

Built Environment Forum Scotland (BEFS) is an umbrella body for organisations working in the built environment in Scotland. Drawing on extensive expertise in a membership-led forum, BEFS informs, debates and advocates on the strategic issues, opportunities and challenges facing Scotland's historic and contemporary built environment. BEFS is a member of the [Climate Heritage Network](#) steering group.

This consultation was submitted via the online portal.

Q1. Do you feel this vision still reflects the outcomes we need to achieve?

NO

Q2. If not, what key changes would you like to see for a new Land Use vision?

Additions/changes underlined

A Scotland where we fully recognise, understand and value the importance of our land and landscape resources, and where our plans and decisions about land use will deliver improved and enduring benefits, enhancing the wellbeing of our people and places.

Reasoning: landscape scale resources enable greater inclusion of the types of resources that land holds.

Wellbeing for our people *and* places encourages greater value to be placed on biodiversity and the care and protection of land-based resources.

Q3. Do you think any of the above objectives need updating? If so, please indicate which you think needs changes. You can tick all that apply.

- I think they are good as they are, no changes needed
- "Land based businesses working with nature to contribute more to Scotland's prosperity" should be changed
- "Responsible stewardship of Scotland's natural resources delivering more benefits to Scotland's people" should be changed
- "Urban and rural communities better connected to the land, with more people enjoying the land and positively influencing land use" should be changed

Q4. If you consider that one or more objectives need updating, please explain what changes you would like to see in the objective(s). Please make sure you state clearly which objective each suggestion relates to.

B) Land based businesses working with nature should protect, maintain and enhance the land as they contribute to Scotland's prosperity

C) Responsible stewardship of Scotland's natural resources delivering more benefits to Scotland's people and places

D) Communities across Scotland better connected to the land, with more people enjoying the land and positively influencing land use

Reasoning:

B aligns natural and heritage protections and definitions.

C has benefits for nature and biodiversity as well as people

D – given the following definitions of area/area-types – this is more inclusive and covers all of Scotland, not just Urban and Rural as defined further on in this version of the Land Use Strategy.

Q5. Before reading this document were you aware of the pressures on our land?

Strongly aware of all pressures on our land

Q6. Are you aware of ways people can get involved in land use matters within your local area?

Yes

Q7. Do you think the landscapes are an effective way to communicate Scottish Government policy?

No

Please enter any comments:

They are a useful shortcut to express how nature may be perceived. However, the order in which they are presented could seem hierarchical. Additionally, is "peri-urban" a common enough and well understood descriptor, or does it need to be unpacked?

Q8. Under each landscape we have identified three sub headings: Climate Change, Biodiversity and Communities. Do you feel these capture the crosscutting themes that are important to all of Scotland?

Comment:

Impact on Natural capital is not fully featured and could usefully help add to the expression of economic benefits of well maintained, enhanced, and biodiverse land and landscapes.

Q9. Does the content of the Land Use Strategy and the manner in which it has been presented, demonstrate that the Scottish Government is taking steps to help deliver sustainable land use?

Yes

Comment:

Should hydro-electric power generation play a part in any of those landscapes - it appears to be missing?

Q10 / Q11 / Q12 – N/A

RESPONDENT INFORMATION:

Name: Ailsa Macfarlane, Policy and Strategy Manager

Email: amacfarlane@bef.s.org.uk

Responding on behalf of an **Organisation - BEFS** (Built Environment Forum Scotland)

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference: **Publish response with name**

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise? **YES**

I confirm that I have read the privacy policy and consent to the data I provide being used as set out in the policy.