

# SURF



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# SURF Awards



# 2015

# Awards



SURF : sharing experience : shaping practice : celebrating success

## The SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration 2015



The Scottish Government



The 2015 SURF Awards are delivered in partnership with the Scottish Government, and with additional support from Architecture + Design Scotland, Creative Scotland, Highland & Islands Enterprise, PAS, RTPI Scotland, Scotland's Towns Partnership, and Skills Development Scotland. The media partner is the Sunday Herald.

“The physical, social and economic impacts demonstrated by the projects showcased in the 2015 SURF Awards are remarkable.

From high-density urban neighbourhoods to small towns and rural islands, SURF is delighted to recognise and celebrate such inspiring work across the country.

We urge everyone involved in the regeneration of Scottish communities to take encouragement from their innovative approaches and outstanding achievements.”



Pippa Courtts  
Chair, SURF

## The 2015 SURF Awards



Since 1998, the SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration have identified, promoted and celebrated some of the most effective initiatives designed to tackle physical, social and economic challenges in disadvantaged communities throughout Scotland.

This publication profiles the 16 projects shortlisted for the 2015 SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration. We hope the high-quality, inventive and practical instances presented here provide fresh enthusiasm and inspiration to everyone contributing to regeneration activities across the country.

### Diverse Responses

The 2015 SURF Awards feature five themed categories to reflect regeneration activity at all scales, from initiatives managed by community groups to multi-million pound infrastructure and town centre developments.

The five categories are:

- **Scotland's Most Improved Town**  
(with two sub-categories: large & small/medium)
- **Large Scale Infrastructure**
- **Creative Regeneration**
- **Community Led Regeneration**
- **Employability**

Our 24-member panel of independent judges considered applications to all categories over an intensive two-month process of assessments and site visits. Working in category teams, the judges were tasked with narrowing down 54 applications to a shortlist of 16 before ultimately selecting the winners.

### Place, Planning and Procurement

Most of the projects highlighted in the 'class of 2015' successfully aligned local demand for physical place-based improvements with innovative and meaningful social and economic outcomes.

Our judging panel were highly impressed with the imaginative planning, collaboration and engagement that went towards maximising the impacts from large-scale initiatives in Kilmarnock (see p4), Barrhead (p5) and Ullapool (p6). Similarly, they strongly admired asset-based projects in Laurieston in Glasgow (p8) and Helmsdale in Sutherland (see p10).

All of these category winning projects look far beyond the management of basic improvements to buildings, public spaces and transport infrastructure. In doing so, they have delivered a wide array of real opportunities in enterprise, culture, housing and tourism for local people and visitors. This provides renewed vibrancy, much-needed growth and a real sense of pride to economically challenged post-industrial and disconnected rural places.

This year's winners also demonstrate the value of 'thinking outside the box' and exploiting regeneration opportunities from contracting and procurement arrangements. The Wheatley Pledge (see p12), for example, provides young people in deprived areas across Scotland's central belt with jobs and training delivered directly by housing and social care sub-contractors.

On pages 16-17, you can find out about last year's five category winners and how they have got on since receiving their SURF Award certificate at the end of 2014.

### A Common Vision

Many, if not all, of the initiatives featured in this publication are based on the hard work and long-term commitment of a team of dedicated partners. This is also true of the SURF Awards.

SURF is particularly grateful for the support of the Scottish Government, which has been our key SURF Awards partner since 2003. On pages 18-19, you can read about what SURF and the Scottish Government are doing to support improved policy and practice in regeneration activities.

This year we were delighted to receive additional support from: Creative Scotland, sponsor of the Creative Regeneration award; from Skills Development Scotland, sponsor of the Employability category; and from Highlands & Islands Enterprise, sponsor of the Community Led Regeneration category. We also established a 'dream team' of four collaborative partners for the Scotland's Most Improved Town category: Architecture + Design Scotland, PAS, RTPi Scotland and Scotland's Towns Partnership.

SURF is tremendously thankful for the time and energy of the SURF Awards judges, who give their time freely to travel from the Borders to the Highlands & Islands in consideration of the shortlisted projects. Our judging panel comprises representatives of national regeneration-related organisations and community groups; you can find out who they are on p15.

Finally, SURF could not function as Scotland's independent regeneration network without the active support, knowledge and experience of our 280+ member organisations: especially our 13 key delivery partners, who are listed on p20.

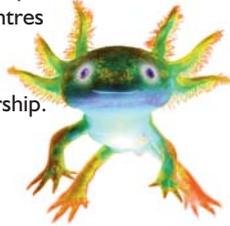
If you would like to know more about the SURF Awards, please visit the dedicated section of our website: [www.scotregen.co.uk/surf-awards](http://www.scotregen.co.uk/surf-awards)

# Results

## Contents & Category Results

### Scotland's Most Improved Town

Purpose: to highlight the positive impacts of participative planning and regeneration processes on town centres across Scotland. This category is supported by Architecture + Design Scotland, PAS, RTP1 Scotland and Scotland's Towns Partnership.



Large Town Winner: **Kilmarnock** – page 4  
Also shortlisted: Irvine – page 4

Small & Medium Town Winner: **Barrhead** – page 5  
Also shortlisted: Kelso – page 5

### Large Scale Infrastructure

Purpose: to recognise the achievements of successful large scale infrastructure investments that also demonstrate substantial outcomes in the form of social benefits.



Winner: **Ullapool Harbour Infrastructure Enhancement** – page 6

Also shortlisted: The Crescent (Dundee); Vineburgh Regeneration Initiative (Irvine) – page 7

### Creative Regeneration

Purpose: to reward best practice in embedding arts and creativity at the heart of a community regeneration initiative. This category is supported by Creative Scotland.



Winner: **Laurieston's Open Spaces Project** (Glasgow) – page 8

Also shortlisted: Ayr Gaiety Partnership; Glasgow Women's Library – page 9

### Community Led Regeneration

Purpose: to reward best practice in a regeneration project in Scotland that features representatives of a community of place or theme in a leading role. This category is supported by Highlands & Islands Enterprise.



Winner: **Helmsdale Affordable Housing Project** (Sutherland) – page 10

Also shortlisted: Atlantic Islands Centre (Isle of Luing, Argyll); Bellsmyre Development Trust (Dumbarton) – page 11

### Employability

Purpose: to recognise success in delivering positive employability outcomes for young people in the 16-24 age bracket. This category is supported by Skills Development Scotland.



Winner: **Wheatley Pledge** (central Scotland) – page 12

Also shortlisted: Canal College (Falkirk & Edinburgh); Creative Pathways (central Scotland) – page 13



*In case you were wondering, axolotls are highly proficient at adapting to changing and challenging circumstances – just like many regeneration projects*

# Scotland's Most Improved Town

## Large Town Winner

### Kilmarnock

Like many large towns in central Scotland, Kilmarnock has suffered significant economic decline in the post-industrial era. In response, East Ayrshire Council implemented an Integrated Urban Development Plan to revitalise the town centre over the long-term as a driver for wider social and economic change.



