FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Responding to the Social Renewal Advisory Board's Report -*"If not now, when?"*

Landscape - transforming our lives and experience

How landscape can help address the issues of inequality and exclusion faced by those in our deprived communities through access to locally available, quality greenspace for climate adaptation, health and wellbeing, recreation, learning, play, food growing and community cohesion.

Scotland's Landscape Alliance (SLA), established in April 2019, is currently engaging over 60 organisations and individuals in its work. The aim is to collaborate to raise awareness of the importance of Scotland's landscapes to climate resilience and biodiversity, our economic performance and public health and wellbeing. In doing this, we want to gain public and political support for the better care of Scotland's landscapes and places to maximise future benefits.

The SLA Executive Committee are committed to keeping Scotland's landscape community connected and updated with the work of the SLA and to engage with the new Government and others to assist them in their current priorities.

In September 2021 four short term working groups were established to gather evidence and opinion to inform the development of a set of clear recommendations to the following upcoming landscape and place policy opportunities in order to strengthen the role in delivering Scotland's national outcomes and Scotland's contribution to embedding the principles of the European Landscape Convention and UN Sustainable Development Goals.

1. 30 by 30 Targets
2. Responding to the Social Renewable Advisory Board's Report "If not now, when?"
3. The Draft Climate Action Plan and the Just Transition Commission's Report
4. The Environment Strategy

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These were the subject of debate with the SLA membership at an online event on the 7th October 2021. This following recommendations and final report is the SLA's response to the Social Renewable Advisory Board's Report

The Social Renewable Advisory Board's Report - "If Not Now, When?"
The Social Renewal Advisory Board (SARB) was set up by the Scottish Government to present transformational ideas on how to deliver real change for Scotland after the pandemic. The SLA have responded to their recommendations in the context of how landscape can help address the issues of inequality and exclusion faced by those in our deprived communities/sectors through access to locally available, quality landscape for climate adaptation, health and wellbeing, recreation, learning, play, food growing and community cohesion.

Method of Working.
Seven virtual working group meetings were held and an online resource was established to gather views, reference documents and best practice examples. These were used to inform the final outputs. There were a number of areas covered by the SARB report that were considered by the Group to have direct influence on landscape and place .

Main links into the Social Renewal Advisory Boards Report

Three framing Questions were developed to examine each of these areas:-

1. What landscape can deliver for people and their needs
- Resilience to climate change
- Housing and place
- Food and food security
- Education
- Health and wellbeing

2. What landscape can deliver for the network of people
- Community cohesion
- Decision making and ways of working
- Leading on scales of change
- Funding/partnering opportunities

3. How to measure success
What data do we need to ensure success around the area of equity?

These were then reviewed on the basis of opportunities, barriers and overcoming barriers and showcasing best practice examples to demonstrate what good looks like and what we need to do more of in Scotland.

The working groups key outcome was developed and is based on the **Programme for Government for a Fairer Greener Scotland**

Members of the Working Group are listed on the rear page

Programme for Government: A Fairer Greener Scotland

Landscape – Transforming our lives and experience

Landscape and greenspace is an asset that can help support resilient, inclusive, diverse and healthy communities and deliver on a just and green recovery: *It is an essential part of the solution.*

FINAL SUMMARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Landscape and greenspace is an asset that can help support resilient, inclusive, diverse and healthy communities and deliver on a just and green recovery: *It is an essential part of the solution*

1. **Tackling inequalities using a multifunctional landscape led approach –** recognising that landscape and greenspace is a critical part of the solution through delivery of multiple benefits (climate and food resilience/ community cohesion/ health & wellbeing/ energy/ education/ economy) This requires an integrated and aligned approach at cross sectoral and political party level into our policies and strategies.

2. **Access to local quality landscape and green space** (inclusive, designed, clean and managed) **is a right and a responsibility for everyone.**

3. **Raising awareness & education around the benefits of landscape** and greenspace. Increase understanding of people's rights and responsibilities around access and use of land and encourage participation in initiatives to own, improve and manage landscape / green spaces for community benefit.

4. **Prioritise a Healthy, Sustainable & Integrated Food Policy** to reduce current health inequalities. Adopt an integrated system for food & growing opportunities at all scales (agricultural to door step) on all land and buildings in Scotland.

5. **Place Principle based always - use success stories to sustain and promote use.** Adopt a long term view to ensure collaborative & enabling approaches to local decision making and to ensure hard to reach communities and all voices are heard.

6. **Leadership on landscape scales of change -** Strong leadership with public mandate to create a shared vision; multi agency approach bringing organisations/ communities/ funding together; and participation by people to help deliver at customised local level.

7. **Landscape and social data** – consistent approach to gathering data and open source sharing between public/third/private and community sectors. Standardise metrics to encourage & accelerate private investment. Embed into policy and place based working to ensure we have the right information to know we are doing the right things that tackle inequalities.

8. **Funding Mechanisms-** share evidence based on different models to enable informed decisions. Join up public funding parcels to attract investment. Large scale land use changes with public / private investment should include a defined community benefit.

9. **Social innovation – sharing success stories** on societal, cultural and technological innovation

RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

| Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Create more quality, multifunctional, productive landscape and greenspace at scale: to tackle climate & nature emergencies and deliver resilient and equitable results for all communities (environmental, social and economic benefits eg food, afforestation, economy, energy creation) and build into a local sustainable supply.	• Not currently a statutory duty. • NBS can deliver multiple benefits but mechanics to make this happen not in place and not enough good practice. • Drive for new housing and business space. • Place agenda is still in its infancy and still needs widespread adoption.	• Integrate into NPF4 & RLUP - delivery /management of multifunctional greenspace using place based & people centred NBS interventions at all scales from drainage river basins to local level. • Adopt standard NBS metrics/assessment and integrate data from different knowledge fields to inform climate and biodiversity outcomes. • Climate Action Towns -Work with Key Agencies Group- collaborate at all scales. Place based. • Draft good practice, trial areas, share success stories to drive forward adoption.
Widespread recognition that action is needed around climate change and multifunctional GI and nature / landscape restoration can help deliver & create jobs Current high profile/large projects that show what can be done.	• The pace of change required is daunting. • Retrofitting is more difficult and requires leadership at gov / public sector level. • Services infrastructure is not well mapped and can be dense. Resistance to changing maintenance manuals.	• Leadership at scale, partnership working and communities to develop place based approach • Ultra Low Emission Zones and Strategic Drainage Partnerships in cities. • With CIRIA develop new maintenance manuals. Build on work updating Sewers for Scotland 4.
Energy creation from our urban green and blue spaces and inclusive economic growth to help tackle fuel poverty, climate and food resilience and create opportunities for investment.	• Lack of infrastructure and heat networks to store energy from ground and water heat source.	• Embed energy creation, storage and infrastructure in public spaces into local authority duties and into the planning system for private land. • Opportunities for inclusive economic growth.

RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Increased motivation and funding to tackle V&D Land	• Developer wariness re getting the land back if allowing 'meanwhile' use. • Even if vacant the land value is very high. • Maximising returns on development. • Land ownership impacts on investment.	• Greater support for disadvantaged communities in urban areas to access and use V&D Land. Community buy outs or JV's. • Join up Policy areas. • Development briefs -ensure multifunctionality.
New Funding Models: recognition in Government that we need to implement new funding models – opportunity to focus on value of landscape and greenspace through NBS metrics.	• Economies severely impacted by the pandemic. • Council budgets reduced. • Investible opportunities still in infancy and not enough information available.	• Share evidence on success of different models: Living Labs, buy outs, public sector loans, wealth funds, Investment Bank. • Create a positive vision of a Zero-Carbon Scotland and create incentives for communities • Projects incremental to create the vision - funded / delivered by multiple groups. • Align investment & budgets: Council land a community asset & can free up development land.
Greater public education and messaging around importance of active travel towards climate resilience and how landscape and greenspace can help deliver active travel solutions.	• Public aware of benefits of greenspace for health & wellbeing but less so of the climate change benefits of active travel. • Older populations and those in areas of multiple deprivation are less likely to choose active travel.	• Targeted action in disadvantaged communities to raise awareness of the global & local benefits of active travel. • Work with transport operators to increase appeal amongst older age groups and future car owners.
Peatland and woodland expansion for carbon capture - - positive effects on landscape.	• Impact on communities of interest and scale of change. Value placed on open cultural landscapes. Double funding restoration issues	• Place based working to ensure communities of interest have input. • Landscape scale approach.

Designing for a Changing Climate: Carbon Conscious Places
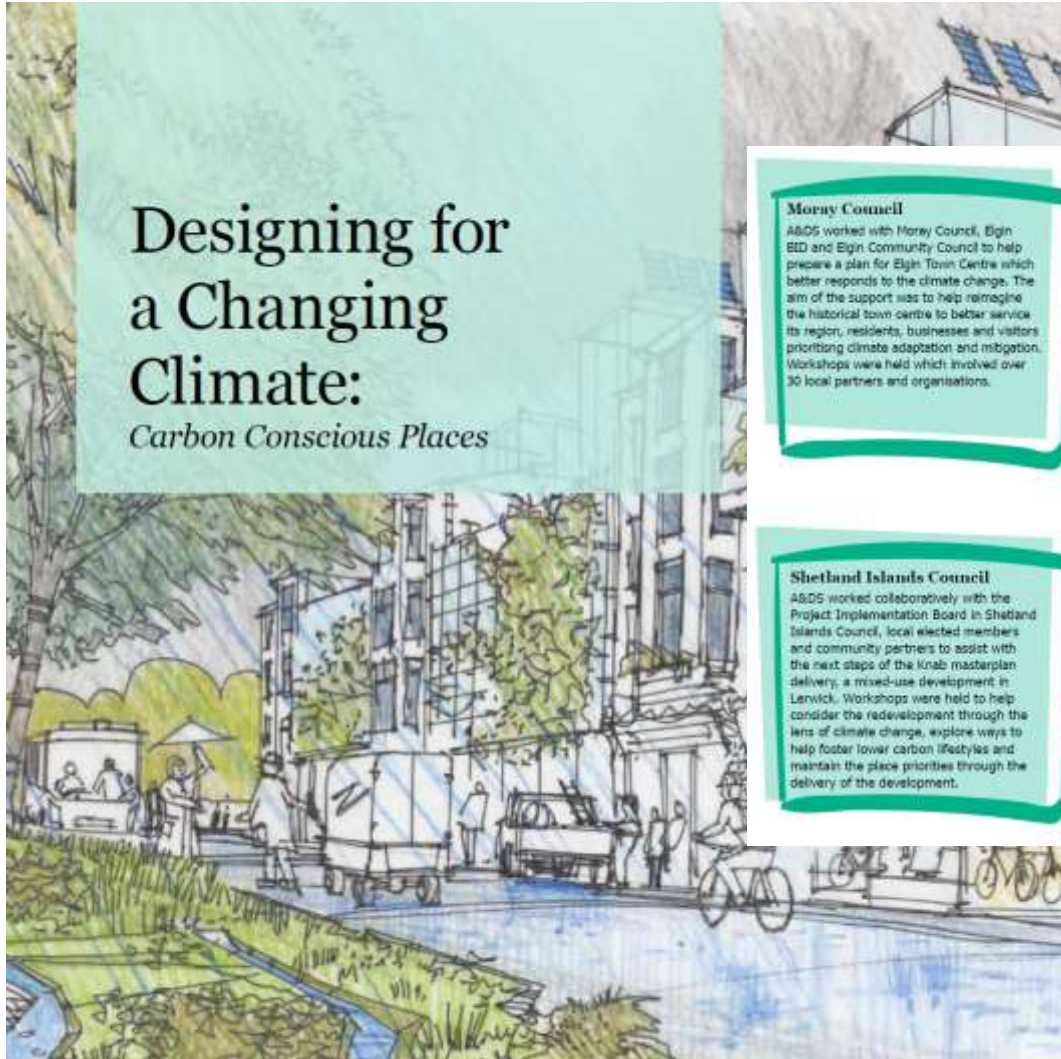
Moray Council
A&DS worked with Moray Council, Elgin BID and Elgin Community Council to help prepare a plan for Elgin Town Centre which better responds to the climate change. The aim of the support was to help reimagine the historical town centre to better service its region, residents, businesses and visitors prioritising climate adaptation and mitigation. Workshops were held which involved over 30 local partners and organisations.

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
A&DS worked with the National Park Authority, Stirling Council, local steering group and PAS to support the co-production of a land use and rural development framework to guide climate conscious development and land use activities in the Strathard area over the next ten years. This involved a workshop with landowners, key agencies, local community representatives and the business community.

Shetland Islands Council
A&DS worked collaboratively with the Project Implementation Board in Shetland Islands Council, local elected members and community partners to assist with the next steps of the Knab masterplan delivery, a mixed-use development in Lerwick. Workshops were held to help consider the redevelopment through the lens of climate change, explore ways to help foster lower carbon lifestyles and maintain the place priorities through the delivery of the development.

Glasgow City Council
Glasgow City has a commitment to tackle climate change and achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. The support provided to Glasgow involved advising on the early stages of the South-Central Local Development Framework and ensuring climate change is considered at each stage in the process. This has involved using the Place Standard tool to gather local place-based information from 316 participants.

8 Principles of a Carbon Conscious Place

1. A Place-Led Approach
2. A Place of Small Distances
3. A Network of Small Distance Places
4. A Place Designed for and with Local People
5. A Place that Reuses, Repurposes & Considers Whole Life Costs
6. A Place with Whole and Circular Systems
7. A Place that Supports Sharing
8. A Place Designed in Time

Scotland in 2050

https://www.ads.org.uk/designing-for-a-changing-climate_report/

Climate Action Towns: - collaborative partnership approaches adopted by the community, Local Authority, Third Sector, and other stakeholders, to deliver place-based approaches to climate action that can can encompass a number of focuses such as adaption to climate change risk, creation of resilient food networks, the adoption of the 20-minute neighbourhood by place planning, eradicating fuel poverty with the creation of a community renewable energy co-operatives etc.

