

Scottishplanner

No 116 May 2007

Journal of the RTPI in Scotland

Campbeltown Regeneration Project to the Fore

The overall winner in this year's Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning was Aqualbrium – a sustainable regeneration project for the remote fragile community of Cambeltown.

At the presentation ceremony on 8 March in Edinburgh, Argyll & Bute Council and a number of partners received the ultimate accolade in Scottish planning from Communities Minister Rhona Brankin. The project was one of thirty entries for the 2006 awards for which three awards and seven commendations were also given in the four categories. (The full list of winners is given on page 5.)

The judging panel was unchanged from the previous year and included Chair Joan Burnie of the Scottish Daily Record, Ian McLarty of South Ayrshire Council and Fiona Moriarty of the Scottish Retail Consortium. For the tenth year since their inception, the RTPI in Scotland administered the awards on behalf of the Scottish Executive. This included organising a flight for the judges in a small island hopping plane to reach Campbeltown. As with trips in previous years to remoter places such as Lerwick, Wick, and Applecross the trip proved worthwhile in uncovering yet another outstanding rural project.

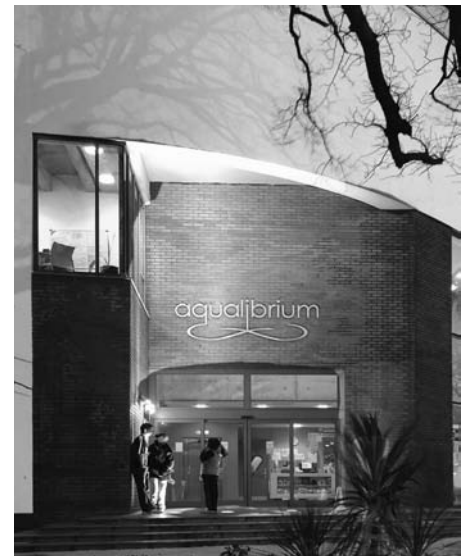
As the fifth minister since the Executive's policy on "Designing Places" was adopted, Rhona Brankin continued to emphasise to a large audience the importance of design. "What is absolutely central to sustainable

development is quality and design. We want to see a system that puts these factors right at the heart of development and the brilliant examples we see today show just that."

Other winning projects involved a partnership approach to delivering strategic environmental assessment, a public consultation exercise on a successful development site, a training programme for communities, a renewable energy strategy, a landscape assessment tool, a wetland strategy, a canal-side commercial development project, a landfill and wetland project, an urban park and community engagement in a masterplanning exercise.

With regard to the winning project, Aqualbrium, the judges were impressed with the regenerative effect of this significant community facility, the approaches to sustainable construction and energy management, the engagement of the community and the creation of a key landmark in the town.

In the expectation that the awards will continue under the auspices of the new administration, attention was drawn once again to the important qualities which are sought in the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning, namely professional knowledge, management, partnership, regeneration,



Aqualbrium - displayed qualities in professional knowledge.

sustainable development, community interest and customer satisfaction.

The ceremony also involved the presentation of the Executive's Urban Design Award for planning students for which the award this year went to a group of students from Heriot-Watt University for their Edinburgh Fruitmarket and Swan's Building Site Design Brief. The award went to Jet Cameron, Ruth Laverty, Sarah Raven, Akanimoh Mark, Eileen McCormack, Georgina Cook and Marion Frederickson. A special commendation went to Alison Wood, also at Heriot-Watt University for her dissertation "Creating Neighbourly and Integrated Communities in Mass Market Housing". The annual award by the Sir Patrick Geddes Memorial Trust was also made and details are given on page 4 of this edition.

On behalf of the Institute, the President, Jim Claydon, congratulated the Executive for running these awards for ten successive years and congratulated the successful entrants and the judges on their work. He emphasised the importance of the awards to the objectives of planning reform, being the physical results of the process and confirmed the Institute's continued commitment to reform and to the needs of improving education and training for the profession.

SIR PATRICK GEDDES COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE 2007

6 JUNE 2007 at 5pm, Royal Society of Edinburgh

This year's lecture will be delivered by Richard Wakeford, Head of Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department, on "Do plans inspire people enough to change the future".

Details included in this issue.

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RTPI

mediation of space · making of place

Convenor's **Comments**



Once Upon a Time...

... not very long ago, I thought that my biggest challenge was to maintain the Institute's place in the reform of our planning system. My mobile phone shattered that cosy perception at 11 a.m. on Tuesday 27th February. Graham U'ren was breaking the news that he had resigned as Director, RTPI in Scotland.

Now you have to understand that Graham has, over the last ten years, taken the RTPI in Scotland from relative obscurity to a position of considerable influence. Only weeks before the fateful call, I was able to tell an august (well, January, since you mention it) assembly of UK planners that of all the built environment professions, RTPI had been far most effective lobbyist during the passage of the Scottish Planning Bill and was now well regarded in the corridors of power. We have effective committee and task group structures and our Chapters are healthier than ever.

Contrast that with 1997. Local government had been recently disorganised. The RTPI Scottish Branch was slowly changing from a gentleman's club into the shiny new RTPI in Scotland. The big political event was the devolution referendum in September, the same month in which Graham was appointed. By strange coincidence, the interview panel included the then Convenor, Sarah Boyack, who was later to take the Planning portfolio in the new Parliament.

With no staff (Shirley James arrived as Administrative Assistant in 1998, and Annette O'Donnell as Secretarial Assistant a year later), just keeping his head above water must have been hard work. The RTPI, still in Portland Place, was not quite sure what to make of events north of the border. So Graham established the Edinburgh Embassy.

With the arrival last year of Veronica Burbridge as Policy Officer and assistance with conferences and events from Joyce Hartley, all backed up by an efficient team at HQ, the transformation was complete. The RTPI in Scotland now contributed to working parties and advisory groups, responded to consultations, ran conferences, lectures, CPD and the Scottish Planner, and networked better than Transport for London.

Quite an achievement, which would not have happened without Graham's skill, knowledge and quiet determination.

Now Dundas and Wilson will benefit from our loss. And, we hope, Wendy U'ren might see her husband a little more often.

Well done, Graham, and thank you.

Alistair Stark
Any comments to secconvenor@rtpi.org.uk

Editorial

If the current planning reform in Scotland is expected to herald the greatest change in the system since the original 1947 act, the feeling of anticipation which we now have following the passing of the 2006 act and prior to the bulk of its implementation shows some similarities instead to that period between 1972 and 1975. At that time, the planning profession had welcomed the legislation for a two-tier development plan system in the 1972 act and the recognition by John Wheatley and his Committee that a commensurate two-tier system for local government was appropriate for Scotland. On a rising tide of local government expenditure and planning employment, there was certainly optimism within the profession.

This edition of the Scottish planner demonstrates clearly that there is a great deal to be optimistic about but also much to be concerned about as the Scottish parliamentary and local elections break the momentum of planning reform. It is almost unthinkable that the extensive cross-party support for the principles of last year's Planning Bill, and hence the momentum of the outgoing administration's implementation programme, would not be maintained by a new administration. Since the flood of reform related documents dried up at the end of March, we can only wait and see. Our analysis of the party manifestos on page 6 is hardly conclusive and the continued lobby in some quarters for a third party right of appeal threatens to spoil the party when what we need is a bedding down of the new system before any question of further adjustments. And will the new administration find the resources to make it work properly? After the elections, it is therefore in everyone's interest to see the implementation programme set out on page 9 brought forward without delay.

