

SURF^{25★} AWARDS 2023

Awards



SURF : sharing experience : shaping practice : celebrating success

The SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration 2023



The 2023 SURF Awards is delivered in partnership with the Scottish Government, and with additional support from Architecture & Design Scotland, Creative Scotland, Highland and Islands Enterprise, Institute of Employability Professionals Ltd, Scotland's Towns Partnership, and Scottish Procurement Alliance.

“SURF has been proud to host the Awards for 25 years. During that time, the world has undergone some significant changes, but against that background of change, one of the constants has been the high standard provided by all of those who entered our Awards. This year’s entries continue to demonstrate that high level of dedication to improving our communities, echoing the same high level we have seen over the past 25 years. Here’s to the next 25.”



Brian MacDonald
Chair, SURF

SURF 25 AWARDS 2023

The 25th Anniversary SURF Awards

2023 marks the 25th Anniversary of the SURF Awards, showcasing, promoting and sharing the learning from best practice examples of ‘what works’ within Scotland’s places. Each year the SURF Awards has celebrated some of the most impressive outcomes in tackling physical, social and economic decline in communities throughout the country.

This publication profiles the 15 projects shortlisted in the 2023 SURF Awards. Projects range in scale, activity and geography, from smaller scale community activity in Govan to arts festivals and programmes in Edinburgh and Greenock, and larger scale investments in Orkney. We hope all 15 will inspire those working in regeneration projects throughout Scotland, and provide opportunities for learning.

25 Years of Best Practice

2023 marks 25 years of showcasing best practice and showing what Scotland’s communities can do – and they do it well. It also highlights what else they could achieve with further resource and support.

Throughout this 25 year period, the Awards have reflected key themes of the Scottish regeneration landscape, and celebrated projects addressing the social, economic and environmental challenges of their time. The SURF Awards truly reflect and celebrate the best of community regeneration, whether that be through place-based investment, creative arts programmes, providing jobs or training opportunities or wholly volunteer led activity, each initiative has changed the lives of the people involved.

SURF were delighted to mark the 25th Anniversary year with a record number of 96 applications, showcasing the remarkable efforts of communities and organisations throughout Scotland to improve lives and outcomes for both people and place.

SURF thanks all of the applicants, over the past 25 years, who took time to share their story, and whose work continues to inspire communities throughout Scotland, and beyond, to strive for what often seems unachievable, and to provide positive change in Scotland’s communities.

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:

- **Removing Barriers to Employability**
- **Housing and Regeneration**
- **Community Led Regeneration**
- **Creative Regeneration**
- **Improving Scotland’s Places**

This year, our 15-member panel of expert judges independently considered 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 ABZWorks Employability Support (see p6), Goathill Housing and Care Home Project (p8), Govan HELP – The Govan Pantry (p10), Wild Skies Shetland (p12) and Vibrant Gala Project (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 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, Institute of Employability Professionals, Scotland’s Towns Partnership, and Scottish Procurement Alliance.

SURF could not operate as Scotland’s Regeneration Forum without the active support, knowledge and experience of our 300+ member organisations: especially our seven 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 2024 events featuring the winning projects and the outcomes of past processes, please visit: www.surf.scot/surf-awards

Results

Contents & Category Results

Removing Barriers to Employability

Purpose: to recognise a project that supports community regeneration by providing skills and employability support to help people fulfil their potential. This category is supported by Institute of Employability Professionals.

Winner: **ABZWorks Employability Support** – page 6

Also shortlisted: All In Dundee and Topgolf Recruitment – page 7



Housing and Regeneration

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 wider regeneration. This category is supported by Scottish Procurement Alliance.

Winner: **Goathill Housing and Care Home Project** – page 8

Also shortlisted: Glentool Community-led Housing & Regeneration and City of Edinburgh Council Mixed Tenure Improvement Scheme – page 9



Community Led Regeneration

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

Winner: **Govan HELP – The Govan Pantry** – page 10

Also shortlisted: Gairloch and Loch Ewe Action Forum (GALE) and Kerrera North-South Road Project – page 11

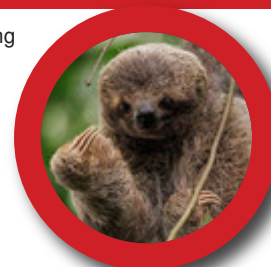


Creative Regeneration

Purpose: to reward best practice in placing artists, arts and creativity at the heart of community regeneration efforts. This includes highlighting creative organisations and projects which support the ongoing recovery and rebuilding of their communities. This category is supported by Creative Scotland.

Winner: **Wild Skies Shetland** – page 12

Also shortlisted: Deaf Action: Inclusion & accessibility to the arts and The Beacon Arts Centre, Creative Minds - page 13

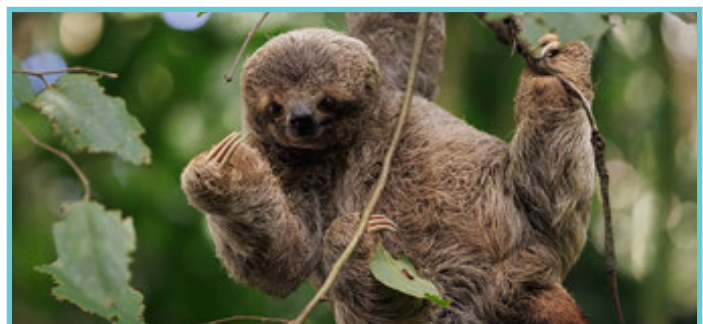


Improving Scotland's Places

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: **Vibrant Gala Project** – page 14

Also shortlisted: Shapinsay and Rockfield Community Hub – page 15



"Sloths are known for their slow and steady pace. Similarly, the most effective regeneration initiatives don't happen overnight. They take time to embed in communities and to build trust, in order to have lasting outcomes."

SURF ²⁵★ AWARDS 2023

Recognising good practice across the country

Wild Skies Shetland

Shapinsay

Goathill Housing and
Care Home Project

Gairloch and Loch Ewe
Action Forum (GALE)

ABZWorks
Employability Support

Kerrera North-South Road Project

Rockfield
Community Hub

All In Dundee

Govan HELP –
The Govan Pantry

Deaf Action: Inclusion &
accessibility to the arts

The Beacon Arts Centre,
Creative Minds

City of Edinburgh
Council Mixed Tenure
Improvement Scheme

Glentrool Community-led
Housing & Regeneration

Topgolf
Recruitment

Vibrant Gala Project

“The 25th year of the SURF Awards continues to highlight the work of people and communities to sustain their places and help make people’s lives better. While the challenges facing communities across Scotland remain considerable, the shortlisted projects all show how placing communities at the heart of projects, and responding to their needs, make brilliant things happen. Many congratulations to the shortlisted projects, and to SURF for 25 years of the SURF Awards, and the vital role they play in championing community regeneration.”



