

Architecture & Design Scotland

Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba



Architecture and Design Scotland
Business Plan 2018/19



Our vision

We live in a Scotland where a well-designed built environment supports sustainable, resilient communities which meet the needs of all.

To realise our vision, we have identified a set of outcomes to work towards. These support the national outcomes set out by the Scottish Government to ensure that what we do will make a positive contribution to the lives of Scotland's people.

Over the next three years, we will work to ensure that more people in Scotland:

- are involved in decisions that affect their places
- benefit from well-designed buildings, places and spaces
- see how good design adds value to their lives.

Delivering our vision

Our Priorities

The nature of the built environment is broad and the scope of our work reflects this. To focus our work, we have identified a set of issues we want to tackle.

Before choosing these, we have listened carefully to our stakeholders and been guided by the priorities of the Scottish Government, notably the reform of the planning system, the delivery of affordable housing, provision for early years and the regeneration of our town centres.

In 2018/19 we will deliver a mix of advice, capacity building and outreach as we work to promote the value of good design. We will pay particular attention to promoting Scotland on the international stage, including participating as at the 2018 Architecture Exhibition at La Biennale di Venezia.

The delivery of inclusive growth through more and better housing

Why? Because providing advice on housing developments, exploring new approaches to planning and delivery and sharing good practice from across the country will enable us to support the Joint Housing Delivery Plan, create better designed places and help meet the government's target of creating 50,000 new affordable homes by 2020.

Creating better schools, hospitals and other public investment

Why? Because working with users to inform design briefs for new schools, hospitals and other public buildings and promoting how this collaborative approach works, empowers people in decision-making, supports design-led procurement and improves the way we deliver public services.

Improving the design quality of infrastructure and public space

Why? Because supporting the implementation of Designing Streets and Green Infrastructure: Design and Placemaking will encourage more effective engagement with communities in creating places. We will deliver projects that help meet social and environmental needs; improve health and wellbeing; increase walking and cycling; facilitate climate change adaptation; encourage urban biodiversity and underline the benefits of preventative expenditure.

Increasing the emphasis on community empowerment

Why? Because by working with communities to shape their places, we can support community empowerment, help create sustainable places designed around people and promote a stronger sense of local identity. As part of this work we will underline the key importance of stewardship at all levels, as looking after what we have and building a sense of shared ownership of the built environment is critical for a more sustainable future.

Aim

Putting design, innovation and place at the heart of delivery

Focus

The delivery of inclusive growth through more and better housing

Creating better schools, hospitals and other public investment

Improving the design quality of infrastructure and public space

Increasing the emphasis on community empowerment

Our Work

Contribute to implementing the Scottish Government's Joint Housing Delivery Plan

Prioritise housing-based development proposals through our advisory work

Support local authorities in the preparation of effective spatial strategies

Work with users to inform design briefs for new education, healthcare and other public buildings

Support the creation of spaces to deliver services for children in their early years

Develop place-based approaches to asset management, service planning and spatial planning

Work with funders, practitioners and regulators to deliver well-designed streets, infrastructure and spaces

Support community initiatives using design to engage residents and users in the future of their streets

Support the implementation of Designing Streets by promoting best practice examples from Scotland

Provide opportunities for the public to engage with design, architecture and place

Connect communities across Scotland with opportunities to shape their places through a range of work

Use the lessons from Stalled Spaces to inspire communities to take control of their own environments

our work

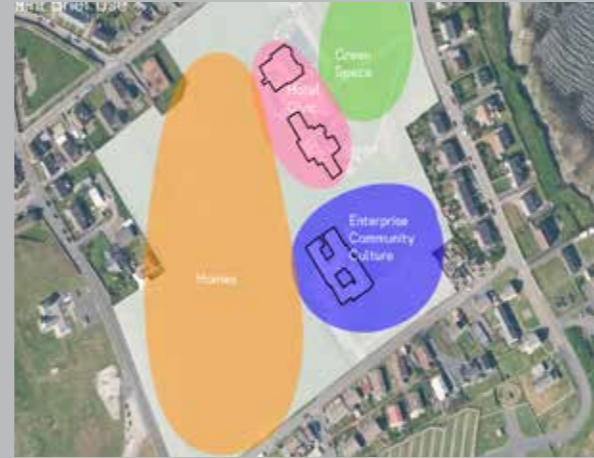
In 2018/19 will undertake a number of projects providing advice, supporting learning and promoting design, all aimed at delivering our objectives and supporting our four focus areas.

Design Advice for Schools

engages pupils and teachers in forming briefs for new schools that encapsulate the range of environments needed for children to test and grow their skills through teaching and exploration. We then assist the client and design team to test that the design of the buildings and landscapes will provide the places the young people and teachers need.

