

# **Policy Statement on Architecture and Placemaking**

## **Analysis of Consultation Responses**

Report prepared by John Scott and Tara McGregor of ODS Consulting.

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the author.

Consultation Analysis commissioned by:

**Building Standards Division on behalf of Planning and Architecture Division**

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# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Introduction

This report provides an analysis of consultation responses to the Scottish Government's document "A Policy on Architecture and Placemaking for Scotland: Public consultation 2012". The consultation sought views on four key themes:

- Supporting sustainable economic growth
- Shaping Scotland's future
- Embedding built environment design into wider policy agendas and ensuring public and private sector buy-in
- Recognising the cultural value of architecture, urbanism and heritage.

## Overview of the response

There were 98 responses to this consultation, two of which were received after the closing date and have not been taken account of in the quantitative analysis. The largest number of responses came from private individuals, making up 31% (30) of the total number. Many of these were professionals in the building design or construction industries, but who chose to respond as individuals. A significant number of responses also came from local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies (19 – 20%) and from voluntary organisations and their representative bodies (17 – 18%). The remaining responses (31-31%) came from organisations in the following categories: architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies; heritage groups and their representative bodies; other professional representative groups and other organisations that did not fall into any of the above categories.

## Summary of responses

Overall respondents welcomed the proposed change in the focus of the policy to cover architecture and placemaking. A number of themes emerged concerning the drivers required to successfully implement the policy including:

- securing buy-in from stakeholders involved in placemaking and the delivery of design;
- ensuring the policy was embedded in other relevant national policy areas;
- providing practical evidence and raising awareness to demonstrate the economic benefits of good design;
- Scottish Government and local authorities providing leadership by encouraging excellence in design; and
- using levers such as tax incentives to incentivise appropriate development.

There was general consensus across most stakeholder groups that the procurement process was critical to securing high quality design. Some respondents expressed concern that current procurement processes were risk averse and stifled innovation. Respondents suggested that more focus should be placed on the quality of design in

procurement processes, and these should be changed to allow smaller design practices to participate. The need to influence those responsible for commissioning projects was seen as crucial to achieving this.

There was fairly widespread agreement across stakeholders that the policy should promote the re-use of existing buildings as a way of achieving a low carbon economy and that this should be backed with comprehensive guidance for practitioners. A number of themes emerged as to how the policy could ensure that a low carbon economy is at the heart of development processes, including:

- promoting the use of existing buildings through fiscal measures or other means;
- encouraging the use of local materials and taking a long term view to the choice of building materials;
- providing more comprehensive training and guidance to practitioners; and
- raising awareness more generally about the benefits of sustainable development.

A number of respondents expressed concern that the consultation paper was too narrowly focused on energy efficiency and called for a more holistic approach to support the delivery of environmentally sustainable places. Others highlighted the role the planning system could play; the importance of green infrastructure; and the need for awareness raising of best practice in the delivery of environmentally sustainable places.

There was general support from across stakeholder groups for more effective engagement with individuals and communities. The importance of adopting an inclusive approach and not being 'tokenistic' was highlighted by a number of respondents. Some suggested that the policy should place greater emphasis on working in partnership with communities to deliver sustainable places. However, a number of respondents felt there was a need to manage expectations in the current economic climate. Many felt that recent changes to the planning system were leading to a more inclusive approach. Again the need for better advice and guidance was highlighted by some respondents.

Respondents were asked to identify what the short, medium and long term priorities of the policy should be. However, it is difficult to draw any conclusions from the responses due to the different ways some respondents approached the question.

Respondents suggested that better partnership working could be achieved through a number of mechanisms including:

- raising awareness through the promotion and dissemination of best practice;
- education and training to secure buy-in to good design; and
- better integration of the development plan and community plan production processes.

A number of issues were identified in considering how the policy could help to ensure that public sector investment led to well designed public buildings and places:

- the critical role of procurement and the need to ensure that quality was embedded within procurement processes;
- the need to raise client awareness of the benefits of good quality design; and
- the importance of high quality design briefs.

The need for genuine involvement of local people in decisions about their communities was seen as key to helping build successful, resilient communities. Some respondents felt that the policy under-played the significance of this.

There was a general consensus across most stakeholders that the use of awards to celebrate and promote achievement was a good thing. Some respondents suggested that the policy should consider introducing new awards with a wider focus. Others also suggested that a greater emphasis on promoting best practice, building on the work of Architecture and Design Scotland.

There were mixed views as to whether the policy should seek to capitalise on the links between high quality new cultural buildings and public interest in their exhibits. Some respondents felt that tourism benefits of such buildings could be better exploited by better co-ordination between agencies.

A significant number of respondents expressed concern that the focus of the document was almost exclusively on new architecture with insufficient prominence being given to the existing built environment, including the historic environment. Some felt that a stronger focus of the policy should be on the maintenance and restoration of the existing built environment, rather than the restoration of particular historic buildings. Many respondents felt that there was a need to continue to improve public awareness and interest in our built environment.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

### **About this report**

2.1 This report provides an analysis of the consultation responses to the Scottish Government's document "A Policy on Architecture and Placemaking for Scotland: Public consultation 2012". The report provides a detailed analysis of each element of the consultation. It looks in detail at the responses to the consultation questions and provides an analysis of the views of particular groups, highlighting trends and issues where appropriate.

### **Background to the consultation**

2.2 On 10 November 2011, Ms. Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture & External Affairs, made a commitment to the Scottish Parliament for the publication of a new policy statement on architecture and place during 2012.

2.3 As a first step in the development of the new policy, a consultation document was developed – with the contribution of key Scottish Government divisions and other stakeholders. The consultation document was launched at a conference at The Lighthouse, Glasgow, at the end of May 2012.

2.4 As a starting point for discussion, the consultation document identified four key themes around which the policy on architecture and placemaking could contribute to the future shape of Scotland:

- Supporting sustainable economic growth
- Shaping Scotland's future
- Embedding built environment design into wider policy agendas and ensuring public and private sector buy-in
- Recognising the cultural value of architecture, urbanism and heritage.

2.5 The consultation document briefly elaborates on each of these themes and sets out twelve related questions on which the Scottish Government welcomed the views of all interested in contributing. The Scottish Government also sought comments on broader aspects of the four key themes and on any other areas that had not been specifically identified in the consultation document.

2.6 Eleven of the questions were open. One provided a tick-box response on the priorities over the short, medium and long term, as well as the opportunity for wider comments.

### 3. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 3.1 Six focus groups with stakeholders were conducted during June and July 2012 in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness and Melrose. These events were attended by a range of representatives with an interest in the consultation. The views expressed at these events have been included in this report. In addition, three meetings were held with key internal stakeholders, key stakeholder organisations and key access specialists during the period April to August 2012.
- 3.2 Ninety-six consultation responses were received by (or shortly after) the closing date for the consultation of 7 September 2012. A further two late responses were received as the analysis was being undertaken. These were reviewed and taken account of in the qualitative analysis. However, they have not been included in the quantitative analysis which is based on 96 responses. The breakdown of these 96 responses is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Consultation Respondents**

Group Type	Number	Percentage
Private individuals	30	31%
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	19	20%
Voluntary organisations and their representative bodies	17	18%
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	13	14%
Others <sup>1</sup>	7	7%
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	6	6%
Other professional representative bodies	4	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	

- 3.3 The largest group of respondents was private individuals, making up almost one-third of the total. The next largest group was local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies, which made up 20% of all respondents.

