



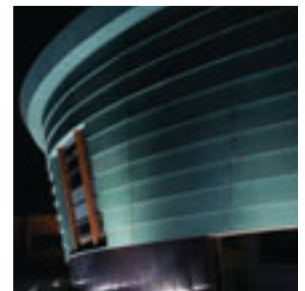
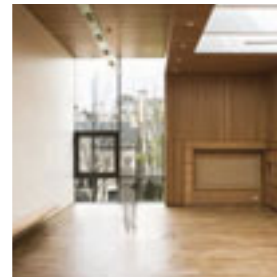
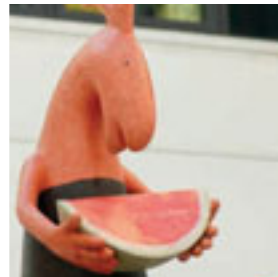
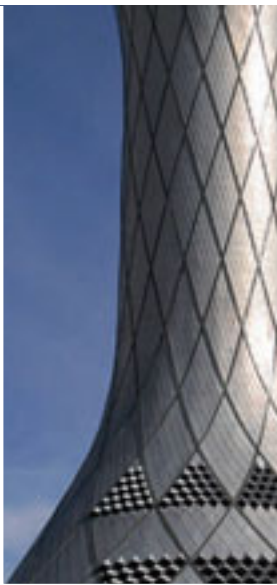
# BUILDING OUR LEGACY

STATEMENT ON SCOTLAND'S ARCHITECTURE POLICY 2007

# TO PROMOTE THE VALUE AND BENEFITS OF GOOD ARCHITECTURE, ENCOURAGE DEBATE ON THE ROLE OF ARCHITECTURE IN NATIONAL AND LOCAL LIFE AND FURTHER AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRODUCTS AND PROCESSES OF BUILDING DESIGN

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# FOREWORD



The launch of Scotland's first ever policy on architecture in 2001 was an acknowledgement of the unique contribution that architecture has made, and continues to make, to Scotland's cultural life. Our architecture and our built environment

contribute to and help to shape our sense of identity as a nation; they provide the setting for the everyday life of communities and individuals across the length and breadth of Scotland; they tell the story of our past; and they will be a vital ingredient in our success as a nation in the future.

The first statement made by the Scottish Executive on architecture was the 1999 framework document 'The Development of a Policy on Architecture for Scotland' which set out Scottish Ministers' views on the value and benefits of good architecture and design in cultural, social, environmental and economic terms. These views were strongly supported in public consultation and thus became the underlying principles on which the 2001 policy on architecture was based. In formulating this updated statement, it is clear to me that the principles on which our policy is based still hold true today. However, Scottish Ministers recognise that some key issues related to the built environment can be subject to change and that our priorities need to reflect such changes. We undertook, therefore, to review the policy periodically and to assess the effectiveness of the actions which we have taken. This statement derives from the first formal review of policy in 2006 and reports on our changes in approach, emphasis and priorities in policy. I would like to express my warm thanks to all those who took part in our public consultation and who have helped in the development of the new statement.

Public interest in the National Programme on Architecture managed by The Lighthouse continues to grow, and I am confident that the impact of our policy over the past five years has been a positive one. Architecture and Design Scotland (A+DS) is now well established and I look forward to seeing the outcomes of its early engagement in areas such as healthcare buildings. Sustainable development is an increasingly important part of our agenda and our continued funding of 'Sust. The Lighthouse on Sustainability' is a demonstration of our commitment to support the mainstreaming of sustainable design.

I am extremely optimistic about the continuing achievements of Scottish architecture and can see growing international recognition of the strength of recent Scottish projects. The 'RIAS Doolan Award for Best Building in Scotland' has highlighted the immense quality and range of our best new architecture, and I feel that the standard of design on the shortlists has been remarkable.

Fundamentally, the quality of our built environment affects our quality of life for better or worse and, therefore, deserves to be a necessary concern of government. This new policy statement on architecture marks Scottish Ministers' continued commitment to a high quality built environment as a key factor in turning our aspiration to be the best small country in the world into a reality.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Patricia Ferguson'.

**Patricia Ferguson, MSP**

Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport

“IF THERE IS A RECURRING THEME [IN RECENT SCOTTISH ARCHITECTURE], IT IS A CONCERN WITH CREATING A SENSE OF PLACE; WITH ‘HEALING’ A FRACTURED SITE. ... THESE BUILDINGS SHARE A SENSIBILITY THAT IS DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO THE ATTENTION-GRABBING EXTRAVAGANCE OF FLAMBOYANT CIVIC BUILDINGS OR FLAGSHIP CORPORATE HQS. IF THEY ARE SHOWPIECE BUILDINGS AT ALL, THEY HAVE BECOME SO AS A RESULT OF THE EXTRAORDINARY TALENT AND CARE WHICH HAS BEEN LAVISHED ON THEIR EXECUTION, RATHER THAN THE ELASTICITY OF THE BUDGET OR THE STATUS OF THE CLIENT.

WHATEVER PROBLEMS HAVE BESET SCOTTISH ARCHITECTURE, YOU HAVE TO APPLAUD THE ENERGY, ROBUSTNESS AND VISION THAT ENCOURAGE THE COUNTRY'S LEADING PRACTITIONERS TO ENGAGE WITH THE MOST UNRESOLVED FRAGMENTS OF THE URBAN LANDSCAPE. IF ANYTHING IS LIKELY TO STEM THE TIDE OF MEDIOCRE BUILDINGS, IT IS THE PROLIFERATION OF PROJECTS THAT PROVE THAT THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR THE HUMBLE TO BE HUMDRUM. FROM AN OUTSIDER'S PERSPECTIVE, SCOTTISH ARCHITECTURE IS NOT ONLY THRIVING, BUT DEMONSTRATING AN EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY TO ELEVATE THE EVERYDAY.”

Isabel Allen

Editorial – ‘Architect’s Journal’ 23.11.06





## INTRODUCTION

“THE QUALITY OF SCOTLAND’S BUILT ENVIRONMENT IS IMPORTANT, NOT ONLY TO OUR OWN QUALITY OF LIFE, BUT TO THE PERCEPTION OF THE COUNTRY ABROAD AS AN OUTSTANDING PLACE TO BE.”

First Minister, Jack McConnell MSP

We believe that significant progress has been made in meeting the objectives set out in the 2001 policy statement, and this is described in our document ‘A Policy on Architecture for Scotland: Progress Report 2005’. In ‘Scotland’s Culture’, published in February 2006, a commitment was made to a renewed and strengthened statement on architecture policy. This was not only a recognition of the progress made against the forty commitments in the 2001 statement, but also a recognition that the policy landscape has changed, signifying the need to update the policy and focus on a new programme of action.

In May 2006, a consultation document was published setting out twelve key challenges that the policy needed to address and, in addition to seeking written responses, consultation events were held in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness. In June 2006, a debate on architecture and the impact of the policy was held in the Scottish Parliament. A report on the public consultation was published in December 2006.

# DIFFERENCES IN POLICY LANDSCAPE

Since 2001, Scottish Ministers have, both through their architecture and planning policies, sought to place design far higher in the development process agenda. As a first step, we reviewed the role of the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland (RFACS), which advised Ministers, local authorities and other bodies on development proposals of significance to the environment. Following this review, in 2005 a new body, Architecture and Design Scotland (A+DS), was set up to replace RFACS. This was a milestone in policy implementation as, through its increased funding and new remit, we have enabled it to have a very much wider, more proactive role than RFACS in the promotion and advocacy of good design.

A key function of A+DS is to engage with planning and procurement processes and to promote excellence in development at an urban and rural design level, in building programmes such as hospitals and schools, as well as in individual buildings. Its role is set out in detail in the Scottish Planning Policy document SPP 20. The aim of the organisation is to raise the quality of new development, so that high standards of layout and design are the rule, not the exception. A key issue in the work of A+DS is improving the quality of everyday architecture as well as having a concern for the design of high profile buildings. Overall, the development of well designed and attractive cities, towns and villages will support Ministers' determination to make Scotland a better place to live, work and visit. This architecture policy statement sets out how we will build on the role of A+DS described in SPP 20.

In November 2001, the 'Designing Places' planning policy statement was published to sit alongside the policy on architecture. Through this policy, design is now a material consideration in the planning process. 'Designing Places' is supported by a series of design based Planning Advice Notes.

The Executive's top priority is promoting sustainable economic growth to create a modern and vibrant Scotland, and a modern, up to date planning system is critical to achieving that objective. Sustainable growth requires development, and the role of planning is to ensure that this development is encouraged and managed in a sustainable way. The 2003 partnership agreement between the Scottish Labour Party and the Scottish Liberal Democrats, 'A Partnership for a Better Scotland', committed the Scottish Executive to improving the planning system by:

- strengthening the involvement of communities;
- speeding up decisions;
- reflecting local views better; and
- allowing quicker investment decisions.

An extensive programme of consultations and stakeholder engagements on all aspects of the planning system has been carried out, and implementation of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 will commence in spring 2007. This is an extremely important stage in the Executive's commitment to reform the planning system, and can be seen as the culmination of the series of consultations and white papers which commenced in 2001.

The present statement on architecture policy sets out how we will further draw together and integrate our architecture and planning policies.



We have also modernised the building standards system and, in 2004, established the Scottish Building Standards Agency (SBSA). The new system provides a flexible approach to regulation which takes Scottish building standards into the 21st century. Although more demanding in building performance, it is less prescriptive in the way that this is achieved, allowing more innovative approaches to building design.

A key success of architecture policy to date has been the way in which an increasing range of other Executive policy areas have been influenced in new ways by considerations of how we can achieve quality buildings and how good design can improve service delivery. It is our intention to further integrate architecture policy with our other priorities for government such as those on sustainable development, on health, on housing and regeneration; where the built environment is fundamental to the success of initiatives.

## EMERGENCE OF OTHER KEY DRIVERS

Whilst many elements of successful architectural production can remain fairly constant, such as:– the important combination of briefing and the involvement and vision of the client/developer; the skill and creativity of the architect and the wider design team in meeting the demands of the brief; and the contribution of the contractor/builder – new challenges are also emerging which could have a fundamental impact on the way in which we design, construct, use and re-use the built environment.

## A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Sustainable development and mitigating climate change have moved further to the forefront of government and public concern since 2001, and sharp rises in fuel prices over recent years have contributed to a further sense of urgency for many. Unsurprisingly, therefore, sustainability was very high on the agenda of many respondents to the consultation.

‘Choosing our future: Scotland’s Sustainable Development Strategy’ was published in December 2005 and sets out actions which we will take in Scotland to take forward shared priorities set out in the UK Framework for sustainable development, published earlier the same year. Following a formal review of the Executive’s response to climate change, the Executive also published ‘Changing Our Ways: Scotland’s Climate Change Programme’ in March 2006. This strengthens the original Programme, published in November 2000, and represents a stepping up of the Executive’s ambition and action to tackle climate change.

The challenges of sustainable development and climate change establish a new and increasingly complex agenda for architecture. Decisions we take today about the design, construction and layout of the built environment will have a profound effect on whether we can achieve our objectives of building a sustainable future and how we conserve our existing resources. The way that our buildings perform can make a significant contribution to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – and there is a real opportunity for clients, designers and the wider construction industry to work together in tackling one of the most important challenges that we face as a society.

We believe that good architecture and design can and must start to lead the way in addressing how a sustainable future can be successfully delivered. The 'Sust. The Lighthouse on Sustainability' initiative was the first mark of our commitment to align architecture policy with The Executive's wider sustainability aims. Sust. was developed in 2002 in order to raise professional and public awareness of the importance of design and the contribution that it can make in delivering a sustainable future. Sust. helps its clients to adopt a sustainable approach to design in the built environment and assists those responsible for designing and commissioning buildings to deliver buildings which meet the expectations of all involved.

## MAKING BETTER PLACES

The importance of a wider urban and rural design agenda has emerged as a topic which this new policy statement needs to address, going beyond a concern that individual buildings respond to the challenges set out in 'Designing Places'. We need to consider how to achieve the quality of place-making required for the development of successful and sustainable neighbourhoods, villages, towns and cities across Scotland.

Great places are formed from far more than the individual buildings that they contain. Our best urban environments are created where an imaginative and appropriate design approach has been consistently applied to the relationship between buildings and the streets, squares, parks, waterways and other spaces which make up the public domain. Beautiful and functional towns, cities, villages and neighbourhoods do not happen by chance; they emerge because deliberate and careful design direction is given to urban growth, conservation and change. Places that are not designed in this way are unlikely to be successful and, as such, they will not produce sustainable outcomes – even if the individual buildings may be regarded as 'green'.

Good urban and rural design draw together the many strands of place-making and resolve often conflicting demands: planning and transportation policy, architectural design, landscape, engineering, social inclusion, development economics and responsibility to the environment – and integrate these to create inspiring places with character.

Our conference 'Urban Design: Time to take stock', which was held in February 2005, highlighted the progress being made to raise awareness of the value and importance of place-making and urban design across Scotland.

# OUR KEY OBJECTIVES

In the written responses to the consultation, in public meetings, in the meetings of the Policy on Architecture Progress Group and in the debate in Parliament, five overarching themes dominated debate as priorities for future policy development. We have reviewed the 2001 policy objectives in order to respond to these emerging themes as follows:

1. **Leadership and delivery:** We will encourage the quality of new developments in both the public and private sectors to be of a standard that provides an outstanding legacy of well-designed new public buildings, schools, healthcare buildings, homes and neighbourhoods, streets squares and parks – contributing to the development of successful and sustainable places.
2. **Cultural context:** We will stimulate a cultural climate which acknowledges and appreciates the role of architecture and design in society, which provides a supportive framework for architectural debate and which encourages the widespread involvement of communities in their local built environments.
3. **Education, skills and advocacy:** We will take steps to put the right skills, tools and support mechanisms in place to ensure the obstacles and barriers that prevent or hinder the development of good quality sustainable built environments are tackled.

4. **Sustainability, accessibility and inclusive design:** We will strengthen the development of a built environment and architectural culture which embraces sustainable, inclusive and accessible design as key components of the development industry now and in the future.
5. **Built heritage:** We will encourage a better understanding of the role that our built heritage can play in shaping a sustainable future, and better connections between our past, present and future built environments.

The five sections of the policy statement follow this structure, and set out how we will tackle challenges in respect of each of these objectives. The statement also contains a series of case studies from the past five years which illustrate practical examples of ways in which good architecture and urban design can make a positive contribution to our cultural heritage, to regeneration, to sustainable development and to economic success as well providing a host of other linked benefits. The document ends with a summary of the actions which we will take to achieve the objectives set out above.



## 1. LEADERSHIP & DELIVERY

# PROVIDING AN OUTSTANDING LEGACY OF WELL-DESIGNED PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BETTER QUALITY IN NEW DEVELOPMENT & THE CREATION OF SUCCESSFUL, SUSTAINABLE PLACES

### A LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE – MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Scotland's distinctive landscape includes not only its celebrated scenery, but also its cities, towns and villages. These are a testament to the skills and abilities of those who commissioned, designed and built the places and spaces we use and inhabit today. If we are to respond effectively to present and future challenges, we must ensure that our new developments provide us with buildings and public spaces that not only serve the needs of the organisations and people who use them, but that also create an attractive and enjoyable environment from which we can all benefit. The creation of such successful and sustainable places will build upon Scotland's reputation as a place where architecture and urbanism are valued as part of our culture. This is an issue that the policy on architecture has already started to address, but much more needs to be done to ensure that we are, today, creating an outstanding legacy of better public buildings, schools, healthcare buildings, homes and neighbourhoods, streets, squares and parks of which we can be proud.



# THE COST OF POOR DESIGN

The social, cultural, and environmental cost of the failure to commission and demand well-designed buildings and spaces also remains evident in many parts of Scotland today. This is not, however, a uniquely Scottish phenomenon. Across the UK and, indeed, in many parts of Europe, there are certain design challenges which commonly produce disappointing results. Often, on the periphery of our cities and towns (although not uniquely so), these are generally places where expectations were low from the outset and whatever opportunities existed to enhance, rather than detract from, the existing urban grain have been missed. Such places, where nothing has been done to challenge developers, clients, design teams or contractors, can all too easily emerge as a blight on our country's landscape. These challenges are highlighted in Scottish Planning Policy SPP 20. Over the next five years, a concerted effort will be led by A+DS to tackle the various issues which can lead to the production of this type of low-grade built environment.

There is, however, an ever-growing wealth of evidence that shows the ways in which good design pays off: well-designed hospitals can result in shorter bed stays and improved recovery rates; well-designed schools can reduce truancy and staff turnover; and well-designed housing and streetscapes can contribute to successful community regeneration. Good design is inclusive – it helps to create places that everyone can enjoy equally. The assumptions that cheapest cost signifies best value and that good design is an unaffordable luxury must always be challenged, as neither is true. The cost of design is a fraction of the whole-life cost of a building – typically around 0.3-0.5% of those whole-life costs.

The longer-term benefits of good design are substantial when viewed against the initial cost of investment in design and are extremely significant if best value is to be secured.

Good design can improve functional efficiency and significantly reduce running costs. In public buildings, good design can improve the delivery of public services, create civic pride and be the key factor which determines the level of usage. The most popular places to visit and to do business tend to offer high quality environments. Poor or badly thought out design, by contrast, can undermine the effectiveness of a building, can increase lifetime costs and can limit its long-term usefulness.

