Local Government and Communities Committee

Planning (Scotland) Bill

Submission from Sally Millar

No, the new Planning Bill is not fit for purpose and will not improve matters as far as local communities are concerned. It may even make things worse, if possible.

There are many detailed points that could be made but the obvious massive point is that of Equal Right of Appeal. Until that is granted, local communities will not believe that government and councils give the slightest weight to the community’s views, will see bad faith at the heart of this so-called improvement of policy, and will consider the entire planning system as unfairly weighted towards developers, who can (and regularly DO) ride roughshod over all the fine words of ‘local place plans’ etc. etc.

Please award Equal Right of Appeal. Otherwise this entire exercise is a waste of time, effort and money. And will erode to less than zero any remaining goodwill that may exist between planners and local communities.

Yours Sincerely

Sally Millar
Scottish citizen and actively engaged member of my local community in Edinburgh.