

Delivering for Scotland's Landscapes through the Charter – 30 October 2025

Workshop posters transcribed

Workshop 1 – Reflection on the Charter, its vision and principles



1. How does the Charter align with your work?

- Designing good landscape impact
- Profession – landscape-architects/ planners
- Assessing landscape impact
- Forest Management Agreements - good practise
- Charter – brings policy + issues together (the WHY!)
- Charter articulates VALUE of landscape
- Landscape changing quickly – market-driven change

- AMBITION ≠ REALITY
- Emphasises central role of landscape – coordinating interests
- The Charter gives us the WHY (we need to identify the WHAT and the HOW)
- Potential to link with NPF4
- Mix of awareness of previous charter amongst workshop group
- Landscape = glue that holds everything together
- Commercial forestry expansion

2. How does it support what you do? (give real examples)

- Point of connection for issues + tools
- Potential to link to development planning tools
- Role of long-term stewardship – allocation of costs
- Is planning keeping up with landscape change
- Status - for admin process perspective
- Supporting holistic approaches
- Give tools to pull landscape further up
- Drivers prioritising climate change economy, nature; landscape secondary?
- Landscape as coordinating lens. Charter supports landscape-led process
- Do we need a national landscape framework?
- Challenge: implementing through admin structures
- Helping process of STOP & THINK
- FLS has 3 imperatives – environmental, social & commercial benefits – but commercial trumps the others for implementation
- Delivers universal themes through implementation
- Glasgow to net zero – identifying gaps
- Design should have more prominence
- Role of stewardship of landscape and long-term funding

3. Delivering the vision – your examples of best practice

- Introduction of beavers – cross Scotland approach
- East Lothian Review – climate evaluation landscape led
- Leven programme – 12 sub-programmes with people being heard
- Management agreements (as opposed to sale and lease/ community asset transfer); West Stormont is an example of how not to do it; importance of community capacity
- Strengthening landscape commitments in local development plans
- D + G woodlands framework partnership with developers (community in new forest design)
- Cun. Loop, Glasgow; Dalmarnock
- Ferguslie Green Line Project (Renfrewshire)
- Douglas (SLC) House – outdoor recreation + adventure tourism
- Dighty Burn restoration (Dundee)
- Unsure how case studies are being used

Workshop 1 – Reflection on the Charter, its vision and principles – For Facilitators

1. How does the Charter align with your work?	2. How does it support what you do? (give real examples)	3. Delivering the vision – your examples of best practice?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership working – better impact for communities Dealing with climate change / diversity in landscape / renewables Collaboration to enable better access + open up experience of landscape Connecting communities Governance mechanisms – collaboration at a landscape scale, bring people together / community Place based approaches used – place-based learning, + greater connection between people + landscape Education of young people ... More to be done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glencoe Greenway Holyrood Park – competing areas; collaboration allows the conversation to happen – BUT polarisation exists; balancing needs Mapping skills to needs; aspirations to action SFT Local Place Plans – all engaged Clyde + Avon landscape partnership – having the charter would have helped Breaks down silos – safe + powerful collective view; powerful framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local place plans Township Initiative Local Funds Tree canopy mapping (data sets – social, economic) powerful tools with community garden community Kilsyth Forest River Lifford Park Programme – Glasgow AS, Fife council river important, water management + biodiversity Lochen Green: F

