



Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society

SAGS requests your further support – Final Consultation on Guidance

The Scottish government is currently consulting on the final draft of the Guidance on Part 9 – (Allotments) of the Community Empowerment Act. This will be the main source of advice to Local Authorities on how to implement the legislation.

Those of you who responded to the previous Consultation last autumn may have already received notice of this latest Consultation which is aimed significantly, but not exclusively, at Local authorities.

Over 200 responses were submitted last autumn, with only seven coming from Local Authorities, twenty three from Federations and Associations and the remainder from individuals. The SAGS committee thanks all of you who took time on that occasion to respond.

Members of the SAGS committee as part of the Tri-partite Group have been involved throughout this process discussing and negotiating with representatives of Local Authorities and the Scottish Government. As in any negotiating situation not all of SAGS concerns have been met. The SAGS committee have considered the current document. We are of the view that the proposed Guidance is generally very helpful.

However it is possible that more Local Authorities may respond to this current Consultation. **Thus we feel that it is important that support for all the positive statements is indicated in any responses that are submitted in order to counter any contrary submissions that may be made.**

We therefore ask you again to consider the points of concern we are raising, as detailed on our website, and request your further support by responding to the questionnaire. (Links to our website, the Consultation Document, and the Act are provided)

Please also circulate this to members of your association, or those on your waiting list if applicable.

Our aim is to ensure that the guidance will support the direction Local Authorities will take to ensure Part 9 meets the needs of allotments in the future. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Ian Welsh

President, Scottish Allotments & Gardens Society