Karen Dick
Head of Place, Partnerships and
Communities, Creative Scotland

Independent judging panel – and the projects they assessed

The 2023 SURF Awards were independently judged by a panel of 15 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.

Removing Barriers to Employability

Garry Walker (The Larder)
Stephen Frew (Scottish Enterprise)
Blyth Deans (Third Sector Employability Forum)

Housing and Regeneration

Lisa Bullen (Scottish Government)
Heather MacNaughton (Historic Environment Scotland)
Lesley Anderson (Scottish Procurement Alliance)

Community Led Regeneration

Maggie Broadley (CoCreate)
Aneel Singh-Bhopal (West of Scotland Regional Equality Council)
Murray Allan (Highlands & Islands Enterprise)

Creative Regeneration

Karen Dick (Creative Scotland)
Rachael Disbury (Alchemy Film & Arts)
Neil Ritch (The National Lottery Community Fund Scotland)

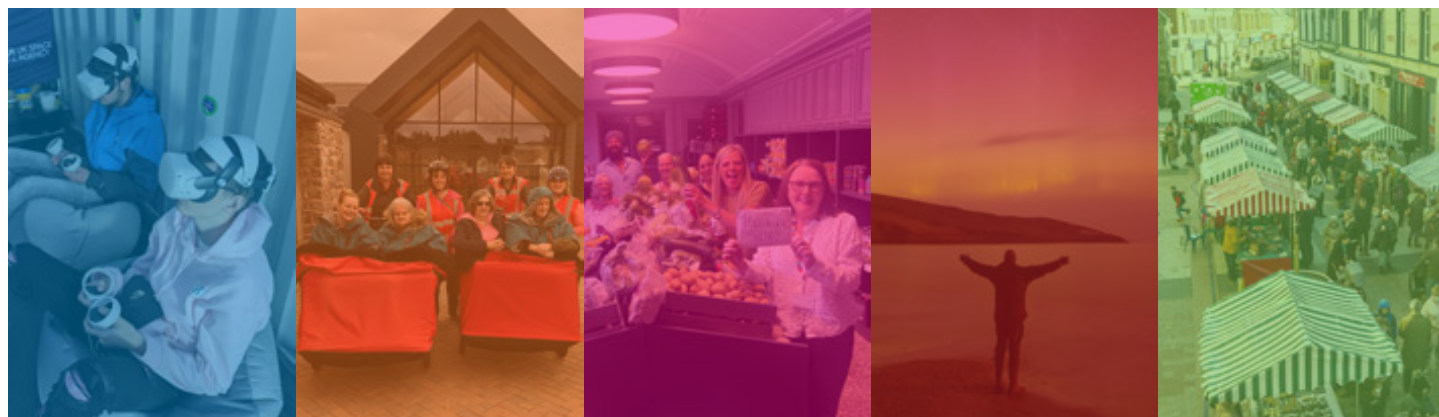
Improving Scotland's Places

Mhairi Donaghy (Scotland's Towns Partnership)
Kirsty Macari (Architecture & Design Scotland)
Harry Brickell (Scottish Government)

Regeneration initiatives from across Scotland were nominated for the 2023 SURF Awards, highlighting the wide range of interventions that are addressing social and economic problems in communities throughout Scotland.

From Dumfries and Galloway to Shetland, 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.

Whilst 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.



Removing Barriers to Employability

Winner

SURF²⁵ AWARDS 2023

ABZWorks Employability Support

What is the aim of the project?

To provide an employability support service for care experienced young people.



Where is it taking place?

The programme is taking place in Aberdeen.

What has been achieved?

Many care experienced young people face considerable barriers to employment and the majority will need additional support and mentoring to help them achieve and sustain employment. Events in their past prevent them from accessing certain jobs or put them at a disadvantage.

Aberdeen City Council's Employability Team decided to focus on this group of young people in the city to ensure there was employability support to

addresses the specific barriers to employment they face. Various interventions and specific training



courses have been developed, including an employability pilot project designed by care experienced young people (CEYP) for CEYP, a work experience internship for CEYP with placements at Aberdeen City Council, intensive employability support for CEYP delivered through a third sector partner, and a guaranteed interview scheme at the council for CEYP meeting minimum job specification criteria.

ABZWorks uses a person-centred approach and actively encourages

user voice. The CEYP Pilot consisted of a 9-week programme of 'traditional' employability support, such as CV development, interview skills and mock interviews, alongside other elements including first aid training, work experience, and an on-site introduction to various jobs at a local health centre. Young people were consulted throughout the project and it was adapted accordingly.

The CEYP internship programme is delivered in-house, meaning the team can wrap support around every participant, including from their line manager, HR, employability keyworkers, and social workers. Additional support, including funding for work clothes and lunches, was also given to each young person. They were paid the Real Living Wage and placements were designed with incrementally increasing hours, from 16 hours per week initially to 30 hours per week by week 12, but this was flexible based on individual needs. Everyone supported by ABZWorks has an employability keyworker to help them progress at their own pace, recognising an individual's barriers and experiences, and working together to overcome them.



Who is running it?

Delivered by Aberdeen City Council's Employability Team.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were very impressed with the approach taken by Aberdeen Council and their partners to support CEYP, where the flexibility and support they have in place to remove barriers is brilliant. Not only do the CEYP benefit from the Council's paid internship programme, that can lead to the young person progressing to a Modern Apprenticeship, but also through their third sector partner's programmes, where they have established very effective links with all the local care establishments, to assist with their recruitment. During the judges visit it was clear that all of the partners had a real passion and commitment to ensuring that their CEYP were supported to reach their full potential, and the young people present on the day were able to confirm the value of the support they were receiving, and the effect it had on them.

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://abzworks.co.uk/>

Contact: Angela Taylor, Employability Lead,
Aberdeen City Council: angtaylor@aberdeencity.gov.uk



Shortlisted

All In Dundee

What is the aim of the project?

To promote ease of access and a single point of entry for clients, helping to simplify the employability landscape.

Where is it taking place?

In some of the most deprived areas of Dundee.

What has been achieved?

The programme declutters employability services for the people looking to access support by bringing services together to work under one service. This allows service users to access support from several specialist organisations without having to engage with them separately, and promotes the 'tell your story once' approach.

