

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE
EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

**CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE
CONVENTION EUROPEENNE DU PAYSAGE**

***21st MEETING OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE EUROPE LANDSCAPE CONVENTION***

***21^e REUNION DES ATELIERS POUR LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DE
LA CONVENTION EUROPEENNE DU PAYSAGE***

***“Landscape and education”
« Paysage et éducation »***

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WORKSHOP 1 – General debate on public policies

United Kingdom – Landscape and Education

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England

Targeted education and training:

- The Sill, National Landscape Discovery Centre, in Northumberland National Park is a brand new visitor attraction which aims to excite and inspire people of all ages to explore the landscape, history, culture and heritage of Northumberland.
- Choose Landscape: This is the Landscape Institute's careers campaign, which aims to encourage young people to consider landscape as a career. Its goal is to ensure that the UK has a good supply of future talent and skills within the landscape profession. Launched Summer 2018:
- Apprenticeship Trailblazer: Also designed to address the skills shortage within our sector, this is the creation of two new standard apprenticeships within the landscape profession: Level 4 apprenticeship (Landscape Assistant) and Level 7 apprenticeship (Landscape Professional). It is employer-backed and has received approval from the IFA.

Projects and Programmes

- Historic England Heritage Schools Programme

Developed in response to the government report on cultural education in England, the Heritage Schools programme aims to help school children develop an understanding of their local heritage and its significance.

One project of particular relevance is the *Heritage Schools Our Place – Local Area Characterisation* project. A partnership has been formed between Historic England, Bristol City Council's City Design Department and local teachers trained in the use of *Our Place* toolkit. The project enables communities to assess the character of their neighbourhood and play a more active role in determining what happens there in the future. Characterisation involves identifying any important historic places or buildings and defining what makes them special.

A green future: our 25 year plan to improve the environment

The environment plan sets out the goals for improving the environment, within a generation, over the next 25 years, and leaving it in a better state than we found it.

The 25-Year Plan has an emphasis on engaging with children, education and the environment through connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing. Examples include:

- Work with National Park Authorities to continue to deliver the 8-Point Plan for National Parks 2016-2020. National Park Authorities have already met the target to engage directly with over 60,000 young people a year in school visits, and this figure will be doubled;
- Development of a nature-friendly schools programme for schools in the most disadvantaged areas using input from stakeholders to be open to schools from autumn 2018;
- Development of a programme to support schools and Pupil Referral Units in our most disadvantaged areas to establish progressive programmes of nature contact for their pupils, to be opened to schools from autumn 2019;
- Support for the expansion of school outreach activities delivered by community forests;
- Support for a national expansion of care farming by 2022, trebling the number of places in England to 1.3m per year, for both children and adults.

Northern Ireland (NI)

Projects and programmes

- During December 2017, the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (NI) held a workshop for Local Authority and Council staff to raise awareness, and encourage the use, of the Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) facility in the preparatory stages of Local Development Plans.
- In tandem with this, the Department produced development guidance documents relating to Local Development Plans which set out the best practice steps in relation to the process of LCA and the methodology for identification of Local Landscape Policy Areas (including interaction with existing LCAs).

- These workshops and documents were aimed at educating a specific target audience of professional planners rather than educating the public.

Scotland

Targeted education and training

- Forest landscape design training course;
 - During the early months of 2018 the Forestry Commission Scotland Landscape and Culture Adviser prepared and delivered a series of two-day classroom courses in forest landscape design. The course explains what is meant by ‘landscape’ and explores the principles of forest landscape design as outlined in the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) landscape guidelines. Structured to combine presentations with practical design exercises, the course provides an explanation of the design principles, demonstrates their application and then allows practice time to apply them to forest design work. It demonstrates how the application of these principles can contribute towards the effective design of both new forests and the felling and restocking of an existing forest, all in a variety of Scottish landscapes.
 - Originally developed for the benefit of professional foresters, two of this year’s courses were primarily for forestry students at the University of the Highlands and Islands Scottish School of Forestry, and at Aberdeen University.
- *Agent Plan-It* is a podcast series about planning: it was produced by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), Scotland.
- *Place Makers*, a board game for 14-18 year olds that uses role play to explore the role of planners, has also been produced by RTPI. The initial pilot edition ran out in no time at all, and opportunities to produce more copies are being explored.

Mark Turnbull Travel Award

- This year’s winner of the inaugural Mark Turnbull Travel Award has chosen as part of her topic *Scotland’s Future Landscapes: Ensuring Resilience for the Profession*, to focus on strengthening landscape education. The United States of America is currently the biggest competitor with the United Kingdom for international landscape recruitment, with some of the oldest and most prestigious landscape courses in the world attracting large student numbers. The winner will explore how these institutions have shifted their approaches to deal with future educational needs that are evolving globally. The results will be shared with the Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (ESALA) and the profession, and presented at next year’s Landscape Institute Scotland’s annual general meeting (LIS).