1. How does the Charter align with your work?

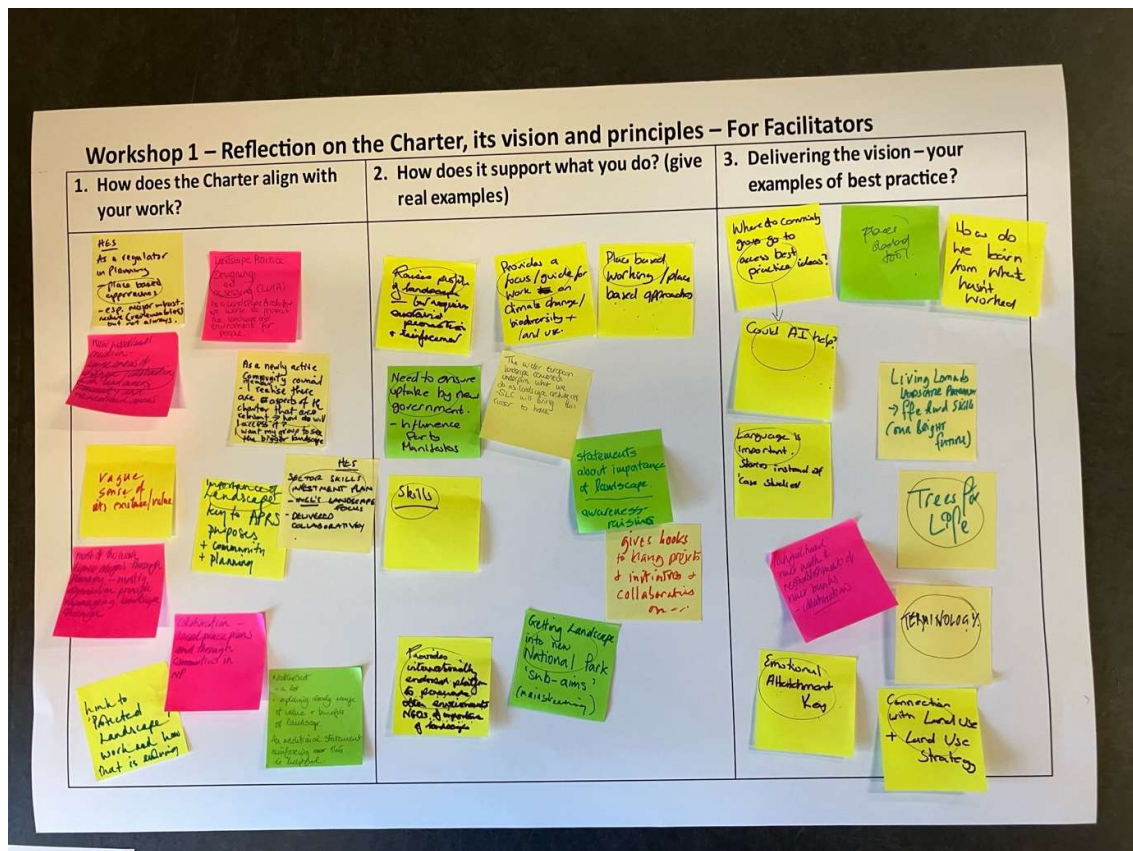
- Partnership working – better impact for communities
- Dealing with climate change / diversity in landscape/ renewables
- Collaboration to enable better access + open up experience of landscape
- Connecting communities
- Governance mechanisms – collaboration at a landscape scale, bring people together / community
- Place-based approaches used – place-based learning. → *greater connection between people + landscape*
- Education of young people ...
- More to be done

2. How does it support what you do? (give real examples)

- Collaboration – Glencoe Greenway
- Holyrood Park – competing areas; collaboration allows the conversation to happen → BUT polarisation exists; balancing needs
- Mapping skills to needs; aspirations → action SFT
- Local Place Plans – all engaged
- Clyde and Avon landscape partnership – having the charter would have helped.
- Breaks down silos – safe + powerful collective view; powerful framework

3. Delivering the vision – your examples of best practice

- Detail character areas management plans in England
- Managing change for landscape and places guidance \longleftrightarrow HES
- Landscape partnerships
- Local place plans
- Tayvallich Initiative landscape scheme – Scottish land funds
- Tree canopy mapping (data sets – social + economic) powerful tools with communities
- Granton community garden
- Kilsyth Forest
- River Path Programme – SEPA + ???? + Fife Council: river improvement, water management + biodiversity
- Leven lens: F



1. How does the Charter align with your work?

- HES – as a regulator in planning; place based approaches; especially major infrastructure (renewables) but not always

