



Architecture+DesignScotland
Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba

Annual Review 2014



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CLICK TO WATCH

This icon will bring you to a video hosted on Vimeo. (All videos by MRMedia.) Underlined text will bring you to a web resource.

Images: Cover image: Illustration from Design Skills Symposium 2014 by Richard Carman. This page (from top). GREEN2014 (Donald Macleod), GREEN2014 (Michael McGurk) and Winy Maas, MVRDV (A+DS)



Chair's Review by Karen Anderson

Reflecting on 2014, I am pleased above all by the range of ways we have worked to promote the wider benefits of good design throughout Scotland. We have continued to focus our resources on helping clients make better informed decisions in commissioning and delivering projects. We have made use of this work to illustrate the value that good design can add to all aspects of our life and work. We have provided a range of learning opportunities for professionals and communities – a key element in our efforts to build capacity in the public investment and built environment sectors across Scotland.

Our flagship programme this year was GREEN2014, a celebration of the legacy created by the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. From children learning about growing their own food to professionals exploring the sustainable construction of the Athletes' Village, GREEN2014 demonstrated how design impacts on every aspect of our lives. In particular, the lessons to be learned from the collaborative approach taken to delivering the Athletes' Village offer great value to all forms of development right across our country.

During the year we published our latest Corporate Strategy which provides the framework for our work up to 2017. In preparing the new Strategy, the Board and I spent time with a range of stakeholders across Scotland to learn how they felt we could help them. Meetings like these are extremely

valuable and we were inspired by the ideas and input received. These ideas now underpin our Strategy and guide our work to champion good architecture and sustainable places so I am grateful to everyone who contributed to this process.

This year we welcomed Sue Evans and Graham Hill to our Board. Their arrival consolidates the breadth of knowledge and experience we are able to draw on and promise to add great value to our work. At the same time, I would like to take this opportunity to thank departing Board members Branka Dimitrijevic and Martin McKay for their key contributions to A+DS.

In the years ahead, I look forward to us playing an increasing role in shaping planning and investment decisions that deliver more sustainable places and communities. We will build on our work, helping and encouraging everyone to be informed and to influence their places for the better and in doing so, I look forward very much to working with you.



Chief Executive's Review by Jim MacDonald

As in previous years we have worked hard to deliver a broadly based programme while managing reducing resources. It is a continuing testament to the hard work of our staff that this programme has again been so well received.

In 2014 we launched our latest Corporate Strategy, which outlines how we will support people and organisations in Scotland to value better design and make better places.

We believe that Scotland's built environment is important to everyone. At all times, but especially where resources are stretched, it is crucial that the buildings and places we invest in now are of a quality and character that will serve future generations as well as our own. This is important for our well-being and our sense of identity as much as it is for environmental and economic reasons. A well designed built environment is a key part of a better Scotland and for this reason we cannot afford to get it wrong.

In this context we work to highlight the long-term and wider benefits of good design and support clients to make better-informed decisions in the commissioning and development process. In our wider role, we aim to inspire more people to understand and appreciate the importance of good design. Through our exhibitions projects we illustrate the potential of inspiring architecture and people centred places

to improve all our lives. Through our education programme we encourage young people to get involved in shaping their places. Through our workshops we provide opportunities for people in communities to get directly involved in decisions that affect them.

In 2014 the eyes of the world were on Scotland. We took this opportunity to showcase the environmental legacy of the 2014 Commonwealth Games and highlight what we can learn from the approach taken in delivering the greenest ever games. This was done through GREEN2014, a major programme of events and exhibitions which began with our Design Skills Symposium looking at transferable lessons from Glasgow's approach to delivering the Commonwealth Games. We collaborated with a range of international partners, including key contacts in Melbourne, Australia, and continued to support the Scottish contribution at the Venice Architecture Biennale. We look forward to building those relationships further in 2015 when we will have a particular focus on international collaborations, as well as celebrating 10 years as an organisation engaged in promoting the best of Scotland's built environment.

I would like to finish by thanking our clients, funders and partners for their continued support and pay tribute to the on going commitment and creativity of our dedicated staff, Board and Design Forum Panel members.



A+DS Corporate Strategy
2014-2017



Launched in early 2014, the Corporate Strategy 2014 -17 outlines how A+DS aims to support the people and organisations involved in development in Scotland to prioritise better design and make better places.

