



## CONSULTATIONS

**SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY 11 (SPP 11) PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND OPEN SPACE (SE 10/08/06)** This consultation draft sets out national planning policy for sports and recreation in urban and rural settings and for provision and protection of open space within and on the edges of settlements. It introduces national minimum standards for open space in new developments.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/08/10134711/0>

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## PUBLICATIONS

**DRAFT SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY 8 TOWN CENTRES AND RETAILING - ANALYSIS OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES (SE 01/08/06)** This summary report highlights the main issues made by respondents to the consultative draft revised guidance on town centres (SPP 8) and gives the Executive's response to these issues.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/26112630/0>

**SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY 8 (SPP8) TOWN CENTRES AND RETAILING (SE 01/08/06)** SPP 8 sets out the Executive's policy for town centres and the key uses, particularly retailing, which contribute to their economic growth and enhancement. It replaces NPPG 8 Town Centres and Retailing, published October 1998.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/26112710/0>

**A LITERATURE REVIEW OF THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN - RESEARCH FINDINGS (SE 10/08/06)** A major new study has revealed that well-designed buildings can attract investment, create jobs, and improve staff performance. Research aimed to gather sufficient national and international evidence of the social, economic and environmental impact of architecture and design, both positive and negative, to inform new design with a view to improving people's quality of life.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/21095916/0>

**THE USE OF EIA IN THE PLANNING SYSTEM AND ELECTRICITY ACT APPLICATIONS - RESEARCH FINDINGS (SE 26/07/06)** This report provides an assessment of the operation of Environmental Impact Assessment in development consent applications made under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 1999 and the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) 2000.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/26094534/0>

**A+DS RESPONSE TO ARCHITECTURE POLICY REVIEW (A+DS 07/06)** In the 'key points', A+DS welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the strengthening of the policy context in which the organisation operates and highlights what it considers to be the critical issue for a rejuvenated policy - delivery! The document states that for the architecture policy to make a positive difference in improving the quality of Scotland's built environment, it must address the key issues of procurement, skills and leadership.

<http://www.ads.org.uk/download/290706/policydocument.pdf>

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## NEWS RELEASES

**LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY APPOINTMENTS (SE 24/07/06)** Five members have been reappointed to the Board of the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority. The reappointed members are: Dr Michael Cantlay; Isabel Glasgow; David Hughes-Hallett; Terry Levinthal; Kate Sankey.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2006/07/24090745>

**SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE APPOINTMENTS (SE 27/07/06)** The appointment of a new Chair and three new Board members at SNH has been announced. Andrew Thin will take up the Chairmanship – with a strong track record in the public and voluntary sectors as Chair of the John Muir Trust, Member of SNH North Area Board, Member of Crofters Commission Board and Convener of Cairngorms National Park Authority. The new SNH Board members are: Julia Sturrock; David Crawley; Andrew Campbell.  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2006/07/27154239>

**ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN SCOTLAND APPOINTMENTS (SE 27/07/06)** Nine new members have been appointed to Architecture and Design Scotland. The new members are: Karen Cadell, Ric Russell OBE, Ali Mangera, Graham Ross, Roddy Langmuir, Lori McElroy, Pauline Gallacher, Dorian Wizniewski and Andrew Pinkerton.  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2006/07/26101553>

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD? (CABE 28/07/06)** Case studies of good neighbourhoods.  
<http://www.cabe.org.uk/default.aspx?contentitemid=1403>

**DEADLINE FOR BAD DESIGN (DCLG 10/08/06)** Planning Minister Baroness Andrews has announced that as part of the Government's commitment to drive up standards of design and quality in all new developments, planning applications will now require a Design and Access Statement. The statements will set out how elements of design such as character and disability access have been considered, and will give local authorities greater understanding of what is being proposed and what the final development might look like.  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1002882&PressNoticeID=2224>

**PLANNING OBLIGATIONS COULD HELP FUND MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, SAYS COOPER (DCLG 01/08/06)** Planning Minister, Yvette Cooper, has urged local authorities to make better use of "section 106" agreements to deliver more affordable housing and infrastructure. The call to action came as the Government published new guidance for local authorities and developers on how better to use planning obligations. The guide offers practical advice on how to improve the development, negotiation and implementation of section 106 agreements.  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1002882&PressNoticeID=2220>

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## RECENT MOTIONS AND BILLS PROGRESS

**\*S2M-4672 SHIONA BAIRD: HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY TARGETS REQUIRED (24/07/06)** That the Parliament congratulates the Sustainable Development Commission on the publication of its latest report, Stock Take: delivering improvements in existing housing; welcomes the report as a valuable contribution to the debate on how to improve the energy efficiency and sustainability of existing housing stock, reducing fuel poverty and helping to tackle climate change; recognises that around 70% of existing housing will still be in use in 2050, the date by which the UK Government has pledged to reduce carbon emissions by 60%; acknowledges that it is not sufficient merely to improve building standards for new housing and notes that if the 60% carbon reduction target is to be met by 2050 there must be significant improvements to the energy efficiency of existing housing, and calls on the Scottish Executive to include a commitment to set challenging and legally binding energy efficiency targets for all Scottish housing as part of its long-awaited energy efficiency strategy.

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## RECENT PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

**S2W-27493 RICHARD LOCHHEAD (24/07/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive when the fourth Home Energy Conservation Act Progress Report for Scotland will be published.

