



CONSULTATIONS

SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY SPP 6: RENEWABLE ENERGY: CONSULTATION DRAFT (SE 10/07/06) Sets out the national planning policies for renewable energy developments that planning authorities should consider when preparing development plans and when determining planning applications. It proposes that new housing and other developments should generate at least ten per cent of their energy on site from renewable sources. Scotland is the first country in the UK to consider such a standard. It also proposes that: local authorities designate areas which are suitable for wind farm applications and those which are not; greater account is taken of issues such as natural heritage and the cumulative impacts of wind farms on communities; local authorities support a diverse range of renewable energy technologies including encouraging the development of growing and new technologies.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/10150621/0>

PLANNING ADVICE NOTE - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT "PLANNING WITH PEOPLE": CONSULTATION DRAFT (SE 14/07/06) This PAN suggests ways to help improve community engagement. It seeks to raise awareness of the many examples of good practice in Scotland and to demonstrate how the proposed reforms should result in more widespread trust and confidence in the planning system. It sets out advice to help ensure that everyone, no matter what their age, gender, or cultural background, can participate in ways that suit them in the planning decisions that affect their environments.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/14093848/0>

PUBLICATIONS

SEDD CIRCULAR: IMPLEMENTING THE HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006 (SE 20/07/06) This circular outlines the Scottish Executive's approach to the implementation of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006 and explains the new roles for local authorities, including duties and powers, arising from the provisions of the Act. It is being issued to help local authorities to plan for their part in implementation.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/18162031/0>

NEWS RELEASES

MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND (HS 18/07/06) Patricia Ferguson MSP, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport, has announced the appointment of two new members and reappointment of nine members to the Historic Environment Advisory Council for Scotland (HEACS). The new members are: Dr Evelyn Silber: until recently Director of the Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery at the University of Glasgow and, as a member of the curatorial advisory committee for The Tall Ship, has an interest in the conservation of the historic marine environment; James Simpson: has worked in the field of conservation architecture since the 1960s. He is a partner in Edinburgh-based Simpson & Brown and has expertise in a wide range of issues relating to the historic environment, including artefact conservation, traditional skills and materials.

<http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/news-full-article.htm?articleid=22024>

HISTORIC SCOTLAND CHIEF EXECUTIVE HIGHLIGHTS SUCCESSFUL YEAR (HS 18/07/06) Speaking about his first full year in charge, John Graham, Chief Executive said: "I am still struck by the extent of the commitment that exists for the historic environment. Not just in my own and other organisations but also in communities and the general

public. People care deeply and are prepared to put enormous amounts of work and effort in to making the very best of our world-class heritage.” The annual report and accounts and the corporate plan detailing the agency commitments up to 2008 are available at:

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/annualreports2005.

<http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/news-full-article.htm?articleid=22032>

PROGRESS TOWARDS SET UP OF CREATIVE SCOTLAND (SE 11/07/06) A new joint Board is to be appointed for the Scottish Arts Council and Scottish Screen as part of plans to establish Creative Scotland, a new cultural development agency. Up to 14 appointments to the joint Board will be regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland. It is expected that the new chairman and the ordinary members of the board will be appointed before the end of this year. Creative Scotland will be responsible for developing talent and excellence in all branches of the arts, and the creative and screen industries. The new body to be regulated by OCPAS will need legislation to establish it and the Executive will publish a draft Bill later this year.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2006/07/11110842>

KELLY TO RAISE THE BAR ON DESIGN STANDARDS (DCLG 20/07/06)

Communities and Local Government Secretary Ruth Kelly has called on developers and local authorities to give greater emphasis to good design. In a keynote speech at the Housing Design Awards, which showcase the very best examples of new homes across the country, she said that design was fundamental to creating strong and cohesive communities. From next month all but very minor planning applications will require a statement of design and access principles. The statements will raise the profile of design and access issues and strengthen the powers local authorities have to insist on better design.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1002882&PressNoticeID=2209>

CABE WANTS TO SEE MORE DESIGN REVIEW PANELS (CABE 11/07/06) CABE has issued practical advice aimed at bodies setting up their own design review panel. *How to do design review* is aimed mainly at regional development agencies, local authorities, and bodies responsible for a particular building sector. *A guide to design review* is CABE's first DVD and it shows the national design review panel in action, and the behind the scenes work which leads up to CABE's consideration of a scheme. It is also available to view on the CABE website. *Design review: how CABE evaluates quality in architecture and urban design* explains what CABE looks for in assessing the design quality of a scheme.

<http://www.cabe.org.uk/default.aspx?contentitemid=1383>

NATIONAL LOTTERY BILL BECOMES LAW (DCMS 12/07/06) The National Lottery Bill received Royal Assent on Monday 11 July. The National Lottery Act 2006 reforms National Lottery distribution, making it easier for distributors to involve the public and ensuring that Lottery money goes efficiently to good causes. It also establishes the Big Lottery Fund as a new good cause distributor with simpler rules making it easier for applicants to access Lottery money.

http://www.culture.gov.uk/global/press_notices/archive_2006/DCMS097_06.htm

BUILDING BETTER HOSPITALS (NAW 19/07/06) Plans to improve the way hospitals and other healthcare buildings are designed and constructed to maximise the largest ever capital investment programme in the NHS in Wales have been outlined. The new supply chain models are an important first step in delivering Designed for Life: Building for Wales which will ensure that new buildings - costing more than £5million - will consistently meet national standards, are built in a sustainable way and achieve good value for money.