We believe that Scotland's built environment is important to everyone. In these times of finite resources it is crucial that the buildings and places we invest in now are of a quality and character that will stand the test of time for future generations. This is important not just for environmental and economic reasons but for our future well-being and sense of cultural identity.

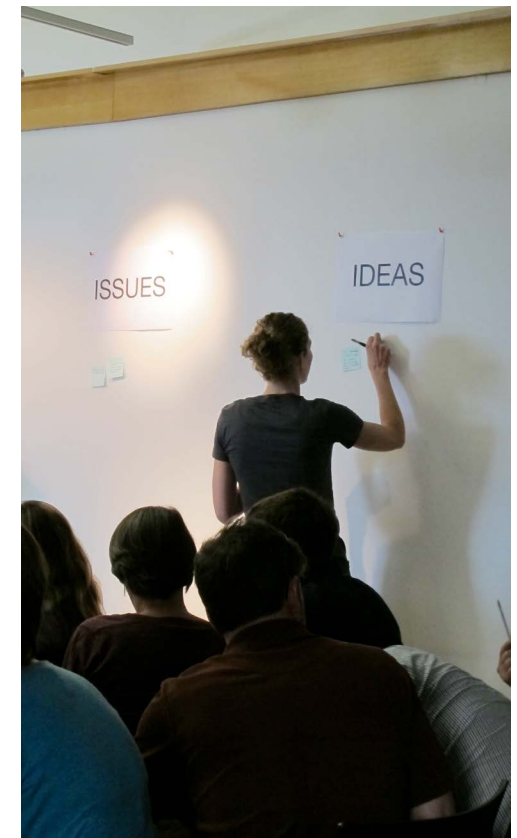
A well designed and a high quality built environment is a key part of our collective vision for a better Scotland, and, put simply, we cannot afford to get it wrong.

A+DS Corporate Strategy 2014-2017

*Images:
Previous page: WASPS South Block by NORD featured in the Reactivate exhibition in 2014 (Gillian Hayes, Dapple Photography)
This page (from l-r) Workshop (A+DS) and Forth Valley College by Reich and Hall as featured on our Corporate Strategy document. (Dave Morris)*

Our six key objectives for 2014 -17 are outlined below. In this Annual Review you will see a snapshot of our activities aimed at delivering those objectives.

- 1) We will help create better buildings, streets and sustainable places in Scotland;
- 2) We will encourage more people to get involved in making sustainable places;
- 3) We will increase the understanding of architecture and design in the planning system;
- 4) We will promote Scottish architecture and design nationally and internationally;
- 5) We will provide leadership for our sector;
- 6) We will deliver high-quality services which are continually improving.





Postcard from Inverness
by Martin Crookston, A+DS Board

Postcard from Inverness by Martin Crookston, A+DS Board

Inverness is one of Scotland's fastest growing cities. It is the centre of an enormous region, which stretches from Skye to Cairngorm and from Thurso to Ballachulish, and which contains more distinctive and different places and landscapes than any other part of the country.

The A+DS Board were welcomed to Inverness by Highland Council, where officers and Councillor Thomas Prag - the Planning Convener - gave a fascinating overview of the issues they face and the approaches they adopt. Their own programme of schemes - especially for schools - painted a picture of a positive, dynamic and engaged local authority; very refreshing in an era when so much of the public sector has lost confidence and feels (and is) hard done-by.

Board members sensed the emergence of a regional design feel: not any sort of 'Hielan' pastiche', but a mix of the look of the new buildings with a design method which is ready to draw on, for example, the character of the Black Isle steadings to express the relationship between the parts of the whole group being built.

The Council aims to set a standard for others. It doesn't have much public land, so can't achieve this on major schemes within the settlements, but it can lead the way where it is building to meet public service needs.

The Board visit also took in two separate areas of Inverness. One was a revisit,

four years on, to the Housing Expo site at the Braes of Balvonie, high above the city. Built to showcase different ideas about sustainable housebuilding, it could have turned out as an architectural zoo. But it isn't; it's a collection of interestingly different approaches to the 'modern house' question - some a bit more radical (one house borrows the ground-floor treatment from U.S. suburban homes), others perhaps more reassuringly familiar. And it is clearly already emerging as a pleasant, coherent and popular place, with an attractive central green and sloping site, giving views clear over the city and the Great Glen to (a snow-covered, that day) Ben Wyvis.