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<sup>1</sup> The 'Others' grouping includes a number of public bodies, academic bodies and private organisations, the number of which was too small to analyse separately.



## **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1 The Scottish Government commissioned an independent analysis of the consultation responses which was undertaken by ODS Consulting. We were passed full copies of all the responses and have undertaken both quantitative and qualitative analysis of these. The main role of the Scottish Government's Planning and Architecture Division has been to give feedback on the breakdown of the groups and on factual issues.
- 4.2 A full list of respondents is provided in Appendix 1. To allow similarities and differences in responses to be considered, we agreed with the Planning and Architecture Division that we would assign each response to one of seven respondent groups:
- Private individuals
  - Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies
  - Voluntary organisations and their representative bodies
  - Architects, planners, designers and their representative bodies
  - Others
  - Heritage groups and their representative bodies
  - Other professional representative bodies.
- 4.3 The analysis drew out the themes emerging within each of the questions posed and the range of views being expressed. It also highlighted any specific trends among and across respondent groups.
- 4.4 A qualitative approach has been the main focus of the analysis, based on what people said and trends in views. This qualitative approach has allowed us to identify the key themes emerging from the consultation and particular areas of agreement and disagreement among respondent groupings. Quantitative methods have been employed to identify how many respondents from each group responded to each question.

## 5. QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

- 5.1 This section records the responses received in relation to each question and provides a brief summary of the comments. The analysis seeks to draw out underlying reasons, themes and concerns.
- 5.2 To avoid repetition, comments have been analysed under the most relevant question. For example, some comments made in responses to Question 3 are more relevant to Question 2, and have been analysed accordingly to make it easier to focus on the issues of greatest relevance to each question.

### Question 1 – How could the policy promote higher quality design in order to contribute to Scotland’s economic growth?

**Table 2: Responses to Question 1**

Groups	Response	%	No Response	%	Total
Private individuals	23	77	7	23	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	19	100	0	0	19
Voluntary organisations and their representative bodies	11	65	6	35	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	9	69	4	31	13
Others	4	57	3	43	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	6	100	0	0	6
Other professional representative bodies	3	75	1	25	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>96</b>

- 5.3 Over three-quarters of consultees (75 – 78%) responded to this question, with well over half of the responses (42 – 56%) coming from private individuals and local authorities.
- 5.4 A wide range of respondents, including architects, planners and designers and local authorities, welcomed the proposed change in focus of the policy to cover architecture and placemaking. Some commented that the previous architecture policy statement (2007) was little known outside the architecture profession and that it would be important to ensure that the new policy was promoted more widely to secure buy-in across all stakeholders involved in placemaking and the delivery of design.
- 5.5 Some respondents, particularly heritage groups and local authorities, called for a clearer definition of what ‘higher quality design’ means in practice. Others suggested that the policy should provide evidence of the tangible benefits that can be derived from good design.

“It is imperative that ‘high quality design’ is precisely defined and the specific benefits that this creates are recognised.”

(South Ayrshire Council)

### **Relationship to other policies**

5.6 The Urban Design Group in Scotland (UGD Scotland) commented that it would be important for the policy to be more than just a statement of intent. It suggested that to make a real impact on Scotland’s economic growth, the policy would need to have adequate status and legislative weight.

5.7 This view was shared by a number of other respondents, including architects, planners and designers, who felt that the status of the policy needed to be clear. It was also felt important to clarify the relationship of this policy to existing policies, guidance and legislation relating to planning and design. For example, Orkney Islands Council questioned whether it was the intention that the policy would be material in the determination of planning applications or the production of development briefs.

“It should be made clear exactly how the Architecture and Placemaking Policy will relate to the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP), the Development Plan(s), Designing Places, Designing Streets and the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) and the National Planning Framework 3.”  
(Royal Town Planning Institute Scotland (RTPI Scotland))

5.8 In addition, some respondents commented that the policy should be firmly embedded within other relevant national policy areas, for example: policies relating to climate change; health and well-being; and the Scottish Government’s procurement policy. Sainsbury’s Supermarkets Ltd highlighted that clear policy co-ordination at the national level would be beneficial to decision makers and those involved in promoting development.

“By promoting inclusive design within architecture and place making, this policy could promote integration and coordination between policies covering the built environment, health and social care and economic growth.”  
(I’DGO research consortium and OPENspace Research Centre, University of Edinburgh)

### **Evidence and impacts**

5.9 Respondents from across all stakeholder groups generally welcomed the link being made by the Scottish Government between good design and sustainable economic growth. However, a number of respondents highlighted that currently there was a lack of practical evidence to demonstrate the tangible economic benefits of good design.

“Within the overall planning context, the policy could be used as part of a strategic approach to assist in initiating and catalysing economic and social recovery.”

(City of Edinburgh Council)

- 5.10 A significant number of local authorities and architects, planners and designers suggested that the policy should seek to raise awareness of the economic benefits of good design by showcasing examples of best practice. Architecture and Design Scotland (A+DS) proposed that the policy should encourage and support research into the economic benefits of high quality design and place based investment.

“Examples of high quality design that has resulted in greater economic benefit (both for the developer and local economy) would be useful evidence especially in the current economic climate, where design can be seen as an additional cost to the development industry.”

(Moray Council)

- 5.11 The RTPI Scotland suggested that the policy should outline how to measure, demonstrate and articulate the value of good design and placemaking, so that the ‘influencers’ and ‘decision makers’ are aware of the benefits that good design and placemaking can provide economically, socially and environmentally.
- 5.12 The Scottish Civic Trust (SCT) commented that the policy should give prominence to existing places as well as individual buildings and new build developments and provide examples of existing places, where high quality environment is or has been a catalyst for economic growth.

### **Leadership**

- 5.13 Respondents made a number of comments relating to leadership. The National Trust for Scotland (NTS) and a number of other respondents commented that the Scottish Government should lead by example by encouraging excellence in design through its own public procurement processes.

“The policy can set the agenda for design quality by leading the way in terms of consideration of design quality for all government construction projects.”

(Private Individual)

- 5.14 The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and some local authorities underlined the key role that the public sector can play to support good design in the current economic climate. They emphasised the important role of local government in encouraging good and sustainable design through the planning system and also through local regeneration activity.

## **Other issues**

- 5.15 A number of local authorities made suggestions relating to taxation in the development process. Some suggested that the VAT system for refurbishment and rehabilitation of buildings should be brought into line with the regulations for new build. South Lanarkshire Council also suggested that there should be tax incentives to encourage 'greener' designs. Dundee City Council called for tax breaks to encourage the development of brownfield sites, particularly in urban areas.
- 5.16 The Landscape Institute Scotland (LIS) noted that there was a lack of reference within the consultation paper to the importance of landscape in securing high quality design. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) also highlighted the importance of landscape design and the role of the natural environment at both the building and place level.