That is not to say that the pressures on the planning system do not continue to change.

Climate change is a more potent factor than ever (page 7) and extending planning into the marine environment is now several steps closer (page 10).

If the system is to perform, it also needs to be managed better. For the profession, this means greater commitment to a more structured training environment. Welcome new initiatives are now emerging from the Planning Development Programme (page 9). In addition, however, the approval of the new legislation which introduces almost 150 wholly new or substantially amended clauses to the 1997 act should not allow an obsession with process to divert us from the ultimately important matter of outcomes from planning. The Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning (pages 1 and 5) remain the main measure of what the Scottish planning system is achieving.

So while things are quiet, I will say goodbye and express my grateful thanks to those many people who have been so supportive over the years, not least successive convenors, Shirley James, Annette O'Donnell and Veronica Burbridge.

Graham U'ren

Scottish **planner** is the Journal of the Royal Town Planning Institute in Scotland and is distributed free by direct mail to all members in Scotland.

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Production Shirley James

Newsworthy articles with photographs are welcomed. Articles may be subject to editing – the Editor's decision is final! All contributions should be sent to:
Editor, Scottish Planner,
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Edinburgh EH3 7HL.
Tel: 0131 226 1959

Articles can be sent by e-mail (marked "Scottish Planner") to:
scotland@rtpi.org.uk

The opinions stated are contributors' own unless otherwise stated.

The RTPI is not responsible for statements made or views expressed in this Journal.

Design, production and advertising by Design Links
Tel: 0131 554 2807.
ISSN 1353-9795

Next copy deadline
8 June 07

Registered office:
Royal Town Planning Institute
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EC3R 8DL

Registered charity no. 262865

Highlands and Islands chapter is back!

Like Rocky Balboa (cue cheesy yet inspirational music), the Highlands & Islands Chapter is attempting another comeback, and has formed a new committee to organise a series of events over the course of what remains of 2007 and to prepare a programme for 2008.

The first event will be held during May which will involve a presentation from Highland Council's Conservation Architect, John Duncan, entitled "Problem Buildings, Problem Owners?". We also hope to arrange a visit to the recently constructed Farr Wind Farm before the summer holidays begin. Your support for these events would be much appreciated, and details of dates and venues will be issued in the near future.

In the meantime, if you would like to contribute or help organise future events, then please contact Malcolm Macleod (Convenor) and Neil Huggan (Treasurer) via the Highlands and Islands Chapter's email address highlandsislands.scotland@rtpi.org.uk. We appreciate that the distances involved for island RTPI members might be problematic, but we would be particularly pleased to receive ideas for events, visits and offers of support from our island-based colleagues, and views on any role there might be for video-conference links.

Neil Huggan

A positive future for planning education at Dundee



Prospects look good for planning students at Dundee University as over half of those in the final year of the accredited programme have already secured planning jobs, almost three months before their graduation. Five of those students, Alanna Lyle, Rob McIntosh, Robbie McNaugher, Jamie Scott and Gregor Spence have been offered positions with Aberdeenshire Council, while others are off to posts elsewhere in both the public and private sectors.

Following a review of Town and Regional Planning earlier this year, the University has made a commitment to the future of the discipline at Dundee as part of the recently-created School of Social Sciences. A new MSc qualification has been launched in Community Planning and Regeneration, which will complement the existing successful undergraduate planning degree; the distance learning planning Masters; and the MSc in European Urban Conservation. The new degree, which is part of the Applied Professional Studies programme, is aimed at practitioners seeking to enhance their professional practice through inquiry-based learning activities. Details of this and the other degrees on offer at Dundee can be found at www.trp.dundee.ac.uk.

Barbara Illsley, Convener of Town and Regional Planning, University of Dundee

Conference Diary and training events 2007

Information on all events is listed on our website at www.scotland.rtpi.org.uk/diary/

■ 23 May

Planning for the natural heritage

Sharing Good Practice event organised by SNH in association with Local Biodiversity Action Plan network in the Inverness area
Contact SGP team 01738 458555
Email sgp@snh.gov.uk

■ 23 and 24 May

Analysing contemporary residential markets

Course organised by Department of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow
Further details www.gla.ac.uk/departments/urbanstudies/

■ 30 May

Are you ready for the modernised planning system?

Seminar led by Alistair G Stark, Planning Mediator in Aberdeen
Contact Alistair Stark
01224 318536

■ 6 June

Sir Patrick Geddes Commemorative Lecture

Delivered this year by Richard Wakeford Royal Society of Edinburgh
Contact RTPI in Scotland
0131 226 1959
Email scotland@rtpi.org.uk

■ 13-15 June

The Planning Convention

Queen Elizabeth II conference Centre, London
Contact RTPI Conferences
0845 082 1171
www.theplanningconvention.co.uk

■ 16-24 June

Edinburgh Waterfront Symposium 2007

Contact Shaeron Averbuch
0131 555 2280

■ 2 July

Communicating Climate Change

Seminar organised by SEPA at Edinburgh International Conference Centre
Email: changetomorrowtoday@sepa.org.uk

Scottish success in RTPI national awards

Scotland featured prominently in the recent RTPI National Planning Awards. Scottish Water Solutions: Successfully Planning Scotland's Largest Building Project won a commendation for Planning Process, and Black Law Wind Farm: Habitat Management and Compliance Assessment won a commendation for Climate Change.

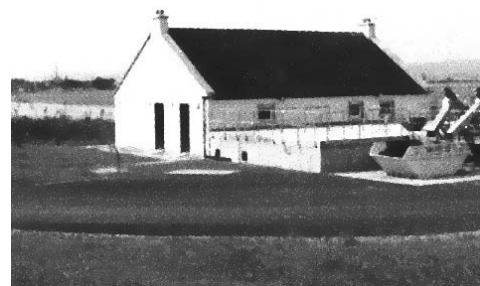
Scottish Water Solutions is a partnership set up by Scottish Water to manage its capital investment in improved water quality and waste treatment facilities. The company's planning, land and environment team worked on 2,500 quality and standards projects, delivering almost £1 billion of infrastructure investment. In three years, almost 400 applications and almost as many permitted development submissions have been lodged.

Scottish Power's Black Law Wind Farm is in South Lanarkshire, covering parts

of West Lothian and North Lanarkshire. It was built on an old opencast coalmine site which was completely restored to shallow wetlands during the construction programme. The planning application centred on decommissioning, restoration and legal agreements on siting allowing for permission variations and on clear-felling timber. A consultant checks biodiversity and habitat management. Black Law includes 42 turbines, with a total capacity of 97 megawatts, which is estimated to save around



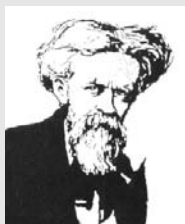
Windfarm: Monitoring wind farm development



ScottishWater: A positive approach to planning shown

200,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions a year.

The Awards were announced on 9th February. The premier award, the Silver Jubilee Cup, and the Award for Climate Change was given to London Borough of Merton for its Renewable Energy Policy.



SIR PATRICK GEDDES MEMORIAL TRUST AWARDS' SCHEME 2006-2007

On 8th March, as part of the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning, Rhona Brankin, Minister for Communities, presented certificates to the winning entries in the Sir Patrick Geddes Memorial Trust Student Awards' Scheme for 2006-2007.

In this the fifth year of the scheme, all of the prizes went to students at Heriot-Watt University, School of the Built Environment. The Trustees attending the awards' ceremony at the Hub were delighted to meet and congratulate the students on the quality of their submissions.