- New woodland creation – large areas of change; collaborating with land owners for community and woodland areas
- Landscape Practice – designing and assessing (LVIA); as a landscape architect we work to protect the landscape and environment for the people
- More understanding of landscape in planning system
- As newly-active community Council member I realise there are aspects of the charter that are relevant; how will I access it? I want my group to see the bigger landscape
- – good opportunity to embed the Charter + ensure landscape-based approach
- HES – Sector skills & Investment Plan – ??? Landscape focus; delivered collaboratively
- Vague sense of its existence/value
- Importance of landscape key to APRS – purpose + community + planning
- Most of this work designs through planning; mostly dynamism principle encouraging landscape change???
- Collaboration – local place plans and through communities in National park
- Need to ensure statement about importance of landscape
- Understanding landscapes for management of environment
- “Place-based” functioning / place-based approaches
- Link to “protected landscape” work and how that is evolving
- Naturescot – a lot; explaining clearly range of value and benefits of landscape; an additional statement reinforcing that is helpful

2. How does it support what you do? (give real examples)

- Raises profile of landscape – but requires sustained prioritisation and reinforcement
- Provides focus/ guide for work on climate change/ biodiversity and land use
- Place-based working / place-based approaches
- Need to ensure uptake by government → influence party manifestos
- Wider European landscape convention underpins what we do as landscape architects – SLC will bring this closer to home
- Statements about importance of landscape – awareness raising
- Skills
- Gives hooks to hang projects and initiatives and collaborations onto
- Development landscape framework
- Getting landscape into a new “National Park” sub-aims (mainstreaming)
- Provides internationally endorsed platform to persuade other environment NGOs of importance of landscape

3. Delivering the vision – your examples of best practice

- Where do community groups go to access best practice ideas? Could AI help?
- Place Standard Tool
- How do we learn from what hasn't worked

- Living Lomonds Landscape Programme; Fife Forward skills (our bright future)
- Language is important – stories instead of case studies?
- “Volunteer-based mapping work – nature networks / collaboratives”
- Trees for Life
- Technology
- Emotional attachment is key
- Connecting with Land Use + Land Use Strategy
- Lochgoilhead river walk and reestablishment of river banks – collaboration

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<p><u>FARMING / LAND MANAGEMENT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRONG ALIGNMENT BUT LACK OF AWARENESS → SIMILAR FOR ACCESS, SIMILAR FOR THE REWILDING SECTOR - LACK OF INTERCONNECTION WITH POLICY (e.g. landscape / trees etc at the end of a list of development “asks”) <p>GOOD ALIGNMENT WITH PLACE PRINCIPLE</p> <p>IMPORTANT TO MOVE TOWARDS LANDSCAPE SCALE APPROACH TO DESIGN – CHARTER SUPPORTS THIS</p> <p>PRIVATE SECTOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DIFFICULTY IN ALIGNING DEVELOPERS’ REQUIREMENTS WITH COMMUNITY NEEDS - HOW TO USE THE CHARTER TO JUSTIFY GOOD PRACTICE <p>NEED FOR A NATIONAL PLATFORM – CAN THE CHARTER PROVIDE THIS?</p> <p>COLLABORATION PRIORITY IS KEY FOR THIRD SECTOR ORGS. TO HELP AMPLIFY UNHEARD VOICES E.G. NATURESCOT. HOW CAN THIS BE BUILT?</p>	<p>FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR LAND MGT. ARE CURRENTLY CONTRARY TO THE PROTECTION OF LANDSCAPE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NEED ALTERNATIVES THAT ALIGN WITH CHARTER POLICY <p>OPPORTUNITY TO EMBED THE PRINCIPLES OF BEHAVIOUR + APPROACH</p> <p>CLEAR NEED TO REACH OUT TO SECTORS THAT THE CHARTER IMPACTS</p> <p>EXAMPLES OF WHAT LANDSCAPE MEANS TO A RANGE OF SECTORS + COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST NEEDED: UNDERSTANDING OF VERY LOCAL SETTINGS</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLES OFFER A STRONG VISION BUT AREN’T DON’T HAVE THE SAME PRIORITY AS PLANNING REQUIREMENTS / OTHER POLICY AREAS</p> <p>LANDSCAPE OFTEN AFFORDED LESS WEIGHT IN PLANNING DECISIONS WHEN BALANCING PRIORITIES</p> <p>THE CHARTER’S AIMS CAN BE HELPFUL FOR THIRD SECTOR ORGS. IN SEEKING FUNDING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DEMONSTRATING ALIGNMENT WITH HES + NATURESCOT, FINDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW PILOT PROJECTS 	<p>EXAMPLES OF ACCESS PROJECTS</p> <p>IE PATHS (BEARING IN MIND COMMUNITY PATH FUNDING IS ENDING)</p> <p>WINCHBURGH NEW SETTLEMENT</p> <p>BLINDWELLS EAST LOTHIAN</p> <p>MULTI-PARTNER REWILDING AT SCALE</p> <p>DUNDREGGAN REWILDING</p> <p>SINGLE ESTATE E.G. FARMERS</p> <p>COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVING ENGAGEMENT WITH PLACE AT LOCAL LEVEL</p>