Ambassadors for Landscape

- Landscape Architects use their skills and enthusiasm to engage with schools and young people using the newly-launched Landscape Institute #ChooseLandscape careers campaign. The LIS have a list of school contacts. *Ambassadors for Landscape* also includes practitioners who work on the design of new schools, or with parents and community groups on school playgrounds throughout Scotland;
- *Skills Scotland* attends Annual Careers Fairs, West of Scotland University Careers Day and the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) Conference;

- Involvement of Scotland's Rural College and ESALA staff and students and landscape professionals at careers fairs, aim to encourage landscape as a career choice;
- Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) *Green Plan It* project helps school students to rethink their outdoor environments;
- The LIS supports the RHS *Green Plan It* Challenge which pairs professional mentors with year 8-9 students for a 10-week design challenge. Becoming a *Green Plant It* mentor is an exciting way to help young people learn about the landscape, plants and horticulture and assists in professional development.

Young Landscape Architects Knowledge Exchange

- Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture and the Landscape Institute Scotland presented the *Young Landscape Architects Knowledge Exchange* as part of Scotland's Year of Youth 2018. This is an introduction to Landscape Architecture and a chance for graduates, current students and prospective students to meet and share advice. The event will provide a relaxed environment for young people to meet, discuss, and learn about Landscape Architecture, collaborate on designs, and explore the future of Landscape Architecture, and Landscape Architecture as a career.
- In accord with the Early Years Agenda, collaborative work is ongoing between Architecture and Design Scotland, LIS and landscape professionals in Scotland, in preparation for the Scottish Government's plan to increase the early learning and child care entitlement by 2020. A workshop with LIS practitioners in September 2018 explored outdoor experiences as a major element of the ambition to deliver the European Landscape Convention agenda which includes 100% outdoors and designed improvements both in existing spaces and new build. The aim is to support clients to shape expectations and budgets for landscape in early years settings, and to support their decision-making in procurement with Key Performance Indicators, and learning from practitioner experience.

Projects and Programmes

Landscape Partnerships

- Many Landscape Partnerships include informal lifelong learning on a landscape scale. *Great Place* schemes, such as the one for Badenoch, also include educational elements. Historic Environment Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage are often involved in these broad-scale initiatives. Examples include:

Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership

- This includes training sessions for local people in practical archaeological field surveying and prospecting for archaeological sites in the landscape, as well as in investigating historical archives. Other training is being offered in relation to natural heritage. The education part of the project is being led by the National Park Authority, for example:
 - Junior Ranger programme with local schools, including delivering elements of Rural Skills Programme;
 - Creation of educational resources specific to the cultural and natural heritage of Tomintoul and Glenlivet;
 - Help for young people from deprived areas to connect with the rural landscape, using the John Muir Award.

Inner Forth Landscape Initiative

- Many of the projects within this Landscape Partnership involve education and skills sharing, including supporting people at the start of their careers, and involving school children. A great selection are included in the title hyperlink.

Badenoch Great Place Scheme

- This scheme will also include training in archaeological research and recording.
- Historic Environment Scotland is about to start the *Celebrating Speyside* project which is related to the *Year of Young People* and involves local schools to assist understanding and appreciation of local landscapes.
- Transport Scotland, through the dualling programme for the A9 Perth to Inverness trunk road, has created a bespoke education programme for schools and colleges within the broad A9 corridor – *Academy 9*. The intention is to use the project to introduce pupils to the work that is required to deliver such a major infrastructure project, including the various professional roles, and through this to encourage more to enter into STEM-related careers (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) as well as other areas connected to the construction industry. Whilst largely focused on engineering aspects, there has been a significant level of input on the environmental side – particularly covering ecology, geology, hydrology, air quality and cultural heritage.

Informative resources

- LIS ‘Landscape for Scotland’ was published and launched at the Scottish Parliament in November 2017 with a follow-on debate at the Scottish Parliament in June 2018. The document is being used to influence at political and professional level, as well for education purposes at career fairs.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

Targeted education and training

- NRW delivered a training and educational event to Glastir Officers on woodland creation, in order to raise awareness and understanding of landscape evidence and information, including Special Landscape Areas, to help inform applications. A training event entitled *Landscape considerations in Glastir Woodland Creation Schemes* took place in January 2018.
- NRW delivered a presentation in April 2018 to the Institute of Chartered Foresters’ *Long-Term Forest Planning and Professionalism* Workshops on Landscape considerations in Forests and Woodlands, covering landscape and forest design relating to the UK Forestry Standard.
- NRW delivered a presentation and training in February 2018 to Brecon Beacons National Park planners, ecologists and historic environment officers on NRW’s approach to landscape planning advice, sustainable management of natural resources and the evidence base.
- In March 2018, NRW delivered on-site training on landscape, visual analysis and assessment to Development Planning Officers South East team.
- NRW delivered a presentation and training to Development Planning Officers South teams on landscape advice in relation to National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in May and June 2018.