Palace Theatre and other cultural venues play a key role in Kilmarnock's Urban Development Plan

The Plan was guided by extensive community and stakeholder consultations. The shared goal was to enhance the built environment, identify and promote a number of strategic development sites, and stimulate a high-quality of place-making. The results have been impressive. A

£12.4m investment has restored two prominent historic buildings as offices for 600 Council employees. A £53m Ayrshire College campus is being built on the site of the former Johnnie Walker bottling plant. A four-day 'Global Market' festival – which attracts 45,000 visitors to the town – and other initiatives have led to positive retail trends.

Additionally, attractive new Council housing has been constructed at five sites, transport infrastructure has been improved, and the night-time economy has benefited from community safety initiatives that have successfully targeted anti-social behaviour 'hot spots' on Friday and Saturday nights. The Plan also helps to promote existing local

assets and heritage, such as parks and cultural venues, in a 'Celebrate Kilmarnock' campaign. Investments have been made in streets and public spaces through deep cleans, enhanced lighting and the provision of public art, floral baskets and additional litter bins, while 17 key town buildings have been repaired and refurbished through the £19m CARS & THI regeneration programmes.

On their visit to Kilmarnock, the SURF Awards judging panel were impressed at East Ayrshire Council's effective demonstration of the 'town centre first' approach. They saw that investment decisions were being made with a holistic focus, and that the Council's strong leadership has helped to create a vibrant town centre with good quality housing, a range of public services, a strong evening economy, and a distinctive independent shopping experience on Bank Street.

Kilmarnock's Urban Development Plan has created a town centre that meets the needs of its diverse stakeholders and provides an attractive environment for people to live, work and socialise. The SURF Awards panel were pleased to select it as Scotland's Most Improved Large Town for 2015.



Kilmarnock's Bank Street now offers a number of independent boutiques

## Large Town Runner up

### Irvine

North Ayrshire Council and Irvine Bay Urban Regeneration Company have been working with local people on a strategic 'Irvine Vision' development plan. The SURF Awards panel was impressed at the plan's connectivity with key assets, such as the town's striking coastline and harbour.

Among other regeneration investments, the Trinity Church has been redeveloped, a new leisure complex brings a derelict 1859 town centre building back into use while maintaining its character, and the central Bridgegate area has been substantially improved. The location of the Council headquarters in the town centre offers valuable local

services, and has helped to encourage new business and retail activities.

The judges saw that Irvine is on an inspiring journey. The commitment, drive and energy from the community, the Council and local partners is delivering a wide range of positive impacts.





# Small & Medium Town Winner

## Barrhead

Barrhead has historically had a strong industrial base, but the closure of a number of key employers in the 1980s and 90s has left a legacy of poverty, unemployment and town centre deterioration. In 2002,

East Renfrewshire Council launched Barrhead Regeneration Initiative. It promotes a long-term growth strategy with town centre regeneration, economic activity, and improved health and housing as the key priorities.

As a result, the town

centre is now well-served with amenities and services, including a strong retail offer, 'The Foundry' business and employability centre, a health centre, Council offices, a library, and a leisure centre. This has rejuvenated the town centre and provided a robust foundation for future growth.

The town centre investments have been aligned with the regeneration of derelict brownfield sites in the north of the town, the development of a country park to the south, a new urban quarter with over 1000 homes, and a new railway station. A raft of projects,

including some led by local community groups, are further enhancing connections between these developments and the town centre.

For the SURF Awards judges, East Renfrewshire Council's capital investments have created a vibrant town centre and a strong economic core

for the rest of Barrhead. The Council's commitment to the town centre, with the relocation of key services to the main street, is evident, and is clearly helping to sustain business and create new employment opportunities.

By buying land to instigate development from both public and private sectors, the Council has shown strong and effective leadership. With high levels of community engagement, the priorities of local people are clearly at the forefront of all investments. The 2015 SURF Awards panel confirmed Barrhead as Scotland's Most Improved Town in the Small & Medium sub-category.

Barrhead Regeneration Initiative delivered a new health centre



Barrhead town centre library



# Small & Medium Town Runner up

## Kelso

Scottish Borders Council heritage-led regeneration schemes for Kelso have invested £4.5m in the town centre over eight years. Using the town's idyllic location as a unique selling point, Kelso has successfully marketed itself as a traditional Scottish town and the local community has capitalised on the investments to attract more visitors to the town.

The various projects had strong buy-in from the wider community. The investments have successfully restored historic buildings and shop fronts, installed new public art, and infilled a central gap site with a bus shelter, public toilets and a popular business space.

The SURF Awards judges were particularly impressed at the bespoke independent retail offer and the high quality design of Kelso town square, which balances driver and pedestrian needs while de-cluttering signage. The regeneration work has made the town a very attractive place to live, socialise and do business in. As a result, the town is a worthy runner-up in the Small & Medium sub-category.



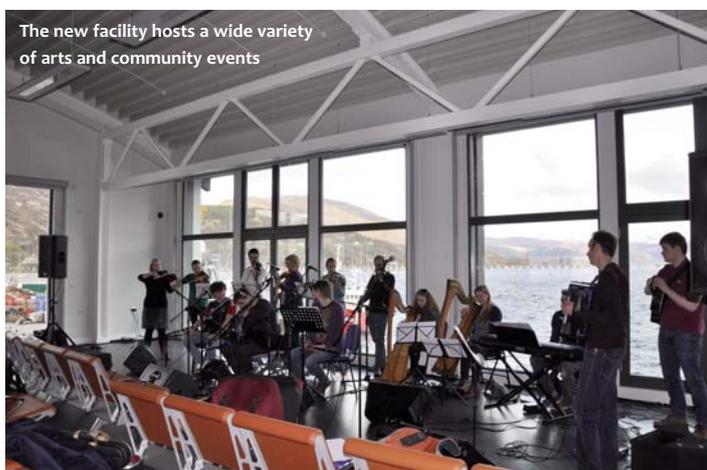
# Large Scale Infrastructure

# Winner

## Ullapool Harbour Infrastructure Enhancement

### What is the aim of the project?

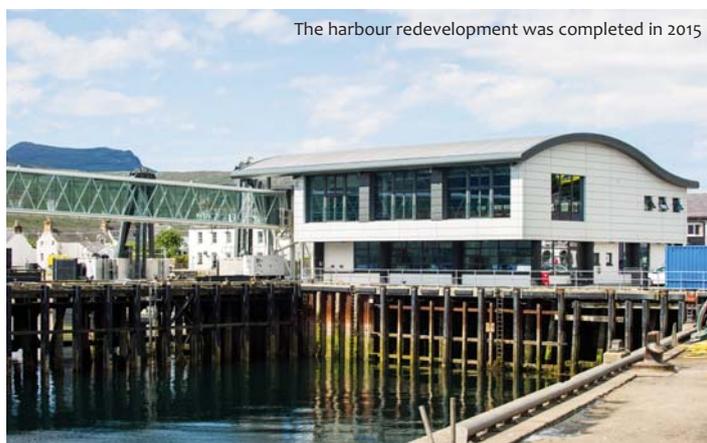
To improve and modernise an ageing harbour in line with the design needs of modern ferries and the expectations of visitors and local residents.