**S2W-27584 ADAM INGRAM (31/07/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive when sections 39 to 42 of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 will come into force.

**S2W-27637 ADAM INGRAM (07/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will continue or enhance the funding of Planning Aid for Scotland to facilitate greater community engagement within the planning system as envisaged in the Planning etc. (Scotland) Bill.

**S2W-27644 CAROLYN LECKIE (07/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive what action it has taken to ensure that new-build schools and hospitals do not suffer problems with excessive heat, in light of recent reports of staff at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh fainting as a result of high temperatures.

**S2W-27662 TRICIA MARWICK (07/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive how many housing repair grants were awarded in each local authority area in 2004-05 and, of these, how many included some element for lead pipe replacement.

**S2W-27676 MURRAY TOSH (07/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive when it expects to issue revised guidance to local authorities on local housing strategies and whether the revised guidance will ensure that housing needs assessments are conducted sufficiently rigorously to meet the requirements of local development planning and to form the basis of housing resource allocation by ministers.

**S2W-27698 BRIAN ADAM (07/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it is aware of any difficulties experienced by the voluntary sector in relation to trustee indemnity insurance.

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## RECENT PARLIAMENTARY ANSWERS

**Q S2W-27083 SYLVIA JACKSON (26/06/06) ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

**A** New public sector buildings, including hospitals, are eligible for assistance from the Carbon Trust's design advice scheme, which aims to improve the energy efficiency of buildings at the design stage. Eligible public sector organisations, including local authorities, the NHS and Scottish Water, can apply for funding through the central energy efficiency fund (CEEF) for the inclusion of energy efficiency measures in new builds which will achieve higher energy efficiency standards than those required under Scottish Building regulations. **ALLAN WILSON (24/07/06)**

**Q S2W-27159 CHRISTINE GRAHAME (29/06/06) PLANNING GAIN**

**A** The HM Treasury consultation published alongside the Chancellor of the Exchequer's 2005 Pre-Budget Report indicated that the Planning-gain supplement would not be implemented prior to 2008. Executive officials will continue to keep in close touch with HMT officials to monitor the further development of these proposals. **MALCOLM CHISHOLM (25/07/06)**

**Q S2W-27187 STEWART STEVENSON (30/06/06) HOUSING**

**A** Information on the number of new houses built is not recorded by parliamentary constituency. The following table shows the number of new houses built since 1999 in each local authority area, which is the administrative unit used for reporting the information.

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/webapp/wa.page?clause=%20\(asked\\_by%20LIKE%20\\*Stewart%20Stevenson\\*\)&start\\_rec=61&qty=10&sort\\_order=date\\_answered&direction=desc](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/webapp/wa.page?clause=%20(asked_by%20LIKE%20*Stewart%20Stevenson*)&start_rec=61&qty=10&sort_order=date_answered&direction=desc)

**MALCOLM CHISHOLM (31/07/06)**

**Q S2W-27214 CHRISTINE GRAHAME (03/07/06) CHARITIES**

**A** The Scottish Executive does not hold this information. However, under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 if the body is not registered as a charity in Scotland, but recognised as a charity under another jurisdiction, such as the Charity Commission for England and Wales, it is required to state that it is a charity registered elsewhere under section 14 of the Act. Therefore an English based charity which fundraises in Scotland is required to state that it is a charity registered in England and Wales and is unable to refer to itself as a Scottish charity. **JOHANN LAMONT (28/07/06)**

**Q S2W-27400 CAMPBELL MARTIN (17/07/06) NATIONAL PARKS RENEWABLE ENERGY**

**A** The map at Annex A of draft SPP 6 only shows those areas designated for their international and national natural heritage value. The draft confirms that it is for planning authorities to consider whether to use the development plan process to identify and protect areas designated for their local natural heritage value. This approach is appropriate for regional parks since these are designated and managed by local authorities. While such areas may be important locally, the level of protection should clearly not be as high as that afforded to internationally or nationally designated sites. **MALCOLM CHISHOLM (02/08/06)**

## TRAINING

**INTRODUCTION TO LIME IN TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS:** 3 day hands-on workshop, 29 - 31 August 2006. In partnership with Penicuik House Trust, Charlestown Workshops are able to offer **30 free places** on this popular 3-day workshop. The programme will be related specifically to Penicuik House and its construction. Subjects covered include lime burning, making mortars, pointing both ashlar and rubblework successfully, applied lime finishes including internal plasterwork and limewash. Participants will gain an understanding of traditional building technology and be able to confidently assess a buildings needs in terms of repair and materials. For further details and to book a place contact the Scottish Lime Centre at: [www.scotlime.org](http://www.scotlime.org)

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## VACANCIES

**RCAHMS – APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER** Scottish Ministers are seeking applicants who would like to be considered for appointment as a Commissioner of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. The successful candidate will take up the position from December 2006. The appointment is not remunerated but travelling and subsistence expenses are met. Reasonable dependent carer expenses will also be reimbursed. The role involves a time commitment of the equivalent of up to 2 days a month, generally in Edinburgh. The main functions of the Commission are to identify, record and interpret the sites, monuments and buildings of Scotland's past; promote a greater appreciation of their value through the maintenance of a national archive and to present them by means of publications and exhibitions. For further details and application pack call: 0870 240 1818, or email: [publicappointments@response-handling.com](mailto:publicappointments@response-handling.com)

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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); 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@befso.org.uk](mailto:fbinning@befso.org.uk), 0131 556 5353.