People, Place and Landscape – SNH and HES position statement

Action Plan December 2019

This two-year Action Plan sets out the main areas of work required to deliver the joint People, Place and Landscape Position Statement. It includes a mixture of on-going work and new activity which will be taken forward as opportunities and resources allow. The plan does not include all of the landscape work undertaken by each /organisation, such as advice to local authorities and The Scottish Government through our engagement in the planning system and its co-ordination through the key agencies group. Delivery of this Plan will be progressed within the framework of the Programme for Government and its priorities, in particular addressing the Climate Emergency, delivering inclusive growth and applying the place principle. The plan will be updated annually.

Main areas of work			Timing		
Talking about landscape and its range of benefits. Actions to increase shared understanding and appreciation					
Understanding landscape change - we will work together on the Landscape Monitoring Programme.	 We will test and implement shared methods for monitoring broad-scale landscape change and the effects of climate change on landscape. 	On-going	On-going		
	2. We will improve our understanding of the landscapes of the urban-rural transition, combining our knowledge and datasets to develop methods to help manage change in these places.	On-going	On-going		
	3. We will test "citizen science" approaches and other participatory methods for monitoring landscape change.	On-going	tbc		
Valuing Landscapes - we will work together to promote the benefits and value that landscape provides.	4. We will align the national surveys we commission to improve our understanding of public attitudes towards the natural and historic aspects of landscape.	On-going	2021		
	5. We will prepare and promote approaches on Natural Capital that better capture the contributions made by the natural and cultural elements of landscape.	New	tbc		
	6. We will develop and assess the application of ecosystems services methodologies to the natural and cultural elements of landscape.	New	tbc		
Celebrating landscapes - we will work together to help promote Scotland's landscapes and the work done to look after them.	7. We will report on the progress Scotland is making on implementing the European Landscape Convention.	On-going	Annually		
	8. We will support the work of the Scotland's Landscape Alliance to promote the value of, and action for, landscape.	On-going	2019 - 20		

Engaging more local con	nmunities and stakeholders to help shape future landscape change				
Engaging people - we will work together to enable more people to say what they value about their landscapes and how they should change in future.	We will develop a range of joint resources to help communities engage in the planning and management of their local landscapes.	New	Tbc		
	10. We will promote landscape's contribution in the preparation of new Local Place Plans and support sharing of good practice.	New	2020 onwards		
	11. We will work collaboratively with new regional land use partnerships to facilitate consideration of landscape in how climate change impacts are best tackled.	New	2020 onwards		
Investing in landscapes - we will work together to make the case for greater investment in landscapes.	12. We will develop thinking and best practice on developing a common vision and objectives to steer future landscape change in areas of greatest need and opportunity.	New	2020 onwards		
	13. We will identify opportunities and work with the Scottish Land Commission and others to strengthen the landscape component of the regeneration of Vacant and Derelict Land (for example, the contribution of priority areas for tackling Buildings at Risk).	New	ongoing		
	14. We will work with others to establish appropriate future (post-Brexit) funding for land management, Green Infrastructure and relevant economic development strategies.	On-going	ongoing		
Strengthening the role of landscape approaches in planning management and design of built development and land uses					
National Policy and Strategy - we will develop more joint working on relevant policy and strategy with implications for landscape.	15. We will refresh SNH's published guidance and consider further guidance on landscape under the Historic Environment Policy.	New	2020		
	16. We will advocate an integrated approach to landscape in the revision of NPF/ SPP and consider how best to further embed landscape in place-making policies.	New	2020 - 21		
	17. We will develop approaches to assess landscape quality of new development and land use change, as part of potential wider planning reporting in Scotland.	New	tbc		
Special landscapes - we will continue to work on developing shared approaches to our most valued landscapes.	18. We will publish and support the implementation of refreshed joint guidance on local landscape areas.	On-going	2020		
	19. We will review sources of historic and cultural information on wild land areas and enhance the presentation of the historic dimension and cultural values of these areas.	New	Tbc		
	20. We will establish a forum for sharing information and advice with Scotland's National Park authorities and link with the equivalent UK group.	New	2020		