So, our vision for Scotland has to be better than that of somewhere which readily accepts the lowest common denominator in the built environment. Through the policy on architecture and the 'Designing Places' statement, Scottish Ministers have demonstrated their commitment to tackling these issues – and real progress is being made, but we still need a more widespread shift in attitudes, expectations and practices about design in our cities, towns and villages if we are to achieve consistent change for the better. We will work closely with A+DS to help bring about this change. In partnership with decision makers, investors, developers, public bodies, local authorities, the professions, and other key agencies, we will help deliver the right quality of built environment both now and in the future.

# LEADERSHIP

In seeking to effect this change in the quality of the built environment, it is clear that, given the scale of investment in new building programmes such as education, health, housing, regeneration, and transport, the Scottish Executive itself must show leadership and a commitment to good design and architecture in publicly-funded construction. The aim must be to secure maximum value from public expenditure by enhancing the lives of our citizens and communities through well-designed, well-built outcomes that contribute positively to their settings, promoting aspiration and a sense of belonging within users whilst, at the same time, using resources responsibly. In other words - helping to create thriving, sustainable settlements. All public bodies need to show their commitment to good design and we have set out some key factors that we would expect to see emerging from public investment in new buildings.

All publicly-funded new buildings should:

- contribute positively to the public realm, their surrounding context and the local community;
- meet the highest standards of access for people with disabilities; and
- work well for all users and add social and business value to service delivery.

They should also:

- demonstrate high standards of design quality;
- be well-built, built to last and easy to maintain; and
- be ecologically sound, energy efficient and minimise the use of resource in construction and in operation.

The Executive recognises that good design needs to be supported and encouraged, and that achieving a good quality outcome does not come automatically or easily. We will, therefore, further support and co-ordinate architectural quality aims and objectives across Executive Departments.

## HOW THE PLACE-MAKING AGENDA RELATES TO ARCHITECTURE POLICY

Architecture and planning policies have many shared aims stemming from our common aspiration for the development of high quality, distinctive places which enhance the lives of the people of Scotland, and which support the sustainable economic and social wellbeing of communities. 'Designing Places' sets out a framework to promote good urban and rural design in the planning system. It demonstrates the value of good design and its benefits, and provides the basis for a series of Planning Advice Notes (PANs) which deal with different aspects of urban and rural design and place-making, identifying and communicating best practice. We now intend taking the necessary steps to ensure that the aims of the two policies are better integrated; initially through:

- the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006;
- the National Planning Framework (NPF);
- the work of A+DS;
- the publication of guidance on master planning;
- the publication of 'Design Snapshot'; and
- the delivery of a design training framework as part of the Planning Development Programme.

‘DESIGNING PLACES’ OBSERVES THAT THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PLACES, THE ONES THAT FLOURISH SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY, TEND TO HAVE CERTAIN QUALITIES IN COMMON:

- THEY HAVE A DISTINCT IDENTITY;
- THEIR SPACES ARE SAFE AND PLEASANT;
- THEY ARE EASY TO MOVE AROUND, ESPECIALLY ON FOOT;
- VISITORS FEEL A SENSE OF WELCOME;
- THEY ADAPT TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES; AND
- THEY ARE RESOURCE EFFICIENT.

## PLANNING ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006

Over the years, it appears that the planning system has gradually shifted in focus away from aspiration-driven outcomes and we believe that many now perceive the system to have become too process-orientated. This drift in focus has been a contributory factor in the Executive’s recognition of the need for a culture change in planning policy, as embodied in the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006.

One of our central aims is to nurture a wider understanding and appreciation of the significant cultural and social value of well-designed places. Development plans will be at the heart of the reformed planning system, and the Executive aims to encourage development plans that better reflect the distinctive qualities of places and their ability to accommodate, guide or drive change in the long term public interest. We understand that preparation of plans may have come to be perceived by many as a bureaucratic exercise. We aim to challenge this perception, and move towards the position where there is greater understanding and commitment to what plans should be trying to achieve in terms of beneficial outcomes. The Act has a clearer focus on delivery, and the intention is that development plans will be updated every five years, with more community and stakeholder input, faster preparation and greater certainty. Again, this contributes to the wider sustainability agenda in terms of the longevity of well-designed places.

# NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The Act also contains provisions regarding Scotland's national spatial strategy, the National Planning Framework (NPF). The NPF is a non-statutory Scotland-wide planning document first published by the Executive in 2004. The central aim of the document is to guide the spatial development of Scotland to 2025 and to inform decisions made by the Executive and its agencies on policy and spending priorities, as well as providing a context for development plans and planning decisions.

The next National Planning Framework (NPF2) will be published in 2008. The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 requires that the NPF must contain a strategy for Scotland's spatial development and a statement of the

Scottish Ministers' priorities for that development. The Act introduces a new hierarchy of planning, with MSPs agreeing a national framework at the top level. We need to ensure that the key strategic projects identified in the NPF are of a design quality which befits their importance as proposals of national significance.

## MASTER PLANNING

Master planning is a powerful tool for creating the kind of successful places which embody the desirable characteristics described in 'Designing Places'. It provides a rational approach to maximising not only the economic potential of significant new developments or regeneration initiatives, but also to realising the social and cultural potential of projects. A strategic overview of spatial design can provide a framework within which



## DESIGN SNAPSHOT

opportunities presented by existing built environments may be used to their best advantage. Piecemeal development is less likely to lead to the creation of well-defined and cohesive streets, squares, open spaces and connections - neighbourhoods which have distinctive character and which relate to their wider urban or rural contexts.

Our 'review' publication and associated exhibition 'Architecture in Scotland 2004-2006 Defining Place' deals with the theme of place-making, and the essay by Brian Evans, Deputy Chair of A+DS, charts the historic development of urban and rural design trends and makes the point that, in order to build on the legacy inherited from Scotland's great era of town building, we need an understanding of land and climate combined with cultural, societal and economic imperatives.

A recognition of the advantages of successful master planning is gaining welcome momentum within the development industry, and we have seen a particular interest in this issue by Homes for Scotland, the umbrella body whose members account for over 95% of new homes built in Scotland. In order to build on this momentum and encourage good practice in this area, the Executive's Planning Division will shortly undertake collaborative work with A+DS to produce a master planning advice document. This will be supported by the Planning Development Programme with training events for local authority planners.

'This Design Snapshot' publication is a short, easy-read guide to design in Scotland, aimed at anyone who has a role in designing places, to help them gain more confidence in dealing with the subject. It is intended to be an information source rather than a manual on design, to reinforce the importance of design, to emphasise its role within the planning and development process and to reiterate the need to create quality environments. It will be launched in 2007.

## DESIGN STATEMENTS

'Planning Advice Note: Design Statements' (PAN 68) explains what a design statement is, why it is a useful tool, when it is required and how it should be prepared and presented. The PAN seeks to ensure that local authorities and applicants are clear about the role of design statements. The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 has made provision for design and access statements to be prepared for certain types of developments. This measure will come into effect during 2007/08 following the introduction of secondary legislation and guidance. These statements will outline the way in which issues relating to access for the disabled have been addressed and the design principles and concepts that have been applied.



# THE WORK OF A+DS

The Architecture Policy Unit is the sponsor branch for A+DS, which, as an agent for change on the ground, performs a key role in the implementation of policy on architecture objectives. Its role is to champion excellence in architecture and the built environment and, through this, the organisation also acts to strongly support the objectives of the Executive's planning policy. As well as providing general advice, its responsibilities encompass the provision of support through Design Review, enabling and advocacy, and research and communication. Early future priorities for A+DS will be to:

- support others in the development of policy and practice in key areas such as regeneration;
- publish themed findings arising from Design Review;
- work with local authorities, developers and other built environment interests to take forward the aims of 'Designing Places';
- promote best practice through case study examples; and
- help to take forward the sustainability agenda.

A+DS will target more of its resources towards the emerging priorities of policy. Two new posts will be established in 2007 in relation to the work of A+DS, taking strategic roles with regard to broader building and place-making agendas. The first of these will be that of a co-ordinator between A+DS and the Executive. This post will focus on public sector projects, and will create and strengthen links between A+DS and a range of Executive policy areas. The second post will focus on housing and regeneration, and will strengthen A+DS links with Communities Scotland and a range of other housing organisations. The more detailed plans of A+DS

will be set out in its forthcoming Corporate Plan, and the Executive will also explore ways in which we can give added weight to the organisation's functions.

## DESIGN CHAMPIONS

A focus on good design has been increasingly recognised by Scottish local authorities as a prerequisite in strategies for the future development of our cities, and the Executive encourages local authorities to appoint Design Champions at senior level. Design Champions are independent from project teams, and their remit is to promote design issues within the context of a public authority's wider policies on design, creativity, inclusion and urban regeneration. Every public sector client procuring a new building should now consider the opportunity to champion design and be open to innovative approaches that promote design quality. Edinburgh City Council took a strong lead in pursuing this agenda through the appointment of both a City Design Champion and a salaried, full-time Design Leader. Design Champion appointments by Glasgow City Council and Fife Council are further signs of the increasing importance placed on good design by local government. As more local authorities make similar appointments, we will investigate ways in which we might facilitate the creation of a Design Champions network to share experience across Scotland.

There has also been increasing emphasis on the role of Design Champions for specific building procurement programmes, and Design Champion appointments have now become mandatory for NHSScotland Boards.



# HEALTHCARE BUILDINGS

The Scottish Executive Health Department (SEHD) recently published its 'Policy on Design Quality for NHSScotland'. The purpose of the policy is to articulate the Scottish Executive Health Department's ambition for NHSScotland's estate and to embed the need for well-designed healthcare environments as an integral part of service delivery.

Health buildings can often be the places in which we may feel at our most vulnerable and the policy recognises the need for people-oriented, high quality caring environments which provide a sense of ease and reassurance. The SEHD policy refers to the increasing body of evidence that principles of good design, such as integration into the community and a sense of place, make a quantifiable positive impact on patients, visitors and staff.

The policy document provides guidance on how NHSScotland Bodies can ensure that design quality is embedded within the healthcare building procurement process and places a number of mandatory requirements on the Bodies intended to assist in driving up design standards. Among these mandatory requirements are that:

- each NHSScotland Board must have a clear, articulated policy on design quality – a Design Action Plan – consistent with the Department's policy; and
- each NHSScotland Board must appoint a member of the NHS Board to act as Design Champion at a strategic level and, where not impractical, also a Senior Officer to act as supporting Design Champion at a technical level.

The SEHD has also teamed up with A+DS to drive forward the design agenda with NHSScotland. A recently finalised three-year Framework Agreement will allow a dedicated stream of work on healthcare facilities, thereby raising the level of ambition and design quality throughout NHSScotland. SEHD and A+DS have developed a range of initiatives to assist NHSScotland in addressing design quality issues in the procurement of healthcare building projects. These initiatives include:

- training and advocacy to support the introduction of Design Champions within every NHSScotland Board;
- enabling, by providing hands-on assistance to a number of healthcare projects;
- carrying out assessments of the design merits of significant projects to advise and inform the mandatory project review processes; and
- the production of two dedicated health facilities publications, detailing best practice and providing case studies.

A+DS Board member and architect, Gareth Hoskins, has recently been appointed as the National Champion for health building design. A Design Champions Network for NHSScotland was launched in November 2006 by the Minister for Health and Community Care.

“WE KNOW THAT A WIDE RANGE OF FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO THE DELIVERY OF FIRST CLASS PATIENT CARE – AND THE QUALITY AND DESIGN OF OUR BUILDINGS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THAT. PEOPLE DON’T CHOOSE TO SUFFER ILL-HEALTH – BUT WHEN IT DOES HAPPEN, PROVIDING CARE IN A COMFORTABLE AND UPLIFTING ENVIRONMENT CAN HELP. IN ADDITION, BETTER BUILDINGS ARE GOOD NEWS FOR STAFF AND HELP TO IMPROVE THEIR MORALE, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION.”

Andy Kerr, Minister for Health and Community Care

## SCHOOL BUILDINGS

The Scottish Executive’s strategy on school buildings ‘Building our Future: Scotland’s School Estate’ (2003) sets out a vision for a school estate that is well-built and well-designed and that meets the needs of children, staff and communities both now and in the future. A significant number of new and refurbished school buildings have been developed in the past five years across Scotland and the process of modernising the School Estate continues with the current PPP programme which involves thirty local authorities and will result in a significant number of new and refurbished schools.

A suite of guidance has been published by the Executive to back up the delivery of this programme, including ‘School Design’ (2003). This guidance highlights the need for new or refurbished schools to take account of potential developments in education, and other services that might be developed through schools, as well as wider changes such as new technology. Research has shown that good design can add value to teaching and learning, improve pupil performance and staff morale as well as enhancing relationships between schools and wider communities. A well-designed school should serve its pupils, teachers and staff well and attract a positive response from parents and the wider community. The development of the school estate will continue with a new ‘Building Excellence’ programme, and published guidance on environmental design in school buildings.

## TEN FEATURES OF A WELL-DESIGNED SCHOOL

- ▶ GOOD CLEAR ORGANISATION, A CLEAR PLAN, AND FULL ACCESSIBILITY
- ▶ SPACES THAT ARE WELL-PROPORTIONED, EFFICIENT, FIT FOR PURPOSE AND MEET THE NEEDS OF USERS
- ▶ CIRCULATION THAT IS WELL ORGANISED, AND SUFFICIENTLY GENEROUS
- ▶ GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT, INCLUDING APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF NATURAL LIGHT AND VENTILATION
- ▶ ATTRACTIVENESS IN DESIGN, COMPARABLE TO THAT FOUND IN OTHER QUALITY PUBLIC BUILDINGS
- ▶ GOOD USE OF THE SITE, AND PUBLIC PRESENCE AS A CIVIC BUILDING
- ▶ ATTRACTIVE EXTERNAL SPACES WITH A GOOD RELATIONSHIP TO INTERNAL SPACES AND OFFERING APPROPRIATE SECURITY AND A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT SETTINGS
- ▶ A LAYOUT THAT ENCOURAGES BROAD COMMUNITY ACCESS AND USE OUT OF HOURS, WHERE APPROPRIATE
- ▶ ROBUST MATERIALS THAT ARE ATTRACTIVE, THAT WILL WEATHER AND WEAR WELL, AND THAT ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY
- ▶ FLEXIBLE DESIGN THAT WILL FACILITATE CHANGES IN POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY AND WHICH ALLOWS EXPANSION OR CONTRACTION IN THE FUTURE, WHERE APPROPRIATE



A photograph of a stage with a green background and a large illuminated sign that reads "WE MUST CULTIV". The sign is made of many small, bright lights. The stage is dark, and there are some structural elements visible in the foreground.

# WE MUST CULTIV

The Scottish Executive has also supported a programme of conferences, workshops and other events aimed at inspiring those involved in the school building programme to raise their game and deliver good quality environments that support learning and teaching. A series of sixteen web-based case studies on recently built Scottish schools which highlight sustainable design features has now been completed for the Executive through Sust.

The Future Learning and Teaching (FLaT) Programme 'Design for Learning – the 21st Century School', delivered by The Lighthouse, has helped generate innovative ideas for school buildings and has explored ways to engage school pupils in the design of their school environments.

The Programme, which had a budget of £750,000 over the last three years, has involved work in partnership with a number of local authorities. At its heart, it has promoted a design-led approach to make the best use of available resources to deliver the School Estate. The Carlibar Community Campus case study on page 34 of this document is an example of work related to the FLaT programme. The 2004 FLaT publication 'Design Strategies' recorded East Renfrewshire Council's procurement approach for this project through the commissioning of exemplar designs.

Building upon this programme, we will now provide support for an initiative enabling The Lighthouse to look at similar promotion of the benefits of participatory processes in other sectors.



ATE OUR GARDEN

# REGENERATION

Regeneration plays a crucial part in growing the economy, in improving the fabric of Scotland and in improving the lives of Scotland's most disadvantaged communities. The Executive's Regeneration Policy Statement 'People and Place', published in February 2006, sets a new and ambitious approach to regeneration in Scotland and outlines a range of actions for taking this approach forward. It provides a strategic framework through which we can work towards our aim that all of our cities, towns and neighbourhoods should be places that are attractive to live, to work and to invest in. We believe that successful and sustainable regeneration is dependent not only on the quality of our new architecture, but also on realising the opportunities which are provided by individual locations, their existing distinctive buildings and structures – and creating places of real character where people will want to live and meet.

The Executive has a range of policies, programmes and funding streams to support the economic, physical and social transformation of specific places across the country. As part of this, the Executive supports five Pathfinder Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs) in Scotland. Raploch URC in Stirling, Craigmillar URC in Edinburgh and Clydebank URC were established in 2004. Following publication of the Regeneration Policy Statement, a further two Pathfinder URCs were designated in North Ayrshire and Inverclyde. The Executive is also working with Glasgow and South Lanarkshire Councils, Scottish Enterprise and Communities Scotland to establish a URC in the Clyde Gateway area. A+DS will be working with the Clyde Gateway, Riverside Inverclyde and Irvine Bay URCs to support the planning and delivery of well designed and built regeneration projects.

It is also the Executive's intention to use our housing investment to stimulate good design across Scotland, helping to attract people to areas which they might not otherwise consider.

# PROCUREMENT

'Better Public Buildings' is a UK-wide initiative begun by the Prime Minister in 2000. The initiative and its related awards aim to encourage public sector clients to drive up the design quality of buildings that they procure. 'Better Public Buildings 2' has recently been published, demonstrating the continued commitment to this programme at a UK level.