There was also a chance for a guided walk-about in the city centre: a place of real character, with a bustling regional shopping centre in a largely Victorian heritage of streets and buildings, down to a lively waterside where the River Ness rushes through. But a place with some difficult questions about quality of environment, and especially about reducing the impact of traffic as Inverness adjusts from being a country town to becoming a city at the heart of a dynamic region.

Board members came away from the north conscious that they had only touched on a few of the issues facing the city and the region, but immensely heartened by the positive and creative attitude that had characterised everything they had seen.



A Picture of Health: From Policy to Places Designed for People

A+DS, together with Health Facilities Scotland and the Scottish Government's Health and Social Care Directorate, put together A Picture of Health: From Policy to Places Design for People. The exhibition – which features 31 Scottish healthcare projects and 20 design teams – was shown at the EUHpN and the Health Facilities Scotland conferences before opening at The Lighthouse, Glasgow, in November.

The approach outlined in the exhibition has been commended both in the Construction Procurement Review and at a recent international conference for showing how engaging building users in early design briefing can improve the quality of development. EuHPN keynote speaker, Blair Sadler, described Scotland as “a learning laboratory for the world”.

The exhibition outlines the [NHSScotland Design Assessment Process \(NDAP\)](#) which is a world-leading approach where the experience of patients and staff is given a clear voice in the brief of new facilities and where those responsible for project delivery must show how this brief is going to be achieved as they apply for funding, embedding design quality into the permission process.

The Scottish Government's 2020 Vision is that by the year 2020 everyone is able to live longer, healthier lives at home, or in a homely setting.

This is developed further in the NHS's Quality Strategy placing an increasing emphasis on the quality of place and personal experience of healthcare facilities.

The projects showcased range from an urban gym and a dental clinic through to health centres, a major hospital and a national laboratory, showing the versatility of this way of working. It also features commentary from staff across NHSScotland on how the process is effecting stakeholder engagement, client confidence in valuing good design and ultimately improving the patient environment.

We hope to help other sectors to realise similar benefits from this way of working.



A PIC TURE OF HEALTH — FROM POLICY TO PLACES DESIGNED FOR PEOPLE



*Images:
Previous Page: The Picture of Health exhibition at
The Lighthouse.
This page: A Picture of Health exhibition at The
Lighthouse and link to video. (A+DS)*



GREEN2014:
The environmental legacy
of the XX Commonwealth
Games in Glasgow

GREEN2014: The environmental legacy of the XX Commonwealth Games in Glasgow

As Glasgow prepared to welcome athletes, volunteers and spectators to the XX Commonwealth Games, A+DS launched the GREEN2014 exhibition in April to allow visitors to get behind the scenes of the sustainability legacy of the Games in Glasgow.

During its seven-month run over 20,000 visitors explored the GREEN2014 exhibition as it mapped out the scale of physical and social change the Games brought to Glasgow and Scotland.

The exhibition and events programme looked both at the physical infrastructure change to the city and beyond, and also portrayed the people who are benefitting directly from the Commonwealth Games legacy hearing from, amongst others, a librarian, a boxer, an apprentice, an artist, volunteers and cyclists.

GREEN2014 came with a packed event schedule with something for everyone – from professional development events to workshops on cycling, Scottish food and drink and growing your own food.

GREEN2014 explored the strong link between better places and better lives – demonstrating live projects that are changing people's lives and creating a lasting legacy.

A key part of the exhibition featured the people behind the legacy. They were asked "what has had the biggest impact on you?"

Here are some of their answers:

"When you see the joy of people who use and benefit from our work."

Colin Brown, Volunteer with the Bridgeton Community Centre Garden.

"I drive past the Athletes' Village every day for work so I've seen all the progress of the build. I'm proud to be a part of it, working for CCG who have been a big part of making it happen and it's exciting living so close."

Nadia Swift, Adult Apprentice Plasterer, CCG.



Images:
Previous page: Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome featured in GREEN2014 (Peter Dibdin)
This page (from top) GREEN2014 launch (Michael McGurk and Donald MacLeod)

GREEN2014: Events



GREEN2014: Events

GREEN2014 allowed us to reach a broad audience, especially through our events programme, which ranged from activities such as a run and cycle workshops, through to lectures and talks for professional audiences.

