

SURF



SURF Awards
20th Anniversary
2018

Awards



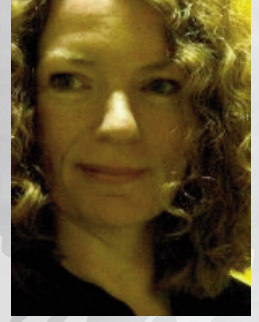
SURF : sharing experience :
shaping practice :
celebrating success

The SURF Awards
for Best Practice
in Community
Regeneration 2018



The 2018 SURF Awards is delivered in partnership with the Scottish Government, and with additional support from Architecture & Design Scotland, Creative Scotland, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Scotland's Towns Partnership, and Skills Development Scotland.

“As with the previous 20 years, the 2018 SURF Awards celebrate exceptional projects operating across the country. The independent panel of judges have once again been impressed by the commitment, creativity and care for both project and people, in all shortlisted initiatives. SURF looks forward to sharing these stories of what works, across Scotland and beyond.”



Kate Wimpress
Chair, SURF

The 20th Anniversary SURF Awards



2018 is the landmark 20th edition of the SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration. The SURF Awards began two decades ago with the goal of demonstrating that: “regeneration is making a difference to the people of Scotland and the places in which they live and work.”

20 years on, this remains the core purpose. Across the various economic contexts and policy landscapes, the SURF Awards has been there to identify, promote and celebrate some of the most impressive achievements in tackling physical, social and economic decline in communities throughout the country.

In the first ever SURF Awards, there were 67 nominees, and three winners: an innovative personal development programme for children and their parents in east Glasgow, a coordinated approach to community safety in Inverness, and a new housing development in Barlanark. We produced a dedicated report highlighting their achievements and those of a further six initiatives that were shortlisted.

This report was shared with the SURF network and with regeneration policy-makers, including all Members of the just-opened new Scottish Parliament. We continue that tradition in this publication, which profiles all 15 projects shortlisted for the 2018 SURF Awards. We hope their success can offer inspiration and practical lessons to everyone contributing to the regeneration of socially and economically challenged places across Scotland.

Themes and Outcomes

The SURF Awards has five categories, which reflect regeneration activity at all scales, from community led initiatives to large-scale partnership investments.

They are:

- Community Led Regeneration
- Creative Regeneration
- Housing
- Youth Employability: Overcoming Barriers
- Scotland's Most Improved Place

This year, our twenty member panel of expert judges independently considered 65 category applications over an intensive two-month process of assessments and site visits. Working in category teams, the judges were tasked with narrowing down all nominees to a shortlist of 15, and ultimately selecting just one winner per category.

These winners were Papay Community Cooperative (see p6), Findhorn Bay Arts (p8), the Chapelpark housing initiative in Forres (p10), the Pathfinder Employability Programme (p12) and the Orkney island of Westray (p14). Our judging panel were highly impressed with the outcomes all initiatives achieved, and in the commitment, thoughtfulness and community-centred vision behind their respective planning and development journeys.

Special Thanks

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

We greatly appreciate the time and effort of our judges (you can see who they are on p5), and the additional support from our category partners: Architecture & Design Scotland, Creative Scotland, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Scotland's Towns Partnership, and Skills Development Scotland.

SURF could not operate as Scotland's regeneration forum without the active support, knowledge and experience of our 280+ member organisations: especially our 11 key delivery partners, who are listed on p20.

Finally, we are grateful to everyone involved in the SURF Awards since its inception, for helping us to better understand and promote 'what works' in what has largely been a turbulent and challenging period for Scottish community regeneration.

If you would like to know more about the SURF Awards, including a series of free 2019 events featuring the winning projects and the outcomes of past processes, please visit: www.surf.scot/surf-awards

Results

Contents & Category Results

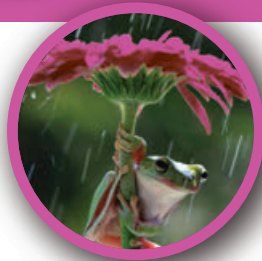
Community Led Regeneration

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: **Papay Community Cooperative** – page 6

Also shortlisted:

Creetown Initiative, Paul's Youth Forum – page 7



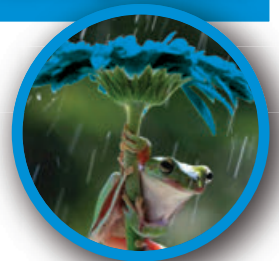
Youth Employability: Overcoming Barriers

Purpose: to recognise a project or employer that supports community regeneration by providing employability support to help young people aged 16-29 years fulfil their potential in the labour market. This category is supported by Skills Development Scotland.

Winner: **Pathfinder Programme** – page 12

Also shortlisted:

Kingdom Works, Pathway to Success – page 13



Creative Regeneration

Purpose: to reward best practice in placing arts and creativity at the heart of community regeneration efforts by demonstrating effective partnership working with artists. This category is supported by Creative Scotland.

Winner: **Findhorn Bay Arts** – page 8

Also shortlisted:

Reachout: Creative Communities, WHALE Arts – page 9



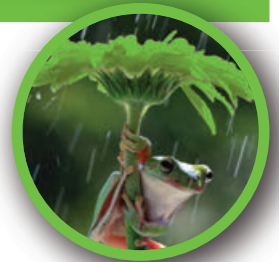
Scotland's Most Improved Place

Purpose: to identify, celebrate and share the positive impacts of participative planning and regeneration processes in Scottish places. This category is supported by Architecture & Design Scotland and Scotland's Towns Partnership.

Winner: **Westray** – page 14

Also shortlisted:

Dundee Central Waterfront, Fort William High Street – page 15



Housing

Purpose: to recognise and promote the achievements of all housing providers in ensuring that their investments are planned and delivered in a way which produces substantial, lasting benefits to resident communities and the shared aims of wider regeneration partners.

Winner: **Chapelark** – page 10

Also shortlisted:

Brand Street & Harvie Street, Park Ecovillage Trust: West Whins – page 11



"Community regeneration projects often have to hang on and weather the storm."