Climate Action Towns - the seven towns announced

The seven Scottish towns that have been chosen to help tackle the impact of climate change and secure a just transition to net zero have been announced. The Climate Action Towns initiative is a Scottish Government funded project delivered by Architecture and Design Scotland and is aimed at supporting towns to tackle the impact of the climate emer

The Climate Action Towns are:

- Invergordon (Highlands)
- Alness (Highlands)
- Blackburn (West Lothian)
- Campbeltown (Argyll & Bute)
- Stevenston (North Ayrshire)
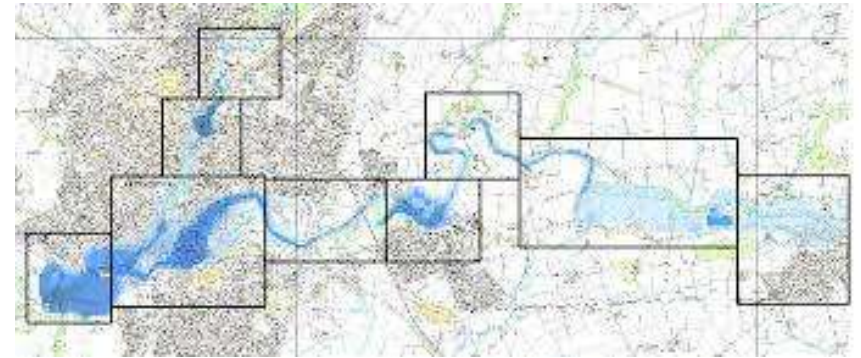- Holytown (North Lanarkshire)
- Annan (Dumfries & Galloway

The project will work with local people and organisations in small towns across Scotland to empower and support communities t
challenges and opportunities each town faces.

https://www.ads.org.uk/introducing-climate-action-towns/

Kilmarnock Town Centre Regeneration

greenspace scotland
ParkPower
Transforming urban spaces for green energy

Green Heat in Greenspaces National Results Report

May 2021

greenspace scotland
transforming urban spaces into people places

ParkPower Case Study:

Saughton Park, City of Edinburgh Council

Saughton Park is Edinburgh's first green-powered park. By combining a micro-hydro scheme to generate electricity and ground source heat pumps to generate heat it utilises its natural assets in a sensitive way to decarbonise its energy demand and reduce its energy bills.

Energy plans embedded into park masterplan
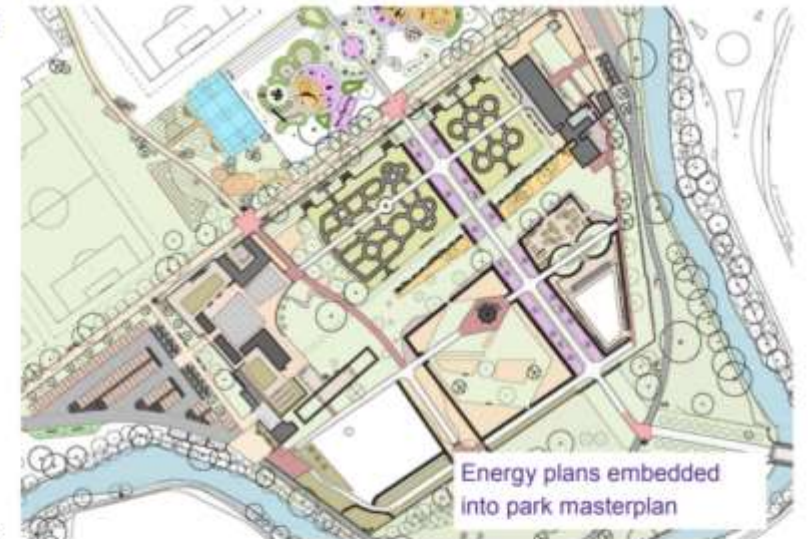
Saughton Park is one of Edinburgh's hidden jewels. It has a large tract of well-managed open space with playing fields and an athletics track, the biggest skateboard park in Scotland and a modern creative play area. Spread over 48 acres it also has a delightful formal garden laid out in classic style. In July 2013 the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) was awarded a £392,000 Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) 'Parks for People' development grant which enabled the Council to develop a detailed Masterplan for the redevelopment and maintenance of the buildings and the greenspace. At the start of 2016 Edinburgh Council received additional funding to deliver the plans. The £8m restoration project focuses on the redevelopment of the landscape and horticultural

A Development Framework for the Hagshaw Energy Cluster

Planning for Net Zero

http://www.thehagshawenergycluster.co.uk/
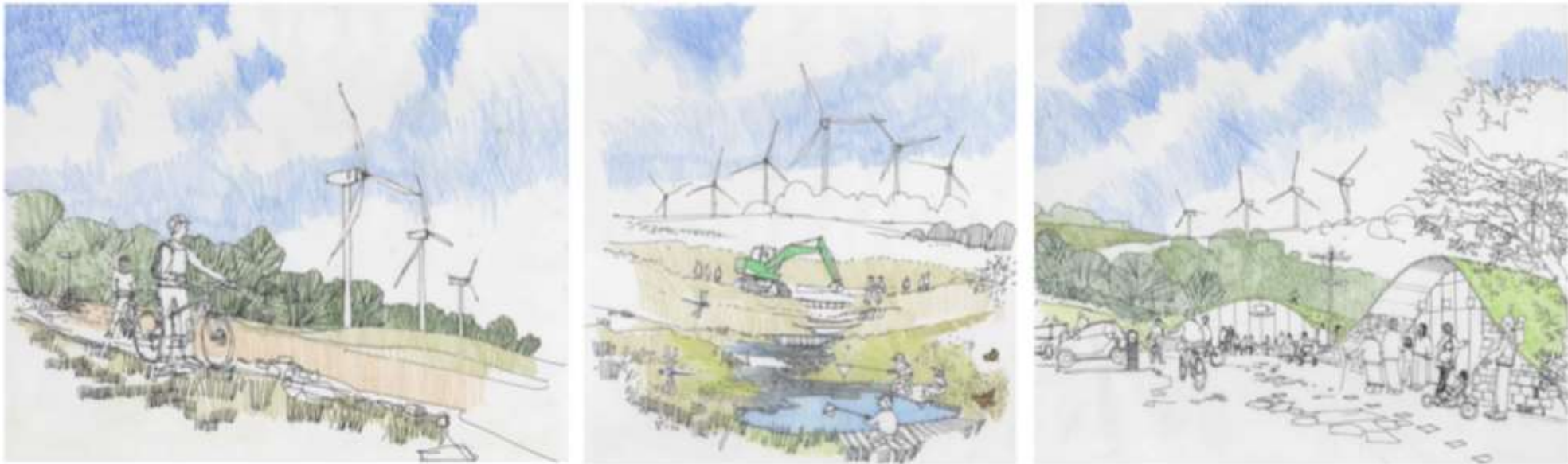
In collaboration with NatureScot , Architecture & Design Scotland , East Ayrshire Council and South Lanarkshire Council , a group of wind farm developers and operators are working together to pilot a new place based approach to renewable energy development.

Focussed on the cluster of wind farms near Hagshaw Hill located between the communities of Coalburn, Douglas and Muirkirk, they are working with the two planning authorities and agencies to prepare a Development Framework for the cluster. The Framework will help shape the future of the cluster, as wind farms are repowered, extended or optimised over time, and explore the potential for other renewable energy technologies to be deployed.