“Emphasis should be put on the landscape; understanding it and in turn ensuring that our natural, as well as our more urban places on which the policy may focus, are given equal attention.”

(LIS)

- 5.17 One private individual expressed concern at the consultation paper's narrow focus on 'design' as currently understood and practised by 'design professionals'. It was suggested that the policy should ensure that the approach was more inclusive and reflected wider issues (beyond design) that were relevant to the creation of high quality architecture and placemaking.

## **Consultation focus groups**

- 5.18 A number of additional issues emerged from the consultation focus group events. Participants at the Edinburgh focus group hoped that architecture could be an “economic driver”, with the private sector at the helm. However, it was suggested that the Scottish Government should continue to have a role in influencing the culture of organisations. Participants at this group also identified “de-risking design innovation” as a crucial goal, given the tendency towards risk aversion in the current economic climate. At the Glasgow focus group, participants raised the issue of graduate schemes. The group reported that the uptake of graduates from the private sector was poor, and as a result Scotland was losing its architecture graduates to other parts of the world. Participants in Aberdeen called for incentives for localised architecture and the use of locally sourced materials.

**Question 2: How could the policy better embed the benefits of good design in economic, social and environmental terms within procurement processes?**

**Table 3: Responses to Question 2**

Groups	Response	%	No Response	%	Total
Private individuals	17	57	13	43	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	18	95	1	5	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	11	65	6	35	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	10	77	3	23	13
Others	4	57	3	43	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	2	50	2	50	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>96</b>

5.19 Over two-thirds of respondents (67 – 70%) answered this question, with more than half of the responses (35 – 52%) coming from local authorities and private individuals.

5.20 A number of common themes emerged from comments expressed by respondents from across the stakeholder groups.

**Achieving quality through procurement**

5.21 There was general agreement across most stakeholder groups that the procurement process was critical to securing high quality design. A considerable number of respondents, including architects, planners and designers; heritage groups and local authorities suggested that there should be a minimum score applied to quality in the procurement evaluation process.

“We firmly believe that delivering good design requires good decision making processes. In particular, we consider that the procurement process is of key importance to delivering better social, economic and environmental outcomes.”

(SNH)

5.22 A+DS said that the new policy should encourage public bodies, local authorities and private developers to consider design formally prior to entering into procurement. Aberdeen City Council recommended that the policy should ensure the preparation of robust design briefs for all public procurement processes.

5.23 The City of Edinburgh Council commented that the policy should be used to refocus procurement processes towards good design and suggested including model procurement procedures within the new policy document.

- 5.24 Some respondents proposed ways of raising the profile of design. The RTPI Scotland suggested that there might be a role for more effective use of design panels and also design competitions, particularly for publicly funded projects. Building Environment Forum Scotland (BEFS) stated that the policy should promote the use of design briefs and design statements.
- 5.25 Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park suggested that encouragement should be given to local authorities to lead by example by commissioning high quality sustainable buildings.

### **More flexible approaches**

- 5.26 A number of respondents, including architects, planners and designers and voluntary organisations, expressed concern that current procurement processes were risk averse and stifled innovation, often limiting opportunities for smaller local firms and practices to become involved in the delivery of the built environment.

“I would like to see more flexible and local solutions to purchasing decisions around new buildings. For example, the use of small local firms and craftspeople to contribute to local designs.”

(Creative STAR Learning Company)

- 5.27 Turley Associates and the Scottish Planning Consultants Forum called for procurement methods to be changed to enable smaller design practices (that currently cannot fulfil Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) tender procedures) to participate. It was felt that this could open up opportunities for community groups and local construction and delivery organisations.

“A holistic approach needs to be taken to procurement that takes fully into account local benefits that could accrue from ensuring local contractors are in a position to bid competitively for public contracts.”

(Argyll and Bute Council)

- 5.28 One private individual also highlighted that the current requirement for short-term financial competitiveness – whether under local, national or EU regulations – mitigated against the use of local materials, skills and knowledge.
- 5.29 One heritage group expressed a similar view stating that procurement had to be responsive to local conditions and should move away from short-term economic considerations, and instead focus on long-term value and the economic, social and environmental benefits that this can deliver.

## **Raising awareness**

- 5.30 The RTPI Scotland along with a number of architects, planners and designers and local authorities highlighted the need to influence those responsible for commissioning projects, whether within the public, private or voluntary sectors, to ensure that they have the knowledge and expertise to understand the value of good design.

“A key issue here is capacity, there is insufficient guidance on securing design quality in procurement; many of those in procurement have no formal training and the long-term value of good design is not understood.”

(Private Individual)

- 5.31 Some of the heritage groups recommended a more collaborative approach ensuring that everyone involved in the procurement process is aware of the benefits of good design. Others suggested better inter-disciplinary training and awareness for built environment and heritage service providers.

## **Consultation focus groups**

- 5.32 Many of the participants who attended the consultation focus group events considered procurement to be problematic. The Glasgow focus group called for the Scottish Government’s own procurement processes to consider the value of good design, while the Edinburgh focus group agreed that the Scottish Government should lead by example. Participants at the Inverness focus group felt that the current system of procurement was cumbersome and economically inefficient, while the Dundee group suggested that design professionals become involved with public sector procurement. The Melrose group felt that the public sector should lead by example in encouraging quality-based rather than price-based decisions, and suggested Finland’s design competitions as an example of good practice.



**Question 3: How could the policy ensure that the aim of achieving a low carbon economy is at the heart of development processes?**

**Table 4: Responses to Question 3**

<b>Groups</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Response</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>
Private individuals	21	70	9	30	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	19	100	0	0	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	11	65	6	35	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	7	54	6	46	13
Others	5	71	2	29	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	3	75	1	25	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>96</b>

5.33 Almost three-quarters of respondents (71 – 74%) answered this question, with more than half of responses (40 - 56%) coming from private individuals and local authorities.

5.34 A number of common themes emerged from the comments made by respondents.

**Re-use of existing buildings**

5.35 There was agreement across a wide range of respondents, including architects, planners and designers, heritage groups and local authorities, that the policy should promote the re-use of existing buildings as a way of achieving a low carbon economy.

“There is an opportunity with this policy review and the imminent review of Scottish Historic Environment Policy to ensure a better connection and direction from Scottish Government on the role that the existing built environment can play in pursuit of a low carbon economy.”

(BEFS)

5.36 To support this, a number of respondents suggested that VAT on repairs, maintenance and alterations to existing buildings should either be removed, or reduced to ensure a level playing field with new build developments.

**Use of local materials**

5.37 There was a general consensus, particularly among local authorities and architects, planners and designers that the policy should emphasise the use of local materials as a way of reinforcing local character and also minimising the ‘carbon footprint’.

