

# STC2023

## Scotland's Towns Conference 2023: Delivering Towns for All

**When: Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November, 9.15am – 5pm**

**Where: Apex Hotel, Dundee**

Scotland aims to deliver places for all – a *wellbeing economy* - creating equality and opportunity for an economy that ensures our towns, neighbourhoods and communities are thriving, engaging and viable for all.

We must deliver the transition to stronger, greener, fairer, healthier and successful places across Scotland.

This year's conference will focus on a vision for the future of our towns and neighbourhoods. Sharing knowledge, connections and exemplars to help stakeholders deliver on our collective vision.

### PROGRAMME

09:00 – 09:45 OPTIONAL STUDY

*Dundee Train Station to Apex Hotel*

09:15– 10:15 REGISTRATION | EXHIBITION | COFFEE

10:20 – 10:25 WELCOME

Host: Rona Dougall, Broadcaster

10:25 – 10:35 SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT ADDRESS: DELIVERING TOWNS FOR ALL

Joe FitzPatrick MSP, Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning, Scottish Government

10:35 – 10:55 DELIVERING TOWNS FOR ALL: DUNDEE AREA SPOTLIGHT

Councillor John Alexander, Leader, Dundee City Council & Blair Parkin, Eden Project

10:55 – 11:15 COFFEE TO GO

11:20 – 12:30 WORLD CAFÉ STYLE CONVERSATIONS

A holistic approach to place should deliver on creating equality and opportunity for an economy that ensures our towns, neighbourhoods and communities are thriving, engaging and viable for all.

- What can we do now, to ensure we *all* live well locally?
- How do we encourage innovation, enterprise and new approaches to place?
- How do we bring the green agenda to the local narrative to ensure we are meeting national climate objectives?

12:30– 13:45 EXHIBITION | LUNCH

13:50 – 13:55 WELCOME BACK – RONA DOUGALL

13:55 – 14:15 DELIVERING TOWNS FOR ALL – SCOTLAND-WIDE SPOTLIGHT

Rob Dickson, Director of Industry and Destination Development, Visit Scotland

14:25 -15:15 FRINGE EVENTS

Case studies and discussion. Select one to attend from the following four options:

#### 1. TOWN CENTRE LIVING ( Art Gallery )

Investment in town centre housing and living well locally for all. Providing people of all ages and abilities, with the opportunity to meet the majority of their daily needs within their town centre. Examples will feature a range of users, repurposing vacant space, with a balance of housing, public services, social, cultural and green space.

- Chair : Mhairi Donaghy, Associate Director – Place, Housing & Economic Investment, Scottish Futures Trust
- Magda Swider, Regeneration Coordinator, & Josh Doyle, Placemaking Coordinator, West Dunbartonshire Council – ‘Developing Dunbarton’
- Alastair Ranyard, Development Manager, Wheatley Homes East

#### 2. ENTERPRISING COMMUNITIES ( City Quay Suite, Main Room )

Local people taking responsibility for economic, social and environmental action that will make a difference within their communities. Examples will demonstrate community ownership, development and use patterns in town centres that encourage local small business, community enterprises and entrepreneurship centred around local and circular economies.

- Chair: Jamie Lawson, Strategic Engagement and Partnership Manager, Social Enterprise Scotland
- Janet Miles, Managing Director – Gairloch and Loch Ewe Action Forum
- Paul McIlvenny, Chairperson & Co-Founder – Include Me 2 Club – ‘Include Me 2 Club: Where ideas happen!’

#### 3. PLANET AND ENVIRONMENT ( Vancouver Room )

Establishing a joined up, collaborative, and participative approach to climate action within place. Examples will highlight a climate change response, building on existing programmes in Climate Action Towns, micro-generation, retrofitting of town centres buildings and the alteration of space in town centres for active travel, pedestrian movement, green space and social settings, with a view to enhancing the resilience of town centres against climate change.

- Chair: Cheryl Robb, Partnership Manager, Zero Waste Scotland
- Kate Treharne, Community Allotments Officer, Campy Grower – ‘Community Growing in a Time of Crises: The Campy Growers’
- Mo Khan, Owner & Founder, Lokali – ‘Localism and Purchasing Power: a tangible means to cut supply chains’

#### 4. THRIVING PLACES – PLACE-BASED INVESTMENT ( Melbourne Room )

Place-based impact investing, bringing financial and social and/or environmental returns—to address the needs of marginalised communities. Creating vibrant, creative, enterprising and accessible places for all.

- Chair: Alix Medlyn-Davies, Manager - Place, Housing & Economic Investment, Scottish Futures Trust
- Carol Devine, Operations Manager, Rockfield Centre
- Fraser Innes, Place & Partnership Director, hub North Scotland Ltd
- Heather Claridge, Director of Design, Architecture and Design Scotland

15:25 – 15:45 DELIVERING TOWNS FOR ALL – INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT  
David Martin, Joint Managing Director, M Worldwide

15:45 – 15:55 Q & A

15:55 – 16:00 Closing Remarks

16:00 - 16:05 Reception Welcome

Henry Jinman, Chief Executive Officer, Vicinity

16:05 - 17:00 Drinks reception - Lounge area

**The Drinks Reception kindly sponsored by Vicinity**