SURF

Awards

Recognising good practice
across the country

Westray

Papay Community
Cooperative

Park Ecovillage Trust:
West Whins

Findhorn Bay Arts

Fort William High Street

Dundee Central Waterfront

Chapelpark:
A New Beginning

Reachout: Creative
Communities

Kingdom Works

Pathfinder Programme

WHALE Arts

Brand Street &
Harvie Street

Pathway to Success

St Paul's Youth
Forum

Creetown Initiative

“The SURF Awards highlight the creativity of communities across Scotland, helping demonstrate the importance of arts and culture to our individual and collective wellbeing.”



Gary Cameron
Head of Place, Partnerships
& Communities, Creative Scotland

Independent judging panel – and the projects they assessed

The 2018 SURF Awards were independently judged by a panel of 20 representatives drawn from national regeneration-related bodies and community groups. Each panel member, listed below, gave their time freely to evaluate, shortlist, make visits to, and agree a winner from, project nominees in the respective categories. SURF is grateful for the extensive time and effort they contributed.

Community Led Regeneration

Riona McMorrow (Heritage Lottery Fund Scotland)
Donnie Nicolson (Bellsmyre Development Trust)
Fiona Stirling (Highlands & Islands Enterprise)
Emma Whitfield (Big Lottery Fund in Scotland)

Creative Regeneration

Gary Cameron (Creative Scotland)
Moya Crowley (Plantation Productions)
Diana Murray (Arts & Business Scotland)
Karen Orr (RIG Arts)

Housing

Jeremy Hewer (Scottish Fed. of Housing Associations)
Euan Leitch (Built Environment Forum Scotland)
Robert McDowall (formerly of DTZ)
Mairi Ross-Grey (Scottish Government)

Youth Employability: Removing Barriers

Grant Alexander (Link Group Ltd)
Michelle Gibson (Skills Development Scotland)
Alistair Grimes (Responsible Finance)
Jamie Rutherford (Third Sector Employability Forum)

Scotland's Most Improved Place

Susan Bolt (Scottish Government)
Mhairi Donaghy (Scotland's Towns Partnership)
Allan Farmer (Corra Foundation)
Diarmaid Lawlor (Architecture & Design Scotland)

65 regeneration initiatives were nominated for the 2018 SURF Awards, highlighting the wide range of interventions that are addressing social and economic problems in communities throughout Scotland.

From Galloway and the Borders to Harris and Sutherland, these projects represent a wide spread of sectors and scales, with diverse public, private and third sector delivery models, and budgets that range from under £50k to tens of millions.

While only 15 shortlisted projects are featured in this publication, SURF appreciated the opportunity to learn about the important community regeneration work evident in every initiative that was put forward for consideration.



The judges visited projects across Scotland - including the Orkney Island of Papa Westray, pictured here, to assess nominees.

Community Led Regeneration

Winner



Papay Community Cooperative

What is the aim of the project?

To rejuvenate an economically challenged and remote island community by establishing a social and economic hub.

Where is it taking place?

Papa Westray. Known locally as Papay, the island is one of the smallest in the Orkney archipelago.



A seaweed workshop

What has been achieved?

In 1979, Papay Community Cooperative was established by local community members in response to an announcement that the island's only shop was set to close. The group's initial aim was to develop a community shop, accommodation for tourists, and a venue for community activities.

It delivered these by repurposing a row of empty farm cottages, known as Beltane House. The well-stocked shop and hostel, which holds a four-star rating with VisitScotland, have helped safeguard the island's



Teaching welding skills

future. Beltane House is also a well-used community facility, turning into a licensed pub on Saturday nights, and used regularly for film screenings and parties.

Papay Co-op also established an eco-workshop, to improve the island's recycling and waste disposal facilities, as well as an insulation improvement scheme for housing across the island, and a school bus which doubles as a summer tour bus. The group work closely with Papay Development Trust on long-term tourism development.

The Co-op's activities have helped change the island's narrative from decline and depopulation to development and growth, and have supported a population increase from 54 in the 1990s, to the present 85.

Who is running it?

Papay Co-op, which is directly owned by 100 members, all of whom are residents or former residents of the island. It employs seven staff.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges could clearly see the difference the Community Cooperative has made, and is making, across the small island community. There was fantastic evidence of local partnership development and a deep



Papay's younger residents having fun in a craft session

understanding of the local, and often unique, needs for the island's population. This has led to the development and delivery of authentic, community-based solutions, all of which has provided a sustainable future for everyone living in Papay.

Working in partnership with the local Development Trust, Orkney Islands Council, the RSPB, and many others, the Co-op has developed a clear vision in genuine consultation with its members. Always resourceful and innovative, the Co-op's work evolves as opportunities of bringing new skills to the island, enhancing recycling projects, and attracting tourism present themselves.

The provision of local jobs and high levels of participation has enabled the whole community to be involved in making Papa Westray a great place to live and thrive.

Where can I find out more?

Island Website: www.papawestray.co.uk

Contact: Tim Dodman, Secretary, Papay Co-op: 01857 644 224, tim@timdodman.co.uk

category sponsored by



Shortlisted

Creetown Initiative

What is the aim of the project?

To support the economic and social regeneration of a village facing deprivation and population decline.

Where is it taking place?

Creetown, in Dumfries and Galloway.

What has been achieved?

Since 2006, the initiative has taken ownership of, and renovated, a number of buildings in the village. The most notable is the Barholm Enterprise Centre, formerly a disused pub, which now houses multiple businesses,



including: visitor accommodation, an arts and crafts cooperative, cycle hire, a community shop (pictured), and a car share scheme.

The Centre provides vital services for local people and attracts visitors, who support other businesses in the village. Since opening a year ago, over 1500 people have stayed in the accommodation. The renovation of the Waverley Hall has meanwhile provided the community, including its youth groups, with a venue for social events and clubs.

