



Business Plan 2016-17

say hello to architecture

**Architecture &
Design Scotland**

Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba



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Communities getting together to celebrate their places is at the heart of our Say Hello to Architecture programme in 2016.
Image: HPPA.

Our work in 2016/17 Say Hello to Architecture

In 2016 we celebrate the centenary of the architecture profession in Scotland through a Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design and a nationwide Festival of Architecture.

The focus of the year provides us with a unique opportunity to showcase the richness of our design talent and highlight how it can transform our lives. From major exhibitions to events in communities across the country, we are planning a year to remember as we aim to engage with more people than ever before in a celebration of all that is good about Scotland's buildings and places.

This year is a great way for everyone to get involved in their own places and learn about how architecture impacts on everyone's lives. It's a legacy that we hope to continue beyond 2016 to reach new audiences and communities across the country.

With our Say Hello to Architecture programme we want to help communities to think about their place and respond to it in an enjoyable way. In 2016 and beyond we will support communities and individuals to create their own events and activities on the theme of Say Hello to Architecture. Throughout 2016/17 and we will take every opportunity through our work to highlight the benefits of good design and architecture and support those tasked with creating our places.

**Find out more about
Say Hello to Architecture:**

**www.ads.org.uk
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[#hello2arch](https://twitter.com/hello2arch)**



Changing the way we deliver our work

Over the last year we have taken time to think about what we do and how we do it. Having done so, we will continue to promote the benefits of good design through a programme of advice and outreach but the way we do this is set to change significantly.

Focused on the alignment of our advisory, learning and promotional work, we hope these changes will increase our reach and deliver greater impacts from what we do.

Sharing the learning from our advice and showcasing the benefits that well-designed buildings and places offer are central to this. While we will continue to present exhibitions, we will be placing increased emphasis on delivering our outreach through engagement with communities across the country.

In particular, we will continue to work in support of those who commission, design, adapt or use buildings and places by:

- Giving advice on significant development proposals, including the healthcare and schools sectors.
- Providing resources and case studies to share what we've learned from our work.
- Promoting architecture and sustainable design through Say Hello to Architecture, a programme of events across the whole of Scotland.
- Engaging with communities to explore new ways of creating places.
- Supporting a forum for local authority design staff to share learning (LAUDF).
- Supporting the implementation of the Place Standard as a tool for empowering communities.
- Providing support and advice to policy makers.

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Image: A&DS.



Our purpose and objectives

Architecture and Design Scotland is Scotland's champion of good architecture and sustainable places. It was established in 2005 by the Scottish Government to promote the value of good design and provide advice to a wide range of clients.

As a public body, we are here to help people by supporting the delivery of the Scottish Government's objectives and outcomes. Whether that is through enabling people to get more involved in shaping the places they live in or by improving the design of the buildings they use, the focus of our work is to improve people's lives.

Through our work we help to implement the policies of the Scottish Government. While we have an involvement across a range of policy areas, our principal policy focus is on implementing Creating Places, Scotland's Policy for Architecture and Place, and all of our work supports this.

Our purpose is to promote the value of good architecture and sustainable places.

Our objectives will focus on what we do to support the Scottish Government's National Outcomes.

As outlined in our Corporate Strategy (2014-17) we want to:

1. Help create better buildings, streets and sustainable places in Scotland.
2. Encourage more people to get involved in making sustainable places.
3. Increase the understanding of architecture and design within the planning system.
4. Promote Scottish architecture and design nationally and internationally.
5. Provide leadership for our sector.
6. Deliver high-quality services which are continually improving.

Our Plans for 2016-17

We have grouped our work around different key audiences and themes. Over the next few pages you will find out what we plan to do in 2016/17 to promote the value of architecture and sustainable places.

Public infrastructure

We will continue to support client bodies (for example those responsible for health and school buildings) to develop projects using design to deliver service needs and broader public benefit.

Building on tried and tested techniques we provide:

Support in participative approach to developing briefs: to allow clients to gain clarity on the quality of the design they need to deliver their objectives.

Design appraisal: assisting public sector clients at key points in the procurement and planning process, to encourage and support standards throughout the project.

Design studies on repeated issues: Sharing learning from similar projects to help clients through the design process, saving time whilst building confidence and raising aspirations.

Place planning

We continue to support Local Authorities and their partners to leverage benefits from participation and design thinking.

We will do this by:

Bringing different services together to develop shared strategies for places, usually through workshops.

Supporting community participation in temporary or permanent changes in their local areas.

Supporting the design development of significant projects and masterplans prior to planning application through workshops and independent advice.



Developing skills

We will continue to share learning and create opportunities for networks to support the knowledge and skills of those involved in commissioning, designing or appraising place and building proposals. We will do this across a range of themes and topics, including:

Providing information and support on sustainable approaches to design and construction.

Reviewing or contributing to policy developments.

Contribution to the Key Agencies Group to allow us to share and learn best practice from other public bodies and agencies, and supporting Retrofit Scotland – a collaboration of organisations committed to the development and dissemination of refurbishment best practice.

Contributing to, or organising, learning events.

Hosting professional networks such as the Local Authorities Urban Design Forum (LAUDF).

Developing a forum for Public Sector Clients offering opportunities to share experience and learning from good practice across the public sector.



Promoting architecture and sustainable design

We continue to provide opportunities for the wider public to engage with architecture and their places. In 2016 – the Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design and the Festival of Architecture – our activities will be presented under the banner of Say Hello to Architecture. The over all purpose of Say Hello to Architecture is to explore new ways to engage the public with issues of place and architecture. Our work will include:

Working and delivering activities in partnership with community groups and national organisations throughout Scotland. We aim to support a minimum of 100 local events throughout 2016 and to reach a wide national audience.

Curating Best of the Best: a touring exhibition to highlight award-winning buildings, places and landscapes.

Co-curating Scotland's contribution to La Biennale di Venezia in 2016: Prospect North – an exhibition looking at grassroots action across Scotland. Premiering in Venice it will then go on a nationwide tour in Scotland.

Stalled Spaces Scotland; working with local authorities and communities to deliver Stalled Spaces Scotland – a Legacy2014 project – aimed at finding new uses for derelict or vacant sites in town centres.

Exhibition programme: including the Austrian exhibition Getting Things Done and short exhibitions on architecture, place and communities on our Noticed Board, at The Lighthouse, Glasgow.

Highlighting the best work of Scotland's architecture students in the A&DS and RIAS Scottish Architecture Student Awards.



Sharing learning

We will develop and publish a range of resources to support individuals and organisations involved in development. We will draw from our experience and showcase examples of good work. This includes:

Organising events and activities around our Library of Sustainable Building Materials.

Improved content on our website and e-newsletters

Case studies, learning pieces and briefing resources.

Developing our organisation

Throughout 2016/17 we will begin to implement our new ways of working, and we will also continue to improve our internal systems to allow us to continuously learn and develop as an organisation.



Architecture & Design Scotland

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