

**From:** Jo Robertson [jrobertson@befs.org.uk]

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## Consultation

[Back to Top](#)

## Publications

National Planning Framework Strategic Environmental Assessment: Stage 1 - Assessment of Strategic Alternatives: Discussion Paper Description (SE 13/06/07)

Sets out the range of strategic alternatives that have been considered as part of the development of the NPF, and identifies their respective environmental effects. These findings will be used to inform the development of a 'preferred option' for the National Planning Framework.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/06/13103900/0>

Planning Directorate: New Administration (SE 13/06/07)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/06/13105622/0>

Preparation of the Second National Planning Framework (NPF2): Participation Statement (Updated June 07)

Description

Participation Statement Update June 2007.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/06/13103831/0>

Responses to the Formulation of the Second National Planning Framework Consultation (SE 13/06/07)

List of respondees and comments.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/06/13103929/0>

Outstanding Achievement in Planning? (08/06/07)

E-flyer to promote SAQP 2007

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/06/08125746/0>

[Building, paving and roofing stone: Geology and mineral planning factsheets for Scotland \(05/06/07\)](#)  
 Building, paving and roofing stone: geology and mineral planning factsheet.  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/06/04121227/0>

[Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning: Guidance and Application Form 2007 \(31/05/07\)](#)  
 SAQP 2007 application and guidance form.  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/05/09093041/0>

[The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes \(Scotland\) Regulations 2004: Scottish Planning Policy \(SPP\) 6: Renewable Energy - Post-Adoption SEA Statement May 2007 \(31/05/07\)](#)  
 SPP 6 Renewable Energy Post-adoption SEA Statement.  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/05/30153339/0>

[West Edinburgh Planning Framework Consultation Responses \(SE 23/05/07\)](#)  
 Consultation responses.  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/05/23112648/0>

[Back to Top](#)

## Scottish Executive News Release

[Back to Top](#)

## News Release

[Back to Top](#)

## Recent Parliamentary Questions

[S3W-293 Peter Peacock](#): To ask the Scottish Executive whether the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment will take into account the views from a wide range of rural interests including crofters, environmental groups, the voluntary sector, small businesses and social enterprises when developing policy for rural Scotland. (30/05/07)

[S3W-199 Kenneth Gibson](#): To ask the Scottish Executive what practical steps it will take to regenerate the centres of small towns. (24/5/07)

[S3W-249 Patrick Harvie](#): To ask the Scottish Executive what action it will take to ensure that social and environmental criteria are specified in public sector procurement contracts. (29/05/07)

[S3W-250 Patrick Harvie](#): To ask the Scottish Executive when it intends to revise building standards. (29/05/07)

[S3W-257 David Stewart](#): To ask the Scottish Executive when it will review the boundaries of the Cairngorms National Park. (29/05/07)

[S3W-354 Tavish Scott](#): To ask the Scottish Executive what its position is on the UK Marine Bill in respect of devolution of nature conservation responsibilities out to the 200-mile limit. (31/05/07)

[S3W-379 David Stewart](#): To ask the Scottish Executive what actions under the new Scottish Rural Development Plan are aimed at meeting the Kyoto Protocol on climate change. (31/05/07)

[S3W-420 Peter Peacock](#): To ask the Scottish Executive whether it intends to amend planning law to allow local referenda to determine planning applications and, if so, in what circumstances and for which type of application; what distinguishes one type of planning application from any other for the purpose of a local referendum being invoked; what the status would be of professional advice and recommendations on any application by local authority or Executive officials; how any such changes will affect the rights of applicants

to have their applications considered in terms of planning law; whether appeals against a decision by a local referendum could be made and to whom; who would be responsible in law for any such planning decision, and how the geographic boundaries of any area to have such a referendum would be determined. (01/06/07)

**S3W-421 Peter Peacock:** To ask the Scottish Executive what the status is of any petition which is submitted to planning officials, local authority councillors or the Scottish Ministers in favour of or opposed to any planning application when a planning application is being considered. (01/06/07)

**S3W-422 Peter Peacock:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it considers that the impact of any proposal to allow local referenda to determine certain types of planning applications would have any implications for human rights in relation to the rights of individuals who could not participate in referenda for the applications to which they objected. (01/06/07)

