

Architecture & Design Scotland

Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba

Annual Review

—

2019



Welcome



Image: Intergenerational Housing and Age Friendly Places Event - photo by Allan Devlin on behalf of The Crichton Trust.

Increasingly *place* is central to Scottish public policy. It features in everything from education and health to culture and international relations.

In 2019, the Scottish Government adopted the Place Principle as a way of helping organisations work together to get the most out of the investment being made in our places. The Place Principle is about developing clear visions for places across Scotland and ensuring emerging policies consider what their implementation will mean for our places.

We welcome this. I believe our work aligns perfectly with the Place Principle and demonstrates the positive impact this approach can have to the quality of our places and the lives of our communities.

In this Annual Review we feature four stories of work which illustrate this. From looking at creating *A Caring Place* and working across sectors to support an ageing population, through to engaging

with students on their *Learner Journey* to shape their own learning spaces. The review also introduces *Place Planning for Decarbonisation* – our work to support local authorities tackle the climate emergency and looks at how Scottish Government is planning for *Housing to 2040* and how we help to explore *what good looks like*.

Throughout 2020 we will be developing our strategy for the next ten years. As part of this, I invite you to join a conversation on our priorities and vision. I hope that what we showcase in this review – and on our website and through our events – demonstrates how we can support you in creating places that respond to the climate emergency and support a prosperous and healthy nation.

We look forward to working with you in 2020.

Jim MacDonald
Chief Executive

2019 Snapshot

100

Supported designs for 100 miles of new roads and 4 new bridges to maximise benefits for people and reducing environmental impact.

15

Showcased 15 emerging designers at the 2019 A&DS and RIAS Scottish Student Awards for Architecture.

£900m

Supported users' needs to be realised in 18 NHS projects, totalling over £900m investment, from Ayr to Aviemore.

11

Helped 11 councils to develop their use of design review in their planning processes.

265

265 learners, teachers and partners in 14 schools were involved in shaping their learning spaces.

40

Supported 40 local community projects to help improve rural infrastructure for more sustainable tourism.

100%

100% of attendees to our Local Authority Urban Design Forum anticipated a positive impact on their practice from participating.

24,000

Visitors to the Library of Sustainable Building Materials at The Lighthouse, with over 25 CPD events for students and professionals.

"The Place Standard translates complex public health and place making theory into a simple to use product."

WHO Publication following the jointly hosted International Making Place Conference, attended by 250 delegates

21

Publications on benefits of collaborative design ranging from whole place scale, through to housing, public buildings and school toilets.

27,000

Provided design support for 10 major projects totalling an estimated 27,000 homes to improve liveability and sustainability.

"The lessons learned in South West Scotland might help tackle similar issues across the rest of the country."

BBC report on the Age Friendly Places event at The Crichton Campus in Dumfries

"The client found the involvement of A&DS to be invaluable. [It] has transformed the project both in terms of the thought put into and quality of the proposals."

Planning Consultant for Private Housing Developer



“The source of guidance, advice, support and expertise that we were able to tap into in this project has really shaped the way that we’ve developed our spaces within our school.”

Catherine Dillon-Ruddy,
Head Teacher at Our Lady of the Missions Primary School

Participation and Place: Supporting the learner journey



In 2019 the Scottish Government published its [Learning Estate Strategy](#), setting out the ambitions for the places we learn. The strategy looks at creating joined-up learning experiences for learners of all ages. This will look different in different places, but the intention to improve outcomes is consistent across the country.

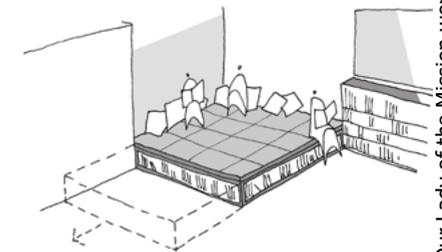
Co-designing Spaces

Key to success is to put the user at the heart of decisions about investment and improvements – both for new and existing spaces.

At A&DS our aim is to help co-design learning environments with learners, teachers and communities. Our purpose is to support communities and strengthen placemaking beyond the classroom.