The Category 1 award (course work reflecting Geddes principles) went to MSc students, Terence McLellan, David Russell, Morag Edward, Cliodhna Scanlon and Beatrice Nicol for their community based regeneration project in Smeaton, Kirkcaldy. The prize for Category 2a (award for best undergraduate dissertation) went to David O'Connell for his BSc thesis on 'The Community and Wind Energy Developments'. Peter Matthews won the Category 2b prize for his MSc dissertation 'Sunset over Leith? A Critical Discourse Analyse of the Leith Dock Developments'. The Category 3 award (best first year student) went to Ross Kilgour now in his second year of the BSc course in urban and Regional Planning.

The Trustees are most grateful to the Scottish Executive for their kind support in letting us join their national awards' ceremony and to our sponsor, The Economic Development Initiative Group, for their ongoing support.

Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning 2006 – the results

There were three awards and seven commendations for the 2006 Awards, in addition to the Overall Winner, as mentioned on the front page:

Overall Winner

Development on the ground category

- Aqualibrium – A Sustainable Regeneration Project for a Remote Fragile Community (Argyll and Bute Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise/Argyll and the Islands Enterprise, SportsScotland, Highland and Islands European Partnership/European Regional Development, Page and Park Architects, New Opportunities Fund)

Awards

Development plan category

- Partnership approach to Delivering Strategic Environmental Assessment (Aberdeenshire Council, Aberdeen City Council and Scottish Enterprise Grampian)



Development management category

- Public Consultation Exercise for Development Site at Shrubhill, Edinburgh (City of Edinburgh Council, BL Developments, Broadway Malyan, CFS Partnership and MMCD Architects, Cockburn Association, Pilgrig Association and Macdonald Road Community Council)

Community involvement category

- Planning for People – a dual purpose training programme (Planning Aid for Scotland)



Planning for People training programme run by Planning Aid for Scotland.

Commendations

Development plan category

- Highland Renewable Energy Strategy and Guidelines (The Highland Council and Aquatera Ltd)
- East Ayrshire Long Term Development Strategy: Landscape Assessment of Potential Development Sites (East Ayrshire Council and ENTEC UK Ltd)
- A Borders Wetland Vision: Development of a Strategic Planning Tool for Wetland Biodiversity Conservation (Scottish Borders Council and Macaulay Research Consultancy Services)

Development on the ground category

- Edinburgh Quay (City of Edinburgh Council, Michael Laird Architects, Edinburgh Quay Ltd, Waterman Partnership, Thomas & Adamson, RSP Consulting Engineers, EDAW plc)
- Black Devon Wetland and Landfill Project (Clackmannanshire Council, Jacobs UK Ltd and Marshall Construction)



Hilltown Park, Dundee – a commendation for being a valued local asset.

- The Hilltown Park, Hilltown, Dundee (Dundee City Council, Hilltown Top of the Hill Community Forum and Better Neighbourhood Services Fund)

Community involvement category

- WinchburghFUTURE Master Plan – Community Involvement and Engagement (EDAW AECOM, CALA Homes (East) Ltd and The Lighthouse)

Full details of the 2006 Awards, and of previous years, are available on the Scottish Executive planning website at www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/planning/design/awards

Party Manifestos: policies or wish lists?

The origins of the Programme for Government, to be set out after the election, lie hidden in the political parties' manifestos. The final programme will depend on the outcome of the election and on any blurring of policy boundaries necessary to create a workable partnership administration. The planning profession's attention during the first two years of the new Parliament will of course be focused on the secondary legislation related to the implementation of the Planning etc (Scotland) Act. However, a glance through the Manifestos indicates other issues which we will need to take on board.

There is an emerging consensus on the importance of a number of issues facing Scotland. Alongside the economy, health, education, crime and safety, there are a number with specific relevance for planning: climate change, renewable energy, transport, building standards, affordable housing, town centres, the quality of local environments and availability of greenspace, greater involvement of communities in the management of resources, and the strengthening of local democracy.

There is a cross party desire to build on the new planning legislation but a recognition that much remains to be achieved and proven in practice. Scottish Labour's manifesto proposes to publish a best practice charter to be followed by all public bodies on planning matters. They would also ensure that planning reforms and city region plans link cities with their wider regions and will support '*the growing collaboration between Edinburgh and Glasgow*'. The Conservatives also point to the creation of a 'twincity' to produce 'the economic powerhouse for Scotland'.

Community engagement

The LibDems aim to ensure that the National Planning Framework is developed quickly and is subject to detailed consultation and the Conservatives are hopeful that new planning laws will involve local people at an early stage. There are clearly great expectations of better community engagement under the new planning system, but also signs that some parties do not feel that reform has gone far enough. The LibDems for instance propose a duty on all public bodies to ensure genuine public involvement rather than simply consultation, and the Green Party continue to maintain that communities should have the right to appeal against planning decisions and propose the introduction of an Environmental Justice Fund of at least £2million a year to support communities in initiating improvements and responding to threats.

Tackling Climate Change is perceived as a major challenge by all the main political parties. Proposals include enhancing

building standards and overall energy efficiency of housing, flood management and planning, transport and energy efficiency, and the encouragement of jobs linked to energy saving technologies.

Renewable energy

There is overriding support for encouragement of renewable energy, however, there are concerns about the balance of its sources of supply. A variety of solutions are put forward such as the adaptation of the renewables obligation system to incentivise wave energy and biomass, a moratorium on all locally-opposed wind farm developments pending a National Locational Strategy for such developments, further incentives to encourage marine renewables, and new planning regulations to make it easier to install wind turbines and solar panels and ensure new public sector buildings include micro-renewables wherever possible. In their first year in office, the SNP would undertake a review of planning, including proposals to require Local Authorities to assess suitable sites for renewable energy generation with full engagement with communities. This local initiative would feed into a nationwide assessment to provide an overall national strategy.

Affordable housing

There is also universal agreement of the need to address affordable housing in Scotland. Whatever the colour of the administration we can expect innovative actions in this area and consideration of how more land might be released for this purpose. The Labour manifesto suggests that the National Planning Framework should set the context for a significant increase in house building, conditional on higher standards of design both for individual properties and communities and a greater expectation that housing will include affordable social housing. There is general support for expansion of schemes such as Homestake and for the need to address both low cost home ownership and the future of social rented housing.

The future of town centres is also a major cross-party concern. Priorities include the need to conserve and enhance

environments, to encourage diversity and individual sense of place and to support independent retailing. The Green Party proposes introducing a Sustainable Communities Bill and establishing planning guidance that inhibits the growth of 'clone towns' and protects retail diversity. The Labour Party proposes to set up a new Town Centre Turnaround Fund to be administered by the Land Fund and to establish Town Centre Trusts. These would produce local plans for town centre regeneration, involve community groups in managing local resources, and have responsibility for Business Improvement Districts. Consideration would also be given to how compulsory purchase orders might be used more easily, and extending the community right to buy in urban areas.

Greenspace

Greenspace and quality of life issues are closely linked to matters of community involvement and the strengthening of local democracy. The LibDems propose a legislative presumption against the sale of urban greenspace and playing fields for development, the creation of high quality new parks in towns and cities, piloting a Neighbourhood Standard, and a new Common Good Act to regulate, protect and modernise the framework for land, property or funds to be held in trust for the local community.

Many of the planning related proposals in the manifestos are not new and have emerged from discussion of recent SPPs and PANs or represent the continuation of discussions on the Planning Act. However, in matters of detailed application, many of these proposals are far reaching and challenging. The final version of the programme of government will require careful assessment of resourcing implications, new systems of monitoring, and close discussion of programming with all stakeholder groups.

