

## Housing Beyond 2021

LIS committee member and Director at IWA, Nick Bowen, was invited to attend a stakeholder engagement event for Housing Beyond 2021, which was hosted by the Scottish government Planning and Architecture Division. It was an opportunity to press the case for the role of landscape and placemaking in helping achieve better social and environmental value from future housing delivery. Two workshops were held, in Glasgow and Edinburgh. They were attended by a range of social housing organisations, Architects, SNH landscape and place officers, Scottish Government officers and others. The workshops will feed into the **Housing Beyond 2021** team as they work on a vision for how our homes and communities should look and feel in 2040.

Further information on this strategy can be viewed at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/housing-beyond-2021/>

Some of the key points relevant to LIS members that came out of the discussion were :

1. SG should undertake research and review before setting strategy and policy, so that design is grounded in research, best practice and emerging innovation.
2. There needs to be intelligent design, procurement and construction. The second of these can often stymy the first.
3. Green Infrastructure and multi-functional landscapes must be fundamental part of future housing, and should be retro-fitted to existing housing (80% of the 2040 housing stock already exists).
4. The role of total environment design in providing for healthy and socially engaged lifestyles; the house itself is just a part of the picture
5. A more forceful approach to designing around sustainable travel is required; so much new housing is car-dependant and so much housing land is taken up by vehicles.
6. Local character rather than common standard housing products
7. Housebuilders should be challenged to innovate, and supported when they do so
8. The Place Standard offers a suitable tool for improving design of housing
9. Retrofitting is an even bigger challenge than new build ; community engagement is vital in success for such projects
10. New housing must be culturally sustainable and have aesthetic value - we should have an ambition to create the conservation areas of the future.

Architecture and Design Scotland have also a focus on **Housing Beyond 2021** and are looking at the following big themes that Landscape Architects have a leading role to play:-

- Housing + placemaking
- Housing + infrastructure
- Housing + community engagement

