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To: BEFS BEFS

Subject: BEFS e-Bulletin No. 7

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e-Bulletin no.7 31 Oct 2007

Welcome to the seventh edition of the BEFS e-Bulletin. If you have been forwarded this Bulletin but would prefer to receive it directly into your inbox, please [click here](#) for details on how to be added to the distribution list. For further information on BEFS, visit <http://www.befs.org.uk/>.

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Consultations

Forthcoming Consultations - Autumn 2007:

Proposals for Flooding Bill / What is sustainable flood management?

Planning Enforcement Regulations 2007

Draft Regulations on Development Planning Consultation Paper

Firm Foundations: the future of housing in Scotland

Implementing the Housing Scotland Act 2006 (Parts I and II)

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Publications

Developing the New Planning Performance Assessment Framework - Consultation Responses (SG 16/10/07)

Consultation responses.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/16121621/0>

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 Section 8(1) Screening Determination: Revision of Scottish Planning Policy 3 (SPP3) Land for Housing (SG 19/10/07)

Determination of need to prepare a Strategic Environmental Assessment for the revised SPP3 Land for Housing.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/19091430/0>

Planning Directorate: New E-communication Strategy (SG 19/10/07)

Planning Directorate: New E-communication Strategy.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/19091400/0>

Scotland's Budget Documents: The 2007-08 Autumn Budget Revision to the Budget (Scotland) Act for the year ending 31 March 2008 (SG

Supporting document to the Autumn Budget Revision

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/24091936/0>

Housing, Regeneration and Planning: Research Findings No.4/2007: Housing Aspirations (SG 26/10/07)
Research Findings. This research provides an understanding of the immediate and longer-term housing aspirations of households in Scotland.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/25095631/0>

Housing Aspirations (SG 26/10/07)

Research publication. This research provides an understanding of the immediate and longer-term housing aspirations of households in Scotland.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/25095712/0>

Risk taking and bold vision are key to climate action (CABE 15/10/07)

This briefing paper sets out what CABE will do to address the issues of sustainable design and climate change, and the action it thinks is urgently needed from the public and private sectors. Measures include: much stronger leadership from the public sector; recognition of the central role of urban design and urban management in climate change strategies; and a far greater scale and sufficiency of action for building and refurbishment programmes.

<http://www.cabe.org.uk/default.aspx?contentitemid=2077>

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Scottish Government News Releases

Housing Supply Task Force (SG 23/10/07)

The Housing Supply Task Force, established by the Scottish Government to increase housing supply, has examined pressures in the Lothians at its second meeting. Chaired by Communities and Sport Minister, Stewart Maxwell, the Task Force heard how planning authorities in the Lothians intend to meet demand for housing in their areas and the difficulties that need to be overcome. House-builders also set out the challenges that they face in providing a sufficient supply of homes to meet future housing need.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2007/10/23140148>

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News Releases

A+DS responds to 'Better Health, Better Care' Consultation (A+DS 22/10/07)

Copy of letter sent to Nicola Sturgeon, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing.

http://www.ads.org.uk/news/200_a-ds-responds-to-better-health-better-care-consultation

Government investment in English Heritage to rise by £7million in cash terms over the next three years (DCMS 18/10/07)

English Heritage, the Government's lead adviser on the historic environment, will see its grant rise from £123.7 million at present to £130.7 million at the end of the three-year spending review period, Culture Secretary James Purnell has announced.

http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Press_notices/archive_2007/dcms118_07.htm

Assembly Committee calls for evidence to its inquiry into funding of voluntary organisations (NAW 16/10/07)

The Assembly Communities and Culture Committee has chosen to carry out an inquiry into the funding of voluntary sector organisations in Wales and is calling for those with an interest or expertise in this area to submit written evidence.

<http://www.assemblywales.org/newhome/new-news-third-assembly.htm?act=dis&id=61688&ds=10/2007>

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Recent Parliamentary Questions

Written questions awaiting answer are given below. See 'recent parliamentary answers' for new questions (raised since circulation of BEFS e-Bulletin 6) that have already been answered.

S3W-5574 Jim Hume: To ask the Scottish Executive when in the course of its work the Housing Supply Task Force will meet local task force groups and local authorities to gather and share information on the regional priorities for affordable housing in Scotland. (SP 24/10/07)

S3W-5747 Patricia Ferguson: To ask the Scottish Executive what progress has been made in relation to the proposed merger of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments and Historic Scotland. (SP 29/10/07)

S3W-5757 Patricia Ferguson: To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S3W-727 by Linda Fabiani on 20 June 2007, when it will announce the outcome of the review of legislation covering heritage protection. (SP 29/10/07)

S3W-5758 Malcolm Chisholm: To ask the Scottish Executive what aspects of the draft Culture Bill published by the previous administration it proposes to bring forward in its own Culture Bill. (SP 29/10/07)

S3W-5763 Malcolm Chisholm: To ask the Scottish Executive what progress Historic Scotland is making in its audit of the historic environment. (SP 29/10/07)

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Recent Parliamentary Answers

S3W-4586: Answered by Linda Fabiani (24/10/07): The contribution to the Great Steward of Scotland's Dumfries House Trust for the purchase of Dumfries House will be allocated to the grants line in the accounts of Historic Scotland.

S3W-4587: Answered by Linda Fabiani (11/10/07): Contrary to recent press reports, the Scottish Coastal Archaeology and the Problem of Erosion (SCAPE) Trust's report has not yet been published. Indeed, it has yet to be submitted in final form to Historic Scotland, who commissioned it and will be paying for it. As I said in my response to Hugh Henry's oral question on 4 October 2007, we recognise the importance of the issue of coastal erosion of historic sites, we already protect several important sites and we will take action to ensure that key sites which cannot be saved are properly recorded. We are working with other interested parties to achieve this and Historic Scotland looks forward to receiving the SCAPE report, which will assist in setting priorities.

