and further details contact: Institute of Historic Building Conservation, [ihbc@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:ihbc@plymouth.ac.uk), Tel: (01752) 233304.**

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## VACANCIES

### **THE SCOTTISH CIVIC TRUST, APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF THE TRUST**

The Scottish Civic Trust invites applications from suitably qualified people for the appointment of Chair of the Trust. The Chair is expected to give leadership and direction to the Board of Trustees and support and motivate the Trust's senior management. He or she should also promote the role of the Trust externally. The appointment will be for 3 years from August 2006 and will be unpaid. Applications should consist of a CV and a covering letter and be sent to Paul Smart, c/o Scottish Civic Trust, Tobacco Merchant's House, 42 Miller Street, Glasgow G1 1DT by **21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2006**.

**Further information on the position, including a job description can be obtained by contacting Steve Brady (Trust Manager) at [steve.brady@scottishcivictrust.or.uk](mailto:steve.brady@scottishcivictrust.or.uk) or on 0141 221 1466.**

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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); Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS). 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 Fiona Binning: [fbinning@befso.org.uk](mailto:fbinning@befso.org.uk), 0131 556 5353.