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# Planning for Children & Young People

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**Guest Editorial**

Welcome to the Summer 2018 issue of the Scottish Planner, which focuses on Planning, Children and Young People. As many readers will be aware 2018 is the Year of Young People in Scotland, and as a (reasonably...) 'young' planner and Chair of the Scottish Young Planners Network I was delighted to become involved with this edition as Guest Editor. It's been a fantastic experience for me personally and has allowed me to witness the hard work Kate, Craig and the team put into each edition of the Scottish Planner.

The Year of Young People 2018 *“aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and globally.”* Reflecting on the articles selected for this issue, there are certainly some interesting examples of situations where young professionals have played a key role in the delivery of successful places and developments throughout

Scotland. We also have examples of projects involving engagement with children and young people, which delivered significant benefits.

My time with the SYPN has allowed me to gain some insight into the role young planners play within the profession and our respective organisations. The innovation, enthusiasm and ability of young planners is staggering, and with support and guidance from experienced colleagues and the wider profession, young planners of today will play a vital role in shaping our communities, places and profession over the forthcoming decades.

Many of the articles contained within this issue demonstrate how young people and professionals are shaping the urban environment, and I hope readers are inspired to consider how engagement with young people, and indeed young planners, can benefit individual projects and the wider profession.

— Alasdair Adey, Guest Editor & SYPN Chair 2018/19

# Convenor's Comments: Planning for, and with, Young People



Fraser Carlin  
MRTPI  
Convenor  
RTPI Scotland  
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Fraser Carlin MRTPI, Convenor of RTPI Scotland, gives his thoughts on the potential of the Year of Young People

Welcome to the Summer 2018 Edition of the Scottish Planner which will focus on the role of planners in this Year of Young People.

This is a national commitment that aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and globally.

Lofty ambitions indeed but this should strike a chord with all Planners and drive home our professional duties to create places that meet the needs of children and young people that goes beyond just playgrounds.

We should strive to develop an integrated infrastructure and network of streets, spaces, nature and interventions that are critical to creating more inclusive, equitable and healthy lifestyles.

As the adults and planners of today we are shaping environments and the choices we make will determine the quality of life that children and the wider community experience in the future. As such we need to listen to and act in a manner that will promote the advancement of our young people.

In this context the emerging Planning Bill offers a good opportunity to reflect on how we can engage young people in the Planning process. However, public involvement in planning decisions is nothing new and has been enshrined in how planners work for decades.

But such consultations may have become too standardised. The abstract legalese in which planning strategies are written and the jargon often crafted by developers and their communications agencies is unlikely to grip the imagination of anyone never mind young people. So it is vital that we consider how we engage and the language with which we communicate.

The work of Planning Aid Scotland to engage with schools through the Curriculum for Excellence is particularly impressive on this front.

Ranging from "IMBY" the cartoon alien who engages primary 5 to primary 7 children, to help them learn about their local area through to Young Placemakers which aims to recruit a network of motivated young community leaders (16-20 year olds); it is hoped that by increasing involvement in the planning system it will give young people a central role in the creation of Scotland's future places.

Planning is a very relevant and politically purposeful discipline. But creating successful places needs far-sighted politicians, strong communities, active citizens, innovative developers and much else besides.

As such it is imperative that planners act as the champion for young people in relation to placemaking and work closely with others skilled in the arts of urban design, economic analysis, negotiation, communication and consensual decision making to create the places that we want our children and their children to live. ■

## Article:

# Dundee Waterfront & the Engagement of Young People

**Allan Watt**, Dundee Waterfront Project Director, explores how Dundee City Council has used its Waterfront Project to engage young people in the city with placemaking and regeneration.

The £1 billion transformation of Dundee city waterfront, which encompasses 240 hectares of development land stretching 8km along the River Tay, is a strategic, focused and forward-looking 30 year project (2001-2031)

that is propelling the city to international acclaim. It is predicted that the project will help generate 8,000 jobs. The area is divided into five focused zones: Riverside; Seabraes; The Central Waterfront, City Quay and Dundee Port. The Central Waterfront will be anchored by the V&A at Dundee, a £80million international design centre for Scotland.

As early as 2013 Dundee City Council decided to use the project as a way of engaging young people in the transformation of Dundee Waterfront. Thereby promoting greater understanding of the positive

role of land use planning and the career opportunities that it can help open up.

The project involved school pupils and university students, and as a consequence staff and parents in the regeneration of

Dundee Waterfront. This involvement is now woven into the curriculum and engages young people in the primary, secondary and higher education sectors. It is used to provide positive messages about future employment opportunities and the role that planning has in providing a vision for the City.

As physical works associated with the Dundee Waterfront

regeneration project have progressed, Planning and Education colleagues identified an opportunity to raise awareness of the

project amongst school pupils. This began with presentations on the Waterfront Project to all Head Teachers and every Principal Teacher in Dundee's secondary schools. The underlying message was to ensure that young people recognised that the subjects they study in school have a direct and practical link to prospective employment opportunities resulting from the Dundee Waterfront development. There was also a strong recognition that the economic climate, and parental/sibling feedback regarding employment opportunities was having a negative effect on pupil morale.

In addition, it was an opportunity to promote the positive role of land use planning in securing sustainable economic growth, in line with Scottish Government's modernising planning agenda. The project provided a real-life, practical demonstration of the importance of place making. Essentially bringing '*hope back in to the home*'.

This was achieved by the development and implementation of five practical projects designed to provide a strong sense of hope and pride in the future of the city.

**“The underlying message was to ensure that young people recognised that the subjects they study in school have a direct and practical link to prospective employment opportunities resulting from the Dundee Waterfront development.”**



**The aims and objectives of the engaging young people project were:**

- To use the Dundee Waterfront Project as a tool to encourage the cities' schools to engage in the regeneration of Dundee's Waterfront.
- To use the Dundee Waterfront Project as a practical method of linking the waterfront project with the school curriculum through art and design, history and geography in particular.
- To use the Dundee Waterfront Project to demonstrate to school children the range and type of future employment opportunities created by the project.
- To increase greater understanding by the schools of the key role that town planning plays in a major regeneration project.

The project started in the Autumn of 2011 following a conversation that the Waterfront Project Director had with the City Councils Chief Executive about the possibility of using the Waterfront Project as both a learning tool to demonstrate the range of practical employment opportunities that a large scale regeneration project can bring. From this

**“The sheer volume of pupil, staff and student engagement in a major regeneration project may be unparalleled.”**

the five initiatives outlined below have been developed.

The first initiative was a large scale awareness raising exercise that stimulated wider staff and pupil interest in the project. From this the other initiatives have evolved. Some initiatives were encouraged by the Waterfront Project Team whilst others evolved from pupil/staff initiatives. For example, the Curriculum for Excellence which was pioneered by Glebelands Primary School, or the staff at St. Mary's Primary school engaging with the University of Dundee's Planning School staff and students to develop several school projects.

**The 5 key Projects were:**

1. Engagement of the City Wide Pupil Council, resulting in senior pupils from each secondary school delivering presentations on Dundee waterfront to pupils in each school at assemblies or in class time.
2. Embracing the principles of Curriculum for Excellence, Glebelands Primary School is an example of how the Waterfront Project is used as a theme through which

- the curriculum is delivered. Pupil work is displayed in corridors and classrooms exemplifying literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing, science and technology.
3. St. Mary's Primary School/University of Dundee Planning School explored potential employment opportunities, then researched how the Waterfront Development could create more and different employment opportunities. The emphasis has been on skills development for life, learning and work.
  4. Presentations have been delivered to all Head Teachers and every Principal Teacher in secondary schools on the Dundee Waterfront development.
  5. A schools challenge to design a hoarding artwork/graphic/illustration which captured the essence of Dundee's aspirations and ambitions for the Waterfront. The project fostered community involvement and interaction with the City's vision for the 21st century. The winning entries were involved in the production and commissioning of their entry which now has pride of place in the Waterfront.

As outlined above Dundee City Council are the principal partners in the project. The key departments are City Development, Education Department, and through their work with the Pupil Council, the Social Work Department.

Other key partners are the University of Dundee and Blue Square Design who were commissioned to work with the schools in designing the new waterfront hoardings.

