

LANDSCAPE INSTITUTE NEWS RELEASE

25 March 2010

Landscape Institute helps put green infrastructure at the heart of climate change policy

The House of Commons Environment Audit Committee has today published its report '*Adapting to Climate Change*', which takes up many of the points submitted in evidence by the Landscape Institute. LI President Neil Williamson said: 'The Landscape Institute has demonstrated the key role of landscape architecture in developing green infrastructure, and I am delighted that the importance of green infrastructure and its role in combating climate change is being recognised by government.'

Among the report's recommendations are the following:

- Government must make adaptation and mitigation more central to the planning system.
- New developments should only be permitted if they are suited to future climates, and support the overall resilience of the built environment.
- The Government must set out the strategic role green infrastructure should play in climate change adaptation.
- The Government should also promote green infrastructure as part of the National Adaptation Programme.
- Government Departments must deliver green infrastructure that supports adaptation and wider policy objectives by working more effectively across departmental boundaries.
- The Government aligns the work of key departments on green infrastructure, and identifies a department to act as a green infrastructure champion.

DEFRA is expected to respond to the recommendations in due course. Some of the recommendations have already started to find their way into public policy (e.g. the recently-published *Planning Policy Statement: a Natural and Healthy Environment*).

The Landscape Institute's position paper on Green Infrastructure is available to download at: <http://www.landscapeinstitute.org/policy>

ENDS

Further information:

Paul Lincoln,
Director of Policy and Communications
T: 020 7299 4500/6
E: pauill@landscapeinstitute.org

Alastair McCapra
Chief Executive
T: 020 7299 4500
E: alastairm@landscapeinstitute.org

Notes to editors:

The full report *Adapting to Climate Change*, by the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee can be found at: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmselect/cmenvaud/113/113.pdf>

The evidence submitted by the Landscape Institute can be found at:
http://www.landscapeinstitute.org/PDF/Contribute/EACInquiry_AdaptingtoClimateChange.pdf

The Landscape Institute would like to thank Annie Coombs FLI and Merrick Denton-Thompson CMLI for their assistance in contributing to the evidence submitted to the Environmental Audit Committee.

The Landscape Institute is an educational charity and chartered body responsible for protecting, conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment for the benefit of the public. It champions well-designed and well-managed urban and rural landscape. The Institute's accreditation and professional procedures ensure that the designers, managers and scientists who make up the landscape architecture profession work to the highest standards. Its advocacy and education programmes promote the landscape architecture profession as one which focuses on design, environment and community in order to inspire great places where people want to live, work and visit.

The Landscape Institute represents 6000 members who include chartered landscape architects, academics, scientists and students. Our members work for a range of organisations such as local authorities, government agencies and in private practice. They are involved in a broad range of tasks including masterplanning, environmental assessment, public consultation and design.

The Institute provides services to assist members including support and promotion of the work of landscape architects; information and guidance to the public and industry about the specific expertise offered by those in the profession; and training and educational advice to students and professionals looking to build upon their experience.