

The Sir Patrick Geddes  
Commemorative Lecture 2018

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# The Participatory City

by **Tessy Britton**

Chief Executive,  
The Participatory City Foundation

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Tuesday 26 June 2018  
Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh

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## Tessy Britton, Chief Executive, Participatory City Foundation

Tessy Britton is Founding CEO of Participatory City Foundation, an organisation established to create a large citizen-led participation ecosystem in Barking and Dagenham in London. The initiative is scaling up a new approach to encouraging and supporting participation, building regular activities into the grain of everyday life to build sustainable neighbourhoods of the future. The approach has been researched and tested over the last 8 years and aims to offer cities new ways in which the centre of gravity moves away from problem focused approaches towards citizens' talents and ideas.

Through this lecture Tessy will describe the overall ambitions and achievements of the initiative so far, as well as give more detail about the underlying models, and how the initiative aims to replicate in other cities.

<http://www.participatorycity.org>

<https://www.weareeveryone.org>

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### Programme

17.45	Arrival and registration
18.00	Welcome and Introduction by Fraser Carlin, Convenor of RTPI Scotland
18.15	Lecture by Tessy Britton, followed by questions
19.20	Vote of Thanks
19.30	Drinks reception
20.15	Departures

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### Sir Patrick Geddes

This is the 15th Sir Patrick Geddes Commemorative Lecture which is organised to stimulate discussion on planning issues. Sir Patrick Geddes is widely regarded as the founder of modern town planning. His interest in the natural sciences led him to a professorship at Dundee University in botany, after which he developed his interest in sociology and planning. He lived most of his life in Edinburgh during which he established the Edinburgh Social Union, promoted a wide range of sympathetic redevelopment and conservation schemes the length of the Royal Mile and founded a publishing company. He published seminal texts such as "Cities in Evolution", spent time in India as Chair in Sociology at Bombay University, planned the Hebrew University at Jerusalem and finally retired to France where he founded the College des Ecosais in Montpellier. He was knighted in London in the year of his death.