An increasingly complex set of procurement routes are open to those who commission buildings, and each route presents its own set of challenges in relation to design quality. What is important is that clients for public sector projects understand the contribution good design can make to their project; that good design is not seen as an 'optional extra' and that the procurement process is managed so that they can secure the best possible outcome from the procurement process. The success of a project in design terms depends on the skills, commitment and partnership of all those involved but, crucially, public sector clients need to take the lead in setting out their aspirations at the start of the project and ensuring that these aspirations are delivered and not compromised.

The Scottish Executive 'Construction Procurement Manual' provides the Executive's Departments, Associated Departments, Executive Agencies and most

sponsored bodies (as well as the Scottish Parliament Corporate Body and the Forestry Commission in Scotland) with mandatory policy and procedures for construction works projects.  
(<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Planning/Building/procurement-manual>)

The Manual (published in 2005) contains sections on design quality and sustainability. The Executive's Construction Advice and Policy Division (CAPD) carries out ongoing reviews of the Manual which will continue to consider and, where relevant to procurement matters, reflect key issues emerging from policy on architecture initiatives and consultations.

## PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPP)

A 'well-managed' PPP project has the potential to offer good value for money and good design. Every PPP procurement involves a design competition as bidders offer costed design solutions against an output specification issued by the public sector client and, where well-managed, a dialogue should ensue in which the best design solution emerges.

We have seen that PPP has the potential to deliver good design, and there are a growing number of examples of this. However, we recognise that PPP is more complex than traditional procurement methods and that this process requires a client to be knowledgeable and organised in managing the process to unlock this potential, and to ensure that well-designed, fit for purpose facilities are the

outcome. Design criteria require to be very clearly and strongly stated in the output specification and evaluation criteria for projects, and the development process requires to be very carefully managed so that design does not become marginalised.

An informed client, supported by specialist advisers, is essential to the success of any project, and we recognise that PPP has presented a greater challenge for public sector clients and that it requires a higher level of commitment from them. However, as the methodology has now been in place for some time, the legal and contractual issues have come to be better understood, and standardised documentation and better fitted processes have come into use. Public sector clients are, thus, now better able to focus on design issues.

In the development of schools procurement guidance, we have encouraged public sector clients to appoint design advisers, to place greater investment in the early stages of projects such as through the preparation of reference schemes, and to build-in more time for design. Recently, this has included a focus on environmental aspects of design and lifecycle costing, with technical assistance from the Carbon Trust applied in a schools PPP project. We now wish to see these principles applied more widely in the public sector.

A+DS has a significant role to play in helping to push up the design quality of buildings in Scotland. A key element of its work is in providing support to public sector clients. Much of its present focus is on healthcare buildings, but it is our intention that the organisation will be in a position to offer advice to the wider public sector on how to secure good design outcomes in PPP procurement.

We will seek to foster a climate across public sector PPP procurement, in which it is clearly recognised by bidders that quality of design is a key aspect of bid evaluation. There are an increasing number of good design examples in PPP schemes, including the Carlibar community campus featured in the case studies.

Our aim is to continue to promote the importance of good building design in the public sector, irrespective of which procurement route is chosen. We will work with A+DS and use our contacts with the PPP and construction market to take forward this dialogue and improve mutual understanding of the standards sought.

## PUBLIC ART

When successfully implemented, artworks can help to create more distinctive and attractive buildings and urban spaces, and enhance the public's experience of an architectural space. The Executive's Construction Procurement Manual now advises that clients may wish to consider allocating a specific budget for the inclusion of artwork as an integral element of a project. In this respect, the manual also advises that it is best to consider artwork from the start, when designs can be most easily integrated into the overall design. Such

early involvement can often contribute to the creation of a scheme with a distinctive character, and public sector clients are advised that they may wish to seek specialist advice from public art agencies with regard to including artwork within a project.

The Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital highlighted on page 30 is an excellent example of the way in which public art can be integrated successfully into a healthcare environment. In recent years, the regeneration of the Gorbals area has successfully integrated an artworks programme which gives the area a new sense of identity in a creative manner. The Hidden Gardens case study on page 60 also highlights the benefits of involving artists at an early stage.

We will work closely with the Scottish Arts Council and its successor body Creative Scotland to help support the early involvement of artists in building projects.

## 2014 COMMONWEALTH GAMES BID

Building design quality forms an important element of Glasgow's bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Should the bid be successful, we wish to ensure that the legacy of the games is long-lasting in terms of improvements to the built environment. Plans have been developed for the bid to deliver the necessary world-class sporting facilities, including a high quality athletes' village which is intended to act as a catalyst in regenerating housing and transport infrastructure in Glasgow.



# THE IMPORTANCE OF LANDSCAPE

In recent years there has been an increasing recognition of the importance of landscape in successful architecture and place-making. Scotland's topography and geology are inextricably linked to our understanding of place and our best architecture old or new has placed emphasis on this connection. The 'Landforms' exhibition curated for the 2004 Venice Biennale explored the relationship between recently completed projects and their setting. The Scottish Parliament is an outstanding example of the way in which the fusion between landscape and architecture can be exploited to great effect. The Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres, including the Inverness Centre which recently won the 2006 RIAS Doolan Award, make a virtue of their connection to landscape and the way in which this can contribute to and enhance the supportive and nurturing ethos of the Centres.

We will, therefore, work with the Landscape Forum, the Landscape Institute, Greenspace Scotland, SNH and other agencies to explore ways in which our understanding of landscape and greenspace can be built into the future direction of policy. To this end, an international forum on landscape carried out in partnership with Architectuur Lokaal from the Netherlands together with A+DS, The Lighthouse and the Landscape Institute Scotland will take place in Spring 2007.

## POLICY ON ARCHITECTURE PROGRESS GROUP

The Policy on Architecture Progress Group was established by the Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport in 2004. The principal aims of the Group are to

inform Executive decisions on initiatives to take forward the implementation of policy commitments, and to provide a platform to assist in the co-ordination of initiatives between built environment bodies in Scotland. The Group comprises key Scottish built environment bodies and representatives from across Executive Departments, and has been closely involved in the work of developing this statement.

The work of the Group will continue, allowing it to feed into the development of more detailed actions deriving from this statement. The Group will also monitor the success of actions taken and will continue to provide a networking forum and links with external organisations.

## ARCHITECTURE POLICY UNIT

The Architecture Policy Unit, led by the Chief Architect, will continue to carry out a co-ordinating role on architecture and building design quality issues across Executive Departments and to develop stronger links with external bodies. The recent reinstatement of the post of Chief Architect is a recognition of the importance of the policy area to Ministers.

## DESIRED OUTCOME OF LEADERSHIP AND DELIVERY PROGRAMME

EXECUTIVE REGARDED AS EXEMPLAR CLIENT IN FIVE YEARS' TIME AND INCREASED AWARENESS OF, AND COMMITMENT TO, PLACE-MAKING

## CASE STUDY

# URBAN REGENERATION/PUBLIC SPACE CLYDEBANK RE-BUILT

Clydebank Re-built is a partnership formed by West Dunbartonshire Council and Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire. It is an organisation dedicated to developing the Clydebank area, its economy, environment, buildings and society. It works with many different organisations and groups and especially those people who own much of the riverside land. Its board members include people from the Clydebank community, local politicians, Scottish Enterprise and local businesses. They all share a desire to make a real difference to the area; to position Clydebank as a creative, distinctive and successful regional centre within the Glasgow Metropolitan area.

Clydebank Re-built has developed an ambitious long term vision for regeneration until 2010 which sets out a detailed working programme to rejuvenate nearly 170 acres, including the town centre, Carless and Queens Quay, with the focal point being the town's Titan Crane. Its work encompasses a wide range of elements including hard landscaping, the creation of a series of new gateways to the town, the establishment of a family of attractive new signage and improvement of the central reservation all the way from Yoker through to Solidarity Plaza.

£7 million funding from the Scottish Executive was allocated in 2004 to help begin the process of creating investor confidence in the area, and is intended to ultimately create better jobs and prospects for local people through the provision of new housing, improved transport and environmental improvements.



IT WORKS WITH MANY DIFFERENT  
**ORGANISATIONS AND GROUPS**  
AND ESPECIALLY THOSE PEOPLE WHO OWN  
MUCH OF THE RIVERSIDE LAND

## CASE STUDY

# PUBLIC ART ROYAL ABERDEEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The Lottery-funded artworks at the Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital (RACH) received the Saltire Society's Arts and Crafts in Architecture Award in 2005. The award recognises an outstanding five-year collaboration involving local school children, staff, the design team, contractors, Grampian Hospital Arts Trust, public art agency PACE, and fifteen artists from throughout the UK.

NHS Grampian is responsible for the development of RACH. Its intention was to collaborate with artists from the outset to enhance the healing environment, and the result is public art in architecture that is truly integrated. The contributions from the artists combined visual and physical interest with educative elements and fun; drawing on images of local landscapes, places, maps and wildlife, locations suggested by staff, patients and visitors, information about the body and drawings by children. Interest and delight has been woven through the fabric of the building, its furniture, signage, external spaces, and lighting effects.

A second phase of the project is presently underway.





## CASE STUDY

# TRANSFORMING HIGHER EDUCATION SALTIRE CENTRE, GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY

The Saltire Centre is designed to foster learning as a conversational and social process as well as providing appropriate environments for individual learning, and café culture has been a strong reference in the design of the building's social spaces.

The form of the building responds to students' different and changing learning styles whilst recognising that these can also vary according to the nature of tasks. The architects, BDP, have provided a multiplicity of micro environments ranging across a spectrum of open, flexible and cellular spaces. Areas are often defined by furniture and the expected behaviour in spaces is further signalled by use of colour, audio signing and graphic design.

In its services mall, a combined desk provides a single point of access to information, easing the understanding and use of the building by new students and the lifelong learning community. It is a strong example of the way in which architecture can significantly support learning processes and, critically, it is also an example of the importance of a committed client, developing a detailed and well-informed brief with an ambition to provide an inspirational learning environment.



# PPP SCHOOL DESIGN/STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION/SUSTAINABILITY/ARTWORK CARLIBAR COMMUNITY CAMPUS, EAST RENFREWSHIRE

Carlbar Community Campus is a new-build primary school with additional community facilities including a nursery, a Pre-School Assessment and Development Unit, a Language and Communication Unit and community/adult support services. The project, with a design team led by JM Architects, is part of East Renfrewshire Council's current PPP programme developed by HBG Construction Ltd. as contractors. The school building previously in use, in addition to being in poor condition, was not suitable to meet the curricular needs of the specialist communication units within the school. Redevelopment on the existing site was not viable and a new site was selected which already housed a community facility, and which sat within mature parkland owned by the Council.

The brief was to design and construct a facility with civic presence that would reflect the aspirations of the Council in relation to attainment, achievement and inclusion. Exemplar designs for each of the East Renfrewshire PPP schools were commissioned by the Council prior to the Bid process to ensure that there was an understanding of aspirations and expectations for their school projects. The exemplar designs were prepared by Elder and Cannon Architects and, together with the other East Renfrewshire projects, the final design for Carlbar Community Campus was based predominantly on these designs. This approach provided an opportunity for both the client and users to work closely with design specialists and to gain valuable insights into issues that they might not otherwise have been given time to explore in detail. This enabled specific design guidance to be included by detailed design and functional briefing documents as part of the PPP bid process.

The design brief required a low energy, naturally ventilated building, and high quality day-lighting is provided throughout. The school plan facilitates circulation, and the double-height dining area acts as an orientation point for the campus. Circulation is easily managed through the school from the point of entry to the communication units, nursery areas, and community facilities. The school grounds are aesthetically designed and include a garden area for pupils to address issues contained in Grounds for Learning and Eco Schools.

The Council undertook extensive consultation with stakeholders (parents, local residents, pupils, staff, and unions) at regular intervals from the initial design brief through to construction over a period of four years. As part of the process, pupils were involved in a number of workshops including working with four artists to design and produce four pieces of permanent art work for the new school building. The building is a community school in every sense, and includes a synthetic ball park/multi-use games area, a four-court games hall, a dance studio, a theatre facility, internet cafe, specialist art, science, and music rooms, an adult centre, with sufficient parking to serve all of these. As a result of the high level of involvement of the users, and the attention given to design issues in the development of the project, feedback from staff, pupils, and the community has been overwhelmingly positive.

The success of the project derives from a fully integrated approach to design quality, and demonstrates the benefits that can be derived from using exemplar designs within a PPP contract. Taken together, the various elements of the process can inform other similar or less complex school projects.









## 2. CULTURAL CONTEXT

# PROVIDING A SUPPORTIVE CLIMATE FOR DEBATE ON ARCHITECTURE AND AN APPRECIATION OF THE ROLE THAT ARCHITECTURE PLAYS IN SOCIETY; THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

From the outset, the Executive's policy on architecture has acknowledged that architecture has a deep cultural value and a resonance that goes beyond the functional needs of any particular building programme. In order to create a climate in which good design in the built environment is the rule rather than the exception, we need to continue to raise public awareness of the value of good design, and to encourage greater interest, debate and involvement in built environment issues. An engaged and informed public is more likely to be discerning and demanding about the quality of environment it uses and by which it is surrounded.

Good design encompasses cultural ideas as well as the physical reality of buildings and we constantly need to debate, discuss and analyse the complex relationship that we have with our surroundings. We may ask ourselves questions such as: "Are we meeting our needs?", "Are we building at the right quality and in the right places?", "What are the future generators and drivers affecting the built environment?" and "How do we meet the needs of

an ageing population?" There are no easy answers to these and other questions about our buildings and our relationship to them, but the programme of activity set out in this section can provide the catalyst for that important debate.

## RAISING AWARENESS

Since 2001, the Executive has supported a diverse range of initiatives driven by the aim of engaging a wide public audience in a debate about architecture, the built environment and the ways in which they shape our lives. The major delivery vehicle of this has been the National Programme on Architecture, developed and managed by The Lighthouse, Scotland's Centre for Architecture Design and the City. The programme has, through series of activities, events, exhibitions and publications set out to challenge, inform, and inspire.



## SINCE 2001, THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME HAS:

- ▶ MOUNTED 15 EXHIBITIONS, SEVEN OF WHICH HAVE TOURED TO 12 VENUES IN SCOTLAND AND FOUR INTERNATIONALLY TO CATALONIA, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY AND THE NETHERLANDS;
- ▶ ATTRACTED OVER 200,000 VISITORS TO NATIONAL PROGRAMME EXHIBITIONS;
- ▶ INVOLVED 725 PARTICIPANTS IN EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING 420 SCHOOL CHILDREN);
- ▶ HOSTED FIVE SEMINARS AND GENERATED 26 TALKS, ATTRACTING OVER 1,100 PARTICIPANTS;
- ▶ EMPLOYED OVER 50 CREATIVE INDUSTRIES PROFESSIONALS;
- ▶ PROFILED OVER 130 CREATIVE INDUSTRIES PROFESSIONALS;
- ▶ FUNDED 33 PROJECTS THROUGH THE INNOVATION FUND; AND
- ▶ RECEIVED OVER FIVE MILLION HITS TO SCOTTISHARCHITECTURE.COM.

# THE ACCESS TO ARCHITECTURE CAMPAIGN

We will build on the work of the National Programme by further investing in a new ACCESS to Architecture campaign, managed and delivered by The Lighthouse. The campaign will replace the existing National Programme, and will have two key strands. Firstly, there will be a celebration and promotion of the best new architecture, young talent, emerging trends and topics for debate by means of exhibitions, publications, digital resources and other events. Secondly, there will be a newly developed programme of outreach and community engagement aimed at bringing the debate about architecture into the heart of local communities throughout Scotland. In order to have the widest possible impact and provide long-term benefits, a key objective will be to actively engage a range of organisations and networks, both at a local and national level, in the development and delivery of the ACCESS campaign.

## EXHIBITIONS

Although the nature of content will respond to changed priorities, the structure of the exhibition programme will continue to be based around its present three components:

- Keynote exhibitions
- Architecture in Scotland exhibitions
- 'SIX' Student Award exhibitions

Keynote exhibitions examine, explore and respond to influences on the past and future development of Scottish architecture. These action-based, research exhibitions, which are accessible and interactive, are designed to engage as wide an audience as possible.

The biennial exhibitions open in The Lighthouse, and then tour nationally and internationally. They are complemented and enhanced by seminars, publications and related educational material.

- 2006 NORTHERN CITY – EDINBURGH RE-PRESENTED THROUGH 4 PIECES OF WORK
- 2005 6000 MILES – OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COASTLINE AND HOW IT COULD DEVELOP
- 2004 LANDFORMS – ARCHITECTURE SINCE DEVOLUTION SHOWN THROUGH 12 PROJECTS
- 2004 FIELDTRIP – BUILDINGS AND LANDSCAPE EXAMINED THROUGH FIVE ROUTES
- 2003 COMMON-PLACE – PLACES WE SHARE FROM THE INTIMATE TO THE EXPANSIVE
- 2002 ANATOMY OF THE HOUSE – DIVERSITY OF HOUSING EXAMINED THROUGH FIVE CASE STUDIES

Architecture in Scotland exhibitions highlight our best new architecture, illustrating themes emerging from the series of biennial reviews of Scottish architecture described below. The exhibitions feature the best urban, suburban and rural architecture and landscape projects in Scotland and reflect the diversity of building projects in Scotland today, from large-scale commercial developments to small-scale housing.

'SIX' Student Award exhibitions: The annual exhibition and awards, in collaboration with the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS), offer a rare opportunity to see the best work of students from all six of Scotland's Schools of Architecture together. The single focus and high profile of the awards offers an excellent opportunity for the public and profession to view the standard of student work.