13

Green Action Trust

The biggest investment opportunity in western Europe

Clyde Mission will transform a riverside corridor running from Glasgow city centre to the sea, spanning an area of 1,000 hectares, drawing together ambitious initiatives for green transport and renewable energy and freeing up large tracts of land in key locations for development.

HOME   ABOUT US ⌄   OUR SERVICES ⌄   OUR INITIATIVES ⌄   NEWS   CONTACT US ⌄

Climate change action

Climate change is the single greatest threat to Scotland's environment and will destroy habitats, landscapes and species. It is an existential challenge to our people, way of life and economic prosperity.

With world-leading climate change legislation already in place, everyone in Scotland needs to work together to deliver a sustainable transition to a net-zero nation by 2045.

Climate change solutions are growing to meet that challenge and we work with public agencies, organisations, businesses and local communities across the country to help them adapt, build their resilience and ensure that they are taking positive steps towards net zero.

Significant expertise is ready to help organisations and agencies in tackling:

- Climate mitigation
- Adaptation and resilience
- Water and air pollution
- Carbon management

Clyde Mission

HOUSING & PLACE

| Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Place based approach to housing creating neighbourhoods and homes	• Silo working. • Separation from housing and setting. • Resourcing planning service and community engagement such as LPP.	• Place Principle - embrace from local authority, developer & community. • Advocate for GI and Design led approach in LDP. • 20 minute neighbourhoods - learning from pilots in urban and rural areas.
Improved development briefs	• Skills shortage. • Staff capacity.	• Strong leadership for design quality. • Holistic approach. • Sharing best practice. • Training.
Access to high quality landscapes and green spaces - especially in areas of high deprivation - that are inclusive, well maintained and multifunctional. Awareness raising with all about importance of landscape and green spaces.	• Postcode lottery regarding quality of greenspace and landscape. • Lack of sense of belonging to place and empowerment. • Underinvestment – lack of facilities/ staff . Litter and reduced maintenance. • Generational and cultural barriers -poor design understanding of needs of different user groups. • Resourcing of local authorities. • Declining environmental quality .	• Delivery /management of greenspace - a statutory duty for local authorities for investment and training. • Quality standards and indicators. • Grass roots community engagement - supporting people to identify priorities, create ownership /volunteering opportunities. • Use of Place Standard Tool and avoid one-size-fits-all approach. • Reduce consumption &packaging.

Fraser Avenue, Inverkeithing
Chess moves

https://www.ads.org.uk/fraser_avenuecasestudy/

Visualisation of the new retail shops

Case Study
Fraser Avenue
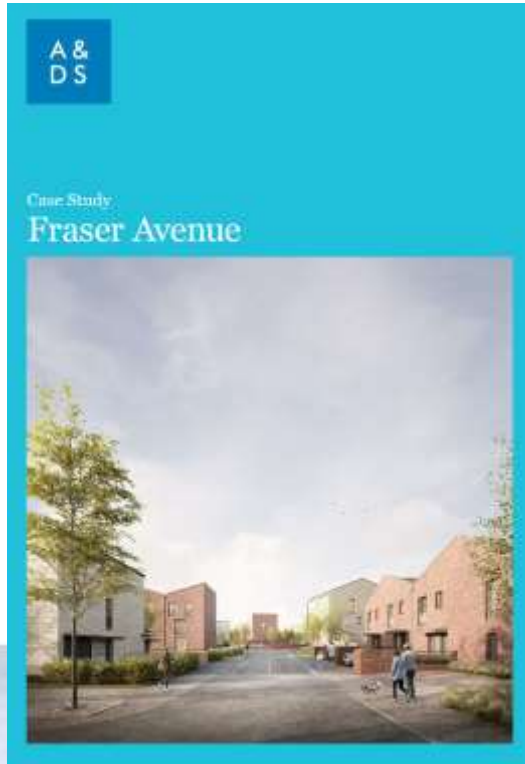
Fraser Avenue, post phase 1 demolition

Visualisation of proposed masterplan

Visualisation of the new public realm creating safe, comfortable and enjoyable spaces

Real change in the lives of people living there; changes in their health, wellbeing and finances…

Countesswells, Aberdeen

Place skills for housing

""We are involved from the beginning and we control the process all the way through. We agree the parameters of the brief and are presented with a draft. We manage that draft process internally with all the different functions in the council. This ensures that all the different services understand the implications of any design or planning decision. We work with the appointed design team to ensure that the draft masterplan incorporates any advice, views and appropriate amendments. It then goes out to formal consultation both physically and online, the results of which are reported to committee to inform elected members prior to adoption of the masterplan. When the masterplan is finalised and the various planning applications come in, the masterplan team has a directorial role, ensuring compliance."

18

Dunbeg, Argyll – A&DS

Session 2: Lessons Learned for Housing to 2040

A&DS identified six lessons arising from the session 1 discussion - each lesson with wider relevance for the workshop theme of Highlands and Islands growth. Lessons included opportunities, threats and ideas that could be transferable to future housing strategy and provide input to the consultation process for the Scottish Government Housing to 2040 Vision.

Lesson 1:	Lesson 2:	Lesson 3:
Economic Anchor	Design Quality	Local Facilities

https://vimeo.com/401305866

West Dunbartonshire Local Development Plan
Green Infrastructure and Design First: Transition to Policy

- Design and Green Infrastructure First Policies as primary considerations;

- Guidance and Training for Development Management;

- GI Supplementary Guidance

Four Functional Policies

Water Management Policy
Development proposals should integrate naturalised SuDS features into the design of green infrastructure, and, where they are part of open space obligations, should be safe and accessible creating an attractive and distinctive setting for new developments.

Habitat Enhancements Policy
Development proposals should conserve and enhance on-site biodiversity and habitat networks within and adjacent to the site.

Access Networks Policy
Development proposals should maintain and enhance the quality and connectivity of access networks, integrating active travel routes (linking work places, schools, community facilities and public transport hubs) and recreation routes into green infrastructure.

Open Space Policy
Development proposals should meet local accessibility, quality and quantity standards for open space, and be designed to cater for the needs of the community.

Principal Policy
GI is integral to placemaking and therefore, must be part of the design process from the outset, providing water management, habitat enhancements, access networks and open space functions.

Stewardship Policy
Developers must provide details of the GI functions, and the maintenance requirements, and the party responsible for these, and demonstrate funding arrangements for their long-term delivery to the satisfaction of the local authority before construction starts.