1. How does the Charter align with your work?

FARMING / LAND MANAGEMENT

- Strong alignment but lack of awareness
- Similar for access, similar for the rewilding sector
- Lack of interconnection with policy (e.g. landscape/ trees etc at the end of a list of development “asks”)
- Good alignment with **Place Principle** Important to move towards **landscape scale approach to design** – Charter supports this

PRIVATE SECTOR / LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

- Difficulty in aligning developers' requirements with community needs
- How to use the Charter to justify good practice
- Need for a national platform – can the Charter provide this?

COLLABORATION PRIORITY is key for **third sector orgs**, to help amplify unheard voices e.g. new Scots. How can this be built in?

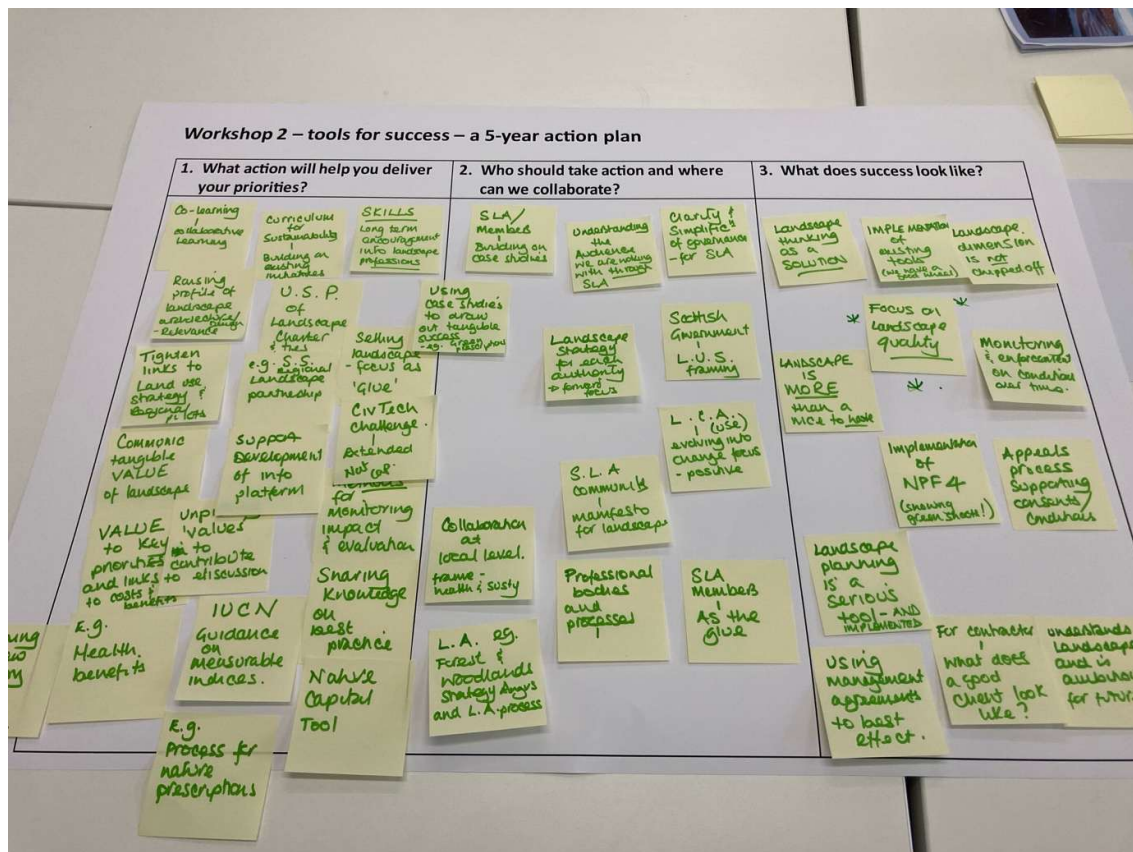
2. How does it support what you do? (give real examples)