The new facility hosts a wide variety of arts and community events

### Where is it taking place?

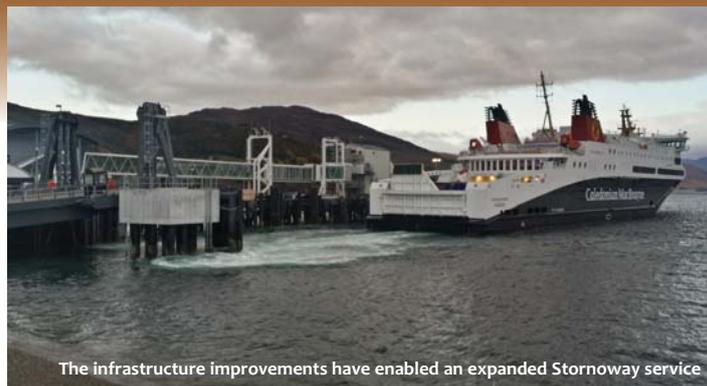
The harbour is located in the small town of Ullapool on the west coast of Wester Ross in the Highlands. A popular tourism hub, the harbour operates a major regular service to Stornoway on Lewis and caters for a diverse range of traffic including freight, fishing, leisure and cruise vessels.



The harbour redevelopment was completed in 2015

### What has been achieved?

Following a 2012 Caledonian MacBrayne decision to design and introduce a new, much larger £42m ferry for the Ullapool-Stornoway route, it was agreed that the harbour's basic infrastructure would require fundamental strengthening. The main elements of the subsequent £19.28m infrastructure work, delivered over 2013-15,



The infrastructure improvements have enabled an expanded Stornoway service

included extending the ferry pier by 35 metres, installing a new fully compliant passenger access gangway, extension and redesign of the passenger terminal and waiting room, and installation of a new car ramp.

As well as the obvious economic benefits the additional capacity provides, the project has successfully incorporated an impressive range of social and cultural benefits into the infrastructure improvements. The new facility is designed to work as a music, arts, exhibition and general function area outwith ferry times. It also features an attractive bus waiting room.

The accessible and well-designed events space now provides a valuable amenity that enhances the community and economic life of a relatively remote Highland location. It is now a first option for anyone wishing to host or promote an event in Ullapool. The new space has proved highly popular with local community groups, arts bodies and schools, for whom it is made available free of charge. It is also a key venue for local festivals.

### Who is running it?

The redevelopment was managed by Ullapool Harbour Trust, a community enterprise that reinvests its profits into local activities. Additional funding was provided by Transport Scotland.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

The SURF Awards panel were impressed at how effectively the ferry terminal and harbour enhancements were used to secure real benefits for the local community. The building is widely used and clearly valued by local people and groups. The judges were further impressed by the Harbour Trust's model of promoting the harbour as an integral part of the town, with development plans taking into close consideration the potential benefits to the local community and the needs of the town. The supportive harbour-town link is further evident in funding awards made by the Trust to support young people to take part in activities such as a tall ships race.

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.ullapool-harbour.co.uk/harbour-upgrade/](http://www.ullapool-harbour.co.uk/harbour-upgrade/)

Contact: Kevin Peach, Chief Executive and Harbourmaster, Ullapool Harbour Trust: 01854 612724, [kevin@ullapool-harbour.co.uk](mailto:kevin@ullapool-harbour.co.uk)



# Shortlisted

## The Crescent

### What is the aim of the project?

To support the physical and social regeneration of a housing estate with deprivation challenges by developing a striking community facility providing public services, shops, a cafe and library under one roof.

### Where is it taking place?

In the Whitfield estate in north east Dundee, which is ranked as a 'Priority Regeneration Area' by Dundee City Council.



### What has been achieved?

The multi-million pound Crescent building was developed with extensive community consultation activities, and was completed in April 2014. A double-fronted two-storey building with a large central foyer, it has brought together 150 staff to deliver a range of one-stop 'life' services to the local community. These include community, health and social care services provided by Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside.

The Crescent also features community rooms available for use by local groups and a landscaped outdoor plaza that can host performances, fairs and markets. Local residents can participate in parent and toddlers groups, a 5-9s children's club, a women's group, a youth theatre, and a 'Relax with Crafts' club.

While a measurable impact on addressing health and social inequalities in Whitfield may take some years to evidence, the project has had an early beneficial impact in supporting cross-department referrals, service integration, and 'social prescribing' from the on-site General Practice. As an innovative and high-profile focal point for the area, it has laid the foundations for wider regeneration plans.

### Who is running it?

The project was developed by Dundee City Council in close partnership with NHS Tayside, Dundee Community Health Partnership, the Whitfield Development Group and the resident-led management group of the Whitfield Community Centre.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

The planning and development of the building closely involved the local community and the services that the building housed, leading to a shared sense of ownership. The judges also saw a clearly identified need for a central hub for Whitfield, and the Crescent helps meet that need. The potential for replication is high, both in Dundee (where two similar projects are planned) and across Scotland.

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.dundee.gov.uk/communitycentres/whitfieldcentre/](http://www.dundee.gov.uk/communitycentres/whitfieldcentre/)

Contact: Gregor Hamilton, Head of Planning and Economic Development, Dundee City Council: 01382 433 520, [gregor.hamilton@dundee.gov.uk](mailto:gregor.hamilton@dundee.gov.uk)

## Vineburgh Regeneration Initiative

### What is the aim of the project?

To make a physically and socially challenged area, previously characterised by unattractive housing, extensive vandalism and anti-social behaviour, a place that people would be happy to call home.

### Where is it taking place?

In Vineburgh, an area to the north-east of Irvine town centre in North Ayrshire.



### What has been achieved?

In 2009, following a masterplanning exercise involving extensive consultation with local residents, plans for a £31.8m large-scale regeneration initiative were developed. Between 2009 and 2015, 306 properties were demolished and replaced with 287 mixed tenure dwellings across four development phases. Unpopular four-in-a-block social housing properties, which were extremely difficult to let, were replaced by attractive energy-efficient timber frame homes designed for a mixture of demographics and tenure.

The area now has a high quality residential environment with a new landscaped square, a play area, pedestrian routes and a welcoming entrance. The success of the project is demonstrated through high levels of occupancy and resident satisfaction surveys. 90% of residents rate the new estate as a good place to live. A Social Return on Investment exercise indicated a social return of £4.97 per £1 invested, with the majority of value coming in the form of improved health, increased community safety, reduced stress, and increased confidence for residents.

### Who is running it?

Vineburgh Regeneration Initiative was undertaken by Cunninghame Housing Association in partnership with North Ayrshire Council and the local community. The project's steering and development & design groups each had three community representative members.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

The panel appreciated the close partnership working with community individuals and groups, as well as the local boxing and football clubs, the police, the council and contractors.