In addition to physical regeneration, the initiative has delivered over 20 local projects, including arts initiatives, a community woodland, a community magazine, and a project addressing social isolation. It has created 20 jobs for Creetown.

Who is running it?

The Creetown Initiative, a development trust with more than 100 members and a voluntary Board.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were impressed by the deep levels of knowledge and understanding of community issues built by the longstanding anchor organisation. Over the years, Creetown Initiative has identified and delivered innovative solutions to support sustainability in this rural area.

The Enterprise Centre alone has delivered a new resource to the community, new income streams for private businesses, employment opportunities for local people, and a space for creative industries. The Initiative's sustainability is further supported by income-generating consultancy work provided to other development trusts.

St Paul's Youth Forum

What is the aim of the project?

To offer young people in an area with severe poverty challenges alternative options to becoming involved in crime and antisocial behaviour.

Where is it taking place?

The deprived community of Blackhill in north east Glasgow, which was once described by a community councillor as, "the black bit at the end of the golden banana".

What has been achieved?

St. Paul's Youth Forum was created 20 years ago by local people in response to high levels of youth crime. It is a diversionary project, working four nights a week to support 150 teenagers a year into productive activities through several project strands. These include:

- Blackhill's Growing, a community growing project which in 2018 prepared and served over 3000 free meals for the local community
- Blackhill on Bikes, a busy bike hub that provides bike mechanic qualifications;
- Bolt FM, a youth radio station with broadcasting training.



As a result of these activities, the community is a safer place, and more local young people are starting their adult lives with better health, education and employment prospects rather than a criminal record. According to Police Scotland statistics, youth crime in the area fell by 97% between 2006 and 2016.

Who is running it?

St. Paul's Youth Forum, a community organisation. Almost 50% of its Management Board are under 20, and all Trustees live within a mile of the project.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The sight of a free community dinner provided to local families in a hall next to an urban chicken coop in Blackhill left the judges reconsidering what community regeneration means. The focus of this group is to offer local young people expanded life choices and encourage them to be their best self. The evidence in behaviour change is impressive, with a clear and direct impact on local youth crime and other habit-forming behaviours.

This is an excellent anchor organisation that is demonstrably providing better life chances for young people and delivering positive impacts for the whole community.

Where can I find out more?

Web: www.creetowninitiative.co.uk

Contact: Andrew Ward, Senior Projects Manager, Creetown Initiative:
01671 820 654, creetown@creetowninitiative.co.uk

Where can I find out more?

Web: www.stpaulsyouthforum.co.uk

Contact: Neil Young, Youth Team Leader, St Paul's Youth Forum:
0141 770 8559, neil@stpaulsyouthforum.co.uk

Creative Regeneration

Winner



Findhorn Bay Arts

What is the aim of the project?

To deliver high quality regional arts activities to showcase local artists, improve pride of place, support the economy, provide opportunities for young people, and attract visitors.



Macbeth - The Remix is one of the most popular events in Findhorn Bay Festival

Where is it taking place?

In the Moray region of north east Scotland.



IGNITE - Moray Youth Arts Hub has engaged more than 3000 young people

What has been achieved?

The closure of the Royal Air Force base in Kinloss in 2011, which had been in operation since the 1930s, was a significant blow to the Moray economy. In 2012, Findhorn Bay Arts was established partly in response to this development, following a series of open meetings and discussions between the region's creative practitioners and its local residents.

Based in the town of Forres, the organisation has regularly produced award-winning cultural events and projects to support its aspiration of saving, celebrating and expanding Moray's arts and culture scene.

These activities include:

- Findhorn Bay Festival, a biennial gathering, which in 2016 attracted 13,000 attendees to a busy four day events programme that featured the sold-out production, *Macbeth: The Remix*;
- Three Culture Day Forres programmes, the first of which, in 2013, featured 80 events and 120 local arts and community organisations, and contributed an estimated £107,000 to the local economy;
- Cashback for Creativity, a personal development support programme for young people in Moray who are dealing with poverty, social isolation or unemployment;
- IGNITE: Moray Youth Arts Hub, which has provided more than 3000 young people with opportunities to learn and develop skills in filmmaking, dance and other art forms;
- An education programme on Old Scots poetry, in collaboration with the University of Aberdeen's Elphinstone Institute.

Findhorn Bay Arts' activities have demonstrated substantial positive impacts for Moray's artists, residents, tourists, and economy.

Who is running it?

Findhorn Bay Arts is a non-profit arts organisation. It engages with a wide range of partners in the course of its project delivery, including Creative Scotland, Moray College, and National Theatre of Scotland.

Why did the judging panel like it?

Findhorn Bay Arts is clearly rooted in its local communities, but is able to maintain a global outlook. The Findhorn Bay Festival not only brings international artists into the region, but nurtures local creative talent, while Culture Day Forres provides a platform for residents to showcase and celebrate their culture and creativity.

The SURF Awards panel were impressed by the broad impact the project was having on the region, including working collaboratively to increase opportunities for young people to participate in the arts, while also helping grow tourism.

Findhorn Bay Arts represents an outstanding example of how the arts can bring people together and act as a catalyst for the cultural, social and economic development of a region.



The third Culture Day Forres took place in 2018

Where can I find out more?

Web: <https://findhornbayarts.com>

Contact: Kresanna Aiger, Artistic Director, Findhorn Bay Arts:
01309 673 137, director@findhornbayarts.com

category sponsored by



Shortlisted

Reachout: Creative Communities

What is the aim of the project?

To mobilise arts and creativity in support of the cultural, social and economic regeneration of a town and region.

Where is it taking place?

The project is based in Alloa, and serves wider Clackmannanshire.

What has been achieved?

Established in 2010, Reachout: Creative Communities has delivered a programme of community-based arts and wellbeing activities, in addition to workshops, events, and volunteering & employability training opportunities for adults experiencing mental ill health, carers, and disadvantaged individuals experiencing difficulties accessing mainstream services.



