



SURF
Scotland's Regeneration Forum

SURF : sharing experience : shaping practice

Session 3 – 26th August

Biographies

Euan Leitch | Chief Executive | SURF – Scotland's Regeneration Forum



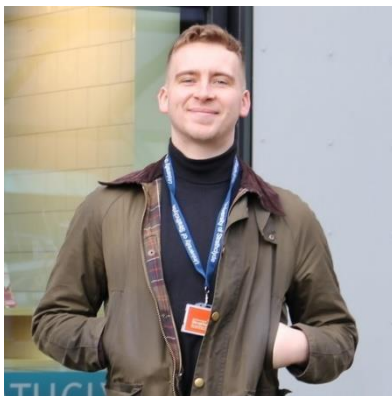
SURF is Scotland's regeneration forum for practitioners, policy makers and academics. By sharing and channelling the experience, views and ideas and of its extensive membership of over 300 cross-sector organisations, SURF helps to inform better policy and practice for more successful and sustainable community regeneration throughout Scotland. SURF is primarily concerned with shared efforts to tackle the causes and degenerative impacts of poverty and inequalities.

Euan joined SURF in May 2021 following 8 years with the Built Environment Forum Scotland. He is a longstanding supporter of SURF and its cross-sector collaborative approach to addressing inequalities.

At BEFS Euan delivered a strong programme of strategic policy work that included promoting and fostering the productive links between the built environment and community regeneration, diversity, resilience and the maintenance agenda. A priority for Euan will be ensuring that communities experiencing the consequences of deprivation are actively involved in responding to the climate emergency.

Euan is a Board Member of Under One Roof.

Fraser Stewart | Applied Researcher | University of Strathclyde



Originally from a council estate in Forfar, Fraser Stewart is an Applied Researcher at the University of Strathclyde, making clean energy work against poverty and inequality.

His core research looks at who benefits from the social and economic impacts of low-carbon technology innovations, while his media work focusses mainly on class and representation in climate spaces.

Alongside this, Fraser sits on the board of Glasgow Community Energy, Glasgow's first operating community energy initiative, and supports government, academic and industry partners in climate policy design and citizen engagement.

Aneaka Kellay | Retrofit and Energy Commons | Carbon Co-op



Aneaka has over 12 years of experience working in environmental organisations and co-operatives and has a Masters in Environment, Politics and Globalisation. She is experienced in workshop development, facilitation and community engagement. She is passionate about social and environmental justice.

Aneaka works in the Retrofit Team and Energy Commons Team at Carbon Co-op. Over the last 6 years, she has worked to engage and organise training for householders and contractors around retrofit.

Her current area of interest is in people-centred approaches to energy-efficient schemes and has produced the Retrofit for All Toolkit to support scheme managers take a people-centred approach.

Aneaka is a BSI Retrofit Standards Task Group member, bringing expertise on 'bottom up', user-centred retrofit to technical standards.

Sally Clough | Manager | Belville Community Garden Trust



Sally Clough is the newly appointed manager at Belville Community Garden Trust. Having always lived in Inverclyde, Sally began her education in conservation and rural recreation before moving into retail and kitchen management.

After the birth of her children, she returned to education to complete an Environmental degree with the Open University and secured work with the local charity, Belville Community Gardens. Since that point Sally has flourished and grown alongside the organisation as it goes from strength to strength.

Jo Gilbert | Spoken Word Artist and Writer



Jo Gilbert is a spoken word artist and writer from Aberdeen who writes in English and her native tongue of Doric.

A multiple poetry slam winner, Jo has had work commissioned for art installations, films and festivals and has had poems and short stories published online and in several journals and anthologies.

Her latest work was an Aberdeen Art Gallery commission, where three poems will become part of the permanent collection.

Emma Scott | Events, Information and Communications Manager | SURF – Scotland’s Regeneration Forum



Emma is the Events, Information and Communications Manager at SURF. Having worked at SURF since 2012 her role includes; overseeing membership and network communications, SURF event management – including the Annual Conference and SURF Awards Dinner, the management and delivery of the annual SURF Awards scheme and the gathering and distribution of information from the Alliance for Action programme, and SURF’s wider activities. She was also involved in the evaluation of the Resilient Scotland funding model.

She has an Honours degree in Marketing and Enterprise and has been working in marketing and communications for 17 years, and has been working in UK wide regeneration for 13 years, particularly around place-based regeneration, arts and culture, social enterprise, community development and social value assessment.

Emma currently sits on the Central Govan Action Plan Steering Group and is a Board Member of the DRC Youth Project.

Emma has a background in creativity and the arts having trained in Acting. She previously worked in retail window dressing and visual displays. She has worked with various community groups and arts projects.

Kate Wimpress | Director/ Chair | North Edinburgh Arts/ SURF



Kate is a third sector leader, who has worked for arts organisations and local authorities across Northern Ireland and Scotland since 1990.

Kate is the Director of North Edinburgh Arts, which provides opportunities for individual and community development through contact with the professional arts. The organisation is active in the local regeneration process and is currently working with the local authority on a major capital programme to create a neighbourhood hub promoting culture, learning, work and well-being.

Alongside Charing Scotland's Regeneration Forum (SURF) she sits on the Board of Tinderbox Orchestra and North Edinburgh Childcare.

From 2019-20 Kate was Convener of the first Citizens' Assembly of Scotland.

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