The All In Dundee service provides support to individuals aged 16 – 67, who have a range of complex barriers to employment, including those who are care experienced, have health conditions and/or disabilities, convictions, and substance misuse issues. The service supports more than 1000 participants each year, using a community based approach to ensure that the team reach as many people as possible.

The provision offered varies, blending outreach and centred support with programme structure, offering a range of options that include needs-led 1-2-1 support and sector-based academies in key growth areas for Dundee, as well as access to vocational training and qualifications. The wide range of options available to participants mean that the team can remain true to the "no wrong door" ethos and ensure that the right provision is available to meet the identified needs of the people supported.

Who is running it?

Led by Enable Works, a consortium that brings together eight third sector employability providers.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges felt that All in Dundee is an exceptional partnership model that brings together a wide range of Third Sector partners that all now work together in collaboration and not in competition. The judges were impressed with the range of support on offer, and the diversity of the participant groups involved in the four services that the consortium provides under the All In Dundee branding. It was evident that the local authority's funding model and the use of a shared information system was contributing to the successes being achieved in Dundee. This is really No One Left behind in action.



Topgolf Recruitment

What is the aim of the project?

To support people into employment and increase local job opportunities.

Where is it taking place?

Based in Rutherglen and recruiting across the Clyde Gateway area.

What has been achieved?

The opening of Topgolf, a global sports and entertainment company, created over 300 new jobs. Vacancies were a mix of full and part-time positions, and included front of house, maintenance, kitchen and bar staff.

A partnership was formed between Clyde Gateway, Skills Development Scotland, Routes to Work South, Job Centre Plus and South Lanarkshire Council to support the business with recruitment and training requirements. A formal offer of support was accepted by Topgolf, with each partner taking a lead role in their area of expertise to maximise opportunities for Clyde Gateway residents.

Originally, the focus for volume recruitment was through a series of workshops led by the employer. After discussion with Clyde Gateway and partners, the employer agreed that in addition they would co-host sessions in community venues for various groups, such as school leavers, parent returners and career changers. This gave Clyde Gateway and partners the best opportunity to prepare local residents for the jobs in advance. The partnership engaged with over 100 people who were registered unemployed and faced barriers to employment.

Topgolf opened in December 2022 with approximately 78% of employees living locally to the premises. The partnership will continue to support with ongoing recruitment, access to apprenticeships and upskilling.

Who is running it?

Clyde Gateway and developer Ashfield Land worked together to bring Topgolf to Rutherglen.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges felt that the Topgolf/Clyde Gateway initiative was a brilliant example of a partnership coming together to respond to the recruitment needs of a large employer moving into an area. It was clear from discussions with the employer, and partners, that there was a strong commitment to ensure that local unemployed residents were given the opportunity to secure employment, through a programme of pre-recruitment training and support. It was particularly pleasing that the partners managed to convince the employer not to offer new staff zero hour contracts, resulting in a significant number of local people securing quality jobs, and achieving a very high retention rate.



Where can I find out more?

Contact: Gemma Falconer, Operations Manager,
Enable Works: 07922 385431
gemma.falconer@enable.org.uk

Where can I find out more?

Contact: Fiona McLean, Project Manager Business and Community
Growth, Clyde Gateway: 07881 358313
fiona.mclean@clydegateway.com

Housing and Regeneration

Winner

SURF²⁵
AWARDS
2023

Goathill Housing and Care Home Project

What is the aim of the project?

To deliver affordable housing, housing with extra care, and a residential care home hub.

Where is it taking place?

In the Goathill area of Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis.

What has been achieved?

The Goathill project was an ambitious initiative to meet the varying needs of the island's population, with particular emphasis on the elderly. The development delivered a 52 bed residential care home, 50 housing with extra care flats at Bremner Court, 58 homes for social rent, and 16 Homes for sale through the shared equity scheme at Sinclair Avenue.

The new 52 bed care home allowed for the closing of an older care home and rehoming of residents to a brand new facility with better equipment. The 50 housing with extra care flats were aimed at two different target groups. 15 flats on the ground floor were aimed at reablement flats for residents with short term high needs, and the



The development delivered a 52 bed residential care home



Research into courtyard geometry ensured the provision of a useable garden and recreation spaces

other 35 flats were aimed at addressing ageing population needs and allowing the residents to live in a communal living space. The 74 affordable homes addressed a high waiting list in Stornoway for social rented homes.

The enabling works for the entire site and the construction of the care home and housing with extra care flats were carried out by McLaughlin & Harvey, whilst the construction of the 74 affordable

homes were carried out by local firm O'Mac Construction. The ongoing maintenance of the buildings, homes and grounds is providing much needed income and employment opportunities to local contractors.

The grounds and the facilities have improved the look of the area. As the Outer Hebrides is very windy, research into courtyard geometry ensured the provision of sheltered, attractive, useable garden and recreation spaces. There is also a larger recreation area to the north of the site, which has been designed to aid in giving the residents green liveable space.

Who is running it?

Developed by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, the Western Isles Health and Social Care Partnership, Western Isles Integrated Joint Board and Hebridean Housing Partnership.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were impressed by the ambition of the project, and the overall enthusiasm, collaboration and partnership approach

to delivery shone through at every level. The project successfully incorporates a range of tenures, including affordable housing and

provision for people with additional care needs, to create a whole new neighbourhood. The judges reflected that the development felt settled and complete, incorporating design features which complemented the existing environment and island style. The wider community benefits achieved through procurement were also evident including shared apprenticeship schemes, improved road infrastructure and additional space for play.

The accommodation for care had been designed based on a firm foundation of research and frontline engagement. The result includes personalised spaces for the delighted residents and much improved working environments for staff, leading to healthier and happier lives and a real positive addition for the wider Islands provision.



The grounds and the facilities have improved the look of the area

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://youtu.be/aJb84bhTlcw>

Contact: John Maciver, Director of Operations, Hebridean Housing Partnership: 0300 123 0773, johnmaciver@hebrideanhousing.co.uk



Shortlisted

City of Edinburgh Council Mixed Tenure Improvement Scheme

What is the aim of the project?

To improve the thermal performance of existing mixed tenure housing.

Where is it taking place?

The pilot project was based in Wester Hailes in Edinburgh.

What has been achieved?

In 2020, the City of Edinburgh Council approved a pilot project to improve building condition of existing blocks in three areas. The pilot brought a new approach to engaging with private owners to obtain their agreement for the Council to take the lead role by using the decision-making process within the Tenements (Scotland) Act 2004. The target was to upgrade 1400 flats in 181 blocks over 3 years in a £30m programme.