The project uses creative arts as a means of improving confidence and aspirations for local individuals and communities by providing person-centred services and holistic support. Its programmes often work with local history and artefacts, developing participants' connections to the wider community and highlighting individual stories and forgotten histories across a wide range of artistic mediums.

The project runs a self-help drop in service five days a week. From 2011 to 2017 it operated a Makers Gallery and Bistro, a social enterprise supporting participants into community activity and employment, which provided 155 trainee placements, employed 18 staff, and engaged 120 local and international artists.

Who is running it?

Reachout With Arts in Mind, a voluntary organisation first established in 1993 as a drama group for local adults experiencing adult ill health. It works with 38 external partners including local GPs and Clackmannanshire Council.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges saw that Creative Communities has people at its absolute centre and is clearly making a significant difference to the health and wellbeing of everyone it works with. Alongside the evident dedication of staff and volunteers, the panel were impressed by the collaborative approach and the positive feedback from partners, in addition to the high quality of the creative activity it delivers. The project has undergone major change in recent times, but the unwavering commitment in the value of the arts to individuals and communities will ensure that it will continue to go from strength to strength.

Where can I find out more?

Web: www.reachoutwithartsinmind.org.uk

Contact: Lesley Arthur, Chief Executive, Reachout With Arts in Mind: 01259 214 951, lesleyarthur@reachoutwithartsinmind.org.uk

WHALE Arts

What is the aim of the project?

To be the creative heart of a vibrant, thriving city community.

Where is it taking place?

In the Wester Hailes community in west Edinburgh

What has been achieved?

WHALE Arts was founded by local community members in 1992. Starting life in a porta-cabin, it has since established itself as the cultural anchor organisation for Wester Hailes. Among its current activities are:

- Coordinating Summer Play Days, a series of events designed to connect families to local services and increase social cohesion.
- Offering volunteers bespoke experience in arts administration, cooking, gardening and working with young people.
- Programming performances, exhibitions and workshops across multiple art forms in the WHALE Arts Centre.
- Supporting people to learn new skills and feel part of a community through a community garden and free weekly community meals.
- Working with the City of Edinburgh Council to support infrastructure improvements to the Westside Plaza civic square.

Who is running it?

WHALE Arts is a community led arts charity and social enterprise. WHALE stands for Wester Hailes Art Leisure and Education. Partners include Creative Scotland, SCOREScotland and Wester Hailes Community Trust.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The enthusiasm and positivity of residents, staff and volunteers made it clear to the SURF Awards panel that WHALE Arts is an open, inclusive and much loved organisation & venue. In addition to the range of creative activities taking place at WHALE Arts Centre, the panel were impressed by their ability to think and act across community locations. The inaugural Wester Hailes Film and Moving Image Festival and ongoing Street Arts initiative demonstrate a progressive approach to reaching out. WHALE Arts has a storied past and a bright future.



Where can I find out more?

Web: www.whalearts.co.uk

Contact: Helena Barrett, Creative Placemaker, WHALE Arts: 0131 458 3267, helena@whalearts.co.uk

Housing

Winner



Chapelpark: A New Beginning

What is the aim of the project?

To convert a vacant, historically significant school building and site into affordable housing.



The main building following redevelopment

Where is it taking place?

In Forfar, Angus.

What has been achieved?

The category B-listed building, originally built in 1815 for Forfar Academy, became Chapelpark Primary School when the Academy relocated in 1965. In 2007, the school was deemed surplus to local education requirements. After it closed and remained vacant, Angus Council identified an opportunity to actively preserve the building's character while responding to rising affordable housing demands.

The subsequent £5.6m renovation was completed in early 2018. It successfully created a mix of 29 high-quality affordable homes for social rent in the former school building and site, comprising 25 flats of varied size and four five-bedroom townhouses. An eco-minimalist ethos involving high thermal insulation and airtightness, and passive solar gain, was used to provide comfortable and efficient homes, which the Council pre-allocated to existing tenants.

These tenants were involved at various stages of the development. A drop-in event gave tenants an early opportunity to see plans, engage with architects and technical experts, and view a walkthrough video of the site and interior designs. Local Councillors and Police Scotland representatives were also in attendance to discuss community issues.

A popular June 2018 open day enabled new tenants, former pupils and members of the public to view the transformation. The development forms part of a wider regeneration strategy in the Kirriemuir and Forfar Locality Plan. The Council is currently exploring the potential for replicating the Chapelpark approach to other vacant properties in its portfolio.

Who is running it?

Angus Council managed and funded the project. 28% of the budget was provided by the Scottish Government. The Council partnered with local firm Andrew Shepherd in construction, and also engaged with Historic Environment Scotland.

Why did the judging panel like it?

This Council-led project successfully transformed a B-listed former school into 29 high quality affordable rented homes in the town centre. The relevant land and buildings were initially transferred to the Housing Revenue Account. This step enabled a number of

Council teams, from Property and Housing Strategy to Community Housing and Occupational Therapy, to fully participate in bringing about a development that contributes to meeting local housing need while supporting the wider regeneration of Forfar town centre.



The Council organised a popular open day



New-build townhouses were also created on site

The initiative has also proved to be an important component of the Council's wider aims to create places across Angus that people are proud to call home. In winning SURF's Housing Award, the Chapelpark redevelopment showcases the ability of the Council to fully collaborate across its internal departments in bringing about much-needed change, and securing a historically important site for current and future generations.

Where can I find out more?

Contact: Lynne Warburton, Housing Policy Officer, Angus Council:
01307 474 777, warburtonlc@angus.gov.uk.

Shortlisted



Brand Street & Harvie Street

What is the aim of the project?

To provide high quality affordable housing and regenerate an inner city brownfield site.

Where is it taking place?

In Cessnock, south west Glasgow.

What has been achieved?

The Brand Street & Harvie Street development has delivered 85 new-build homes for social rent and 20 renovated properties for mid-market rent, while also saving an 'at risk' historic building. The social housing has been allocated to applicants on Glasgow Housing Association's 19k long housing waiting list, helping address a pressing shortage of one bedroom and larger family size properties in Glasgow. The project has also enabled a number of existing tenants in under-occupied properties to be rehoused, protecting them from cuts to housing benefit.



