

To be Retained by BSGA



Consultation Period:	None	To:
Development Plan:	Local Development Plan 2 – Inspector’s Report and Mandatory Modifications	
District:	Falkirk Council	
Relevant Policies:	PE03	
Or Narrative (refs):	Para 4.03	

Background: In the draft submitted to Scottish Ministers, Policy PE03 stated that adverts would be refused where they were detrimental to amenity or public safety; clutter should be avoided; adverts should be sensitive to the host building in scale, design and positioning; and illumination will generally be refused outside urban limits. Advance directional signs would not generally be permitted except where required in the public interest.

We objected to the restrictions on illumination and advance directional signs and pointed out that the Regulations do not permit such arbitrary policies.

Comment: The Inspector agrees with us – in fact, he goes further and states that there should be no advertisement control policy at all, since the Regulations require control only in the interests of amenity and public safety. He has recommended that Policy PE03 and supporting text be deleted entirely. This recommendation is (in Scotland) mandatory. The Council must therefore amend the Plan accordingly before adoption.

If only more Inspectors took this approach, we could stop monitoring development plans. This will certainly (I hope) set a precedent for Scotland and I will use it ruthlessly for all Scottish Development Plans. But the Regulations in England (and Wales) are different and still permit Local Plans to contain advertisement control policies. So monitoring must continue (if so desired).

Date sent to Council: No representations possible or required

Development Plan Monitoring