

Planning Reform in Scotland



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"Scotland needs a planning system that has, at its heart, the overriding principle of delivering sustainable economic growth"

Derek Mackay MSP, Minister for Local Government & Planning

Shaping Scotland's Planning System

- Experience
- External influences
- People and Place

A change in Culture

- Still Plan led, but flexible in its interpretation
- Planning policy must be seen within the wider policy context of Single Outcome Agreements
- Planning decisions must be taken in the knowledge of other policy decisions, e.g. in education, health or economic development

People and Place

- People and Place
- Value heritage, but have an eye on the future
- A move towards localism, ironically driven by globalisation
- Recognition of the fact that we are social animals

Town Centres as an example

- Places of cultural, economic and social interaction
- Reconnecting people and place
- Local decisions on role and function

Town Centre First policy?

- All developments that create activity, not just retail
- A co-ordinated approach across government, including SFT
- Local control through new partnerships, e.g. BIDs

The national picture

- What kind of Scotland do we want to create?
- How can planning help us to get there?
- The National Planning Framework 3

NPF 3

- A focus on renewables and other green infrastructure
- The role of cities and their regions
- Recognition of the role of towns and town centres

Who decides?

- Professionals? Accountability and responsibility?
- Politicians? Can we avoid partisanship?
- The Public? How can we get them involved in positive discussions about the importance of place?

"For too many young people in Scotland, they have a pre-ordained destiny, not a future of possibilities and opportunity."