Learner Journey Exhibition

One of the ways we continue to engage with learners is the [Tests of Change](#) process. We work with learners and teachers to analyse and test new settings in existing places. In 2019 we shared lessons from this work in an exhibition at The Lighthouse, Glasgow. The Learner Journey exhibition also showcased furniture designed by learners and manufactured by Glasgow-based Flux Laser Studio.



Find more on
ads.org.uk/learning

Opposite: Our Lady of the Mission workshop - photo by A&DS.
This page: Learning space illustration by Studio 42 Ltd. | Other illustration by Sijje Eirin Aure

“A&DS has been looking at the importance of a caring place, using care as a way of looking at town centres and exploring opportunities to bring together care and placemaking to tackle the challenges of an ageing population.”

Christina McKelvie MSP, Minister for Older People and Equalities

A Caring Place: Working across generations



In Scotland we are living longer than ever before, and with this comes the challenge to ensure we live well in our old age. Our work on town centre living collaborates with local communities and the public sector. We apply the Place Principle to propose approaches to create caring places.

A National Conversation

In 2019 we led a national conversation on what caring places would look like and how they could be created.

At the start of the year we published [Town Centre Living: A Caring Place report](#), which asked how we could use our town centres more effectively to support an ageing population. The report identified [10 Principles of a Caring Place](#), distilled from speaking with experts and practitioners from a range of organisations in the public, private and third sectors.

Testing the Concept

We brought this thinking together at our Public Sector Client Forum event in June 2019. [The Intergenerational Housing and Age Friendly Places event](#), held at the Crichton Campus in Dumfries, was addressed by Minister for Older People and Equalities, Christina McKelvie MSP. The work is now being tested in a number of pilot locations in Scotland, and we will continue to share our learning.



Find out more ads.org.uk/town-centre-living-home/

Opposite: Town Centre illustration by Richard Carman.
This page: Minister Christina McKelvie - photo by Crichton Trust |
Other illustration by Slije Eirin Aure

“The workshop was excellent and very informative. The atmosphere was good enough to be able to speak my mind and engage with the people I needed to engage with.”

Resident of Fraser Avenue and Housing to 2040 workshop participant



Housing to 2040: *Exploring options and choices*

Home is more than simply shelter. It is not just the place where we live, but has a huge influence on how we live. It can shape our health and wellbeing, as well as our work and prosperity.

What good looks like

In 2019 Architecture and Design Scotland supported Scottish Government Ministers to consider how our homes and communities could look and feel in 2040.

Throughout the summer we visited examples of urban, suburban and rural housing around Scotland, holding a series of workshops to explore *what good looks like* and how to get there. We used the Place Standard to give voice to both residents and practitioners involved in delivering these places, to help draw together lessons for planning new homes.

Present Voices – Future Lives

At the end of 2019 A&DS supported an exhibition which travelled to 12 places. *Present Voices – Futures Lives* was designed to hear from people and engage communities across Scotland. It was curated and designed by Edinburgh University's School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (ESALA), Collective Architecture and Peak15 Design, together with filmmaker Chris Leslie and Sandy Halliday of Gaia Group. Accompanying the exhibition were facilitated workshop sessions designed to hear from a range of voices.