“So many developments could be ‘anywhere in Britain’, there is an opportunity for Scotland to take the lead and celebrate vernacular architecture where appropriate and to lead the way in highlighting local materials to show local character in a modern way.”

(Private Individual)

- 5.38 A number of local authorities commented that promoting the use of local materials and local supply chains more generally, could deliver added benefits for local communities including, for example, increased investment in local economies and new job opportunities.
- 5.39 Argyll and Bute Council and the national park authorities proposed that the policy should also promote the re-cycling and re-use of local materials, suggesting that there should be national guidelines on the re-cycling of materials. In particular, the national park authorities were keen to see the establishment of local material stores across Scotland.
- 5.40 However, Zero Waste Scotland cautioned that the use of local materials was not always the most sustainable choice and recommended that Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) analysis be used to demonstrate the selection on environmental grounds.

### **Training and guidance**

- 5.41 Some local authorities called for more training in traditional construction methods for those involved in the construction industry. This view was also shared by Historic Scotland who pointed to their Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) programme that placed an emphasis on the education and training of local skills.

“Developing new local skills will be key to achieving a low carbon economy.”

(Aberdeenshire Council)

- 5.42 The RTPi Scotland and a number of other respondents suggested that comprehensive advice and guidance should be available to practitioners on how to reduce the carbon use of existing buildings.

### **Raising awareness**

- 5.43 A wide range of respondents pointed to the need to increase awareness of the benefits of low carbon and sustainable development across all stakeholders, whether commissioners, consumers or practitioners, and highlighted the importance of promoting best practice and exemplar projects.
- 5.44 Children in Scotland suggested that it was important to start developing an interest in, and awareness of, good design within our learning environments (schools, nurseries etc) and that this might result in more people demanding a low carbon, high quality approach to the buildings and places around them.

### **Other issues**

- 5.45 The Institute of Historic Building Construction (IHBC) and some other respondents recommended that a 'whole life costing' approach be adopted for all new build projects and that this be built into procurement procedures.
- 5.46 The Scottish Disability Equality Forum (SDEF) commented that 'future proofing' buildings made good economical and environmental sense. Its view was that such an approach could minimise future adaptation costs and also ensure that low carbon use was built into the design from the outset.

### **Consultation focus groups**

- 5.47 Some additional issues emerged from discussions at the consultation focus group events. In the Glasgow focus group, participants felt that the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 did not allow for enough choice in how to reduce carbon use, and that Section 72 needed to be revised. In addition, some participants expressed concern about whether reduction targets were economically achievable.

**Question 4: How could the policy contribute to the delivery of environmentally sustainable places?**

**Table 5: Responses to Question 4**

<b>Groups</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Response</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>
Private individuals	20	67	10	33	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	18	95	1	5	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	12	71	5	29	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	6	46	7	54	13
Others	5	71	2	29	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	3	75	1	25	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>96</b>

5.48 Just under three-quarters of respondents (69 – 72%) answered this question, with more than half of responses coming from private individuals and local authorities.

5.49 A number of common themes emerged from comments expressed by respondents from across the stakeholder groups.

**Holistic approach**

5.50 A number of respondents expressed concern that the consultation paper was too narrowly focused on energy efficiency and called for a more holistic approach to the design of sustainable places. Some respondents suggested that consideration should also be given to the social and economic aspect of sustainability.

“The policy must embrace the design of the environment as a whole. As a result it must recognise that the functions of planning, urban design, architecture and engineering all contribute to the design of inspiring places.”

(LIS)

5.51 Others, including Zero Carbon Scotland, commented that a more joined up approach to development was required that links, for example: buildings; infrastructure; public transport; and localised energy generation in a coordinated and complementary way. The consideration of each issue in isolation is unlikely to deliver sustainable communities.

## **Role of planning**

- 5.52 The RTPI Scotland and a number of local authorities highlighted the important role that planning and the planning system could play in the delivery of environmentally sustainable places. In particular, respondents made reference to the current suite of planning policy documents including, for example: the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP); Designing Places; Designing Streets; the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) and the National Planning Framework (NPF), which already embed the principles of sustainable development.

“Our view is that a properly resourced land-use planning system and an effective community planning system involving all relevant stakeholders and local communities can provide a vehicle for the delivery of sustainable places.”

(COSLA)

- 5.53 Some local authorities suggested that to be effective, the planning policy documents needed to be given greater status in the planning process. However, others commented that there is currently minimum uptake of ‘Designing Streets’ principles due to the fact that the roads construction consent process has not been integrated into the wider planning consent process.
- 5.54 SNH suggested that it would be useful for the new policy to integrate some of the key messages, design guidance and planning principles contained within the main planning policy documents. This would give clear messages about the integrated design and development approaches required to deliver environmentally sustainable places.

## **Green infrastructure**

- 5.55 Several respondents, particularly private individuals and voluntary organisations, highlighted the importance of green infrastructure in the creation of environmentally sustainable places and made specific reference to the green network agenda promoted through the NPF and SPP.

“It is suggested that for successful placemaking, integrated green infrastructure (IGI) is considered equal to critical infrastructure elements.”

(GVC Green Network Partnership)

- 5.56 Greenpeace Scotland commented that well designed and developed green networks could offer a range of benefits, for example, resources for healthy lifestyles and new employment opportunities. In addition, some respondents suggested that green networks could create opportunities to integrate a wider range of policies and priorities that relate to successful places.

### **Raising awareness**

- 5.57 There was recognition across stakeholder groups of the need to raise awareness of best practice in delivering environmentally sustainable places, whether through the use of design awards or the promotion of high quality case studies or exemplar projects.

### **Consultation focus groups**

- 5.58 Participants attending the Glasgow focus group noted that although the policy promotes the re-use of older buildings, it does not take into account energy related issues.

**Question 5: How could the policy encourage design processes that better meet the needs of individuals and communities?**

**Table 6: Responses to Question 5**

Groups	Response	%	No Response	%	Total
Private individuals	21	70	9	30	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	19	100	0	0	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	12	71	5	29	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	9	69	4	31	13
Others	6	86	1	14	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	3	75	1	25	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>96</b>

5.59 Just over three-quarters of respondents (75 – 78%) answered this question, with more than half of responses (40 – 53%) coming from private individuals and local authorities.

5.60 A number of common themes emerged from comments expressed by respondents from across the stakeholder groups.

**Policy focus**

5.61 A number of local authorities suggested that the policy should place greater emphasis on working in partnership with communities to deliver sustainable places. Others felt that the policy should be clearer about the process for involving the community in the design process.

**Effective engagement**

5.62 There was support from across stakeholder groups, particularly voluntary organisations, private individuals and local authorities, for more effective engagement with individuals and communities. The RTPi Scotland and a number of other respondents highlighted the important role played by Planning Aid for Scotland (PAS) in promoting community engagement in the planning system.

“Much of our work relates to this issue...greater levels of participation would help ensure that the needs of individuals and communities lead the process rather than those of the service providers, the regulator or the professions.”

