

Historic Environment Working Group (HEWG)

Meeting Note 16th February 2023

Topic: HEWG

Time: 10am – 12pm

Date: 16th February 2023

Venue: [The Crannie, 9 Cranston St, Edinburgh](#)

See BEFS [HEWG page](#) for past papers.

Chair: Ian Baxter, BEFS Vice-Chair

BEFS attendees: Ailsa Macfarlane, Hazel Johnson

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

BEFS welcomes Robbie Toomey – RICS

Apologies:

Andrew Hopetoun	HH
Gordon Barr	AHF
Hazel Benza	LI
Lindsay Lennie	SCHT
Diane Gray	NLHF
Kate Darrah	RIDGE
Simon Gilmour	SoAoS
Christina Sinclair	EWB
David Wood	PAS
DJ Johnston-Smith	SCT
Frankie Toner	NLHF
Gavin MacGregor	AS
James Garry	Cockburn
Joanna Hambly	SCAPE
John Lawson	ALGAO
John McKinney	STBF
Lucy Stewart	SPAB
Niall Murphy	GCHT / BEFS
Sarah Kettles	IHBC / BEFS
Terry Levinthal	Cockburn
Rob Lennox	CIFA
Tyler Lott	BEFS
Bill Pagan	BEFS

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Attendees:

Jocelyn Cunliffe	AHSS
Euan Leitch	SURF
Jane Robertson	EWB
Janine Ballantyne	NTS
Jo Robertson	AHF
Judith Roebuck	CoS
Kevin McClure	The Ridge
Mark Douglas	COG
Robbie Toomey	RICS
Sarah Pearce	HTN
Sue Evans	SCivicT

2. Agree [previous meeting note](#) (available online) – all necessary actions completed, or to be updated on in BEFS Sector updates.

- Note that previous HEWG took place online
- JC Comment – under item 4 Cost of living – Impacts. A correction ‘very’ should read ‘vary’

3. BEFS Sector Updates and Policy Updates

- Many thanks to those who attended the AGM
- BEFS Director and SURF Director have been invited to sit on the CaCHE Housing and Place Forum – conference on NPF4 delivery expected end May
- RSA Conference expected 17th May
- National Parks consultation – saw facilitation from BEFS and statement submitted
- **NPF4** – passed and is, as of 13th of February the live Planning Framework and Policy for Scotland.

Continued updates on documentation will be released through BEFS Bulletin

- **Tenement Maintenance** – Next meeting 28th February. Focus will be on secondary legislation potential.

Final release of Diffley Report on Building Reserve Funds for Tenements – disappointing in scope and recommendations, does not answer the questions as set by SG – but does reiterate the work done, and find some excellent qualitative research. BEFS notes that delays in publication means that the researchers are now well past the contract period, which inhibits the ability to come and discuss the findings in any more detail.

- **Heat and Buildings**, the Programme for Government laid down a commitment to consult prior to a Heat in Buildings Bill.

Expect the consultation in the first half of 2023, and the Bill to be introduced thereafter, before energy efficiency and heating system regulations begin to take effect from 2025. This will build on and progress the direction of travel already set out in the Heat in Buildings Strategy.

[Heat in Buildings Strategy - achieving net zero emissions in Scotland's buildings - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

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Sitting with this work - **Public Engagement Team** meeting has taken place. Important issues for the group, re fabric first, maintenance, prepare and adapt and then appropriate interventions

- **Data** – report due to be launched by DHI and BEFS from Andy Wightman. Event March 8th.
- POWF – workshop with communities planned, guidance due to be released by DTAS soon. SCT received HES support for work on church recording.
- COG – CPD session from HES on records and resources took place in January.
- **New Historic Environment Grants programme launches on the 15th March 2023**
[Click here](#) to sign up to an hour-long online session to find out more. In these sessions, the Historic Environment Scotland Grants Team will explain what's new about the Historic Environment Grants programme and how to apply for funding.
 HES will be sharing videos of the presentations on their [website](#) on the 16th March, as well as FAQs drawn from the online sessions.