They also valued the jobs and training places that the physical investment created. High commitment from all parties enabled the project to be completed on time in spite of a difficult funding climate, allowing residents to be rehoused quickly.

### Where can I find out more?

Web (with a virtual tour): [www.cunninghame-housing.org/newly-completed-developments](http://www.cunninghame-housing.org/newly-completed-developments)

Contact: Frank Sweeney, Chief Executive, Cunninghame Housing Association: 01294 606 000, [fsweeney@chaltd.org](mailto:fsweeney@chaltd.org)

# Creative Regeneration

# Winner

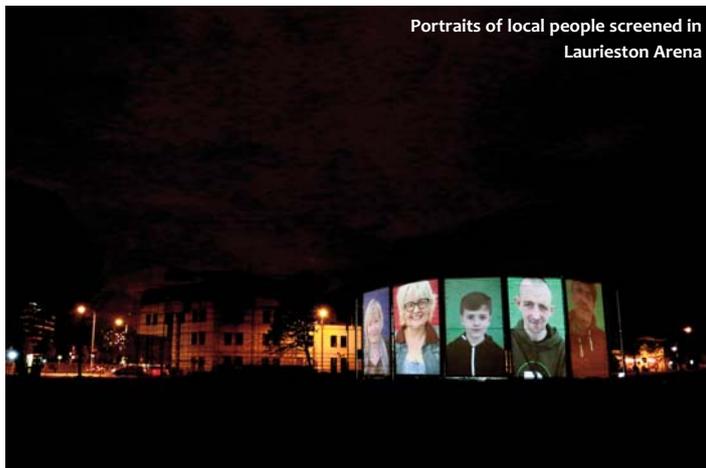
## Art & Living Laurieston: 'Open Spaces'

### What is the aim of the project?

To develop and implement an artist-led strategy to complement a new city housing development.

### Where is it taking place?

In Laurieston, a neighbourhood adjacent to the Gorbals area of south-central Glasgow.



Portraits of local people screened in Laurieston Arena

### What has been achieved?

Laurieston, a historically undeveloped part of the city, is benefitting from an extensive large-scale regeneration investment that will provide a development featuring 800 new homes. The masterplanning process for the area included a commission for arts body WAVEparticle to engage with the local community and practicing artists towards the development and delivery of an innovative ten year arts strategy.



An art exhibition in Caledonia Road Church

The strategy has already provided a wide variety of creative projects and engagement opportunities for residents existing and incoming to participate in. In addition to embedding attractive heritage-based cultural facilities and public artworks in the new development, these



A 'Winter Warmer' arches gathering

activities have provided valuable social and economic opportunities. There is evidence of improved community cohesion and vibrancy, enhanced urban connectivity and pride of place.

'Open Spaces' is a key element of the strategy. Comprising several connected places in Laurieston, the Open Spaces project makes available a diverse set of buildings and public spaces for creative temporary use by artists and local community groups.

The suite of Open Spaces include: 23 railway arches close to the Citizens' Theatre, which hold regular 'Artists in Arches' events and exhibitions; a newly created Laurieston Arena, which is an adaptable open circular space on the site of a former high-rise; and Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's acclaimed Caledonia Road Church, which had lain vacant since a fire in 1962. The building was successfully reopened by WAVEparticle in 2014 for community theatre and other cultural events.

### Who is running it?

The 'Art & Living: Laurieston' strategy is led by arts organisation WAVEparticle in partnership with New Gorbals Housing Association and Urban Union (a joint venture partnership between McTaggart Construction and Robertson Group Holdings). The project is supported by Glasgow City Council, Stalled Spaces, Network Rail, and a range of local partners.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges felt the commitment by WAVEparticle to open up spaces for the community and artists extended well beyond the development and delivery of a creative regeneration strategy. The project showed empathy with the area and demonstrated strong partnerships, connecting people, businesses and the public sector through various innovative approaches.

Its authentic, ambitious and genuinely artist-led creative vision will leave a sustainable and lasting legacy for the area. By embedding arts and creativity so effectively in a regeneration process, the judges are confident that the project will truly change lives.

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.lauriestonlivingarts.com](http://www.lauriestonlivingarts.com)

Contact: Peter McCaughey, Lead Artist, WAVEparticle:  
0141 552 5300, [peter.mccaughey.at.wave@gmail.com](mailto:peter.mccaughey.at.wave@gmail.com)



# Shortlisted

## Glasgow Women's Library

### What is the aim of the project?

To enhance a deprived area's cultural, social and economic offer through the provision of a museum and lending library that celebrates the lives and achievements of women.

### Where is it taking place?

Glasgow Women's Library is located in the centre of Bridgeton Cross in the city's east end.

### What has been achieved?

Glasgow Women's Library developed from a broad-based arts organisation called Women in Profile, which was set up in 1987. A partnership with regeneration agency Clyde Gateway led to the establishment of a permanent presence in the former public library in Bridgeton from December 2012. The B-listed sandstone building is now an accredited museum housing a lending library, archive collections and contemporary & historical artefacts.



The library runs innovative educational programmes, vibrant cultural activities, public events and lifelong learning projects to a wide range of users. In its first two years, the project has created seven new jobs and currently supports 100 volunteers who are given the opportunity to increase employability skills and improve self-esteem. Glasgow Women's Library also engages with an extensive and diverse range of outreach services tackling a diversity of issues with the key aim of empowering women and addressing inequalities.

### Who is running it?

Glasgow Women's Library is an independent charity and receives regular funding from Creative Scotland. In addition to Clyde Gateway, other major partners include Glasgow Life, Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Clyde College.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

The library demonstrated its important role in the regeneration of Bridgeton, and as a local, national and international resource for information and artefacts celebrating women's achievements. The current premises, which offer new opportunities for increased access to collections and spaces for community participation, which are complemented by the project team's high enthusiasm levels and strong creative vision. The commitment to working with local partners to empower women, in particular, was also valued.

## Ayr Gaiety Partnership

### What is the aim of the project?

To use the reopening of a popular theatre as a basis for culture-led regeneration promoting arts, education, heritage and tourism at a regional level.



### Where is it taking place?

The Gaiety Theatre is located in Ayr town centre. Partnership initiatives and outreach activities involve wider Ayrshire.

### What has been achieved?

The Gaiety Theatre has been a key cultural asset for Ayr since the 1920s. Following closure in 2009, a public protest and subsequent local campaign led to the formation of a community-run social enterprise that successfully reopened the theatre in December 2012. Since then, the theatre has established a sustainable operating model with a total audience of 60k attending more than 250 shows annually.

The Ayr Gaiety Partnership's ambitions are far greater than simply sustaining the theatre, however. An impressive array of partnership outreach activities include: funding youth and community arts projects; launching an annual talent contest and the 'Tamfest' Robert Burns/Halloween festival; developing a region-wide education programme with Ayrshire College and the University of West of Scotland; and building on a 'Gaiety Act Out' initiative with participation from schools, care homes and community centres throughout Ayrshire.

