



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

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ALBA

Community Planning & Empowerment
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Our Case ID: 201601362

13 June 2016

Dear Mr Milne

The Scottish Government – Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 Part 2 Community Planning

Thank you for your invitation to provide our views on draft guidance and regulations for Community Planning. I offer the following comments on behalf of Historic Environment Scotland which is the new lead public body established to investigate, care for and promote Scotland's historic environment.

We are a non-departmental public body with charitable status, governed by a Board of Trustees, who were appointed by Scottish Ministers. We lead and enable Scotland's first historic environment strategy *Our Place in Time*, which sets out how our historic environment will be managed. It ensures our historic environment is cared for, valued and enhanced, both now and for future generations.

We are also responsible for more than 300 properties of national importance. Buildings and monuments in our care include Edinburgh Castle, Skara Brae, Fort George and numerous smaller sites across Scotland, which together draw more than 3 million visitors per year.

Consultation paper

We found the draft guidance and associated regulations to be clear and helpful. We are also grateful for the opportunity to meet with a member of your team last month to discuss the consultation material in detail. This has greatly assisted the discussions we are having across our organisation about how we take forward the new duties conferred upon Historic Environment Scotland as a new statutory Community Planning Partner.

We have provided some commentary on the questions outlined in the consultation paper within the attached response form. I hope these comments are helpful and should you wish to discuss these further, please feel welcome to contact Alasdair McKenzie on 0131 668 8924.

Yours sincerely

Dr David Mitchell
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Historic Environment Scotland – Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH
Scottish Charity No. **SC045925**
VAT No. **GB 221 8680 15**

Community Planning under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015: Consultation on Draft Guidance and Regulation

RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response.

Are you responding as an individual or an organization? (required)

- Individual
 Organisation

What is your name or your organisation's name? (required)

Historic Environment Scotland

What is your phone number?

0131 668 8924

What is your address?

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh

What is your postcode?

EH9 1SH

What is your email?

alasdair.mckenzie@hes.scot

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference: (required)

- Publish response with name
 Publish response only (anonymous)
 Do not publish response

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

- Yes
 No

Community Planning under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015: Consultation on Draft Guidance Questions

Q1: The guidance identifies a series of principles for effective community planning. Do you agree with them? Should there be any others?

Please explain why.

We welcome the principles outlined in the guidance and consider these provide a clear outline of what is expected by those participating in Community Planning and related activities. In particular we welcome the connectivity that has been highlighted with spatial planning, by emphasising the relationship between development planning, provision of local infrastructure and service delivery.

We also welcome the recognition (para 25) that the specific contribution of partners will vary depending upon the local priorities that are identified. To assist with this, and to guide partners of what Historic Environment Scotland can offer, we will take steps in the coming months to outline the contribution we can make to community planning and ensure that our staff are familiar with the key principles outlined within the guidance.

Q2: The draft guidance sets out common long-term performance expectations for all CPPs and community planning partners. Each CPP will adopt its own approach towards meeting these expectations, reflecting local conditions and priorities. Even so, do you think there are common short- or medium-term performance expectations which every CPP and partner should be expected to meet? If so, what are they?

No comments.

Q3: The 2015 Act requires CPPs to keep under review the question of whether it is making progress in the achievement of each local outcome in their LOIP and locality plan(s). CPPs must from time to time review their LOIP and locality plan(s) under review, and to revise them where appropriate. Even with this, do you think the statutory guidance should require CPPs to review and if necessary revise their plans after a specific period of time in every case? If so, what should that specific period be?

Yes No

Please explain why.

We have no strong views on this, although would suggest consideration could be given to harmonising timescales with spatial development planning (i.e. 5 years).

Q4: What should the statutory guidance state as the latest date by which CPPs must publish progress reports on their local outcomes improvement plans and locality plans?

4 months 6 months Other

If other please provide timescale. Please explain why.

We have no strong views on the specific timescale, but do support the need for progress reports for monitoring their implementation/success.

Q5. Do you have any other comments about the draft Guidance?

No.

Q6. We propose that the draft regulation for locality planning should set one criterion only, which is a maximum population permissible for a locality. Do you agree? What are your reasons?

No comments.

Q7: The draft regulation sets a maximum population size for localities subject to locality planning of 30,000 residents. It also proposes an exception which allows a CPP to designate a local authority electoral ward as a locality even where its population exceeds 30,000 residents. Are there circumstances in which these criteria would prevent a CPP from applying a reasonable approach to locality planning? What difference would it make to how localities were identified for the purposes of locality planning in the CPP area(s) in which you have an interest, if the maximum population size were set at (a) 25,000 residents or (b) 20,000 residents?

No comments.

Q8: Do you have any other comments about the draft Regulation?

No.

Q9: Are there any equality issues we should be aware of in respect of local outcomes improvement plans and locality plans?

We welcome the greater emphasis being placed upon Local Outcome Improvements Plans and Locality Planning as a way of helping to tackle inequalities. We also support the view that a focused/targeted approach will be more successful in supporting and facilitating discussion with harder to reach communities of interest and will increase participation more generally.