

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **SHEP No 1: THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT - CONSULTATION RESPONSES (SE 28/07/06)**

A total of 45 responses were received to this consultation, 40 of which are published and 5 unpublished. The consultation period was from 31 March until 23 June 2006.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/26151715/0>

### **SHEP No 3: GARDENS AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES - CONSULTATION RESPONSES (SE 28/07/06)**

A total of 41 responses were received to this consultation, 38 of which are published and 3 unpublished. The consultation period was from 31 March until 23 June 2006.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/27104354/0>

### **SPP 6: RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSULTATIVE DRAFT: STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT (SE 16/08/06)**

Sets out the likely significant positive and negative environmental effects of implementing draft SPP 6 Renewable Energy.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/08/14102833/0>

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## **SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE NEWS RELEASE**

### **PLUGGING INTO THE PLANNING SYSTEM (SE 24/08/06)**

People across Scotland will be able to plug into the planning system with the click of a mouse thanks to £12 million Executive funding. The investment will be made over the next two years to deliver efficiency savings in the planning process. It will allow the public instant online and round the clock access to the development plans shaping their areas; websites for submitting planning applications and monitoring their progress through the system and clear and simple guides around the whole planning process.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2006/08/24093733>

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## **NEWS RELEASES**

### **CALL FOR CASE STUDIES (A+D 08/06)**

Have you completed a project that deserves recognition? Would you like to promote your work and help others learn from the challenges you faced? Architecture and Design Scotland (A+DS) and The National Programme at The Lighthouse have teamed up to collect and promote examples of well designed buildings and spaces in Scotland. Whether you are a client or a designer, if you have a project that you think may be suitable, they would like to hear from you. The project could be a building, a space or a masterplan... the only stipulation is that it must be complete and in Scotland.

Deadline for submissions: Monday 2nd October 2006.

All queries should be addressed to [maire.cox@ads.org.uk](mailto:maire.cox@ads.org.uk) or [morag.bain@thelighthouse.co.uk](mailto:morag.bain@thelighthouse.co.uk)

[http://www.ads.org.uk/case\\_studies.html](http://www.ads.org.uk/case_studies.html)

### **CABE APPOINTS LEADING CONSULTANCY TO LOOK AT ITS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (CABE 27/07/06)**

CABE has appointed the sustainability consultants Beyond Green to undertake a comprehensive audit of its environmental impact. Beyond Green will be working in collaboration with footprinting experts, Best Foot Forward. As the government's advisor on architecture, urban design and public space, CABE has a key role to play in stimulating the market for more sustainable goods and services and for championing more sustainable buildings and urban environments. CABE wants to embed sustainability in its internal operations, external activities and practical advice.

<http://www.cabe.org.uk/default.aspx?contentitemid=1404>

### **GUIDE TO STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY AND ECONOMY (DEFRA 31/07/06)**

An updated picture of the UK's environmental, social and economic wellbeing has been published, with more than half the official measurements showing improvement. Sustainable development indicators in your pocket contains the latest set of pointers to the state of the nation across a range of concerns including health, housing, jobs, crime, education and the environment, measuring progress of the UK's sustainable development strategy.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2006/060731b.htm>

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## **RECENT PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS**

**S2W-27736 MURRAY TOSH (14/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive, with reference to the speech by Malcolm Chisholm MSP to Homes for Scotland on 19 May 2006, what mechanisms it is putting in place to monitor the full impact of PAN 74 and assess whether it is delivering an adequate land supply for affordable housing development.

**S2W-27737 MURRAY TOSH (14/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive, with reference to the speech by Malcolm Chisholm MSP to Homes for Scotland on 19 May 2006, what steps it is taking to ensure that local authorities' development plans contain adequate allocations of land for house building, reasonable estimates of the potential contribution of windfall sites and a more flexible approach to development planning, so that each local authority area has an adequate effective land supply.

**S2W-27738 MURRAY TOSH (14/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive, with reference to the speech by Malcolm Chisholm MSP to the Chartered Institute of Housing Conference on 7 March 2006, which local authorities it considers have shown an insufficient commitment to the identification of a genuine long-term effective land supply that will provide an opportunity for the development of the range of housing types in suitable locations as well as greater certainty for both developers and local communities; what guidance it proposes to issue to improve the regular auditing of effective land supply, and what steps it proposes to ensure that local authorities respond appropriately to the minister's injunctions to create "a step change in the whole approach to the supply of land for housing".

**S2W-27739 MURRAY TOSH (14/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive, with reference to the speech by Malcolm Chisholm MSP to the Chartered Institute of Housing Conference on 7 March 2006, when it will publish research into potential planning mechanisms such as a use class for affordable housing to secure an adequate supply in the long term of affordable housing and when it expects to be able to report real progress in making better use of surplus land within the public sector estate for affordable housing.

**S2W-27740 MURRAY TOSH (14/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive what the membership and remit will be of its Affordable Housing Working Group and whether it will identify all research sponsored by or for the working group and the anticipated timescales for reporting.