- In April 2018, NRW and the Landscape Institute held joint meetings and field visits to raise awareness of current work and issues in Wales and to consider future mutual opportunities, including training.
- The NRW training programme for teachers and education professionals provides opportunities to consider and connect to varying landscapes. This year, to date, courses have been run in woodland, beach and river habitats. Courses aim to enable others to learn in, about and for the natural environment and to understand the need for sustainable management, as well as highlighting the multiple benefits to health (both physical and mental wellbeing) and attainment.
- NRW facilitates three main learning networks which together provide a voice for the outdoor learning sector, provide national and local networking opportunities, support quality assurance, raise standards across relevant qualifications and training opportunities and ensure the delivery of high quality outdoor teaching and learning across Wales. They provide a vehicle to highlight and explain the links between education and landscape through various projects and qualifications – Outdoor Learning Wales, Outdoor Learning Training Network and Wales Council for Outdoor Learning.
- NRW has a number of learning trails which encourage groups and families to explore and appreciate their local landscape. A new trail in Fforest Fawr is based on local flora and fauna, giving an added dimension to understanding of the immediate landscape.

Projects and programmes

- National Parks UK has been funding education projects in NRW in 2018. The National Park UK website hosts educational resources Moorland Indicators for Climate Change Initiative (MICCI) pages. Resources became live in January, ready for the 2018 MICCI roll out in March as part of British Science Association's National Science Programme and 2009 - 2017 project reports.
- NRW is currently working with National Federation of Women's Institutes Wales, who have been awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to set up a national network of local urban tree champions across Wales. NRW is one of a number of partners, others include The Woodland Trust, OPAL Tree Health Survey and the Open University (who have developed a tree identification and assessment app called *Treezilla*). Using their wide membership network in local communities, a variety of local WI projects will develop across Wales, ranging from tree identification, assessment and management, to tree planting, and tree celebration events.
- The Plant Programme is celebrating 10 years' existence this year, having created 15 new woodlands across Wales with over 320,000 trees, one for every child born and adopted in Wales. Each child receives a certificate and letter detailing the woodland location, to encourage families to visit. The programme provides opportunities for children and families to connect with their tree and the landscape around it and all woodlands have a 25-year public access agreement. The first city scheme in St Asaph is also now confirmed, in order to influence the urban landscape, in addition to creating more typical woodlands.
- The Gwent Living Levels project aims to reconnect people and communities to their landscape and to provide a sustainable future for this historic and vibrant place. NRW is a project partner with representation on the Learning and Fly-tipping subgroups. NRW education, learning and skills staff support the development of a primary-level, themed learning resource specific to the levels. The Fly-tipping subgroup is led by NRW Fly-tip Action Wales staff with advice and guidance from education, learning and skills staff on targeting schools and communications,

with a poster competition proposal in collaboration with Coleg Gwent. A Welsh Baccalaureate *Gwent Living Levels* Individual Project Proposal has been produced by NRW as part of Heritage Lottery Fund work and approved by the Welsh examination board, WJEC.

- 2018 will be the fourth year of the Acorn Antics Campaign which encourages groups to collect sessile and pedunculate acorns which are then transported to and planted on at the Forestry Commission England (FCE) Delamere Tree Nursery and eventually bought back to Wales to be planted in Welsh woodlands. This also transmits a wider message around large-scale planting and ecosystem resilience as seed is collected from many locations. This year will also see a wider range of learning resources provided online to support and encourage education groups to participate in the 2018 campaign.
- The *Dynamic Dunescapes* project (currently in development stage), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, is being developed in a partnership between Natural England, NRW, National Trust, Plantlife and The Wildlife Trust, to restore sand dune landscapes in England and Wales. It is responding to our changing understanding of how dunes function and their management needs: the project will include educational and landscape elements through project activities and events; volunteers; training; citizen science programmes and involvement of children and young people in a schools programme covering the curriculum and particularly STEM subjects.

Statement

The Minister for the Environment, Hannah Blethyn's *Statement on the Environment*, dated 17 April 2018, prioritises the National Parks and AONB's 'key educational role' and takes the lead in the sustainable management of natural resources, maximising social, economic and environmental benefits. NRW will be working closely with the *Designated Landscapes* to ensure delivery of these priorities and wellbeing goals.

Informative resources

- NRW has prepared six landscape evidence narratives to cover Wales which contribute to the preparation of statutory [Area Statements](#) and for wider policy, planning and educational use.
- [All-Wales LANDMAP Statistics 2017 Visual and Sensory Aspect Report](#).