## FUTURE EXHIBITIONS

In the development of our new exhibitions, we will respond to priorities suggested in the consultation, such as providing a platform for the work of young and emerging practices. We will also now explore ways in which the 'SIX' annual exhibition, promoting the best of our student work, might be developed and expanded.

Over the past five years, the exhibition programme has engaged a wide audience both here at home and abroad, and several exhibitions created in collaboration with leading Scottish designers have won awards for the quality of their production. Visitor surveys at keynote exhibitions have been extremely positive and strongly substantiate our view that we have found a balance between what is challenging and what is accessible. We believe it to be important that these exhibitions continue to be both thought provoking and accessible.

## PUBLICATIONS

We have, in partnership with The Lighthouse and, more recently, with the involvement of RIAS and A+DS, published three biennial reviews of Scottish architecture and urban and landscape design. These publications are important in their provision of a chronological record of the architectural highlights of the period they cover but, more importantly, provide a platform for debate around emerging themes in Scottish architecture. In 2008, the biennial review will celebrate emerging talent in Scottish architecture. The Lighthouse has also built up a strong track record in publications which have complemented the keynote exhibitions since the inception of the National Programme. Our commitment to develop affordable publications of an outstanding quality, which broaden awareness and interest in Scottish architecture, will continue.

## DIGITAL RESOURCES

Launched in 2002, [scottisharchitecture.com](http://scottisharchitecture.com) has fast become a national on-line resource for Scottish architecture and the built environment. It focuses on showcasing the very best of Scottish architecture through news items, featured projects, virtual exhibitions and tours. It also acts as a portal to other relevant sites, with dedicated links.

Accessibility to National Programme exhibitions has been improved by creating interactive, virtual versions of Architecture in Scotland, keynote and 'SIX' exhibitions. The 'virtual' gallery enables people to enjoy the content who, because of limited mobility or other reasons, cannot manage to visit the exhibition locations. In response to the public consultation, it is our intention that outreach will be an issue of increasing importance on



scottisharchitecture.com as well as in the wider ACCESS to Architecture campaign. In future, the website will be active in call outs for views, comments and content for exhibitions, creating a dynamic hub for discussion and debate.

The website [www.sust.org](http://www.sust.org) provides on-line access to reports, documents and case studies on many initiatives in the Sust. programme. This is a unique web resource giving access to a wide variety of information, resources and guidance on sustainability. To ensure that sustainable design is more widely accepted, clients and professionals need access to useful and practical tools and techniques. However, whilst parts of the site are aimed at professionals such as architects and designers, other sections are more general and will be of interest to anyone wishing to know more about this subject. The site brings together an overview of some of the key projects that Sust. has supported since its inception in 2002, with a focus on supporting the delivery and mainstreaming of sustainable building design. [www.sust.org](http://www.sust.org) summarises all of the projects undertaken over the last four years and is developing into a one stop shop for access to sustainability resources in Scotland.

One of the most significant digital resources under development is a web-based Green Directory. This is being designed and populated in association with the Scottish Ecological Design Association (SEDA), and contains details of ecological products and services available in Scotland and elsewhere in the UK, Europe and Worldwide. The Green Directory is the first such resource in Scotland and, when complete, it will provide architects and design specifiers with access to valuable tools and resources that will help implement sustainable design. Each entry is referenced according to geographic location to help users to source materials as locally as possible and although not mandatory, detailed sustainability/ecological credentials are requested on

each product to allow manufacturers the opportunity to fully promote the greenest products.

‘MY SUST HOUSE’, A “BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED AND ENGAGING” GAME, WHICH WAS DEVISED AND COMMISSIONED BY SUST. AND DESIGNED BY SCREENMEDIA AND JOHN GILBERT ARCHITECTS, SCOOPED THE BEST INTERACTIVE MEDIA AWARD IN THE 2006 SCOTTISH 2006 SCOTTISH BAFTAS. AIMED AT YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 9 AND 13 ‘MY SUST HOUSE’ INTRODUCES ISSUES OF SUSTAINABILITY IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT IN A FUN AND FRIENDLY WAY. IT CAN BE PLAYED EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A GROUP.

## OUTREACH

From regular visitor surveys, we know that the National Programme has succeeded in attracting an audience from varied backgrounds to The Lighthouse exhibitions and events. Many respondents to the consultation suggest, however, that we must not only aim to enlarge the audience for exhibitions and publications but that we

should further expand the engagement and outreach of the programme. In order to engage a broader range of people and communities across Scotland in their built environment, the new ACCESS to Architecture campaign will bring together the existing Community Programme and Innovation Fund to develop a series of residencies, to create a mobile architecture facility, and to provide a focus on building networks aimed at creating local architecture centres which will complement the national role of the Lighthouse. The Community Programme carried out over the last five years by The Lighthouse comprised a number of projects involving people in their local environments. This past work with local communities has, however, been for very short periods of time on location, and we can envisage greater potential long term benefits through more in-depth engagement.

To support and co-ordinate the new outreach programme, a full time Outreach Officer post has recently been created at The Lighthouse. The aim of this post is to:

- assist the establishment of sustainable local networks to create a dynamic and participative scene around architecture and built environment issues and opportunities throughout Scotland;
- support a series of residences with local communities on current issues and develop tools, techniques and processes for community engagement that are transferable;
- develop a mobile architecture centre to visit communities around Scotland and provide a focal point for The Lighthouse's outreach programme; and
- develop a more long-lasting series of locally-based architecture centres and resources.

## AWARDS

We view awards and recognition as a way of highlighting and celebrating excellence as well as generating debate around the concept of architectural quality. Following the untimely death of Andrew Doolan in 2004, we joined in partnership with the RIAS to ensure that the RIAS Doolan Award for Best Building in Scotland continued its role in recognising outstanding achievement. We will continue to contribute £15,000 annually to the award. The shortlist of ten projects for the 2006 Award illustrates the high quality of Scotland's best new architecture and the importance of our continued support for this award.

We will also continue to support the annual Lighthouse Achievement Award, which acknowledges exemplary achievement and important contributions to architecture and the built environment in its broadest sense. The Achievement Award recognises not only architects, but also people who have contributed to architecture in Scotland in other ways such as writers, educationalists and filmmakers.

The Executive also supports the annual Saltire Society Housing Awards scheme to highlight the best new housing from both the public and private sectors. To mark the 70th Anniversary of the Saltire Society's Housing Award scheme, we will support the curation of an exhibition reviewing the housing trends over this period.

## PLANNING AWARDS

The Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning aim to raise quality in the planning process. The annual awards scheme is now in its tenth year. Nominations are invited in four categories: Development Planning, Development

Management, Development on the Ground and Community Involvement. Linked to the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning is the 'Designing Places' Student Award. Students are invited to submit urban design work that has been carried out as part of the curriculum on a planning course.

## FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

The first Six Cities Design Festival will be a three-week long series of events in May and June 2007, held across all six Scottish cities, and developed and delivered by The Lighthouse. Supported by Executive funding of £3 million, the Festival is a key part of a wider initiative to raise awareness of the contribution of design and creativity, including architecture, in enabling Scottish businesses to compete at the highest level internationally. The Festival aims to engage the public in a celebration of Scottish and international design achievement, providing Scottish businesses with a special opportunity to see the economic benefits that design can deliver, and to identify areas where training and skills are most needed. The education programmes planned with schools, colleges and universities will help to ensure that Scotland nurtures the design talent of the future.

The Six Cities Design Festival can also address several of the issues raised in the UK-wide 'Cox Review on Creativity in Business' published in December 2005 by HM Treasury. Against a background of rapidly changing global markets, there is a growing recognition of the value of design innovation as an increasingly important factor in national competitiveness. The Six Cities Design

Festival has a strategic business and educational function. Through raising awareness of the value of design to successful business, providing opportunities to create networks and promoting interest in creative industry careers, it offers the opportunity to make a significant contribution to a stronger economic future for Scotland. The Festival also aims to attract broad public engagement in a celebration of Scottish and international design achievement.

## INTERNATIONAL

When the European Forum on Architecture Policies came to the UK in 2005 as part of the UK Presidency of the European Union, we agreed with the other areas of UK Government that Scotland should host the event. This enabled us to show representatives of many other European governments what we are doing in policy, to share ideas, and to gauge the level of interest in Scottish architecture abroad. We were encouraged in this respect by strong signs of increased international awareness of the quality of architecture in Scotland.

Where our International Division is involved in the promotion of Scotland through participation in international events, our approach has been to look at ways that we can contribute usefully, through integrating architecture into wider Executive programmes. We thus built a strong architecture component into Entente Cordiale, Scotland with Catalonia, the Venice and Rotterdam Biennales and a number of other international events. Based on the effectiveness of this experience, we will continue to take this approach.

Scotland has four World Heritage Sites, and architecture is a significant element in two of them. This means that special care is taken to ensure the highest quality of design, particularly within the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh. It also means that Scotland must learn from, and set an example to, sites of outstanding universal value world-wide.

The Executive provides support for European Heritage Days and other European initiatives organised by the Scottish Civic Trust and funded via Historic Scotland. These are very well-attended, and we believe that such initiatives offer excellent opportunities for the public to engage with and appreciate architecture, both old and new.

## DESIRED OUTCOME OF CULTURAL PROGRAMME

INCREASED DEMAND FOR A BETTER  
QUALITY BUILT ENVIRONMENT; A WIDER  
AND HIGHER LEVEL OF COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT; AND THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF LOCAL NETWORKS

## CASE STUDY

# CULTURE AND REGENERATION/PUBLIC SPACE/SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

## THE BRIDGE ARTS CENTRE, EASTERHOUSE, GLASGOW

The Bridge Arts Centre, designed by Gareth Hoskins Architects, is a community-based centre for arts and learning activities. The project underscores the key premise of Glasgow City Council's cultural strategy, which is that culture is central to improving the life of both locals and visitors. Through the care taken in its brief and its design, the project also acts to strongly substantiate the Council's belief that it is the quality of delivery which is essential to realising this vision.

Among the many facilities provided by the new building are a theatre, library, dance studio, recording studios, visual arts spaces and a café. It also provides a base for the new National Theatre of Scotland. A central feature of the design is that it both links and enhances two adjacent facilities - the Easterhouse swimming pool and John Wheatley College. The architect has responded to the angles and varying levels in the gap between these two buildings as opportunities, creating elegantly articulated external and internal public spaces of varying degrees of grandeur and intimacy – and bringing opportunities for pleasant social interaction to within an area of the neighbourhood that is largely vehicle dominated. The skilful use of natural light throughout the building is an important element in its success as a pleasant place to be and to meet. The aptly entitled “Bridge” reflects both its many physical links and the opportunities for social and artistic linkages which the building offers.

Also of interest is the co-ordination between the creation of the new centre and the management of the existing facilities - John Wheatley College now provides training and courses within the centre. The swimming pool has also been fully refurbished – contributing to further raising of the collective standard of the services provided for the community.

The project will make a significant difference to the social and cultural life of Easterhouse. Through its client commitment to this and other recent cultural buildings, Glasgow City Council is demonstrating the importance that it places upon the links between cultural participation, economic regeneration and enhanced opportunity in the development of sustainable communities.





## CASE STUDY

# ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPE AND THE HEALING PROCESS THE MAGGIE'S CENTRES

The Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres demonstrate the way in which architecture and landscape can provide healthcare environments that positively affect the healing process and which improve lives. Leading architects have been involved in each design, and the quality of the architecture and setting of each of the Maggie's Centres is fundamental to its success.

The Maggie's Centres and the Maggie's Registered Charity are named after the late Maggie Keswick Jencks, wife of the architecture critic and landscape designer Charles Jencks (who designed the gardens at the Inverness Maggie's). Her own experience of receiving treatment for cancer led her to pursue and help to realise her vision for the Centres. She wished to see the creation of special, welcoming places which would provide psychological support, information about treatment and learning strategies to cope with stress. The building environments she envisaged had to be uplifting; special in their design and domestic in scale - and the relationships between the Maggie's Centres and their carefully designed gardens would be vitally important in providing a calming, positive healing environment.

Maggie Keswick Jencks convinced her medical team that such places were needed. A team of committed health professionals, friends and family spearheaded the creation of the first Centre, designed by Richard Murphy, in the grounds of the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh in 1996. Since that time, NHS Trusts across the UK have asked Maggie's to create new Centres for their own cancer hospitals. Five Centres have been completed to date in Scotland. In Dundee, there is a Maggie's Centre designed by Frank Gehry; Centres in Glasgow and Inverness have been designed by Page and Park and, most recently, the Centre in Kirkcaldy was designed by Zaha Hadid.

The Maggie's caring philosophy and the design of each centre combine to create environments which allow patients to feel as comfortable as possible whilst they deal with tremendously difficult circumstances in their lives. The Centres demonstrate a value that can be provided by architecture and landscape in relation to health and quality of life which is beyond measure.



LEADING ARCHITECTS HAVE BEEN  
INVOLVED IN EACH DESIGN  
AND THE QUALITY OF THE ARCHITECTURE AND SETTING OF EACH OF THE MAGGIE'S CENTRE  
IS FUNDAMENTAL TO ITS SUCCESS

## CASE STUDY

# CULTURAL IDENTITY SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE

Positioned next to John Knox House on the Royal Mile in Edinburgh, Malcolm Fraser Architects' design for the Scottish Storytelling Centre sits in one of the most sensitive historic locations in Scotland.

The design approach is underpinned by deep research into the history of the former Netherbow building on the site and the wider history of the surrounding area. Growing from this level of understanding, layers of symbolism refer to past forms and uses, and the architects mesh ideas of historic gateways to the city with ideas of gateways to culture. The result is an unashamedly modern building which responds to both its internal functions and its context with great sensitivity, as befits the cultural traditions which it houses and the World Heritage status of the location.





A NEW TWO STREAM SCHOOL

# WHICH FORMS PART OF THE EDINBURGH SCHOOLS PPP PROJECTS





### 3. EDUCATION, SKILLS AND ADVOCACY

## ENSURING THAT WE HAVE THE APPROPRIATE SKILLS, TOOLS AND SUPPORT MECHANISMS TO TACKLE BARRIERS TO HIGH QUALITY DEVELOPMENT

Through our experience of policy delivery and policy review, it is clear that there are presently a number of barriers to high quality development which either result from poor availability of training and appropriately targeted information or are attitudinal in nature. We believe that we can move some way towards addressing quality issues by putting in place measures which will help to overcome these barriers.

We will develop a programme of action, part of which will focus on skills development and will include, for instance, design-related training programmes for planners. Using a similar approach to its current work with NHSScotland, the A+DS Enabling programme will be used to strengthen the skills and vision of other clients and developers. We will also use exemplars and case studies to demonstrate and communicate best practice.

We will explore opportunities for new partnerships with key built environment organisations such as, in particular, Homes for Scotland, to focus on key issues relating to housing design and layout.

### BUILDING CAPACITY WITHIN COMMUNITIES

Scottish Ministers wish to enable the people of Scotland to be involved in decisions which affect them, and which impact upon their built environment. To support this aim, we wish to ensure that people have both the opportunities and the necessary skills to participate actively. We believe that community involvement can significantly benefit the quality of design outcomes, as the people that have a connection with or will use a building can provide important knowledge about how it can and should be used. We are currently modernising our planning system to promote early and broad-based engagement in the formulation of planning policy and decision-making because we believe that community engagement in the built environment needs to happen at the earliest stage possible, and has to be meaningful.

“Community” can signify many different things to different people; it may, for instance, mean a community of location, or a community of building users. Through our architecture policy and related programmes of work, we wish to build capacity within communities across

Scotland, encouraging an active interest in local built environments and equipping people with basic skills and knowledge to become engaged in issues affecting them. It is our intention that the greatly increased focus on outreach within the new ACCESS to Architecture campaign will make a significant contribution to a culture of knowledge and confidence. We will identify and attempt to overcome barriers to engagement in the built environment, focusing on involving particular geographical communities, harder to reach demographic groups and communities with an interest in specific aspects of the built environment. Through our programme of exhibitions, we will continue to raise awareness and debate about architecture and the built environment.

## BUILDING 'UP' CONNECTIONS

For young people, learning about the built environment can be a rich and inspiring experience; it provides opportunities to explore, understand and appreciate Scotland's past and present; it provides the knowledge to engage in debate about local and national issues; and it can raise aspirations for what we build now and in the future. Ultimately, we want to inspire young people to demand more from the buildings around them and to see the rich and a varied career opportunities that the built environment has to offer. Learning about the built environment also offers chances for young people to acquire new skills for life and work, allowing Scotland to grow our already rich base of talent, engaged in preserving, designing and constructing at home and abroad.

The built environment provides many opportunities to support curriculum learning. Early in policy implementation, we worked with Learning and Teaching

Scotland (LTS) to develop the 'Building Connections' document and CD ROM, providing guidance for teachers on the use of the built environment to inform curriculum subjects and other national priorities for education. To follow up on this work, [www.buildingconnections.co.uk](http://www.buildingconnections.co.uk) was developed with The Lighthouse as a major resource for teachers and schoolchildren on the built environment. Building Connections brings together educational resources, ideas and case studies from organisations, individuals, schools and local authorities across Scotland, and all content is appropriate for the curriculum in Scottish schools.

Respondents to the consultation on policy showed strong continued support for working with young people to improve knowledge and raise aspirations. We believe that investment in young people will reap long-term rewards for Scotland's built environment and work in this area will, therefore, be an important aspect of the next phase of policy implementation.

