



CONSULTATIONS

A GIVING CULTURE: GETTING THE BEST OUT OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR AND DCMS (DCMS 08/03/05) Effective partnership with the voluntary and community sector is essential to achieving our aims of improving the quality of life for all through cultural and sporting activities, supporting the pursuit of excellence and championing the tourism, creative and leisure industries. A Giving Culture provides a detailed assessment of our engagement with the voluntary and community sector and sets out a series of consultation questions on how this relationship can best be maximised in the future. For more information please go the following web link.

http://www.culture.gov.uk/global/consultations/2005+current+consultations/a_giving_culture.htm?properties=2005+current+consultations%2C%2Fglobal%2Fconsultations%2Fdefault%2C&month=

PUBLICATIONS

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT GRANTS, CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS (HS 17/03/05) Following a review and consultation during 2004, Patricia Ferguson MSP, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport has announced significant revisions to the £14 million programme of grants awarded by Historic Scotland. With the broad support of over 50 stakeholders, Historic Scotland will work to invest £14.6 million in 2005-06 in the historic environment through a consolidated programme of historic environment grants, launch a new scheme of Building Repair Grants shortly with the publication of revised application forms and guidance notes and establish a new £8 million Historic Environment Regeneration Fund. To view the publication, please go to the following web-link.

http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/grants_conclusions_and_next_steps_2005.pdf

PLANNING ADVICE NOTE: PAN 74 AFFORDABLE HOUSING (SE 07/03/05) Sets out how the planning system can support the Executive's commitment to increase the supply of affordable housing. A quarter of homes on all new housing developments - in areas identified as having affordable housing needs - should be provided for rent or low cost ownership according to the new guidelines. During 2004, the Executive carried out a wide-ranging Review of Affordable Housing, which examined the functioning of the housing market and its impact on affordability, assessed affordable housing requirements, and considered measures to improve supply and affordability, and ways to address the imbalances between supply and requirements in local areas. To view the publication and news release go to the following web-links.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/planning/pan74.pdf>

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2005/03/07110923>

SEED RESEARCH STRATEGY 2004-2007 – TOURISM, CULTURE AND SPORT (SE 07/03/05) A Research Strategy for culture, sport and cultural tourism has been drawn up by the Tourism Culture and Sport Analytical Services Unit for the period 2004-2007. The Strategy covers not only relevant subjects of research, agreed by the Department's Tourism, Culture and Sport policy teams as appropriate for the forthcoming period, but also key approaches such as partnership working, sharing information and providing support to agencies, and dissemination and knowledge transfer, all vital to effective analytical support and policymaking in the Scottish Executive. For more information please go to the following web-link to view the publication.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/about/ED/IAC/00014478/TCSResearchStrategy2004.pdf>

THE UK GOVERNMENT'S NEW SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (DEFRA 07/03/05) The UK Government's Sustainable Development Strategy 'Securing the Future' was recently launch by the Prime Minister. In conjunction with this, the UK Government and Devolved Administrations launched their new Strategic Framework 'One future - different paths'. This document sets out the common challenges and goals in sustainable development, shared between the UK Government, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. To view the publications visit:

http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/documents/publications/strategy/SecFut_complete.pdf
<http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/documents/publications/SD%20Framework.pdf>

EVENTS

SERVICES IN HISTORIC BUILDINGS: THREE ASPECTS OF BUILDING SERVICES INSTALLATIONS This event takes place at the University of Strathclyde (James Weir Building) on 22 March at 1pm and costs £10. For more information please contact Linda Shorts on 0141- 332-5466 or email her at linda.shorts@hulley.co.uk

CLYDE WATERFRONT AND RIAS CONVENTION The RIAS are holding a two day event on the 5-6 May in Govan, Glasgow, sponsored by Glasgow City Council, Atkins and Sikkens. On 5 May the event will be discussing the Clyde Waterfront and Regeneration and on 6 May will be the RIAS Convention. The cost of the event will cost from £75 with usual concessions. Discounts are available if you book early. For more information please contact the RIAS Events Department on 0131 229 7545 or email them at events@rias.org.uk

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE NEWS RELEASES

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN BOARD OF TRUSTEES (15/03/2005) Deputy Minister for Environment & Rural Development announced the reappointment of two members to the Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. The members are Lord Charles Howick and David Mathewson's. The reappointments are for four years and run from 1 March 2005 to 28 February 2009. For more information go to the following web-link.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2005/03/15131624>