Veronica Burbridge

Planning for better results?

The wider significance of two recent consultation papers

The Scottish Executive issued two significant consultation papers before bringing down the shutters on the administration which made planning reform a reality with the Planning Etc (Scotland) Act 2006. While a great deal of attention is bound to be taken up over the next two years with the effect of the legislative and procedural changes, we should not forget that the purpose of reform is to produce better outcomes.

An Executive consultation paper on "Statutory Guidance on Planning and Sustainable Development" opens up much wider horizons for planning and what it seeks to achieve while that on "Developing the New Planning Performance Assessment Framework" struggles to set out a useful agenda for assessing outcomes as opposed to processes.

Since the publication of "Designing Places" by the Executive, much of the emphasis on the desired outcomes of planning has been focused on design and yet various skills audits demonstrate that there is still a long way to go in this regard. Nevertheless, the next big demand for better outcomes from planning is already coming up hard on the rails. Radical policies with regard to planning for mitigation and adaptation to climate change have already appeared in the recent SPP 6 on Renewable Energy. In addition to planning for the needs of an accelerating roll-out of macro renewable energy capacity, this SPP now requires planning authorities to promote energy efficiency and the development of micro generation capacity in new developments and ensure that an extra 15% reduction on CO2 emissions can be achieved beyond the recently adopted 2007 Building Regulations Emissions Standard.

However, the agenda for planning and climate change is unlikely to stop there. In September 2004, "The Planning Response to Climate Change – Advice on Better Practice" was published jointly by the three administrations (ODPM, Welsh Assembly Government and Scottish Executive) which gave a clear indication of the widening scope of

planning involvement in this area.

The future agenda may be adduced from the recent consultation in England from CLG on a draft supplement to PPS 1 on Planning and Climate Change. This note calls on planning authorities to make a full contribution to delivering the government's climate change programme and energy policies, not only through locational decisions which reduce the need to travel but which also secure the highest viable standards of resource and energy efficiency and reduction in carbon emissions.

In its response to the consultation, the Institute at a UK level has pointed out that rigorous interpretation of these criteria will mean an end to employment sites by motorway junctions, to most out of town shopping and sports stadia and to remoter locations for hospitals, **even an end to airport expansion.**

For many years, the planning system has been used by parties to challenge the need for contentious developments although this is beyond the scope of the system. This was a major issue during the passage of the Planning Etc (Scotland) Bill last year. Parliament agreed with the RTP1 view that there should be a statement of need to accompany each "national development" identified in the National Planning Framework in future. The intention is not, however, to debate the need itself but to understand clearly the background to the proposal, the spatial and impact implications of which require then to be considered in the NPF. All existing planning policy is based on the principle of meeting market demand, the clearest example being provisions in SPP 3 for housing land supply.

The Strategic Environment Assessment of the recent revision of the West Edinburgh Planning Framework stated "Although, in its vision for West Edinburgh, the plan supports the sustainable growth of Edinburgh Airport in accordance with the UK Air Transport white paper, assessment of the environmental effects of airport expansion is limited to those resulting from land use changes over which the plan has influence. The safeguarding of land for airport expansion, together with the effects of increased air travel on carbon dioxide emissions, are issues beyond the influence of the plan and hence outside the scope of this SEA." Can this situation continue?

These are some of the issues which will test the effectiveness of the planned new guidance on planning and sustainable development, required by Section 3E (3) of the 2006 Act. Climate change is one of the key issues to be considered. In any event, the status of this guidance, once adopted by ministers, taken together with the recent policy for renewable energy, mark an important stage in the way forward for a reformed planning system and the outcomes which it seeks achieve.

There must also remain a question over the adequacy of the proposals in the consultation paper to adopt a new planning performance assessment framework which is based so largely on process indicators (77) compared with 6 related to the product of planning, only 2 of which clearly relate to any form of assessment of actual outcomes – a) evidence of decision-making that contributes to sustainable development; and b) examples of good planning-led design. It is clear that there is some way to go with regard to an appropriate method of assessment for these vital indicators.

Graham U'ren

Executive publishes advice on Planning with People



Scotland's planning system is undergoing its most radical overhaul in 60 years. Scottish Ministers are determined to make it more efficient, and more inclusive and accessible. This means improving how people are involved in planning for their communities.

The Scottish Executive has published *Planning Advice Note (PAN) 81 - Community Engagement - Planning with People* with a summary leaflet aimed at the public and communities. This follows consultation on a draft PAN last year. This is an important follow up to the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 which will introduce additional opportunities for people to get involved.

While the detail of planning reform is still to be consulted upon and finalised, the Scottish Executive felt it was important to produce the PAN now ahead of the statutory provisions coming into force to emphasise the culture change that is required under the new system.

The advice in the PAN shows how everyone can take part in shaping the future of their area and provides valuable information for planners about how to engage people, and how to listen to them and understand what they want for their communities. The PAN highlights interesting examples in community engagement that have been used by planning authorities, developers and community groups across Scotland. Other examples of effective engagement will be placed on the Scottish Executive planning website – www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/planning - as they emerge.

The Scottish Executive is very keen to hear about new approaches that are being taken to involve people in planning, so if you know of any examples, please let the Executive know. For a free copy of *Planning Advice Note 81 – Community Engagement*, or the summary leaflet, please contact: the Scottish Executive planning helpline on 08457 741 741 or view PAN81 online at www.scotland.gov.uk/planning

Jane MacRory, Scottish Executive

NEW PLANNING ACT INDICAT

(Adapted from the Scottish Executive's website)

The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 received Royal Assent in December 2006. It is an extensive amending statute for the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 but the Executive has no plans yet to promote a consolidated act. Its implementation requires extensive new or amended secondary legislation (regulations and orders) and detailed guidance which the Executive intends to issue, after consultation documents, over the period to the end of 2008.

In the period from January to the beginning of April the implementation programme started with:

- Commencing provisions on the **National Planning Framework**.
The Participation Statement was posted on the Executive's NPF webpage and the initial consultation on scope and content started in February.
- Provisions for **planning control of marine fish farms** came into force at beginning of April.
- Implementing regulations to require the enhanced scrutiny of local authority **interest cases** came into place in April.
- The Planning Advice Note "Planning with People" on **Community Engagement** published.
- **Brief guide** to the Planning Act published.
- **Modernising the Planning System webpage** started.
- Consultation on **statutory guidance on sustainable development** has started.
- Consultation on proposals for **assessment of planning authorities** started.
- Work on **culture change** has continued, with publication of the "Unlocking Planning's Potential" brochure.
- Provisions commenced for **enforcement charters** and a draft **charter on enforcement** was published.
- Further progress on the **e-enablement** of planning
- Commencement of the **equality duty**.
- Commencement of the **grant-making powers**
- The provisions for **Business Improvement Districts** in Part 9 of the Act were implemented in April.