- **Policy Consultations – submitted:**

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON THE SELECTION CRITERIA AND APPROACH TO NATIONAL PARKS IN SCOTLAND (30/11/22)

This consultation from NatureScot is part of the commitment from Scottish Ministers to establish at least one new National Park by 2026. Exploring the contribution of the historic environment and cultural heritage to the role and approach of National Parks is welcomed and felt to be vital; embedding heritage where appropriate and ensuring that existing considerations are maintained and enhanced should be a key concern.

Read the response from BEFS Members: [RTPI Scotland](#)

DELIVERING OUR VISION FOR SCOTTISH AGRICULTURE. PROPOSALS FOR A NEW AGRICULTURE BILL (05/12/22)

AHSS magazine piece on this too drawing on consultation responses from Members and chats with EHS 'BEFS is hearing' approach. Out in the spring quarterly edition.

BEFS response reinforces concerns from the sector that the proposed new bill fails to recognise the contribution of the historic environment and any connection to existing historic environment policies and guidance. This is a missed opportunity – the historic environment is a key part of Scotland's landscapes.

Read responses from [Historic Environment Scotland](#) and BEFS Members [ClfA](#)

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND'S REGULATORY FRAMEWORK (14/02/2023)

BEFS considers that the draft framework clearly sets out HES regulatory and advisory roles.

- **Open Consultations:**

Scotland's new Historic Environment Strategy (OPiT)

HES

Contribute to the creation of a new strategy for Scotland's Historic Environment.

Closed 20 February 2023

<https://haveyoursay.historicenvironment.scot/development-partnership/our-place-in-time-refresh-consultation/>

Since published:

CONSULTATION FOR SCOTLAND'S NEW HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY (20/02/2023)

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BEFS' response to this consultation on the new draft historic environment strategy follows wide ranging and comprehensive consultation with Members. We consider a new strategy to be a positive advocacy tool for the role of the historic environment across multiple agendas, outlining shared priorities for the heritage sector. Further clarity around monitoring and measurement of delivery of KPIs will be welcome as the delivery plan is progressed. Read responses from BEFS Members [National Trust for Scotland](#) and [Society of Antiquaries of Scotland](#)

Managing Change – fire and historic buildings

HES

Views requested for updated guidance setting out the principles and specific issues that are relevant to fire and historic buildings.

Closes 13 March 2023

<https://haveyoursay.historicenvironment.scot/heritage/managing-change-fire/>

Scottish Highly Protected Marine Areas (HPMAs)

Scottish Government

This consultation is seeking views and comments on a number of key documents that propose how HPMAs will contribute to the vision of the Scottish Government to meet the long term needs of nature and people.

Closes 20 March 2023

<https://consult.gov.scot/marine-scotland/scottish-highly-protected-marine-areas/>

Culture in communities - your views

Scottish Parliament

'Place-based' approach to culture means giving people a greater say in shaping the cultural life of their local communities. This consultation wants to know more about what is happening in our local communities and understand aspects including what does good 'place-based' cultural policy look like in practice.

****NEW** Closes 31 March 2023**

<https://yourviews.parliament.scot/ceeac/culture-in-communities/>

Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan

Scottish Government

This consultation seeks views on the vision and the actions to transition to an affordable, resilient and clean energy system set out in the draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan as well as understanding how maximum social and economic benefits from the energy transition for Scotland can be secured.

Closes EXTENDED TO MAY 9TH

<https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/energy-strategy-and-just-transition-plan/>

Community Wealth Building

Scottish Government

Views are being sought on the internationally recognised Community Wealth Building (CWB) approach to economic development, as a key practical means for the Scottish Government to make progress towards realising the wellbeing economy vision outlined in the National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET).

Closes 25 April 2023

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<https://consult.gov.scot/economic-development/community-wealth-building-consultation/>

International culture strategy: survey

Scottish Government

Views sought to inform the development of a strategy to support the international aspirations and potential of Scotland's culture sector.

