

APSE BUILDING & HOUSING SERVICES ADVISORY GROUP

25TH September 2012

National Issues In Scotland

- Scottish Parliament Local Government and Regeneration Committee three short inquiries:
 - Partnership/Outcomes (Reported)
 - Benchmarking and Performance
 Measurement (10 September 2012)
 - Developing New Ways of Delivering Services (?)

APSE full response to Local Government and Regeneration Committee



Consultation on Proposed Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill

Three key issues:

- Strengthening community participation
- Unlocking enterprising community development
- Renewing our communities



Strengthening Community Participation

- Community planning
- Role of community councils
- Role of third sector
- Community engagement plan
- Community service delivery
- Participatory budgeting



Community-Led Design and Delivery

- Community Involvement in Public Service Delivery
- Section 51 Tenants Right to Manage
- Outcome in Social Housing Charter Tenant Participation
- Role for Scottish Housing Regulator



Unlocking Enterprising Community Development

- Community Right to Buy
- Transfer of Assets
- Common Good Funds



Renewing our Communities

- Transfer of unused public sector assets
- Enforced sales of assets



- Consultation consists of 48 questions
- Responses September 2012
- Report on Consultation October 2012
- Draft Bill Spring 2013
- Full APSE response.....focus on a couple of key issues including: Community Service Delivery



Consultation on Procurement Reform Bill

- Scottish Government have issued a Consultation on the proposed Bill
- Bill highlights a range of measures designed to enhance/ improve the approach to procurement



Key Areas

- Public Procurement Processes
- Promote SMEs/ Third Sector
- Procurement/ Innovation
- Social, Economic, Sustainability (Community Benefit Clauses)
- Poor conduct/ performance of suppliers
- Application/ Compliance



Scottish Government Draft Budget 2013/14

- Investment in the affordable housing £40m
- Local authority share?
- Energy efficiency measures £30m over next three years to address fuel poverty



Publications

- Ensuring Council Model
- Municipal Entrepreneurship
- Transition A Green Economy
- Councils Role in Tackling Youth Unemployment



APSE Ensuring Council Model – An Alternative Vision for Local Govt.

- APSE "Ensuring Council" model issued
- Positive alternative for a local government model of the future
- Promotes an approach which is contrary to Enabling/Commissioning model
- APSE's contribution to assist councils in talking budget reductions



- Research conducted by De Montfort University
- Engaged members/officers in research
- Report envisages wider role for councils/services
- Report promotes key principles:
 - Democratic Accountability
 - Stewardship
 - Public Value
 - Social Justice
 - Civil Entrepreneurship



- Challenges hollowing out councils/services
- Need to retain core capability to provide services
- Avoid "market place" solutions



Municipal Entrepreneurship

- Pay to Stay in Council Housing
- Challenges some myths....local government is monolithic, bureaucratic and incapable of change
- Stress commercial skills/business acumen in front line services
- Case studies provide evidence



Briefings

- Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill
- Public Procurement Reform Bill
- Accounts Commission Report "Using Cost Information to Improve Performance – Are you Getting it Right?" 12/26
- Accounts Commission overview report of local government for local government 12/22



Thank you for listening

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