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Scotland's Independent Regeneration Network

Sharing experience : shaping practice

Discussion Group Feedback

Key points from six themed and facilitated discussion groups at the 2011 SURF Annual Conference



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Valuing Wellbeing

1. We don't know entirely what the challenges are – but there are solutions
2. Breakdown of society as a whole – we need to put it back together
3. We can take opportunities from the challenges presented to focus on what really matters
4. Multiple small changes can offer a solution to some of the big issues
5. With reduced funding we must focus on reaching out to those who are isolated and in need



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Health, Value and Property Procurement

1. Potential for sustainability in value is in community “ownership”
2. Dislocation between planning and funding processes
3. Restore what we have rather than new build
4. Address difference between what we say and what we do individually and institutionally



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Human Rights

1. HR Legislation has real potential for protecting services
2. Ignorance of HR in Scottish institutions and individuals
3. SHRC is barred from bringing cases to court
4. Need to raise awareness and understanding rather than court cases



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Place, Culture and Resilience

1. Artists are good at listening and translating
2. Arts – a reason to meet and to bring people together
3. Challenge is how to nurture this
4. When involving artists be clear what is wanted and who leads
5. Glasgow city lead, “Culture is central, not an add on”



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Housing, Health and Regeneration

1. It's not just about quality of housing, but of place – somewhere people want to live.
2. Closer collaboration between all sectors to maximise resource impacts
3. Need to be smarter and reduce bureaucracy for better use of land, buildings and community potential
4. Community empowerment requires an enabling public sector and partnership working



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Resilient Legal Structures

1. Legal Structure is not a substitute for financial viability
2. Huge range of legal structures, sign posting needed
3. CPPs should publicise assets that communities might value
4. Community use of assets should not only be reactive – have a realistic strategy
5. Appropriate legal advice may still be required