LIST OF COMMENCEMENTS by 1 April:-

This is a summary of references only. Full details are available on the executive's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/170254/0047536.pdf>

Section 1	National Planning Framework
Section 3	Meaning of development (fish farms)
Section 4	Marine Fish Farms
Section 12	Public availability of information on applications (registering of urgent applications to Ministers)
Section 16	manner in which applications are dealt with (power of ministers to direct conditions)
Section 18	Call in of applications
Section 27	Enforcement charters
Section 28(1)	Tree preservation orders (duties of ministers)
Section 32	Grants for advice and assistance
Sections 33 to 49 (Part 9)	Business Improvement Districts
Section 50	National Scenic Areas (Only to enable regulations to be made)
Section 51	Equal opportunities
Section 54 (parts)	Additional powers of ministers to make orders and to define 'national developments'
Section 55	Repeal of outstanding conservation areas in the Listed Buildings Act
Section 56/ schedule	Repeals relevant to development by planning authorities and marine fish farms
Section 57	Interpretation
Section 58	Supplementary and consequential

IVE IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE - MARCH 2007

Following the election in May: the programme is intended to continue with consultations prior to subsequent introduction of the many new statutory instruments which are needed to implement the intentions of the act. These will be subject to policies of the new administration after the elections, however.

Development Planning

- Consult on Development Planning Regulations Summer 07
- Consult on transitional arrangements Summer 07
- Consult on Designation Orders for Strategic Development Planning Authorities Summer 07
- Consult on Examination Regulations/Code of Practice Autumn 07
- Implement changes from Summer 08 onwards

Development Management

- Consult on General Development Procedure Order Summer 07
- Consult on draft schemes of delegation regulations and guidance Summer 07
- Consult on draft hierarchy regs Summer 07
- Consult on local review regulations Summer 07
- Consult on regs for pre- application consultations/hearings Summer 07
- Consult on Fee Regulations Autumn 07
- Consult on Householder Permitted Development Rights and User Guide Autumn 07
- Consult on permitted development rights for micro-renewables Autumn 07
- Consult on neighbour notification regulations Autumn 07
- Implement schemes of delegation Spring/Summer 08
- Implement local review bodies Spring/Summer 08
- Implement new fees and bring in changes to hierarchies/neighbour notification Spring/Summer 08
- Consult on General Permitted Development Order Summer 08
- Implement pre-application consultations/hearings Summer 08
- Consult on mezzanine floors order Summer 08

Enforcement

- Consult on Fees for Monitoring Regulations Summer 07
- Consult on Enforcement Regulations Autumn 07
- Consult on fixed penalty regulations Autumn 07
- Implement new enforcement regime Spring 08

Appeals

- Consult on draft regulations Summer 07
- Draft inquiry Rules Summer 07
- Draft Code of Practice for examinations/accompanying participation statement Autumn 07
- Implement new regulations Spring/Summer 08

Other Areas

- Consult on guidance on sustainable development Spring 07
- Consult on Good Neighbour Agreements regulations and guidance Summer 07
- Consult on revised circular on Planning Obligations Spring 08
- Consult on revised SPP1: The Planning System Summer 08
- Consult on Tree Preservation Order Regulations Summer 08
- Introduce Good Neighbour Agreements Summer 08
- Implement Tree Preservation Order regulations Autumn 08

Planning goes to sea

On 1 April 2007 statutory planning controls for marine fish farms in territorial waters adjacent to Scotland came into force. This is the first time local authority planning powers have been extended into the marine environment and will mark a significant shift from the previous regime which held the Crown Estate as both landlord and regulator of marine fish farms over most Scottish waters.

The new controls will primarily be of interest to planning authorities on the West Coast and Western and Northern Isles where finfish and shellfish farming are important industries.

Works licence

Up until now the only statutory controls for the siting of marine fish farms were to be found in "works licence" provisions administered by the Shetland and Orkney Councils. Unlike all other Scottish local authorities, they have had the power to grant licences to marine fish farm developers, whereas all other fish farm developments were considered by the Crown Estate.

The original intention to extend planning controls over marine fish farming stems back as far as 1997 when the then Scottish Office Minister Lord Sewel made an announcement as part of HM Government's response to the Report of the Scottish Salmon Strategy Task Force. Following on from the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003, and following public consultation in both 2004 and 2005, the Executive brought forward relevant secondary legislation earlier this year.

New legislative powers

For new fish farms and modifications to existing fish farms the *Town and Country Planning (Marine Fish Farming) (Scotland) Order 2007* brings forward the necessary legislative powers including designating marine planning zones for planning authorities. The Order amends a range of Acts, Regulations and Orders to make them specific to marine fish farming including further amendments to the 1997 Planning Act, the GDPO and EIA Regulations. The Order provides for a planning application fee. It also introduces transitional arrangements where an applications to either the Orkney or Shetland Islands Councils, or the Crown Estate is being processed.



A grace period has been allocated to save developers from having to re apply from scratch and from subsequently being deemed in breach of planning control.

For existing fish farms, section 4 of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 provides the legislative framework for their consideration. These farms will be considered by a Review Group set up by Ministers. This Group will comprise representatives from the relevant planning authority, SEPA, SNH and the Fisheries Research Service though the decision on any planning application to operate such a fish farm will be for Ministers. The primary consideration of the Group will be the impact of the development on the environment generally with planning considerations also being considered.

In order to support planning authorities and developers and to provide a policy context, the Executive has prepared Circular 1/2007 to accompany the legislation and Scottish Planning Policy 22: *Planning and Marine Fish Farming*.

Copies of Acts, Regulations and Orders referred to above can be found on www.opsi.gov.uk. Scottish Executive planning publications can be found on www.scotland.gov.uk/planning.

Graham Robinson, Scottish Executive Planning Division

Advisory Group on Marine and Coastal Strategy Completes its Report

The Advisory Group on Marine and Coastal Strategy (AGMACS), set up by Environment Minister, Ross Finnie, at the conclusion of his consultation exercise in 2005 on the Executive's report "Seas the Opportunity: A strategy for the long-term sustainability of Scotland's coasts and seas", completed its report at the beginning of March.

The wider context included the European Marine Strategy Directive and the current consultation by the UK government on its proposals for a UK Marine Bill. AGMACS has confirmed the view that there should be complementary legislation for Scotland, within the devolution context.

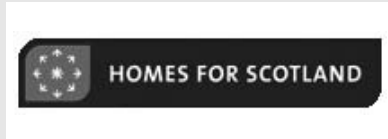
Of the four main work-streams (Science, Research and Performance Indicators; Conflict Resolution and Integrated Coastal Zone Management; Marine Spatial Planning; Marine Nature Conservation) the recommendations of greatest interest to the planning profession concern those on Marine Spatial Planning. The report recommends that there should be a system of Marine Spatial Planning, that it should have a statutory basis with variable levels of control and that it should be based on a three-tier system for UK, Scotland and local levels. The Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) system in Scotland should be overseen by a Scottish Marine Management Organisation which should also be responsible for nature conservation and fisheries to the 200

nautical mile limit. The group also recognised that further policy development on MSP must consider the important relationships with other regimes such as river basin management planning and ICZM.

The MSP work-stream on AGMACS was led by the RTPI in Scotland, informed by the work of the Institute's MSP Task Group. Along with others, it will be pressing the new administration after the May elections to bring forward proposals on marine spatial planning within the new parliamentary session.

The AGMACS report can be seen on the Executive's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/03/08103826/0>

Work Shadowing Scheme is launched



The Improvement Service and Homes for Scotland are pleased to launch a work shadowing scheme that will provide planning authority officers and developers with the opportunity to work together for up to a week in each organisation.

The purpose of this work shadowing scheme is to encourage greater understanding between planning authorities and developers of the aims, priorities and working practices in both organisations. The reciprocal shadowing arrangements will involve participants from planning authorities being matched with a relevant developer, and spending 5 days experiencing working with their partner. The key outcomes of the scheme, in addition to professional development for the participants, are to increase awareness of the different organisational perspectives and to improve communication between developers and authorities.

