

**HISTORIC SCOTLAND BOARD 21 AUGUST 2008**

**PLANNING MODERNISATION AND BUSINESS IMPROVEMENTS**

**Purpose**

1. To update the Board on business improvements being developed by the Inspectorate to support modernisation of the planning system in Scotland.

**Priority**

2. Routine.

**Decisions/Actions required of Historic Scotland Board**

3. The Board is invited to note the report.

**Key information the Board will need to support its decisions/action**

4. The Board needs to know that the Inspectorate is
  - working with other statutory consultees to share best practice and develop streamlined approach to planning work
  - working to a new KPT to clear 70% of planning consultations within 14 days
  - developing a joint working agreement with local authorities
  - piloting the delegation of casework to local authorities
  - re-drafting the advice within the Memorandum of Guidance
  - introducing new systems to support e-planning
  - procuring a new system to manage all aspects of the casework function

**Advice and Conclusions**

5. The Board is advised that the work set out within this paper represents a proactive and pragmatic response to the Government's modernising agenda for the planning system. It will also deliver a more efficient and effective service by focussing resources where they can add most value.

**Jim MacDonald**  
HS Inspectorate  
8 August 2008