During the GREEN2014 programme we hosted 43 events and welcomed over 2,000 people to our events. The audience for these events broke down as follows; 1,135 attended public and family events, 629 attended events aimed at professionals and 250 students participated in education events.

Leg-A-See Run

The Leg-A-See Run was a seven kilometre guided run around key regeneration and Games sites in the East End of Glasgow. It was delivered in collaboration with the Veggie Runners.

One stop included the newly opened Baltic Street Adventure Playground, near the Athletes' Village, which proved to be a very inspirational stop for the runners:

"The guy at the community gardens was absolutely fantastic - was worth it just to hear from him. Thoroughly enjoyed it despite the weather - would be keen for another one."

- Participant, Leg-A-See Run

Images:
Previous page: Leg-A-See Run visits the Baltic Street Playground (A+DS)
This page: PechaKucha Pretty Vacant (A+DS)

Get Active!

The Legacy of the Commonwealth Games should be a more active population. We took this on by providing a host of active travel related events – including site specific commuting cycle workshops, a presentation on active travel and, of course, the Leg-A-See run.

Starting Not Stalling

GREEN2014 also gave us an opportunity to highlight and explore Glasgow's Stalled Spaces project. This was done at a special This Friday Presents event called Starting Not Stalling, featuring examples of current Stalled Spaces initiatives from Glasgow.

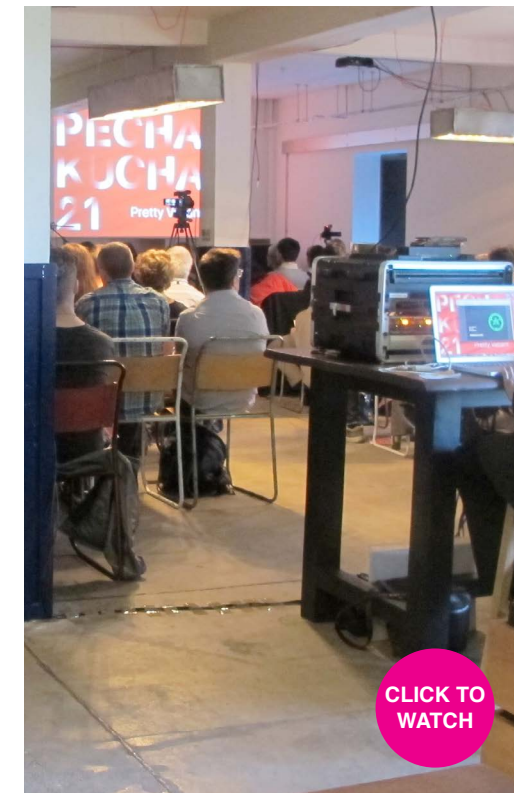
Speaking about the work involved with a stalled space, Tim Cowan from the Woodlands Community Garden said *"It is really important to have people from the community involved - this project came from the community from the beginning. The example of our project shows that we have seen huge benefits from transforming a derelict gap site where things can grow from."*

A special PechaKucha Night was hosted by the Whisky Bond, and provided further inspiration from projects that have all re-vitalised vacant land and public spaces.

To read more about Stalled Spaces Scotland [click here](#).

Commonwealth Lecture series

Together with the Glasgow City Heritage Trust and The Lighthouse we hosted five Commonwealth Lectures drawing learning from across Europe on various aspects of city development. These included a lecture on traffic management in historic cities, the development of Barcelona into a major tourist destination and the provision of a key green infrastructure in the shape of a city park in Hamburg. [The lectures are available to view on our website.](#)





Stalled Spaces Scotland

In 2014 the Scottish Government announced that A+DS will lead the national roll out of the Legacy 2014 programme Stalled Spaces Scotland, aimed at supporting local authorities and communities to bring derelict and vacant land back in to temporary use to benefit communities.

Drawing learning from the award-winning Stalled Spaces initiative led by Glasgow City Council, A+DS will provide support and guidance for local authorities across Scotland to develop their own local Stalled Spaces initiatives. To align with the Scottish Government's Town Centre Action Plan and the Town Centre First Principle the programme will primarily look at stalled spaces located within town centres to empower people to bring these spaces back into positive use for the benefit for the whole community.

