5 June 2009
For Immediate Release

Your views are needed on planning for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Area

Spring consultation seeks input on key planning issues

The Strategic Development Planning Authority for Edinburgh and South East Scotland (SESplan) brings together six local authorities - the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Fife, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian Council - is looking for your views on planning.

As part of our Spring Consultation, SESplan is seeking the views of businesses, communities, agencies and members of the public on what planning priorities.

The views expressed during the consultation period will inform preparation of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for South East Scotland, which will focus development in the region up to 2032.

SESplan’s Convenor, Councillor Carolyn Riddell-Carre, said:

"The Strategic Development Plan is a most significant development in regional planning at the start of the 21st century. It will set the course of development in the South East of Scotland for the next generation. It is vital that people say what they want and what they do not want for their area. The Plan needs to be able to respond to the significant economic and environmental challenges that now face us all”.

"I would encourage anyone with an interest in planning for the future of the South East of Scotland region to get in touch and make their contribution. ”

You can learn more about the preparing the SDP and complete a questionnaire by visiting the SESplan web site at www.sesplan.gov.uk.

We will also welcome comments in writing to: SESplan, First Floor, Hopetoun Gate, 8b McDonald Road, Edinburgh EH7 4LZ2.

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1. 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.

2. 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