The results of the project can be summarised as follows:

- Stronger understanding amongst a broad range of primary/secondary and University students of the importance of place making in rejuvenating a city
- A strengthened feeling of optimism amongst pupils and staff throughout the city.
- Greater support, understanding and involvement in the Dundee Waterfront Project.
- Delivery of a range of methods of engaging a large number of children and staff in a major regeneration project.
- Creation of a Forum for constructive dialogue about the future development of the Waterfront Project.

The sheer volume of pupil, staff and student engagement in a major regeneration project may be unparalleled. This has in turn stimulated real interest and discussion about the project across all age groups and has led to a very high level of public support and engagement in the project.

It has perhaps more importantly provided

a sense of real hope for the economic prosperity of the city and provided a platform for future generations to engage in the Dundee Waterfront project.

Traditionally it has been challenging to engage young people in planning and regeneration projects. But sharing with them the vision for Dundee's Waterfront and then engaging them in delivering it has proven to have been very successful.

**So What's Next?**

The Waterfront Project is gathering pace with the V&A Dundee due to open this September. The opportunities to involve the cities' children in the physical and place making aspects of the Waterfront development

**“Some initiatives were encouraged by the Waterfront Project Team whilst others evolved from pupil/staff initiatives.”**

provide exciting opportunities. There will be an urban beach created with an active travel hub and also a new play space featuring a whale in Slessor Gardens.

The new play space has been informed in part by Dundee's historical ties to the whaling industry – whale oil was hugely important to Britain and the wider world, used as it was to light the street lamps of cities. It was also an essential lubricant used during the industrial revolution, and played a key part in the production of jute in Dundee. The whale structure will tell a story but also be a fun interactive space. ■

For more information please contact Allan Watt at Dundee City Council, [allan.watt@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:allan.watt@dundeecity.gov.uk).



**Allan Watt**  
Dundee Waterfront Project Director



## Q&A

# Public Enquiries



**Heather Claridge**  
MRTPI  
Young Planner  
of the Year/  
Forward Planning  
& Regeneration  
Services at Glasgow  
City Council

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**Heather Claridge MRTPI, Young Planner of the Year and Forward Planning and Regeneration Services at Glasgow City Council answers our questions.**

**1 Who has been the biggest inspiration or influence on your career and why?**

I have been really lucky that there has always been someone who I have looked up to for guidance or inspiration. When I studied Geography at Aberdeen University my lecturers all taught me the art of critical analysis and building a strong evidence base. When I worked on Glasgow's Stalled Spaces Initiative, my colleague Seamus Connolly showed me how to develop and maintain strong partnerships with communities. When working on spatial strategy, it was Cathy Johnston, Development Plan Manager, who encouraged me to think creatively and internationally. I've also always been inspired by the reflections from Sir Harry Burns on the role of the built environment in the cause and remedy of health inequalities. Latterly, studying Urban Design part-time at Strathclyde University, my tutor Dr Ombretta Romice motivated me to explore alternative approaches to city regeneration and design.

**2 What do you feel is the biggest issue facing planners at the moment?**

The biggest challenge I think is the scale, pace and culture required to make the step changes needed to deal with current global challenges – adapting to climate change and urbanisation, supporting inclusive growth and tackling place inequalities. That's no mean feat! As a profession, I think there is an issue in how young planners are best nurtured and given exposure to wide breadth and range of experiences. This is needed to create the strong leader of the future to champion the planning of good places.

**3 Why is planning important?**

I think planning is so important as it plays the key role in improving quality of life. That's really why I wanted to be, and continue to want to a planner. It impacts on amongst all aspects of everyday life of people and places. Ultimately planning is an enabler, a deliverer, a protector, an enhancer, a creator, a connector and a mediator (to name but a few).

**4 Where do you think best exemplifies planning's role in creating great places for people?**

Last year I visited Aarhus in Denmark in its year as European Capital of Culture. I was really impressed with the levels and design of the play, landscape and community features which formed a major component in new and retrofitted housing and waterfront areas. I also loved how the city had embraced and embedded temporary use and creative enterprise in to their long-term regeneration plans. I think this has many similarities to the Canal Regeneration Partnership's approach to regenerating in the Canal Corridor in Glasgow.

**5 How do you feel that the RTPI's Assessment of Professional Competence has prepared you for life as a planner?**

I feel the RTPI's APC process forms a really important part of professional development. It encourages planners to reflect on the key skills and knowledge they have developed and often triggers more in depth consideration of aspects such as ethics, economics, legal, politics and code of conduct which shapes the profession. I went through the RTPI's APC process myself and in 2012 I became an Assessor. I really enjoy reviewing submissions with my co-assessors, uncovering the diverse career path some planners have taken and giving supportive feedback. My top tip for any APC candidates is always – read the APC guidance and find a mentor to talk with throughout the APC route to Chartership. ■

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Heather was announced as Young Planner of the Year at the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence

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# Immaterial Considerations

An irreverent look at the world of planning...



## Walking on Sunshine?

We were intrigued by a report on the BBC website outlining how the organisers of the 2022 World Cup in Qatar are backing a Scottish-based project that will have fans walking on sunshine. The international team, led from Glasgow Caledonian University, is creating pavements that gather energy from the sun.

The idea has won an award from the Qatar 2022 organising committee. They are backing the PVTopia project to create a prototype with the aim of demonstrating a full solar pavement during the tournament. And as it is situated on the pavement, the system can feed into street lighting or traffic systems. We are just wondering if they had tested them to deal with the Glasgow climate...

Julia Frost  
@frostjulia

Follow

Some Monday morning inspiration for all you fantastic town planners out there - our job is 'really interesting' 'unique' 'important' and without us the world would 'be a mess' @RTPIScotland @PAS\_tweets #activecitizenship



## Sorting out the mess...

We loved the tweet from Julia Frost of PAS following her taking part in an event in her local school where she talked to schoolchildren about planning.

The tweet, see above showed a thank you letter she had received from one of the children thanking her for telling them about planning and saying that "without town planners the world would be a bit of a mess". Hear Hear!

RTPI Scot Convenor  
@ConvenorRTPIs

Follow

It's just a normal day in the Planning Department !!



Kenny Mitchell @\_KennyMitchell  
The props set up for the next presentation at the Scottish Planning Enforcement Forum have gotten interesting. Looking forward to hearing about environmental crime and the role of @policescotland

10:13 am - 4 May 2018



## Planning Props

And on the subject of tweets we also liked our erstwhile Convenor's tweet highlighting a message from Kenny Mitchell. Kenny's tweet showed an array of props including a stuffed badger and leopard skin like rug. These were, apparently, to be looked at as part of the Scottish Planning Enforcement Forum's discussion on environmental crime. An interesting day indeed...



## Energy Minister

You would have thought that Planning Minister Kevin Stewart would have enough on his hands in steering the planning bill through Parliament. However we have – thanks to the Minister's twitter account – found out that he recently celebrated a significant birthday with not one but two cakes (see above). And, to show that he hasn't slowed down he hosted the karaoke at the recent SNP conference! We don't know where he gets the energy from!





## In Focus: Glenrothes @ 70

**Jay Skinner**, Planner at Fife Council and member of the Scottish Young Planners' Network steering group, celebrates 70 years of Glenrothes.

An enduring goal for those working within planning and associated professions is the constant strive towards successful place making, with a particular focus on delivering housing development on ever larger scales to meet growing demands in line with social, economic and environmental factors. Identifying sustainable solutions to such issues has come into prominence recently with coverage of the upcoming 70th anniversary of Glenrothes, a 'New Town' located within the heart of Fife. Glenrothes was originally conceived as a 'post-war new town' under the New Towns (Scotland) Act of 1946. This initial plan involved the creation of 'a self-contained and balanced community' with a population of 35,000 people. The main driver behind development at that time was to house those employed in the then new and revolutionary Rothes 'Superpit' that was established to the south of the town in 1958.

Glenrothes and the other designated new town developments hold a certain fascination following their inception, development and growth over the years. In its 70th year the enduring legacy of new towns is once again dissected, should it be held up as an example of proactive planning and place making or a flawed social experiment epitomised by stalled sites and divisive architecture? Key issues raised in recent years with regards to Glenrothes and other new towns have been

the struggling night time economy and lack of for better words a 'sense of place'. This feeling relates to the way in which the towns have aged and in some ways struggled to adapt to modern living standards and expectations.

