

PRESS RELEASE

21 February 2005

**SCOTLAND'S HOUSE BUILDERS OUTLINE REQUIREMENTS FOR
PRIVATE SECTOR DELIVERY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

At a time when the private sector is increasingly expected to deliver housing for all tenures, Homes for Scotland, the organisation that represents companies building 95% of the country's new homes, has published an advice note for its members which it also hopes will assist planning authorities recognise the commercial realities of developing 'Affordable Housing' in pressurised market areas.

Director of Planning Allan Lundmark said:

"Whilst the industry accepts that the planning system can allocate land for affordable housing, local authorities need to recognise that a number of essential pre-conditions have to be met if effective delivery is to take place. These include up-to-date local plans, approved local housing strategies, housing needs assessments dealing with all tenures and market segments, and an effective land supply to meet housing requirements in full across all market segments."

Referring to the matter of percentages, he said:

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“Evidence from south of the border suggests that the planning system is capable of delivering 15%. Anything above that could result in entire projects being consigned to the filing cabinet. Scotland’s house builders are committed to meeting current and future housing needs and we hope that the Scottish Executive will taken account of the industry’s views in its anticipated Planning Advice Note on Affordable Housing.”

Homes for Scotland’s advice note on Affordable Housing can be viewed on the Policy Info page at www.homesforscotland.com

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Notes to editors:

Homes for Scotland (www.homesforscotland.com) is the representative membership body for the home building and residential development industry in Scotland. Its member companies provide 95% of all new homes in Scotland. The largest user of the planning system in Scotland, the industry also contributes more than £3.5 billion to the economy and employs more than 110,000 people.