****NEW** Closes 26 April 2023**

<https://consult.gov.scot/culture-tourism-and-major-events/international-culture-strategy/>

4. Organisational Updates from Members

The Ridge: Pre-Apprenticeship courses, private funding. Pilot in April. Approach to include life skills, pool feeding into own apprenticeships. Edinburgh apprenticeships masonry issues particularly pertinent, Glasgow likely to follow. Ridge is in conversation with colleges and Ministers.

HTN – [Bridging the gap resource](#). Members are waiting on HES funding news. Working on Make Your Mark campaign towards increasing number and diversity of heritage volunteers.

AHF – 2 x years William Grant foundation funding

EWB – Waiting for HES approval for 3 year funded programme. New role – head of conservation for buildings. Review of grants programme.
Developing young workforce and Build Your Future projects towards bringing people into the sector.

SCT- New Director, Joe Traynor. Main focus of work, My Place Awards and Doors open Day.

COG – Continuing mix of online and hybrid. Good attendance and feedback – next meeting will be a workshop looking at assessing applications/casework.

IHBC – Scottish committee celebrating 25th year of IHBC being instituted. Yearbook of member achievement. Website with Scotland branch news. ICHBC summer school coming up in Swansea.

AHSS – Freedom of information request made to HES. Response from Chairman of HES and offer of a meeting and David Mitchell. (Record of falls of stone from properties in care: the rockfall from castle rock isn't mentioned in the records. Jedburgh abbey came top of the list. Melrose Abbey high on the list.)
Requested for the event on the High-Level Masonry Project to be reinstated from November. Strathclyde group lecture, Roger Green.
AHSS magazine in final stages of preparation.

NTS – New Climate Change coordinator in post. Currently recruiting for Environmental Manager.

CoS – Barri Millar has left, Brian Waller covering the post. Position on presbytery plans – 25 fully approved (Note: there are a lot of plans awaiting congregations to input).

SURF – SURF awards took place in Dec. May workshops in bulletins. 20 min neighbourhood network – looking at places holistically. Employed new post in Peterhead and recruiting for

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Girvan. Community support: feasibility study, community interested in church, heritage interest as community resource.

Budget not cut, but is capped (1 year.)

RICS – Conservation forum at end of Feb. Will be responding to Fire Managing Change consultation and Stone Masonry consultation. Conference in April will have a sustainability focus. RICS keen to explore issues around masonry provision.

SCivict – Loss of training, issue of businesses not taking trainees. As well as technical skills also losing the capacity to regenerate university planning courses.

Note:

AM – ask RTPI if they are looking at anything around this.

Number of people /cross over with work of Stone Masonry working group. What does the future look like – report out soon.

IB - Listing apprenticeships as part of UCAS. Will find out more.

Update: [UCAS to begin advertising apprenticeships, DfE confirms \(feweek.co.uk\)](https://feweek.co.uk)

Revamped UCAS pages here: [Apprenticeships](#) | [Learn About Apprenticeships And Find The Right One For You \(ucas.com\)](#)

ACTION: Look at question of training planners: Where are they being trained? Are there jobs for them to go in to? Succession planning issue. Not seen as aspirational vocation.

Lots of routes to education – lots of options which is good, but too much info competing for air? Advocacy piece around skills. **BEFS**

5. Our Place in Time | Discussion of BEFS draft response to consultation:

- *Consultation response overview*
- *Case studies for KPIs and final OPiT reporting*

Consultation response including Member contributions (given during engagement and at HEWG):
[CONSULTATION FOR SCOTLAND'S NEW HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY \(20/02/2023\)](#)

6. AOB

HES funding /timing – BEFS board has written repeatedly about timing for funding.

HES new grant schemes – what will their requirements be? Pots of money for outreach and the buildings need to be balanced?

HCS is waiting to hear.

SCivT has confirmation, but not of what.

SLC Lime Centre is still waiting to hear.

Investing Communities fund - just announced. This is a broader point, not just an HES issue.

PLEASE NOTE: The date of the November HEWG has changed and will now take place on the 22nd of November 10am – 12pm. Grateful if you could update your diaries accordingly.

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Next HEWG:

16th May 2023 – virtual meeting