However, such views and opinions can be easily formed by those from the outside looking in. Some of the defining features of Glenrothes and new towns more broadly relate to the vast array of public art on offer, this being a key inclusion throughout the phased development of the 1970's and 80's. The art is renowned and adds interest to otherwise passive places within the town such as roundabouts, underpasses and open space. Another unique selling point which the town possesses is the obvious investment in proactive planning with regards to housing development. A stand out feature of the majority of streetscapes which flow out from the established centre are well connected walking and cycling routes, attractive tree lined roads, paths and not to mention the abundance of open space as evidenced by the many parks located throughout the town centre as well as the numerous residential neighbourhoods in close proximity.

In trying to summarise both the enduring legacy of new towns and what Glenrothes means to not just planning but those who call it home on its 70th anniversary is no mean feat. One of the enduring legacies of



Glenrothes and something that is still evident today is the strong sense of community shared by its inhabitants, in light of the size and scale of the town as it has developed over the years. Therefore, I believe that this strong sense of community is an inspiring legacy of the new town, this proves that despite setbacks and critiques the town has been resilient and supported countless families and lives since its inception 70 years ago. This defining characteristic should be admired particularly as the new town formula is often revisited when reviewing planning in the present day and observations on how best to stimulate and produce successful development on a large scale, where often there is particular focus on community or how best to create this in a 'non-manufactured' way. ■



**Jay Skinner**  
Planner at Fife  
Council & member of  
the Scottish Young  
Planners' Network  
steering group



## In Practice:

# Revaluing Parks & Green Space

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**Helen Griffiths, Chief Executive of Fields in Trust, gives an insight on new research that begins to put a price on the value of our parks and green spaces.**

Whilst we might think our parks and green spaces are pleasant places to stroll in the sun – or play on the swings with children or grandchildren, new research from Charity Fields in Trust shows these spaces actually deliver over £34 billion of health and wellbeing benefits to UK residents each year, of which £2.8 Billion per year can be attributed to Scotland’s community health and wellbeing. This represents greater life satisfaction including improved physical and mental health, directly from regular use of parks and green spaces. However, there are also concerns about a downward spiral of reduced maintenance, leading to poorer quality green spaces resulting in lower levels of use – because of declining local authority finance. This situation prompted the Scottish Parliament Local Government & Communities Committee to convene a roundtable evidence session about parks and green spaces recently. Fields in Trust submitted evidence to the committee.

Fields in Trust is an independent charity; since 1925 we have protected parks and green spaces in perpetuity. We work with landowners, community groups and policy makers to champion the value of our parks and green spaces and achieve better protection for their future at both local and national level through a legal agreement with landowners parks and green spaces are secured for community play, sport and recreation – in perpetuity.

It is important to evaluate the impact of our work; our new research shows what we all intuitively know; green spaces are good –

they do good and they should be protected for good. We need to provide robust evidence to demonstrate this to policymakers and politicians, so our research was compiled using HM Treasury approved methodology. The report Revaluing Parks and Green Spaces demonstrates savings of at least £9.1 million per year for National Health Service, Scotland just on prevented GP visits from those who regularly use parks – this doesn’t include savings from treatment or prescriptions – so actual savings to the taxpayer will be significantly higher. Whilst in the overall NHS budget this is a small percentage, it could pay the annual salary of around 300 additional nurses.

Our research puts a value on something that doesn’t have a price at the point of entry. You don’t pay to visit your local park or green space – and we want it to stay that way. Yet just because something doesn’t have a price it doesn’t mean it doesn’t have a value. The true value of parks is not what they cost to maintain or could realise as a capital asset if sold for housing – but the wellbeing value that they contribute to the communities who use them for play, sport and recreation. Green infrastructure in our towns and cities can also encourage active travel and have an impact on the liveability of urban environments. There are also some indications of the social impact that access to parks and green spaces can have – increasing community cohesion as people use parks and green spaces alongside neighbours at community events and festivals.

The report also calculates that parks

and green spaces provide a total economic value to each person in Scotland of just under £30 per person per year; this is more for individuals from lower socio-economic groups and also people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. This means that any loss of parks and green spaces to building development will disproportionately impact disadvantaged and underrepresented communities – precisely those who value them the most.

At Fields in Trust we believe our parks and green spaces are valuable and should be considered, not in terms of what they cost to maintain – but what they contribute in health and wellbeing benefits to our communities.

- The full research report Revaluing Parks and Green Spaces is available to download from the Fields in Trust website [www.fieldsintrust.org](http://www.fieldsintrust.org).
- The Fields in Trust Strategy for Scotland “Green Spaces for Good” is also available online [www.fieldsintrust.org](http://www.fieldsintrust.org). ■

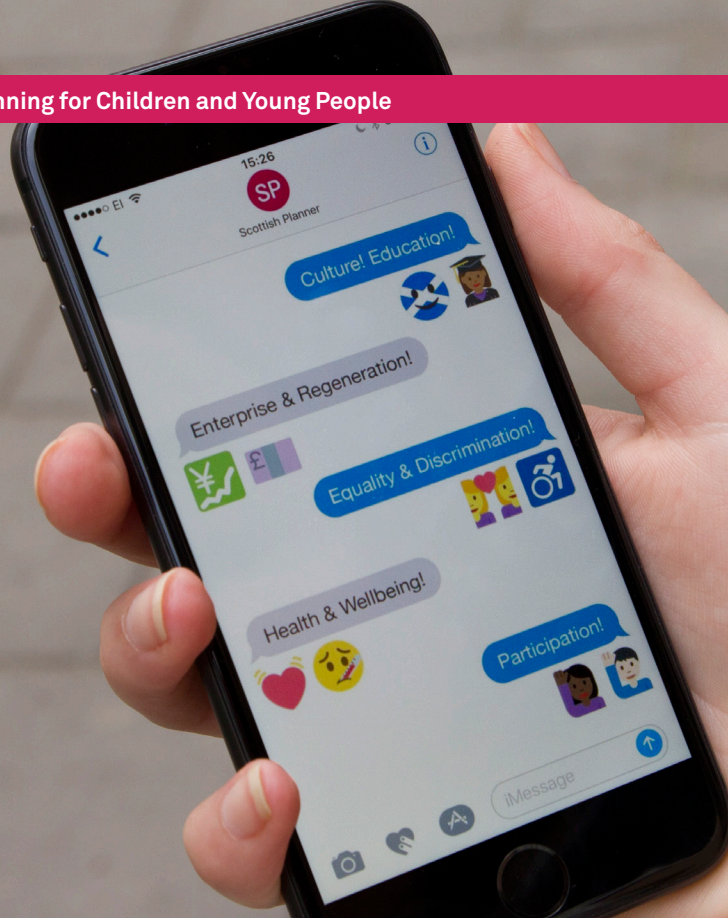


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**Helen Griffiths**  
Chief Executive of  
Fields in Trust

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## Article:

# Young People Take the Lead

**Ea O'Neill**, Programme Manager at Greenspace Scotland, shares key learning points from the Young Placechangers project in Dunfermline.

Too often young people are the missing voice in place consultations and are often almost invisible in the public realm. They are frequently described as a 'problem' by the wider community and the answer to the perceived threat of young people 'hanging around' is often to restrict access to young people.

Young Placechangers aims to change that. It puts young people in the lead role – bringing together the wider community to look at local spaces and plan improvements. The programme was developed working with Youth Scotland and young people from the Young People Take the Lead programme using a co-production approach to develop

and pilot a training and support programme enabling young people to transform the place they live, their relationship to it and the wider community.

### **Young Placechangers in Dunfermline**

Dunfermline was a pilot project funded and supported by the Scottish Government's Town Centre Planning Pilots Programme to encourage use of innovative approaches to community engagement and placemaking. The project trained and empowered young people to develop their role in leading place change.

We used greenspace scotland's community placemaking tools along with



**Ea O'Neill**  
Programme Manager  
Greenspace Scotland

the Place Standard and the Town Centre Toolkit and a range of youth engagement and youth work techniques and approaches. Our partners in Dunfermline were Youth First and two local youth projects – Fairway Fife and Headroom. The process was led by two young facilitators – Ahmed Mumin and Edward Fitzpatrick.