The new properties have been built to a high standard, with energy saving features leading to an Eco-Homes 'Very Good' rating and protecting against fuel poverty. The project was guided by consultation with the local community. The construction provided a number of apprenticeships, and the partners contributed to the refurbishment of the local Clyde Community Hall.

New tenants are receiving a wide range of services, including welfare and fuel advice, through the 'Wheatley 360' housing service. Common close and backcourt areas will be maintained by the Wheatley Group's in-house Neighbourhood Environmental Team, providing further employability and training opportunities for tenants through its 'Changing Lives' initiative.

Who is running it?

The project was delivered by the Wheatley Group and its Glasgow Housing Association and Lowther Homes subsidiaries.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The Brand Street & Harvie Street project successfully redeveloped a historic tram depot in combination with an impressive new-build on an adjacent brown field site. 105 mid-market and social rented homes contribute to the successful regeneration of the area through mixing of tenure, recognition of the area's social history and creation of a high quality built environment. Community engagement before and after construction contributed to the judges' view that this presents a model example of housing led regeneration.

Where can I find out more?

Web: <https://www.wheatley-group.com/about-wheatley/our-homes/building-new-homes>

Contact: Alan Hardie, Development Coordinator, Wheatley Group: 0141 274 6636, alan.hardie@wheatley-group.com

Park Ecovillage Trust: West Whins

What is the aim of the project?

To complement an architecturally significant, community-owned, low-carbon housing development by building a cluster of new affordable homes.

Where is it taking place?

In Findhorn Ecovillage in Moray.

What has been achieved?

In 2015, planning began on six new affordable homes at West Whins within the internationally recognised Findhorn Ecovillage. Construction was completed in 2017, and the new affordable units add to four built in an earlier phase. Complex financial partnerships and extensive community participation including demographic surveys, focus groups and community meetings were key elements of the successful project.

18 prospective tenants applied to the community's independent Housing Allocation Committee. Allocations in the one bedroom flats were awarded to six persons meeting the established need criteria; that is, who were either homeless or in need of social inclusion or who were elderly, or youth, or who were seeking a place to live closer to employment.

Designed to a high eco-specification, the flats have very low running costs. Residents benefit from communal access to a multifunctional room, and rent levels are controlled by Moray Council and the Scottish Government through a Section 75 planning agreement.

Who is running it?

The development is owned and managed by the Park Ecovillage Trust, a charitable organisation. Project partners include Duneland Ltd, GreenLeaf Build & Design, Moray Council, and the Scottish Rural Housing Fund.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The Trust undertook exemplary analysis to identify the demographic needs for a sustainable community, resulting in allocation criteria that met the needs of the collective while being fully supportive of tenants. The new units optimise their position for solar gain, are highly insulated, and share access to onsite renewable energy sources. The tenant the SURF Awards judges met was delighted with their cosy accommodation after decades of caravan living.



Where can I find out more?

Web: www.parkedvillagetrust.co.uk

Contact: Marcus Lindner, Housing Director, Park Ecovillage Trust: 01309 690 954, housing@parkecovillagetrust.co.uk

Youth Employability: Overcoming Barriers

Winner

SURF Awards
20th Anniversary
2018

Pathfinder Programme

What is the aim of the project?

To remove labour market disconnects for young people by taking a collaborative approach, rooted in the strengths of each individual, to support them into sustained employment.

The project has supported more than 100 young people in Glasgow



Where is it taking place?

The Pathfinder Programme is delivered across the north west of Glasgow.

What has been achieved?

The idea behind the Pathfinder Programme was to examine and challenge the effectiveness of local employability provision. This led partners to develop a service that wasn't currently on offer to young people in the local communities.

The Pathfinder Programme developed a model comprising interventions along the entire employability pipeline. This included early intervention designed to build relationships and sustain basic engagement, one-to-one & group session activity, and a mentored 12 week work placement based on the particular skills and interests of each participant. The partners built into the programme a 'safety net', so that young people who do not succeed at the first time of asking are supported to address any barriers and filtered back into the programme at a time that is right for them.

In 2017/18, 113 young people across all wards of north west Glasgow progressed to the employability element of the programme and, of those, 93 achieved a positive outcome. This was a success rate of 82%. Crucially, those that did not complete the programme with a positive outcome are still engaging with one of the partners – Dumbarton Road Corridor (DRC) Youth Project. In doing so they explore barriers to employment, and receive further dedicated support with a view to their progressing into employment, apprenticeships or further learning.

Who is running it?

Pathfinder is delivered in partnership by the DRC Youth Project and WorkingRite, two organisations whose respective projects have been highlighted in previous SURF Awards. It is funded by Glasgow City Council, and referrals are provided by Skills Development Scotland, JobCentre Plus, Jobs & Business Glasgow, and others. The partners engage with a wide range of small and medium businesses in identifying job matches.



82% of participants reached a positive destination

Why did the judging panel like it?

The SURF Awards judges identified the close partnership between the DRC Youth Project and WorkingRite as the key factor behind the success of this project. Each partner is clear on their roles, and young people progress seamlessly between the two. Aftercare and follow-up work is comprehensively delivered.



Aftercare is a key element of the programme

Engagement with local businesses is strong, and the partners have developed a well-earned reputation for encouraging those with vacancies to offer work placements as an initial introduction to prospective employees. Many employers come back with future vacancies. The commitment and enthusiasm of the staff in both partner organisations is commendable and all clearly aim to do all they can for each individual they are working with.

Where can I find out more?

Web: <http://workingrite.co.uk/pathfinder-project/>

Contact: Arthur McNeaney, Project Manager, DRC Youth Project:
0141 951 8669, arthur.mcneaneydrc@hotmail.co.uk

category sponsored by



Shortlisted

Kingdom Works

What is the aim of the project?