The pilot area had previously received little investment and the condition of the blocks was poor. The Council designed best value technical solutions for different block archetypes to achieve improved thermal performance to meet statutory obligations for Housing Standards. This approach means owners avoid unintended consequences created by elemental improvements, and thereby removes the risk of dampness inside flats. All owners in the block have a joint responsibility for repairs and maintenance to shared parts of the block.

Improved energy efficiency, using a holistic whole house retrofit approach, will reduce residents fuel demand and therefore fuel poverty. The project hopes to instil a sense of pride for residents in a deprived area where joint maintenance was neglected, and existing building condition is poor.

Who is running it?

A new team of ten Council Officers was formed.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were impressed by the scale of the project and positive response by the council to bring together a dedicated, well-resourced and multi-disciplinary team to drive forward comprehensive improvement and energy efficient works. The comprehensive, supportive and positive engagement with tenants, private owners and landlords was evident through the designated case worker approach, working closely with residents and partners to secure the necessary buy-in to finance and commence works. Alongside better energy efficiency, the project's visual impact is also contributing to improved perceptions of Wester Hailes.

Glentool Community-led Housing & Regeneration

What is the aim of the project?

To secure ownership of long-term disused assets and deliver new and improved community facilities and low-energy housing for a rural village.

Where is it taking place?

Glentool is an extremely remote and fragile community located in the heart of the Galloway Forest Park.

What has been achieved?

Following the closure of the school and planned market sale of long-term empty homes, the community feared for its future. Drawing together a range of partners, Glentool and Bargrennan Community Trust (GBCT) identified needs around housing and community space.



South of Scotland Community Housing (SOSCH) undertook a formal Housing Needs and Demand Assessment on behalf of the community. The work demonstrated a demand for family homes and housing for older residents. In particular, from people with connections to the community who were currently resident elsewhere on account of a lack of suitable and available housing. This research also demonstrated a need to consider housing alongside opportunities for employment.

Three homes were secured for community ownership, affordable in perpetuity and allocated at a local level. The homes are retrofitted to low energy standards, thus offering enhanced running costs, more affordable living and a more durable future.

The acquisition and redevelopment of the former primary school, also retrofitted to high standards of energy performance, created a vibrant, flexible and mixed-use community space, providing three local jobs. In addition, a community garden and greenspace was created, with produce available to local residents.

Who is running it?

GBCT worked with a range of partners, including SOSCH and John Gilbert Architects.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were impressed by the enthusiasm and passion of the local community to take positive action to ensure the future of their place. Taking ownership of under used housing together with the former village school as one project achieved synergies. Collaboration with supportive and experienced partners has been effective in helping the community to meet its ambitions. The community facility together with the housing provides opportunities for both community and visitors, providing a new rhythm and sense of place to the village.

Where can I find out more?

Contact: Jackie Timmons, Shared Repairs Senior Manager,
City of Edinburgh Council: 0131 529 6778,
Jackie.Timmons@edinburgh.gov.uk

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://www.glentoolhive.co.uk/>

Contact: Mike Staples, Chief Executive, South of Scotland Community Housing: 07775 957702, mike.sosch@outlook.com

Community Led Regeneration

Winner

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Govan HELP – The Govan Pantry

What is the aim of the project?

To support people who are experiencing food poverty.

Where is it taking place?

In the local communities in and around the Govan area of Glasgow.

What has been achieved?

The Govan Pantry is the Govan Home and Education Link Project's (Govan HELP) most recent development and started initially as a foodbank in

response to the pandemic. The pantry is a community subsidised shop, that offers members from the local community the chance to purchase up to ten items of food and hygiene products for a weekly membership fee of £3.

The project aims to support people, helping to make limited budgets go further, and to alleviate the impact of being unable to afford basic essential items. Since launching the project, 2834 members have registered to use the pantry from the G51 area of the city. This represents more than 10% of the population of Govan, and is indicative of the scale of food poverty within this community. The integration of this service within Govan HELP's wider range of family support services has been critical in ensuring that the project reaches those in the community who are most in need.

Govan HELP have also developed the project to have a training and volunteering focus, and to provide access to opportunities for local parents who would like to learn new skills and gain experience. The internal Pantry Training Programme was designed to provide an overview of the pantry operations, alongside providing skills in customer service, values and attitudes, and confidentiality. This service is now delivered three times per year, supporting 24 parents to access training and volunteering. In addition, the team have been able to provide access to a range of external accredited qualifications, with 30 volunteers having completed the training to date, gaining valuable and transferable qualifications to support their own employability journey.

The Govan Pantry has become a vehicle to bring people from the local community together, helping to reduce social isolation and

2834 members have registered to use the pantry from the G51 area



loneliness, and as a result has become a real hub within the community.

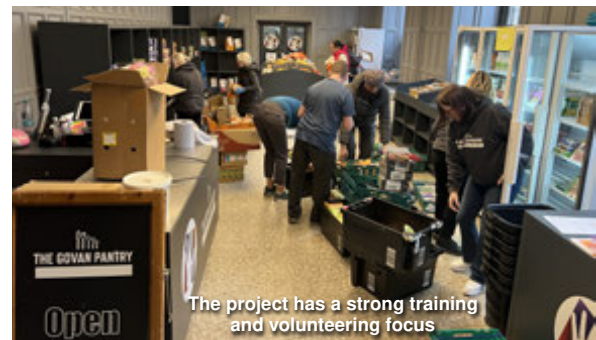
Who is running it?

Govan HELP is a support charity providing a range of services that assist children and families from the local area.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judging panel were impressed by the high levels of involvement with the local community at every stage of the development of the project and that it has constantly responded to local needs. The team liked that it has evolved into more than just a community subsidised shop to become an inclusive service providing access to a wider range of support services. This has allowed the project team to identify and address multiple challenges for residents, many of whom would not have sought support through traditional means.

Volunteers are an integral part of the process of shaping the service it now provides. In many cases service users who have become volunteers have been supported through the project's training programme to help them back into meaningful employment. The judges felt that the project was a catalyst for bringing the Govan community together.



The project has a strong training and volunteering focus

Where can I find out more?

Website: www.govanhelp.org

Contact: Viv Sawers, Chief Officer, Govan HELP: 0141 4456481, Viv.sawers@govanhelp.org



Shortlisted

Gairloch and Loch Ewe Action Forum (GALE)

What is the aim of the project?

To create a community hub and help people of all abilities to live, work and thrive.

Where is it taking place?

Covering the areas of Gairloch and Loch Ewe in Wester Ross.

What has been achieved?