(A+DS)

- 5.63 Although welcoming the use of ‘charrettes’ as referenced in the consultation paper, some respondents commented that this was only one of a range of methods used by practitioners to involve local communities. Other methods suggested by respondents included, ‘Planning for Real’, ‘Enquiry by Design’ and community visioning exercises. COSLA and a number of other respondents noted that some of the engagement methods could be costly, resource intensive and time consuming to implement.

“PAS believes that ‘charrettes’ are only one way in which community design events can be delivered. There appears to be a growing awareness that the costs of running a full ‘charrette’ process will mitigate against it becoming a standard model.”

(Public Art Scotland)

- 5.64 A number of respondents highlighted the need to manage the expectations that might be raised following formal community engagement processes, particularly in the current economic climate. The RTPI Scotland and South Ayrshire Council also highlighted that community engagement should not be seen as a form of ‘tokenism’ and that the views and concerns expressed through the engagement process should be given due consideration.
- 5.65 A number of private individuals and voluntary organisations highlighted the need to ensure community engagement methods were inclusive and reached all groups within communities, for example: children and young people; older people and disabled people.
- 5.66 Some respondents called for greater use to be made of technology and social media as a way of communicating with and gathering views from a wider range of individuals.

### **Responsive planning system**

- 5.67 Many respondents, including architects, planners and designers and local authorities, recognised that recent changes to the planning system, meant that the development plan process had become more inclusive and provided more opportunities for community engagement, for example: through the use of Main Issues Reports for development plans and the requirement for pre-application consultation for major developments.
- 5.68 However, some respondents called for engagement to be built in to the earliest stage in the development plan process. South Ayrshire Council suggested that requirements for pre-application consultation could perhaps be extended to developments that were below the ‘major development’ threshold, particularly if they were highly significant to a local community.



“One area of planning where we believe stronger engagement with communities and individuals could usefully improve development outcomes is at the early stages of the development planning process, such as at the pre Main Issues Report and pre-plan stages.”

(SNH)

### **Advice and guidance**

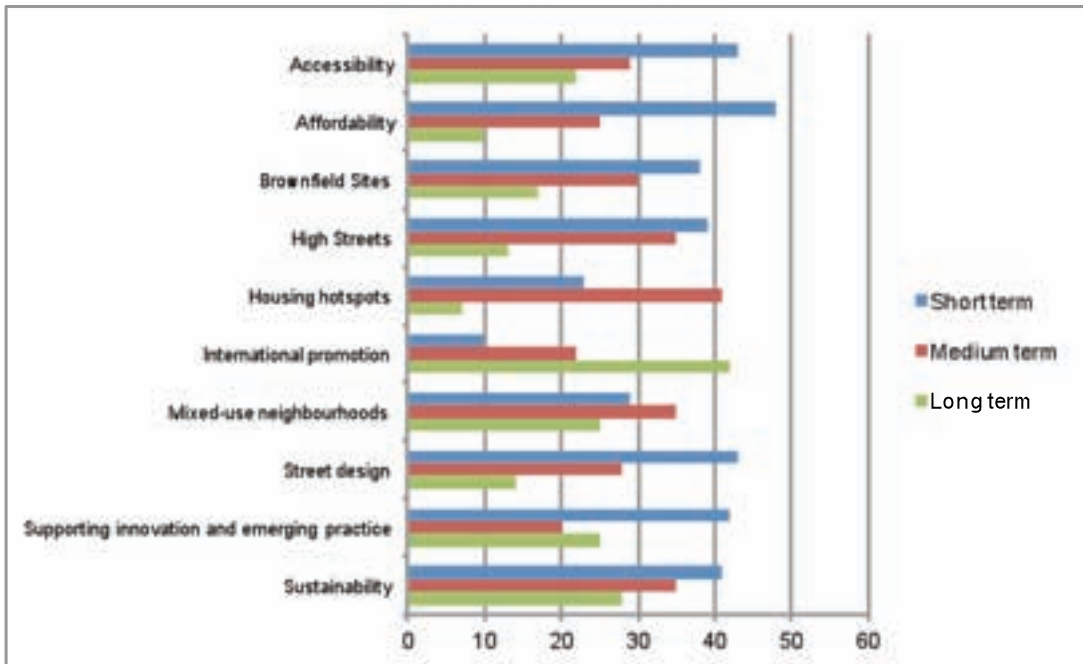
- 5.69 A number of respondents, particularly local authorities and some private individuals pointed to the need for appropriate advice and guidance for communities and practitioners. Respondents made a number of suggestions including, for example, toolkits to support community groups and Planning Advice Note (PAN) guidance on community engagement for practitioners.
- 5.70 In addition, a number of local authorities suggested that messages on effective community engagement should be reinforced through the promotion of best practice.

### **Consultation focus groups**

- 5.71 Participants attending the Edinburgh focus group emphasised that wellbeing was key to economic growth, and questioned whether the policy was truly “of the people”. Participants at the Inverness focus group noted that homebuyers prioritised “functionality” over “cutting edge” designs, while the Melrose group called for more community consultation. In Dundee, participants advocated an approach that embeds design within broader policy with the aim of achieving societal goals.

**Question 6: What should the short term, medium and long term priorities of policy now be?**

**Figure 1: Short, Medium & Long Term Priorities**



5.72 Seventy-two per cent of respondents (69) answered question 6. Respondents could select as many of the ten priorities as they wished.

5.73 Figure 1 provides a summary of the short, medium and long term priorities identified. In Appendix 2 we provide separate tables for short, medium and long term priorities analysed by respondent grouping.

5.74 The most common short-term priority was ‘affordability’, chosen by 48% (33) of those who responded to question 6. This was followed by ‘accessibility’ and ‘street design’, both of which were selected by 43% (30) of respondents. However, there were significant differences between respondent groups. All eight architects, planners and designers who responded to the question listed ‘supporting innovation and emerging practice’ as a short term priority, while 75% (6) prioritised ‘sustainability’. All 10 private individuals who responded to the question selected ‘brownfield sites’ and nine of these also identified ‘street design’.

5.75 Across all respondents, ‘international promotion’ was the least commonly chosen – with 10 per cent of respondents selecting this as a short term priority. ‘Housing hotspots’ (23%) and ‘mixed use neighbourhoods’ (29%) also had lower than average responses as short term priorities.

5.76 ‘Housing hotspots’ was the most common medium-term priority, chosen by 41% (28) of those who responded. Again, there were differences between the respondent groups. All 10 private individuals who responded to the question named ‘housing hotspots’ as a medium-term priority, while eight of these also selected ‘accessibility’. Among architects, planners and designers, 75% (6)

prioritised both 'street design' and 'high streets', while 63% (5) selected 'accessibility', 'affordability' and 'sustainability'.

