

Architecture & Design Scotland

Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba

BOARD STRATEGY DISCUSSION

9 Bakehouse Close, 146 Canongate, Edinburgh

1.30 pm on Monday 9 October 2017

Present : Karen Anderson (KA) (Chair), Andrew Burrell (AB), Graham Hill (GH), Graham Ross (GR), Sandy Beattie (SB), Sue Evans (SE)

Staff : Jim MacDonald, Chief Executive (JMacD), Heather Chapple (HC), Lynne Lineen (LL), Diarmaid Lawlor (DL), Gillian Black (GB), Danny Hunter (DH), Johnny Cadell (JC), Danny McKendry (DMcK), Steve Malone (SM), Andrea Hepburn (AH - Minutes)

WELCOME & APOLOGIES

KA welcomed everyone and round the table introductions were made.

Apologies were received from Martin Crookston, Jonny Hughes, Alan Sim and David Chisholm.

PUBLIC INVESTMENT

KA advised that this afternoon's discussion would be around the work we are currently doing and how it ties in with the Corporate Strategy and our key messages. JMacD highlighted the briefing paper which sets out the issues around this.

DL made a presentation highlighting how our work fits with the programme for Scottish Government. The focus is on public investment ie specifically schools and health. We have been asked to look at specifics, eg Design Brief and the Early Years Agenda.

Break down:-

- Strategy support;
- Pre-design & design support; and
- Skills and knowledge.

The programme for Government "fit":-

- Early Years;
- Excellence & equity in schools;
- Beyond school; and
- Best place in the world to be cared for and be healthy.

Who are our clients?

- Strategy support;
- Design support; and
- Skills and knowledge

Communications – strategic/policy target:-

Joint infrastructure team;
SG/SFT sponsor meetings; and
Partnerships in each service area.

Discussion

We are crossing a number of policies at once.

Our public sector work is a “test bed” which can then be rolled out elsewhere.

If we look at projects with public investment early we can map out the infrastructure.

We already have obligations in the public sector – what else should we focus on?

SG are interested in a place based approach to energy – to take any more on would need to be business case based and resourced.

There are fundamental changes due to pressure on budgets - universities are doing their own thing with overlaps; social care and health are being run by joint boards.

Glasgow University’s expansion has created an opportunity for mixed use.

Design flexibility - how do we envisage what we will need in 20/30 years’ time?

Working with the infrastructure teams is critical – look at the messages round housing in November/ December along with finding and promoting good case studies.

Digital innovation is taking off. We are weak on digital – Transform Scotland may be able to brief us on where they see things going? Could we host a Digital Scotland talk for others?

Could we align ourselves with City Deals? We are involved with two bridge crossing projects as part of the Glasgow City Deal. Some authorities are more open to conversation than others.

The design process and skills comes from the briefing process – there is a disconnect between planning and community planning.

Our strategy is better housing, schools, public space, etc – we have been asked to do two things just now but can interact with infrastructure and community empowerment.

We have done some work to get in with Transport Scotland – can the sponsor team come on Board to assist? Should the Board prioritise pitching the joint infrastructure team?

We need to capture the lessons from a range of things we have been involved in and target audiences for these. We need to offer advice through proper briefings and produce guidance and advice – point people towards the guidance as they do not know it exists or do not use it.

Summary

Who should we work with?

How do we make an impact and how does it come together?

The streams are diverse but the silos come together and the fundamental thing is how we brief and future proof.

Bulleted advice would be a useful tool.

Commons strands are a helpful introduction.

The key task is working on the edge of the infrastructure group.

We need to secure new partnerships - potentially City Deals & new clients.

How do we feel about SFT's place based assets? There is a meeting tomorrow with SFT's disposals team. *ACTION : update on SFT meeting*

People find procurement time consuming – point them in the direction of our documents.

With Board support we could have a small presentation on what we can do to get our service level statements out there.

We need a campaign to raise awareness of what we do – aim at those writing briefs along with those applying them. Prioritise this as a comms exercise.

Potential for two client forums per year – thoughts on themes?

Who Could We Support?

- Local authorities;

- Those involved in procurement;

- Bring new agendas to our table – support big events;

- Support others with briefing help.

Approach new partners through high level messages with the support of APD. Transport Scotland? Improvement Services?

Board Support:-

- Advocacy;

- Keep the conversation going;

- Get the comms messages out there.

The value of design is what we do – give people access to what we have done. Potential for university research? Shape up a project – how do we progress this?

Health month is in October – there will be a lot of tweeting to get the messages out.

December Meeting

The next strategy session is scheduled for Monday 11 December. It was suggested that we have a tour of Glasgow University's Gilmorehill Campus and then the Eastwood Health Centre in Renfrewshire.

Summaries of the September and October Strategy meetings will be provided to the November Board.

January's Strategy Meeting will cover the remaining themes.