Towards Sustainable Communities

Mike Foulis
Director for Housing & Regeneration

31 January 2008
Outline

• Setting the context
• Sustainability focus at national level
• What are sustainable communities?
• What is our policy response?
• Bringing policy & delivery together – a new structure
• Challenges ahead
Sustainability focus at national level
The Purpose of the Scottish Government

• to focus the Government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.
The Purpose of the Scottish Government

- Increase productivity and competitiveness
- Stimulate economic participation
- Stimulate population growth

Increased GDP Growth

Ensure that growth is shared and sustainable

- Solidarity: reduce inequalities across all individuals
- Cohesion: reduce the disparity between the regions of Scotland
- Sustainability: enhance the environment and reduce emissions
Purpose Targets

- to match the GDP growth rate of the small independent EU countries by 2017.
- to raise Scotland's GDP growth rate to the UK level by 2011.
- to rank in the top quartile for productivity amongst our key trading partners in the OECD by 2017.
- to maintain our position on labour market participation as the top performing country in the UK and close the gap with the top 5 OECD economies by 2017.
- to match average European (EU-15) population growth over the period from 2007 to 2017, supported by increased healthy life expectancy in Scotland over this period.
- to increase overall income and the proportion of income earned by the three lowest income deciles as a group by 2017.
- to narrow the gap in participation between Scotland's best and worst performing regions by 2017.
- to reduce emissions by 80 per cent by 2050.
- to reduce emissions over the period to 2011.
Our strategic approach
Wealthy & Fair
Safe & Strong

Fair, Tolerant and Cohesive
Strong sense of local identity

Safe
Low crime / Community policing

Empowered Communities
Empowerment as well as engagement
Local assets
Accountable governance
Partnerships
Strong community and voluntary sector

The Scottish Government
Green

The challenge for all parts of Scottish life

Total net GHG emissions in 2005 were 85% of 1990 emissions
- These need to fall to 20% by 2050

- Land Use, Land Use Change & Forestry
- Business (incl. industrial processes)
- Transport
- Residential
- Energy Supply
- Agriculture
- Public
- Waste

How will we choose what to use fossil fuels for in 2050?
The overall challenge we face

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<th>Healthier</th>
<th>Fairer</th>
<th>Wealthier</th>
<th>Smarter</th>
<th>Safer</th>
<th>Greener</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Life Expectancy (years)</td>
<td>Income Inequality (Gini Co-efficient)</td>
<td>GDP per capita ($)</td>
<td>Educational Attainment (PISA scores)</td>
<td>Offences per 100,000 population (total)</td>
<td>Municipal Waste Recycled (%)</td>
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The Scottish Government
Our policy response – Firm Foundations

The Government’s vision:
- Increased supply of housing across all tenures
- More choice for those on lower incomes
- Contributing to sustainable mixed communities
- Better value for public expenditure

The Scottish Government
Need to increase housing supply
Need to increase housing supply

Chart 4: New house building in Scotland since 1965

The Scottish Government
Low Cost Initiative for First Time Buyers (LIFT)
Energy efficiency

An improving situation – but still a long way to go.

National Home Energy Rating

- Good: 7-10
- Moderate: 3-6
- Poor: 0-2

Survey period:
- 1991
- 1996

% of dwellings
Sustainable mixed communities

- Sustainable Places Delivery Board
- Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative
- Tailoring the planning process
- Promoting energy efficiency
- Urban Regeneration Companies
Developing a more strategic approach to land and property assets

Part of the 2014 Commonwealth Games Athletes Village site

1989 Value: £45,000

2008 Value: £5,500,000

The Scottish Government
Bringing policy & delivery together – a new structure for housing & regeneration

Director
Mike Foulis

REGENERATION
Deputy Director – Alisdair McIntosh
- Community regeneration – single deprivation fund, SIMD
- Delivery vehicles and major initiatives – URCs, public/private partnership etc
- Physical regeneration – land and property, including sustainable development agenda
- Mixed communities – cities and towns
- Community engagement and empowerment
- Land and property assembly role (links to social housing and investment)

HOUSING ACCESS AND SUPPORT
Deputy Director – Shona Stephen
- Homelessness
- Supporting People and other housing support – Care and Repair etc
- Information and advice – grants to providers, Homepoint etc
- Fuel poverty and central heating scheme

HOUSING SYSTEM
Deputy Director – David Rogers
- National need/demand assessment and national framework for housing strategies – for owner-occupied, private rented, LCHO and social.
- Housing supply task force.
- Physical quality of private sector housing: 2006 Act implementation, including single survey; property management accreditation.
- Private rented sector, including regulation, accreditation, tenancy regime, HRE reforms, Rent Registration Service, sponsorship of Private Rented Housing Panel.
- Policy on LCHO, including LIFIT, Scottish Housing Support Fund, RTH

SOCIAL HOUSING
Deputy Director – Andrew Scott
- Affordable housing investment policy including regional grants competitions and incentives for LA build
- Social housing regulation policy
- Policy on delivery of the Scottish Housing Quality Standard
- Tenant rights and issues including social tenancy regime, tenant participation, allocations, rents, common housing registers
- Government objectives for social housing

INVESTMENT DELIVERY
Deputy Director – Tim Ellis
- Affordable housing investment programme delivery at national and area office level
- Planning to support programme delivery and national planning

COMMUNITIES ANALYTICAL SERVICES
Deputy Director – Aidan Grisewood (this div. largely unchanged)
- Social justice
- Planning stats
- Housing stats
- Survey Team
- Economics
- Housing Research

The Scottish Government
Key challenges ahead.....