Development Planning Forum 20 April 2018 The Studio, Glasgow Workshop Summary Notes

Workshop E: CPO - how can it help you deliver the housing and infrastructure in your plan?

Facilitated by: Neil Langhorn & Matthew Shepherd, Scottish Government PAD

The following notes summarise participant comments and are not necessarily the views of the Scottish Government who helped to facilitate the workshops.

Compulsory Purchase In Scotland	Scottish Government Riaghaltas na h-Alba gov.scot
Compulsory Purchase Orders – how can they help you deliver the housing and infrastructure in your plan?	
Neil Langhorn – Head of Compulsory Planning and Architecture Division,	
	Compulsory Purchase in Scotland

Neil presented a number of recent examples of authorities who had used their Compulsory Purchase Powers under Planning Legislation to enable a range of different projects to go ahead and highlighted a range of tips and pointers for authorities when considering preparing a CPO.

Discussion among delegates then highlighted a number of issues:

- Results have generally been positive when authorities have used CPO; in most cases objections are dropped at the last minute.
- There is an appreciation that planning CPO powers are wide ranging and could enable a range of different projects.
- Timescales for SG decision on CPOs are generally quicker than perceived.
- Public perception is important. Use of the word 'compulsory' creates difficulties. There is a need to emphasise the benefits to the wider population/area and balance this against those directly impacted.
- A main concern was about accurately estimating compensation payable. It is appreciated that this is a separate issue from getting the CPO approved and taking possession of the land but there is concern that LAs needs to know a likely cost up front to determine whether a project is viable.