In March 2007, The Lighthouse will host a 'Building Up Connections' Conference, bringing together a range of professionals with an interest in young people, learning and skills, and the built environment in Scotland. This is an opportunity to explore new approaches to engaging young people in the built environment, and we hope to use the conference as a catalyst to establish a more regular forum to bring together these professional interests.

In light of 'A Curriculum for Excellence', the ongoing review of the 3-18 curriculum in Scotland, it is our intention to update and enhance the materials available on the Building Connections website and work with partners to explore the best way of supporting and maintaining this resource in to the future. We will also work to improve awareness of the website and its

associated materials, and will actively promote this resource with local authorities and the teaching profession.

## DESIGNS ON MY LEARNING

The three-year 'Design for Learning: 21st Century Schools' project was initiated in 2003 to generate ideas for buildings that inspire and motivate teachers and pupils to maximise their individual and collective educational potential. The project, which is part of the Executive's Future Learning and Teaching (FLaT) programme, brought together primary and secondary schoolchildren plus other key stakeholders in Scotland's school estates with architects, designers and other creative professionals to work on a number of live pilot projects linked to school design. Managed by The Lighthouse, the team worked with ten Councils across Scotland on different projects related to specific school sites. 'Design for Learning' has generated and implemented new ideas about the way in which we build, renovate and use school buildings in order to raise educational achievement, promote sustainable development and support a culture of lifelong learning within local communities. Sust. works very closely with these initiatives on matters such as training and the integration of sustainability into the National Programme and FLaT.

The 'Design for Learning' project has illustrated the powerful role that school users can play in the design process and has allowed a number of young people to acquire new skills which we hope, in the long run, will equip them to become better engaged in their wider built environment or perhaps even stimulate them to follow a career in this field. We are now building on this work to develop a 'Designs on My Learning' project over the next two years which will seek to effect wider involvement of

young people in school design and encourage greater engagement of professionals in participatory processes. 'Designs on My Learning' guidance on involving young people in school design has been recently published and can be downloaded from The Lighthouse website. (<http://www.thelighthouse.co.uk/downloads/Flatdocument.pdf>)

## HIGHER EDUCATION

'At Home in the City' was a year long competition project in which senior students from the Strathclyde and Mackintosh Schools of Architecture addressed housing issues in the Gallowgate area of Glasgow. The project was managed by The Lighthouse as part of the National Programme and explored ways for Schools of Architecture to engage with local communities in their teaching programmes. We believe that such links with Higher Education are very important and intend to explore further possible relationships with University departments. RCAHMS is presently collaborating with Strathclyde University on a research studentship to study the New Town of Cumbernauld.

## EMERGING TALENT

The quality of Scotland's built heritage reflects the strength and depth of our architects and designers over the centuries. We recognise, however, that we must support and promote both our students and our young practices to allow emerging talent to grow. We have looked for ways to work with the RIAS to support student work and have developed the 'SIX' Student Awards scheme mentioned above (Section 2), as a partnership between the RIAS and the National Programme. As well as continuing to fund the annual 'SIX' Awards scheme, we will focus on emerging talent as the key theme for the ACCESS to Architecture campaign in 2008-09.



## RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE

In the past five years the Executive's Architecture Policy Unit has commissioned a number of benchmarking studies into the impact of the architecture policy.

In order to ensure a long-term strategic approach for Executive-funded research projects related to the built environment, APU will establish a new National Reference Group on research. The Group will aim to identify current research, evidence gaps and to steer the development of new Executive research. We envisage that this Group will include representatives from across Executive Departments together with the RIAS, A+DS, The Lighthouse and Sust.

We also believe that dissemination of existing research and knowledge is vitally important, and will explore ways in which research findings and good practice can be disseminated to a wider audience, debated and discussed. We envisage a strong role for A+DS in ensuring that key research messages are communicated to a range of audiences. This may involve working actively with professionals, collating and reviewing existing research and working with the media.

## INCREASING DESIGN AWARENESS AND SKILLS

Respondents to the consultation highlighted the wide range of participants whose roles and behaviour impact upon the quality of our built environment, and encouraged us to work to ensure that everyone involved in decision-making has access to the right skills, information and support to make informed design choices. We believe that there is a need to substantially raise awareness of the economic, social and

environmental benefits of good design and, through our work, we hope to encourage a culture in which design is not dismissed as an additional cost, but regarded, rather, as a process which improves outcomes. In addition, we need to ensure that decision-makers, architects, designers, planners and developers have access to high quality resources, support and advice.

We recognise that we must tailor our approach to suit the needs and interests of specific sectors. In recognition of the powerful impact that local authority action has on design outcomes, and thus the importance of this area as a priority, A+DS is currently working with the Executive and the Improvement Service for Scottish local government to develop a design training framework to be delivered to all local authority planning departments, aimed at raising design skills and awareness. The first training events will be held in early 2007. In addition, the Scottish Executive and A+DS are currently developing guidance for local authorities on master planning, aimed at raising awareness of the value of the process and building skills and confidence in using this tool.

Earlier in this section, we highlighted the important role that A+DS can play in developing, collating and disseminating research. We want this to inform the development of resources and guidance that can be shared with, and embedded in the practices of, key development participants such as planners, architects and housing developers. Respondents to the consultation emphasised the need to link research and guidance with practice, and the case studies woven through this document are an early reflection of these comments.



## SUPPORTING BETTER DESIGN

We were encouraged to see wide support for the enabling work of A+DS in responses to the consultation. Whilst we remain strongly committed to the design review process carried out by A+DS, we envisage that early, supportive engagement in the design process will increasingly become the focus of the organisation's work. As indicated earlier, A+DS is working to deliver better design outcomes with publicly-funded projects such as schools, hospitals and regeneration programmes, and supporting public sector clients in the design process. Our vision is, in the future, to build upon this experience and to establish programmes of work with other sectors, such as private and social housing developers. In line with our aim to lead by example, we will communicate the benefits of good design widely within the Executive, encouraging other policy areas to seek advice and support from A+DS.

## ADVOCATING SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

The ultimate aim of the Sust. programme is to facilitate the mainstreaming of sustainable design in architecture and the public realm by empowering those involved in the design and delivery process with the knowledge and skills to make a difference. Sust. aims to identify and eradicate 'pressure points', where sustainable concerns are vulnerable in development processes, and thus to identify what needs to be addressed in order develop a new design process that has sustainability at its core. The programme engages key players, including clients, community groups and designers responsible for building projects, and has developed unique training, guidance and information to allow decision-makers to make informed choices about sustainable development. Sust. helps those involved to make the necessary

adjustments to their work practices to accommodate change; in effect, to make sustainable development the norm rather than the exception.

## HIGHLIGHTING GOOD DESIGN

The Executive is currently working with the Highland Council and others to develop proposals for a Highland Housing Fair. A design competition is also presently being run by the Scottish Executive in conjunction with Glasgow City Council. The aim of the design competition is to raise the profile of master planning and deliver the successful translation of policy into physical reality. The competition is a design, manage and build project for a new housing development on a brownfield site in central Glasgow. It is our hope that these initiatives will, between them, provide practical case studies of good design in both rural and urban housing. We believe that design competitions and initiatives like the Highland Housing Fair can inspire designers, developers and the public, and that they have the potential to substantially raise the expectations of all parties. We will encourage and support similar approaches in the future.

## INFORMING OUR FUTURE

Changes to the built environment can have a lasting impact on the communities and people of Scotland, and we must consider the long term future needs of the country if we are to make the right design choices. As the national champion for good architecture, design and planning, A+DS has a central role in identifying the key challenges and opportunities for Scotland's built environment in the long term. The series of colloquia that A+DS has recently organised have successfully brought together a range of individuals and organisations involved in the built environment to discuss and develop dominant themes and we hope that this kind of approach



can be further developed, resulting in frameworks for action. This could inform the work of individuals and, at a more strategic level, government policy influencing the way in which organisations develop their approaches to change in the built environment.

## A+DS ENABLING

A key element in the programme of developing skills and awareness amongst clients and project teams will be the expansion of the A+DS Enabling programme. The programme is set against a context of major capital investment programmes in health and schools; major regeneration projects on the west coast of Scotland; key housing strategies focusing on procurement and mixed communities; and a culture change in planning, aspiring to a more creative and effective process. A+DS will, therefore, prioritise its work in the areas of healthcare, schools, regeneration and housing, and planning and urban design.

**Tools for delivery:** In order to deliver on its aims and objectives the Enabling programme uses a variety of tools and techniques, including, but not limited to:

- **Design Audits** – assisting partners to undertake audits of their current policy, practices and protocols for delivering design quality;
- **Design Strategy** – assisting partners to establish and communicate their design strategy;
- **Strategic Overview Workshops** – facilitating workshops to allow partners to consider, define and develop consistent and united design strategies;

- **Project Enabling** – enabling specific projects to provide hands-on advice and assistance to project, policy and development partners;
- **Setting up Design Panels/Sub Groups** – assisting in the establishment of regional or project-specific design panels or sub-groups;
- **Design Networks** – establishing and facilitating regular events amongst partners to share experiences, projects and best practice examples;
- **Delivering Design Quality Workshops** – facilitating workshops and delivering papers and presentations at conferences and seminars on the principles, value and tools for delivering well designed built environments;
- **Guidance** – producing guidance on best practice and case study examples on specific themes or built environment sectors; and
- **Design Assessment** – using the resources of the Enabling Panel; working with partners to evaluate proposals through the design development phase.

## DESIRED OUTCOME OF EDUCATION, SKILLS AND ADVOCACY PROGRAMME

BETTER EQUIPPED  
CLIENTS AND  
COMMUNITIES

## CASE STUDY

# INCLUSION/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/ LANDSCAPE/ART

## THE HIDDEN GARDENS PROJECT, GLASGOW

What is paradise? What is missing from this place? What is specific to this place?

These questions opened the dialogue with the Pollokshields community on the Hidden Gardens project, and arose from research into the relationship between religion and landscape in different places and at different times. This innovative project has seen the transformation of a derelict industrial site on Glasgow's south side into a tranquil and inspirational landscaped public space. Hidden Gardens is the result of a two-year consultation and collaborative design process that involved the environmental arts charity, NVA, landscape architects City Design Co-operative, a team of international artists and the local community in Pollokshields.

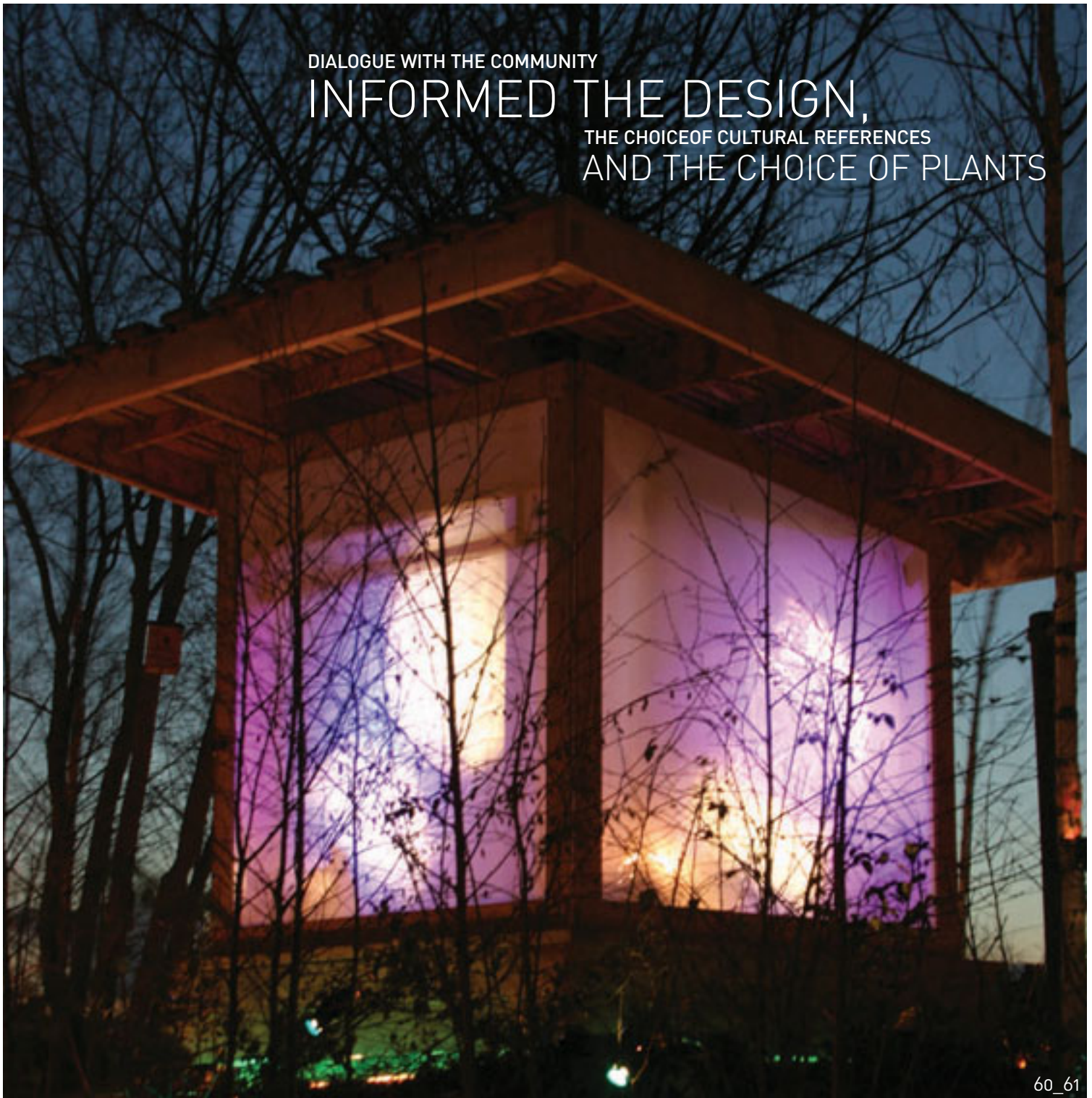
The gardens embrace and merge ideas, rituals and forms from different cultures through the work of designers and artists. The starting point for the design programme, artworks and horticultural approach within the gardens was the celebration of diversity in nature and humanity, and the promotion of a deeper understanding of nature through international horticultural traditions. A number of integrated artworks appear throughout the project, including inscribed poems and texts, viewing devices into hidden worlds and a library of the woodland. The gardens also explore the idea of the movement of plants across continents, and ideas of provenance and displacement. Plants significant to different cultures and belief systems occur throughout the gardens and both native and exotic plants are used in a number of carefully orchestrated ways. Dialogue with the community informed the design, the choice of cultural references and the choice of plants.

The Hidden Gardens design incorporates references to the site's history, which is revealed in a number of ways. For instance, certain lines of trees and planting echo a 19th-century nursery layout that once existed on the site providing plants for famous parks and gardens around the world.

The overall effect of the project is a contemplative open space where the diverse communities of the city and visitors alike can find respite in a busy urban environment. Its particular power derives from the fact that the gardens could not be anywhere else - they have been developed very specifically in response to this site and this community.

DIALOGUE WITH THE COMMUNITY

INFORMED THE DESIGN,  
THE CHOICE OF CULTURAL REFERENCES  
AND THE CHOICE OF PLANTS



## CASE STUDY

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/ACCESS/ SUSTAINABILITY/REGENERATION **AQUALIBRIUM, CAMPBELTOWN**

Following the closure of the existing recreational complex in 2000 due to structural instability, the provision of new amenities was viewed by Argyll & Bute Council to be of vital strategic importance to the regeneration of Campbeltown Town Centre and to draw new people, in particular professionals such as doctors and nurses, into the area.

After extensive consultation with the local community, the Council produced a brief for the new building which consisted of a 6 lane, 25 m competition swimming pool, a fitness studio, a library, a crèche, café facilities and associated offices. Eight-year-old Caitlin Ronald entered the competition to name the £7 million building, designed by Page and Park, which houses the town's swimming pool, library and gym along with a café, meeting rooms play areas and spaces for community use. As part of her entry, Caitlin explained that her title "Aqualibrium" was derived from aqua (water), libr (library), ium (gymnasium) and, appropriately, sounds like "equilibrium".

An important part of the brief was the requirement to make the building accessible to all of the community, and careful attention was given to the design of facilities for disabled people on all levels of the building. Although facilities for a disabled hoist have been incorporated within the swimming pool area, wheelchair-bound people can also access the pool directly via the floating floor which can be raised level with the pool surround and then submerged.

Wherever possible, materials chosen are recyclable and high levels of insulation are used throughout. The boiler is fuelled with local biomass, which not only provides an affordable, local, sustainable supply of heat to the building, but also supports a new local wood-chip industry. The sawmill at Auchencorvie near Campbeltown has been set up to provide wood-chip to other biomass boilers in the Kintyre region. It is hoped that the increased demand for wood-chip that the new boiler will create will help the establishment of this business and provide work within the region. The biomass boiler provides swimming pool, domestic hot water and space heating for the building, both fitting with the sustainable ethos of the building and ensuring low running costs. The estimated CO<sub>2</sub> saving for the facility resulting from the installation of the wood chip heating system is 333 tonnes per annum.