- Financial incentives for land management are currently contrary to the protection of landscape
- Need alternatives that align with Charter policy
- Opportunity to embed the principles of behaviour + approach Clear need to reach out to sectors that the Charter impacts
- Examples of how the Charter means to a range of sectors and communities of interest needed; Understanding of very local settings
- The principles offer a strong vision but don't have the **same priority** as planning requirements / other policy areas. Landscape often afforded less weight in planning decisions when balancing priorities
- The Charter's aims can be helpful for **third sector** organisations in seeking funding
- Demonstrating alignment with HES and NatureScot, funding opportunities for new pilot projects

3. Delivering the vision – your examples of best practice?

- Examples of access projects IE paths (bearing in mind community path funding is ending)
- Winchburgh new settlement
- Blindwells East Lothian
- Multi-partner rewilding at scale - Dundreggan rewilding; Single estate e.g. farmers
- Community opportunities for **improving engagement with place** at local level

Workshop 2 – tools for success – a 5-year action plan



1. What action will help you deliver your priorities?

- Co-learning + landscape learning
- Raise understanding of landscape + landscape relevance
- Tighten links to land use strategy LUS / NPF4 / SGA / CSGN
- Common tangible **VALUES** of landscape
- VALUE → key to unlocking contributions + links to other work
- E.g. Health benefits
- E.g. Process for nature prescriptions
- Compendium sustainability: building blocks
- **U.S.P.** of Landscape Charter e.g. NIA / landscape partnership
- Support development of info platform
- Universal tool to measure success
- Monitoring impact + evaluation
- Sharing knowledge on best practice
- IUCN guidance measurable indices
- Nature Capital Tool

- Skills (and how to integrate landscape into landscape professions)
- Setting out clear aims + focus as “glue”
- CivTech challenge – extended reach
- Using case studies + stories of success
- L.A. e.g. River woodland strategy/Argyll + Bute + L.A. policies

2. Who should take action and where can we collaborate?

- SLA members
- Landscape agency to take authority
- SLA
- Collaboration at local level – farmer + community
- Professional bodies re: professional appraisal
- SLA members as the glue
- Understanding + mapping the system for SLA
- Scottish Government + LUS framing
- L.I. + I.C.A. evolving now change is positive
- L.A. community engagement manifestos for landscape

3. What does success look like?

- Clarify + simplify expectations + guidance for SLA
- Landscape working as a *solution*
- LANDSCAPE IS MORE than a “nice to have”
- Focus on **landscape quality**
- Implementation of NPF4 (Green Space!)
- Landscape planning is a serious tool – and IMPLEMENTED
- Using management agreements to best effect
- Implementation of existing toolkit + approaches
- Landscape dimension is captured + reported on
- Monitoring + enforcement on condition and management
- Appeals supporting consistency on SLA conditions
- For enhanced understanding + agreement on what does a good Charter look like? for future use

Workshop 2 – tools for success – a 5-year action plan

1. What action will help you deliver your priorities?	2. Who should take action and where can we collaborate?	3. What does success look like?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central place to access information - Use of AI - Natural Capital Tool - Highlighting economic + social / health value to policy makers - Actions from whom? Who sets these? - Snappy Communications. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Words + Images can help. - Elevator pitch important - How would we communicate messages from the charter to different groups - Rights of Nature (legal) - SEPA – should be involved in SLA. (and Scottish Water) <p>Regional & national gatherings of farmers, foresters & landowners e.g. Go Falkland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Awareness - Less polarisation / more mutual discussion - Getting the charter into the land use partnerships - To be listened to we need a variety of voices (inc community) - Can't just come from public bodies <p>a move from industrial to regenerative tourism</p> <p>Local communities celebrating harvest & the season</p>