To remove barriers to employment for unemployed individuals aged between 16-29 while supporting the delivery of community benefits through public contracts.

Where is it taking place?

The project operates across Fife.

What has been achieved?

In 2008, Fife Works was created in response to academic, public and third sector partners identifying the need for a new employability project in the region. Later rebranded as Kingdom Works, the programme has been delivered through affordable housing development programmes. Community benefit clauses have been introduced into contractor frameworks, with targets for increased apprenticeships, work placements, and jobs for unemployed individuals.

Detailed assessments are made from the outset to ensure that the best support is in place for each client, directly through the project and with other external partners where required. Action plans are created and measured against clear time-frames and objectives. Activities and support are specifically tailored to the local labour market, based on extensive engagement with local employers.

Over the last year, out of 374 clients engaged with, 79% have progressed into employment or training. The majority went into full-time employment.

Who is running it?

Kingdom Housing, with support from Fife Council, Skills Development Scotland, and the UK Government's Department of Work and Pensions. The programme is part of Fife Employability Training Consortium, a partnership of seven third sector organisations.

Why did the judging panel like it?

Utilising community benefit clauses with contractors and other employer engagement methods has greatly increased the number of vacancies available to the project. The programme offers industry recognised qualifications and placements to help overcome barriers to employment. It also reviews individual's circumstances, ensuring that a particular opportunity is right for them. The judges were also impressed by the additional training offered to support progression within jobs. The programme is creative in tackling barriers, including paying for car insurance and travel costs, or working with an employer to ensure that an employee's shift pattern accommodates childcare responsibilities.



Pathway to Success

What is the aim of the project?

To inspire and support disengaged 15-21 year olds from disadvantaged communities into formal education or employment by providing a comprehensive 150 hour employability programme.

Where is it taking place?

The programme is delivered in greater Glasgow. Participants are drawn from areas that feature among the 15% most deprived in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

What has been achieved?

The programme is designed to give participants a unique insight into college, working and business life. It comprises a mix of classroom learning, practical training, trips to Glasgow Clyde College, and work experience at Young Enterprise Scotland's Rouken Glen Park Training Centre and various community and business locations. A wide range of employment areas are covered, including landscaping, construction, hairdressing, beauty, events management, and retail.

Two Pathway to Success courses are delivered each year, with a maximum of 12 participants at a time to provide high levels of attention on individual needs. Beyond the 10 week course, a further 16 weeks of individual support are provided over one day per week.

In 2016/17, 17 of 22 of young people completed the course and progressed into college, employment or further training. Participants also gained increased confidence, on-the-job experience, and a formal SQA qualification.

Who is running it?

The programme is delivered by Young Enterprise Scotland in partnership with Glasgow Clyde College, and in collaboration with Glasgow City Council, Skills Development Scotland, JobCentre Plus, the Princes Trust, and supportive employers.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were impressed by the flexibility of the programme and how it can be adapted to meet the needs of the different groups, which allowed the young people to explore new activities. This was a key element in the initial engagement and the sustaining of participation. The project fully utilises Rouken Glen Park and the social enterprises on site to further enhance learning and offer new experiences, including bee keeping and gardening. It provides breakfast and warm lunches to participants, and the kitchen has developed into a warm social hub where social skills are developed.



Where can I find out more?

Web: www.kingdomhousing.org.uk/fife-works

Contact: Lynne Dunn, Fife Works Manager, Kingdom Housing Association:
01592 631 991, l.dunn@kingdomhousing.org.uk

Where can I find out more?

Web: <https://yes.org.uk/programmes.php?sid=16>

Contact: Emily Bennett, Fundraising Manager, Young Enterprise Scotland:
0141 406 7722, emily.bennett@yes.org.uk

Scotland's Most Improved Place

Winner

SURF Awards
20th Anniversary
2018

Westray

Westray is the largest of Orkney's northern isles. Much of its recent history is characterised by the decline in its population and traditional industries. In 1998, however, local people took action to change this narrative, and established the community owned Westray Development Trust. The Trust's mission is to develop the economic, social and cultural sustainability of Westray by harnessing the quality of its resources, people and island environment.

It has delivered a number of projects with real practical benefits for the island's diverse demographic and its economy. Its trading subsidiary installed a 900Kw wind turbine in 2009. One of Scotland's first community-owned turbines, it generates profits that are used to carry out regeneration activity, and to issue grants and loans to local businesses and individuals. To date the Trust has been able to grant several business loans for local ventures, ranging from £60,000 to £217,000.

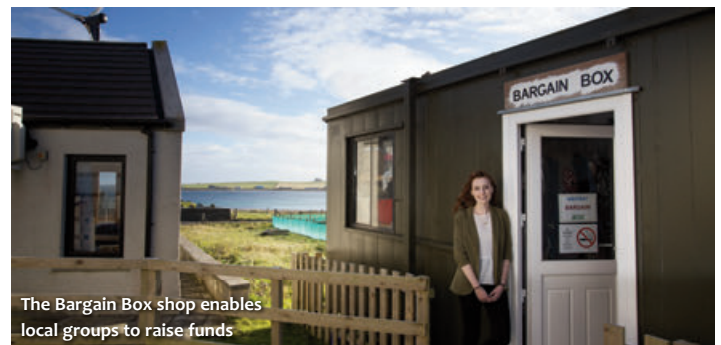


A 900Kw community turbine supports local projects

Responding to the need for a safe place for the island's young people, the Trust built Höfn Youth Centre in 2000, and refurbished it in 2014. The Trust also delivers a subsidised Home Help Service for the island's elderly residents. It employs a part-time carer, who visits four households to help with cleaning, cooking and minor home repairs.

'Food Miles to Food Smiles', a community garden on reclaimed land in the centre of Pierowall village, cultivates affordable fresh fruit and vegetables for the local community. The garden supplies fresh produce to the island's shops and businesses. A Bargain Box shop has encouraged reuse and recycling, and enabled 17 local groups to raise £19k in general funding. The island has become known for its hands-on approach, and self-sustaining community.

