

BEFS

BUILT ENVIRONMENT
FORUM SCOTLAND

ANNUAL REVIEW 2017-2018



Congress: HES Policy review—100% of respondents agreed with the statement:
This event enabled me to actively engage with the future of heritage policy



8 workshops / training events facilitated



26 bulletins - increase of 14% in subscribers
28 blogs contributed



4 Historic Environment Working Group meetings



5 briefing and policy updates



Planning Bill Taskforce —evidence submitted, BEFS Chair presented oral evidence to the Committee



As partners—participated in partner meetings, training facilitation, legacy materials due to launch 2018



MSP engagement—individual meetings across parties. Participation in Cross Party Group on Architecture and the Built Environment, Cross Party Building Maintenance Group Formed with BEFS/RICS as Secretariat



+ 17%



2323 followers

+ 19%

Icons made by Pause08 from www.flaticon.com

Uniting the sector that cares for and promotes Scotland's distinctive built environment for people to use, appreciate and enjoy.

As the strategic intermediary body for Scotland's built environment sector, BEFS draws together extensive expertise and knowledge on Scotland's historic and contemporary environment in a membership-led forum.

Our vision is for a strong built environment sector in Scotland. One that is informed, that can debate issues in a constructive way, that can demonstrate its impact, that can advocate for good outcomes on the ground.

Our role is to support practitioners in addressing, together, the strategic issues and challenges facing Scotland's built environment. We do this by:

INFORMING: by providing information on the latest developments in relevant policy and practice we increase awareness of strategic policy developments.

DEBATING: by creating opportunities to meet, we help practitioners share and develop perspectives on matters affecting their work.

EVALUATING: by building capacity in evaluation and performance measurement we help practitioners demonstrate the benefits of what they do.

ADVOCATING: by building capacity in advocacy and engaging with the Scottish Parliament directly, we help the sector shape legislation and policy priorities in a collaborative way.

www.befs.org.uk



@TheBEFS

BEFS

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Graeme Purves — BEFS brings together diverse organisations with a wide range of disciplines. Our members share a common commitment to safeguarding our rich built heritage and creating places of quality for the future. This year we have promoted discussion and engagement on The Planning (Scotland) Bill, community engagement, tenement maintenance and land value capture.

Tenement Maintenance—this year we've seen real movement, and increased momentum, on this issue. MSP Ben Macpherson instigated a Member's Debate in the Scottish Parliament, prior to which BEFS sent a tailored briefing to all MSPs; interest in the debate from across the political spectrum led to the formation of a cross-party group. The group will examine and make recommendations on this essential nationwide issue. BEFS and RICS were asked to form the Secretariat for this group.



Euan Leitch — BEFS success is completely dependent upon the active involvement of its Members and we are grateful for the time and thought that Members give to our workshops and consultation. This year, their input on the Planning Bill Taskforce, Historic Environment Working Group, Historic Environment Scotland policy review and the many contributions relating to tenement maintenance have been invaluable.

Board Diversity Event—in 2017 BEFS analysed Members' & Associates' Boards. We found only 36% of Board members were female, and only 25% were aged under 50.

In light of the fact that research shows different backgrounds, perspectives and experiences can add considerable value to the strategic decisions made Boards, BEFS invited Jane Ryder (Chair – HES, previously CE - OSCR) Talat Yaqoob (Director – Equate Scotland, Chair - Women 50:50) and Beltus Etchu Ojong (CEO - Next Step Initiative); to explore both how organisations have changed, and how we need to continue to develop.

This event was exceptionally well received and demonstrates the need to explore these issues within the Built Environment.



Community From Asset Transfer, to shared maintenance, via new legislation around Right-to-Buy and BEFS, Barriers to Community Engagement event, it's been a busy time for Community involvement with the Built Environment. The pinnacle of which is the Planning (Scotland) Bill which intends to increase the influence of Communities at the very outset of the planning process. As the proposals move through Parliament we will continue to monitor, respond and react - in the interests of Members and Communities across Scotland.

BEFS Hustings for the 2017 Local Elections attracted 350 attendees across the Edinburgh (in association with Edinburgh World Heritage) and Glasgow (with the New Glasgow Society) events.

