

**Scotland Policy Conferences Keynote Seminar:
Implementing planning reform - funding, coordination and further steps for policy**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 23rd October 2018

Venue: Central Edinburgh



**SCOTLAND POLICY
CONFERENCES**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Monica Lennon MSP, Deputy Convener, Local Government and Communities Committee
- 9.05 - 9.35 **Scrutinising the Planning Bill**
Senior speaker to be announced
Questions and comments from the floor
- Developing an 'infrastructure first' planning system: the National Planning Framework and regional partnerships**
What are the key practical issues that need to be considered with regard to The Scottish Government proposals to develop an 'infrastructure first' planning system, and how could they be addressed? What are the key steps needed to ensure that proposals to strengthen the National Planning Framework do not lead to an over-centralisation of planning policy? With the Planning Bill proposing the removal of Strategic Development Plans, what are the key features needed in terms of future regional partnership working in relation to strategic infrastructure projects?
- 9.35 - 9.45 **Graeme Purves**, Chair, Built Environment Forum Scotland
- 9.45 - 9.55 **Stuart Tait**, Manager, Clydeplan
- 9.55 - 10.05 Senior speaker confirmed from **Jacobs UK**
- 10.05 - 10.35 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 - 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Monica Lennon MSP, Deputy Convener, Local Government and Communities Committee
- 10.40 - 11.10 Coffee
- 11.10 - 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**
Bob Doris MSP, Convener, Local Government and Communities Committee
- 11.15 - 12.05 **Key issues for aligning community and spatial planning: Local Development Plans, Simplified Planning Zones and meeting the needs of local communities**
How will proposed changes to Local Development Plans, including extending their lifespan from 5 to 10 years and removing main issue reports and supplementary guidance, impact on the delivery of infrastructure at a local authority level? With The Scottish Government proposing expansions to Simplified Planning Zones (SPZs), how can developers and local authorities ensure that SPZs do not become a mechanism for bypassing the views of local communities? To what extent are Local Place Plans likely to address the democratic deficit faced by local communities when it comes to the planning system, and is there a risk that they might become a barrier to vital infrastructure delivery?
Theresa Hunt, Senior Associate, Burness Paull
Tammy Swift-Adams, Director, Planning, Homes for Scotland
Grant Douglas, Environmental Planning Manager, SP Energy Networks
Clare Symonds, Founder and Chair, Planning Democracy
Robert Gray, Head of Planning and Building Standards, Aberdeenshire Council and Chair, Executive Committee, Heads of Planning Scotland
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.05 - 12.55 **Next steps for infrastructure funding: strategic approaches and potential implications of the infrastructure levy**
With the Planning Bill expected to introduce provisions for secondary legislation in relation to a local infrastructure levy, what are the key policy considerations going forward - including which organisations will be liable for paying the levy? How can policymakers ensure that the levy does not become a deterrent to infrastructure delivery, particularly when it comes to the specific rate at which the levy is set? Beyond the infrastructure levy, what should be the next steps for ensuring that the planning system is adequately resourced and able to finance major infrastructure projects?
Peter Hayne, Town Planning Manager, Arqiva
Stefano Smith, Director, Planning, Peter Brett Associates and Convenor, Scottish Executive Committee, RTPi
Caitriona McAuley, Head, Economic Growth, North Ayrshire Council
Tony Rose, Infrastructure Director, Scottish Futures Trust
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks**
Bob Doris MSP, Convener, Local Government and Communities Committee
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Scotland Policy Conferences