The SURF Awards judges were highly impressed with Westray Development Trust's strategic approach and the quality of the projects it has delivered since the establishment of the wind turbine nearly 10 years ago. The scale and significance of sustainable investment decisions for the benefit of the community has ensured a thriving island and population, touching on all generations.



The Bargain Box shop enables local groups to raise funds

Firmly embedded within the community, the Trust Board has a strong self-help ethos and has made intelligent decisions over where to invest time and resources. From play facilities and a youth centre to a support scheme for elderly residents, its projects have positively impacted on all island residents.



Westray now has a school roll of 75

Today, Westray's population of 600 is stable, and features 75 school age children. Its unemployment rate is amongst the lowest in Orkney. With some of the wind turbine profits invested in an ethical investment fund, the Trust is in a strong position to deliver on its future plans, including new housing and a community owned quarry.

Where can I find out more?

Trust Website: www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Contact: Isobel Thompson, Social and Economic Researcher,
Westray Development Trust: 01857 677 858,
isobel@westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk

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SITIP SCOTLAND'S
TOWNS
PARTNERSHIP



Shortlisted

Dundee Central Waterfront

Dundee's large-scale waterfront regeneration programme was initiated in 2001 by Dundee City Council's production of a Central Waterfront Masterplan. The Masterplan, which was produced on the back of extensive public engagement, has guided all works undertaken to date. Its underlying purpose is to reconnect Dundee to the Tay river and reinvigorate the city's economy.

The programme has successfully realised these aspirations. Most notably in capturing public interest is the V&A Dundee, Scotland's first museum of design, which opened in September 2018. Designed by renowned Japanese architect Kengo Kuma, the building's iconic style has helped create an international profile for Dundee's transformed waterfront. The museum, has helped attract a wide range of inward investment. It welcomed over 100,000 visitors in its first three weeks.

The waterfront redevelopment has also delivered a new railway station with a hotel, restaurant and retail provision, and Slessor Gardens, a high quality public parkland and events space covering 11,000 square metres. The road network has been rationalised with improved support for walking and cycling, and new office, hotel, retail and residential developments have materialised along the waterfront.

Council-investor agreements have resulted in all new workers in the area receiving the Scottish Living Wage, and local groups such as Dundee Urban Orchard, Bonnie Dundee and health charities have been directly involved in the management of project elements. The Council has declared the project on course to deliver 7,000 new jobs for the city, and Lonely Planet listed Dundee among its top 10 European Destinations for 2018.

An area once dominated by roads, car parks and uninspiring architecture, the transformation of Dundee Central Waterfront has helped the city



to shed its negative, post-industrial image and position itself as a highly attractive place to live, work, and visit.

The judges were impressed by Dundee City Council's strong civic leadership, and its creative approach to using public assets to transform the waterfront into a welcoming gathering space for the city. The Masterplan is founded on a strong, long-term commitment to improvement agreed with the city communities. The emerging built environment is international and local, creating a series of spaces for new forms of work, leisure and living, and inviting further opportunities for community engagement.

Fort William High Street

Fort William is a town of 11,000 people in the Highlands. In common with town centres across the country, its High Street has suffered in recent years from changes in consumer habits and declining investment. This has led to physical decline, with disused and run-down premises making it unattractive to both residents and visitors.

The volunteer-run Fort William Town Team grew out of a Community Charrette in 2014, in which local people identified priorities for improvement in the town centre. The Town Team have worked with Highland Council and a wide range of other partners to address the identified priorities, encourage wider investment, and regenerate the High Street.



Principle achievements to date include significant improvements to the physical environment of the town centre, with new planting, green space and street furniture. Highland Council has invested in the refurbishment of two squares in the town centre, creating accessible and attractive public places for residents and visitors. Gordon Square at the western end of the High Street has become the formal end of the West Highland Way, while new pontoons have provided access to visitors from cruise ships.

These developments have significantly increased High Street footfall. New businesses, especially hotels, restaurants and shops, have been attracted to the town centre. Existing businesses have improved their shop frontages, creating a more attractive environment. New town centre housing has also been developed, with disused office space transformed into affordable homes. The Town Team hold regular litter picks and other events to further enhance the High Street and promote the wider town centre as an attractive place to live and visit.

The SURF Awards judges were impressed by the efforts made to re-energise Fort William and the local economy at a range of levels, including: the passionate Town Team volunteers and their 'can-do' approach to environmental improvement through planting and painting; an engaged business community with a blend of both national and local firms; strategic decisions to enhance the built environment and increase footfall; co-location of key public services; and the community marina, which saw its first cruise ships berth in 2018. This holistic approach has contributed to a strongly held, and increasing, pride of place.

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 2017 category winners for an update. Here are their stories.

2017 'Scotland's Most Improved Place'

category winner: **Irvine**

North Ayrshire Council was delighted to accept the 'Most Improved Place' award on behalf of Irvine at last year's SURF Awards. The community, the Council and its partners have worked really hard to ensure that we are making Irvine the best it can be.

The Irvine Locality Partnership is now progressing

community priorities, including a 'Digital Irvine' approach to developing skills and creativity. Civic partners are establishing Irvine as a cultural hub, including bringing the Burns World Federation presidency and annual celebration to the town. Continuing public realm improvements are building on the successes of the new Portal and Townhouse Leisure and Cultural Centre, and a new business and health hub at Quarry Road.

Current aspirations include a major redevelopment of Irvine Harbourside in the Ayrshire Growth Deal 'Great Harbour' proposal, which includes an ambitious plan to incorporate social and private housing and commercial and leisure activity into one of Irvine's most iconic sites.

Web: www.northayrshire.community/your-community/irvine/



primary school. The tenants have used very little additional heating, even during last winter's bitterly cold spells, proving the benefits of the eco-friendly passive design.

More generally, there is a real sense of pride and confidence in the community, with renewed enthusiasm to tackle projects and host social events. The success of the project, coupled with high interest from potential tenants, has given us the impetus to embark on a second affordable housing project.