**Learning from the project**

Scottish Government placemaking tools

One of our objectives was to see how well the Place Standard and Town Centre Toolkit could integrate with and support the placemaking process that the project partners were already using with young people. We were rather hesitant about using the Place Standard with the project group due to its perceived complexity; the fact that the group had only just come together, and the young people involved were initially unclear about their level of interest in the project.

These concerns proved to be unfounded; the Place Standard was a very helpful tool for widening the group members' thinking about what makes a place and allowed them to develop a clearer view of the relative strengths and weaknesses of central Dunfermline.

The Town Centre Toolkit proved equally useful as a way of exploring context and identifying ways in which a 'greening approach' could improve the quality and

**“An important element of the project was the use of peer facilitators – young people of a similar age to the participants who could support them through the process.”**

effectiveness of the town centre. The three key themes from the Toolkit (Attractive, Active, Accessible) allowed the group to focus on the ways in which relatively small-scale changes could make the town centre work better. The sections of the Toolkit relating to greenspace helped to identify key actions which could be taken forward.

Community Placemaking

We were also looking to refresh the use of greenspace scotland's Community Placemaking tools (which are based on the Placemaking approaches developed by the Project for Public Spaces in New York) with a project group primarily made up of young people. The Community Placemaking approach encourages participants to explore and evaluate the place under consideration collectively, often leading to unexpected revelations and discoveries (and challenging preconceptions) – the effectiveness of this

can be seen in some of the comments from participants:

*“I enjoyed learning new things about the town and how to make it more friendly to the public”*

*“Learnt new things about the town – nice looking at Dunfermline from a different perspective”*

*“We have been able to bring people's attention to a part of Dunfermline that is largely forgotten about”*

The approach is action focused – informed by a concept which PPS refers to as 'Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper' - catalysing place improvement as quickly as possible and using delivery of short term and experimental actions to prove that change is possible.

*“It's helped our guys realise that they have a voice, and by using it they are able to bring change to the area where they live – their opinions matter, and by seeing their ideas come to fruition, it helps to prove to them that their opinions matter”*

Youth work techniques and working with peer facilitators

The young facilitators used a range of techniques and approaches to engage and support the participants. These techniques were primarily used to facilitate and support discussion and the development and sharing of ideas. Techniques used included a series of 'game-based' exercises, which encouraged everyone to generate and share ideas,

and a number of approaches designed to encourage participants to work together to develop potential placemaking actions.

This way of working proved particularly useful in drawing out ideas from the more introspective members of the group and in exposing ideas to group consideration in a constructive way.

An important element of the project was the use of peer facilitators – young people of a similar age to the participants who could support them through the process. This proved a very successful experience and feedback from both the participants and the youth workers

**“One of our objectives was to see how well the Place Standard and Town Centre Toolkit could integrate with and support the placemaking process that the project partners were already using with young people.”**

supporting the participating groups has been very positive.

The continued engagement of the Fairway Fife participants (several of whom were vulnerable young people with a range support needs) across the whole exercise is a testament to the success of using the Youth Work approaches delivered by peer facilitators.

**What next for young placechangers?**

Following the Dunfermline Young placechangers project, we have been working to develop a national programme of Young Placechangers in partnership with Youth Scotland.

Thanks to funding support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Scottish Government, we are now embarking on a two-year national programme. This will provide training and support for young people and youth workers to take forward local place-changing projects. There is also an Ideas Fund to make quick-win actions happen. It is our aspiration that “place-changing” in time becomes an “off-the-shelf” activity that youth workers will feel confident to introduce the young people they work with.

If you know a youth group that might be interested in getting involved in Young Placechangers, please get in touch [ea.oneill@greenspacescotland.org.uk](mailto:ea.oneill@greenspacescotland.org.uk)

**About greenspace scotland**

greenspace scotland is an independent charitable company and social enterprise. Our goal is that everyone living and working in urban Scotland should have easy access to quality greenspace which meets local needs and improves their quality of life. We work with a wide range of local and national partners to support the planning, development and sustainable management of greenspaces and green networks as a key part of the infrastructure of our towns and cities. [www.greenspacescotland.org.uk](http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk) @greenspacescot #youngplacechangers. ■



## Article:

# A 'shock and awe' approach to engaging with young people

Photo credit © Philip Mroz

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**Marc Cairns**, Managing Director of architects' practice Pidgin Perfect, discusses his inspiration for a new approach to opening a conversation with young people about their places.



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**Marc Cairns**  
Managing Director  
Pidgin Perfect

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During the summer of 2016, I undertook an intensive four week research trip across Albania, Serbia, Kosovo, Turkey and Azerbaijan, to research ways in which a wide variety of creative events, development programmes and placemaking projects were working to build more resilient communities through youth engagement projects which promoted active citizenship and participation.

The research trip was enabled by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust in partnership with the British Council: Department of Architecture, Design, Fashion.

By visiting countries with young populations, high levels of youth unemployment and where the impact of significant recent social and political upheaval is being felt, I was able to engage with world-leading projects that are influencing intergovernmental processes and policy making around placemaking.

Focusing upon the inclusion of young people in design thinking and decision making, these projects are opening up the way in which important decisions are being made, and the way that young people are getting involved with the world around them.

During my travels I visited voluntary run hacker-spaces, contemporary art galleries, open schools, aid funded innovation labs and co-working maker spaces; and met with Ambassadors, United Nations coordinators, architects, artists, and, of course, young people.

The information I gathered from the

research trip placed further emphasis on the importance of producing and supporting development programmes that better connect young people with the aspects of their built environment that are undergoing significant change.

From all of the projects I engaged with, it was clear that it is critically important to create tangible outcomes for young people, encouraging their empowerment as active citizens.

Their tokenistic involvement through tick box exercises and basic workshops does not create better futures for young people, nor does it wield sustainable cultural or economic growth for the organisations, businesses, authorities or governments undertaking major transition projects.

Since returning to the UK in August 2016, there has been a significant shift in my practice as Managing Director at Pidgin Perfect as a result of my experience as a Fellow of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust.

The outcomes of the research trip led to the direct commissioning of further research into the involvement of young people within the Scottish planning process. Between March and May 2017, and under the title of 'Shaping Our Spaces', Pidgin Perfect collaborated with Young Scot to deliver a pilot project, commissioned by The Scottish Government, as part of the wider programme of their public consultation on planning policy.

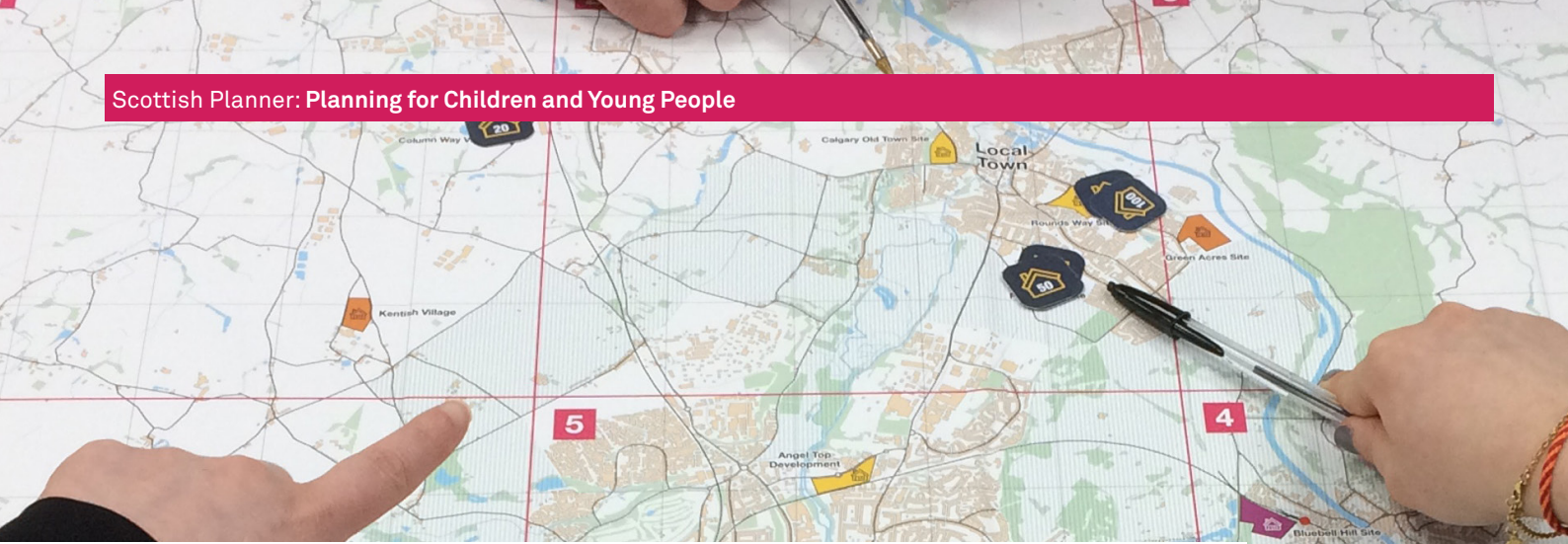
For Shaping Our Spaces, we created a

conversation based on real challenges rather than hypothetical scenarios; positioning the project as a live discussion in Sighthill, a community in the North of Glasgow undergoing the most significant regeneration project in the UK outside of London. We worked with the young people to bring them closer to what significant changes in the built environment really looked like - and quite literally what they smelled like too - for the many people living in Sighthill and surrounded by the chaotic environment created by these types of projects.

