Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society

Planning documents and advice relevant to allotments

In the national context the planning documents:

NPPG 11 - Sport, Physical Recreation & Open Space encourages the protection of existing open space, including public parks and playing fields, and other land of recreational, amenity or wildlife value.

Planning Advice Note (PAN) 65 - Planning and Open Space:
Allotments are recognised as a type of open space and qualified in the statement "that 'open space' covers greenspace consisting of any vegetated land ...in an urban area".
Paragraph 9 "Spaces should not be allowed to deteriorate through inadequate management, nor should poor maintenance regimes provide justification for the disposal of open space for development."

Pan 60 Paragraph 45, "Greenspace" is an important component of open space. It can be defined as any vegetated land or water in or around the urban environment which has existing or potential natural heritage, amenity or recreational value."

SSP 1: The Planning System
Sustainable Development is at the core of this document. Allotments are sustainable in many ways - make efficient use of land by economic production of food supply, are a form of recreation, promote good health, recycling and waste management, and social inclusion by being available to all ages, male and female. As a local resource, arrival on foot or use of cycle is more likely, consequently limiting motor transport.
Social Justice
Paragraph 12: "The planning system should feature as part of an integrated approach to social justice by:
   •   Ensuring that development plan policies positively support the provision of appropriate
           local facilities where they are lacking;"

SPP 3: Planning for Housing Paragraph 18 "New housing development should not be located on open space which contributes to local community needs and enjoyment."
This development will mean a net loss of open space, and will permanently deprive and deny future generations of a local recreational and sustainable amenity.