

29 June 2007

FAO Rosie Leven
Planning Division
Scottish Executive
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

Dear Ms Leven

Statutory Guidance on Planning and Sustainable Development – Consultation Paper

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in Scotland (RICS Scotland) has noted the above consultation paper and is grateful for the opportunity to participate in this debate.

RICS Scotland is the principal body representing professionals employed in the land, property and construction sectors. The Institution represents some 9,000 members: 7,000 chartered surveyors, 200 technical members and 1,800 students and trainees. Our members practise in sixteen land, property and construction markets and are employed in private practice, in central and local government, in public agencies, in academic institutions, in business organisations and in non-governmental organisations.

As part of its Royal Charter, the Institution has a commitment to provide advice to the government of the day and, in doing so, has an obligation to bear in mind the public interest as well as the interests of its members. RICS Scotland is therefore in a unique position to provide a balanced, apolitical perspective on issues of importance to the land, property and construction sectors.

Having considered this consultation document at length, RICS Scotland wishes to make the following comments.

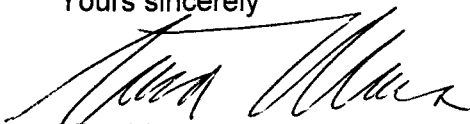
General Comments

As the consultation document sets an agenda with broad suggestions for improvement, it is difficult to offer a detailed critique of the proposals. However, RICS Scotland is generally supportive of the principles expressed. We are particularly interested to note that the

guidance both specifies mitigation against further climate change and adaptation for the changes that will take place.

RICS Scotland recently commissioned a research report on the impact of climate change on three Scottish cities, which I enclose for your attention. Should you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Bruce, Assistant Director and Head of Communications, RICS Scotland, ebruce@rics.org.

Yours sincerely



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