nature preservation

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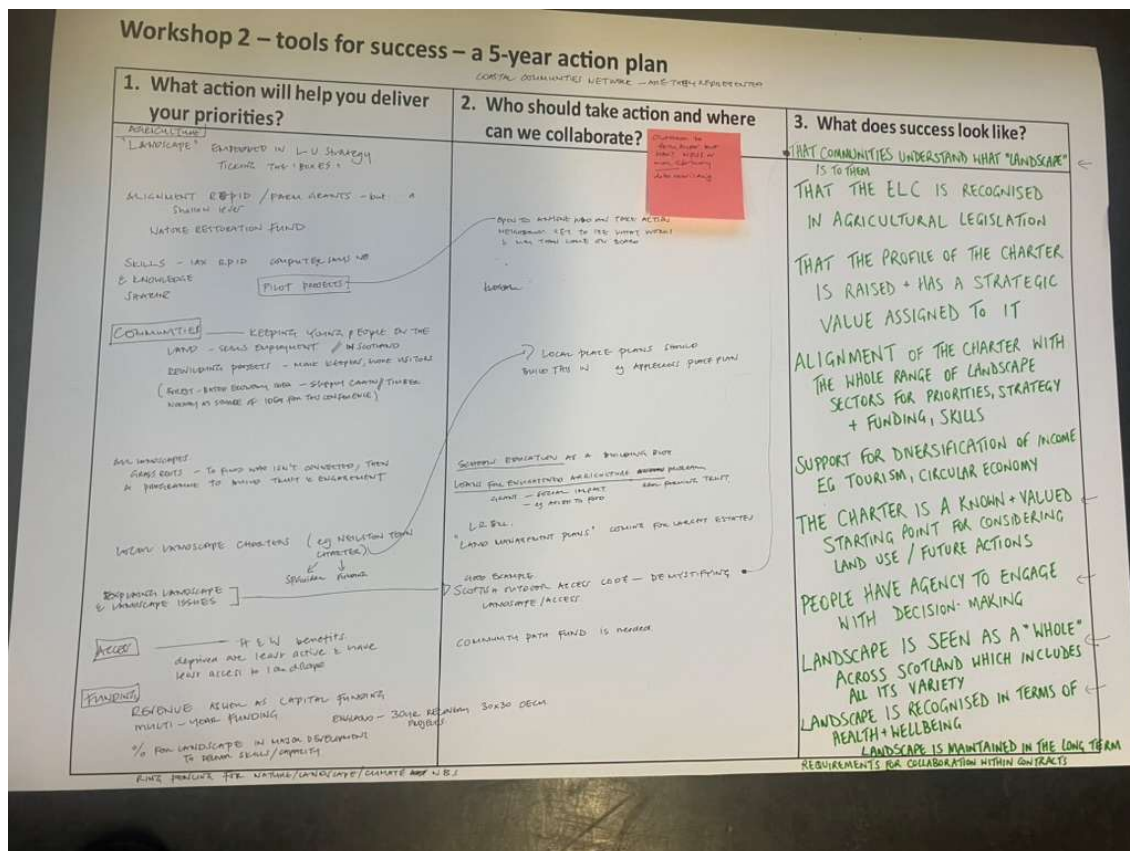
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- A move from individual to regenerative tourism
- Local communities celebrating harvest and Celtic festival of the seasons



1. What action will help you deliver your priorities?

AGRICULTURE

- "Landscape" embedded in L.U. strategy. Ticking the "boxes"
- Alignment RPID / farm grants – but a shallow lever
- Nature Restoration Fund
- Skills and knowledge sharing – IAX / RPID computer says no

COMMUNITIES

- Keeping young people on the land → skills employment
- Rewilding projects → more keepers/ home visitors in Scotland
- Forest based economy idea – supply chain/ timber – Norway as source of ideas for this conference

All Landscapes

- Grassroots – to find who isn't connected, then a programme to build trust and engagement
- Better education – schools / community / timber norms so people become more landscape-confident
 - Local landscape charters (e.g. Neilston Town Charter) → SP Guidance & funding
- Explaining landscape + landscape issues

ACCESS

- Health and Wellbeing benefits; deprived are least active and have least access to landscape

FUNDING

- Revenue as well as capital funding; Multi-year funding
- Percentage for landscape in major development to deliver skills/ capacity
- Ring fencing for nature/ landscape/ climate/ nature based solutions