- 5.77 It is interesting to consider the changing view of the priority of 'housing hotspots' over the short and medium term. It was the second lowest priority in the short term and highest in the medium term. This may, in part, be due to different respondents approaching the question differently. One respondent questioned the meaning of 'short', 'medium' and 'long' term. They wondered if 'long term', for example, means whether the policy should be carried through into the long term, or if it means that funding should not be allocated in the short term.
- 5.78 The key difference in the long term category is the prevalence of 'international promotion', selected by 42% (29) of those who responded to question 6. This option had received support from only 10% (7) of respondents in the short term category, and only 22% (15) in the medium term category.
- 5.79 Thirty-six respondents also suggested other options, which included education, procurement and empty or derelict buildings. A number of respondents called for greater community participation, while others hoped that more attention would be paid not only to buildings themselves, but to the 'space between buildings', as this is experienced by far more people.
- 5.80 Sustainability emerged as a common theme among local authorities, with many from this group emphasising its importance. It was also highlighted by others including primarily voluntary organisations, private individuals and heritage groups.

"It is imperative that the issue of sustainable design...is prioritised at a national level and that it becomes a requirement rather than an idea."

(South Ayrshire Council)

- 5.81 Some local authorities also called for more attention to be paid to high streets in light of current economic circumstances. This view was also echoed by some heritage groups and private individuals.
- 5.82 International promotion was a more contentious issue, with one respondent questioning its relevance and another suggesting that learning from international best practice would be a preferable aim. Others, however, felt that international promotion should be a short or medium term priority because it could potentially attract new clients to the Scottish market. The GCV Green Network Partnership, for example, suggested that a demonstration site be set up in order to attract investment.
- 5.83 Accessibility was referred to both by the voluntary sector and by some private individuals. It was felt by some that existing building standards do not adequately ensure accessibility, while some were concerned about the priority which some architects gave to accessibility issues.

5.84 It is difficult to draw any firm conclusions from this analysis. This may, in part, be as a result of the way different respondents approached the question. For example, a number of respondents noted the difficulty of separating the options into short, medium and long term categories, arguing that each is a priority both now and in future.

“If we are taking a holistic approach then these are all short term priorities that demand attention, it is hard to divorce one from another if we are to build long-lasting, sustainable places.”

(The Cockburn Association)

**Question 7: How could the policy help generate better partnership working and wider buy-in from the private and public sectors and communities to the importance of good design?**

**Table 7: Responses to Question 7**

Groups	Response	%	No Response	%	Total
Private individuals	17	57	13	43	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	18	95	1	5	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	8	47	9	53	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	8	62	5	38	13
Others	5	71	2	29	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	3	75	1	25	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>96</b>

5.85 Just over two-thirds of respondents (64 – 67%) answered this question, with more than half of the responses (35 – 55%) coming from private individuals and local authorities.

5.86 A number of common themes emerged from comments expressed by respondents from across the stakeholder groups.

**Raising awareness**

5.87 A significant number of respondents, particularly local authorities and architects, planners and designers, suggested that policy should encourage better partnership working through the promotion and dissemination of best practice.

“The policy could include practical examples where effective partnership working between the private and public sectors and the community has resulted in higher quality design and bolstered public pride. For example, including information on the RIAS Andrew Doolan award winners.”

(Moray Council)

5.88 A+DS suggested that the evidence base that it has developed from its work with a range of stakeholders to promote the benefits of good design could provide a powerful resource that showcases what has been done and how best to facilitate partnership working.

5.89 Other suggestions made by respondents included, supporting travelling exhibitions or regional programmes so that the benefits that The Lighthouse brings as a centre of design excellence can be brought to the wider public.

## **Education and training**

- 5.90 There was agreement across some stakeholders, particularly local authorities and voluntary organisations, that education was vital to securing buy-in to good design. Some respondents suggested that this needed to start in schools.

“...the Scottish Government could consider promoting popular computer games on urban development, as a means of engaging a younger audience.”

(Aberdeenshire Council)

- 5.91 Other respondents called for the Scottish Government to fund more training events to facilitate interaction between the public and private sectors and communities.

## **Joined up approaches**

- 5.92 The RTPi Scotland and SNH proposed that better integration of the development plan and community plan production processes might lead to a more joined up approach to policy development and delivery and also a more coherent allocation of resources.

“Any guidance to assist councils to maximise design value in the continual process of the planning and delivery of public services would be welcome. In particular how to do this through engagement with the community planning partnership (CPP) processes.”

(COSLA)

- 5.93 Cycling Scotland highlighted the National Cycle Network as a good example of how the public and private sector partnerships can work successfully together, and how joint funding packages can result in the delivery of a good built environment that benefits local communities.

## **Other issues**

- 5.94 The Cairngorms National Park Authority called for strong leadership from the Scottish Government to encourage all sectors to work together.

**Question 8: How could the policy help to ensure that public sector investment results in well-designed schools, hospitals and other public buildings and places?**

**Table 8: Responses to Question 8**

<b>Groups</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Response</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>
Private individuals	18	60	12	40	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	18	95	1	5	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	11	65	6	35	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	8	62	5	38	13
Others	5	71	2	29	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	2	50	2	50	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>96</b>

5.95 Just over two-thirds of respondents (67 – 70%) answered this question, with more than half of responses (36 – 54%) coming from private individuals and local authorities.

5.96 A number of common themes emerged from comments expressed by respondents from across the stakeholder groups.

**Role of procurement**

5.97 A prominent issue raised by stakeholders, particularly local authorities and architects, planners and designers, was the critical role of procurement in ensuring that public investment delivered well designed buildings and places. A number of respondents felt that PFI and similar procurement methods should be discouraged in view of the focus on the cheapest price. Others commented that clear quality scoring methods should be embedded within procurement procedures for all public sector projects.

“The policy at a national level needs to clearly set out the fundamental requirements in terms of design quality and achieving a proper sense of place that procurement process needs to achieve.”

(Argyll and Bute Council)

5.98 There was a shared view expressed by some respondents that the Scottish Government should lead by example and ensure consistency in approaches across Scotland to ensure that public investment results in well designed buildings and places. This could be achieved through setting clear design standards and ensuring that they are adhered to through the procurement process.

“Our experience with new schools indicates that existing policy guidelines in ‘Building Better Schools’ are already excellent. The problem is that there is no clear mechanism for ensuring that these guidelines are adhered to.”

(Grounds for Learning (GfL))

### **Raising awareness**

- 5.99 A significant number of local authorities highlighted the need to raise client awareness of the benefits of good quality design, whether in relation to schools, healthcare facilities or other public buildings. Respondents suggested a number of ways of addressing this, for example: through the promotion of best practice; the delivery of appropriate training courses for those involved in commissioning public buildings and places and the use of “design champions”.

“The policy should be clear about how good design promotes better learning in new schools, speedier recovery in new healthcare facilities and positive design themes might be translated to other public projects.”

(Aberdeen City Council)

- 5.100 Some respondents felt that the Scottish Government, A+DS and COSLA should work together to raise client awareness. A+DS suggested that its recent work (to improve awareness of good design) with practitioners involved in the delivery of schools and healthcare facilities could be adapted and applied to all aspects of public sector investment in buildings.

