

Scottish Planning Policy and Housing: Technical Consultation on Proposed Policy Amendment

Overview

General Comments

Detailed Response

Specific Comments

1	What is your view on our proposal to remove ‘the presumption’ from the SPP, through the changes set out?
	<p>Infrastructure and readiness to enable development play a critical role in the success of short and long-term aspirations at a national and local level. The more certainty Scottish Water can place in development data, the better we can forecast future growth across Scotland. This is especially important when planning for future growth at our treatment works and preparing strategic catchment solutions that ensure network infrastructure is sized appropriately to meet the demands of future development in a timely fashion.</p> <p>Scottish Water has no objection to the proposed changes to the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) and will continue to support development however it is approved by Planning, whether “the presumption” is removed or not.</p>
2	What is your view on the proposed changes set out and our aim of clarifying the definition of the 5 year effective housing land supply to reflect the currently exceptional market circumstances?
	<p>When forecasting future growth across Scotland, Scottish Water will not automatically exclude non-effective sites in the Housing Land Audit (HLA). Other sources will be used when deciding the probability of a site being delivered and when. Making build out plans within a HLA as realistic as possible may assist Scottish Water in prioritising and planning future spend to support economic growth, however we will continue to support all approved development.</p>
3	What is your view on the proposed changes to paragraph 125, including (a) the proposed calculation to establish the scale of the 5 year effective land supply in relation to alternatives and (b) the proposed approach to assessing proposals where a shortfall emerges?
	<p>Scottish Water supports the introduction of a standardised method for calculating the extent of the 5-year effective land supply, which will remove ambiguity. We recognise the importance of having sufficient allocations free of constraints available</p>

for development and the need for flexibility. Scottish Water will continue to work with planning authorities, developers and other key agencies to support the delivery of these much needed homes, whichever system is adopted.

4

Do you agree that the proposed amendments will not directly impact on other (non-housing) types of development?

Scottish Water has no comment.

5

Do you agree that fuller impact assessments are not required?

Scottish Water has no comment.

- End of Document -