In late 2014 A+DS provided a number of surgeries to support local authorities who were considering applying to become part of the Stalled Spaces Scotland initiative, and a major national seminar took place in December where the seven local authorities receiving funding were announced. The chosen authorities will be bringing a range of Stalled Spaces Scotland projects to their local communities in 2015, with the support of A+DS.

The projects can range from art installations and growing spaces to temporary events and pop-up play spaces that can help the community to come together.

At the launch of the initiative Minister for Local Government and Planning Derek Mackay said:

"This is an opportunity for communities to work with local authority partners, get creative and come up with quirky ideas to transform derelict land. It will not only inject some life into areas that were previously lying empty, but it will give communities a sense of ownership and allow them to show off their local areas in new and imaginative ways."



Stalled Spaces Scotland

Images:
Previous page: The Concrete Garden (Blair Cunningham)
This page: Official launch of Stalled Spaces Scotland with Karen Anderson (A+DS), Minister Derek Mackay and Baillie Liz Cameron (Glasgow City Council). (Lenny Warren)





Design Skills Symposium

The Design Skills Symposium in 2014 sought learning from the preparations for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, highlighting transferrable lessons for all of Scotland's places. The investments and initiatives related to the games are influencing transformational change in many places and communities.

In March 2014 the Design Skills Symposium brought together over 150 delegates from across Scotland to explore how a focus on smarter use of assets, mainstreaming sustainability and community involvement can help to build the conditions for greater urban and economic resilience.

Following the symposium we have continued to share the learning developed at the event - including with key policy makers and professional institutions.

We also captured the outputs from the event into a series of illustrated learning points, summary reports and videos. These were added to our website and also shown in an exhibition at The Noticed Board at The Lighthouse.

In November a smaller group of participants were brought together to explore how the learning from the March event had been applied, and once again come together to work creatively to solve a place problem.

The overall intent with the Design Skills Symposium is to support the work of built environment professionals across Scotland to promote the design agenda. The outputs from the Design Skills Symposium 2014 are now available on the A+DS website: www.ads.org.uk.

The event was developed by A+DS with the Scottish Government, Glasgow City Council, Clyde Gateway, Scottish Canals, Improvement Service and the Local Authority Urban Design Forum.



Design Skills Symposium

Images:
From Design Skills Symposium site visits and workshops (A+DS)



Case Study:
The Athletes' Village

Case Study: The Athletes' Village

In 2014 a number of A+DS events and projects explored the new Athletes' Village in Glasgow. The Design Skills Symposium, GREEN2014 and a talk on off site construction methods all touched on the development of the Athletes' Village. A+DS has also been involved with the project since its very start, when it originally appeared as part of our Design Forum process. Here is an overview of the Athletes' Village drawn from the output of the Design Skills Symposium 2014.

Set in the East End of Glasgow, the purpose-built, low carbon Commonwealth Games Athletes' Village is at the heart of one of Europe's largest regeneration areas. Home to 6,500 athletes and team officials for the duration of the Commonwealth Games, it will subsequently transform into a new residential community. 700 new homes and apartments are provided for social and private housing, offered at affordable levels, together with a 120-bed care home for the elderly.

The brief for the project formed a unique challenge, comprising a series of performance standards. The mix, housing numbers and construction methods were not prescribed. The solution was driven by the commercial choices made by the consortium. The development was to deliver low carbon solutions to the 2013 Building Regulations and high standards of excellence across the range and breadth of the project delivery.

*Images:
Athletes' Village in November 2014 (A+DS)*

The new homes were built to exemplary design standards using Modern Methods of Construction, and within a short build period of 15 months. Perhaps the most crucial aspect of the delivery of the project was its centrality to the urban programme being led by Clyde Gateway. Fundamental to this was the recognition from the legacy consortium at the very outset of the process that the village couldn't be developed as an 'island', and had to integrate and interface with other investment across the city, and particularly within the East End and the adjacent communities. The unique relationship to the River Clyde was seen as a major asset to be capitalised on, particularly in terms of driving the setting of place amenity.