We met with local people to listen to their experiences, we recorded conversations and created temporary banner interventions across the site provoked by these meetings; with one banner asking 'How long is too long?'

This 'shock and awe' method of taking the young people into the thick of it helped to activate their positions on the decision making processes around regeneration. Ultimately, encouraging them to explore possible ways in which they might be able to effectively engage developers, architects, planners and policy makers in their own communities.

Moving forward, at Pidgin Perfect we are keen to continue to identify new opportunities to bring young people closer to the decision making processes around their built environment and helping our clients to better recognise the value this will bring to their projects. ■



## Article:

# Creating A Pipeline Of Future Planners

**Judith Taylor** is the RTPI's Higher Education Officer. Here, she looks at some of the initiatives in which she and her colleagues in the Careers, Education and Professional Development team are involved.

Scotland continues to need a steady stream of new planners, and the Institute is leading a series of initiatives across the UK and Ireland to help increase the pipeline. The RTPI's Careers, Education and Professional Development team are leading exciting new outreach projects in the RTPI Future Planners programme, which aims to raise awareness of and interest in planning among school pupils and university students.

### Support for students

Our new careers talk programme sees local Young Planners Networks visit Planning Schools to speak to students about the Institute, the value of membership, and the variety of planning careers available. The RTPI bursary programme for university students has run for the past 3 years, and we are currently looking into getting more sponsorship to continue the bursary in 2018-19 and beyond.

### Say hello to Agent Plan-it

Many children accept what they see around them without knowing the history of the environment or appreciating what goes behind the development of an area. To help them start to think about the area in which they live, we commissioned a show called 'Agent Plan-it' on Fun Kids Radio. Aimed at 8-

to 13-year-olds, the show follows Agent Plan-it in helping schoolchild Anna understand more about the environment around her and how planning and planners can help. Over 250,000 young people and their parents and teachers have tuned in to Agent Plan-it's adventures so far, and a second series is planned for later in 2018.

### Teaching with Place Makers

Scottish schools will benefit from a free educational resource for 14+-year-olds when it is launched this month. RTPI Place Makers is linked to the geography curriculum and other teaching requirements for placemaking and citizenship. It is an interactive role-play board game for teachers and RTPI Ambassadors to use in the classroom.

### World Town Planning Day in schools

To celebrate World Town Planning Day in November, we held a second UK schools' competition for 7- to 18-year-olds. We received an amazing 120 entries. The RTPI Young Planners who judged the entries were very impressed: 'it was a really enjoyable task to be involved in. The submissions were all fantastic and full of content.'

### Want to help?

If you have an event or an idea in mind, you can access advice and material online via the RTPI Ambassadors Toolkit: [www.rtpi.org.uk/ambassadorstoolkit](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/ambassadorstoolkit)

The range of opportunities within the initiative continues to grow. In 2017, Ambassadors took part in schools or careers events on average once a week.

So if you're an RTPI member and want to 'give back', inspire and enthuse the next generation of the profession, and can spare 1-2 hours next year, become an RTPI Ambassador. Remember, it could count as CPD. Sign up at [www.rtpi.org.uk/futureplanners](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/futureplanners). Ideas for funding or grants? Get in touch via [careers@rtpi.org.uk](mailto:careers@rtpi.org.uk). ■

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**Judith Taylor**  
Higher Education  
Officer  
RTPI

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## Article:

# Re-imagining Schools as a Campus for the Community

**Diarmaid Lawlor**, Director of Place in Architecture + Design Scotland, discusses a project Inverness looking to support young people to influence decisions on the future of their school.

One of the most compelling public campaigns in Scotland is 'See Me'. It is a simple, powerful invitation to keep an eye out for the people around us. Mental health is complex.

Whilst the 'See Me' campaign is targeting society, in the Year of Young People we should reflect on the extent to which we really see young people as leaders of their own choices. We should also reflect on the extent to which we afford young people, and the families and communities that support them the space to be.

And at the centre of this discussion is the way we plan services and spaces. We hear a lot about integrating community planning and spatial planning. Rightly so. But we also seem confused as to what this might look like, and how it might be achieved.

A good place to start that discussion is to think about the life of a young person in any Scottish community. See them, see them clearly. Think about their choices. Now think about our choices, around resources, services, and spaces. A useful space to think these choices through is the idea of the school, as a place for learning, as a place for expression of youth and as a place for community. If we really bring community planning and spatial planning together, what kind of experiences do we want to create in the investment around these spaces in the community?

Recently, Education Scotland published a guide to learner participation. At the heart of this work is a reflection on rights:

*"Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home - so*



**Diarmaid Lawlor**  
Director of Place  
Architecture +  
Design Scotland

*close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighbourhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere.*

- Eleanor Roosevelt

A fundamental influence on how young people build their sense of worth, and sense of agency and leadership is through the spaces they experience, day to day. Better placemaking builds better opportunities for personal leadership, exercising rights.

Developing this theme is Pasi Sahlberg, a member of the International Education Advisors to Scottish Government. He highlights two major global issues for young people:

- First, young people are experiencing more and more complex mental challenges. A major 21st century focus is wellbeing
- Second, we are losing focus on the value of play. A major 21st century is space to be, social space, free space.

Recently, Sahlberg set out his views on three transformations for learning in Scotland:

- From focusing on 'the child being ready for school' to the 'school being ready for the child'
- From 'how good is our school' to 'how is our school good'
- From 'Curriculum for Excellence' to 'Curriculum for Equity'

At the heart of these transformations is a challenge: re-focus how we do what we do around needs, and wellbeing. This is the crux of linking community planning and spatial planning.

Drawing on this kind of thinking Architecture and Design Scotland has been supporting the learners, teachers and communities of Inverness High School to re-imagine their school. Working with Highlands Council as part of their investment programme, and the locality process, the focus of this work has been to build a brief. And at the heart of this process has been the voice of young people.

Inverness High School is located in the most deprived ward of the city. Yet, ten

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**“The aim is to ensure that the voice and choice of young is present in everything, and accessible across the community.”**

minutes walk away you are in the city centre. A few minutes from that finds you at the Muirtown Basin, overlooking the Caledonian Canal surrounded by the splendour of the Highlands. But in the school, many students

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**“A fundamental influence on how young people build their sense of worth, and sense of agency and leadership is through the spaces they experience, day to day.”**

have support needs. The building, though well loved, needs transformation. The surrounding community are loyal, determined and working to address their challenges in their area. But, for many the school is a place of curriculum, not a place of community. The school, and its grounds are a huge resource, an opportunity to integrate experiences and services around the learning and wellbeing needs of the community.

The briefing process we are working through started with understanding needs. We talked to teachers about the key issues from their perspective, around relationships, achievement, experiences and spaces. The conversation was open, around experiences, within which we drew out the purpose and need of spaces. We engaged creative, ambitious, scared, determined and interesting young people. We were invited to see the school and grounds through their eyes, the emotional landscape of their day to day places, where they feel confident, and not; their experience of exercising personal choice, and not, their needs of relationships and places. We engaged the community around their needs, around the specific needs of parents who want to be partners in their children's learning, and around the parents who want to be leaders of their own learning, recovery and development. We again talked about relationships, wrap around support, integration of experiences.