**S3W-473 Rhona Brankin:** To ask the Scottish Executive what budget it has calculated for the Scottish Rural Development Programme period for the following Axis 2 elements: (a) ongoing commitments to honour existing agreements in respect of environmentally sensitive areas, the Countryside Premium Scheme, the Rural Stewardship Scheme, the Organic Aid Scheme, forestry schemes and the Land Management Contract (LMC) Menu Scheme, (b) maintaining existing levels of new entry to Axis 2 elements of Tier 2 of LMCs (previously the LMC Menu Scheme), (c) maintaining existing levels of new entry to LMC Tier 3 measures (previously contained in the Rural Stewardship Scheme and Organic Aid Scheme), (d) maintaining existing levels of new entry to LMC forestry schemes, (e) ensuring levels of Natura management delivered through LMCs meet Scottish Natural Heritage targets for Scotland's Natura obligations and (f) maintaining existing levels of Less Favoured Areas support. (04/06/07)

**S3W-514 Rhoda Grant:** To ask the Scottish Executive when it intends to publish the report on the evaluation of the Rural Voices programme which funded action research projects in rural communities and whether it will consider reviving Rural Voices as part of the new Scottish Rural Development Programme. (06/06/07)

**S3W-655 Alex Neil:** To ask the Scottish Executive what the average capital value per hectare is of development land in Scotland. (08/06/07)

**S3W-696 Mary Scanlon:** To ask the Scottish Executive how it intends to address a shortage of land for development. (08/06/07)

**S3W-727 Patricia Ferguson:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will introduce new legislation in respect of heritage and the built environment. (08/06/07)

**S3W-728 Patricia Ferguson:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will outline the rationale for a merger of Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. (08/06/07)

**S3W-729 Patricia Ferguson:** To ask the Scottish Executive how it intends to support Scotland's historic houses. (08/06/07)

**S3W-730 Patricia Ferguson:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will continue to fund and support Architecture and Design Scotland. (08/06/07)

**S3W-731 Patricia Ferguson:** To ask the Scottish Executive what its priorities are for Architecture and Design Scotland. (08/06/07)

**S3W-802 Elaine Murray:** To ask the Scottish Executive what the timescale is for the 2007 spending review. (11/06/07)

**S3W-918 Rhona Brankin:** To ask the Scottish Executive what plans it has to review the functions or structures of Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency; whether any such review will include other bodies and agencies; what consultation it is planning with stakeholders, and when it will announce its intentions. (14/06/07)

**S3W-922 Rhona Brankin:** To ask the Scottish Executive what discussions it has had with Her Majesty's

Government concerning the provisions of the UK Marine Bill or any proposed Scottish Marine Bill and when it will announce its legislative intentions with regard to the protection of the marine environment.

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**S3W-924 Rhona Brankin:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it intends to reconvene the Advisory Group on Marine and Coastal Strategy and when it will announce its intentions with regard to the implementation of this group's recommendations. (14/6/67)

[Back to Top](#)

## Recent Parliamentary Answers

[Back to Top](#)

## Motions and Bill Progress

**S3M-19 Ross Finnie:** A Renewables Revolution for Scotland-That the Parliament believes that the moratorium on onshore renewables developments resulting from the planning review proposed in the SNP's 2007 manifesto would be damaging to the renewables companies working in Scotland and would have a negative impact on the industry's confidence and commercial success; is concerned that this could lead to Scotland missing existing renewable electricity targets; believes that Scotland should lead the world in a renewables revolution with more investment in wave, wind and tidal power; recognises the economic potential of exporting our expertise and creating thousands of new jobs and billions of pounds of new investment; believes that 100% of Scotland's electricity should come from renewable sources by 2050, and further believes that this ambition should be the basis for the future energy policy of the Scottish Executive.