S3W-4588: Answered by Linda Fabiani (24/10/07): We will determine future funding priorities in the context of the Scottish Government's Spending Review and Historic Scotland's forthcoming Corporate Plan for 2008-11.

S3W-4628: Answered by Stewart Stevenson (24/10/07): The Scottish Government intends to consult on permitted development rights for domestic micro wind turbines.

S3W-5151: Answered by John Swinney (17/10/07): Over the two years 2006-08, the Scottish Government has provided significant support for the Business Improvements Districts (BID) pilot programme, allocating around £1.1 million to support the six BID pilots; to fund the BID Scotland Project Director, and to provide marketing, publicity and guidance, including the BID Scotland website. This has allowed the six pilot areas to develop their proposals in preparation for ballots in 2008 and to demonstrate the benefits to be gained from BID projects. The government has also put in place the legislative framework necessary to underpin local BID proposals. Now this framework is in place, local businesses in any area can work together with their local authority and other local partners to establish a Business Improvement District. Decisions on future support for urban regeneration will be taken in the context of the current Spending Review.

S3W-5395 Patricia Ferguson: To ask the Scottish Executive whether it is committed to the continuation of the Community Regeneration Fund. (SP 15/10/07)

Answered by Stewart Maxwell (22/10/07): Decisions about the Community Regeneration Fund will be taken by ministers in the context of the imminent Strategic Spending Review. An announcement about the

Spending Review will be made in due course.

S3W-5402 Jim Hume: To ask the Scottish Executive what plans it has to protect battlefield sites from being developed on. (SP 15/10/07)

Answered by Linda Fabiani (26/10/07): Historic Scotland is currently developing a policy to manage and promote battlefields within its Scottish historic environment policy series. This will include a proposal to create a non-statutory Inventory of nationally important sites intended to encourage more effective protection for them through the land-use planning process. The policy paper and Inventory will be subject to public consultation in due course.

S3W-5403 Robert Brown: To ask the Scottish Executive when the provisions of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 will be commenced. (SP 15/10/07)

Answered by Stewart Stevenson (26/10/07): The passage of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 was the first step in a modernisation process aimed at creating a more efficient, inclusive and sustainable planning system that is fully fit for purpose. Immediate priorities are now focussed on implementing the act and realising a change in culture among planning professionals and other stakeholders in the planning system. While some elements have already been commenced, for example on the National Planning Framework, Marine Fish Farming and Business Improvement Districts, the main elements on Development Planning and Development Management are likely to be commenced around the end of 2008. This is because secondary legislation is required, on which we are due to consult shortly. There is a table that can be accessed on the Scottish Government website which gives the list of what has commenced and the implementation timetable:

Commencements:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/03/15130743/0>

Implementation Timetable:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/06/19143600/0>

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Motions and Bill Progress

Patricia Ferguson MSP: Proposed Property Factors (Scotland) Bill-Draft proposal for a Bill to require property factors to register and make provision for an accessible form of dispute resolution between homeowners and property factors. (Lodged 19/10/07)

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Events

AHSS Forth & Borders Group Winter Lecture Series: 'Haddo, Inverewe and Canna: the value of research in preparation of conservation plans'

Monday 12th November 2007, 6.30pm, Glasite Meeting House, 33 Barony Street, Edinburgh.

The lecture, run in conjunction with the Garden History Society, will be given by Andrew Wright, independent consultant in conservation management planning.

Admission: £5 non-members/£4 members/£2 students.

The 10th annual Harold Plenderleith Memorial lecture - 'The Impact of Climate Change on Cultural Heritage'

Friday 30th November 2007 6.30pm, Royal Society of Edinburgh, George Street, Edinburgh.

The lecture will be given by Sarah Staniforth, Historic Properties Director at the National Trust. A wine reception will follow the lecture and the event is organised by The Institute of Conservation (Icon) Scotland Group.

Tickets (£6 Icon members, £7 non-members, £5 students and unwaged) must be obtained in advance by emailing scotland@icon.org.uk or calling 0131 240 5038.

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Training

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Job Vacancies

Assistant Inspector of Historic Buildings, Historic Scotland, Edinburgh

Salary: £19,148 - £26,278

9 month fixed contract (maternity cover)

ref. HSC/07/123

As a key member of our Listing team, you'll handle individual listing cases, preparing architectural and historic descriptions, carrying out surveys and managing research and consultation. This is a pivotal role for our organisation, with an impact on our public relations and our key performance objectives.

Closing date: 9th November 2007.

For an application form email: hs.recruit@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

IS & Data Officer, Central Scotland Forest Trust, Shotts

Salary: £22k - £25,500k

Seeking an enthusiastic and dedicated individual for the above post, with excellent people skills and the ability to communicate highly technical information to non-specialist users. With previous experience running and managing an organisational GIS, this role offers an exciting opportunity to shape and deliver effective mapping, data capture and analysis to meet our strategic, thematic and project needs. An early priority will be to advance our web based mapping.

Closing date: 12 noon, 30th November 2007.

For further details visit: www.csft.co.uk or contact Sue Evans on 01501 824798.

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Information in the Bulletin is extracted from a number of websites; including the Scottish Government (SG); 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 Jo Robertson jrobertson@befs.org.uk or call the BEFS Office on 0131 220 6241.

Partnerships promoting Scotland's cultural environments

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