The outcome of these discussions is a shared ambition around four things:

- 'Integrate and extend choices of learning experiences: a learner focus based on shared outcomes.
- 'Support 21st century skills and readiness for life: the creative and efficient use of resources, assets and partnerships
- 'A gathering place for lifelong learning': - support social and economic development and work opportunities
- 'Improved community health and wellbeing': parental participation, community collaboration and joined up services

This focus is helping re-imagine the spaces of the school, and re-imagine the school as a campus for the community as a whole. The aim is to ensure that the voice and choice of young is present in everything, and accessible

across the community. It blends school thinking and place thinking.

Planning is about building the conditions to make choices. The foundation should be deep insights around community needs, and dogged commitment to

innovation in the way to imagine the potential of spaces and places to meet these needs. The social infrastructure of our places is critical to the wellbeing of young people. Planning should play a central role, imagining possibilities, integrating opportunities. We need to take more leadership and reflect on 'See Me'. ■



# Article: Imagining Place

**Dr Colin Morrison, Co-Director of the Children's Parliament discusses the impact of the EcoCity project.**

In 1992 a group of architects, town planners and children's rights enthusiasts created a project called EcoCity where children could imagine and build an urban environment within which they would want to live. As they built their place the children discussed how they could possibly make adults listen to children and take their views seriously, and in the middle of their model one day a Children's Parliament appeared. One of the children said that the word parliament meant a place to talk. Others agreed that if there was a space within their imagined place where people could come together to pay attention to each other's views and feelings and have fun, then this would be for the common good. For the adults involved in this first EcoCity project, this was inspirational, and all these years later Children's Parliament continues to work with children and the adults who love and care for them to help children realise their rights and adults fulfil their responsibilities to them.

Scotland has changed significantly in the years since 1992 and Children's Parliament has too, but at the heart of what we do remains a commitment to building rights-based relationships across the domains of a child's life – at home, in school and in the community. We do this by learning about the core, intuitive idea of human dignity and then develop that by addressing the further components of rights-based relationships which are kindness, empathy and trust.

Translating these notions into the idea of placemaking is of great importance to us. The EcoCity model is an ambitious approach, sometimes based on an imagined landscape, sometimes in the context of real urban regeneration. The approach is a tool for planners and others responsible for supporting the development of inclusive, sustainable and engaged communities. While creating streets, play areas, transport and energy systems, children also think about intergenerational and community relations.

A successful EcoCity needs to involve local and professional adults who may be somewhat sceptical at the outset that 10-year-olds can truly inform and influence their plans.

More recently, Children's Parliament has been working with children in Aberdeen to influence strategic planning and adult duty-bearers when they consider the needs of children, families and communities. Our band of Imagineers are aged 9 to 12 years old, and in thinking about the kind of city they want to live and grow up in they created a number of messages, displayed in the Lighthouse centre-piece in their Imagining Aberdeen mural. The messages are all about relationships and emphasise the importance of community. They tell us that children want to play in playgrounds and parks that are dog-poo free, that there should be trees and flowers everywhere and that all families need to live in a lovely street with nice neighbours. They also remind us that communities are impacted by poverty and individuals and families by isolation, and so it is in building the quality of our social relationships as well as our physical environment that we create the good life children want. ■

### References

**Imagining Aberdeen:** Children's Parliament <https://www.childrensparliament.org.uk/our-work/imaginingaberdeen/>

**EcoCity:** Children's Parliament <https://www.childrensparliament.org.uk/our-work/past-work/ecocity/>

**Transforming the Urban Environment:** The EcoCity Project by Colin Morrison, Cathy McCulloch, Drew Mackie, Sandy Halliday and Howard Liddell in 'Children and Young People's Participation and Its Transformative Potential: Learning from across Countries' Eds E. Kay Tisdall at al ISBN 978-0-230-21686-0



**Dr Colin Morrison**  
Co-Director,  
Children's Parliament

# Update: Celebrating Success



Roddy McKay of Orkney Islands Council lifts the Silver Jubilee Cup

## Transformation of Stromness wins top RTPI planning award

A 10-year plan to regenerate Stromness in Orkney has won the RTPI Silver Jubilee Cup. Planners at Orkney Islands Council led a whole-of-council task force to implement the 10-year plan that has transformed the declining town following the community warning Stromness was being 'left behind'. Over the past 10 years, the plan has resulted in 12 major projects implemented across the town, including new and upgraded public spaces, new shops and businesses and a new primary school. The library was not only rebuilt and moved to a new site – in the centre of the town, at the community's request - to ensure it was accessible to everyone. A new fishing pier was built with European funding, and new business and industrial spaces were allocated near the pier. The council have also begun work for a new international research facility and infrastructure for tidal and wave energy generation.

All this were the result of council planners working closely with the community and involving them from the very start, using a 'blank page approach' to establish the community's key priorities. A draft plan was drawn up, which was then shaped by

community events, meetings and surveys, plus well attended community workshops.

The judges said *"Stromness has been regenerated over the past 10 years through a comprehensive, plan-led strategy. It was spearheaded by the council's planners who were key to its success through establishing a vision for the town and ensuring commitment from other players to help deliver it. The before and after photographs show just how dramatic the transformation has been. This remarkable 'place-based' approach could be used as a blueprint to revive declining towns across the country."*

John Acres MRTPI, RTPI President said that the 'place-based' approach could be used as a blueprint to revive declining towns across the country.

## Heather Claridge of Glasgow City Council named Young Planner of the Year

Congratulations go to Heather Claridge MRTPI, who as been key in the transformation of the Forth and Clyde Canal and who has been named as Young Planner of the Year. Heather, who works at Glasgow City Council, was the lead officer for the Glasgow Canal Project which saw the once derelict canal transformed into a cultural district. She

secured over £3.5 million worth of funding to bring green space to some of the most deprived communities in the region and developed the award winning Stalled Spaces programme which supported over 130 community led projects. On top of that, Heather developed partnership projects for the Glasgow's 2014 Commonwealth Games Greener Legacy Theme.

The judges said: *"Heather's passion for planning is reflected in the outstanding calibre of her work, studies and volunteering. Her creative use of planning to improve her community is matched by her drive to get things done. She is a fantastic ambassador for the profession across the UK."*

Heather features in the Public Enquiries section of this Scottish Planner on page 6.

## Scottish Planner Wins Design Award

The RTPI Scotland's journal – Scottish Planner – has won a prestigious industry award. The journal and its designer Barton Willmore (pictured) were crowned the overall winner for their 'fun and creative design approach' in the 'Publishing' category at the Creativepool 2018 Awards. Responding to the win, Kate Houghton MRTPI, Co-Editor of the Scottish Planner said:

*"We are thrilled the revamped Scottish Planner has won this award. Feedback consistently confirms the Scottish Planner is highly valued by our members and this award is an endorsement - from the design industry - of the quality of the publication."*

*We use it as one of the Institute's most important tools for engaging non-planners with what are often technical policy issues. The policy world is crowded, and so the eye-catching design that Barton Willmore has created is essential to winning our key audiences' attention and delivering our message effectively."*

*The team at Barton Willmore consistently create great visuals that communicate a specific planning perspective on big policy ideas – from Scottish heritage, through to demographic change, to infrastructure planning - in a fun and accessible way."* ■



The successful Barton Willmore design team with their award



# Update: Scottish Government News



## Planning Bill update

The Scottish Parliament has completed its Stage 1 scrutiny of the Planning (Scotland) Bill and has agreed the general principles of the Bill. The Local Government and Communities Committee will begin its Stage 2 consideration of proposed amendments to the Bill after the summer recess. Information on the progress of the Planning Bill can be found on the Scottish Parliament's website at: <http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/107202.aspx>.

## SAQP Update

The 56 applications for SAQP2018 were considered by the judges in early June with the shortlist announced soon after. Further details are available on our website.

## Scotland+Venice Update

Scotland's project for the 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale, 'The Happenstance', was launched, as an official collateral event, in Venice in May. The project links to Scotland's Year of Young People 2018, while responding to the Biennale theme of 'Freespace'. Led by artists/curators WAVEparticle, the project brought together artists and architects to explore this theme with young people nationwide before going to Venice. The Architect's Journal named 'The Happenstance' as one of the Venice Architecture Biennale's 'magnificent seven' to see. Occupying a large garden space, it uses play as a key activator for ideas together with workshops, talks, outdoor film screenings and live events. The Architectural Review's Phineas Harper wrote: "A standout triumph of Freespace is Scotland's rebellious contribution which exuberantly challenges the entire edifice of the Biennale with a participatory pavilion-cum-festival as much of Scotland as of Venice." "It is a pavilion both entirely of Scotland and entirely of Venice – and the only truly free space at Freespace."