**S2W-27757 MARK RUSKELL (14/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive when the consultation on the implementation of the EU Environmental Liability Directive will take place in Scotland and whether there will be regional meetings as part of the consultation process.

**S2W-27758 ALASDAIR MORGAN (14/08/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive, for each project which has been considered for the award of a grant under the Scottish Forestry Grants Scheme, who the applicant was, how much grant was awarded, on what date the award was confirmed and what objective assessment processes were used to determine whether or not the application would succeed.

**S2W-28012 ROBIN HARPER (04/09/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive, in light of the proposal to transfer sole responsibility for the compilation of *An Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes* to Historic Scotland, what measures will be taken to ensure the continued availability of grants for landowners towards the compilation of management plans for historic designed landscapes, which have until now been allocated by Scottish Natural Heritage, and whether specific provision for this will be made within Historic Scotland's budget.

**S2W-28013 ROBIN HARPER (04/09/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive why it proposes in paragraphs 2.20 and 2.21 of *Scottish Historic Environment Policy 3: Gardens and Designed Landscapes* to remove the major responsibility for designed landscapes from Scottish Natural Heritage, given that the October 2005 concordat between Historic Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage acknowledges the need for a more integrated approach to the conservation and management of Scotland's historic environment.

**S2W-28014 ROBIN HARPER (04/09/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive why it has not yet introduced measures to bring sites included in the extension to *An Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes* under the protection of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Scotland) Order 1992 and when it will do so, given the commitment in paragraph 2.14 of *Scottish Historic Environment Policy 3: Gardens and Designed Landscapes* to amend the legislation at the earliest opportunity.

**S2W-28015 ROBIN HARPER (04/09/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive whether, in light of the scope of the European Landscape Convention and the Executive's own acknowledgement of the contribution made by designed landscapes of regional or local significance to the wider landscape and to the well-being of local communities, it will extend the scope of *Scottish Historic Environment Policy 3 - Gardens and Designed Landscapes* to include the totality of Scotland's garden heritage and not just those nationally important sites which are included in *An Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes*.

**S2W-28016 ROBIN HARPER (04/09/06)** To ask the Scottish Executive, in light of the United Kingdom's recent signing of the European Landscape Convention, what specific measures are being taken by the Executive to ensure that the commitments made under Articles 5 and 6 of the convention are acted upon and are reflected in future legislation and policies in respect of Scotland's landscapes.

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## RECENT PARLIAMENTARY ANSWERS

- Q (S2W-27637) ADAM INGRAM (07/08/2006)** 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.
- A ANSWERED BY MALCOLM CHISHOLOM (21/08/06)** In the last financial year the Scottish Executive provided funding of £161,711 for Planning Aid for Scotland. This is being increased so that in the financial year 2006-07, they will receive up to £225,283. Budgets beyond March 2008 will be set in autumn 2007 following the next Spending Review.
- Q (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.
- A ANSWERED BY JOHANN LAMONT (17 AUGUST 2006)** Sections 39 to 42 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, which have been commenced only for the purpose of making regulations, establish a new regime for the reorganisation of charities, enabling charities to seek approval for reorganisation from the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), rather than having to apply to court. These provisions replace the old reorganisation provisions for most charities contained in the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions)(Scotland) Act 1990, and for charities which are also educational endowments under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980. As the new provisions allow charities to apply to OSCR to reorganise as opposed to the court, the new regime will be both cheaper and quicker for charities.
- We are currently developing regulations under sections 39, which make provision about the form and manner of applications to OSCR, and intend to consult on the new regulations later this year. We intend to commence the provisions and bring these regulations into force early next year.
- Q (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.
- A ANSWERED BY JOHANN LAMONT (18 AUGUST 2006)** I have asked Angiolina Foster, Chief Executive of Communities Scotland to respond.
- Her response is as follows: The fourth Home Energy Conservation Act Report for Scotland will be published during the first quarter of 2007.
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## EVENTS

**FIVE CENTURIES OF CHANGE: THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DESIGNED LANDSCAPE, LENNOX CASTLE, LENNOXTOWN, EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE, FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006 – 9.30AM- 4.15PM AT KINCAID HOUSE HOTEL, BIRDSTON ROAD, MILTON OF CAMPSIE, WITH A VISIT TO LENNOX CASTLE.** This study day, presented jointly by The Garden History Society in Scotland and the Royal Scottish Forestry Society, is designed to appeal to anyone interested in the history of landscapes, in land management, or in planning within a designed landscape. **For further information contact [simon.macgillivray@lennoxconsultants.co.uk](mailto:simon.macgillivray@lennoxconsultants.co.uk).**

**PLANNING IN SCOTLAND: THE NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK TUESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2006, DYNAMIC EARTH**

A conference discussing Scotland's imminent National Planning Framework. **Register online at [www.holyrood.com](http://www.holyrood.com) or telephone 0131 272 2130. (Previously publicised in BEFS Bullet No. 67, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2006)**

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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.