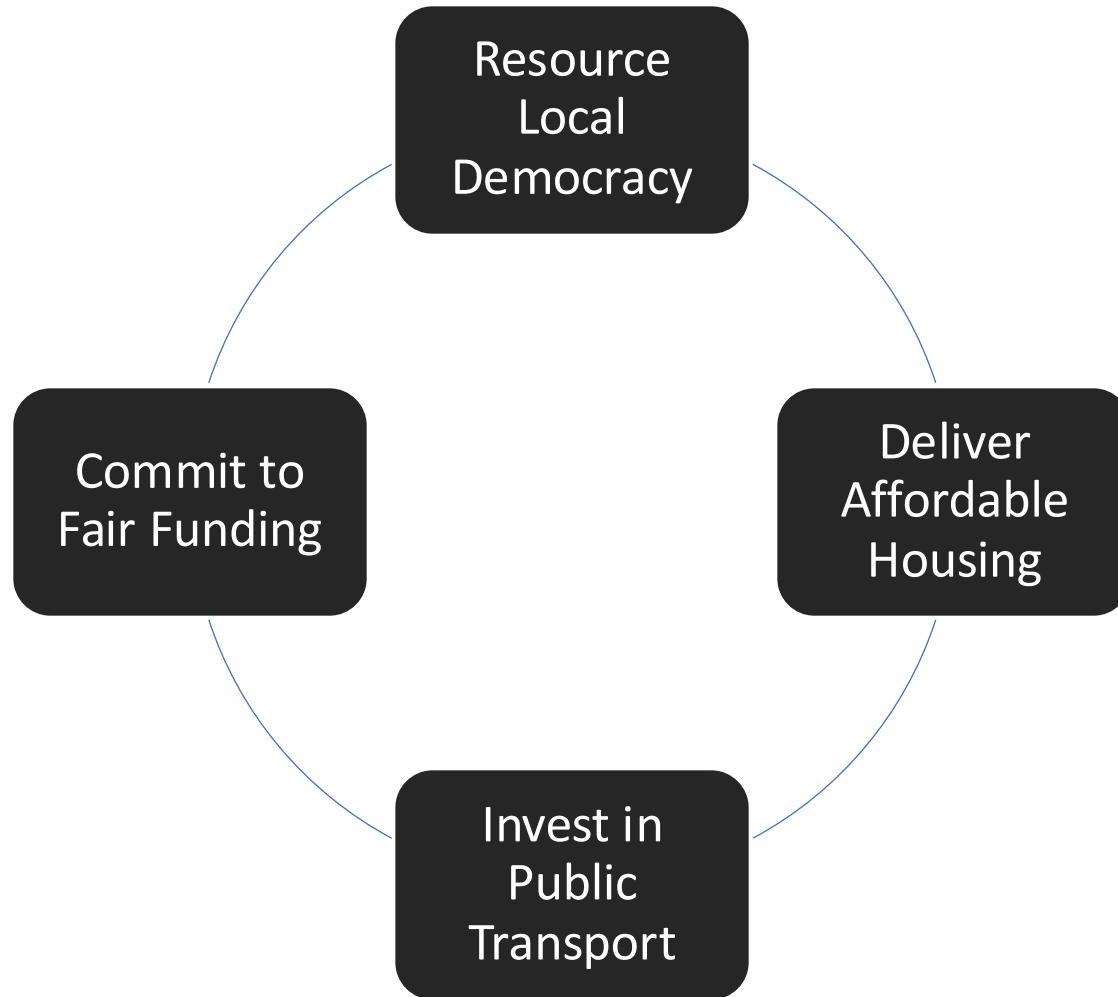




A SURF Manifesto for Regeneration

Empowering People Places & Policy

Four Policy Priorities



Resource Local Democracy

- Local communities must be at the heart of decision-making.
- Devolving power and empowering local democratic institutions.

Priorities:

1. Invest in Community Councils and introduce a Community Action Plan Fund.
2. Mainstream Community Wealth Building, and provide relevant funding to do so.
3. Specific funding for a network of Community Led Development Officers that operate at a local, community level and provide a bridge between communities and local government.

