

**DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT STANDING SCRUTINY PANEL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,  
on 11th September 2012 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Kirsty Darwent (Chair), Andy Campbell, Ian Cochrane, Peter Convery, Ann Galbraith, Mary Kilpatrick and Brian McGinley.

Apology: Councillor Alec Oattes.

Also Present: Councillor Bill Grant (Portfolio-holder).

Attending: L. Bloomer, Executive Director – Development and Environment;  
V. Andrews, Head of Legal and Administration; C. Cox, Planning Manager;  
and A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer.

**1. Minutes of previous meeting.**

The Minutes of the previous meeting of 12th June 2012 (issued) were submitted and noted.

**2. Matters arising.**

With reference to item 2 of the previous Minute entitled “Consideration of Programme of Scrutiny Reviews”, the Executive Director - Development and Environment advised the Panel that the relevant performance information would be presented to the next meeting of this Panel.

**Decided:** to note the position.

**3. Planning Performance Framework.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 5th September 2012 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment advising

- (1) that the Scottish Government had recently introduced a requirement for Council planning services to have Planning Performance Frameworks in place by October 2012 and that the Scottish Government and the Heads of Planning Scotland had published a framework that they had recommended for implementation; and
- (2) that the Council’s existing performance assessment framework had been revised to align it to that recommended by the Scottish Government, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

Following a number of questions from Members relating to the approval procedure for the Planning Performance Framework, issues arising from the Planning Performance Framework Annual Report 2011 – 2012, the areas in the existing Framework that were to be retained and how qualitative data would be attained to improve the Service, the Executive Director – Development and Environment and the Planning Manager responded accordingly.

**Decided:** to agree to submit the revised performance assessment framework for measuring the performance of the Planning Service to the Scottish Ministers for their consideration, in accordance with the new Planning Performance Framework recommended by the Scottish Government and Heads of Planning Scotland.

The meeting ended at 10.35 a.m.