

Housing Advisory Panel Remit

Background and Purpose

Following the completion of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, the Scottish Government is now moving forward with implementing the legislation and progressing the other aspects of our planning reforms.

There was a great deal of interest in the progress of the Planning Bill through Parliament and many different groups and individuals contributed to the debate. There has been particular interest around the approach to planning for housing to meet the outcomes of the 2019 Act and to help guide this process, we have established a small NPF4 advisory housing panel.

Role of the Panel Members

Whilst the panel will comprise a cross section of members from public and private sector and academia, members will be invited on a personal basis, to bring their knowledge, skills and experience to the group.

The remit of the group is to:

- Uphold the principles outlined by the Minister in the Housing Technical Discussion Paper for developing a new approach to planning for housing in Scotland.
- Provide input to the methodology for meeting NPF housing requirements, as set out in the 2019 Act.
- Support preparation of the Housing Technical Paper for NPF4.
- Encourage collaboration between the sectors in agreeing local or regional assumptions.
- Advising of the interface between NPF and the wider development plan and housing system.

We anticipate that with the agreement of members, the panel could continue to run beyond the preparation of NPF4 to help guide the subsequent changes to local development planning, guidance and practice.

Chair

The panel will be chaired by the Chief Planner for Scotland, John McNairney. Officials in Scottish Government, Planning and Architecture Division will support the Chair with facilitating the input of the panel, issuing agendas and carrying out administrative matters.

Time Commitment

The initial expectation was that the time commitment of panel members would be three, 3 hour meetings – one in early April, one mid-June and one towards the end of August 2020. However, in light of the current situation with COVID-19 and the subsequent extension of the NPF4 timetable, alternative ways for the panel to input will be sought, for example the circulation of papers and/or telephone or video-conferencing, subject to capabilities. The time commitment is however, anticipated to be a 2 to 3 hour online video-conferencing meeting each quarter as we progress the Draft NPF4.