Deliver Affordable Housing

- A secure and affordable home is a fundamental human need, an anchor that enables people and communities to thrive.
- Completions must increase, but how housing assets are used within communities, and which needs are prioritised, is also important.

Priorities:

1. Deliver 15,693 social and affordable homes per year, which requires increasing the AHSP programme budget to at least £8.2 billion over the course of the next parliament (and possibly up to £9.2 billion).
2. Resource and embed the Living Well Locally principle of NPF4 within planning, design, and delivery of all housing. New homes must be connected to growing spaces, public transport, health and education facilities.
3. Empower local communities to introduce a short-term let registrations cap or freeze in their area. This requires new legislation to allow LAs to implement license caps or freezes, which could complement control zones.

Commit to Fair Funding

- Funding must be multi-year, flexible, sustainable, accessible and transparent.

Priorities:

1. 5 year funding models should be the ambition, with a move to long-term, stable core funding.
2. Plan a 10-year, place-based regeneration funding programme for 10 places.
3. Streamline and simplify grant processes and produce a new Scottish Funding Framework with central guidance that all funders operating in Scotland should follow.

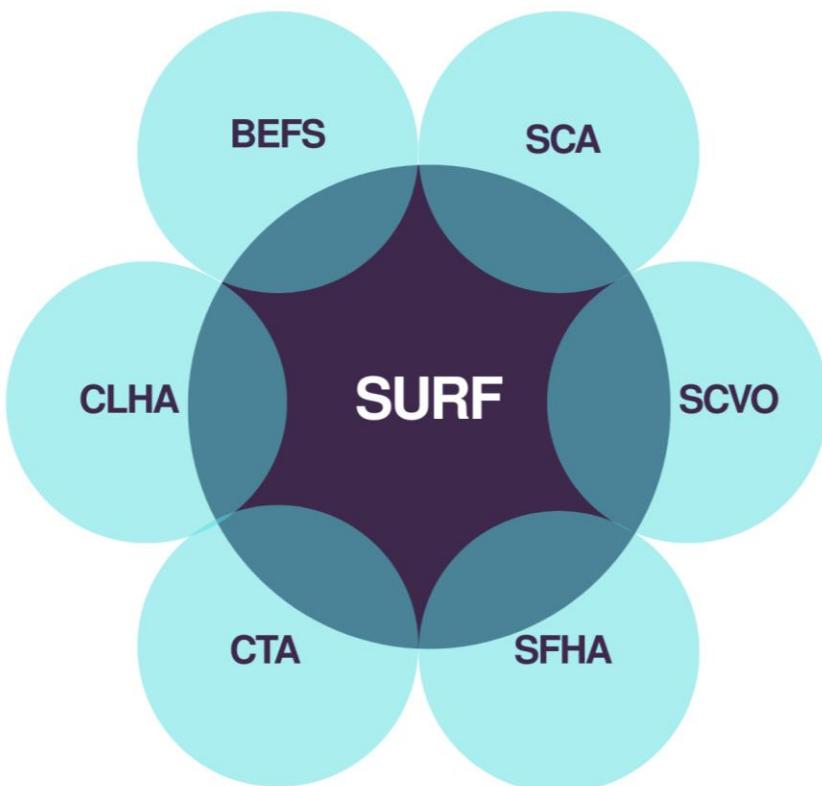
Invest in Public Transport

- Scotland's transport system locks in inequities, forcing the poorest in society to rely on poor, costly, and slow services.
- Those on lower incomes are 18 times more likely to take the bus, which is now less affordable, less reliable, and less frequent.
- Bus journeys account for 74% of all public transport journeys ('23-24).

Priorities:

1. Fund public, not private transport and embed this principle throughout transport policy.
2. Support LAs with ambitions to municipalise buses or explore franchise models.
3. Invest more in bus services, bus infrastructure, and community transport.

Policy Synergies



BEFS – [Built Environment Forum Scotland](#)

CLHA – [Community Led Housing Alliance](#)

CTA – [Community Transport Association](#)

SCA – [Scottish Community Alliance](#)

SCVO – [Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations](#)

SFHA – [Scottish Federation of Housing Associations](#)

SURF