Gairloch and Loch Ewe

Action Forum (GALE) empower local people to collectively own and control local assets and services, and take an active role in local decisions that affect them. GALE are working to strengthen the fragile local economy by reducing seasonality, maximising the local benefits of tourism, creating employment and income generating opportunities, and increasing the availability and variety of year-round services available to local people.

The purpose-built community hub, The GALE Centre, consists of an independent tourist information centre, a community café supporting 20 local bakers and a retail space showcasing, promoting and selling work from over 50 local art and craft producers. The Centre is open 364 days a year, which is particularly important to the community during the winter months, when the majority of local hospitality venues close.

Between January and March 2023, GALE provided a Warm Bank and 'pay what you can' café to support local people during the cost of living crisis. In that time, the project provided 177 meals to local people. The Forum creates opportunities for people of all abilities to engage in community activities, combating loneliness and isolation, improving skills and employability and increasing social cohesion and local democracy.

Who is running it?

GALE is a community owned and managed Development Trust and sustainable social enterprise.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges saw this as an outstanding example of a project which has been developed and delivered by the community for the community. It has empowered local people to own and control local assets important to the area's economy and take an active role in local decision making. The judges liked that the purpose-built facility creates and sustains employment for a large number of local people throughout the year in an economy which is impacted by seasonality, whilst providing access to additional support services. It was evident that the project plays a pivotal role in improving social cohesion for the area.

Kerrera North-South Road Project

What is the aim of the project?

To deliver a lifeline road, connecting a remote island community.

Where is it taking place?

Kerrera is a rugged gem, lying off the coast of Oban in the west of Scotland.

What has been achieved?

Until the successful delivery of the North South Road project, Kerrera was an island of two halves. With no connecting road between the north and south, the communities had to split their assets and population.



Despite its proximity to the mainland, Kerrera is in the 1% most deprived areas (SIMD) in terms of access to services in Scotland. There are no public facilities on the island beyond the Council's refuse collection service and the Calmac ferries. It was clear for long-term economic viability, island resilience and community cohesion, a connecting road was needed.

After many years of persistence and many volunteer hours, the Isle of Kerrera Development Trust (IKDT) successfully delivered the project. Resulting in the whole community having unfettered access to the main lifeline ferry service. For southern residents, the road allows access to excellent marina facilities and the option of keeping their own boat in the water, important as the ferry stops at 6pm. Island resilience has improved, with access for all residents in the case of an emergency. The Marina is now the main employer on the island with over eight jobs taken by local residents, who can now safely cycle, walk or drive to work.

Who is running it?

Throughout the project, the Board of the IKDT was made up of eight or nine volunteer directors, all of whom were island residents.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were very impressed by the drive and enthusiasm shown by the community of the island in making this project happen. It was remarkable that that the community had come together, not just to address the need for this project over many years but had ultimately delivered this crucial infrastructure project by themselves. It was recognised that the creation of the road joining the two divided communities in the north and south of the island has already enabled the island to function as one larger community. This will be critical to the future success of the island's economy.

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://galeactionforum.co.uk/>

Contact: Janet Miles, Managing Director, Gairloch and Loch Ewe Action Forum (GALE): 01445 712071, janet@galeteam.co.uk

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://youtu.be/9lowiHDQ6Uc?si=U7QYubhEvhcU-8zJ>

Contact: Martin Shields, Project Manager for Infrastructure, Isle of Kerrera Development Trust: 07889 217764, martin@isleofkerrera.org

Creative Regeneration

Winner

SURF²⁵ AWARDS 2023

Wild Skies Shetland

What is the aim of the project?

To encourage locals and visitors to appreciate Shetland's ever-changing, beautiful, dramatic skies.



Unst has strong cultural and artistic heritage

Where is it taking place?

On Unst, a remote island off mainland Shetland.

What has been achieved?

Unst is one of the poorer Shetland islands. Its population dropped by 30% in the 2000s when the RAF withdrew. The lack of access to services and arts venues, coupled with the fragile local economy, means that it is important to have exciting, artistic projects on the island that local people can access, and local artists are keen on opportunities to showcase their work on the island.

Wild Skies Shetland (WSS) work with island folk to develop interesting, low-cost or free things for local people to do. This might be walking the Planetary Trail, with its amazing views and work by local artists; making and setting up solargraphic cameras with a



The Sky Trail provides economic benefits for the island

professional artist; working on a film together; or gathering to play local tunes for the Sky Trail's "musical benches". Unst has strong cultural and artistic heritage, and Wild Skies' activities provide

an outlet for these. The Sky Trail has 13 sky-related stops. Through

notice boards; QR codes; web-pages with text, illustrations and sound; and talking benches WSS showcase Unst's artistic and cultural life.

WSS activities also benefit visitors. Unst struggles with not being able to retain tourists for more than a few hours, and who spend little or no money when there. The Sky Trail, in particular, encourages people to stay for longer, providing economic benefits for the island.

WSS is proud of its contribution to the local economy and community cohesion. The project has provided employment by recruiting a part-time Social Media Communicator, and created local contract opportunities, for example to build the Sky Trail. The community hostel had a valuable block booking for a school trip, which walked the Planetary Trail. The local Brownies did a star-gazing badge for the first time, inspired by Wild Skies' creations, and a local musician held a concert in an atmospheric new venue, having seen the Sky Trail Stop there.

Who is running it?

Wild Skies Shetland is a volunteer run organisation, with five of the seven WSS trustees living on Unst.



The Sky Trail has 13 sky-related stops

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were impressed by the ambition and drive of WSS to support the sustainability of their community in Unst. The judges recognised that the varied work of the organisation demonstrated strong partnerships and multiple impacts, for the island economy, wellbeing, education and community regeneration. In particular, the project highlighted the value of embedding local language, culture and heritage within creative and community activity. With a focus on the skies and environment and the rooting of activity in their local community, history and culture, there are considerable opportunities for further development. The judges considered that WSS had a truly community-led approach to regeneration, with significant potential for adaptation and growth to respond to future changing community needs.

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://wildskiesshetland.com/>

Contact: Catriona Waddington, Chair, Wild Skies Shetland: 07875 674912, waddingtoncatriona@gmail.com



Shortlisted

Deaf Action: Inclusion & accessibility to the arts

What is the aim of the project?

To improve inclusion and accessibility to the arts, culture and heritage for the deaf community.

Where is it taking place?

The Festival took place in Edinburgh.

What has been achieved?

In pursuit of a commitment to celebrate deaf culture and support improved access to the arts, Deaf Action launched the first Edinburgh Deaf Festival in August 2022, a fully accessible celebration of deaf culture, reaching over 2000 new people.