Design Advice for Housing

in the past year we engaged in the design of over 13,000 homes. Through this we helped teams plan places of quality, whilst realising the economies that come from using repeated units. As one of our key focus areas we will extend this service to offer support to a wider range of developments and locations.



Town Centre Living: A Caring Place

To help support Scotland's town centres and to increase the level of town centre living we will explore what makes a Caring Place - especially in the context of an ageing population, access to services and affordable accommodation. We will publish a series of blogs leading up to a special Public Sector Client Forum event where we will bring service users and designers together to discuss the future of Town Centre Living.

Tests of Change

in this we work with children and teachers to co-design alterations to rooms or grounds of an existing school to make better places for learning.

These are built and tested by the school community as prototyping for how other schools, both existing and future, can support new ways of learning.



Design Advice for Health

supports patients and healthcare professionals to develop a shared brief for new NHS facilities. We assist the client and design team to test the developing design to ensure the qualities sought are being realised and we provide advice to government to inform investment decisions. This work is delivered in partnership with Health Facilities Scotland.

Pre-Design Housing Advice

is aimed at working with Local authorities and Housing Associations at an early stage in the delivery of housing. The service includes supports on visioning, briefing and commissioning to achieve better places by design. We aim to embed placemaking in local housing strategies and to help improve the quality of design in housing investment. In 2018/19 we will conduct research and scoping out opportunities for collaboration.

Design Advice for Public Sector

In recent years this work has supported the design of an energy from waste plant, council offices, major road and foot bridges, and the A9. We will continue to provide advice to public sector clients to help improve the quality and value for money of developments in transport infrastructure, public buildings such as Higher and Further Education and major city deal investments.



Supporting Better Learning Spaces

In addition to the design advice and tests of change projects we will continue to support those involved in creating learning spaces across the country. Following the success of the inaugural Education Buildings Conference in 2017, in 2018 we will work with partners to shape and deliver the event with a focus on young people's wellbeing.

our work

The Place Standard This is an award-winning way to evaluate what makes a good place. It was developed by Scottish Government, NHS Health Scotland and Architecture and Design Scotland. The tool allows users to consider the physical and social aspects of a place. In 2018/19 we will create and publish a set of case studies on the use of Place Standard in Planning, as well as facilitate workshops on the use of the Place Standard.



Public Sector Clients Forum We will organise events and briefing materials to support those in the public sector tasked with procuring public buildings. We will share our experience and act as a convener for a space where 'clients' from the public sector can share experience, learning and ideas from across the public sector. This year we will particularly focus on A Caring Place and aspects of Town Centre Living.

The A&DS and RIAS Scottish Architecture Student Awards 2018 An annual award to celebrate the best work of Scotland's architecture students. In 2018 we will continue with the "Chiff-Chaff" format where the nominated students present their work in rapid-fire presentations. The awards are followed by the Annual Andy MacMillan Memorial lecture. The winning and shortlisted projects form part of a public exhibition starting at The Lighthouse, Glasgow.

Scotland + Venice 2018: The Happenstance working with the Scotland + Venice Partnership and the Year of Young People in 2018 to curate Scotland's contribution to the world's most prestigious architecture event - the Architecture Biennale, Venice. Responding to the theme of 'Freespace' The Happenstance - curated by WAVEparticle - will bring together artists and architects to explore how play can help people of all ages to engage with their places.



Local Design Review Panels to help grow design capacity in planning systems around the country we assist local panels to share information and good practice, and support local bodies who are considering developing a panel to build on the learning of both our design advice work and the work of other panels.

Local Authority Urban Design Forum By organising a series of events and briefings on a range of topics we will continue to support a network of practitioners within local authorities. This network allows them to learn from each other, while providing us with vital feedback on the issues facing design professionals in local authorities. In 2018/19 themes include residential delivery from masterplans to plot passports.

Making Places is a successor to the Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative (SSCI) and was launched in September 2017. It provides funding and support to communities wanting to participate in and lead design events such as workshops or charrettes. A&DS leads a pilot programme to support communities to develop their skills and deliver projects in relation to place. This includes capacity building workshops, funding events as well as producing thematic factsheets/checklists.



The Best Use of Timber Awards Exhibition 2018 showcases the winner and shortlisted entries to the annual RIAS Awards scheme. Forestry Commission Scotland and Wood for Good combine to sponsor this award. The exhibition, curated by Architecture and Design Scotland started at The Lighthouse, Glasgow, in early 2018 before going on a tour, including Bowling Harbour (pictured). The Award is aimed at encouraging innovative and creative use of timber in new buildings in Scotland.

Material Considerations: A Library of Sustainable Building Materials showcases sustainable, traditional and emerging low carbon building products, to promote and encourage innovation in construction. The library gives access to a wide range of Scottish building materials. Working with partners we will provide CPD for built environment students and professionals, for example on material specification and the benefits of building re-use.



Keep in touch!
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