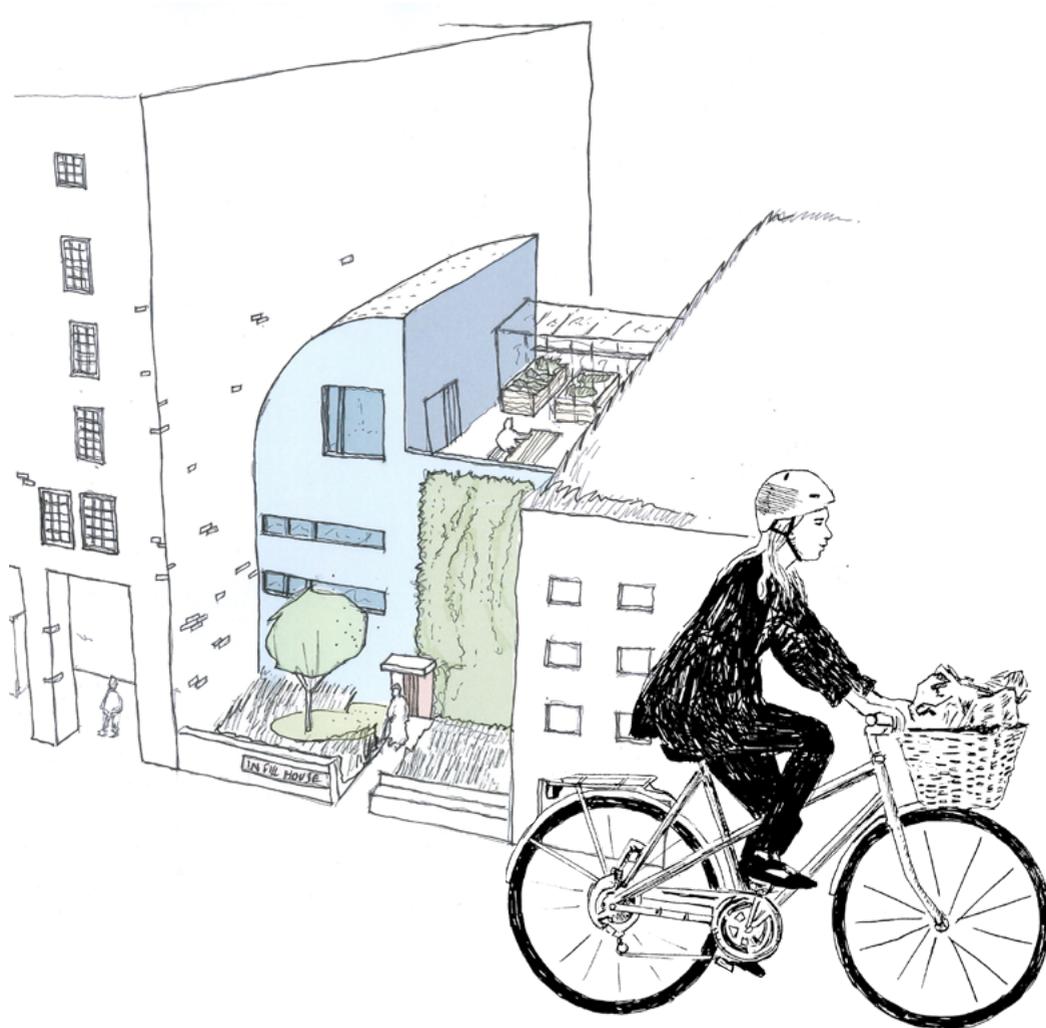
The views collected through the workshops and the exhibition will help to inform the Scottish Government's final vision and route map for housing over the next 20 years, which it is aiming to publish in spring 2020.

Find out more ads.org.uk/ht2040exhibition

Opposite: Present Voices Future Lives exhibition - photo by Craig Stewart.
Illustration by Sijje Eirin Aure

“Really got us thinking from all angles how we could transform our Town Centre into a desirable, carbon neutral town.”

Local Authority Planner, participant in pilot workshop



Designing for a Changing Climate: *Place planning for decarbonisation*

Climate change is one of the biggest issues facing Scotland and the world today. How we plan, design and develop places has a significant impact on our ability to respond to the climate emergency and our need to reduce carbon emissions.

Quality of Lives

The Scottish Government has identified the built environment as key to achieving the objectives of their Climate Change Plan. A&DS believes that if we design places to be more climate and carbon considerate, we can also make them healthier, greener and more inclusive. This helps improve the quality of lives of the people living there.

Piloting Process

In 2019 we started to pilot a new area of work. Working with Scottish Government’s Energy and Climate Change Directorate, we are working with four local authorities to support the development of their approaches. We will then draw

together the lessons learned and outline a transferrable and practical approach for decarbonising places and designing for a changing climate.