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/presreleasearchive/190706hospitals;jsessionid=89740522CF6C80239C32F06C9385F5F8.www1?lang=en>

PLANNING YOUR COMMUNITY – GET INVOLVED (NAW 17/07/06)

A public guide and poster campaign is encouraging community involvement in the new local development plan process in Wales. The guide is aimed at anyone outside the planning profession who wants to find out more about the process. The guide gives an overview of the system, advising on the different stages of plan preparation and when and how people can become involved in the process.

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/presreleasearchive/170706plannig;jsessionid=89740522CF6C80239C32F06C9385F5F8.www1?lang=en>

RECENT PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

S2W-27400 CAMPBELL MARTIN (17/07/06) To ask the Scottish Executive why regional parks have been omitted from the map of national and international natural heritage areas (Annex A) in *Scottish Planning Policy SSP6: Renewable Energy: Consultation Draft* and what its position is in respect of development within regional parks.

RECENT PARLIAMENTARY ANSWERS

Q S2W-26974 MURRAY TOSH (21/06/2006) INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

A Historic Scotland is aware of this cultural route. Under development since 2001, it was launched in October 2005. Three Scottish anchor points are already identified on this route: Dundee Heritage, New Lanark and the Scottish Mining Museum. These three partners may wish to add other related sites to the route. Historic Scotland has given advice in the form of suggested sites and themes. Leadership of the route is by the partners and the individual anchor points. As it is an international digital route a single theme would not be purely Scottish but of course a strong Scottish component can be threaded through each one. **PATRICIA FERGUSON**

Q S2W-27163 ANDREW ARBUCKLE (29/06/2006) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS

A We are considering whether there is scope for improvement of the procedures within the Executive for the confirmation of compulsory purchase orders. We will also consider as part of that process whether there are steps that acquiring authorities might usefully take to help improve that process. Should opportunities for improvements exist we will aim to discuss these with acquiring authorities or their representatives. **MALCOLM CHISHOLM (17/07/2006)**

EVENTS

AN INTRODUCTION TO BREEAM AND EcoHOMES THE LIGHTHOUSE, GLASGOW, 14TH SEPTEMBER 2006, 1-5PM This free BRE seminar, delivered by BRE's BREEAM Team, will provide an overview of sustainable development and a thorough introduction to BREEAM and EcoHomes and demonstrate how these environmental assessment methods can help to meet sustainability targets. For further information and to register visit: <http://www.bre.co.uk/eventdetails.jsp?id=1196>

PLANNING IN SCOTLAND – THE NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK – A CONFERENCE DISCUSSING SCOTLAND'S IMMINENT NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK 19TH SEPTEMBER 2006, OUR DYNAMIC EARTH, EDINBURGH The Planning etc, (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament in December 2005. One of the most significant aspects of this legislation is the proposed new National Planning Framework (NPF). The one day conference will allow delegates an opportunity to debate and discuss the NPF. What are Scotland's national priorities and should the NPF go out to public inquiry? For further information and to book a place, contact Jennie Meadway on 0131 272 2130, email npf@holyrood.com, or visit: <http://www.holyrood.com/conference.asp>

LAUNCH OF THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE'S GUIDANCE ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT – CONFERENCE 2006 26TH SEPTEMBER 2006, EDINBURGH On 20th February 2006 the Environment Assessment (Scotland) act 2005 came into force and the launch of the guidance aims to help promote best practice in Strategic Environmental Assessment. This conference will give delegates an introduction to the guidance, takes delegates through the issues involved in undertaking an effective environmental assessment and offers examples of experience to date. For further information and to book a place, contact Jennie Meadway on 0131 272 2130, email sea@holyrood.com, or visit: <http://www.holyrood.com/conference.asp>

VACANCIES

LITTLE HOUSES IMPROVEMENT SCHEME PROJECT MANAGER (NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND) CENTRAL EDINBURGH £23,156, FIXED TERM TO 01/06/09

Formed in 1960, the Little Houses Improvement Scheme (LHIS) functions as an active Building Preservation Trust, restoring and selling 'little' domestic historic dwellings, carrying a mix of small and large projects from Old Auchentroig in Stirlingshire to St Frances Friary in Glasgow. With a proven track record in the building sector and project management and a working knowledge of Scottish cultural and architectural history, you will manage the overall planning, control and coordination of assigned LHIS projects. For full details and an application form telephone 0131-243-9417 or email joinus@nts.org.uk. **Closing date Friday 28th July 2006.**

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); Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG); Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS); Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA); National Assembly for Wales (NAW); Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS); Scottish Building Standards Agency (SBSA). 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@befs.org.uk, 0131 556 5353.