## Updated guidance on the use of compulsory purchase

We have published new procedural guidance which aims to guide Acquiring Authorities through the process of considering, resolving to use, preparing, having confirmed and then implementing a CPO. The guidance sets out the Scottish Government Vision for CPO use and makes clear our support for its use when necessary to deliver housing, development and regeneration. <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/compulsory-purchase-orders-introduction/>

The new guidance complements, rather than replaces, Planning Circular 6/2011. A series of case studies have also been produced. New information for Landowners affected by compulsory purchase is expected to follow by the end of Summer 2018.

Research has also been published, undertaken by a team from the University of Dundee, Eclipse Research and Kevin Murray Associates, and supported by the Scottish Government, into 'the facilitation of participatory placemaking'. *Shaping better places together* can be downloaded from <https://www.dundee.ac.uk/architecture-urban-planning/projects/details/shaping-better-places-together.php>

## Events

### Young People – Development Plan Forum

The April national Development Planning Forum focused on the planning review, sharing experience, knowledge and lead practice ideas. A workshop on engaging young people in planning, facilitated by PAS, covered a variety of approaches and noted the importance of youth leadership roles.

### Build to Rent Seminar

Our April Build to Rent (BTR) event raised awareness of the key opportunities and challenges of this sector. It brought together speakers from the public and private sector who shared their experiences of

delivering BTR development. The agenda from the event is available along with links to the presentations <https://blogs.gov.scot/planning-architecture/2018/06/13/build-to-rent-event-2018>. Case studies of the projects discussed will be made available over the coming weeks.

## Planning System Research – Invitation to Participate

Following on from the May 2016 Independent Review of the Planning System, a Digital Taskforce was established to explore opportunities to develop a world leading Digital Planning Service for Scotland. As part of the work to explore digital opportunities, the Scottish Government's Digital Planning Team are keen to hear from people who would be willing to share their views and insights of their experience of planning in Scotland.

If you are an architect, agent, house builder, community representative or other planning professional, Local Authority Planner or a member of the public that has:

- Applied for planning permission for yourself or as an agent
- Processed planning applications
- Commented on proposed applications
- Seen, contributed to or commented on a local development plan
- Taken part in a consultation event on a local development plan

## We would love to hear your feedback.

If you'd like to take part and help shape the digital future of the Scottish planning system, please take part in our very short survey – this is just to help us understand who you are so we can involve you in the most appropriate round(s) of research. **This should take you less than 5 minutes.**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/sgplanningserviceresearch> > ■

# Update:

## Scottish Government News – the Year of Young People



SUPPORTING

year of young people  
bliadhna na h-òigridh  
2018

The Year of Young People 2018 is an opportunity for generations to come together and celebrate our nation's young people. It aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine. You can find out more about the themed year at: <http://yoyp2018.scot/>

Over a number of years the Scottish Government's Planning and Architecture Division has supported young people in their career development.

A number of experienced professional planners joined the then Scottish Executive as graduate planners.

Carrie Thomson is currently a Principal Planner leading the team that handle development plans on behalf of Ministers and responsible for a wide range of policy areas. Her job has offered various roles beginning with notified applications, developing advice and policy on a number of different topics and managing research projects. She was also able to take part in a 6 month exchange to the Icelandic Planning Agency. Carrie said *"Working in the Government has given me excellent opportunities to progress my career in planning. Now my team and I are heavily involved in the Planning Bill and shaping the future of development plans. As well as all of this, working in Government has also enabled me to work flexibly to allow me to balance family responsibilities."*

Kristen Anderson joined us in early 2005. Coming from a local authority background, she has subsequently worked on a wide range of projects including preparing PANs on flyposting and microrenewables, plus developing secondary legislation and guidance arising from the 2006 Planning Act. She has been on secondments in both Munich and with the Prince's Foundation in London with a focus on design and place-making. More recently she has been the policy lead on green infrastructure and led the Town Centre Planning Pilots programme to support

regeneration. These are areas she continues to cover as she develops the legislation on Simplified Development Zones. Kristen said *"PAD is an interesting place to work, because of the mix of projects that working at the Government exposes you to and the chance to feel like you're making a real difference. Working in a team involved in reforms of the planning system and supporting place-making in Scotland is especially rewarding."*

We have also recently been actively supporting the Government's Modern Apprentice programme. The programme is a ministerial commitment to offer meaningful apprenticeships of one or two years. Three of our current colleagues (Nicole Currie, Melissa Shields and Erin Dobson) began work here under the programme.

Nicole said *"I started working in PAD three years ago under the Modern Apprentice programme. The programme gave me the opportunity to begin my career in a fast paced area of government which I otherwise would not have had the opportunity to do as I had limited work experience, other than part time work in various retail stores."*

Over the last three years I have had the chance to work with a wide range of colleagues and stakeholders supporting high profile events such as SAQP and the Heads of Planning annual meeting and I am truly grateful for the opportunities and support I have received in my time here. PAD is a great place to work and I know Melissa, who started as a Modern Apprentice not long after myself, would agree. I hope that Erin, our newest Modern Apprentice, will find the experience as useful and rewarding as both Melissa and I have."

After the bill we will begin work on reviewing national planning policy. Children and Young People will be playing an active part in shaping the way we engage on the way that Scotland will develop over the next 20-30 years. ■



# Update:

## RTPI Scotland Update



### NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE VICTORIA HILLS

New RTPI Chief Executive Victoria Hills for RTPI Scotland Executive Committee attended the May meeting of the Scottish Executive Committee, and has also met with Scottish Government Chief Planner John McNairney. Victoria also took the opportunity of her visit to award RTPI Scotland Director Craig McLaren with his Fellowship of the Institute, reflecting his longstanding contribution as an outstanding champion for planning.

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RTPI Scotland has attended or presented at the following:

- Scottish Parliamentary Cross Party Group on The Built Environment
- Chartered Institute of Housing Festival of Housing
- Scotland's Towns Partnership event on "Your Town: Creating Health, Wealth and Happiness"
- Strathclyde University conference "FRAMEworks – Social Innovation for Planning in the Built Environment"
- Heads of Planning Scotland Executive Committee
- Building Conservation Professionals Forum
- Heads of Planning Scotland Annual Conference
- National Walking Strategy Delivery Forum
- Obesity Alliance Scotland

RTPI Scotland has also met with the following:

- Scottish Government Planning Bill team
- Callum McCaig, Special Adviser, Scottish Government
- Chartered Institute of Housing Scotland
- COSLA
- Scottish Land Commission
- Architecture + Design Scotland
- Scottish Property Federation

RTPI Scotland has hosted the following meetings:

- Scottish Forum for Planning
- Scottish Planning Skills Forum
- Focus Group on research into Working in the Public Interest

### COMMUNICATIONS

The [@RTPIScotland](#) Twitter account now has 3516 followers and the [@ConvenorRTPIS](#) account has 1192 followers.

The following have been posted on the RTPI Scotland blog (see <https://rtpiscotland.blog>)

- Briefing for MSPs ahead of the Scottish Parliament stage 1 debate on the Planning Bill – Kate Houghton
- Planning and technology, more than a means to an end? - Rhiannon Moylan and Lisa Proudfoot
- A good deal? - Craig McLaren looks at the Local Government and Communities Committee Report on the City Region Deals
- People at the heart of the Climate Change Plan? - Ragne Low of the University of Strathclyde Centre for Energy Policy

### MEDIA

The following news releases have been published:

- 12 June 2018 - RTPI Scotland journal wins prestigious industry award
- 17 May 2018 - RTPI Scotland: Planning Bill must make clear planning will defend public interest
- 25 May - Ten-year transformation of Scottish village wins top UK planning award

### DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of Mr Richard William Colwell FRIBA MRTPI(Rtd) from Glasgow

### RTPI ELECTIONS - BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE

Do you want to be a part of the change at this year's RTPI elections? Now is your opportunity to be the change you want to see at the Institute. There are a wide range of roles open for nomination. The RTPI's membership is ever changing and becoming more diverse and the Institute wants its governance to reflect that. Promoting involvement from members from a wide range of backgrounds is important to ensure the best candidates from the widest pool of talent comes forward. The following positions are open for nominations:

- Board of Trustees - Chair of the Board of Trustees; Treasurer; Trustee for Scotland; and 3 corporate trustee
- Vice President of the Institute
- General Assembly - 14 corporate members; 3 student/ licentiate; and 2 associates

The closing date for nominations is 3 July and voting will take place between 3 September and 3 October. More details at [www.rtpi.org.uk](http://www.rtpi.org.uk) ■



## Update:

### So What is the Year of Young People?

Year of Young People 2018 provides a platform to promote and celebrate the talents, achievements and contributions of Scotland's incredible young people.