THE BOILER IS FUELLED WITH  
**LOCAL BIOMASS WHICH**  
NOT ONLY PROVIDES AN AFFORDABLE, LOCAL, SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY  
OF HEAT TO THE BUILDING



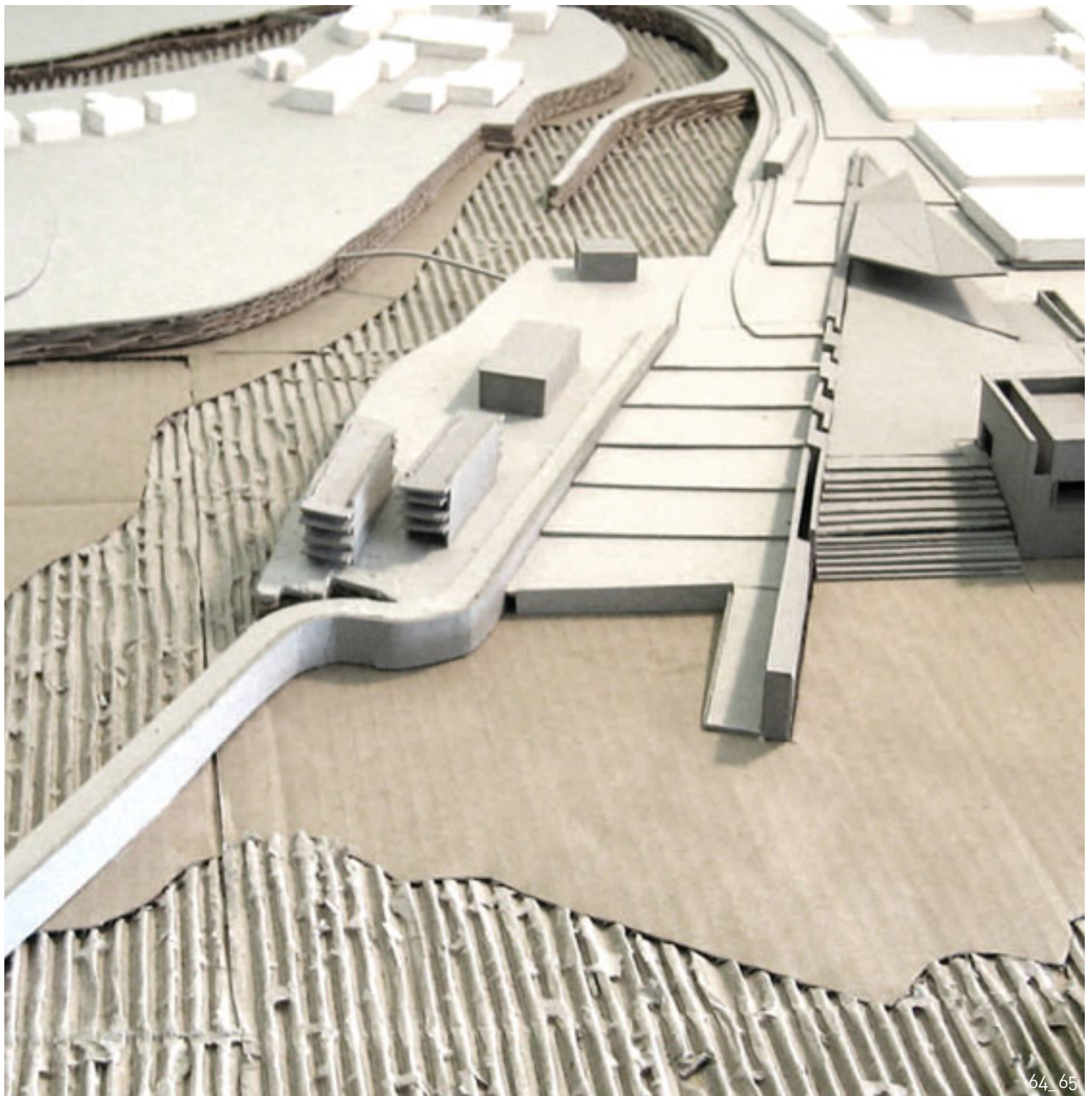


## CASE STUDY

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GIRVAN MASTERPLAN

In 2004, The Lighthouse National Programme and education teams together with Girvan Horizons and Sutherland Hussey Architects carried out a series of workshops and consultations with the Girvan community to produce a regeneration proposal for the town, seeking to raise awareness and aspirations for the future of the predominant sea front. This work became the foundation for a successful European grant application to further develop this work.

This process is a model for any town where there is a desire to raise awareness and aspiration for the future. In our new ACCESS to Architecture campaign we intend to place greater emphasis upon the development and dissemination of replicable approaches.







# 4. SUSTAINABILITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVE DESIGN

## PROMOTING MEASURES WHICH MAINSTREAM A SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE APPROACH TO DESIGN

### CONTEXT

Following the joint 'Taking it on' consultation during 2004, the Scottish Executive joined the UK Government, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Northern Ireland Administration in signing up to a UK strategic framework for sustainable development, committing us to work together towards a shared purpose, principles and priorities. The framework was launched by the First Minister in Edinburgh in March 2005. The shared framework document 'One Future - Different Paths' identifies a powerful set of principles to help us achieve our goal and which underpin the approach we are taking in Scotland.

### THE SCOTTISH STRATEGY

'Choosing our future: Scotland's sustainable development strategy' was published in December 2005, and sets out the actions which we will take in Scotland to take forward the shared priorities set out in 'One Future - Different Paths'. Our strategy is based on five UK-wide sustainable development principles, which can be summarised as:

- to live within environmental limits and to achieve a strong, healthy and just society by means of a sustainable economy, sound science and good governance.

Our priorities are to:

- reduce the size of Scotland's global footprint;
- protect our natural heritage and resources for the long term; and
- improve the quality of life for individuals and communities in Scotland, securing environmental justice for those who suffer the worst local environments.

We are now putting the strategy into effect through a published and quarterly updated Implementation Plan which contains more than forty pieces of work.

The Plan includes:

- 'Changing our Ways, the Scottish Climate Change Programme', which commits to cutting 2.7 million tonnes of carbon emissions through devolved policies by 2010 – 1 million more than our Scottish share;
- revised indicators of Scotland's progress on sustainable development;
- action plan for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development;
- revised indicators of Scotland's progress on sustainable development; and
- action on architecture and the built environment.

REFLECTING THE SHARED PRIORITIES OF THE FRAMEWORK, THE SCOTTISH STRATEGY FOCUSES ON SIX AREAS IN PARTICULAR:

- ▶ **SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION** - ACHIEVING MORE WITH LESS, REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, IMPROVING BUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS AND BREAKING THE LINK BETWEEN ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE;
- ▶ **CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY** - MAKING CHANGES TO HOW WE GENERATE AND USE ENERGY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH RELEASE GREENHOUSE GASES AND DRIVE CLIMATE CHANGE;
- ▶ **NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT** - PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE ENVIRONMENT TO ENSURE A DECENT ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERYONE;
- ▶ **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES** - CREATING COMMUNITIES WHICH EMBODY THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT THE LOCAL LEVEL;
- ▶ **LEARNING TO LIVE DIFFERENTLY** - DEVELOPING AWARENESS, UNDERSTANDING AND ENGAGEMENT AND SEEKING TO HELP AND ENCOURAGE PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS TO MAKE MORE SUSTAINABLE CHOICES; AND
- ▶ **DELIVERY** - TARGETS AND INDICATORS, ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOVERNANCE.



# SUST. THE LIGHTHOUSE ON SUSTAINABILITY

Clearly, the policy on architecture has the potential to support the Scottish strategy in many of these areas. A significant amount of work has already been carried out. From 2002 to 2006, the £1.2 million Executive funded Sust. initiative has involved an ambitious programme of projects on sustainability developed in partnership with a wide range of organisations who have benefited from the campaign. These organisations include community groups, government agencies, local authorities, professional organisations, academic institutions, architectural practices and voluntary sector groups.

One of the key objectives of the Sust. programme has been to work with building design professionals, their clients and the general public to raise awareness of the importance of sustainable design and the contribution that it can make to the delivery of a sustainable future. In addition, the programme seeks to raise expectations and aspirations of its clients, and to transfer relevant knowledge in order to raise the demand for sustainable buildings. It is clear that the programme has made good progress towards this objective. However, we have recognised that although, for the most part, Housing Associations and Local Authorities are not lacking in training and awareness of the issues, difficulties remain in translating this information and knowledge into a physical reality. Over the last two years, we have begun to explore how to address this. We believe that, in order to make a real difference, and to act as an effective catalyst for change, Sust. must engage more with clients, business and the public on 'live' projects to enable the practical application of their knowledge.

The design, construction, operation and maintenance of the built environment and the creative use of the existing environment provide significant opportunities to contribute towards a more sustainable future. However, although the creation of 'green buildings' is of extreme importance - on their own, these built 'products' are not enough.

Sustainable Development has three core elements - environmental, social, and economic factors - and all require to be balanced in order to achieve a truly sustainable outcome. And so, if the 'product' is in the wrong place, or displaces jobs, or upsets the environmental balance of the location then, however well-designed, the final outcome will not be sustainable. In energy terms, for example, the built environment consumes natural resources during construction, refurbishment and demolition but its greatest impact is the energy use in operation. Energy used for heating, providing hot water, cooling and lighting our homes in particular is a major factor in our global environmental impact, accounting for 34% of our total energy consumption and 33% of our greenhouse gas emissions. Delivering sustainable development must, therefore, be a continuing process. Everyone must accept responsibility, and we must change our ways to adopt more environmentally responsible patterns of behaviour.

The products and processes of development have not only significant implications for energy use, but also impact upon health, transport, employment and communities. The way in which our built environment is developed makes a considerable difference to how communities look, feel and function. Our early focus has, by and large, tended towards more central, technical



issues of sustainability such as energy performance, material specifications, and construction issues. We are, however, also keen to improve awareness and knowledge of wider aspects of sustainable development such as the regeneration and creation of safe, secure communities; the environmental, social and economic importance of neighbourhood identity; inclusion and community engagement; and the impact of decisions in relation to location and infrastructure. We have, thus, committed funds to continuing the Sust. programme for a further two years.

The Executive will also continue to fund the installation of micro-renewables in homes across Scotland through its Scottish Community and Household Renewables Initiative (SCHRI).

## BUILDING STANDARDS

The Scottish Building Standards Agency (SBSA) was established in 2004, and the new building standards system which came into operation in 2005 allows greater scope for innovation in design through providing more flexibility in the ways that standards can be met. In 2006, the SBSA issued a public consultation on changes to the standards on structure, environment, accessibility and energy, which is due to come into effect in May 2007. The SBSA will be raising its energy performance standards at that time. The Agency's work on access for all allows it to play a full part in trying to close the opportunity gap and promote equality to those living in and visiting Scotland. The SBSA intends to use

the system to require even higher standards, whilst increasing the opportunities for imaginative design and simplifying the requirements for small buildings and minor works. In developing the standards, the SBSA is considering how to deliver reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide and developing guidance on the installation of a range of low and zero carbon technologies. Changes planned for 2009 will further increase the sustainability of new buildings, raise the standards on noise control and update the requirements on the means of escape necessary in the event of fire. The Executive will monitor progress in delivering a built environment for a sustainable future as part of the reporting arrangements for this strategy.

The SBSA is also responsible for the implementation of the 'Energy Performance of Buildings Directive'. This began in January 2006, with measures including the gradual introduction of energy performance certificates required for public buildings. By 2009, energy performance certificates will be required for every building when it is built, sold or rented.

Significant challenges for the Architecture Policy Unit are how, through policy initiatives, it can help to raise awareness of the potential of the new building standards system and how it can encourage designers to design above minimum standards. It also wishes to encourage higher aspirations for sustainability in its wider sense, as energy performance is, of course, only one aspect of sustainability.

## INCLUSIVE DESIGN

An inclusive environment is one that can be used by everyone, regardless of age, gender or disability, and this is also a key aspect of sustainable development. The objective of an inclusive design approach to both buildings and places is to widen the user group for which an environment is designed. The Scottish Executive is committed to improving the provision of inclusive environments as part of our wider aim of promoting more equality in the areas where we live and work. In order to achieve this throughout Scotland's built environment, everyone involved in creating places must understand how to design for the widest user group.

There is also, now, a specific legal requirement to consider the needs of disabled people under the terms of Disability Discrimination legislation. The Disability Discrimination Act 2005 introduces a new duty on public bodies, including local authorities to actively promote disability equality. The promotion of inclusive design should be seen as an important part of meeting this new duty.

Planning Advice Note 78 Inclusive Design (PAN 78), was published in March 2006 and is targeted at a wide range of people who are involved in the development process and who have the opportunity to create and maintain inclusive environments. This includes building owners, developers, design professionals, local authority officers, access panels and, importantly, building occupiers. It encourages the consideration of inclusive design at an early stage in the design process, and seeks to ensure effective joint working between those involved to ensure that developments provide the most appropriate environments for all users. PAN 78 complements

'Designing Places' and is intended to support better awareness and understanding of context, issues, roles and responsibilities and aims to:


- > explain the importance of inclusive design;
- > identify the nature of the problems experienced in designing inclusive environments;
- > describe the legislative context;
- > outline the roles of the different stakeholders in delivering inclusive design;
- > identify the particular challenges of applying inclusive design to the historic environment; and
- > provide a useful reference list of more detailed or technical advice.

## CO-ORDINATION

Across the Executive, there are many Divisions whose work includes issues related to sustainability. The Executive's Policy on Architecture Progress Group already brings Divisions, Agencies and NDPBs involved with sustainability in the built environment to the same table as key external built environment bodies.

Sustainability has already, naturally, come to the fore in the work of the Group. However, in our consideration of the Group's future work on the implementation of policy, we will explore ways to better co-ordinate and align Executive activity on sustainability in the built environment and to work more closely with areas of the Executive with sustainable interests which are not presently involved in the Group.





## DESIRED OUTCOME OF PROGRAMME

SCOTLAND AT THE FOREFRONT  
OF SUSTAINABLE, ACCESSIBLE  
AND INCLUSIVE BUILT  
ENVIRONMENT DESIGN

THE ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES OF THIS

# HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

ARE DESIGNED TO HELP

# PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA



## CASE STUDY

# SUSTAINABLE DESIGN/INCORPORATION OF HISTORIC ELEMENTS/HOUSING SIGNAL STATION HOUSE, NORTH QUEENSFERRY

This Ministry of Defence signal tower, which perches around forty metres above the Firth of Forth and sits close below the Forth Rail Bridge in North Queensferry, was still in use until the mid 1990s. The octagonal tower, which had originally only a very small outbuilding attached, was bought by Euan Millar, a partner in the quite recently formed Icosis Architects, with the intention of transforming into his own family home.

The project was carried out in two phases by separate contractors, and the first of these phases was the renovation of the tower. Wherever possible, the renovation of the original building and construction of the extension used natural materials from sustainable sources. Among the many examples of this approach are that sheep's wool was used to insulate the tower and that walls in the extension use recycled newspaper as insulation.

A construction phase waste-management strategy was implemented in order to minimise the need for transporting waste to landfill over the course of the project. All untreated timber waste was retained for use in the two wood-burning stoves in the renovated tower, while brick and rubble was retained for use as fill and sub-base beneath the extension. The main roof of the extension is finished using planted turf, for which the soil excavated for the foundations was set-aside.

As the project is most frequently seen from above by travellers on the bridge, grass is used on both the roof of the extension and garden to minimise the visual impact from this viewpoint. This was considered to be the most environmentally and aesthetically sympathetic solution for the location. Icosis has aimed to create the aesthetic of a classic Modernist building, sitting as an elegant companion to the original tower. The project not only succeeds admirably in this aim, but demonstrates good, sustainable design in both the built form and the construction process.

ICOSIS HAS AIMED TO CREATE THE AESTHETIC OF A  
**CLASSIC MODERNIST**  
BUILDING, SITTING AS AN ELEGANT COMPANION  
TO THE ORIGINAL TOWER



## CASE STUDY

# LANDSCAPE/SUSTAINABILITY

## ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND WORLD HEADQUARTERS

### GOGARBURN, EDINBURGH

The £350 million Royal Bank of Scotland world headquarters is located on the site of the former hospital at Gogarburn, Edinburgh set in around 100 acres of woodland. Six office pavilions, providing space for 3250 staff, and an executive pavilion with entrance hall focused on a connecting internal street, sit in landscaped, campus-style grounds. The 300 metre internal street, enclosed by steel and glass, provides facilities such as a retail bank, convenience food outlets, a grocery store and restaurants. Headquarter facilities play a key role in the attraction and retention of staff, and the development at Gogarburn also provides leisure, crèche/nursery facilities as well as a new training centre.

The development is designed to minimise impact on the natural environment. An early, detailed environmental impact assessment was made which encompassed ecology, flora/fauna, hydrology, sustainable drainage, noise and pollution and traffic impact. Water and habitat strategies have been developed which will see the woodland come under careful active management.

As part of the strong commitment to sustainable design, a significant number of waste management initiatives were integrated into the construction process, including the separation and re-use of materials from the existing buildings which were demolished on the site. 50,000 tonnes of fill material were generated by crushing demolished masonry, saving £700,000 on the import of equivalent material and saving £250,000 in disposal costs and 30,000m<sup>3</sup> of topsoil was created from materials in the site.

The existing landscape has been sensitively managed throughout and has been enhanced to improve the vistas south. The outcome represents a very good example of development in a parkland or mature landscape setting and also highlights the importance of a good landscape maintenance strategy. The approach to sustainability in the construction process is exemplary and a BREEAM rating of 'Excellent' has been achieved.