2. Who should take action and where can we collaborate?

- Councils / community network – area-themed representation
- Open to anyone who can take action; neighbours get to see what works and may then come on board
- Local place plans should build this in – e.g. Applecross Place Plan
How to approach public from ground up
- Schools education as a building block
- Loans for enlightened agriculture programme - grant for social impact e.g. access to fund; real Farming trust
- Land Reform bill and land management plans coming for large estates
- Good example – Scottish outdoor access code; demystifying landscape/ access
- Community path finding needed
- England – 30 year recovery 30 x30 OECM projects
- Outreach to farm sector but now? NFUS or more informally; ditto rewilding

3. What does success look like?

- That communities understand what “landscape” is to them
- That the ELC is recognised in agricultural legislation
- That the profile of the charter is raised + has a strategic value assigned to it
- Alignment of the charter with the whole range of landscape sectors for priorities, strategy + funding + skills
- Support for diversification of income - e.g. tourism, circular economy
- The charter is a known + valued starting point for considering land use / future actions
- People have agency to engage with decision-making
- Landscape is seen as a “whole” across Scotland which includes all its variety
- Landscape is recognised in terms of health + wellbeing
- Landscape is maintained in the long term
- Requirements for collaboration within contracts

Workshop 2 – tools for success – a 5-year action plan

1. What action will help you deliver your priorities?	2. Who should take action and where can we collaborate?	3. What does success look like?
<p>② communication not just collaboration plan with communities</p> <p>① understanding the act taking priority to help make decisions</p> <p>③ <u>EARLY DAYS Education</u></p> <p>④</p> <p>⑤ <u>POLICY INTEGRATION</u></p>	<p>① initiative - gov level local authorities Advisory Boards - gov forestry covering all of Scotland facilitate - bring together all collaborators - well - more than a National Park Auth.</p> <p>② How do we communicate with LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITIES Managers - through the Advisory Board eg Farming & Advisory Group local community council</p> <p>③ Need TOP DOWN + BOTTOM UP APPROACH: SUPPORTING RESOURCES OF PEOPLE ALREADY DOING STUFF</p> <p>④</p> <p>⑤</p>	<p>① <u>spatial plan at landscape scale</u> that integrates natural priorities with local needs Landscape Management Plans for all areas as a partner to development plan EARTH TONING DATA - more accessible</p> <p>②</p> <p>③</p> <p>④ GREEN & HEAT ENERGY NETWORK... possibly</p> <p>⑤ EVERY CHILD HAS OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT TO NATURE & LANDSCAPE BE AMBASSADORS FOR FUTURE LANDSCAPE OF THE FUTURE LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY</p>

ALL SCOTLAND ARCHITECTURE SOCIETY
56 - SCHOOL PREMISES
REGULATION / FOR RECOGNITION WITH NATURE
CURRENT REVIEW: NATURAL PERF. INLAND
GOV CHANGES IN POLICY & NATIONAL OVERSIGHT
60% CAN BE BUILT OUTSIDE

1. What action will help you deliver your priorities?

- Communication not just collaboration – Disconnect with communities/ democratisation
- Understanding the overriding priority to help make decisions
- Early doors education
- Pay back/ benefits to communities for energy schemes – landscape scale change (linked to question 2)
- Policy integration

2. Who should take action and where can we collaborate?

- Initiative – Gov level NPF4 – local authorities for governance at landscape scale
- Advisory boards – covering all of Scotland; facilitators – brings together all collaborators– Facilitators + all collaboration; more than a national park authority
- How do we communicate with landowners and communities + managers? Through the advisory group – e.g. farming and wildlife advisory group/ community council
- Need top down + bottom up approach - resourcing/ supporting of people already doing stuff
- S6 school premises; regulation/ for reconnecting with nature ; Archaeology Scotland education strategy;

3. What does success look like?

- Spatial plan at landscape scale that integrates national priorities with local needs. Landscape management plans for all areas as a partner(s) to development plans; Gathering data → more accessible
- Green & heat energy network... possibly?
- **Every child has opportunity to connect to nature + be landscape ambassadors for landscapes of the future;**
- link with learning for sustainability; More weighting for sustainability;– current review of national curriculum - 80% can be taught outside;
- national performance indicators
- Changes in policy