### **Use of design briefs**

- 5.101 Some respondents, particularly architects, planners and designers and some local authorities, highlighted the importance of having a clear design brief. Some suggested that the initial design should be worked up to Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Stage E (Detail or Technical Design) before being put out to tender for pricing. Others proposed that master planning and design brief awareness exercises should be undertaken in partnership with developers, the community and the planning authority.

“Most important is the meaningful consultation and involvement in the design process of those who will be using the building.”

(Children in Scotland)



**Question 9: How could the policy help build successful, resilient communities?**

**Table 9: Responses to Question 9**

Groups	Response	%	No Response	%	Total
Private individuals	19	63	11	37	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	18	95	1	5	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	14	82	3	18	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	8	62	5	38	13
Others	5	71	2	29	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	3	75	1	25	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>96</b>

5.102 Three-quarters of respondents (72 – 75%) answered this question, with just over half of responses (37 – 51%) coming from private individuals and local authorities.

5.103 A number of comments made by respondents to this question have been covered under Question 5. Only additional relevant comments have been reflected in the analysis of Question 6.

**Community engagement**

5.104 The need for genuine involvement of local people in decisions about their communities was a common theme expressed by respondents. However, some respondents felt that the significance of this had been under-played in the consultation document.

“Community engagement and empowerment is an essential part of successful placemaking because it builds long-term stewardship and is the best way to identify and explore real-world ‘place’ issues and the solutions that are needed.”

(Greenpeace Scotland)

5.105 A number of respondents pointed to the growth in community trusts and other mechanisms that give communities control over local assets and funding. It was suggested that such approaches could contribute to the building of more resilient and sustainable communities.

“The complex interaction of public, private and community assets are key to understanding of place resilience.”

(SNH)

5.106 Others referred to the planned Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill, suggesting that this might encourage more people to begin to engage with and take responsibility for the future development of specific buildings or areas.

### **Mixed-use developments**

5.107 The RTPI Scotland and some other respondents felt that the policy should promote the social and economic benefits of mixed-use, walkable neighbourhoods. However, East Ayrshire Council cautioned that there was a limitation to what could be achieved through national policy.

5.108 Other respondents underlined the importance of the natural and green environment in creating a sense of pride and ownership in local communities. One respondent pointed to the high quality of public realm and community spaces in other countries, suggesting that this also helped to create a strong sense of community.

“Landscape space is good for the health of a community; it is a living space and an environmental asset providing a range of functions.”

(LIS)

**Question 10: How could the policy better promote and celebrate achievement of excellent design?**

**Table 10: Responses to Question 10**

Groups	Response	%	No Response	%	Total
Private individuals	19	63	11	37	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	18	95	1	5	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	11	65	6	35	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	9	69	4	31	13
Others	4	57	3	43	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	6	100	0	0	6
Other professional representative bodies	2	50	2	50	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>96</b>

5.109 Just under three-quarters of respondents (69 – 72%) answered this question, with just over half of the responses (37 – 54%) coming from private individuals and local authorities.

5.110 A number of common themes emerged from comments expressed by respondents from across the stakeholder groups.

**Use of awards**

5.111 There was a general consensus across most respondent groups that the use of awards to celebrate and promote achievement was a good thing. However some respondents felt that current awards were too narrowly focused on the design of new buildings.

“The general thrust of the document is aimed at new architecture: it should be recognised throughout that most of the architecture and placemaking agenda in Scotland will be focused on context and existing places.”

(RTPI Scotland)

5.112 Respondents suggested that the policy should consider introducing new awards with a wider focus, for example: place leadership; delivery and stewardship; inclusive design; community led design and quality in placemaking.

5.113 Some respondents commented that some of the national awards for high profile architectural projects may have little meaning to local communities and suggested that regional or local awards that celebrate more practical and affordable aspects of good design may be more relevant.

“Whilst examples of individual pieces of architecture are welcomed, it is important to promote high quality design at the local level as this is where most can relate the benefits to their everyday lives.”

(Moray Council)

### **Promotion of best practice**

- 5.114 Respondents made a number of suggestions about the promotion of best practice as a way of celebrating the achievement of design. Some suggested the creation of an online database of good design that could be accessible either through the Built Environment section of the Scottish Government's website or A+DS's website.
- 5.115 Others recognised the important role played by A+DS in identifying, sharing and supporting people to apply good practice in placemaking and design.
- 5.116 Some called for a more pro-active and co-ordinated approach to showcase and promote best practice in Scotland, for example, through better use of all media channels, or the use of design competitions for major public projects.

### **Consultation focus groups**

- 5.117 All of the focus groups were in agreement that the Scottish Government should integrate design with the overall planning process. The Edinburgh focus group also expressed support for the use of awards to celebrate success. However there was also concern that this may actually act as a deterrent for some.

**Question 11: How could the policy help capitalise upon links between the quality of design of our best new cultural buildings and public interest in their exhibits?**

**Table 11: Responses to Question 11**

Groups	Response	%	No Response	%	Total
Private individuals	13	43	17	57	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	14	74	5	26	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	6	35	11	65	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	7	54	6	46	13
Others	4	57	3	43	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	1	25	3	75	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>96</b>

- 5.118 Just over half of respondents (50 – 52%) answered this question, with just under one third of responses coming from local authorities.
- 5.119 A small number of respondents questioned the relevance of the question in the context of an Architecture and Placemaking policy. Others suggested that although the policy should acknowledge the successes of recent heritage buildings centres, its focus should be on addressing the difficulties in securing quality design in other areas of public procurement, for example, schools, housing or hospitals.
- 5.120 On the other hand, A+DS felt that the excellence of the recently completed cultural building projects provided a powerful means of promoting the value of architecture and design to a range of audiences.
- 5.121 Some respondents highlighted that new cultural buildings often attract higher budgets which can allow for the use of design competitions. These competitions help to promote and publicise the new or improved facility at a national and international level.
- 5.122 The SCT and some local authorities proposed that every new cultural building should include an exhibition about its design and construction, promoting the building as an exhibit itself.
- 5.123 A number of respondents pointed to the tourism benefits of our cultural buildings. A suggestion was also made that there should be better collaboration between the Scottish Government, national and regional tourist agencies and Historic Scotland to make better links between architecture, heritage and tourism and to use this to promote high quality built environments.

**Question 12: How could the policy help encourage better public interest in the future of our historic environments?**

**Table 12: Responses to Question 12**

Groups	Response	%	No Response	%	Total
Private individuals	17	57	13	43	30
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	17	89	2	11	19
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	9	53	8	47	17
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	7	54	6	46	13
Others	5	71	2	29	7
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	5	83	1	17	6
Other professional representative bodies	2	50	2	50	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>96</b>

5.124 Just over two-thirds of respondents (62 – 65%) answered this question, with just under a half of responses coming from private individuals and local authorities.

5.125 A number of common themes emerged from comments expressed by respondents from across the stakeholder groups.

**Policy context**

5.126 A significant number of respondents, particularly heritage groups and architects, planners and designers expressed their disappointment that reference to the ‘historic environment’ in the consultation document seemed to have been a bit of an afterthought. Some felt that rather than focusing almost exclusively on new architecture, the policy needed to give equal prominence to the existing built environment encompassing the historic environment.