FOOD AND FOOD SECURITY

| Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Integrated & sustainable Healthy Food Policy (access to and growing) • part of accessible quality and multifunctional greenspace, delivering multiple benefits.	• Current strategy and policy work is fragmented and focussed externally or local scale and not linked to wider policy areas. Good Food Nation Bill –to be integrated with a bigger vision.	• New Healthy & Sustainable Food Policy as part of NPF4; RLUP and Frameworks. • Integrate food strategies / policies with green space, climate & biodiversity at every level from local, regional, national and global
Food growing a priority • embed into planning policy incl as part of new developments. • Deliver at different scales – rural and urban farms, market gardens peri-iurban to door step. • Access to land for farming more universal and affordable. • Re-use of old infrastructure - V&D land, unused buildings for vertical and rooftop growing. • Link with local energy networks from renewables based on ground and water heat source.	• Ownership agreements and change of use requirements restrict community access to land and buildings. • Limited opportunities for younger generation of farmers for smaller farms /growing areas. • Ownership of buildings - legal agreements for access for growing. • Lack of infrastructure and heat networks to store energy from ground and water heat source.	• Planning policy review:- food production a priority linked to energy creation from open space; remove change of use for food growing & reduce fast food outlets in deprived areas. • Vertical & rooftop growing - public sector buildings to lead by example. • Public procurement to favour sustainable and local food supply and energy creation, and infrastructure in public green/blue spaces • greater access to land to new growers. 20-100 ha through Gov buy out and sell on or other models ie donations for right to residence. https://farmerama.co/episode/landed-part-4-places-of-possibilities/
Place Principle based working : • public, third, private sector, working together for land /funding/training/ food networks.	• Food networks fragmented; no multi sector co-ordinators. • land use agreements and funding opportunities marginalise disadvantaged communities.	• Place based approach – multi sector approach working together in the food system from grower, distributor to plate. • Create a co-ordinator role between local growers & land managers/owners.

22

FOOD AND FOOD SECURITY

Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Reduced health inequalities • Everyone should have a right to healthy and sustainable food. • More people have local access to growing and eating healthy food	• No targets for local / regional food production and supply. • Information on urban / peri urban availability and potential capabilities for food supply.	• A national target to improve diet-related health linked to local food supply or growing • Create a duty for local authorities to assess food growing capabilities as part of their open space strategies.
Resilience and Cohesion: . • Diverse growing reflecting cultural identity, community cohesion and climate resilience.	• No targets for community access to food growing or supply opportunities in areas of multiple deprivation.	• Set targets for access to growing and supply of local food for areas of deprivation & all community sectors.
Social and food justice • local food growing and buying. • Improving the local economy.	• Barriers to selling food from allotments.	• Community led co-operatives, hubs and processing as part of food networks.
Raising community awareness and education of multifunctional benefits of local food growing :- • to health through good nutrition, wellbeing and improved air quality, reduced heat and flooding. • to the environment - reduced carbon footprint by reduced food miles and waste; less diary and meat land take, sustainably produced reducing reliance on chemicals.	• lack of understanding around the environmental or health impacts of the food people choose. • Fast food is seen as a cheaper option to locally produced fresh food. • skills/confidence -fresh ingredients.	• Education to change food habits and give confidence on growing and cooking fresh produce. Include on the curriculum of schools • Public campaign to raise awareness of multifunctional benefits as well as rights and responsibilities around access, use and ownership of green spaces. • Develop a National Food Data System working across sectors - on land, food production, distribution & environmental /health impacts of food. Develop simple food labelling – carbon/ biodiversity, climate change.

23

https://www.neighbourfood.ie/

http://goodfoodforall.co.uk/
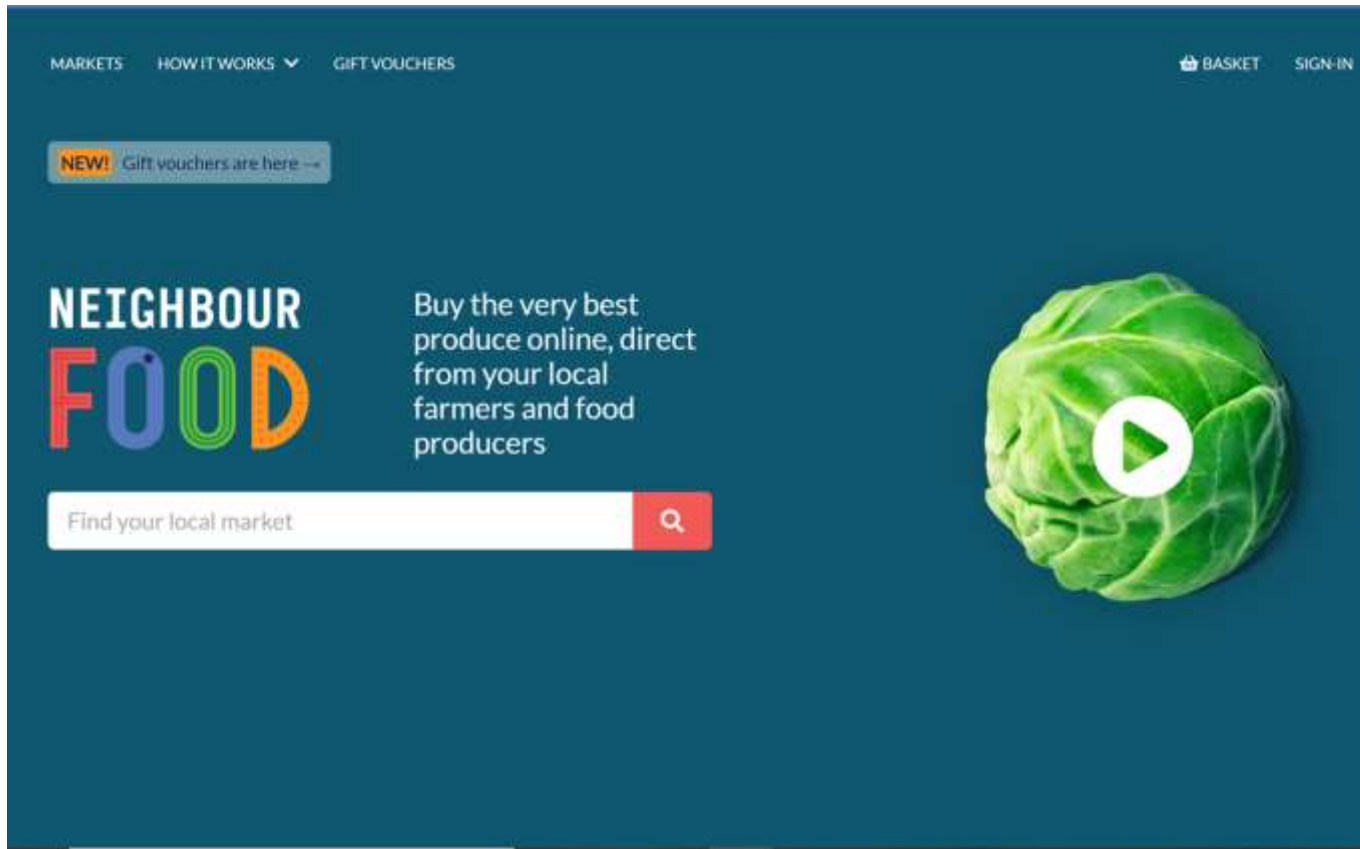
Neighbourhood Food connects buyers with locally produced food and Glasgow Food Policy Partnership Good food for all, working collaboratively towards a city where everyone can enjoy healthy, affordable fresh local food.

Urban Roots, South Glasgow –
Food for Thought
Govan, Priesthill and Gorbals

Partnership working to develop skills based programmes around food growing and cookery with local communities,

https://www.urbanroots.org.uk/

Montpellier Markets, France

- **Food Miles Initiative -**Colour coding at the markets tells customers if the food is local, regional or imported and enables them to make choices about food miles

Port de Versailles

The Largest urban rooftop farm - embedding food production with the by products of the city's processes and systems - residual heat / water run off / food waste and reducing food miles.

