

1 September 2008

Dear Sir/Madam

Action on Climate Change: Consultation on Proposals for Improving the Energy Performance of Existing Non-Domestic Buildings

As part of the international effort required on climate change, the Scottish Government has proposed an 80% reduction in Scotland's carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. In January 2008, the Scottish Government published a consultation document on proposals for a Scottish Climate Change Bill. This will provide the long-term framework for current and successive administrations in Scotland to achieve a reduction in emissions. The Scottish Climate Change Bill will also provide the opportunity to set the legislative framework for measures to achieve those targets.

Today, the Scottish Government is publishing a consultation document which sets out our proposals for measures for possible inclusion in the Scottish Climate Change Bill to improve the energy performance of non-domestic buildings and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Our objective for this consultation is to ensure that all interested parties have the opportunity to contribute their opinions at an early stage. We are asking important questions about the shape of our proposals and what issues should be taken into account. The consultation document and accompanying material are available from the Scottish Government website:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations> . Hard copies are available on request.

Yours faithfully

Bill Dodds
Acting Head of Building Standards

Denholm House, Almondvale Business Park, Almondvale Way,
Livingston, West Lothian EH54 6GA
www.scotland.gov.uk

Responding to this consultation paper

We are inviting written responses to this consultation paper by 25 November 2008. **Please send your response to:**

cciepndb@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

or

Anne-Marie Hughes
Directorate for the Built Environment
Building Standards Division
Denholm House
Almondvale Business Park
Livingston
EH54 6GA

If you have any enquiries on the consultation process please contact Anne-Marie Hughes on 01506 600409.

We would be grateful if you would use the consultation questionnaire provided in Annex B of the consultation document and clearly indicate in your response which questions or parts of the consultation you are responding to as this will aid our analysis of the responses received.

This consultation, and all other Scottish Government consultation exercises, can be viewed online on the consultation web pages of the Scottish Government website at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations>. You can telephone Freephone 0800 77 1234 to find out where your nearest public internet access point is.

The Scottish Government now has an e-mail alert system for consultations: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations/seconsult.aspx>. This system allows stakeholder individuals and organisations to register and receive a weekly e-mail containing details of all new consultations including web links). SEconsult complements, but in no way replaces Scottish Government distribution lists, and is designed to allow stakeholders to keep up to date with all Scottish Government consultation activity, and therefore be alerted at the earliest opportunity to those of most interest. We would encourage you to register.

Handling your response

We need to know how you wish your response to be handled and, in particular, whether you are happy for your response to be made public. Please complete and return the **Respondent Information Form** found with this consultation at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations>. This will ensure that we treat your responses appropriately. If you ask for your response not to be published we will regard it as confidential, and we will treat it accordingly.

All respondents should be aware that the Scottish Government is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and would therefore have to consider any request made to it under the Act for information relating to responses made to this consultation exercise.

Next steps in the process

Where respondents have given permission for their response to be made public (see the attached Respondent Information Form), these will be made available to the public in the Scottish Government Library by 22 December 2008. We will check all responses where agreement to publish has been given for any potentially defamatory material before logging them in the library or placing them on the website. You can make arrangements to view responses by contacting the Scottish Government Library on 0131 244 4565. Responses can be copied and sent to you, but a charge may be made for this service.

What happens next

Following the closing date, all responses will be analysed and considered along with any other available evidence to help us reach a decision on what measures need to be taken.

Comments and complaints

If you have any comments about how this consultation exercise has been conducted, please send them to:

Graeme Walker
Directorate for the Built Environment
Building Standards Division
Denholm House
Almondvale Business Park
Livingston, EH54 6GA

graeme.walker@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

If you have any enquiries about the proposals please contact Anne-Marie Hughes on 01506 600409.

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