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PRESS RELEASE

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HOUSE BUILDING INDUSTRY WELCOMES ANNOUNCEMENT ON "HOMES FOR ALL" FROM SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Scotland's house building industry has welcomed today's announcement by the Scottish Executive on additional funding for housing to rent and is particularly pleased at the recognition given by the Communities Minister Margaret Curran to the importance of affordable housing for sale.

Allan Lundmark, Director of Planning at Homes for Scotland, the organisation which represents companies building more than 90% of the country's new homes, said:

"We have been arguing for the need to focus on the delivery of affordable housing for sale for some time. The Executive's intention to tackle this issue is good news for everybody as the problems associated with the delivery of affordable housing have been slowing up the delivery of homes across all market segments.

I have today confirmed with the Minister's office that Homes for Scotland will provide full and active support for Mrs Curran's initiative to increase the procurement of more new homes."

Lundmark warned, however, that unless the planning system identified and released the land required for housing, the Minister's ambition to provide more social rented accommodation and homes for first time buyers would be frustrated.

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About Homes for Scotland:

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 over 80% of all new homes in Scotland. The industry is the largest single user of the planning system in Scotland. It also employs more than 110,000 people and contributes more than £3.5 billion to the Scottish economy.

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