ORKNEY WIND FARM OPENS AT SPURNESS (11/03/2005) Spurness wind farm in Orkney was officially opened recently by Enterprise Minister Jim Wallace who went on to an event to mark the handover of a roof-top turbine at Sanday School. The Minister highlighted that all forms of wind energy - from small scale roof-top turbines to major windfarms - can make a contribution to cutting harmful emissions. The Scottish Community and Householder Renewables Initiative provided funding totalling £5.9 million over period 2002-03 to 2004-05. For more information please go to the following web-link.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2005/03/11115317>

UK FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (07/03/2005) The Prime Minister recently launched the UK Framework on Sustainable Development. The framework will be supported by separate strategies for each administration. Scotland's sustainable development strategy will be published in the autumn. It will focus on six areas in particular, sustainable consumption and production, climate change and energy, protecting and enhancing our natural resources, creating sustainable communities, encouraging people to live differently and the best ways to deliver and track lasting change. For more information on the Scottish framework, please go to the following web-link.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2005/03/07102535>

NEWS RELEASES

WALES ISSUES LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONSULTATION (NAW 15/03/05) As part of it's planning; Delivering for Wales programme, the Welsh Assembly Government is seeking views on draft secondary legislation for the proposed new local development plan system in Wales. Part 6 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2005 provides for a new local development plan system in Wales to replace the unitary development plan system. The Commencement and Transitional Provisions Order, and the Local Development Plan Regulations will be necessary to bring the system on line. For more information please go to the following web-link.
http://www.wales.gov.uk/servlet/PressReleaseByDateServlet?area_code=37E752F2000942E000000A2E0000000&document_code=N00000000000000000000000029662

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE – SETTING THE SCENE (DEFRA 11/03/05) Energy and Environment Ministers from 20 countries with significant energy needs gathered in London on 15-16 March to consider the challenge of achieving a sustainable and secure energy future for all in a lower carbon world. The

roundtable was the first time that Energy and Environment Ministers have met to consider the challenge of creating lower carbon energy systems to combat climate change over the next 50 years. For more information please go to the following web-link.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2005/050311a.htm>

FARMERS HELPED TO PRESERVE ENGLAND'S RURAL HERITAGE (EH 06/03/05) The Environmental Stewardship Scheme launched recently by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) marks the beginning of a new era for England's rural heritage. The Scheme is the result of a two-year partnership between DEFRA, English Heritage and other environmental agencies. It provides farmers with payments in return for conserving the countryside, including taking proper care of heritage assets on their land such as prehistoric and medieval settlements, prehistoric burial mounds, and battlefields. It will also help farmers to fund repairs to list and other historic farm buildings. English Heritage, with the help of the Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers (ALGAO), has also provided DEFRA with a national map of 70,000 key historic sites which might be suitable for the scheme. For more information please go to the following web-link.

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/default.asp?wci=mainframe&URL1=default.asp%3FWCI%3DNode%26WCE%3D7282>

BILLS

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) BILL (07/03/05) The Housing (Scotland) Bill was published recently with the aim of promoting a culture change in the private sector so that owners take more responsibility for the upkeep of their properties. New powers will allow councils to adopt a comprehensive, area-based approach to dealing with housing condition problems. The Bill will improve the condition and quality of private sector housing by: giving councils new powers to deal with poorly maintained buildings; allowing targeted support for repairs and improvements where it is most needed; enhancing powers to address housing problems in run-down areas; giving new rights to private sector tenants to have repairs carried out; allowing the introduction of the mandatory single survey scheme in the house buying and selling process. For information please go to the following web-link.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-05/bb-03-08g.htm>

PARLIAMENTARY MOTIONS

S2M-2585 MALCOLM CHISHOLM: HOUSING (15/03/05) That the Parliament acknowledges the wide range of policies outlined in Homes for Scotland's People to increase the quantity and improve the quality of homes in both the social rented and private sectors; welcomes the £1.2 billion investment to achieve the three-year target of 21,500 affordable homes and the 23% increase in the Communities Scotland budget for next year; endorses the Homestake initiative to help first-time buyers and others into home ownership; acknowledges new planning advice setting a benchmark, where need is demonstrated, of 25% of all new housing development to be affordable homes; supports recent announcements and ongoing work to develop water and sewerage infrastructure for new housing and boost the availability of land, and welcomes the Housing (Scotland) Bill published last week which will seek to raise standards in the private housing sector and strengthen the rights of private sector tenants.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-05/bb-03-15f.htm>