Comprising a diverse programme, the Festival has facilitated opportunities to showcase deaf creative talent; raise awareness of the creativity inherent in sign language use; and promote inclusive communication strategies. The Festival removes barriers that deaf people usually experience when trying to engage with arts and culture. Simultaneously, non-deaf audience members are transported to a deaf world for an immersive experience.

Together with the local community, Deaf Action have delivered a range of creative activities, making up a year-round programme of work that underpins the Festival. For example: a ceramic tile painting workshop run by a local deaf artist; a programme using Visual Vernacular, a unique form of theatrical performance art comprising poetry formed of expressive movement and mime; visual arts workshops; and a Deaf Rave.

The inaugural Festival was a key launchpad for what is expected to become a permanent programme, with outcomes which have an enduring impact for the deaf community.

Who is running it?

Deaf Action are a proudly deaf-led charity, working for an equal and better future for deaf people since 1835.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges commended Deaf Action and their aims to improve the lives of the deaf community in Scotland with access and inclusion to the arts through the Edinburgh Deaf Festival. The judges were particularly impressed by the multi-pronged and regenerative approach of Deaf Action, through the Festival, to remove barriers, to develop creative work through deaf-led inclusive programming with deaf artists, and to engage strategically with partners to widen opportunities in creative careers for the deaf community. The judges recognised the significant potential for the Festival to influence systemic change in existing cultural festivals, as well as nurturing and developing deaf talent.



The Beacon Arts Centre, Creative Minds

What is the aim of the project?

To provide a space for community groups to showcase their creativity.

Where is it taking place?

The project engaged artists and community groups across Inverclyde.

What has been achieved?

In May 2023, the Beacon Arts Centre hosted a two day Creative Minds: Community Arts Festival.

The Greenock venue became an open space, with community groups taking over to showcase their creativity with workshops, talks, events, demonstrations, exhibitions and more, all free and open to the public.

The festival was the culmination of a five-month project which began with a community consultation. The Beacon's community engagement team reached out to various third sector groups, through conversations and consultations, and collaboratively devised ways in which they could express themselves creatively, and amplify their voice. Participants were then carefully matched with an artist who would work alongside them, either in their location or in The Beacon.

As a result, The Beacon is increasingly being seen as a creative resource within the community of Inverclyde. All the groups who participated have expressed a desire to continue partnership working with The Beacon. An example of the positive 'ripple effect' of Creative Minds happened as a direct result of community groups seeing the creative works of other organisations and feeling inspired and empowered to explore their own lived experience through creativity.

Who is running it?

The Beacon Arts Centre partnered with local community groups to deliver the Festival.

Why did the judging panel like it?

The judges were impressed by The Beacon's approach in viewing their organisation, and the arts centre, as a resource for the wider community in Greenock and Inverclyde. Through the Creative Minds Festival, communities were able to explore approaches to mental health and wellbeing with support from artists. It was clear to the judges that the project delivered many positive and ongoing impacts for individual participants, particularly in the recovery community, and demonstrated the value of culture and creativity to wellbeing and regeneration. The judges also recognised that the project had led to further development of The Beacon, benefitting communities in Inverclyde in future.



Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://edinburghdeaffestival.com/>

Contact: Siobhan Sullivan, Head of Development, Deaf Action:
0131 556 3128, siobhan.sullivan@deafaction.org

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://youtu.be/GGo9ySuynIM>

Contact: Karen Townsend, Creative Producer & Acting Joint Director,
The Beacon Arts Centre: 01475 723723, karent@beaconartscentre.co.uk

Improving Scotland's Places

Winner

SURF²⁵ AWARDS 2023

Vibrant Gala Project

Galashiels, the second largest town in the Scottish Borders, has a population of around 12,600. As a former textiles town, levels of affluence and employment fluctuate, with one area, Langlee, currently classed as one of the most deprived, based on SIMD 2020. In 2014, the town centre was particularly challenged with the number of vacant units at a record high of 18%, declining footfall year on year and in many parts, visually unattractive.

Energise Galashiels Trust (EGT), a community-based organisation, was established in that

year to respond to the continuing decline in the town centre with the aim of creating a more vibrant and welcoming community. EGT has progressed ten years of partnership activity, focusing for the last three years on the Vibrant Gala Project, with support from South of Scotland Enterprise and Scottish Borders Council.



A key aim of the project is to improve the economic performance of the town centre



EGT have also supported the improvement of 35 town centre properties

The key aims of the project are to improve the economic performance of the town centre and enhance community activity and wellbeing. To achieve these aims, EGT has focused on: developing community led projects & events in the town centre; marketing Galashiels and providing digital support to enterprises; progressing the Tapestry Way Feasibility Study and development activity; and contributing to a Futures Forum.

EGT has led the development of the popular "Galashiels Heartlands of the Borders" brand, website, and social media platforms to promote Galashiels to locals and visitors. With 125 local enterprises now listed, the website currently attracts around 1500 visitors each month. The group have supported 12 community events over the last 3-4 years, appealing to diverse interests within the community from sport, leisure, heritage, arts and education. For example, EGT launched a Cycling Without Age Trishaw Chapter, reducing social isolation and improving wellbeing.

EGT have also supported the improvement of 35 town centre properties with funding of £119,000, with priority given to long-term vacant

premises, large vacant units or those negatively impacting the town centre.

This has encouraged new-starts and expanding businesses, creating a more attractive and vibrant town centre with new and additional retail and service offers, as well as local employment.



EGT has led the development of the popular "Galashiels Heartlands of the Borders" brand

The judges were impressed with EGT's dedication to creating a town centre that residents can be proud of, with public art reflecting the heritage of Galashiels and investing in the businesses to create a vibrancy that can continue to be built upon. The team were enthused to see that whilst the Great Tapestry of Scotland has undoubtedly brought many more visitors to the town, the group are focused on creating a place for their residents to utilise and take pride in, and it was impressive to learn about their digital approach and hear how this has helped create a growing sense of community and place.

It's clearly an exciting time for Galashiels with more changes to come, and while challenges remain, the EGT and the Vibrant Gala Project are strongly placed to generously support and complement a growing mosaic of groups making the town an even better place to live.

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://galashielsheartland.org.uk/>

Contact: Angela Crow, Manager, Energise Galashiels Trust:
07835 003348, manager@energisegalashiels.co.uk



Shortlisted

Rockfield Community Hub

The Rockfield Centre, located in the heart of Oban, is a vibrant community hub and cultural catalyst. Housed within the beautifully renovated former Rockfield Primary School building, the project encompasses a diverse array of initiatives that breathe life into the town.