50% of our cities rooftop space should be covered to reach beneficial temperatures, carbon, sequestration effects & biodiversity and reduce the carbon footprint of our food.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dlblSxfOxw

EDUCATION

Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Equitable access for everyone to local high quality greenspace • Can deliver multiple benefits including formal /informal education opportunities for all age ranges and inter-generational and cross cultural programmes. • More people are using, learning from and benefitting from landscape and greenspace. • Respects the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), currently being incorporated into Scots law.	• Inadequate provision of accessible **quality** green space. • V&D land often on doorsteps of most deprived communities. • Underinvestment - lack of facilities/ staff and reduced maintenance. • Generational and cultural barriers. • Poor design understanding of the needs of different user groups. • Resourcing of local authorities.	• Delivery and management of parks, greenspace - a statutory duty for local authorities to ensure investment and training. • Local Place Plans - Local authorities resourced to ensure inclusive consultation with communities and land owners. • Support for communities to have greater responsibility for delivering / managing areas of greenspace for community benefit and locally identified priorities for all user needs. • Partnership working and data sharing between with national and local agencies and community groups.

EDUCATION

Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Outdoor learning in greenspace:- • delivers social & personal development and enhances learner outcomes. • develops positive attitudes to nature and the outdoors. • Offers cross curricular and interdisciplinary context.	• Lack of knowledge on local greenspace availability / ownership and quality beyond school grounds. • Education staff disconnected from nature and unaware of its benefits. • Support for outdoor learning from school management and owners of greenspace or land. • Parents fear of safety and weather.	• Partnership working/ sharing data /funding links between agencies, schools and deprived communities. • Robust outdoor learning pedagogy to be incorporated into Initial Teacher Education. • SG to extend support of outdoor learning from primary, to secondary and FE learning facilities.
Encourage more people into nature / land based careers or volunteering roles.	• Volunteers- confidence in taking people outside. Their perceived barriers about their own knowledge about the natural world. • Promotion of careers or voluntary roles in the range of traditional land based skills or soft skills.	• Outdoor learning coordination and promotion at local / national levels. • Landscape benefits addressed in decision-making with communities & at primary/ secondary education. • Training opportunities for volunteers to be part of education offer in parks and greenspaces. • Career organisations to include opportunities in landscape & land-based professions and industries.

NatureScot - Learning in Local Greenspace - Resource Pack

Enabling schools or groups to go beyond their own grounds to learn outdoors.

St Benedict's Primary, Easterhouse, Glasgow with large areas of greenspace on its doorstep. The school grounds have been developed to promote outdoor learning and play and are well used during lessons and at break times. The school was keen to use local greenspace to give pupils more varied opportunities for quality outdoor learning and support them to interact more with their community.

https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/young-people-learning-outdoors-and-developing-skills/learning-local-greenspace

Beyond your Boundary
easy steps to learning in local greenspace

Queen Margaret University

A new Outdoor learning programme
For life lessons and is looking to impart the skills it takes to teach outside.

West Lothian College - **a forest classroom in the woodland** surrounding our campus and embedding outdoor learning in all our early learning and childcare courses.

A response to the Scottish Government's extension of early years provision and the drive to increase access to outdoor play and the natural environment.

https://www.qmu.ac.uk/news-and-events/news/2021/20210920-outdoor-learning-hub/

https://www.west-lothian.ac.uk/news-events/latest-news/west-lothian-college-launch-new-forest-classroom/

Uni branches out with outdoor learning for future teachers

A new outdoor learning hub is to open at Queen

0:00 / 1:38

Queen Margaret University has been branching out with its first year teaching students with outdoor lessons.

Naturally Birmingham – Future Parks Accelerator Project

Children's Pilot

- Making green spaces a key part of children's education and the wider support offer to vulnerable children, such as those in care

The Green Champion Training Programme

- Increase the confidence and resilience empowering them to act as 'change agents' within their communities.

https://naturallybirmingham.org/about/

Green Champion Programme

Edinburgh Thriving Green Spaces Project

Green infrastructure mapping pilot project – Quality mapping

https://www.thrivinggreenspaces.scot/news/article/5/green-infrastructure-mapping-pilot-project

Access to open spaces and leisure and recreational facilities has direct and indirect impacts on people's physical and mental health, but can also enable people to build social capital (Kings Fund).

How can access to green and open spaces affect health?

A study in the Netherlands showed that every 10%increase in exposure to green space translated into a reduction of five years in age in terms of expected health problems (Groenewegen et al 2003) with similar benefits found by studies in Canada (Villenveuve et al 2012) and Japan (Takano et al 2002).

Green space has been linked with reduced levels of obesity in children and young people in America (Liu et al 2007). There is also strong evidence that access to open spaces and sports facilities is associated with higher levels of physical activity (Coombes et al 2010; Lee and Maheswaran 2010).

The proportion of green and open space is linked to self-reported levels of health and mental heal[...]
2010) for all ages and socio-economic groups (Maas et al 2006), through improving companionshi[...]
belonging (Pinder et al 2009) and happiness (White 2013).

Living in areas with green spaces is associated with significantly less income-related health inequa[...]
effect of deprivation on health (Mitchell and Popham 2008). In greener areas, all-cause mortality [...]
higher for deprived groups, compared to 93% higher in less green areas.
However, people from more deprived areas have less access; children in deprived areas are nine ti[...]
access to green space and places to play (National Children's Bureau 2013).

Position Statement on Landscape and Health and Wellbeing
September 2020
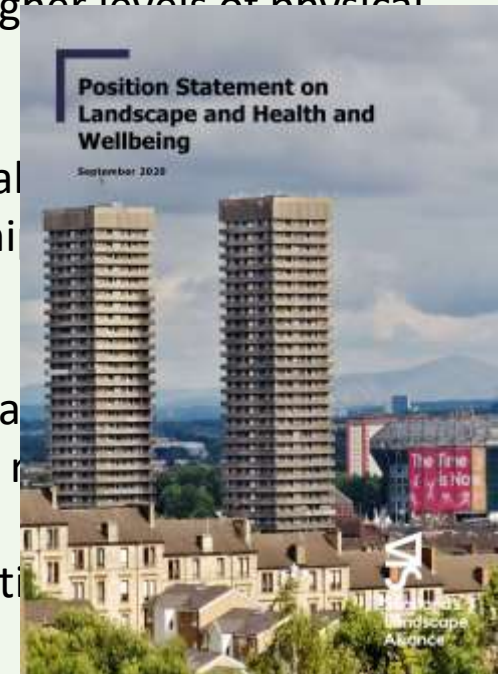
*…***Quotes on the benefits of greenspace and its positive effect on mental wellbeing (Mind and Mental Health Foundation)**

"Nature has this calming and enchanting effect. Walking in the woods, smelling the fresh forest air, or sitting on a rock watching the ocean waves and sea birds hunting for fish. Magical."

"I've been getting out into nature and walking, either on my own or with dogs, to manage my bipolar disorder for years. It helps to keep me calm and physically healthy, and I love taking the time to be mindful of all the beautiful green spaces around me, even when living in a city.

"Nature definitely helps with my anxiety – walking in London parks, walking the family dogs when I visit my parents up north, or just sitting outside. I love going for a walk with someone, friend, partner, family member and talking. I find all of that helpful."