The key to the success of the project was an effective partnership between the public and the private sector. The Council contributed the remediated land, funding for 400 social rented units and the 120-bed care home for the elderly which CCG were in charge of delivering. On the other hand, the private sector provided expertise in the fields of construction, project management and sales and marketing of the 300 private homes. Furthermore, they were responsible for a balance of funding, design solutions and the delivery of the next phase of legacy housing with the aspiration to deliver 725 further homes.

Read more about the Athletes' Village on www.ads.org.uk.



2014 A+DS and RIAS
Student Awards



2014 A+DS and RIAS Student Awards

The annual A+DS and the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS) Scottish Student Awards for Architecture aim to recognise the talent of student architects and are awarded in a number of categories.

In 2014 A+DS Urban Design Award went to Ava Delieva of Strathclyde University for her project 'Setting the Scene – Govan Graving Docks', which was described as *"an uplifting and visionary approach with consistently strong ideas. [...] This presentation starts with big ambitions and builds up from there."*

Ava said that the recognition of the award gave her confidence in looking for the right job following graduation, and she now works for an award-winning studio in Glasgow. She described her thoughts on winning the award saying, *"The chance to take part in a nationally acclaimed award scheme like A+DS/RIAS Student Awards is a privilege for any final year architecture student in Scotland. The culmination of the academic design course brought a sense of accomplishment after the intense nine months spent working on my thesis project."*

A+DS Sust. Award for Sustainable Design was awarded to Jonathon Phillips, Roseanne Knight and Stephanie Sharpe, from ESALA, for their project 'Towards an Integrated Garden City: a proposal to re-frame the post-industrial infrastructure Manchester'.

Roseanne explained the project, *"The project focused on placemaking in Manchester, considering how older people would like to live in the city and utilising existing historic urban fabric in a regenerative way to encourage place attachment within the city."*

She commented on her experience of taking part in the awards *"Having my work judged alongside that of students from other architecture schools across Scotland was a privilege and unique to this scheme. I believe it raises the profile of participating students and has the potential to help my future career in the field of architecture. It has given me confidence in my abilities, which is key for training to become an architect."*

Jonathon Phillips added *"Participating in a national award is the highest honor you can achieve as a student. To have your work validated by an external panel of judges gives you great satisfaction, and above all confidence in your own abilities."*

The winning entries were exhibited at The Lighthouse, and then toured schools of architecture around Scotland.

For students considering entering the 2015 awards, Ava said she *"would encourage any prospective architecture students to invest 100% of themselves into their creative work, and I would assure them that hard work combined with talent won't remain unnoticed."*



Images:
Previous page: Govan Graving Docks, Illustration (detail) by Ava Delieva.
This page: Illustration (detail) from the project awarded the Sust. Award for Sustainable Design by Jonathon Phillips, Roseanne Knight and Stephanie Sharpe.

2014 in review: Access

Our major programming in 2014 centred on GREEN2014 which is explored in much more detail [here](#).

2014 began with an exploration of new practice in Europe, particularly in the Netherlands, in the Reactivate! Innovators of Dutch Architecture exhibition. The exhibition, with supporting events, showcased young Dutch architectural firms who have pragmatically adjusted to the political, economic and cultural changes in society, redefining the boundaries of the profession.

We hosted the Scottish Civic Trust's My Place Photography awards and an exhibition of the winning projects in the Scottish Government's Scenic Routes initiative.

We supported a range of events, including a special talk about the impact of derelict land in Glasgow, in conjunction with the Noticed Board exhibition 'Derelict Glasgow'.

*Images:
Reactivate! Exhibition (Mary Freeman)
This Friday Presents Audience (A+DS)
Above Scotland Workshops (A+DS)*

Britain from Above Workshops

As part of RCAHMS' Britain from Above Exhibition at The Lighthouse, featuring images from the Aero films collection - a unique aerial photographic archive of international importance, A+DS delivered an education project to support the exhibition.

Each group of students developed an animated response to the large format print of their area seen from above. Younger children considered the difference between looking at something from the ground and the air, identifying important places and the stories connected to them. Older participants considered urban changes, the impact of industry and the stories connected with this. All participants were given the opportunity to learn model-making and stop motion animation skills in creative workshops designed to support the Curriculum for Excellence.



"I didn't have a lot of knowledge on the Commonwealth Games until they started and I've been overwhelmed by the positive impact the event has had on Glasgow and its people. Regeneration, culture, friendship, health and fitness, and creativity - I thought it was just about sport!"