The new cultural hub has transformed the town's physical landscape. The main building now boasts two large halls, an art studio, an art exhibition gallery, and multiple meeting rooms. These spaces have become valuable assets that facilitate a wide range of community events. This transformation has revitalised the town's public spaces, providing accessible venues for various activities and fostering community engagement.

The hub features The Rowan Room Café, a culinary haven that celebrates the essence of Argyll through locally sourced delights, fostering community connections through food and flavours, and the Kids Space, aptly named Àite na Cloinne, offers an interactive area for children and families to explore Oban's heritage through play and discovery, engaging young minds in the cultural history of Oban.

The Heritage and Community Offerings programme, including exhibitions, heritage blethers, workshops, and more, actively engages the community in preserving and celebrating Oban's rich history. Beyond these spaces, The Rockfield Centre is a dynamic platform for arts, culture, wellbeing, and enterprise, offering a wide range of activities and opportunities. Collaborations with third sector organisations and local bodies extend the centre's outreach, enabling staff to enhance community engagement.

As a cornerstone of the Oban community, the project fosters cultural appreciation, economic resilience, and social cohesion, making Oban a more vibrant and connected place for all.

The judges were impressed by the dedication to inclusion from the team at the Rockfield Centre. They have worked hard to bring in schools, businesses, organisations, local groups and many others to make the Centre a home for all corners of the community. It is clear that the building holds a special place in people's memory and there is a strong focus on celebrating its history and heritage, both through the physical restoration of the space, but also through the wide range of activities and events that are delivered. With exciting plans in place for the future, the Rockfield Centre will continue to expand on the outcomes that it delivers for Oban.

Shapinsay

Shapinsay is one of the inner North Isles of Orkney. It is seven miles long and three miles wide, and a 25-minute ferry ride from the mainland. The local community faces challenges, including depopulation, an ageing population, insufficient affordable housing and community facilities, lack of employment opportunities, and high levels of fuel poverty. An island that once boasted a population of 974 is now home to just 330 passionate residents.

Shapinsay Development Trust (SDT) was set up to tackle these issues and improve outcomes for the people of Shapinsay. In 2011, a 900kw community turbine, owned by the Trust, was commissioned to create renewable energy and revenue to benefit the island. This pioneering project was a game-changer for the community.



In 2020, a 5-year development plan was produced. The plan was shaped and owned by the community, which gave a clear mandate to the Trust to deliver. The Trust had plans to purchase and open the only community cafe on the island but knew it would take 18 months to complete. Instead, they used COVID funding to open a community charity shop and pop-up community cafe to ensure the needs of the community were being met. This not only created jobs, but also a surplus, which was distributed to community groups on the island.

SDT has attracted over £1.5m of external funding in the last six years. A high proportion of the funding has been used to secure and create much needed community spaces. The Trust has secured a large plot of land on the outskirts of the village which will involve an enterprise zone, community housing, community tourism, a community garden and growing space, a wellbeing walk, and self-build plots for the youth on the island.

The judges were impressed by Shapinsay Development Trust's response to the challenges shared by many of the remote communities across Scotland, and found a community that has now cemented itself as a place that will continue to thrive for future generations. It was fantastic to see that clear economic benefits of the Trust's work have also been inextricably tied to ensuring that the social and cultural fabric of the community is equally strengthened - a real wellbeing approach to economic development that will continue to deliver benefits for the community for years to come.

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/therockfieldcentre>

Contact: Carol Devine, Chief Executive Officer, The Rockfield Centre:
01631 701921, carol@therockfieldcentre.org.uk

Where can I find out more?

Website: <https://shapinsay.org.uk/>

Contact: David Campbell, Project and Finance Manager, Shapinsay Development Trust: 07522 144273, davie_campbell@btopenworld.com

SURF Awards...

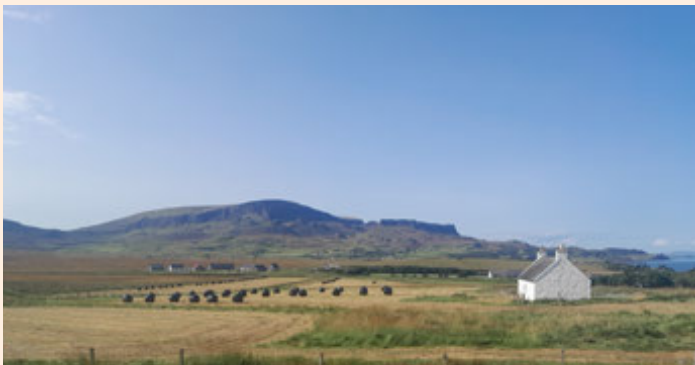
Every year, some of the best regeneration projects in the country get a well-earned boost by receiving a SURF Award. But what happens next? We asked each of the 2022 category winners for an update. Here are their stories.

Housing and Regeneration

Taighean a' Chaiseil

Following the Award success, the very first GP clinic was held by Dr Hannah MacLeod in the new community health centre for the first time last December. Dr MacLeod said on the day: *"Everybody at the practice has been looking forward to getting into the new centre and it was like an early Christmas present coming in. The clinic went well and the fact we are using a purpose-built building was really enjoyable, everything in here is geared towards what we need to do."*

In March, the centre was officially named Tobar na Slàinte (Well of Health) and opened by retired district nurse Isobel MacDonald. She unveiled the plaque watched on by former colleagues, Joan MacPherson and Lesley MacDonald, and NHS Highland chairman Boyd Robertson and Chief Executive Pam Dudek, respectively, plus NHSH staff and community representatives.



Local aquaculture company Organic Sea Harvest is also set to move in to its new business premises within the development later this year, after the internal fit out works are completed. The native tree scheme has blossomed this year, with further planting carried out in the communal residential areas. The development was a white out in March with snow, and then in June with clover and bog cotton on the seeded communal areas and the moorland surrounding, adding to the effect.

Supporting Youth Employability

The Larder

Since we won the Award last year, The Larder has been able to expand its services to other local Council areas, partly due to the exposure we received through being recognised by SURF. Not only are we helping young people but we are now supporting adults and families with the change in the employability landscape with No One Left Behind.

Helping anyone aged 16-67 reach their full potential and work towards a positive destination has been so rewarding for our team. We are delivering a lot more core skills, confidence building, mental health and wellbeing courses to support people within the West Lothian, Falkirk and North and South Lanarkshire areas now.

We are so thankful for this Award and the opportunities to work with SURF this year supporting the judging process. It's a very competitive year with new applicants who in their own rights all do a fantastic job across Scotland.