S2M-2508 SHIONA BAIRD: SUPPORT FOR TIDAL POWER (07/03/05) That the Parliament welcomes the £1 million funding awarded by the Scottish Executive towards the establishment of a tidal test centre at the European Marine Energy Centre in Orkney; recognises that it is vital to fund the speedy development and commercialisation of a range of renewable technologies in order to avert climate change and to capitalise on opportunities for home-grown Scottish enterprise; expresses its concern, however, that £1 million represents a mere drop in the ocean, and calls for increased funding urgently for more development of tidal power in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-05/bb-03-07f.htm>

NEW PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

S2W-15275 RICHARD LOCHHEAD (16/03/05) To ask the Scottish Executive what steps have been taken to assess and estimate the future impact of climate change on each dam and reservoir; whether such information is available to the public and, if so, how it can be obtained.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-05/bb-03-16e.htm>
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-05/bb-03-16e.htm>

S2W-15021 RICHARD LOCHHEAD (07/03/05) To ask the Scottish Executive how it will ensure that the affordability of homes is not adversely affected by any decision to pass the cost of connection to the water and sewerage network to developers and whether it will provide details of any such proposed decision.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-05/bb-03-07e.htm>

S2W-15036 STEWART STEVENSON (07/03/05) To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S2W-10232 by Ross Finnie on 29 September 2004, on what date the comprehensive guidance for rural communities across Scotland on developing village halls will be published.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-05/bb-03-07e.htm>

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q (S2W-14464), LINDA FABIANI, LAND REGISTER

A registers are the General Register of Sasines, a register of deeds, which is gradually being superseded by the Land Register, a register of title. The Land Registration (Scotland) Act 1979 introduced the system of land registration in Scotland. The act envisaged the progressive introduction of the Land Register over Scotland on an area-by-area basis. This was completed in 2003, and the whole of Scotland is now operational for the purposes of land registration. Transactions that induce first registration in the Land Register are set out in the Land Registration (Scotland) Act 1979. Generally, only a transfer of property for valuable consideration (i.e. a price) will induce the first registration of a property in the Land Register. Thus any property transfer involving deeds recorded in the General Register of Sasines that does not attract a price will remain on that register. There is no set timescale for every property in Scotland to be held on the Land Register. Over time, as more properties held on the Register of Sasines are sold, the stock of properties in Scotland held on the Land Register will increase. The percentage of properties in the Land Register is presently rising by around 3% a year. **JOHANN LAMONT (14/03/05)**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-05/wa0314.htm>

Q (S2W-14452) LINDA FABIANI, HOUSING

A I have asked Angiolina Foster, Chief Executive of Communities Scotland, to reply. Her response is as follows. Glasgow City and the City of Edinburgh have had their business cases approved and now manage the development funding programmes in their areas. The transfer of programme management was implemented in Glasgow City on 1 September 2003 and in the City of Edinburgh on 12 July 2004. East Lothian, North Lanarkshire, South Ayrshire and West Lothian have also submitted business cases to transfer the management of development funding in their respective local authority areas. **MALCOLM CHISHOLM (14/03/05)**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-05/wa0314.htm>

Q (S2W-14744) RICHARD LOCHHEAD, ENVIRONMENT

A The information requested is not held centrally. However, Scottish greenhouse gas emissions data is available in Greenhouse Gas Inventories for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland: 1999-2002, a copy of which has been placed in the Parliament's Reference Centre (Bib. number 34590) and is also available on the Executive's climate change website at www.scotland.gov.uk/climatechange. The inventory presents emissions data by source but does not allocate emissions to buildings in Scotland.

ROSS FINNIE (08/03/05)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-05/wa0307.htm>

Q (S2W-14148) DONALD GORRIE, ENERGY EFFICIENCY

A The Scottish Executive's organisational vision is to make the best use of resources in line with its Greening Government Policy. The Executive wishes to set the example on Energy Efficiency and Sustainability in both Public and Private sectors, and its formal strategy is kept under constant review, it

is revised to reflect policy development. The fourth Environmental Performance Annual Report (2003-) was published by the Executive in December 04. **TOM McCABE (04/03/05)**
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-05/wa0304.htm>

This Bulletin is produced by the Built Environment Forum Scotland. Information in the Bulletin is extracted from a number of websites such as: the Scottish Executive (SE); the Scottish Parliament (SP); Architecture & Design Scotland (A&DS); Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH); Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO); English Heritage (EH); Commission for Architecture & the Built Environment (CABE); Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA); National Assembly for Wales (NAW). If you have any questions or comments on the above, or would like to submit information to be included, please get in touch with Chris Stuart cstuart@befs.org.uk or Jo Robertson jrobertson@befs.org.uk at the BEFS office on 0131 556 5353.