Architect: Michael Laird Architects    Landscape architects: EDAW

Further information on sustainable aspects of the design: <http://www.envirowise.gov.uk/media/attachments/202895/Edinburgh-RBS-Waste-Mgt-Case-Study.pdf>



## CASE STUDY

# ACCESS/REFURBISHMENT/ HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

## HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE EXTENSION, ABERDEEN

His Majesty's Theatre, which is grade A-listed, originally opened in 1906, and was designed by Frank Matcham who is well known for his work on a number of grand theatres across the United Kingdom. The theatre has now been imaginatively refurbished and extended in a project by Aberdeen City Council's architects, whose design makes the building fully accessible to theatre-goers with special needs, provides a range of new facilities, and brings added vitality into the building. Adapt Trust were access consultants on the project and LDN Architects, who are experienced in the creative revitalisation of important historic buildings, were also employed as consultants.

The five-storey redevelopment rejuvenates the theatre, and the auditorium has been sympathetically refurbished to retain its Edwardian colour scheme. The seats have been re-upholstered, and the leg room has been improved in the stalls by replacing the rows and offsetting the seats. The front-of-house facilities have been modernised and a restaurant, coffee shop and corporate hospitality area added. Technical and audio-visual equipment have been improved, and there is a new Green room for performers, upgraded dressing rooms and a purpose-built rehearsal and education area. The installation of two lifts has contributed to making the venue fully accessible.

A £2 million grant towards the £7.8 million refurbishment was provided through the National Lottery Fund managed by the Scottish Arts Council (SAC). SAC Lottery Funding is conditional upon a high level of accessibility for people with disabilities.

The project is the biggest refurbishment in the theatre's history and is the largest granite construction in Aberdeen for a considerable time. His Majesty's Theatre is the only theatre in the UK to be completely built of granite and, as in the original, the new work has been carried out with granite sourced from Kemnay.

The thoughtful integration of the old and new, together with improved facilities and comfort conditions, significantly increases its attractiveness as a venue for theatregoers and performers alike. This is an excellent example of public architecture carried out by the City Council's in-house team.





## CASE STUDY

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING/ACCESSIBILITY/ SUSTAINABILITY/REGENERATION

## TELFORD ROAD, EDINBURGH

Telford Road is a housing development designed by Gordon Murray + Alan Dunlop Architects (gm+ad) for Manor Estates - a charitable Housing Association that aims to provide good quality, affordable and sustainable housing and services to meet a wide range of housing needs. Sustainable principles were adopted throughout the project, which comprises twenty units, four of which are for tenants of 'varying needs' and are fully accessible for wheelchair users.

A key intention in the project has been to encourage, through the architecture itself and through the spaces it creates, social engagement between the various groups of residents. An important design consideration has, thus, been how to maintain a balance between a sense of privacy and ownership, and opportunities for interaction with neighbours.

The housing is grouped around a number of communal landscaped spaces, which are articulated in a such a way as to delineate the public and semi-private realms. These public spaces are overlooked by terraces, balconies and enclosed spaces. Outdoor terraced gardens on the first floors form shared multipurpose spaces and provide semi-public areas between flats. The internal stairs lead onto generous glazed landings which the residents are encouraged to personalise as conservatories. Each flat has staggered projecting window seats or winter gardens which maximise the south-west aspect of the blocks and allow several visual connections with the surrounding public spaces.

The project is intended to act as a catalyst for regeneration of the strip of disused railway land behind the existing Telford Drive, and forms part of a larger masterplan presently being undertaken by gm+ad for \*EDI. The site backs onto one of Edinburgh's proposed tram routes, and integration with public transport opportunities was also a strong sustainable driver for the project. It is an excellent example of the kind of sensitive, people-focused design necessary for the creation of real, working neighbourhoods. The scheme also demonstrates the quality that can be achieved on a modest budget through a rational approach to layout and the use of a limited number of good, simple materials.

\*The EDI Group was established in 1988 by The City of Edinburgh Council for the development of Edinburgh Park. It has since developed as a private company which works in partnership with both public and private sectors, carrying out property projects that are not only profitable, but whose primary objective is to bring added value in respect of architectural, environmental and economic development benefits.



A KEY INTENTION IN THE PROJECT HAS BEEN TO  
ENCOURAGE, THROUGH THE ARCHITECTURE ITSELF AND THROUGH THE SPACES IT  
CREATES, SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT  
BETWEEN THE VARIOUS GROUPS OF RESIDENTS







## 5. BUILT HERITAGE

# UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING CHANGE IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT – LINKING OUR PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE HERITAGE

### RECOGNISING THE VALUE OF THE BUILT HERITAGE

Our promotion of good architecture and design is not simply about having a concern for the quality of new-build developments whilst cherishing our built heritage. It is about having a concern for the development of Scotland's built environment as whole – a continuum where past, present and future are carefully considered in their relation to each other to achieve the best possible outcome.

Scotland has an outstanding built heritage, and this is something that we should be proud of, but we must recognise that the quality of this heritage places considerable demands on the way that we approach new development in order to ensure that we do not undermine the benefits of this valuable inheritance.

There are a number of reasons why this is an important issue for the policy on architecture to address. Our built heritage is still frequently undervalued when viewed by many of those involved in the push for new development. The historic environment is often perceived to be a barrier or constraint, rather than an asset. There are encouraging signs, however, that we are, for the most part, leaving behind the tabula rasa approach to urban development prevalent through much of the second half of the last century. Almost every successful new development in recent years – such as, for





instance, the Holyrood North and Dublin Colonies housing in Edinburgh and Graham Square in Glasgow - pays close attention to the cultural history of the site, the buildings, artefacts and archaeological traces to derive meaning and inspiration for the new proposals.

Along with local planning authorities, we wish to see greater use by developers of planning tools that help to ensure that the significance of a place is understood.

They include:

- conservation management plans;
- conservation area appraisals;
- masterplans; and
- design statements.

Our existing building stock is a crucial contributor to local distinctiveness and identity. Reflecting local building materials and traditional construction, the existing built environment physically embodies the history and identity of communities. Large or small scale redevelopments can draw inspiration from our past in the creation of our future surroundings and can provide points of reference and cultural continuity for communities which may be affected by significant change.

An approach to spatial development which encompasses a respect for cultural heritage can also act as a bulwark against some of the more unwelcome forces of globalisation which have a tendency to uniformity across national and local borders and which tend toward the lowest common denominator. Searching for a sense of historic continuity will open up rather than close down opportunities for the retention of the cultural identity within villages, towns, cities and regions across Scotland.

Our existing built heritage has important ecological value and is also vitally important for sustainability – as it contains a great store of energy in terms of the raw materials and the processes which converted them into our buildings in the past. The re-use of buildings is highly sustainable. A huge amount of energy and materials has been invested in their construction and we must not thoughtlessly throw this embodied energy away. Historic buildings have always been adapted, often many times over, but in recent years, this has become much more common. We have become used to seeing churches, hospitals, and even landmark industrial buildings, such as the celebrated Templeton's Carpet Factory in Glasgow, Broadford Works in Aberdeen or the Anchor Finishing Mill in Paisley converted and conserved. The need to sustain the world's resources fits well with the desire to cherish our culture and the strong sense of identity which buildings like these convey.

Historic buildings have a reputation for being difficult to work with – and for being expensive and inflexible. However, provided that their potential is recognised and a concern for their qualities is integrated from the outset, they can provide true sustainability - adding tremendous value for the future as well as conserving and continuing our built heritage. Many historic buildings are inherently adaptable and sustainable; that is usually why they have lasted so long. Investing in the historic environment therefore makes sense from an environmental as well as a cultural perspective. Re-using buildings consumes less energy than new construction, capitalises on the embodied energy invested in original structures; reduces the waste sent to landfill; and makes best use of existing infrastructure by reinforcing existing urban footprints.

We have come a long way from the days when historic buildings were simply torn down or left in isolation by new development. We now understand the added value that the historic environment can bring, not only in cultural terms, but as a real economic driver, attracting inward investment, helping communities to regenerate and playing a vital part in our tourist industry.

The adaptation and re-use of historic buildings should not stifle new design – it can act as a spur for creative solutions which bring old and new together successfully. New design in historic locations has been a particular success in recent years. The new Parliament is, of course, the best example of a stunning new building taking inspiration from its context and repaying it with huge cultural and economic added value. And there are many other less well-known examples throughout the country, from Glasgow’s former Meat Market, Graham Square, to Kilncraigs Business Centre at Alloa or the Tun in Edinburgh. At a smaller scale, the adaptation of historic sites and buildings for people to visit, live and work within has prompted interventions of the highest design quality.

The message is clear: new buildings in historic places can transform the experience associated with the place. With the best of the old and the best of the new we can build a balanced, sustainable environment for the enjoyment and cultural prosperity of all.

An important aim in policy is, then, to promote a better understanding of the role that our built heritage can play in shaping our future as a nation and to encourage better connections between our past, present and future built environments. This message is being reinforced in the forthcoming Scottish Planning Policy: Historic Environment. This SPP supersedes and consolidates National Planning Policy Guideline (NPPG) 18 Planning and the Historic Environment and NPPG5 Archaeology and Planning.

A number of the case studies within this policy statement illustrate different ways in which new development has strongly responded to the built heritage and where this approach has played a very important part in the success of projects. The Architecture Policy Unit will continue to work with Historic Scotland, A+DS, The Lighthouse, RCAHMS and RIAS to identify and promote good practice.

## HISTORIC SCOTLAND

Historic Scotland is an agency of the Scottish Executive charged with safeguarding the nation's historic environment and promoting its understanding and enjoyment. It is well known as the guardian of several hundred properties in care and has commissioned architectural work at all of them.

Outreach by Historic Scotland includes publications that range from leaflets to more substantial memoranda, annual reports, guide books, heritage guides and research reports. A number of publications, including advice for owners and occupiers on the care and maintenance of historic properties, can be freely downloaded from its website.

(<http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk>)

Historic Scotland has commissioned and published research on a variety of issues including performance, detailing, maintenance strategies, and the usage of traditional materials in Scotland. Architecture Policy Unit has, in the past, provided some support for publications by Historic Scotland and other arms of government on the use of Scottish materials. The Unit will continue to work with Historic Scotland in the co-ordination of policy aims and to support further initiatives of this kind.

## HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT POLICIES

The built heritage of Scotland is, as we have discussed above, an outstanding asset. We recognise, however, that our built heritage is, all too often, perceived as a constraint in development and a barrier to change. Historic Scotland is, though, clear in its policies that the protection of the historic environment is not about preventing change. The historic environment is, like the rest of our landscape, dynamic and its successful protection and conservation depends upon ensuring that change is managed intelligently. We intend that our built heritage will be promoted more strongly as an asset in successful place-making, harnessing its significant power to strengthen the identity and character of communities.

Scottish Historic Environment Policies (SHEPs) are a new series of policy documents that set out Scottish Ministers' vision and strategic policies for the wider historic environment and also provide greater policy direction for Historic Scotland. Work on the first three of these is presently underway - public consultations on SHEPs 1 and 3 have been carried out and SHEP 2 was published in 2006.

- SHEP 1- 'SCOTLAND'S HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT' IS THE OVERARCHING POLICY STATEMENT FOR THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT. IT PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK FOR MORE DETAILED STRATEGIC POLICIES AND OPERATIONAL POLICIES THAT INFORM THE DAY TO-DAY WORK OF A RANGE OF ORGANISATIONS THAT HAVE A ROLE AND INTEREST IN MANAGING THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT. THESE INCLUDE THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE, LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE RANGE OF BODIES THAT ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO SCOTTISH MINISTERS. THE FINAL VERSION OF SHEP 1, TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE RESPONSES TO THE CONSULTATION, WILL BE PUBLISHED EARLY IN 2007.
- SHEP 2- 'SCHEDULING: PROTECTING SCOTLAND'S NATIONALLY IMPORTANT MONUMENTS' SETS OUT SCOTTISH MINISTERS' POLICY FOR THE IDENTIFICATION AND DESIGNATION OF NATIONALLY IMPORTANT ANCIENT MONUMENTS. THIS PROCESS PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE CONSERVATION OF EVIDENCE FOR SCOTLAND'S PAST.
- SHEP 3- 'GARDENS AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES' SETS OUT SCOTTISH MINISTERS' POLICIES FOR GARDENS AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES IN RESPECT OF THEIR IDENTIFICATION AND PROTECTION, THE MANAGEMENT OF CHANGE, AND HOW HISTORIC SCOTLAND WILL IMPLEMENT THESE POLICIES. THE CONSULTATION DRAFT ALSO POSED A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ON WHICH SCOTTISH MINISTERS WISH TO CONSULT ABOUT THE FUTURE PROTECTION OF GARDENS AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES. A REPORT ON THE CONSULTATION WILL BE PUBLISHED DURING 2007.



Further SHEPs on the Listing of Historic Buildings, Listed Building Consent and Scheduled Monument Consent will be consulted upon during 2007.

## HEACS

The Historic Environment Advisory Council for Scotland (HEACS) was established in 2003 as the advisory Non-Departmental Public Body which provides Scottish Ministers with independent strategic advice on issues affecting the historic environment.

Among the Council's principal functions is the provision of informed advice on the identification, condition, protection, presentation and promotion of the historic environment, and on its contribution to wider issues such as education, the economy, tourism, arts and culture, leisure and the promotion of social justice. As well as responding to Scottish Ministers on all matters requested by them, the Council aims to identify and develop its own wider agenda of strategic issues and topics on which it may also prepare and offer advice.

In August 2006, the Council provided a report to Scottish Ministers regarding whether or not there is a need for a review of historic environment legislation. Through the first part of 2007, Historic Scotland will be using the HEACS report as the basis for discussion with stakeholders to further tease out the administrative and resource issues from the legal ones, identifying where the evidence most clearly makes a case for specifically legal change and where the case for any change is strongest.

## RCAHMS

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) is an executive Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB) which surveys and records Scotland's built heritage under international convention. It compiles and maintains a public built heritage archive, the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS). A key element of the work of the organisation is to make its records available to the public and, as part of this, it has established a leading international reputation for the quality of its digital access. The information about the historic environment which RCAHMS provides for architects and other built environment specialists makes an important contribution to place-making and regeneration projects in respect of understanding and responding to historic context, and the engagement of communities with their local heritage. The organisation's activities also provide support to the policy on architecture, the promotion of tourism and the work of Historic Scotland.

Through the forthcoming Culture (Scotland) Bill, we want to ensure there are no barriers to joint-working between the National Collection bodies and to encourage increasing co-ordination of strategy and exhibitions. The 'National Collections' are the National Library of Scotland (NLS), the National Museums of Scotland (NMS), the National Galleries of Scotland (NGS), the National Archives of Scotland (NAS) and RCAHMS. Together, these bodies are responsible for collecting, preserving and exhibiting cultural objects of national importance, and for holding and managing public records and archive collections for public access. They celebrate and showcase the talent of Scots and international

artists, architects, artisans and writers. They do this by enabling people to visit and view the collections, by exhibiting and touring, and by publicising and educating people about the objects and materials which they hold.

We want the National Collection bodies to continue to enhance their leadership and support of local collections. To achieve these aims, the draft Bill proposes to refresh and update the governance regimes of the National Collections. Under the Bill, a new body, as yet unnamed, will be established to take over the role and functions of RCAHMS. At the moment, RCAHMS operates under a Royal Charter. Replacing it with a body established in legislation will put its governance on a modern footing and will allow the Parliament to consider its purposes and powers.

Because of the rapid growth of the RCAHMS archive, a new archive storage building is now required, and a funding commitment of £12 million for phase one of the project was announced by Scottish Ministers in October 2004. The first phase will focus primarily on the provision of suitable storage facilities for the archive, and subsequent phases will address opening the archive to greater public access.

In line with general Executive policy, RCAHMS has placed ever increasing focus on partnerships as a vital way to increase its capacity to deliver important heritage services. A focus on partnerships has also enabled the organisation to extend its scope, such as in the Historic Land-use Assessment Project, which is a comprehensive and Scotland-wide desk-based survey shared with Historic Scotland which aims to promote the management of the historic landscape.

Among the Commission's other present partnerships is a three year project with The Lighthouse, which was begun

in 2005 to catalogue, conserve and promote the work of Sir Basil Spence. The research project secured almost £1 million in heritage lottery funding and £200,000 from the Scottish Executive. This work is demonstrating the impact and benefit of using archive material on the built environment as a tool to connect communities to their local architecture and to empower schoolchildren to express informed opinions on design and understand the creative process.

## THE LIGHTHOUSE

The Lighthouse, Scotland's Centre for Architecture, Design and the City is currently involved in two projects that aim to promote and celebrate the work and archives of two of Scotland's most significant post-war architects – Sir Basil Spence (as described above) and also Gillespie, Kidd and Coia. These projects also involve new partnerships between many institutions that are concerned with the architectural heritage of Scotland – The Lighthouse, RCAHMS, Glasgow School of Art, Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland and RIAS. The Lighthouse is housed within a Charles Rennie Mackintosh building and we are aware of the importance of Glasgow's Art Nouveau heritage and the Mackintosh legacy of which we are proud. However, Scotland is home to a rich and varied post-war 20th century heritage which we believe requires promotion, celebration and exploration to allow us to fully understand our architectural past and to create a greater understanding of Scotland's heritage locally, nationally and internationally. The Lighthouse will embark on a long-term programme of activity to develop new ways of engaging audiences with our 20th century heritage. This may be carried out by monograph projects that focus on particular architects or projects that are themed to look at building programmes relevant to our cities, towns, villages and industry such as new towns or coalmines.