Combined, the Partnership's activities have successfully delivered a variety of regeneration outcomes, including enhanced cultural participation levels and economic benefits via increased tourism to Ayr.

### Who is running it?

Ayr Gaiety Partnership was formed in 2009 and is a registered charity with Board Members drawn from the local community. Some of its many key partners are all three Ayrshire Councils, Creative Scotland, and South Ayrshire Arts Partnership.



### Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were impressed with the determination shown by the staff, volunteers, partner and wider community in the Ayr Gaiety 'family' and the many successes achieved in a short timeframe. The value of the theatre to Ayr town centre and the West of Scotland was clear both economically and in the positive impact on wellbeing in communities across Ayrshire. The judges also recognised the participation of many volunteers and the success of outreach activities, particularly those targeted at young people.

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.womenslibrary.org.uk](http://www.womenslibrary.org.uk)

Contact: Sue John, Enterprise Development Manager, Glasgow Women's Library: 0141 550 2267, [sue.john@womenslibrary.org.uk](mailto:sue.john@womenslibrary.org.uk)

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.thegaieety.co.uk](http://www.thegaieety.co.uk)

Contact: Jeremy Wyatt, Chief Executive, Ayr Gaiety Partnership: 01292 288235, [jeremy.wyatt@ayrgaiety.co.uk](mailto:jeremy.wyatt@ayrgaiety.co.uk)

# Community Led Regeneration

## Winner

### Helmsdale Affordable Housing Project

#### What is the aim of the project?

To construct new family homes in an economically fragile rural place, as a basis for a wider sustainable development plan to tackle depopulation and decline.



An aerial view of Helmsdale

withdrawal of services, amenities and employment opportunities has led to considerable out-migration and a falling school roll. The area is now officially classified by among the 'most deprived' Highland geographies and as a 'fragile community' by the Scottish Government and its agencies.

The local Community Council has long been concerned that a lack of appropriate housing is the main driver behind the out-migration of young people and families. With no general needs social housing built in the area for 35 years, there is a lack of suitable accommodation enabling young people to stay in the district once they started a family. A major community consultation in 2011 highlighted affordable housing as the area's number one priority.

This priority was acted upon by Helmsdale and District Development Trust, which was formally established by a group of local volunteers in 2012. Following intensive fundraising, planning, community engagement and tendering processes, four affordable family homes were constructed in December 2014. Tenants moved in two weeks before Christmas.

#### Where is it taking place?

In Helmsdale, a remote village with a population of 842 on the east coast of the Highlands.

#### What has been achieved?

Over the past three decades, Helmsdale and the surrounding area has suffered from a gradual social and economic decline. A steady



Housing construction took place in 2014

The delivery of the housing project has resulted in a renewed sense of purpose for the community. It has successfully retained and attracted young families, increased the school roll and provided a general feel-good factor. It has also stimulated further residential development, and the new energy efficient homes have made a positive impact on local fuel poverty issues.

Equally significantly, the housing also generates a sustainable income from rentals and solar energy panels of more than £20k per annum, much of which is earmarked for investment in future community-driven projects. These include subsidising a Local Development Officer post, initiating a tourism marketing strategy, and establishing a community broadband initiative.

#### Who is running it?

The £644k project was managed by Helmsdale & District Development Trust, which currently has 162 members - 24% of the local adult population. The funding came from 18 different sources, and partners include Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Albyn Housing Society, Highland Council, the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust and the Scottish Government's Housing and Innovation Team.

#### Why did the judging panel like it?

This is a project clearly based on identified need and community priorities. Although the number of homes built is relatively small, the judges were highly impressed at the productive links made between provision of housing, reversal of population decline, and the contribution to the local economy and community support structures.

The judges recognised the extent of the collaboration between the Trust, the local community and key partner agencies, especially a productive and supportive working partnership with Albyn Housing Society. They were also impressed by the Trust's extensive and collaborative commitment to the wider regeneration of Helmsdale.



The new homes feature solar energy panels

#### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.hddt.org](http://www.hddt.org)

Contact: Paul Harrington, Local Development Officer, Helmsdale & District Development Trust: 01431 821 141, [paul.harrington@hddt.org](mailto:paul.harrington@hddt.org)



# Shortlisted

## Bellsmyre Development Trust

### What is the aim of the project?

To create a community-managed organisation capable of developing and driving a sustainable regeneration approach to an area affected by severe deprivation issues.

### Where is it taking place?

In Bellsmyre, a housing estate located in the north of the town of Dumbarton in West Dunbartonshire.

### What has been achieved?

In recent years, the residents of Bellsmyre have suffered from significantly higher than average rates of worklessness, welfare dependency, crime, anti-social behaviour, substance abuse, and poor health outcomes. Conflated with other challenges, by 2011 the area was widely seen as being an unattractive place to live and West Dunbartonshire Council identified it as a top priority for economic and social regeneration.



Supported by £2m development funding from the Big Lottery Fund in Scotland, local people and community groups came together to establish Bellsmyre Development Trust. It was launched in 2012 as the vehicle for a wide range of social initiatives to address some of the estate's main challenges.

The flagship achievement is a modern community centre, the Cutty Sark, which opened in early 2015. It provides activities targeted at residents of all ages and backgrounds, from parent & toddler groups, youth clubs, and after-school activities to keep-fit classes and a busy senior citizens' programme.



### Who is running it?

Bellsmyre Development Trust, which has 744 members from the community and a steering group of 25 local residents. In addition to the Big Lottery Fund in Scotland, other partners include Bellsmyre Housing Association, Community Renewal, and West Dunbartonshire Council.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

On their visit, the judges were able to see the new Cutty Sark centre, meet the Trust's staff, volunteers and Board Members, and get a real flavour of the activity programme that has been developed over the past three years – long before the centre's opening. They were highly impressed with the strong focus on building community participation, which lies at the heart of the Trust's work. This is evident in their commitment to supporting and developing volunteers, and in the involvement of centre users in the activity programme. The Trust members demonstrate a real perseverance to make things happen.

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.bellsmyretrust.org.uk](http://www.bellsmyretrust.org.uk)

Contact: Donnie Nicolson, Development Manager, Bellsmyre Development Trust: 01389 730 111, [donnienicolson@bellsmyretrust.org.uk](mailto:donnienicolson@bellsmyretrust.org.uk)

## The Atlantic Islands Centre

### What is the aim of the project?

To provide social and economic opportunities in a remote island territory by developing a multi-purpose modern community hub and visitor centre.

### Where is it taking place?

On the Isle of Luing in the Inner Hebrides, off the west coast of Argyll. The island has a land area of 5.5 square miles and a population of 170 people.

### What has been achieved?

The Isle of Luing Community Trust's £1.25m Atlantic Islands Centre opened in May 2015 after more than ten years of planning. It comprises a popular coffee shop and restaurant, a retail area, office accommodation, an exhibition area, an events space and nearby moorings. It is used for a variety of arts and social events, including theatre, concerts, talks, tasting events, guided walks and poetry readings. It is also home to an impressive collection of historical material collected, interpreted and exhibited by the Luing History Group.



