



PRESS RELEASE

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HOUSING AWARD SCHEME PROMOTES SUSTAINABILITY AS PRODUCTION SET TO INCREASE

Homes for Scotland is intent on ensuring that the 35,000 new homes pledged by the Scottish Government will form part of high quality, integrated and sustainable communities. The organisation has launched a new Award Scheme to encourage best practice from within the homebuilding industry.

The Designing Places Awards will not simply consider house types or stand alone developments but will embrace the governments' place-making agenda by rewarding those companies who are building dynamic environments for future generations. The Homes for Scotland Quality Award Scheme, now in its sixth year, is open to Homes for Scotland's home builder members who provide 95% of all new homes built for sale in Scotland each year.

Stewart Maxwell MSP, Minister for Communities and Sport said: "The Homes for Scotland Awards are an opportunity to demonstrate that the Government's ambition is matched by those responsible for creating the high quality development that Scotland's communities deserve."

Entries will be evaluated by an independent judging panel, Chaired by Scotland's Chief Planner Jim McKinnon. He said: "The new Government's central purpose is to promote sustainable economic growth. Those entries which address issues such as location, quality and environmental impact will stand the best chance of success."



It is our hope that these Awards will uncover examples of best practice which will inspire the industry, designers and communities. “

The deadline for entries is Friday 18th January 2008. Winners will be announced at the industry’s annual lunch at which the Minister will address over 650 members of the Scottish homebuilding industry.

For further information please contact:

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Notes to the Editor:

Homes for Scotland (www.homesforscotland.com) represents the country’s home building industry which:

- is the largest source of private investment in Scotland
- contributes £5bn to the economy annually
- builds 20,000 new homes per annum
- employs more than 110,000 people
- is the largest user of the planning system in Scotland