

Council for Economic Renewal, Monday 28 January 2013

Paper to Note: Stakeholder Engagement and timetable associated with the Planning Legislation Bills.

Timetable

1. During the Plenary debate on the Evidence base for the Planning Bill held on 25th the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development announced that a Draft Planning Reform Bill and White Paper would be published for public consultation before the end of 2013.
2. A second Bill to consolidate current planning legislation, including the Planning Reform Bill will be introduced later. The intention, in the medium term, is to put in place a single Wales Planning Act.

Engagement with social partners and other stakeholders

3. The principle Ministerial engagement mechanism for land use planning legislation and policy is the Planning Forum. The Forum comprises key stakeholder interests from economic, social, environmental and local government sectors. Social partner representatives include:
 - CBI Wales
 - FSB Wales
 - HBF
 - RICS
 - Wales Planning Consultants Forum
 - Country Land and Business Association
4. The Planning Forum generally meets twice a year, although it is intended to increase the frequency of meetings to a quarterly basis whilst work on the Planning Bills is underway. The Planning Forum has met twice since September 2012. Last September the evidence base for the Bill was presented to the Forum with an update session held on 18th January 2012.

Specific engagement with Social Partners

5. Engagement with Social Partners on the Planning Bills takes place collectively through the Council for Economic Renewal. John Davies Chair of the Independent Advisory Group and Planning Division officials met with a CfER sub group last October when the evidence

base for the Bill and timetable was discussed. Further engagement with the CfER will take place as work on the Planning Bills progresses.

6. In addition to working collectively with social partners the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development and Planning Division officials regularly meet with individual business associations. Planning Division officials are also available to give tailored briefing sessions to the wider membership of these associations.