Prior to the development of the community-run facility, the island – which has issues with low incomes, poor health and depopulation – had no meeting place, hotel, cafe, restaurant, or start-up business premises. In addition to tourism benefits, the new centre provides career development opportunities for young people, a more attractive social life for adults, including older and disabled islanders that are vulnerable to social isolation, and cultural activities designed to attract new families.

### Who is running it?

The Isle of Luing Community Trust manage the centre. Key funding partners include the Big Lottery Fund in Scotland, the European Regional Development Fund, the Scottish Government (Climate Challenge Fund), Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, and the Robertson Trust.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

The panel was particularly impressed by the high level of volunteer involvement and the way everyone works together to support the full range of services and activities that the centre offers. Getting the balance right between generating income and providing much-needed social support is often difficult but, in the short time that the centre has been opened, the Trust have been able to achieve this. The judges were further impressed by how well the Trust have developed their links, networks, marketing and contacts in order to maximise use of the new facility, on Luing and also on neighbouring islands and adjacent areas of the mainland as far as Oban.

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.atlanticislandscentre.com](http://www.atlanticislandscentre.com)

Contact: Laura McIntyre, Centre Development Manager, Isle of Luing Community Trust: 01852 314 096, [laura@atlanticislandscentre.com](mailto:laura@atlanticislandscentre.com)

# Employability

# Winner

## The Wheatley Pledge

### What is the aim of the project?

To provide high quality employment and training opportunities for people living in some of Scotland's most disadvantaged places.

### Where is it taking place?

The projects beneficiaries are customers of the Wheatley Group, which provides housing, care and property management services in 15 local authority areas across central Scotland.

### What has been achieved?

The Wheatley Group comprises a care organisation, five housing associations – including two of the largest in Scotland, Glasgow Housing Association and Edinburgh-based Dunedin Canmore – and two commercial subsidiaries. These organisations engage with a wide range of external contractors and suppliers as part of their regular operations. The



Wheatley Pledge encourages these companies to provide jobs, apprenticeships, paid internships and skills training opportunities for Wheatley Group customers.

The Wheatley Group has allocated £1.5m over a three year period to create 300

Job opportunities are offered in a wide range of sectors



opportunities by providing a wage subsidy to companies participating in the scheme. Less tangible benefits for companies taking part, such as being able to demonstrate a strong commitment to supporting disadvantaged young people, are also promoted.

The programme commenced in August 2013, and in the first two years 67 companies have formally signed up to the Wheatley Pledge. So far

they have supported 188 people, of which 93 were young people, into employment and training in a wide range of sectors, including construction, social care, architecture, finance, and IT.

Over half of the vacancies provided through the Wheatley Pledge were high quality apprenticeships that offer young people appropriate qualifications and skills with a view to their progressing into stable careers. Of the remaining jobs, the majority paid above minimum wage.



### Who is running it?

The Wheatley Group's Community Renewal Team lead the project and work in partnership with a range of supportive organisations, including Jobs & Business Glasgow, The Wise Group, The Prince's Trust, and Jobcentre Plus.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

Wheatley Pledge is an excellent example of an innovative new approach to the employability challenge. Built on comprehensive joint working across Wheatley Group partners, suppliers and contractors, and external third sector bodies, the community benefit initiative has provided sound employability support that is tightly focused on the needs of tenants and other service users.

The judging panel recognise that this employability delivery model is more financially stable and sustainable than those that rely on external funding. It reaches far beyond the Wheatley Group's immediate remit by engaging other community-based organisations in support of project consultation and delivery. The capacity for replication of this superb project appears high and the judges believe it sets a valuable example for other Registered Social Landlords.

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.wheatley-group.com/improving-lives/wheatley-pledge/](http://www.wheatley-group.com/improving-lives/wheatley-pledge/)

Contact: Lynne Guthrie, Community Renewal Manager, Wheatley Group:  
0141 274 5721, [lynne.guthrie@wheatley-group.com](mailto:lynne.guthrie@wheatley-group.com)



# Shortlisted

## Canal College

### What is the aim of the project?

To deliver a heritage and outdoor-skills focused employability programme for young people aged 16-25, based on practical experience in Scotland's canals.



### Where is it taking place?

The project operated in the two years to May 2015 in six 14-week programmes delivered simultaneously in Edinburgh and Falkirk.

### What has been achieved?

The Canal College programme engaged 162 young people, most of whom faced additional

barriers to work and education such as challenging home lives and mental health problems. Participants learned built heritage skills such as lime-mortaring and stone masonry, and natural heritage skills such as conservation work and vegetation clearance, along with the creation of habitats for waterways wildlife.

116 participants achieved at least one positive destination following the 14-week programme: 21 found paid employment; 21 began accredited training courses; 19 entered work placements; and a further 49 went on to further education, training or volunteering. Most participants also received at least one CV-boosting certificate such as a Scottish Canals Competency Certificate, a John Muir Award, and a Saltire Award.

### Who is running it?

The project is led by the Scottish Waterways Trust and funded by Scottish Natural Heritage, Interreg IVB Green & Blue Futures Initiative, Scottish Canals, and Heritage Lottery Fund. Additional partners include Jobcentre Plus, Skills Development Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council, Falkirk Council, Forth Valley College, and the Forestry Commission.



### Why did the judging panel like it?

Canal College is a modestly sized local project with an inspiring story. They have made brilliant use of what is available to them – waterway and canal environs – to provide a wide range of employability support options, often to the most difficult-to-reach disadvantaged young folk.

The small management team, supported by a group of committed volunteers, provides a cost-effective and tailored employability support service, now with aspiration to extended eligibility to over-30s. The SURF Award judges felt the project demonstrated great value for money, and that its future development and expansion plans deserve encouragement and financial support.

## Creative Pathways

### What is the aim of the project?

To deliver an effective employability programme centred on the creative industries for people aged 16-24 that are not in education, employment or training.

### Where is it taking place?

The Creative Pathways programme has four delivery sites: Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

### What has been achieved?

Creative Pathways, which has been running since 2006, is based on engaging young people full-time with a team of dedicated tutors in a range of thematic programmes. These programmes are accredited by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) and Arts Awards, and include product design, fashion retail and theatre arts.



The programme helps young people build confidence, cope with routine, gain qualifications, develop new skills, and find work in the creative industries. In 2014/15 alone, 159 people participated in the programme. Of these: 38 young went on to further education; 36 entered employment; 21 progressed into further training; and 41 took up a work experience or volunteer placement. 87% of participants reported improved communications skills, and 54% achieved an SQA or Arts Awards qualification.

### Who is running it?

The programme is founded and managed by Impact Arts. Among others, partners include Skills Development Scotland, Inspiring Scotland, Capital City Partnership, East Renfrewshire Council, Glasgow City Council, and a wide range of local colleges and employers.