The process for organising shadowing arrangements will start with expressions of interest from authorities and developers. Potential participants will have to prepare a brief justification, including their personal objectives and the organisational objectives and benefits of their participation. The Improvement Service and Homes for Scotland will match participants, taking into account potential conflicts of interest.

This scheme provides authorities with the opportunity to improve their understanding of the motivators and needs of a key group of customers, and it gives development companies the opportunity to increase their understanding of the operation of planning services. Application forms and guidance notes are available on the Improvement Service website, or by emailing emma.richardson@improvementservice.org.uk

If you would like more information on the work shadowing scheme, please contact me on 01506 775558 or 07990 531029, or Allan Lundmark at Homes for Scotland on 0131 455 8350.

Emma Richardson
Planning Development Programme Manager

Planning Development Programme Update

The Planning Development Programme celebrated its first birthday in April – an occasion marked by the consumption of lots of mini donuts in the Improvement Service office in Broxburn, and by the publication of the forward plan for 2007-08 and overview of activities in 2006-07.

The focus for this year is to progress existing projects, to prioritise the delivery of relevant and useful learning opportunities for planning service staff and elected members, and to increase sharing of experience and good practice between authorities. Alongside the delivery of workshops and other learning opportunities, and the provision of grant support for authorities, major projects this year will include:

- Working with authorities and education providers to develop foundation level planning qualifications
- Developing good practice advice on learning and development in planning services
- Supporting service improvement projects within planning services, including business process reviews, and enabling sharing of good practice
- Evaluation of the Programme and supporting authorities in evaluating the effects and outcomes of service delivery improvement projects, and
- Promoting a work shadowing scheme in partnership with Homes for Scotland.

In April the Induction Pack on Planning for Elected Members was published, and copies provided for every Councillor in Scotland. The pack provides a basic introduction to the planning system and to the role and responsibilities of elected members. It is available on the Improvement Service website.

The Improvement Service web site (www.improvementservice.org.uk/planning-development/core/) contains information about the Programme, including application forms for grant support, the guide to the design awareness training, event checklists and feedback forms, the final report of the planning authority skills assessment, and a list of workshops available in house for planning authorities. Regular updates on the Programme and information about events are circulated by email. If you work in a planning authority and would like to be on our direct mailing list, please email me your contact details.

If you would like more information in the Planning Development Programme, please contact me on 01506 775558 or 07990 531029 or at emma.richardson@improvementservice.org.uk

Emma Richardson
Planning Development Programme Manager

Scottish Young Planners' Conference 2007

The fourth annual Scottish Young Planners' Conference took place at the Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh on 29th March 2007. The theme of this year's conference, "Planning, Profit and Public Interest", attracted approximately 180 delegates, a number which represents almost half of the young planners in Scotland. The focus was on development economics, infrastructure provision, developer contributions and the drivers of development in Scotland. The agenda for the day was full of variety with short presentations, debate, workshops, site visits and a ministerial address including the announcement of the Glasgow Design Competition finalists.



Visit to Edinburgh Quay.

Robert Upton, Secretary General of the Royal Town Planning Institute, gave a warm welcome to the delegates before handing over to Des McNulty, Deputy Minister for Communities, to give the opening address. The Deputy Minister gave a speech covering the modernisation of the planning system and the need for a change in culture by all those involved in planning. He suggested that young planners should be at the vanguard of this culture change because of the energy and enthusiasm they can bring to the process. The Deputy Minister also used the conference as a platform to launch *Unlocking Planning's Potential*, a guide outlining the changes to approaches and behaviours that will be required to deliver a more effective planning system.

The rest of the morning was devoted to an exploration of the main themes of the conference. The format was similar to last year's conference with Robert Upton taking on the role of David Dumbleby in a BBC Question Time style debate. The session was divided into two discussions, each with a panel of 4 speakers. Each panellist gave a

5 minute speech before the discussion was opened up to the floor.

The first panel, made up of Keith Winter (Fife Council), Ken Ross (Elphinstone Group), Ian Wall (EDI Group) and Eugene Mullan (Smith Scott Mullan Associates), tackled the question "What is driving development in Scotland?" Each speaker used their short slot effectively to stimulate debate with challenging, opposing and sometimes provocative views on what is driving forward or holding back development in Scotland. The second panel comprising Jim Dickson (West Lothian Council), John Brown (DTZ Residential), Keith Phillips (Scottish Water) and Billy Neilson (Woolgar Hunter) took on the issues of infrastructure delivery and developer contributions with similar enthusiasm.

In the afternoon session, delegates were offered a choice of four workshops and two site visits. The workshops, exploring development economics, infrastructure provision, the cost of better design and planning gain good practice, were led by Jim Kirkwood (Mactaggart and Mickel), Stephen

Gallagher (Scottish Enterprise), Michael MacAuley (Turley Associates) and Stuart Robertson (Aberdeenshire Council). The sessions gave delegates the opportunity to explore the issues in more detail than the broader morning session allowed.

Delegates who chose a site visit rather than the workshops saw development on the ground at either Quartermile Edinburgh or Edinburgh Quay. Quartermile is the 19 acre site, formerly occupied by Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, which will be regenerated to provide hundreds of new homes as well as retail, office, leisure and hotel developments. Those who visited Edinburgh Quay saw the results of the regeneration of the area around the eastern terminus of the Union Canal at Fountain Bridge. This mixed-use waterfront development has created offices, apartments, bars and restaurants close to Edinburgh's 'Exchange' financial district.

Delegates returned to the main hall for a summing-up by Robert Upton and call by Fiona Clandillon, chair of the Scottish Young Planners' Group, to go out and be proud professional planners. Another successful Scottish Young Planners' Conference was brought to a close and delegates adjourned to a local bar for complimentary drinks and a chance to network and relax.

The Scottish Young Planners Group would like to thank all those who helped to ensure that this year's conference was a great success, including speakers, sponsors and all the young planners who attended.

Adam Gordon



Members News

We would like to welcome the following members who have joined RTPi in Scotland in the past few months.

Corporate

Gemma David	Angus Council
John Martin	Retired
Keith Mould	Retired
Alan Mitchell	-
Student	
Fiona MacGregor	Arcus Renewable Energy Consultants

We would also like to welcome the following who have been elected members of the Institute:

Corporate

Aude Chaiban	Aberdeenshire Council
Catriona Corder	Mono Consultants
Mary Grier	Cairngorms National Park Authority
Iain Hynd	Turley Associates
Beverley Knox	Fife Council
Gary Knox	Dundee City Council
Ryan McAlindin	North Ayrshire Council
Charmaine Mills	North Lanarkshire Council
Alan Osborne	Mono Consultants
Gary Purves	Aberdeen City Council
Duncan Robertson	Midlothian Council
Neil Stewart	Cairngorms National Park Authority
Phillip Sweeney	Perth and Kinross Council
Alan Webster	Dundee City Council
Lesley Whitehead	Midlothian Council
Licentiate	
Esme Clelland	West Lothian Council
Mhairi-Anne Cowie	Midlothian Council
Kerstin Deuling	Planning Aid Scotland
Stephanie Greaves	East Lothian Council
James Hall	South Ayrshire Council
Jamie Hamilton	Stirling Council
John Hiscox	Berwick upon Tweed
Borough Council	
Jane Little	East Ayrshire Council
Peter Matthews	Glasgow
Zoe McClelland	Scott Wilson Scotland
Nikola Miller	GVA Grimley
Beatrice Nichol	Scottish Borders Council
Kelly Rusk	Warren Consultants
Maurice Stack	Aberdeenshire Council
Student	
Simon Brown	Heriot Watt
Deborah Chalmers	Heriot Watt
Heather Claridge	Heriot Watt
Kate Colsell	Colliers CRE
John Daly	Heriot Watt
Michelle Docherty	Glasgow
Ruth Foxon	Jacobs UK Ltd
Simon Fraser	Dundee
Jennifer Glendinning	Heriot Watt
Allison Hungate	GVA Grimley
Andrew Jarvie	Heriot Watt
Alanna Lyle	Dundee
Colin Maciver	Aberdeen
Sarah McLaughlin	Heriot Watt
Natalie Righetti	Glasgow
Jamie Scott	Dundee
Natalie Scott	Heriot Watt
David Taylor	Heriot Watt
Amanda Wetzel	Heriot Watt

We are sorry to announce the deaths of **Frank Bowman** RIBA MRTPI(Rtd), and **Iain Duncan** MA MRTPI. Both had been members of the Institute since 1971.

