

PRESS RELEASE

20 November 2007

HOME BUILDERS DISAPPOINTED AT DROP IN COMPLETIONS reaffirm commitment to working with Government

Homes for Scotland, the organisation representing the country's home building industry, has reaffirmed its commitment to work with the government to significantly increase the supply of new homes. This follows the publication of new government statistics showing a drop in the number of new homes completed.

Chief Executive Jonathan Fair said: "The fall in completions is clearly disappointing and won't be welcome news for anyone looking for a new home. Whilst we still have the situation of properties being bought off the drawing board and people queuing for homes, other significant factors, such as lack of an adequate land supply, the inefficiencies of the current planning system and infrastructure problems, are constraining the market. But now, for the first time, we have cross-party political recognition of the need for many more new homes and we stand ready to assist the Minister in delivering, and where possible exceeding, his target of at least 35,000 new homes a year by 2015."

Ends





For further information please contact:

Jennifer Kennedy / Beth Hocking, Homes for Scotland. Tel: 0131 455 8350

Notes to the Editor:

Homes for Scotland (<u>www.homesforscotland.com</u>) 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