Visitor feedback GREEN2014



2014 in review: Design Forum

In 2014 (Jan-Oct) Design Forum held 20 workshops on 9 major developments across Scotland. Projects ranged from significant city centre interventions, major extensions to towns, including over 2,000 homes, retail facilities and public amenities, and developments in sensitive and historic landscapes. This represents an increase in referrals, with many Local Authorities returning to us for advice on other projects – through Design Forum and in accessing training opportunities for officers and members.

Local Panels

In 2014 we supported the development and restructuring of two local panels, aiding shared learning between authorities and we began discussions with a further authority on the development of a panel in their area. We held a national event for officers and panelists to share learning and contributed to the design review of around 20 schemes.

*Images:
Design Forum Panellists (A+DS)*

The Design Forum Panel

Our current Design Forum Panel has been involved with A+DS for the past four years. The Panel consists of talented and respected built environment professionals from a range of disciplines who offer their skills and knowledge to assist significant projects during the early design development. The Forum engages through a series of workshops which look to maximise the potential benefits of a proposal and supports all parties to play their role in realising them. Forum Panellists bring both their knowledge and expertise, and also their ability to engage positively and communicate clearly, assisting in a developing dialogue between project teams and key agencies involved to the process. In 2014 we have been bringing new members to the Design Forum Panel.



“The A+DS Design Forum process has been of considerable value to me as the case officer dealing with this locally significant development proposal, and I have no doubt that it has added value in terms of placemaking.”

Local authority case officer



2014 in review: Health Programme

Design Assessment

In 2014 the Health Programme participated in over 40 engagements with a number of different NHS boards. This has supported the development of 29 different projects with a construction value of approximately £900 million.

With Health Facilities Scotland we have looked at different aspects of the projects including advice on site selection, help in preparing strategic briefs and reviews at business case stages to ensure the design-merits of a project are considered at key discussion points.

Profile and Learning

To capture the learning from across the sector we have developed a number of case studies, features and publications – looking at completed buildings and other aspects of healthcare and also learning how other sectors tackle similar issues. These have been published on our website as a resource for others engaged in healthcare buildings. We revamped the Healthier Places webpages to help our audience navigate the content in a clearer way. This has also allowed us to incorporate an additional section on the site outlining and providing guidance on the NHSScotland Design Assessment Process (NDAP) and what A+DS can provide as part of this.

[Click here to read more about the process and the A Picture of Health exhibition.](#)



“It was great to be able to use the design statement to remind colleagues of why we should have a great building and how the design would deliver this.”

Feedback from client



2014 in review: Schools Programme

A key focus of the Schools Programme in 2014 has been about how to make more of the schools estate we already have, through participation, collaboration and re-imagining spaces.

We have compiled lessons learned from our participation work across the schools estate in Scotland as a short summary document. This sets out what participation is, how it works, who is involved and why it matters. It is supported by examples of where we have used participation to inform the briefing of change in the school environment.

Working with partners in Government and Local Authorities, we have drawn together examples of the practice of refurbishment across Scotland. These include major, transformational refurbishment projects on a range of building types and histories, and minor refurbishment projects transforming individual spaces within schools through

innovation. Part of the refurbishment work has been about collecting the stories of what works and why, from practitioners, officers and experts.

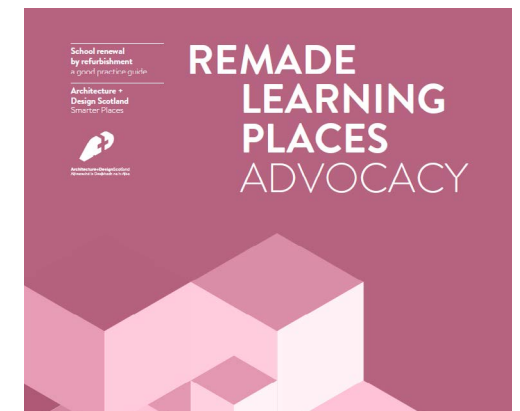
Where we learn matters. We all learn differently. Enabling choices within spaces, the settings we use to engage with learning and teaching is an important part of making more of the learning spaces we already have. In 2014 we have focused on three settings: flexible and social learning spaces within the school, settings for learning in the community and opportunities to re-imagine outdoor spaces within the school ground as effective learning spaces.