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Improve health and wellbeing • Access to positive (good quality) landscape promotes a positive impact on mental health, stress reduction and physical health.	• Inadequate provision of local, accessible quality green space. • Underinvestment - lack of facilities/ staff and reduced maintenance. • Confidence: Stress & other MH issues can be a barrier to first step.	• Delivery /management of greenspace - a statutory duty for local authorities for investment and training. • Improve transport links. • Social prescribing. GP & other agencies - signpost AND assist.
Reduce health & other inequalities • Poorest, most deprived and most vulnerable groups.	• Poor quality landscape and deprivation often occur together. • Social, health or cultural barriers to outdoor spaces/activities – landscape often perceived as for use by others • cost of transport or equipment.	• Training and support for communities to understand greenspace benefits and identify priorities for all user needs. Partnership working between national / local agencies &community groups. Signposting and assistance.
A Good start for young people • Good quality local landscapes provide children and young people a place to play, learn, grow and network.	• Knowledge on local greenspace availability/ownership and quality. • community unaware of its benefits. • Support to communities for outdoor learning.	• Landscape benefits addressed in decision-making with communities & at primary/ secondary education. • Outdoor learning coordination and promotion at local / national levels.
Community cohesion • Provides the setting for social and shared activity.	• Limited opportunities for training and volunteering skills.	• Partnership working bringing funding, activities & support for communities for volunteering and management opportunities for local greenspace.

Forth Valley Hospital and Larbert Woods

The first UK Hospital Ranger working directly with patients, local people and professionals to deliver outdoor health walks, outdoor therapy for mental health patients, tai-chi classes in a woodland environment, as well as the UK's first outdoor, woodland based recovery programme for cardiac patients.

https://www.buildingwithnature.org.uk/forth-valley-hospital-detail

NHS Greenspace Projects

Coordinated by the Green Exercise Partnership (GEP): a joint venture of NHS National Services Scotland, NatureScot, Public Health Scotland and Scottish Forestry.

The Project has influenced over 87ha of NHS land, planted more than 10,000 trees, made or upgraded 20km of paths, created four therapeutic gardens and fifty seating areas, and brought many areas of woodland and meadows into better management. These enhancements help NHS sites provide nature-based clinical interventions and therapies as well as space for staff to relax and de-stress.

https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/contributing-healthier-scotland/our-natural-health-service/nhs-greenspace

THE NETWORK OF PEOPLE

Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Decision making & ways of working Place based approach at all times.	• This is still inconsistent – not enough sharing of best practice. How do we measure success?	• Multi agency / Sector /community –ensure collaborative & enabling approaches to local decision making. • Aligning to strategic level work – RLUP's, emerging RSS's/ Frameworks, Regional Economic Partnerships, Local Place Plans.
Leading on scales of change	• Understanding where the SG or public sector need to lead; or whether through partnering or where communities can take the lead to change things for the better.	• Strong leadership with public mandate to create the vision; lead enabler bringing organisations and people together with broad participation by community to help deliver at customised local level.
Funding/partnering	• Economies impacted by the pandemic. • Council budgets reduced. • Funding packages can be time limited or not linked to a wider network. • No standard metrics and data – key for private investment. • Communities with fewer resources or capacity miss out on opportunities unless guidance on partnering.	• Projects incremental to build up to create a bigger whole that can be funded / delivered by multiple groups working together across sectors. • Aligning investment & budgets - Council land /VDL is a community asset – and can free up development land (for flood mitigation). Creative re-use of old infrastructure using NBS. • Join up existing public funding pots to encourage greater private investment. • Standardise data to encourage & accelerate private investment.

THE NETWORK OF PEOPLE

Opportunities		Barriers		Overcoming Barriers
Funding/partnering Cont		• Community buy outs in urban areas more difficult. • Communities often get technical support too late to help with projects. • Not always support for cultural and societal experiment and innovation. • Value of volunteering as an investment not considered. • Nature based jobs not promoted.		• Different Hybrid models –Living Labs, community buy outs, Nature Climate Bonds, LEN's, public sector loans/ JV'swith communities. Share evidence on success. • Scottish National Investment Bank - support social innovators as well as technological innovators with finance. • Different types of investors eg volunteers: Parks staff - training and leading volunteers. Green training and apprenticeship schemes. Nature based jobs. • Early support to communities on opportunities and on projects (eg funding feasibility work)
Community Cohesion and Empowerment		• Awareness of local opportunities, having strong leadership within communities to form new groups and activities, funding and location base for activity. • Not all groups are part of decision making process about their local areas. • Understanding where support is needed by communities. • Resources for local authorities.		• Land Use changes with public / private investment should include a defined community benefit. • Provide appropriate support mechanisms through local & national agencies and public campaigns in which communities can take part. • Partnership working with a range of agencies to ensure hard to reach groups are included. • Signposting potential funders and partners. • Training and resources for public sector.

Langholm Moor Community Buy Out

https://www.langholminitiative.org.uk/langholm-moor

Glasgow Avenues, Sighthill TRA and Glasgow Smart Canal

Glasgow Avenues
https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/
25020/Sauchiehall-Avenue-now-complete

Sighthill TRA, Glasgow
https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18395

Examples of large scales of change such as retroffiting that benefit from large scale leadership and vison' - Glasgow Avenues Project – retrofitting cycling, walking and green infrastructure

Also partnership working with the Glasgow Smart Canal – a new digital surface water drainage system mitigating flood risk, that has enabled development land across the north of Glasgow for investment, regeneration and development – provides connectivity, new green infrastructure and parkland for resilient and healthy communities at Sighthill TRA.
https://www.scottishcanals.co.uk/placemaking/north-glasgow/glasgows-smart-canal/

Public Campaigns and Initiatives

Keep Scotland Beautiful

https://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/about-us/#climatechange

Community buy outs in urban areas
Community Land Scotland

> *It is clear to us that there are specific challenges faced by communities in some towns and cities. These challenges are most acute in deprived areas where community ownership has the potential to be particularly transformative. The process of community ownership can build confidence, as community groups regenerate their areas on their own terms and keeps the proceeds of development local.*

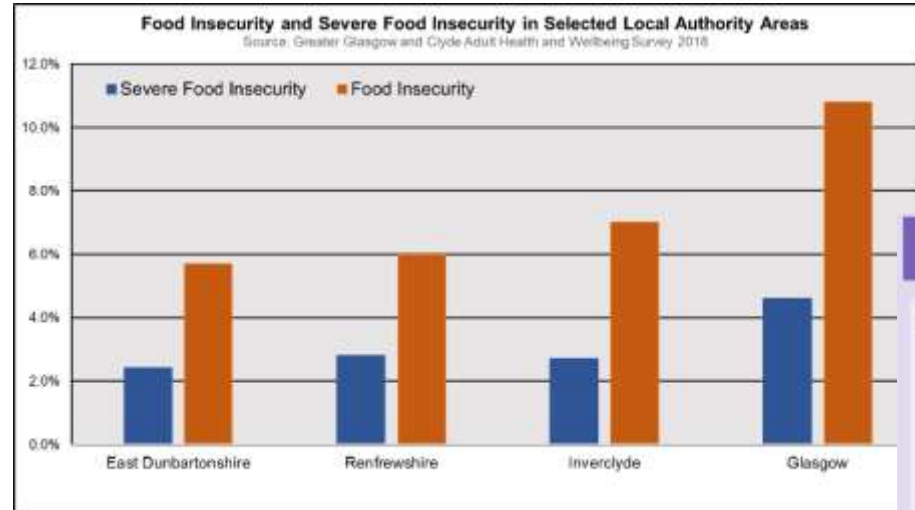Ailsa Raeburn, Chair of Community Land Scotland

https://communityownership.scot/

36%

↑ **Only a third (36%)** of households in the most deprived urban areas of Scotland say there is a natural environment or wooded area in their neighbourhood.[1,6]