We recently purchased a plot of land, via the Scottish Land Fund, and plan to build another four houses – watch this space!

Web: www.mict.co.uk



2017 'Community Led Regeneration'

category winner:

Dundee International Women's Centre

Winning the SURF Award, and presenting at SURF's Shared Learning Workshop and Annual Conference Community Marketplace, has had a huge impact on Dundee International Women's Centre. We have had an increase in public exposure, an enhanced engagement with funders, and we have linked with other third sector charities to share ideas of good practice across Scotland.

In the last year, our 'GREAT' (Gain Recognised Employment And Training) programme has helped 30% of our learners to gain jobs, and others are now work-ready. We have also been busy delivering Harmful Practice Workshops to professionals around Scotland, with a huge response from the health and community sectors. We use a fact-based approach to help participants understand how to best

Not just for Christmas!



respond to a crisis situation and improve professional practice. In addition, our Safety Net initiative provides interactive sessions that go beyond the usual 'how to be safe online' by offering a two-way discourse between trainers and groups.

Web: www.diwc.co.uk

2017 'Youth Employability: Overcoming Barriers'

category winner: **LinkLiving Step On**

Following our SURF Award win, LinkLiving benefited from a great deal of positive publicity for our 'Steps to Resilience' approach.

The Award closely followed the opening of the Link Academy in Falkirk, and acted as a third party endorsement for our business, which positioned us as an exemplar of best practice.

We enjoyed and benefited from being in the spotlight, both internally within Link, and externally with our peers and partners. The dividend was to strengthen our brand and improve our credentials as an employability support provider. During the last



year, we have used this to good effect when making funding applications, where our past performance has legitimately been badged as "award winning".

Winning such a prestigious award was a clear indication that our business is going in the right direction. It instilled a feel-good factor in the staff group, leading to an increase in confidence, and spurring further innovation and best practice sharing.

Web: www.linkliving.org.uk

2017 'Creative Regeneration'

category winner: **The Broomhill Project**

To win the SURF award in 2017 was a great honour for RIG Arts. Recognition for leading the way in creative regeneration nationally validated RIG Arts' approach, giving our socially engaged arts practice a stamp of quality.



2018 has seen us continue with the community and culture-led regeneration of Broomhill in Greenock through strong partnerships, workshops, artist residencies, public art and cultural events. With River Clyde Homes' support, we secured the use of derelict land and are transforming these areas into a community green space and a place for art-making.

The credibility of winning a SURF Award has given RIG Arts the confidence and ambition to create a vision and business plan to transform a dilapidated historic building in Port Glasgow's town centre into a vibrant cultural asset for the community. If successful, this will add value to Inverclyde Council's existing £1m bid to restore the building.

Web: www.rigarts.org

“Over the past 20 years, the SURF Awards process has provided a stream of highly valuable insights into what works in community regeneration. We make good use of that learning as we engage with influential practitioners and decision-makers to inform better regeneration policy and practice.”



Derek Rankine
Policy Manager, SURF



As Scotland’s regeneration forum, 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 is a registered charity founded in 1992. It is directed by a Board of 16 Trustees 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.surf.scot



“I am delighted to be involved with the annual SURF Awards for the first time, as it celebrates its 20th anniversary. The shortlisted applications are an inspiration and testament to what is possible when communities are empowered and proactive in shaping their own futures. The SURF Awards remain an outstanding platform for identifying and showcasing successful community regeneration across Scotland.”



Aileen Campbell MSP
Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary
for Local Government and Communities



Place Principle

We recognise that:

Place is where people, location and resources combine to create a sense of identity and purpose, and is at the heart of addressing the needs and realising the full potential of communities. Places are shaped by the way resources, services and assets are directed and used by the people who live in and invest in them.

A more joined-up, collaborative, and participative approach to services, land and buildings, across all sectors within a place, enables better outcomes for everyone and increased opportunities for people and communities to shape their own lives.

The principle requests that:

All those responsible for providing services and looking after assets in a place need to work and plan together, and with local communities, to improve the lives of people, support inclusive growth and create more successful places.

We commit to taking:

A collaborative, place-based approach with a shared purpose to support a clear way forward for all services, assets and investments which will maximise the impact of their combined resources.

Place-Based Approaches

The Scottish Government is promoting the adoption and delivery of the Place Principle (left). The Place Principle encourages better collaboration, use of resources, and community participation at a local level and more widely across public services. It is intended to provide a collective focus to support inclusive economic growth and create places which are successful and sustainable.

Scotland's Town's Partnership and the Corra Foundation, supported by the Scottish Government, SURF and a range of cross-sector partners, held a Place Leadership Summit in November 2018. This event was an opportunity to galvanise commitment to the Place Principle and collective leadership for place-based work in Scotland as a means of achieving inclusive growth and regeneration. The summit brought together leaders from national, regional, and local levels to consider what needs to happen to make sure place based approaches accelerate inclusive and sustainable economic growth with community engagement, involvement and accountability at its core.

Through local place-based planning and decision-making, and the creation and development of local assets, services and projects, communities can achieve extraordinary results. A place-based approach helps ensure cross-cutting work happens - where people, location and resources combine to create a sense of identity and purpose, and is at the heart of addressing needs and realising the full potential of communities.

This requires the discipline of a more joined-up, collaborative approach to services, land and buildings, improving cross-government working, improving collaboration between communities and the public, private and third sectors, and maximising the impact of combined resources and energy.

Focusing on place is not new in Scotland, but our aim is to ensure that widespread adoption and delivery of the Place Principle will strengthen and embed place-based approaches and collaboration in everything we do.



SURF Awards Learning Workshops

With support from the Scottish Government, SURF will be arranging workshop events in May 2019 to explore transferable lessons from the success of the five winning SURF Awards projects.

To receive information on these free and informal learning exchange events, please sign up for our mailing list at the following link or contact the SURF events team on 0141 440 6392.

www.surf.scot/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 11 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.

