



The Strategic Development Planning Authority  
for Edinburgh and South East Scotland

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For Immediate Release

## **Strategic Planning enters new era in South East Scotland**

**Authorities across the region will work in partnership, to plan for 21<sup>st</sup> century**

The Strategic Development Planning Authority for Edinburgh and SE Scotland

(SESplan) brings together six local authorities - the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Fife, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian Council – to consider strategic planning matters in a formal setting for the first time.

The key role of SESplan is to prepare and maintain an up to date Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for SE Scotland.

***SESplan`s Convenor, Councillor Carolyn Riddell-Carre of Scottish Borders Council said:***

***“ For the first time our six councils will work together to create a strategic long-term plan for South East Scotland up to 2032.***

***We aim to ensure that our strategy for development is robust and flexible to respond to the significant economic and environmental challenges that now face us.”***

***“One of our first tasks is to consult both with statutory bodies and the wider community to establish their views on the future development of the region.”***

***SESplan is currently running a spring consultation exercise to obtain first input on key issues such as where people want to see growth and how it should be delivered. Responses to this will be used to prepare a Main Issues Report which is expected to be published before Christmas.***

***“I would encourage anyone with an interest in planning for the future of the region to get in touch,” says Councillor Riddell-Carre.” You can learn more about the preparing the SDP and complete a questionnaire by visiting the SESplan web site at [www.sesplan.gov.uk](http://www.sesplan.gov.uk) . We will also welcome comments in writing to: SESplan, First Floor, Hopetoun Gate, 8b McDonald Road, Edinburgh EH7 4LZ.”***

Work on the SDP is already under way. When completed, it will replace the existing councils` structure plans.

The SDP, which is probably the most important agenda-setting document of its kind to be produced within the last 20 years, will:

- **Cover an area with a population of 1.2 million and 521,000 households.**
- **Address forecast population growth**
- **Facilitate and provide the steer for the future development and growth across the South East of Scotland from 2012 to 2032.**
- **Focus the development path for SE Scotland through a wide range of challenging issues including the economic downturn and climate change adaptation**

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