

## Appendix II - Independent Planning Review Panel Bios

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### **Paul Cackette CBE, LL.B (Hons), Dip LP, NP**

Paul Cackette is the former Chief Planning Reporter to the Scottish Government, with responsibility in that role for the Scottish planning and environmental appeals system. He held that post from August 2016.

He qualified as a lawyer in 1985 and worked in the Scottish Government Legal Directorate from 1988, becoming Director of Legal Services and Head of the Government Legal Service in Scotland in May 2018. He previously acted as Legal Secretary to the Lord Advocate and then Deputy Solicitor to the Scottish Government. Paul worked in Justice policy from 2003 to 2008 as Head of Civil Justice and International Division, with policy responsibility for leading a major reform of the Scottish civil justice system and responsibility for the then Scottish Executive in the setting up of the UK Supreme Court.

In March 2020, he was redeployed within the Scottish Government to be Director PPE and then Director of Outbreak Management during the Covid pandemic. He held these posts until retiring in 2021.

He is a member of the Planning Committee of the Law Society for Scotland.

Paul was appointed CBE for services to the Scottish Government in 2021.

On 1 September 2022, Paul took up the role of Visiting Professor of Public Law at Strathclyde University.

On 1 November 2023, Paul became a Board member of the Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland.

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### **Jim Mackinnon CBE**

- Graduated with First Class Honours in Geography (University of Edinburgh) and Diploma in Town Planning with Distinction (University of Strathclyde)
- Elected member of Royal Town Planning Institute and received Honorary Membership of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Awarded a CBE in 2012.
- After 5 years in local government joined the Scottish Office in 1979 rising to become Chief Planner in 2000 and then Director for the Built Environment covering Architecture, Building Standards and Planning.
- Wide experience of planning legislation, policy, casework, advice and research including leading Scotland's National Planning Framework, the Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative and acting as Senior Responsible Officer for a £12 million e-planning programme.
- Sound knowledge of Planning in Northern Ireland through acting as a Critical Friend to the Board of the former DOE Planning Service. Served as Director of Planning at Belfast City Council for 2 months on the transfer of powers as well as providing advice to the City Council on a range of issues. Conducted reviews of the Planning Service in 4 NI Councils, most recently Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.
- Post retirement from the Scottish Government a wide range of consultancy work undertaken, including:-
  - Leading Independent Review of the Regulation of Opencast Coal Operations in East Ayrshire – more accurately lack of regulation

- Chairing Cork City/Council Boundary Review on behalf of Irish Government
  - Conducted Reviews of Afforestation Procedures in Scotland and Ireland
  - Advice to Jersey Government on improving efficiency and customer relations in the Planning Service
  - Appointed a Trustee of the Prince's Foundation for Building Community and Independent Director of Structural Engineers Registration.
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### **John McNairney CBE FRTPi**

John is a chartered town planner with wide experience within the Scottish planning system. He retired from his post as Chief Planner at the Scottish Government in September 2021.

A member of the Royal Town Planning Institute since 1982, he has since worked in private consultancy, local and central Government. He has long experience as a leader in land use planning and policy development, promotion of whole system change, casework mediation and stakeholder engagement in Scotland.

Following early planning experience in planning consultancy, John worked as a Senior, then Principal planner in Development Management with Kirkcaldy District and then The Fife Council gaining wide experience in handling planning applications and appeals. He joined the Scottish Office at Devolution in 1999 as a Policy Adviser, subsequently leading a range of policy initiatives across Planning, Environment and Transportation before heading implementation of Scotland's Freedom of Information regime.

He was appointed Assistant Chief Planner in 2005 supporting a range of planning policy, Ministerial casework and modernising programmes, including the development of Scotland's digital planning service. He was appointed Chief Planner in 2012 supporting Scottish Ministers' oversight of the planning system. As Chief Planner he led multi-disciplinary teams delivering further development of the digital agenda, whole system improvement, planning policy, casework, Architecture and Place. He promoted development and delivery of cross cutting policy across Government and continuation of the planning service during the pandemic. Following his retirement from Scottish Government he supported the review of process and practice at An Bord Pleanála by the Office of the Planning Regulator.

John became a Fellow of the Royal Town Planning Institute in 2020 and was appointed CBE for his contribution to the Scottish Government in 2021.