

## Join the Forum

### What does the Built Environment Forum Scotland do?

Our vision is to achieve **successful, sustainable place-making** in Scotland that reflects the passion and skill of those caring for, and creating, good places for people. We do this by providing an **independent forum** for understanding and promoting an integrated approach to Scotland's built environment.

We enable **collaborative working across disciplines**; develop common purpose from diversity; raise awareness and mediate between differences of opinion; and strengthen linkages between policy and practice through reaching, via our members, front-line practitioners. By building consensus through awareness-raising, we can promote shared values and advocate the needs of practitioners to the Scottish Government and parliamentarians, in order to secure better outcomes for Scotland's places.

### Who can join?

Full membership is open to non-governmental organisations, with national remit, with objectives that align with BEFS' objectives, as outlined in our Strategy document. Any other organisation, with relevant remit, may join as a Subscriber, and individuals can also join as Supporters.

### What BEFS provides ... according to our Members:

*An opportunity to focus on current policy and practice issues, by participating in workshops and contributing to joint consultation responses*

*A means of keeping up-to-date on policy issues via the e-Bulletin, ad hoc briefings, and reports at quarterly general meetings*

*A chance to network, exchange views, hear different perspectives and develop understanding and awareness of other organisations and their activities*

*A means of promoting issues, with other organisations, to Government, the Parliament and other key stakeholders*

### BEFS offers...

#### An independent Forum on place-making:

Full Members are responsible for *setting the agenda* and steering the course of activity within BEFS; can *vote*; and have the option to nominate individuals to the Board and to convene/lead on initiatives. Members and Subscribers *nominate two representatives*.

#### Key achievements...

The Bigger Picture campaign; which called for a system of regular audit of the state of Scotland's historic environment

Regular workshops enabling stakeholders to input into developing national policy on topic areas such as the historic environment, architecture policy, sustainable development and climate change

Development of a Manifesto 'Pride of Place' in advance of Scottish elections in 2007 - and engagement with political parties in developing their own manifestos

Co-ordination of stakeholder consultation on, and call for, legislation on the historic environment – expected in 2009

Liaison with the Scottish Government and Parliament on historic environment aspects of the forthcoming Scottish Marine Bill

**A variety of opportunities to help organisations engage with strategic debate on policy and practice:**

Members have a place in *strategic discussions* on issues affecting Scotland's places, and a chance to participate in *campaigning activity*. By joining, organisations benefit from the *mutual support* derived through being part of Scotland's community of built environment interests, and opportunities for *promoting themselves* within this broader constituency. Specific benefits include:

- Members have the opportunity to *engage* with civil servants, Ministers, MSPs and external strategic groups through BEFS.
- Members and Subscribers are encouraged to *participate actively* in workshops, seminars and meetings on current policy and practice issues.
- Members and Subscribers contribute to strategic public policy development

through shaping consolidated *consultation responses* and strategic statements.

- Members and Subscribers may participate in *working groups* (currently on the historic environment, and – in development – on urban design and sustainable development) and *taskforces*.

**Access to information on policy and good practice:**

Alongside the networking opportunities described above, Members and Subscribers receive email *briefings, alerts and quarterly reports* on policy and parliamentary matters; and the regular (approximately fortnightly) *e-Bulletin* which provides a comprehensive listing of relevant policy information: consultation documents, publications, news releases, parliamentary activity, and information on relevant events, job vacancies (free advertising for Members), and training.

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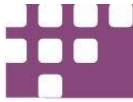
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Membership type	Annual Turnover	Rate 09-10
Member – tiered:		
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**Places, Spaces and People**

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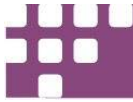


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Updated: 02/09



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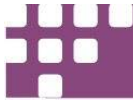
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