### Why did the judging panel like it?

Operating under the umbrella of a high-achieving social enterprise, the Creative Pathways project employs well-developed methodologies and experience in creative arts disciplines to engage young people and promote and support the development of their skills, ensuring improved employment and learning chances.



The programme provides access to a very impressive range of employability development support measures and resources. The judging panel visited the Creative Pathways Glasgow base Factory45, where they were delighted to see young participants in action, using online tools to research and develop design skills alongside learning about the retail business.

### Where can I find out more?

Web: <http://scottishwaterwaystrust.org.uk/project/canal-college/>

Contact: Alan Forrester, Canal College Project Manager, Scottish Waterways Trust: 01324 677 817, [alan@scottishwaterwaystrust.org.uk](mailto:alan@scottishwaterwaystrust.org.uk)

### Where can I find out more?

Web: [www.impactarts.co.uk/content/our-work-young-employability/](http://www.impactarts.co.uk/content/our-work-young-employability/)

Contact: Katie Smith, Communications Coordinator, Impact Arts (Projects) Ltd: 0141 575 3001, [ksmith@impactarts.co.uk](mailto:ksmith@impactarts.co.uk)

# SURF Awards

Recognising good practice  
across the country



“I see the SURF Awards as the process of recognising, rewarding and sharing the learning from community regeneration.

It has been inspiring to see local leadership, determination and resilience leading to real and tangible improvements.”



Phil Prentice  
Chief Officer  
Scotland's Towns Partnership

## Independent judging panel – and the projects they assessed

The 2015 SURF Awards were independently judged by an impressive panel of 24 representatives drawn from national regeneration-related bodies and community organisations. Each panel member freely gave their time to evaluate, shortlist, make visits to, and agree a winner from, project applications in the respective categories.

The 2015 SURF Awards judging panel members are listed below. SURF is greatly appreciative of the considerable time and effort they generously provided to what is an essential part of the process.

### Scotland's Most Improved Town

Fraser Carlin (Heads of Planning Scotland)  
Julia Frost (PAS)  
Diarmaid Lawlor (Architecture + Design Scotland)  
Kevin McGowan (Scottish Government)  
Craig McLaren (Royal Town Planning Institute Scotland)  
Phil Prentice (Scotland's Towns Partnership)  
Leigh Sparks (Scotland's Towns Partnership)

### Large Scale Infrastructure

Lucy Casot (Heritage Lottery Fund)  
Robert McDowall (Lintel Trust)  
David Stewart (Scottish Fed. of Housing Associations)  
Willie Watt (Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland)

### Creative Regeneration

Maggie Broadley (Craft Town Scotland)  
Karen Dick (Creative Scotland)  
Chris Gosling (Scottish Government)  
Kate Wimpress (North Edinburgh Arts)

### Community Led Regeneration

David Allan (Scottish Community Development Centre)  
Mike McCarron (Galgael)  
Jacqueline McDonnell (Highlands & Islands Enterprise)  
Anna Stuart (Cassiltoun Housing Association)

### Employability

John Cassidy (Scottish Comm. for Health & Wellbeing)  
Lou Donnelly (Skills Development Scotland)  
Michelle Gibson (Skills Development Scotland)  
Chris Holloway (Resilient Scotland)  
Sandy Watson (Scottish Enterprise – retired in 2015)

From the English border to the Highlands & Islands, the 54 initiatives nominated for the 2015 SURF Awards are delivering practical regeneration outcomes in communities throughout Scotland.

They also represent a wide spread of sectors and scales, with varied public, private and third sector management support and investment budgets that range from under £10k to tens of millions.

While only 16 shortlisted projects are featured in this publication, SURF is grateful to every project that was put forward for consideration for helping us understand the important community regeneration work that they are all involved in.



The Most Improved Town category  
judges on a project visit to Kilmarnock

# SURF Awards...

Each December, some of the best regeneration projects in the country get a well-earned boost by receiving a SURF Award. But what happens next? We asked each of the 2014 category winners for an update. Here are their stories.

## 2014 'Preparing for Employment' category winner: **WorkingRite Pioneers**

Thanks to last year's success, WorkingRite secured funding to extend the reach of the Pioneers programme in Edinburgh and roll out a similar programme in Glasgow, supporting 40 young people furthest removed from the labour market.



WorkingRite helps young people develop the skills, confidence and maturity to make a successful transition to the world of work. Our Pioneers programme included an intensive five-week induction, working in small groups and using creative, informal education techniques to build the young people's understanding of working life and employer expectations. Each young person was individually matched to a small business which provided a good 'fit' for their personality and career interest. Six month placements, which began two days a week and gradually increased to full time, were supported by a Project Coordinator, designated mentor and workplace training.

The Glasgow programme is ongoing, but the Edinburgh Pioneers programme has achieved great success with 88% of trainees completing progressing to jobs, apprenticeships or further education.

**Vikki Young, Youth Employability Coordinator, WorkingRite**

**Web: [www.workingrite.co.uk](http://www.workingrite.co.uk)**

## 2014 'Community Led Regeneration' category winner:

### **Horshader Community Growing**

We were delighted to win the Community Led SURF Award in December 2014. Since then, we have enhanced community cohesion in our area on the rural west coast of Lewis by increasing volunteer participation in the project by 50%.

Through the purchase of a community minibus and the introduction of a rural transport service, we have contributed to the reduction of car use and CO2 emissions. We have supported community

communication through the creation of our new Facebook page and our relocation to new office premises. New monthly outreach events, which include cookery demonstrations, market stalls, festive events and food waste reduction talks, have all proved successful.



This year we were pleased to be part of the Hebridean Celtic Festival outreach. Throughout the four day festival we accessed a new audience of 6000 people. We have also entered into a partnership with local schools, who have scheduled the growing project into their Teaching Plan. Finally, we are delighted to report that we now have a waiting list for our community allotment tunnels. We will try and accommodate as many as possible!

**Angela Macleod, Development Manager, Horshader Community Development Trust**

**Web: [www.facebook.com/horshadergrowing](http://www.facebook.com/horshadergrowing)**

## 2014 'Town Centre Regeneration' category winner:

category winner:

### **Glengate Hall**

I can't believe it has been a year since Glengate Hall was announced as a SURF Award winner! What a wonderful moment. I still can't fully accept what our partnership achieved. The project really is an excellent example of different disciplines working well together with a common goal.

With funding from the Scottish Government, the exterior of Glengate Hall has been fully restored to its former glory. The building now



# Not just for Christmas!

looks all the more impressive with its locally-made windows.

What was a sad, empty and derelict historic building in early 2014 is now home to nine families. The investment has successfully brought more footfall to business in Kirriemuir town centre. The SURF Awards really was a huge honour. Perhaps the one drawback for myself is I'm now a landlord with nine tenants, which, as you can imagine, brings its own set of challenges!

