



**SURF**  
Scotland's Regeneration Forum

SURF : sharing experience : shaping practice

## **Chat Notes**

**Euan Leitch, SURF:** Today's recording will be made available afterwards along with the speaker's presentations.

**Judy Wilkinson, Glasgow Allotments Forum:** The Place Standard does not contain any explicit questions on 'growing'. Lots of research findings show that Allotments/community gardens/orchards are an essential part of health and well-being as well as contributing to food security and biodiversity. Under section 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 the Council has a duty to provide allotments for those who wish to cultivate one. Allotments are defined as 250sq m but people can ask for a smaller area if they wish. Everyone should have access to a growing space within their neighbourhood that is sufficient for their needs.

**Diarmaid Lawlor, Scottish Futures Trust:** Great presentation, and many thanks John. How has the Place Standard helped the design and re-design of services to meet local need?

**Nick Marshall, Northfield and Willowbrae CC:** Have there been examples of the PS being used by grassroots organisations/initiatives rather than top-down organisations?

**John Semple, East Renfrewshire Council:** does the new online tool have links to mapping?

**Barbara Kerr, Sustrans Scotland:** Thank you - good to have a refresher on this, and great to see how it is being used elsewhere! I know that a place in childhood were involved in developing a version for use with children and young people do you have any information on when this will be released, or what the timeline is for the accessible version?

**Judy Wilkinson, Glasgow Allotments Forum:** Should not growing be asked together with cycling and walking which are always highlighted?

**Derek Rankine, SURF:** Hi John, coming up for six years from launch of the Place Standard, are there any places you are aware of in which: (1) a PS exercise has taken place, (2) a particular regeneration intervention has been made in response, and (3) a further PS exercise has taken place to review impact?

**Barbara Kerr, Sustrans Scotland:** There is an app called our outdoors released by spotteron on apple and google play - might be of use for this

**Ann Campbell, SURF/Dunoon Area Alliance:** <https://www.greenmap.org/> provides a great free open source mapping system with an environmental / place focus.

**Emma Halliday, greenspace scotland:** Is there any scope or thoughts to look at the what next and priorities for action? How do communities take forward the actions and be supported to do so. Tools and support to do this.

**John Semple, East Renfrewshire Council:** can the new online version of the tool be used off line?

**John Howie, Public Health Scotland:** Thanks Emma - here's the process evaluation that may answer the question in part <http://www.healthscotland.scot/publications/place-standard-process-evaluation-year-one> Its vital that the place standard team supporting local communities continue to support and advise after the initial data gathering stage.

**John Howie, Public Health Scotland:** Thanks for the question John - let me check with my SG colleagues on off-line use and I'll share with SURF to share with the Network.

**John Semple, East Renfrewshire Council:** is there a risk that the concept will be used to undermine existing community resources where 2 exist within the same 20min neighbourhood?

**David Somervell, Transition Edinburgh:** Great learning points, Diarmaid! I pick the case for supporting Cohousing as an innovative housing provision - a middle way between for-profit house builders and social housing provision - that provides for intentional communities that contribute to residents and neighbours wellbeing.

**Barbara Kerr, Sustrans Scotland:** really great presentation - loving the use of 20 minute neighbourhoods as a catalyst for focussing on needs and quality of experience in the local places, rather than as a fixed time/distance to amenities.

**Colin Love, South Ayrshire Council:** Graph showing prevalence of loneliness in 18-44 year olds is worrying. Is this driven by more home working? Is there evidence of increasing demand for co-working spaces to create viable 20MN and perhaps tackle loneliness?

**Francesca Lynch, Community Links South Lanarkshire:** Great presentation Diarmaid and as always thought provoking. Whilst many of us know what should be happening to build community cohesion and allow people to "live well locally" how do we encourage statutory agencies to work together with other community stakeholders towards one clear goal when they have so many different agenda's that they are duty bound to fulfil? How do we streamline one clear vision and actually would there be one that met all collaborator needs?

**David Somervell, Transition Edinburgh:** Cohousing is well outlined at <https://cohousing.org.uk> and shortly via a new Cohousing Scotland initiative being launched this autumn. The UK Treasury allocated over £200million to Community Led Homes hubs across England these past five years. We need this in Scotland too!

**Alex Wilde, Sustrans Scotland:** How far have unions been involved in discussions around 20min neighbourhoods and working patterns? I think that zero hours contracts, gig economy and poor childcare contributes to loneliness in young people.

**David Somervell, Transition Edinburgh:** Whether it is new estates of 4-bedroom / two cars in the garage little boxes strewn across prime agricultural land on the edge of settlements or prison-like blocks of flats in urban cramming there is huge risk of anomie and isolation! Cohousing and other Housing Cooperative initiatives may be a way forward?

**John Howie, Public Health Scotland:** Alloa Town Centre Housing Case Study at <https://www.ads.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/AlloaCaseStudyv5.pdf>

**David Somervell, Transition Edinburgh:** Anyone interested to follow up on Cohousing - do contact [info@cohousing.scot](mailto:info@cohousing.scot) ;-)

**Anne Docherty, Living Streets Scotland:** Great question - bringing decision makers together IS the key issue and we need to give it much more focus and find out WHY things don't get joined up effectively

**Natalie Thomson, Midlothian VA:** yes thanks Francesca! Feeling very frustrated with stat services at times who in turn feel frustrated with Scot Govt and restrictions around investment and priorities

**Euan Leitch, SURF:** Infrastructure plan <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-mission-local-impact-infrastructure-investment-plan-scotland-2021-22-2025-26/>

**Colin Love, South Ayrshire Council:** Very interesting session. Thanks all.

**Nick Marshall, Northfield and Willowbrae CC:** How can you avoid the past experiences of many communities who have spent a lot of time being interviewed and opinions sought, but then the information was taken away and nothing further was heard or else a fully formed plan came back rather than involving the community throughout the process.

**Eamonn Campbell, Glasgow City Council:** thanks Diarmaid and John for those thoughtful answers.

**Grant Baxter, Clackmannanshire Council:** Thanks all...Really good session.

**Francesca Lynch, Community Links South Lanarkshire:** Great Session :)

**Iain Wardrop, Scottish Futures Trust:** thanks speakers and those asking questions, informative session.

**Diarmaid Lawlor, Scottish Futures Trust:** Thank you all for the opportunity to be part of the conversation today, and thanks in particular to John, Euan and SURF colleagues

**Fiona Sinclair, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership:** Thank you very much everyone.

**Peter McGhee, VASLan:** Thanks everyone

**Natalie Thomson, Midlothian VA:** Thanks all, really enjoyed the speakers!

**Danny Cepok, Oor Lang Toun:** Thanks everyone. Great session. Learnt lots.

**Pat Scrutton, Intergenerational National Netwrok:** Perhaps it would be helpful if the National Standards for Community Engagement had teeth!

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