Scotland's Most Improved Place

Living Alloa

The 60 dementia friendly flats at Primrose Street are fully occupied and were officially opened by Paul McLennan, the Housing Minister in May. The flats and associated streetscape works and public art have transformed the look and feel of this part of Alloa town centre.

Alloa Hub has had a successful first year as Clackmannanshire's first community benefit society, offering health and active travel information, ebike training, business and tourism information, a venue for the Clackmannanshire tapestry, gift shop, meeting space and accessible toilet. The Hub has also been a touchpoint for new residents in Primrose Street seeking to access local services and supports.

What happened next...

In the summer, we hosted a delegation from Stavanger, Norway, seeking to gain insights around use of the Place Standard Tool in Scotland. The visit was planned with the support of Public Health Scotland, A&DS and Scottish Government. We are now embarking on a co-designed masterplan for Alloa town centre.



make our Nursery more multi-purpose. Our NHS room is now providing routine checks and enabling islanders to have vaccines without a ferry trip. Our Wellbeing Hub is becoming a centre for various organisations supporting a variety of needs.

We are progressing a Housing Needs Assessment and a new Community Development Plan, enabling us to engage with more residents and stakeholders than ever before.

Creative Regeneration

Alchemy Film & Arts

Since winning the 2022 SURF Award for Creative Regeneration, Alchemy Film & Arts has concluded 'Viewfinders'. This pilot project supported 13 teachers across all seven Hawick primary schools to digitally upskill and integrate filmmaking into the classroom environment. The curricular change engaged more than 3000 P4-S2 pupils with a basic to intermediate understanding of digital film production.

Community Led Regeneration

Bressay Development Ltd - Speldiburn

We were delighted to win our SURF Award - it has improved our confidence, allowed us to make more connections, and helps in funding applications. We are encouraging islanders to join our new growing projects, and continue to offer other events and workshops.

Visitors to Shetland increasingly seek out our cafe and Good As New Shop, but we continue to cater for our islanders, including those who are more vulnerable and isolated at our weekly Social Afternoon.

Parkrun goes from strength to strength. We have worked hard to



We have also leveraged our SURF success to launch 'Hawick In Common', a major two-year creative programme of activity funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund exploring the histories and cultures of Hawick through the creative lens of film. In spring this year, we delivered the 13th edition of our flagship event, the UK's festival of experimental film, presenting an international and diversity-led programme of cinema screenings, exhibitions and live performances that brought more than £325,000 into Hawick's economy.

“The SURF Awards began 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. 25 years on, the core purpose remains unchanged. This year’s nominees once again showcase the commitment from projects and volunteers across Scotland to make a real difference to their communities, demonstrating the power of collaboration and partnership, and bringing people together to deliver change.”



Emma Scott,
Events, Information and
Communications 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 debates, conferences, place-based initiatives, policy exchanges, research programmes, an annual awards for best practice, responding to policy consultations, and distributing information and publications.

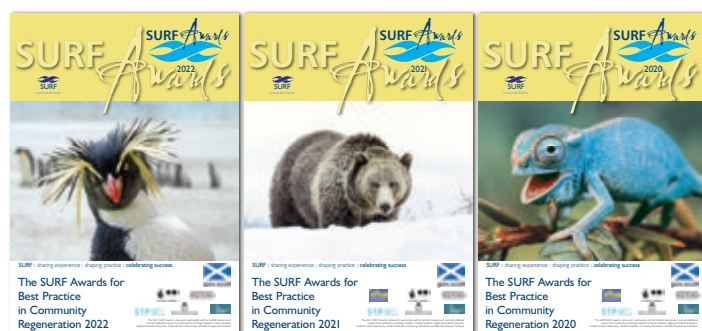
This all provides a truly independent network to explore current practice, experience and knowledge, with which to positively influence the development of more successful regeneration policy and practice.

SURF is a registered charity founded in 1992. It is directed by a Board of seven Trustees drawn from its extensive membership.

We have a database of over 3000 regeneration contacts and a membership of over 300 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



“This year the SURF Awards mark 25 years of recognising good practice and inspiring innovation in community-led regeneration. I am pleased this year also marks the 20th anniversary of the Scottish Government working in partnership with SURF and we are proud to continue this support. There are exciting stories behind all the projects highlighted by the SURF Awards. They demonstrate the transformations possible when we work collaboratively, building on the expertise and knowledge of our communities to help them shape their futures. Taking this moment to understand what works well and celebrate success is important for future regeneration activity across Scotland. I am delighted to be attending my first award ceremony and hearing more about these inspiring projects.”



Joe Fitzpatrick,
Scottish Government
Minister for Local Government
Empowerment and Planning



Place Based Investment Programme – Story so far

The Place Based Investment Programme is well underway in its third year, backed with more than £300 million capital funding over five years (2021 – 2025). It aligns place-based funding initiatives, to support our ambitions for place, community-led regeneration, town centres, 20 minute neighbourhoods and community wealth building.

With support from the Improvement Service, the first evaluation exercise for the programme's direct allocation to local authorities for 2021/22 is now complete and presents a real opportunity to reflect on its progress and impact. In tackling some of our biggest challenges around regeneration, climate change mitigation and improving economic outcomes, projects funded by the programme have demonstrated positive contributions and has been used as a catalyst to lever in additional investment. If we are to continue building on the Place Principle, we must not ignore the critical role that the Place Based Investment Programme has to play.

In collaboration with local partners, we take pride in adopting a place-based approach to support the regeneration of disadvantaged communities and town centres. In the same way that these annual SURF Awards create the opportunity to showcase and influence examples of good community-led regeneration practice, we all need to do our part to share learning with our partners.

Making A Difference on the Ground

As we reflect over the years, these place-based projects have demonstrated great diversity of national outcomes achieved with varying levels of investment.

In 2022/23, over 260 projects across Scotland received place based investment fund grants totalling £33 million. They have ranged from a £3,000 landscaping project undertaken by Bannockburn Community Council to contributing almost £920,000 to Midsteeple Quarter's £7.2 million redevelopment of Dumfries town centre.

The flexible nature of using the programme's funding has been one core strength to the way local needs and priorities can be met, making a real difference on the ground.



SURF Awards Learning Workshops

With support from SURF Awards partners, SURF will be arranging workshop events in 2024 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 to our mailing list via the SURF website at the following link or contact emma@surf.scot

www.surf.scot

Members and Sponsors

SURF is very grateful for all the support it gets from over 300+ member organisations, and in particular from its seven 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.



This publication was compiled and edited by Emma Scott.
A PDF version is available from: www.surf.scot/surf-awards