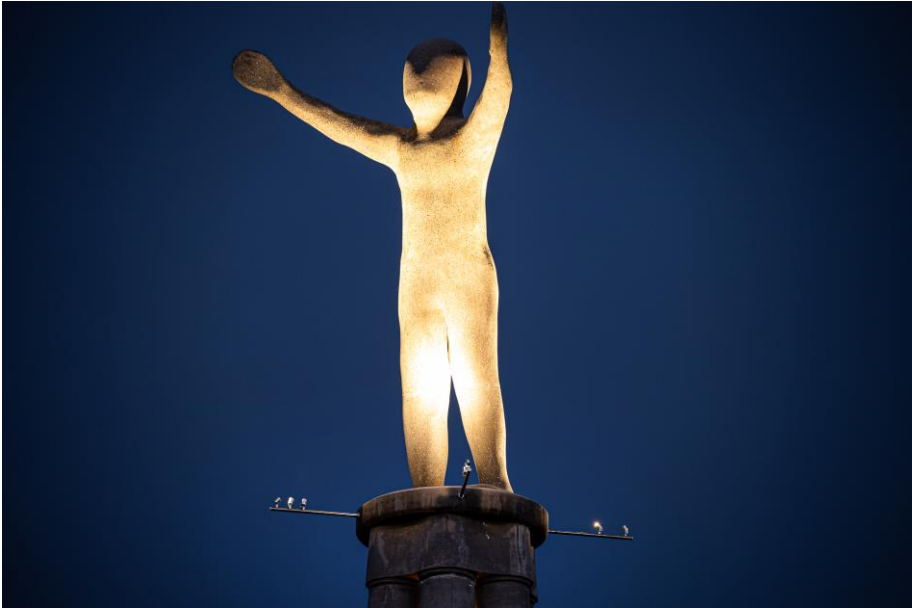


urban
union





SURF Award Shared Learning Workshop May 22

Urban Union – Best Practice



Neil McKay

Managing Director – Urban Union

A Chartered Quantity Surveyor with over 30 years experience in the industry, predominantly as a contractor, Neil has a track record of delivery of major building and civil engineering projects, both in the UK and Middle East.

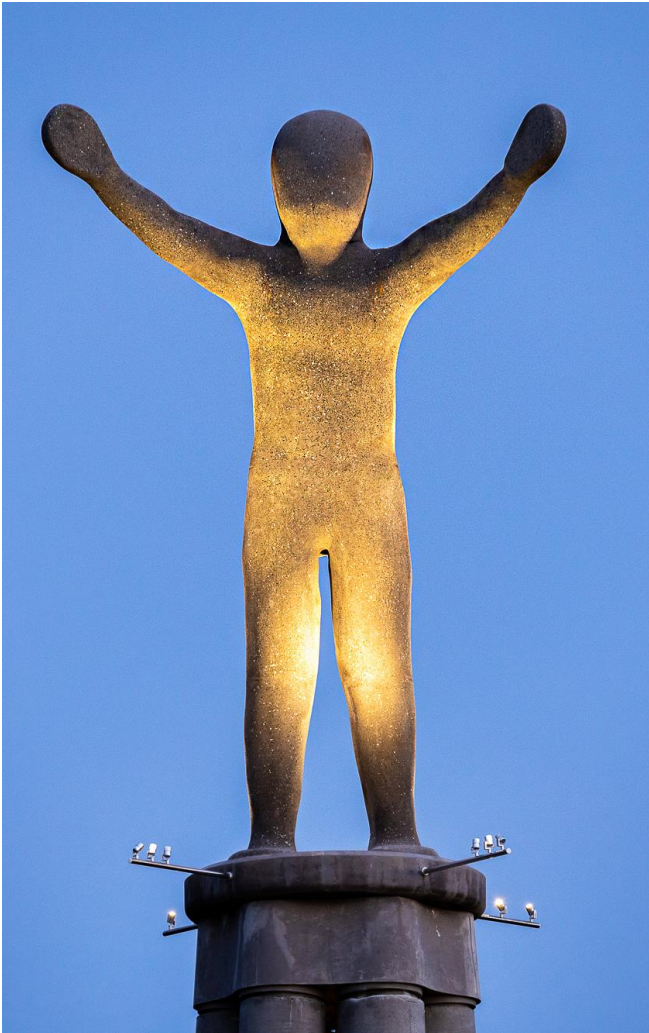
Neil leads Urban Union as the company continues to grow and deliver large-scale regeneration projects across Scotland.



About Urban Union

Urban Union is wholly owned Robertson company established to regenerate primarily urban areas across Scotland. Founded in 2011, we create revitalised communities through building new, high quality, affordable homes in mixed tenure developments.

To date Urban Union has delivered nearly 700 new homes for Registered Social Landlords, including social, midmarket rent and shared equity properties, together with a further 500 private for sale properties across 4 sites in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Perth. 300 units are currently under construction, with 1,300 planned for future phases of our existing projects and the newly secured Hamiltonhill and Greendykes developments. A total development value well in excess of £400m.



Beacon of Hope

This engaging public art installation by Steuart Padwick, is a 23m high sculpture at the beautiful woodland park of Cuningar Loop, part of Clyde Gateway, Scotland's biggest and most ambitious regeneration programme.

The monumental Hope Sculpture's towering, elegant columns take their form from the brick chimney stalks that once littered the East End of Glasgow. It is made from an innovative new low carbon 100% cement free concrete incorporating locally sourced aggregates and recycled crushed glass in the child.

Relevance

- **At the heart of Clyde Gateway**
- **A showcase for sustainability and the transition to a carbon net zero future**
- **Demonstrates Best Practice in project collaboration and delivery**
- **Highlights the role we can play in the Global Climate Change**
- **Involved extensive Community Engagement at all levels**
- **Provided an insight into the career opportunity across the construction sector**
- **Links the built environment to mental well being**



COP26 House

This is a zero carbon, timber framed home, made using standard materials and skills already available to us.

The COP26 house was developed by a collaboration of more than 20 companies collectively known as Beyond Zero Homes.

The goal was to go beyond zero carbon and demonstrate that beautiful, affordable, healthy and comfortable homes can be delivered with minimal impact on the environment.

Why?

- Carbon impact of residential building is enormous at 27% of all emissions
- To meet demand we need 25,000 new homes in Scotland per annum
- The average home emits 120 tonnes each year (3M additional tonnes per year)
- Homes need to last longer, be made from ecologically responsible material and be re-used or recycled.



Outcomes

- We looked at the design in terms of carbon and environmental impact
- Once examined the design was adapted, put back together and measured against RIBA Climate Challenge Targets
- Embodied carbon achieved was 490 kgCO₂e/m², 22% lower than the RIBA 2030 Target a saving of 8 tonnes
- The Home actually stores more carbon that it embodies and was used during construction achieving a negative carbon score of 21 tonnes
- Achieved by maximizing the use of timber based products – Scottish Grown
- Designed for deconstruction and reuse
- Delivered for COP26 in 10 weeks (2 off site, 8 week on)
- <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=RopYvTDJBAA>

Summary

- Both projects very different but relevant to Urban Union and the wider Robertson Group
- Delivered as well as the “day job”, on a Pro-bono basis and both highly collaborative
- Demonstrate what can be achieved right now with the correct approach
- Provide a challenge to our thinking and accepted industry norms
- Home grown and locally sourced are the key messages, particularly against the current economic landscape