Supported by: Tavish Scott, Jim Hume, Jim Tolson, Alison McInnes, Liam McArthur, Jeremy Purvis, Iain Smith, Margaret Smith, Mike Rumbles, Mike Pringle, John Farquhar Munro, Robert Brown, Mr Jamie Stone, Nicol Stephen, Hugh O'Donnell (21/5/07)

**\*S3M-83 Patrick Harvie:** Scottish Rural Development Plan-That the Parliament welcomes the draft Scottish Rural Development Plan produced by the previous Scottish Executive, especially the aspirations to promote environmentally sustainable farming and to promote action on climate change and better water management; regrets previous underfunding of agri-environment measures, and urges the Scottish Executive to maximise funding in the forthcoming programme to ensure that the desirable objectives set out in the draft Scottish Rural Development Plan can be met. (29/05/07)

**\*S3M-74 Tavish Scott:** The Crown Estate and Scotland's Seabed-That the Parliament notes the importance to Scotland of the seas around its shores, which support fishing, aquaculture, tourism and marine transport industries, and increasingly will support Scotland's growing marine renewable energy industry; further notes that the control of the seabed remains with the Crown Estate which controls most marine developments and levies charges for the use of the seabed; believes that, if Scotland's coastal and island communities are to be sustained and Scotland's marine renewable energy potential is to be developed for the maximum benefit of Scotland, control of the seabed should pass to democratically accountable Scottish authorities, and therefore further believes that the opportunity presented by the proposed UK Marine Bill to devolve control of Scotland's seabed to Scotland should be taken and that, in the meantime, the Scottish Executive should examine the conclusions of the Crown Estate Review Working Group in order to use every opportunity to use devolved powers to maximise Scotland's influence over the operation of the Crown Estate in Scotland. (29/05/07)

Supported by: Liam McArthur\*, Mr Jamie Stone\*, John Farquhar Munro\*

**S3M-46 Murdo Fraser: Roman Antonine Guard-**That the Parliament commends the work carried out by the charity, The Antonine Guard, to educate people and inspire them to learn more about Scotland's Roman history; notes that our Roman heritage has helped shape today's Scotland; believes that more must be done

to safeguard Roman remains and sites in Scotland, such as Ardoch Roman Fort in Perthshire; further believes that Scotland's Roman history should not just be preserved but be used as an educational tool to get children interested in Scotland's past and to learn about conservation; supports the application to see the Antonine Wall gain World Heritage status, and believes that the Scottish Executive should consider the creation of a national Roman centre in an area of Scotland that has strong links to Scotland's Roman past. (29/05/07)

Supported by: John Lamont, Elizabeth Smith, Nanette Milne, Charlie Gordon, Jamie McGrigor, Kenneth Gibson, John Park, Gavin Brown, Alex Johnstone, Jackson Carlaw, Mary Scanlon, Hugh O'Donnell, Derek Brownlee, John Scott, Jamie Hepburn, Margaret Mitchell, Annabel Goldie, Roseanna Cunningham, Ross Finnie, Richard Baker, David Whitton, Bill Aitken, Jeremy Purvis, Andy Kerr, Rhona Brankin, Cathy Peattie, Jackie Baillie, Malcolm Chisholm, Ted Brocklebank, Tom McCabe\*

**\*S3M-173 Robin Harper: Carbon Offsetting**-That the Parliament notes the growing popularity of carbon offsetting among individuals and private companies; believes that actions by polluters to reduce carbon emissions elsewhere, or to mitigate the effects of climate change, can play a useful role in supplementing sound environmental policy by government; considers however that carbon offsetting cannot substitute for policies that reduce carbon emissions directly and that any role for offsetting should only be transitional; notes the widely held concerns about many commercial offsetting schemes and the difficulty in verifying the true value of most offsetting schemes; notes the Scottish Government's intention to introduce carbon offsetting in respect of transport infrastructure projects, and calls on the Scottish Government, before introducing such proposals, to consider issues such as the need for rigorous independent assessments of the full direct and indirect carbon impact of each project and its associated offset, continuous updating of data for the lifetime of the infrastructure to establish any changes required to the annual offset funding, compliance with the internationally-recognised Gold Standard and the need to ensure that overall transport policy leads to direct emission reductions. (13/6/07)