“If this is truly to be a policy for architecture and placemaking, then the existing traditional built environment (including undesignated assets) needs to be integrated throughout.”

(SCT)

5.127 Many respondents referred to the rich architectural heritage to be found in towns and cities across Scotland and highlighted the economic benefits that can be derived from investment in the regeneration of these areas. Some respondents referred to the success of Historic Scotland’s Conservation and Regeneration Scheme (CARS) in this respect.

## **Maintenance and restoration**

5.128 Some respondents felt strongly that the focus of the policy should be on the maintenance and restoration of our existing built environment, rather than simply the restoration of our finest historic buildings. It was considered that this approach was more sustainable (promoting the re-use of buildings) and more likely to have a beneficial impact on local communities.

5.129 A number of respondents, including local authorities and some architects, planners and designers, recognised the importance of developing the skills base to work with traditional materials, as this was key to securing the future of Scotland's historic environment. COSLA highlighted the important role of the National Conservation Centre in Stirling in training young people in traditional construction skills.

## **Raising awareness**

5.130 Although some respondents felt that public interest in our historic environments was already high, a significant number of respondents from across all respondent groups agreed that there was a need to continue to improve public interest and awareness in our built heritage.

5.131 The SCT's 'Doors Open Day' events were highlighted by a number of respondents as a very successful way of raising the profile of our public and historic buildings. Others called for more outreach work, for example, by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS), Historic Scotland and A+DS. Some respondents suggested that more effective use should be made of all forms of media to promote greater interest and awareness across the wider public.

5.132 SNH and some other respondents proposed that an awareness and appreciation of our historic and natural environments should start at an early age and be part of the national curriculum. Others called for the development of formal training and 'qualification by experience' access programmes for practitioners and volunteers.

## **APPENDIX 1 – CONSULTATION RESPONDENTS**

The following organisations and individuals responded to the consultation and were willing for their responses to be made public.

### **Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies**

Architecture and Design Scotland  
Chambers McMillan  
David Somerville Architects  
GMA Ryder  
HTA  
Landscape Institute Scotland  
Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland  
Royal Town Planning Institute Scotland  
Scottish Planning Consultants Forum  
Stirling Society of Architects  
Turley Associates  
Urban Design Group Scotland

### **Heritage groups and their representative bodies**

Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland  
Edinburgh World Heritage  
Institute of Historic Building Conservation  
Scottish Civic Trust  
The Cockburn Association  
The National Trust for Scotland

### **Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies**

Aberdeen City Council  
Aberdeenshire Council  
Argyll and Bute Council  
Cairngorms National Park Authority  
Clackmannanshire Council  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Convention of Scottish Local Authorities  
Dundee City Council  
East Ayrshire Council  
Falkirk Council  
GCV Green Network Partnership  
Highland Council  
Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park  
North Lanarkshire Council  
Orkney Islands Council  
South Ayrshire Council  
South Lanarkshire Council  
Stirling Council  
The Moray Council

### **Other professional representative bodies**

Institute for Archaeologists  
Royal Incorporation of Chartered Surveyors Scotland



Scottish Land and Estates  
Scottish Property Federation

**Others**

I'DGO research consortium and OPENspace Research Centre, University of Edinburgh  
Institute for Sustainable Construction  
Ogilvie Group  
Public Art Scotland  
Royal Commission of Ancient and Historic Monuments Scotland  
Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd.  
Scottish Natural Heritage  
Zero Waste Scotland

**Private individuals**

30 Private individuals

**Voluntary organisations and their representative bodies**

Aberdeen Play Forum  
Built Environment Forum Scotland  
Centre for Inclusive Living Perth and Kinross  
Children in Scotland  
Community Central Hall, Maryhill  
Creative STAR Learning Company  
Cycling Scotland  
Friends of Glasgow West  
Greenspace Scotland  
Grounds for Learning  
Planning Aid for Scotland  
Scottish Disability Equality Forum  
Scottish Ecological Design Association  
Scottish Wildlife Trust  
Stirling Council on Disability  
Swift Conservation

## APPENDIX 2 - RESPONSES TO QUESTION 6 BY RESPONDENT GROUPING

Table A1: Question 6 - Short term priorities by respondent grouping

Groups	Supporting innovation and emerging practice	Accessibility	Affordability	Sustainability	Housing hotspots	Street design	High streets	Mixed-use neighbourhoods	Brownfield sites	International promotion
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	100%	50%	50%	75%	25%	50%	50%	63%	63%	25%
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	40%	40%	40%	40%	20%	40%	40%	20%	40%	0%
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	44%	28%	67%	39%	11%	56%	50%	22%	28%	0%
Other professional representative bodies	33%	33%	33%	33%	33%	33%	0%	0%	33%	0%
Others	40%	80%	60%	20%	40%	40%	40%	20%	20%	20%
Private individuals	60%	80%	90%	80%	50%	90%	80%	80%	100%	30%
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	22%	67%	22%	33%	33%	22%	22%	11%	22%	11%
<b>Total number</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Percentage of those who responded to Q6</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>10%</b>

Table A2: Question 6 - Medium term priorities by respondent grouping

Groups	Supporting innovation and emerging practice	Accessibility	Affordability	Sustainability	Housing hotspots	Street design	High streets	Mixed-use neighbourhoods	Brownfield sites	International promotion
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	38%	63%	63%	63%	63%	75%	75%	38%	38%	13%
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	0%	20%	40%
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	17%	17%	11%	22%	50%	17%	28%	39%	50%	22%
Other professional representative bodies	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%
Others	20%	20%	0%	40%	20%	20%	60%	40%	20%	40%
Private individuals	50%	80%	60%	60%	100%	70%	70%	70%	50%	30%
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	11%	22%	33%	56%	22%	11%	11%	56%	22%	33%
<b>Total number</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Percentage of those who responded to Q6</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>22%</b>

**Table A3: Question 6 - Long term priorities by respondent grouping**

<b>Groups</b>	<b>Supporting innovation and emerging practice</b>	<b>Accessibility</b>	<b>Affordability</b>	<b>Sustainability</b>	<b>Housing hotspots</b>	<b>Street design</b>	<b>High streets</b>	<b>Mixed-use neighbourhoods</b>	<b>Brownfield sites</b>	<b>International promotion</b>
Architects, planners and designers and their representative bodies	38%	38%	25%	38%	13%	25%	25%	50%	38%	50%
Heritage groups and their representative bodies	20%	20%	20%	20%	0%	20%	20%	0%	20%	20%
Local authorities, national park authorities and their representative bodies	17%	28%	6%	28%	11%	11%	11%	17%	6%	50%
Other professional representative bodies	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%
Others	20%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	60%	20%	40%
Private individuals	60%	40%	20%	70%	10%	40%	30%	60%	50%	100%
Voluntary Organisations and their representative bodies	33%	11%	11%	33%	11%	11%	0%	11%	11%	22%
<b>Total number</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Percentage of those who responded to Q6</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>42%</b>



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Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

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