Food Insecurity and Severe Food Insecurity in Selected Local Authority Areas
Source: Greater Glasgow and Clyde Adult Health and Wellbeing Survey 2018

■ Severe Food Insecurity   ■ Food Insecurity

East Dunbartonshire   Renfrewshire   Inverclyde   Glasgow

Health inequalities are the unfair and avoidable differences in people's health across social groups and between different population groups.

Inequality results in shorter lives[1]

Most deprived decile — 48 years / 22 years — Life expectancy 70.2 years

Least deprived decile — 72 years / 10 years — Life expectancy 82.5 years

■ Years in good health   ■ Years not in good health

Scotland's life expectancy gaps are **among the worst in Europe**

90%
of respondents said doing physical exercise outdoors in a natural environment was important in determining how they felt

12x
adults in the most deprived areas were around 12 times more likely to report poor health in 2014/2015 than those in the least deprived areas
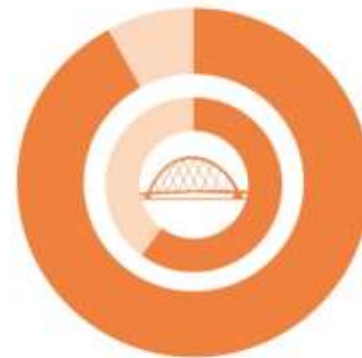
60%+
of Glasgow City's population live within 500 metres of a derelict site, and

92%+
live within 1,000 metres of a derelict site

Larbert Woods: A Green Exercise Partnership (NHS, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage); Ecotherapy: The Green Agenda for Mental Health, Mind, 2007; Scottish Government Long-term monitoring of health inequalities, 2017

Scottish Government Key Scottish Environment Statistics, 2016; *The Collapse of Place: Derelict Land, Deprivation, and Health Inequality in Glasgow, Scotland*, Juliana Maantay, 2013

HOW CAN WE MEASURE SUCCESS

Opportunities	Barriers	Overcoming Barriers
Access to and Sharing Data transparency of information for all.	• Current restrictions on sharing data on open source (based on OS mastermap)	• open data and open source so that all have access – public/third/private and community sectors.
Nature Based Solutions as part of multifunctional landscape & greenspace.	• NBS – benefits of green spaces undervalued as an asset.	• Agree and adopt a standard approach to NBS metrics /assessment.
Landscape & Green Space Quality is monitored and reported.	• Landscape & green space quality is not routinely or consistently assessed or shared across agencies. • Nature Based Metrics infancy and not consistent. • How do we know our green spaces are delivering multiple benefits to all user groups and are of the right quality?	• National Landscape and Greenspace Performance Indicator. • Define appropriate quality standards and indicators to deliver positive health and wellbeing, environmental outcomes to address climate change action and biodiversity, and inclusive growth and reduced inequalities.
National Food System Data	• Collecting data for local / regional food production and supply. • Collecting data on the number of people suffering from food insecurity and access to growing. • Inconsistent data for community access to food growing or supply opportunities in areas of multiple deprivation.	• National Food System Data - about the land, food production, distribution and the carbon, environmental /health impacts of that food. • Set targets and measure access to growing and supply of local food in areas of deprivation against diet related health.
Place Principle – a place based approach	• How do we know its working. What are the metrics of success?	• Place based metrics/ Sharing of best practice and data /Measure impacts of social innovation.

Scotland's Landscape Alliance

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Responding to the Social Renewal Advisory Board's Report -*"If not now, when?"*

Landscape - transforming our lives and experience

How landscape can help address the issues of inequality and exclusion faced by those in our deprived communities through access to locally available, quality greenspace for climate adaptation, health and wellbeing, recreation, learning, play, food growing and community cohesion.

Programme for Government: A Fairer Greener Scotland

Landscape – Transforming our lives and experience

Landscape and greenspace is an asset that can help support resilient, inclusive, diverse and healthy communities and deliver on a just and green recovery: *It is an essential part of the solution.*

Landscape and greenspace is an asset that can help support resilient, inclusive, diverse and healthy communities and deliver on a just and green recovery: *It is an essential part of the solution*

1. **Tackling inequalities using a multifunctional landscape led approach –** recognising that landscape and greenspace is a critical part of the solution through delivery of multiple benefits (climate and food resilience/ community cohesion/ health & wellbeing/ energy/ education/ economy) This requires an integrated and aligned approach at cross sectoral and political party level into our policies and strategies.

2. **Access to local quality landscape and green space** (inclusive, designed, clean and managed) **is a right and a responsibility for everyone.**

3. **Raising awareness & education around the benefits of landscape** and greenspace. Increase understanding of people's rights and responsibilities around access and use of land and encourage participation in initiatives to own, improve and manage landscape / green spaces for community benefit.

4. **Prioritise a Healthy, Sustainable & Integrated Food Policy** to reduce current health inequalities. Adopt an integrated system for food & growing opportunities at all scales (agricultural to door step) on all land and buildings in Scotland.

5. **Place Principle based always - use success stories to sustain and promote use.** Adopt a long term view to ensure collaborative & enabling approaches to local decision making and to ensure hard to reach communities and all voices are heard.

6. **Leadership on landscape scales of change -** Strong leadership with public mandate to create a shared vision; multi agency approach bringing organisations/ communities/ funding together; and participation by people to help deliver at customised local level.

7. **Landscape and social data** – consistent approach to gathering data and open source sharing between public/third/private and community sectors. Standardise metrics to encourage & accelerate private investment. Embed into policy and place based working to ensure we have the right information to know we are doing the right things that tackle inequalities.

8. **Funding Mechanisms-** share evidence based on different models to enable informed decisions. Join up public funding parcels to attract investment. Large scale land use changes with public / private investment should include a defined community benefit.

9. **Social innovation – sharing success stories** on societal, cultural and technological innovation.

WORKING GROUP 2 MEMBERS

Rachel Tennant: Chair	Scotland's Landscape Alliance (SLA)
Matthew Finkle	Glasgow City Council
Janine Ballantyne	National Trust for Scotland
Ian McCall	Paths for All
Neil McLean	Stantec
Robbie Calvert	RTPI Scotland
Martin Faulkner	NatureScot
Helen Todd	Ramblers Scotland
Sue Evans	SLA and Landscape Institute Scotland
Daniel McKendry	SLA and Architecture and Design Scotland
Kathryn Gill	Keep Scotland Beautiful
Lisa Sneddon	Keep Scotland Beautiful
Catriona Rae	Keep Scotland Beautiful