Supported by: Patrick Harvie\*

**\*S3M-173.1 Sarah Boyack: Carbon Offsetting**-As an amendment to motion (S3M-173) in the name of Robin Harper, leave out from "and that any role" to end and insert "or indirectly; notes the crucial role that transport policy must play in meeting carbon reduction targets and therefore calls on the Scottish Executive to ensure that potential carbon reduction is a central consideration in the evaluation and prioritisation of transport infrastructure projects; reaffirms support for a balanced and sustainable transport policy with the bulk of investment being targeted towards reducing unnecessary journeys and congestion, widening transport choices by providing high-quality and affordable public transport options and support for walking and cycling; further notes the Executive's intention to introduce carbon offsetting, and calls on ministers to consult widely on the applicability and robustness of such schemes, demonstrating that carbon offsetting is additional to rather than a substitute for the direct or indirect planned reduction of carbon emissions." (14/6/07)

Supported by: Des McNulty\*

**\*S3M-173.2 Alex Johnstone: Carbon Offsetting**-As an amendment to motion (S3M-173) in the name of Robin Harper, after "and its associated offset" insert "and the related cost to the taxpayer of such schemes," (14/6/07)

**\*S3M-173.3 Alison McInnes: Carbon Offsetting**-As an amendment to motion (S3M-173) in the name of Robin Harper, leave out from first "notes" to end and insert "applauds the introduction by the previous Scottish Government of the first-ever Scottish climate change target to exceed the Scottish share of the UK target by an additional one million tonnes by 2010; notes the intention of the current Scottish Government to introduce a climate change Bill; believes that this Bill and other government action should set challenging and achievable targets for reducing carbon emissions of at least 12.5% by 2010 and 60% by 2050; further notes the SNP manifesto commitment to annual targets to reduce carbon emissions; welcomes the commitment to a climate change Bill but believes that early action should be taken in advance of the Bill to improve energy efficiency, reduce energy use and support microgeneration; further believes that the public sector should take the lead by ensuring that all Scottish Government buildings and transport become carbon neutral by 2012; considers that carbon offsetting should normally be viewed as a last resort as a carbon reduction measure, and is concerned that the SNP Government's transport plans and opposition to public transport plans will render existing and future plans to reduce carbon emissions unattainable." (14/6/07)

**\*S3M-173.4 Stewart Stevenson: Carbon Offsetting**-As an amendment to motion (S3M-173) in the name of

Robin Harper, leave out from "transport policy" to end and insert "policy, including transport policy, leads to direct emissions reductions." (14/6/67)

Supported by: John Swinney\*

\*S3M-193 Karen Whitefield: St Patrick's Primary School, Shotts - First Forest School in North Lanarkshire- That the Parliament congratulates St Patrick's Primary School in Shotts on becoming the first "Forest School" in North Lanarkshire, an initiative run by the Forestry Commission, which aims to increase the understanding and appreciation, particularly among young people, of the environmental, social, and economic potential of trees, woodlands and forests and of the link between trees and everyday wood products and recognises the benefits of the process which offers children, young people and adults regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a local woodland environment. (SE 19/06/07)

[Back to Top](#)

## Events

**SHEP Listing and Listed Building Consent - Consultation Workshop** BEFS is hosting a half day workshop on **Friday 22nd June, 10-1pm** to provide a platform for consultation on the recently issued policy documents by Historic Scotland. The workshop will take place at the McDonald Rooms Conference Centre, McDonald Road, Edinburgh. To confirm a place please contact BEFS office on 0131 220 6241 or e-mail [fbinning@befso.org.uk](mailto:fbinning@befso.org.uk).

**HEACS Reports: 'Whether there is a need to review heritage protection legislation in Scotland' and 'The role of local authorities in conserving the historic environment'** will be discussed at this one day workshop, hosted by BEFS in conjunction with Historic Scotland for professionals with an interest in the historic environment. The workshop will take place on **Thursday 5th July, 10-5pm**, RICS Offices, 9 Manor Place, Edinburgh, EH3 7DN. To confirm a place please contact BEFS office on 0131 220 6241 or e-mail [fbinning@befso.org.uk](mailto:fbinning@befso.org.uk).

[Back to Top](#)

## Training

[Back to Top](#)

## Job Vacancies

[Back to Top](#)

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) or tel: BEFS Office on 0131 220 6241.

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