Policy Briefing

POLICY BULLETIN

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

■ **Planning Act Indicative Implementation Timetable** (see also page 9)

Available at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/03/15130656/1>

■ **Planning The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 List of Commencements to 1 April 2007** (See also page 9)

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/170254/0047536.pdf>

■ **A Brief Guide to the 2006 Planning Act**

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169168/0047127.pdf>

■ **Preparation of the National Planning Framework. Participation Statement.**

Sets out the schedules for consultation and the steps to be taken to involve the public in consultations regarding the NPF.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/164677/0044861.pdf>

■ **Planning Bulletin Issue 25**

Provides comprehensive account of recent work and publications by the Scottish Executive

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/164582/0044832.pdf>

■ **Modernising the Planning System: Unlocking Planning's Potential**

This brochure is a concordat between the Executive, Cosla, RTPi and other parties setting out the changes to processes and behaviours required in responding to the new planning system.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/172608/0048200.pdf>

■ **Scottish Planning Series: Planning Circular 1 2007: Planning Controls for Marine Fish Farming**

This circular provides guidance to planning officers, developers, communities and regulators on the provisions contained in the Acts, Regulations and Order which pertain to the new regime for planning control of marine fish farming which came into force on 1 April 2007.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173600/0048432.pdf>

■ **Planning Series Circular 2/2007: The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2007**

The 2007 Regulations increase the rates of fees by approximately 10%.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/174148/0048566.pdf>

■ **Planning Series Circular 3/2007: The Planning Etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 (Consequential provisions) Order 2007**

Explains that the order which was made on 1 April discontinues the 'Notice of Intention to Develop' (NID) procedure for local authority developments. Local authorities must now apply for planning permission in the usual way and notify ministers under prescribed circumstances of 'development

where local authorities have an interest' as defined in the 1997 direction, which is soon to be replaced.

■ **Planning Series Circular 4/2007: The Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2007**

Introduces new direction powers for ministers to require information on possible call in cases and the power to direct the attaching of conditions (to avoid the need for call-in). It also introduces new procedures with regard to historic gardens and designed landscapes as included in the Inventory.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/174176/0048573.pdf>

■ **Planning Enforcement Charters:**

A guide to enforcing planning controls This guidance provides an introduction to Section 27 of the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 requiring that all planning authorities prepare and publish an enforcement charter.

Available at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/174156/0048569.pdf>

■ **Small Country: Big Plans**

An awareness raising leaflet with consultation questions on the National Planning Framework 2.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/165490/0045058.pdf>

■ **National Planning Framework: SEA Scoping Report**

This report sets out information on the National Planning Framework to enable the Consultation Authorities to form a view on the appropriateness of the proposed consultation period and methods, and on the scope and level of detail that will be appropriate for the Environmental Report

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/164442/0044802.pdf>

■ **PAN 81 Community Engagement: Planning with People**

This PAN contains good practice for planning authorities, Councillors, developers, housing associations, businesses, key agencies and statutory consultees. It outlines what Community Councils, other community groups and members of the public can expect to see from the planning system and aims to denote the new culture the Scottish Executive wishes the whole of the planning system to develop – ahead of the new legislative measures coming into effect.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169453/0047204.pdf>

■ **SPP6 Renewable Energy**

This SPP sets out how the planning system should manage the process of encouraging, approving and implementing renewable energy proposals when preparing development plans and determining planning applications. Planning authorities should use the development plan process to support and encourage the continued growth of all renewable technologies. In particular, plans should set out a spatial approach for considering wind farm proposals over 20 megawatts. Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/171491/0047957.pdf>

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■ SPP 22 Planning for Fish Farming

This SPP provides guidance on the particular factors to be taken into account when considering proposals for new freshwater or marine fish farms, or modifications to existing operations; and establishes the national planning context for the preparation by planning authorities of development plans for guiding the location of future fish farms.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173613/0048434.pdf>

■ Guidance Note: Controlling Light Pollution and Reducing Lighting Energy Consumption

This Guidance Note is referenced to in the Lighting Environmental Protection Regimes Annex of the Scottish Executive's Planning Advice Note 51: Planning Environmental Protection and Regulation. The Scottish Executive is considering adding artificial light pollution to the list of Statutory Nuisances under Part III of the Environmental Protection Act in 2007.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/170172/0047520.pdf>

■ The Peat Hazard and Risk Assessment Guide

This report provides guidance on best practice methods to identify, mitigate and manage peat slide hazards and associated risks in respect of consent applications for electricity generation projects in Scotland. **Available at:** <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/161862/0043972.pdf>

■ Review of the General Permitted Development Order 1992: final report

This research report reviews the General Permitted Development Order and makes recommendations for changes to its form and content. **Available at:** <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173656/0048437.pdf>

■ Playing Our Part

This report provides the Scottish Executive's Response To The Dalglish Report On Environmental Volunteering. **Available at:** <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/164796/0044914.pdf>

■ A Strategy for a Scotland with an Ageing Population: Qualitative work with the general public

This research focused on attitudes towards the ageing population; aspirations for old age and perceived barriers to fulfilling those aspirations; and perceptions of change needed to support an ageing population. **Research Publication available at:** <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169737/0047304.pdf> **Summary of research findings available at:**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169513/0047223.pdf>

■ All Our Futures: Planning for a Scotland with an Ageing Population: Volume One: Summary and action plan

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169342/0047172.pdf>

Volume 2 of this report includes Chapter 7 on 'The Right Infrastructure: Housing, Planning and Transport.'

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169347/0047194.pdf>

■ Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Survey 2006

Since 2002, there has been a decrease of 210 hectares in the total amount of derelict and urban vacant land recorded in the survey. 27% of Scotland's population is estimated to live within 500m of a derelict site in 2006. The local authorities with the highest proportion of their population living within 500m of derelict land are Glasgow City (57%), Midlothian (52%) and West Dunbartonshire (51%).