#### What activity is happening?

A line-up of events is taking place across the country for all ages to enjoy.

For example an exciting calendar of events has been planned by young people and event organisers. Highlights include Scotland's first youth TEDX@YouthGlasgow, Edinburgh's International Film Festival with a new youth strand for 2018 and Youth Beatz, the biggest youth music event taking place in Dumfries and Galloway. Check out [visitscotland.com/yoyp2018](http://visitscotland.com/yoyp2018) for a full event-listing.

YoYP 2018 is a platform for young people's voices, ideas and experiences to be heard. For example a group of 35 young people called Communic18 are making all the key decisions around YoYP 2018, making sure that young people co-produce activity around the Year.

The Scottish Government is committed to strengthening young people's voices and ideas across the six themes. Work is currently being undertaken in areas including mental health, protecting children's rights and having more of a say in their education and learning.

It's a celebration of our nation's young people and supporting adults in: Celebrations kicked off in style with young people voting #Braw as their #ScotWord which was revealed to the world at Edinburgh's Hogmanay Torchlight Procession.

Alongside the events programme, there's loads of activity happening across the country with schools, youth groups and organisations running their own YoYP 2018 events, social media campaigns, student and staff fun days, to name a few examples. Check out #YOYP2018 on social media to see the range of activity happening!

#### DID YOU KNOW THAT...

1. Young people are leading YoYP 2018. They are at the heart of its planning, ideas and decision making.
2. Young people are classed as 8 to 26 years, but the Year is for the young and young-at-heart to enjoy.
3. Scotland is leading a world-first. No other country has dedicated a Year to promoting and celebrating its young people.
4. More than 500 young people are YoYP 2018 Ambassadors. Based in every area of Scotland, they are promoting local activity and challenging the stereotypes of young people in their local area.

## Update:

### Scottish Young Planners Network

#### Alasdair Adey, MRTPI, SYPN Chair 2018/19.

As 2018/19 Chair of the SYPN I will be inspired by the fantastic example set by Lesley McVeigh, who now takes on the role of Past Chair. I am also delighted to announce that Lisa Proudfoot were nominated Vice Chair, and we welcome some new members to the SYPN Steering Group. We forward to continuing our work to promote the interests of young planners throughout Scotland.

In March 2018 we held our annual Scottish Young Planners Conference at the Strathclyde Technology & Innovation Centre in Glasgow, which focused on the Changing Face of Planning: Planning Ahead. I am delighted to report on a successful and well-attended conference, with over 120 delegates in attendance. On behalf of the SYPN allow me to offer our thanks to all delegates in attendance, the speakers who made a huge

contribution to the success of the conference, our sponsors, and those involved with organisation. For any readers looking to gain further insight to the conference, blogs from delegates Rhiannon Moylan, Lisa Proudfoot and Luke Vogan are available on the RTPI Scotland blog <https://rtipscotland.blog>.

Following on from the conference we have spent some time reviewing our events programme and we have some exciting events in the pipeline – keep an eye out for these over the forthcoming months! In addition to individual events, we will be delivering presentations to Scottish planning schools and hosting our annual APC workshops later this year.

In conjunction with the Year of Young People, the SYPN have been invited to deliver presentations at the HOPS conference

in Shetland and the CSGN Conference in Glasgow. Both presentations are linked to the role of young professionals, with respective focus on and how to attract young people into the planning profession and having impact as a young professional.

Our December 2017 update confirmed our intention to submit a bid for the National Young Planners Conference in 2019. Our bid has since been received, and we look forward to the outcome of what will certainly be a highly competitive process.

Finally keep an eye out for our summer socials in Glasgow and Edinburgh, which will soon be advertised via the SYPN mailing list. We look forward to seeing you there!



# Update:

## Policy Update



RTPI Scotland aims to lead thinking on how planning can create great places for people. We do this by:

- Responding to policy consultations from Scottish Government, agencies and other organisations; and
- Discussing planning issues with policy makers including Ministers, MSPs and Civil Servants.

We are always keen to receive comments from members on any policy issues. Please contact Kate Houghton, RTPI Scotland's Planning Policy and Practice Officer, on [kate.houghton@rtpi.org.uk](mailto:kate.houghton@rtpi.org.uk) if you would like contribute to our responses to national consultations.

### PLANNING BILL

The Local Government and Communities Committee, as the lead Parliamentary committee on the planning bill published their stage 1 report after taking evidence from a range of parties, including RTPI Scotland. RTPI Scotland responded to the report by issuing a news release saying that the bill must make clear planning will defend public interest.

RTPI Scotland provided briefing to MSPs for the debate on the planning bill which took place on 29 May. Our concerns on resourcing were highlighted in the debate by MSPs.

RTPI Scotland has put forward to the Scottish Government Planning Bill team 4 groups of amendments. These cover the introduction of a purpose for planning in the Bill, new arrangements to retain strategic planning, the establishment of a statutory Chief Planning Officer in local authorities, and measures to ensure a new planning performance champion is appointed and is able to work independently along with provisions to repeal the planning penalty clause. We are also discussing these with political party spokespersons.

RTPI Scotland has coordinated an open letter from a range of organisations outlining our opposition to the introduction of third party rights through the planning bill.

The Scottish Alliance for People and Places hosted an exhibition stand in the Scottish Parliament on 17, 18 and 19 April. RTPI Scotland was represented at the stand for two of these days, and it was a very useful opportunity to speak to several MSPs about the Planning Bill

Meetings have been held with the following regarding the Planning Bill:

- Scottish Government Special Advisor Callum McCaig
- Donald Cameron MSP
- Alexander Stewart MSP
- Graham Simpson MSP
- Mark MacDonald MSP
- Scottish Government Planning Bill team

### CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Responses have been submitted to the following consultations and requests for written evidence:

- Scottish Government - Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme: Second Consultation on Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategies, and Regulation of District and Communal Heating
- Scottish Government - A Connected Scotland – Social Isolation and Loneliness Strategy
- David Stewart MSP - Consultation on Social Housing (Fire Suppression Systems) (Scotland) Bill
- Submission of evidence to the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee on EU environmental principles
- Scottish Government – Fees charged for applications under the 1989 Electricity Act

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**Public Health Priorities for Scotland**  
Published June 2018  
Scottish Government and COSLA

**Transport (Scotland) Bill**  
Published June 2018  
Scottish Parliament

**Active Travel Taskforce Report**  
Published June 2018  
Transport Scotland

**Planning for Great Places Service Statement 2018**  
Published June 2018  
Scottish Natural Heritage

**National Performance Framework**  
Published June 2018  
Scottish Government

**Land Focus: Land Value Capture**  
Published June 2018  
Scottish Land Commission

**Corporate Strategy for 2018-2023**  
Published June 2018  
National Trust for Scotland

**Climate Ready Scotland: Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme - Fourth Annual Progress Report**  
Published May 2018  
Scottish Government

**Delivering More Homes for Scotland: barriers and solutions**  
Published May 2018  
Homes for Scotland

**Land Lines – The delivery of public interest led development in Scotland: A discussion paper**  
Published May 2018  
Scottish Land Commission

## RTPI SCOTLAND CONTACTS



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# SPCF

## Scottish Planning Consultants Forum

The Scottish Planning Consultants Forum represents the private sector planning profession for both independent consultants and those employed by small and large consultancies. We have successfully engaged with both the Scottish Government and the Scottish Parliament on the Planning Review and the Planning (Scotland) Bill.

If you wish to find out more about the SPCF or be involved, please contact either John MacCallum or Stuart Salter.

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