Designing Across Scales

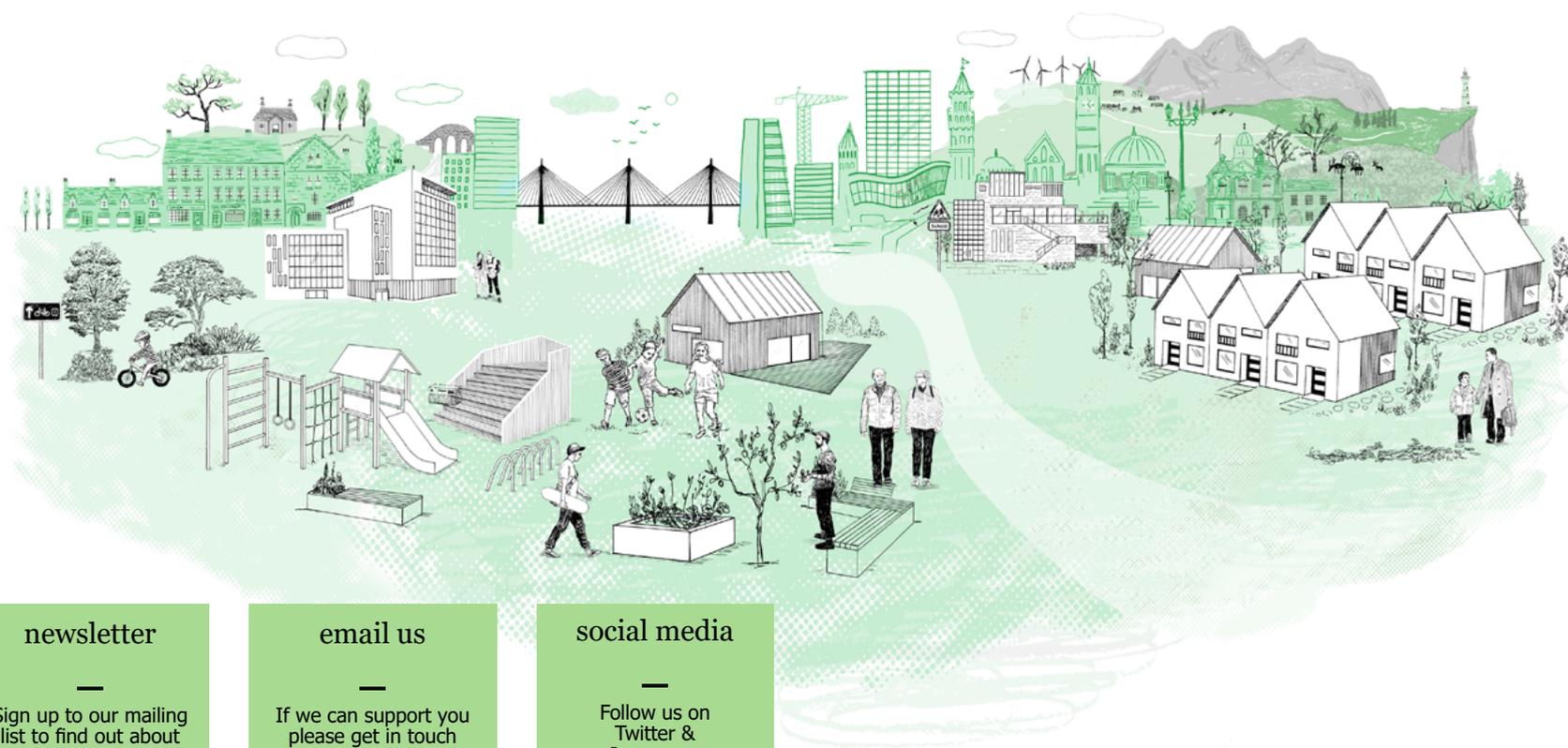
We believe that with our experience of design across a range of scales we can help local authorities to consider a whole-place approach which responds to their place specific issues and opportunities. This will not only support decarbonisation but create inclusive, happy and sustainable places for people.



Find out more ads.org.uk/planning-decarbonisation/

Opposite: Infill housing - illustration by A&DS **This page:** Workshop photo by A&DS
Other illustration by Siije Eirin Aure

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Credits

Front cover

Photo by A&DS

Inside front cover

Photo by Allan Devlin on behalf of The Crichton Trust.

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Illustration by Silje Eirin Aure.

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Our Lady of the Mission workshop - photo by A&DS.

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Illustration by Studio 42 Ltd.

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Town Centre Illustration - Credit Richard Carman.

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Minister Christina McKelvie - photo by Crichton Trust.

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Present Voices Future Lives - photo by Craig Stewart.

Page 11 & 12

Illustrations and photo by A&DS.

All other illustrations by Silje Eirin Aure.



We believe in the power of design to improve people's lives

If we can help you, or you would like more information, please contact us
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