**Lorna Redford, Director, PJ Redford Homes Ltd**

**Web: [www.angus.gov.uk/kirriemuircars](http://www.angus.gov.uk/kirriemuircars)**



All 2014 SURF Award Winners with Paul Wheelhouse MSP

## 2014 'Creative Regeneration'

category winner: **North Edinburgh Grows**

The SURF Award gave our project recognition at an early stage in its development, reassuring all involved that we were on the right path. North Edinburgh Grows went on to receive the Scottish Civic Trust My Place Award in March 2015. Both awards were instrumental in underpinning the success of the community garden for participants, local residents, the garden team and potential funders.



Through the securing of Scottish Natural Heritage funds, the garden, now fully established, will act as the focal point and outdoor classroom at the centre of a wide range of activities, creatively engaging people in and around North Edinburgh with the local environment. Additionally, the project is acting as the artist-led exemplar for natural play and green spaces opening up across the area as part of the City of Edinburgh Council's wider regeneration programme.

Aside from wider recognition, North Edinburgh Grows is a place owned and enjoyed by many. One recent visitor to the garden left us a note reading: "I was in the Arts Centre Garden and everything was so beautiful, it moved me so much. I suffer from depression but it made me feel life can be beautiful."

**Kate Wimpess, Director, North Edinburgh Arts**

**Web: [www.northedinburghgrows.wordpress.com](http://www.northedinburghgrows.wordpress.com)**

## 2014 'Infrastructure and Social Benefits'

category winner: **Every1's Garden**

We were absolutely delighted to win a SURF Award in 2014! It was greatly appreciated after a year of hard work, dedication and commitment by staff and volunteers. Our community garden in Dundee received local and national publicity as a result of winning, which raised the profile of the project and made a wider range of the community aware of our services.



In the last year, the project has gone from strength to strength.

The number of children visiting the garden from our local primary schools has doubled. Our garden club, which provides physical activity, healthy eating and the experience of growing plants for food and wildlife for local children, was oversubscribed throughout all the school holidays this year.

Most of the community groups that use our adjoining community centre now have a plot or raised bed in the garden. We have had great feedback this year from people using the garden, many of whom have noted improvements in diet, skills, self-esteem and general wellbeing. We have also benefited greatly from an increase in local volunteers, who have helped us achieve another productive and successful year.

**Kate Treharne, Project Development Worker, The MAXWell Centre**

**Web: [www.themaxwellcentre.org.uk](http://www.themaxwellcentre.org.uk)**

“The SURF Awards link the inspiring creative efforts of community volunteers with strategic partnership investments in infrastructure and town centres.

SURF's job is to help connect local assets and knowledge with national policies and resources. That way, despite the continuing degenerative effects of counter-productive austerity policies, we can still support successful and sustainable regeneration outcomes that ultimately benefit everyone.”



Andy Milne  
Chief Executive, SURF



**As Scotland's independent regeneration network, SURF's overall objective is to address poverty and inequality in Scotland's disadvantaged communities.**

SURF is the primary arena for debate on community regeneration in Scotland. It acts as a channel for information, consultation and policy proposals, based on the knowledge and experience of its extensive membership and wider connections.

SURF network activity includes seminars, conferences, policy exchanges, research programmes, an annual awards for best practice, responding to policy consultations, and distributing information and publications.

This all provides a truly independent network to explore current practice, experience and knowledge, with which to positively influence the development of more successful regeneration policy and practice.

SURF was established in 1992 as a not-for-profit social enterprise. It is directed by a board of voluntary directors drawn from its extensive membership.

We have a database of over 3000 regeneration contacts and a membership of over 280 organisations from across Scotland.

SURF members range in size from small community groups to large private companies and also include local authorities, academic institutions, housing associations, charities and professional bodies.

**Further information on SURF's activities, and how to get more involved, is available on our website:**  
[www.scotregen.co.uk](http://www.scotregen.co.uk)

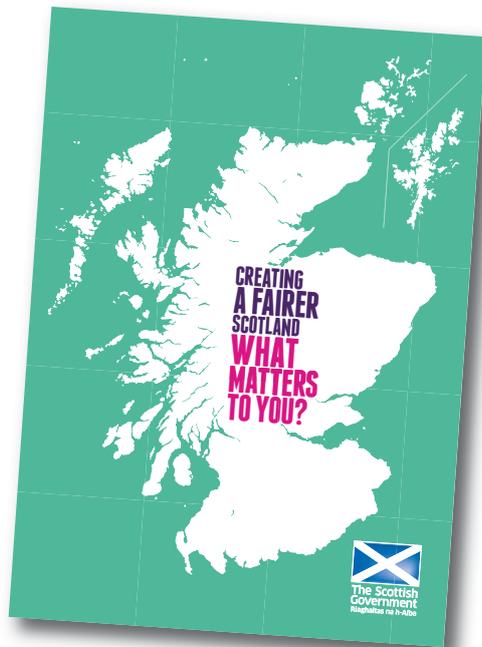


“The SURF Awards demonstrate the innovative approaches communities can take when they are empowered to deliver the priorities that matter to them most. I am impressed by the diversity of projects and the positive impact they have on people’s lives.

The Scottish Government values the contribution our communities and wider partners make to our regeneration efforts. By working collaboratively, we can tackle inequality in society to help create a fairer Scotland.”



Alex Neil MSP  
Scottish Government Cabinet  
Secretary for Social Justice,  
Communities and Pensioners' Rights



## A Fairer Scotland

Tackling poverty and inequalities remain a key commitment for the Scottish Government. In our Programme for Government, we made a three year commitment to support the Empowering Communities Fund. We know that to deliver effective change within our communities, we need to enable local people to become directly involved in delivering the priorities that matter to them the most.

That is why we introduced the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. This gives people a stronger voice in the decisions that matter to them and also helps communities who wish to take over public land and buildings.

Involving communities in genuine, open grassroots conversations from the outset ensures that the widest possible range of voices are heard, whilst also encouraging real engagement in the policy-making process.

A fairer Scotland is something the Scottish Government cannot deliver alone. We are working together to deliver a sustainable and shared vision of what a fairer Scotland looks like and the priorities we need to focus on to achieve that vision. In this way we will ensure that our people and communities become stronger and more resilient, thereby effecting positive and long lasting change.

**To find out more about the Scottish Government’s ‘Creating a Fairer Scotland’ discussion paper and consultation, please visit:**

<http://fairer.scot>



# SURF Awards Learning Workshops

With support from the Scottish Government, SURF will be arranging workshop events in May 2016 to explore transferable lessons from the success of the six winning SURF Awards projects.

To receive information on these free informal learning exchange events, please sign up for our mailing list at the following link or contact the SURF events team on 0141 440 0122.

[www.scotregen.co.uk/stay-informed](http://www.scotregen.co.uk/stay-informed)

# Members and Sponsors

SURF is very grateful for all the support it gets from over 280 member organisations, and in particular from its 13 key delivery partners. Their backing provides the political, administrative and financial independence that helps SURF play a unique role in linking policy and practice across all of the sectors concerned with regenerating Scotland's communities.

