

# UK Public Policy

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22 May 2006

## International Housing Delegation

Monday 22nd May 2006

## Why the need for RICS Public Affairs ?

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The 4 functions of all governments affect business:

- (1) legislate
- (2) regulate
- (3) raise taxes
- (4) spend taxes

RICS needs to:

- (1) manage its external profile
- (2) know the policies, processes that drive decisions
- (3) provide advice on what to say
- (4) know what to say, to whom, and when

## What is Public Affairs ?

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Public voice of RICS with all its audiences

Building and maintaining RICS reputation

Underpins RICS corporate strategy and vision by building its credibility and increasing its influence

Delivery mechanisms:

policy formulation; economic analysis; research; and media

## Structure of RICS Public Affairs

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### Authority:

RICS International Governing Council  
RICS Public Affairs Committee  
RICS Public Affairs Department

### (a) Development:

UK Public Policy; Economics; and Research

### (b) Delivery:

Public Affairs; and Corporate Communication

## Structure of UK Public Policy

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ENGLAND - Houses of Parliament  
Head and 3 policy officers

WALES – Welsh Assembly  
Policy consultant

SCOTLAND – Scottish Parliament  
Head and one policy officer

NORTHERN IRELAND – Northern Ireland Assembly  
Policy officer

# RICS Public Policy Formulation

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How do we decide our views on public policy issues ?

- (a) Policy panels
- (b) Faculties
- (c) Research
- (d) Economic analysis

# RICS Public Policy Priorities

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RICS Public Affairs Committee agreed top priority- ENERGY

Energy:

Global energy demand expected to double by 2050

Global water use has trebled since 1950

By 2028 the UK will need to import 80% of its gas

Governments response:

UK & EU using full range of instruments to address environmental issues – regulation, taxes etc

UK energy review

## Legislation.....

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### Climate Change Levy

introduced in 2001- a tax on business use of energy

### EU Emissions Trading Scheme

introduced in 2005 to cut CO2 emissions

### Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

all new buildings let or sold to have an energy rating

### Environmental Liability Directive

polluter pays principle



## Day-to-day policy issues

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Land, Built Environment and Property sectors  
holistic approach

Submissions to government  
examples – PGS; Barker Review;

Comment on topical issues  
examples – rural housing; energy efficiency

Lobbying and briefings  
politicians; government officials; key stakeholders

# Outputs and Outcomes

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## OUTPUTS:

- Articles in RICS Business
- RICS website
- Members' journals
- Public Affairs Brief
- Market Surveys

## OUTCOMES:

- REITS
- Planning Gain Supplement
- Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

## More information.....

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For further information on RICS Public Affairs see our website:

[www.rics.org](http://www.rics.org)

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