



**Press Release** 12<sup>th</sup> May 08



## ***The Best in Scottish House Building are Announced at National Industry Awards***

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High quality homes which form part of well designed and sustainable communities have been applauded at the Scottish home building industry's premier event, the Homes for Scotland Quality Awards. Winners of this year's awards were announced by broadcaster Sally Magnusson in front of almost 750 guests and the Minister for Communities Stewart Maxwell at the EICC on Friday 9 May 2008.

Embracing the Scottish Government's place-making agenda, the focus for this year's Awards was on "Designing Places" and the competition was eagerly embraced by Homes for Scotland's members who submitted a record number of entries in the categories of urban, rural and masterplanning. The organisation represents companies building 95% of the country's new homes. The Awards were judged by an independent panel, chaired by Scotland's Chief Planner Jim Mackinnon.

Jim Mackinnon said: "It was encouraging to witness so many examples of excellence within the industry. If the achievements we've been celebrating today are anything to go by, we can all look forward to further improvements in the quality of development which respond to the challenges and opportunities of Scotland's urban and rural landscape as well as the new challenges around climate change."

Homes for Scotland's Chief Executive Jonathan Fair said: "Our annual awards are designed to improve standards and promote best practice within the industry. Having gone from strength to strength every year, they are unrivalled in terms of national reach, credibility and in addressing the issues that matter to the consumer, government and others. This event has been the best ever in terms of quality and quantity of entries. We are very encouraged by our members' commitment to designing excellent 'places' - congratulations to all concerned!"

Guests raised a very generous £9,000 for the cancer support charity Maggie's at this year's annual lunch prize draw.

The companies who were successful at the Homes for Scotland Quality Awards are listed below:

## Designing Places Awards 2008 - Awards & Commendations

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### Urban Large - Awards (Sponsored by Premier Guarantee)



#### **Bellway Homes, Mondriaan, Maryhill, Glasgow**

Judges were very impressed by Mondriaan. It was felt that the development had created a radical new place amidst one of the most challenging social environments in Scotland. The development relates extremely well to the surrounding area and to the neighbouring canal.



#### **Bryant Homes East, Hopetoun Village, Edinburgh**

Hopetoun both reflects and enhances its surroundings, a truly remarkable achievement for a site on the fringes of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site. The development effortlessly manages the transition between tenement and terraced housing, and the overall feel is of an already established community.

### Urban Large - Commendations

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#### **Miller Homes West, Tower View, Leverndale, Glasgow**

Tower View creates a very strong sense of identity by marrying and contrasting old and new to form successful square-like spaces. The tower forms a focal point for the development itself and for miles around, and the new build adds to this wider sense of place.



**The Burrell Company - Upper Strand Developments Ltd, Edinburgh** (*In partnership with Places for People*). Being one of the earliest phases of the Edinburgh Waterfront the development was in many ways creating its own context setting a bold tone for this new area. Great effort had been made to create street space that was people and particularly child friendly.

**More....**

## *Urban Small - Award (Sponsored by Morisons LLP)*

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### **Tweed Homes, Provost Kirkpatrick Court, Peebles**

The new homes worked well for the location, but the real strength was that a place had genuinely been created in an unlikely situation. What was before simply dead space have been given genuine life and vibrancy.

## *Urban Small - Commendation*

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### **Applecross, Eyre Place, Edinburgh**

Though a very modern development, it goes with the grain of the surroundings making a positive contribution to the area. Eyre Place has a strong sense of identity and from various vantage points provides a striking new feature for Edinburgh's New Town.

## *Rural Large - Award (Sponsored by Forster Roofing)*

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### **CALA Homes, Briery Meadow, Haddington**

A distinct identity has been created for the development with excellent use of walls, hedges and materials. Landscaping is high quality and the creation of open space works well. The creation and integration of pathways connecting the play areas and to the town has been very successfully achieved.

## *Rural Large - Commendations*

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### **Robertson Homes, Lochan Mor, Aviemore**

Lochan Mor is a modest but attractive new addition to Aviemore. Its contribution is just that.... as it is in an area where there are significant pressures for development. It provides new housing that is attractive in its simplicity and has rural character in its use of materials and colour.

***More....***

## *Rural Small - Award (Sponsored by Harley Haddow)*



### **CALA Homes, Orchard Lane, Dirleton**

The overall feel is of a new development that blends perfectly and matches the high quality of the existing community. A strong sense of identity has been achieved through investment in quality. The materials, use of landscaping and detailing are outstanding throughout.

## *Rural Small - Commendations*



### **Macfarlane Homes, Rutherford Gardens, West Linton**

This is a stunning exemplar of how to marry cutting-edge modern architecture with traditional buildings. The traditional stone-built house and its outbuildings are sensitively restored and converted, whilst the very high-quality prefabricated modern units, uncompromising in style and materials, sit between and around their older neighbours.



### **Miller Homes East, Silverwood, Howgate Village**

This development has made a very positive contribution to the area, with the village green in particular enhancing the village feel of the location. The development has a simple and elegant identity, again serving to enhance and improve a challenging rural location.

## *Masterplanning - Awards (Sponsored by Paull & Williamsons)*



### **The EDI Group for PARC Craigmillar, Greendykes North, Edinburgh**

The masterplan is genuinely impressive with some outstanding detail creating an identity that will be unique. High quality public realm and public spaces are proposed that look set to change the function and perception of the area. The approach to landscaping has been both bold and imaginative, changing how cars and pedestrians will integrate.

**More....**



**The EDI Group for PARC Craigmillar, Wauchope Square, Edinburgh**  
Outstanding work has been done to take account of the location and views to Arthur Seat. Streets are being created that deliberately slow vehicles by design, and allow pedestrians and vehicles access without conflict. This approach has drawn well on practise from elsewhere, but been applied sensibly in a local context.

### *Masterplanning - Commendation*

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**Elphinstone Holdings, the Sustainable Urban Village, Glasgow**  
The objective to create a genuinely sustainable new community in the heart of Glasgow has been approached with ingenuity and enthusiasm. Great care has been taken to incorporate the waterfront setting of the development, with a tiered approach adopted to create a positive visual impact and maximise the views from the new homes and offices.

### *Judges' Special Award (Sponsored by McGrigors)*

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**McGrigors**



**Bryant Homes East, Hopetoun Village, Edinburgh**  
We all have our own places in Scotland. Places where we know that development has delivered something special. Hopetoun Village pressed all the right buttons. It doesn't just look right, it makes you want to explore - you want to see where the paths lead and what it is that is just around the corner.

Bryant Homes have achieved something very special. This is a development that shows how it can be done, and more so how development can enrich the lives of people who live there, a city and indeed our country. For all of these reasons and many more, Hopetoun Village receives the Judges Special Award for 2008.

**Ends.**

#### **Notes to Editors:**

1. Images are available on request
2. Homes for Scotland ([www.homesforscotland.com](http://www.homesforscotland.com)) represents the country's home building industry which:
  - is the largest source of private investment in Scotland
  - contributes £6bn to the economy annually
  - builds 20,000 new homes per annum
  - employs 100,000 people
  - is the largest user of the planning system in Scotland