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/164442/0044802.pdf>

■ Contaminated Land Performance Indicator Information

Documents to be used in conjunction with the Contaminated Land Performance Indicators Guidance Document (Research Report 2005/05), published by the Scottish Executive in June 2005.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/02/91971>

■ Housing Trends in Scotland Quarter ending September 2006

The survey indicates that: 6,408 new dwellings were started during the period July to September 2006, 20% more than during the same period in the previous year. 6,248 dwellings were completed, 7% more than during the same period in 2005 and that a total of 1,968 public authority dwellings were sold to sitting tenants in the period July to September 2006, a decrease of 18% on the same period in 2005.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/166880/0045573.pdf>

■ Scotland's Climate Change Programme: Annual Report 2007

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169305/0047159.pdf>

■ The Business Waste Framework

This report outlines the Scottish Executive and SEPA's approach to business waste in Scotland.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169435/0047202.pdf>

■ The Business Waste Action Plan

available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/1056/0047130.doc>

■ Delivering Physical Infrastructure through planning: Scotland and Bavaria

This report focuses on the law, policy and practice of planning agreements in Scotland, and Städtebauliche Verträge in Bavaria. This work forms part of a co-operation agreement signed between the two administrations with a commitment to increase collaboration on land use planning and the design of development.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/165095/0044985.pdf>

■ Building on Our Legacy. Statement of Scotland's Architectural Policy 2007

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/166461/0045366.pdf>

■ Design Snapshot

An 'easy read' guide to design emphasising the importance of good design in the planning and development process.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/170947/0047877.pdf>

■ Recommendations of the Advisory Group on Marine and Coastal Strategy: A Follow up to Seas the Opportunity:

A Strategy for the Long Term Sustainability of Scotland's Coasts and Seas. Includes recommendations with regard to a system of marine spatial planning.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169275/0047157.pdf>

■ Biomass Action Plan for Scotland

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/1086/0047855.pdf>

■ An Investigation of Environmental Attitudes and Values to Inform Implementation of the EC Water Framework Directive

This report presents the findings of qualitative research exploring opinions and priorities of the Scottish public on the quality of the water environment, and how the public might be effectively engaged in issues about the water environment.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/171705/0047985.pdf>

Summary available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/171700/0047984.pdf>

■ Implementing the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003: Development of environmental standards and conditions: Policy Statement

This paper provides information on the principles behind the environmental standards and conditions and the process of developing the standards. It also outlines the Scottish Executive's policy on how the standards will be used by SEPA and other regulators to protect, and where necessary to improve, our water environment.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173722/0048451.pdf>

■ Interim Evaluation of the Cities Growth Fund: A Report to the Scottish Executive

This report evaluates the extent to which the City Visions have been implemented; assesses the economic impact that has resulted from CGF projects and the impact of these projects on the Executive's Cross Cutting Themes.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173112/0048281.pdf>

■ Rural Scotland: Better Still, Naturally

The report sets out strategic objectives and programmes by the Scottish Executive to address challenges in rural areas.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173061/0048277.pdf>

■ Transforming Public Services: The Next Phase of Reform: Progress Report

This report summarises the discussions on public service reform that took place across Scotland between June 2006 and February 2007. The summary report also sets out how change is being taken forward across public services, informed by the dialogue.

Available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173952/0048522.pdf>

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

■ Communities Committee Annual Report 2006-2007.

Available at: <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees/reports-07/cor07-08.htm>

■ Communities Committee Legacy Paper

The Communities Committee suggests the successor committee may wish to consider: how it would like to follow the development of the National Planning Framework before the latter is introduced to Parliament; the statutory instruments on planning that should be scrutinised in more detail by taking evidence; and issues of defective drafting in subordinate legislation. The Communities Committee also recommends the practice of taking evidence on draft

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Scottish Planning Policies and draft Planning Advice Notes in order to provide input to the Scottish Executive before these documents are finalised. The Committee notes its concern regarding the lack of affordable housing in some areas of Scotland and recommends that its successor committee continue to monitor this in some detail.

Available at:
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/communities/reports-07/cor07-07.htm>

■ Environment and Rural Affairs Committee Legacy Paper 2007

The report recommends that the successor committee might take forward work started on parliamentary scrutiny of sustainable development.

Available at:
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/environment/reports-07/rar07-07.htm>

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM OTHER PUBLIC BODIES

■ Recent publications from Scottish Natural Heritage

Research Strategy
 Supported outcomes include better use of planning to deliver sustainable development and better integration of natural heritage into spatial planning.

Available at:
http://www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/strategy/research/Research_Strategy.pdf

■ Recent Publications from Communities Scotland Initial evaluation of the Homestake Open Market Pilot

Available at:
http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/pubcs_018324.pdf

■ Innovative Dutch style housing at Ballater

Available at:
http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/pubcs_018322.pdf

■ Restricted Occupancy Conditions in National Parks

Available at:
http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/pubcs_018023.pdf

■ Sustainable Housing Guide for Scotland

Available at:
http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/cs_017788.pdf

POLICY STATEMENTS

Recent policy statements and consultation responses by the RTPI in Scotland are summarised below. The full texts of responses are available on the website at: www.scotland.rtpi.org.uk/policies/index.html

■ Planning Gain Supplement

The Institute responded to the DCLG/HMRC consultations on the Planning Gain Supplement and set out some possible options for change. In its response, the RTPI supported the principle of capturing increases in land values arising from the grant of planning permission. It also agreed that effective and fair means are needed to ensure timely contributions from developers and landowners to the infrastructure costs directly and indirectly related to the development of their land. However, the Institute considered that the PGS proposal as consulted upon is not ready to proceed to implementation. There are too many critical questions of technical effect and economic impact that are unresolved to allow this proposal to proceed. As a bare minimum, a significant period of option development and re-evaluation is required.

The full response is available at:
<http://www.rtpi.org.uk/download/672/PGS-P20070202-Combined.pdf>

POLICY CONSULTATIONS

Current consultations published by the Scottish Executive and other public bodies to which the Institute may wish to respond are listed below. To assist the Institute in preparing a representative response, members are invited to contribute their views by post or email (see page 2).

CONSULTATIONS FROM THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

■ Energy Efficiency and Microgeneration: Achieving a Low Carbon Future: A Strategy for Scotland - draft for consultation by SE Energy Efficiency Unit (response required 11/6/2007).

Available at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/169519/0047225.pdf>

and consultation on SEA

Available at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173509/0048420.pdf>

■ Better Waste Regulation. A consultation by SE and SEPA (response required by 22/6/2007).

Available at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/172462/0048189.pdf>

■ Statutory Guidance on Planning and Sustainable Development. A consultation by SEDD Planning Division (response required by 22/6/2007).

Available at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173292/0048371.pdf>

■ Developing the New Planning Performance Assessment Framework. A consultation by SEDD Planning Division (response required by 22/6/2007).

Available at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/173281/0048370.pdf>

■ Revision of Circular 15/1999; the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 1999. Consultation by SEDD Planning Division (response required by 29/6/2007).

Available at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/172929/0048235.pdf>

CONSULTATIONS BY HISTORIC SCOTLAND

■ Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP): Scheduled Monument Consent (response required by 22/6/2007)

Available at:
http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep_smc.pdf

■ SHEP: Properties in the Care of Scottish Ministers (response required 6/7/2007)

Available at:
http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/sheps_pic.pdf

■ SHEP: Listing the identification of Scotland's special buildings (response required 20/7/2007)

Available at:
http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/sheps_listing.pdf

■ SHEP: listed building consent (response required by 3/8/2007).

Available at:
http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/sheps_lbc.pdf

CONSULTATION BY SEPA

■ A Plan of Action - River Basin Planning in the Scotland River Basin District (response required by 22/6/2007).

Available at:
http://www.sepa.org.uk/consultation/current/poa_scotland/index.htm

CONSULTATION BY SEPA AND ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

■ A Plan of Action - Solway Tweed River Basin Planning. (response required by 22/6/2007).

Available at:
http://www.sepa.org.uk/consultation/current/poa_solway_tweed/index.htm



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