

**9 SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY 1: "THE PLANNING SYSTEM" (NOVEMBER 2002)
(AN18-2003)**

Scottish Planning Policy 1 (SPP1) is the first in a new series of planning policy documents to be issued by the Scottish Executive. It updates National Planning Policy Guideline 1 (NPPG1): "The Planning System" published in 2000. The Scottish Ministers made a commitment to update NPPG1 as a result of the "Review of Strategic Planning - Conclusions and Next Steps" published on 28th June 2002. The existing National Planning Policy Guidelines have continued relevance to decision making, until such time as they are replaced by a SPP.

SPP1 brings NPPG1 up to date by incorporating recent policy developments. There is greater emphasis on the integration of social and environmental justice ensuring that people do not have to live in degraded surroundings. The importance of design and the influence it has on the quality of life for communities is also highlighted.

SPP1 acknowledges the proposed removal of the requirement for structure plans covering the whole of Scotland. Members will be aware that under these proposals only the city regions of Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen and Edinburgh will have strategic development plans and local development plans.

SPP1 sets an important context for all aspects of land use planning. It is important in terms of ensuring efficient plan preparation and integrated decision making on the location of development and other changes in the way land is used.