

Transforming Vacant & Derelict Land via Mutual Place Making

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ABSTRACT

Transforming Vacant & Derelict Land in Scotland is part of wider international challenge to ensuring that the built environment is healthy and delivered responsibly given we spend 80 to 90% of our lives in it. However, construction has well-documented and inherent productivity, cultural and environmental impact challenges. The purpose of this project is to address this challenge via a collaborative and entrepreneurial working with UIREKA partners and to pilot this approach in Scotland as a part of Scottish Government backed Task Force strategic project. In addition Edinburgh Napier University will to share knowledge and experiences via the Built Environment Exchange programme and develop a methodology for productive place making working with local communities.

Three thousand seven hundred sites (12,000 hectares) of vacant and derelict land exist in Scotland with the majority of this land being within urban areas. A task force has therefore been established to transform the existing approach to bringing this land into productive use. The task force, backed by the Scottish Government, is to be collaborative and entrepreneurial with a view to unlocking opportunities for inclusive sustainable growth. The transformation of Vacant & Derelict Land in Scotland is part of wider international challenge to ensuring that the built environment is healthy and delivered responsibly given we spend 80 to 90% of our lives in it. However, construction has well-documented and inherent productivity, cultural and environmental impact challenges. As a result the delivery of the built environment requires to be more inclusive and allow communities to be part of the decision making process. The future workforce also needs to be inspired towards a career to deliver the necessary solutions. Further, the skills and technologies required for this will be quite different with the need to develop more holistic solutions geared toward efficient delivery. Edinburgh Napier University has established the Built Environment Exchange (beX) to draw new talent to the sector and accelerated their careers via augmented learning, international experience and industry engagement. In 2018 beX won the “outstanding employer engagement in universities” prize at the

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Herald Higher Education Awards. It is proposed to leverage the research track record, industry partner innovations, new talent creation and international collaboration available via ENU beX and the U!REKA network to help create practical approaches for the transformation of vacant and derelict land.

Aim of the paper and urban challenge it addresses:

To tackle the barriers that lock development and reinvent the Vacant & Derelict Land framework to create socio-economic opportunities for communities in Scotland.

KEYWORDS

Keyword 1	Vacant and Derilict Land
Keyword 2	Uraban Regeneration
Keyword 3	Sustainable Growth

Workshop

Workshop III: Urban Sustainable Development