



Date: 25 October 2005

To: Sandra Carey  
Scottish Executive Development Department  
Planning Division  
2-H Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Dear Ms Carey

**Re: Scottish Planning Policy 21: Green Belts**

We ask that the following points be taken into account in amending the draft *Scottish Planning Policy 21: Green Belts* (SPP21).

- We support the draft policy that there should be a strong presumption against new development in the green belt and that this should apply both when a planning application is being considered and when development plans are being drawn up.
- We support at least 20 year protection for green belts, not the present 5 years.
- We consider that there should be a rigorous review, including assessment of alternative development sites, before changes get made to the green belt boundaries.
- Town fringe incursion into green belts and ribbon development are aspects of urban sprawl and we object to advice (draft SPP para.13) which would encourage them.
- It should be SPP policy that local communities should be closely involved at all stages when there is a proposal to change green belt boundaries near to them.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Rod Lovie  
Secretary – Moray FoE