## INDEPENDENT HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS AND INTEREST GROUPS

Throughout Scotland, residents demonstrate their concern for the cultural, environmental, social, and economic needs of their communities through voluntary participation in civic amenity societies or other community-run organisations. We recognise the importance of such generous and dedicated work by individuals and groups. This work can be invaluable in linking new and historic built environment concerns with other specific local needs to effect truly sustainable regeneration of communities.

We will, therefore, explore ways in which we can engage with local knowledge and interest in the course of our outreach campaign. We aim to investigate where we might, where welcome, join with local programmes which share the aim of improving Scotland's urban and rural built environments and to help to respond to opportunities for enhancement.

We believe, also, that the store of information held by interested individuals, and often not formally recorded, is a valuable resource which should be more widely appreciated. Living archives are of immense public interest, in that individuals can provide material or document events and processes that are otherwise invisible to official sources of historical and archival authorities. We will therefore explore ways whereby we can capture such information for wider public access. These projects need not only concern the capture of local reminiscence, but may also involve people in the exploration of contemporary issues.

We believe that these approaches also have the potential to achieve greater inclusion in our campaign, allowing people from diverse backgrounds and circumstances to express themselves and to become more involved in their communities and their built environments.

## DESIRED OUTCOME OF BUILT HERITAGE PROGRAMME

A MORE ENLIGHTENED  
APPROACH TO URBAN DESIGN  
WHICH VALUES THE HISTORIC  
ENVIRONMENT

## CASE STUDY

# BUILT HERITAGE/SUSTAINABILITY/PUBLIC ART SHETLAND MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Hay's Dock, which was constructed in 1815 and which is Category B listed, is an important part of Shetland's maritime heritage. It is the last remaining area of original dock on the Lerwick waterfront, providing an ideal setting for the islands' museum and archives. The £10 million project is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Shetland Charitable Trust, Historic Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage.

The new centre provides five times the display space of an older museum which it replaces, and also comprises a three-storey-high boat hall with hanging boats; a state-of-the-art archive repository; three times the present archive study area; a restaurant and café specialising in local produce; a flexible 120-seat lecture theatre; a learning room; and temporary exhibition space.

The client, Shetland Amenity Trust, is committed to sustainable design, and the project has used many recycled and salvaged materials. Stone for the main building was recycled from a variety of demolitions around Shetland, and the dock walkway is made up of recycled granite setts once laid on the Lerwick promenade. Reclaimed oak and pitch pine flooring are laid throughout the galleries and restaurant, and some reclaimed oak has also been used in the display cases. Recycled flagstones from all over Shetland have been laid in the foyer, where the differences in colour, texture and size reflect the diversity of the stone throughout the isles. Within the building, the stonework in the early people displays has come from the archaeological excavations at Old Scatness Broch. Heating for the building has been supplied by a district heating scheme.

The award of a grant from the Scottish Arts Council allowed the project to engage Karen Emslie in May 2004 to co-ordinate the fund-raising and procurement of the public art, and a steering group involving local artists was formed to give guidance on the development of the public art brief. The Trust's Enviroglass project has recycled glass bottles into a hard-wearing, attractive surface, and some of the pavers, which appear both inside and outside the building, have been inlaid with crushed serpentine which local artist Alan Hart has used to depict local boat parts and place names. A large number of timbers were recovered from two large 19th century German boats—the 'Elenore Von Flotow' and the 'Pribislaw'. In 1879, after the 'Elenore von Flotow' had developed leaks, she had come to the dock at Lerwick. There, she was later hauled up and converted into a store hulk. Part of her keel has now been refashioned into the foyer desk by artist Stuart Hill.

Building Design Partnership (Glasgow) were the architects and lead consultants, and the conservation architects were Nicholas Groves-Raines. This is an excellent example of a collaborative project where the design and fabric of the building seamlessly interweaves concerns for history, sustainable development and public art.





## CASE STUDY

# PLACE-MAKING/RESPONDING TO HISTORIC CONTEXT

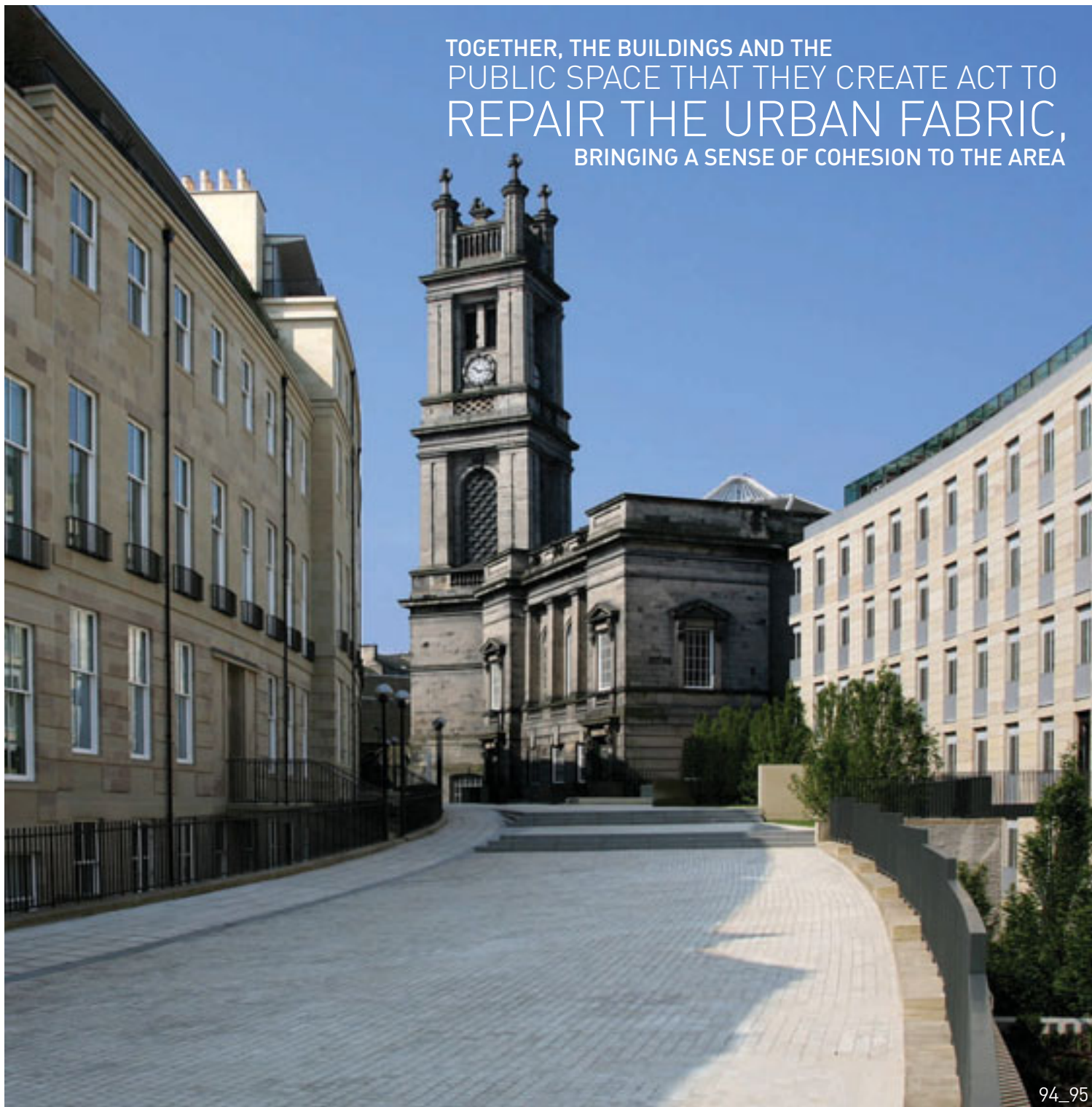
## SILVERMILL RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, EDINBURGH

The Silvermill residential development sits on the northern edge of Edinburgh's New Town, at a point where, for some considerable time, the Georgian set-piece of the World Heritage site had abruptly ended along Fettes Row in a ragged grouping of garages, parking spaces and unmatched buildings.

The developers, AMA, were committed to realising a project of the highest construction and design quality, appropriate to its historically-sensitive location. They engaged Oberlanders Architects and Reiach and Hall Architects to master plan the site, and each practice took responsibility to design one side of the street. The architects responded to the spirit of the place, providing restrained, elegant facades responding to the surrounding Georgian architecture and forming a gently curving approach to St. Stephen's Church, designed in 1826 by William Playfair. A landscaped pedestrian precinct links Fettes Row to St. Stephen Street beyond the church and car parking now sits discretely underground. Together, the buildings and the public space that they create act to repair the urban fabric, bringing a sense of cohesion to the area.

The project demonstrates a well-considered response to the challenge of place-making within a 'set-piece' location.

TOGETHER, THE BUILDINGS AND THE  
PUBLIC SPACE THAT THEY CREATE ACT TO  
REPAIR THE URBAN FABRIC,  
BRINGING A SENSE OF COHESION TO THE AREA



## CASE STUDY

# INTERNATIONAL EXAMPLES/CULTURAL AND SPATIAL STRATEGY BUILD HERITAGE THE NETHERLANDS' BELVEDERE MEMORANDUM

In the Netherlands, the connection between cultural policy and spatial policy has been shaped in recent times by four architecture policy documents (1991, 1997, 2001 and 2005) and by the 1999 Memorandum entitled 'Belvedere: a policy document examining the relationship between cultural history and spatial planning'.

The objective of the Belvedere strategy is to promote a sympathetic approach to cultural and historic values within spatial development. The strategy arose from the belief that too little account was being taken of the quality of existing construction and surroundings in many projects. In the past, as in many countries, the Netherlands had largely taken an object-oriented approach to protecting the cultural heritage. By contrast, the central premise of Belvedere is that the benefits of cultural history are better realised through an area-oriented approach. This is an approach that centres on inspiring wider development rather than having a focus on the conservation of individual objects. Objects of cultural and/or historic importance are used to their best advantage to contribute to the quality of their new surroundings. The motto of the strategy is 'Conservation through development'.

The Dutch government aims to better integrate and strengthen its economic, ecological and social policies in relation to spatial planning, and the development of the Belvedere strategy involved co-operation across four government Ministries working with the Netherlands Department for Conservation and the National Service for Archaeological Heritage. The Belvedere project office, set up in 2000, plays a co-ordinating role in the implementation of policy, which is strongly geared towards influencing governance and awareness, professional development and network-building. The strategy provided a ten-year framework 2000-2009 and, in 2005, architecture policy became fully integrated with Belvedere.

Within the Belvedere strategy 'cultural heritage has to be regarded as being of vital importance to our society and to each individual citizen' - and the strategy plays its part by acting to involve cultural historians early in planning processes and by providing architects, urban and rural planners, and administrators with effective, usable and understandable information. The action programme promotes design studies which analyse existing conditions and qualities, and which explore ways of transforming urban and rural areas. It promotes several model projects and it seeks to influence the improvement of commissioning practice towards creative and inspirational approaches.





# SUMMARY

## OBJECTIVE 1

We will:

- promote the benefits of good design and architecture as a cross-cutting issue across Government which helps to deliver value for money investment and better public services;
- encourage public bodies to ensure that they focus on good design and place-making in their commissioning processes;
- promote better place-making by drawing together the shared aims of architecture and planning policies on design;
- publish guidance to encourage better master planning;
- publish a 'Design Snapshot' to emphasise the role of design within planning and development processes;
- publish lessons learned from the A+DS Design Review process on master planning and place-making;
- provide additional resources and staff posts to A+DS to prioritise its work on regeneration, housing and public sector projects;
- encourage the expansion of the emerging network of Design Champions amongst local authorities and bodies such as NHSScotland;
- support a three-year programme of activity led by A+DS to promote better standards of design in healthcare projects;
- support A+DS in working with the recently established Urban Regeneration Companies to support the delivery of well-designed regeneration projects;

- regularly review and update the Executive's Construction Procurement Manual in respect of issues influencing design quality outcomes;
- promote the creative use of public art in public sector projects and work with SAC and its successor body Creative Scotland to encourage greater opportunities for the early involvement of artists in building projects;
- widen the scope of the policy to encompass the promotion of landscape design as a means of encouraging better design and place-making;
- hold an international seminar on landscape in partnership with Architectuur Lokaal from the Netherlands; and
- develop the Policy on Architecture Progress Group as a means to review the success of actions taken and develop stronger links with the network of organisations with an interest in the built environment.

## OBJECTIVE 2

We will:

- promote the cultural value of architecture and related design disciplines;
- support a national ACCESS to Architecture campaign led by The Lighthouse to raise awareness, encourage debate and involvement of local communities comprising:
  - exhibitions
  - publications
  - digital resources
  - an outreach programme
  - residencies
  - a mobile architecture centre



- encourage the establishment of a new network of local architecture centres;
- support the SIX Award scheme and exhibition to celebrate the work of students studying at the Scottish schools of architecture;
- support the following awards schemes to promote and celebrate high quality architecture and planning:
  - RIAS Doolan Award for Best Building in Scotland
  - Saltire Society Housing Awards
  - Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning
- support the delivery of Scotland's first ever Six Cities Design Festival in 2007; and
- continue to promote Scottish architecture through international events and exhibitions and represent Scottish interests in the EU Forum on Architectural Policies.

## OBJECTIVE 3

We will:

- through the ACCESS to Architecture campaign, put in place measures to build up capacity, knowledge and skills on built environment issues within local communities;
- support the development of the A+DS Enabling programme to address skills and knowledge gaps in commissioning processes;
- encourage the involvement and engagement of young people in the built environment through the Building Connections initiative and website;
- build on the innovative work carried out in the Future Learning and Teaching (FLaT) Project 'Design for Learning: 21st Century Schools' by

- establishing a new two-year project 'Designs on My Learning' to engage young people in school design issues;
- highlight the work of emerging talent in architecture and related design disciplines with a themed programme of activity led by The Lighthouse in 2008;
- establish a national reference group in partnership with A+DS, RIAS and other related organisations to assist in the co-ordination of research activity in Scotland;
- support the development of the Improvement Service for Scottish local government and A+DS scheme to provide a design training framework for local authority planning departments;
- support the development of exemplar developments such as:
  - the Highland Housing Fair in 2009 to showcase sustainable rural housing design;
  - a design competition for the redevelopment of the Bellgrove site in the east end of Glasgow; and
- work with A+DS, The Lighthouse and others to identify the key strategic challenges on the built environment facing Scotland and explore these issues through a variety of events and in response develop new frameworks for action.

## OBJECTIVE 4

We will:

- ensure that the built environment is recognised as a key consideration in terms of delivering a sustainable future across Executive policy areas;
- extend the 'Sust. The Lighthouse on Sustainability' programme by a further two years to raise client knowledge and public awareness of sustainable design issues;
- continue to support the installation of micro-renewables in homes across Scotland through the Scottish Community and Household Renewables initiative;
- SBSA will publish new energy performance standards in 2007;
- SBSA will take the lead in implementing the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive; and
- promote accessible and inclusive design as set out in Planning Advice Note 78 – Inclusive Design.

## OBJECTIVE 5

We will:

- promote a better understanding of the role our existing built heritage can play in new developments through the forthcoming SPP on Historic Environment and in partnership with other key agencies such as HEACS;
- continue to work with Historic Scotland to publish information and research on the care and maintenance of the historic environment;
- set out the Scottish Ministers' strategic approach to the historic environment through the publication of the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) series;
- within the forthcoming Culture (Scotland) Bill establish a new title for RCAHMS and place its current functions onto a statutory footing;
- develop a new archive building for RCAHMS to house its expanded collection and provide greater public access to its collection;
- through events and projects such as the Basil Spence Archive project led by RCAHMS, promote a greater understanding of our 20th century heritage and leading architects of the period;
- support the curation of a programme of Lighthouse exhibitions which support the above objective commencing with an exhibition of the work of Gillespie Kidd and Coia in 2007; and
- work in partnership with Civic Trusts and other voluntary groups as part of the ACCESS to Architecture campaign led by The Lighthouse.

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Edinburgh Airport, Control Tower  
Architects: Reid Architects

Perth Concert Hall  
Architects: Building Design Partnership  
Photograph: Keith Hunter

Silvermill residential development, Edinburgh  
Architects: Reiach and Hall Architects  
& Oberlanders Architects

Architecture in Scotland 2005-2006 / Defining Place  
Curated by The Lighthouse  
Photograph: Andrew Lee Photography

Solidarity Plaza, Clydebank  
Architects: JM Architects  
Landscape Architects: Loci Design

Saltire Centre, Glasgow  
Architects: Building Design Partnership

Housing Development, Cramond, Edinburgh  
Architects: Richard Murphy Architects

Scottish Natural Heritage headquarters, Inverness  
Architects: Keppie Design

RBS World Headquarters, Gogarburn, Edinburgh  
Landscape Architects: EDAW  
Architects: Michael Laird Architects  
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Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital  
Arts strategy: P.A.C.E.  
Architects: Mackie Ramsay Architects  
Feast by Lucy Casson. Sculptures made from coloured plaster  
picnicking on the roof of the Hospital.  
Photograph: Mike Davidson

Scottish Storytelling Centre, Edinburgh  
Architects: Malcolm Fraser Architects

His Majesty's Theatre extension, Aberdeen  
Architects: Aberdeen City Council architects  
Conservation Architects: LDN Architects

Edinburgh Quay, Phase One  
Architects: Michael Laird Architects  
Photograph: Paul Zanre Photography

Maggie's Highland Cancer Caring Centre, Inverness  
Architects: Page and Park Architects  
Photograph: Keith Hunter

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