A key activity this year is to build opportunities for local authorities to share local learning about what is working on the ground, and where there are opportunities for development through web articles, seminars and talks.



“Small focused interventions
and changes can have a
big impact”
From Remade Learning Places

*Images:
From the A+DS publication Remade Learning
Places created in 2014.*



2014 in review: Sust.

In 2014 Sust. took on a key role in delivering the GREEN2014 programme ([Click to read more](#)) while continuing to host a range of events focussed around the Materials Library at The Lighthouse.

In 2014 over 250 students benefitted from tours and workshops to the Materials Library including architecture students from Glasgow School of Art who gained inspiration for their live project and information on selecting materials and 60 primary 6 students from Helensburgh who explored the library looking for specific items such 'as a material made in Scotland' and 'the softest material in the library'.

Secondary school design students, from Odense, Denmark, took part in a design workshop and chose materials for construction, whilst 26 construction students from Ayrshire College were briefed on selecting materials, before creating their own case studies.

Images: from Material Considerations: A Library of Sustainable Building Materials at The Lighthouse.

50 first year Interior Design, Graphic Design and Product Design Students from Napier University used the library to get an overview of the materials in the library to support their combined project to design, display and market a modern Scottish souvenir.

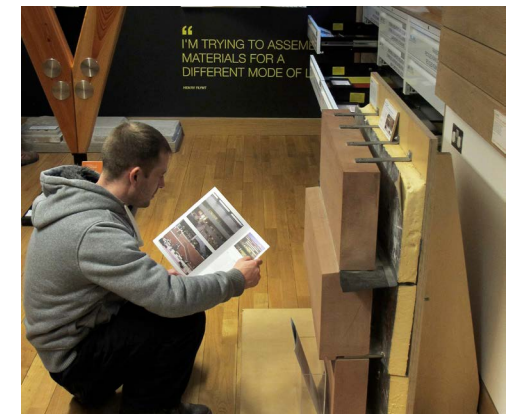
We also hosted architects, self builders, planners and members of the public keen to explore the wide range of materials available.

The library now features 147 materials and to coincide with the GREEN2014 exhibition the Material of the Month featured contributions from Commonwealth Games competing countries including: Welsh slate, representing Wales, jute flooring, representing India (with a nod to Dundee), laminated veneer lumber, representing Canada and a recycled plastic panel from Dalbeattie, representing Scotland.



“We will be using the learning gained from the Materials Library over the next few months in different projects and we'll be able to use our knowledge gained from this visit seeing different materials for interior construction.”

Design Student



2014 in review: Urbanism

In 2014 A+DS partnered with NHS Scotland and the Scottish Government to develop a Place Standard as a commitment resulting from Creating Places and Good Places Better Health. Initial ideas are being tested with stakeholders with a launch planned for June 2015.

A number of training events have been facilitated including: graphic communication in plan-making (Tayplan), design principles (Inverclyde), masterplan awareness (Moray), and considering the content of plans (Scottish Government).

The joint Sustainable Placemaking programme with SNH has informed plan-making processes with Glasgow & Clyde Valley and SESPlan strategic planning authorities, and we have worked with NHS Scotland to consider an asset based approach to improved placemaking in West Lothian.

Images (from top): Drawing workshop to help Design Skills Symposium delegates prepare and the Postcode 3000 exhibition (All by A+DS)

We continued to support the work of the Key Agencies Group, and our Planning Performance Framework demonstrates how A+DS has supported a design-led approach in planning to enable better outcomes.

We continue to collaborate with Scottish Government and partners on the Town Centre Action Plan. This has included place based review work with Scottish Futures Trust and scoping possibilities for shared practice between Scottish Government, Creative Scotland, Historic Scotland and A+DS. In addition, we supported the Scottish Government Housing Event, exploring new ways of addressing the housing challenge in Scotland through the lens of place and design, in strategic contexts, and town centres.

In November we hosted the Postcode 3000 exhibition exploring Melbourne's regeneration, launching it with a talk by Professor Rob Adams and Professor Alan Pert.



“I found Friday was easily the best day's training I have experienced in many years, in terms of how it was structured and delivered”

Participant in Masterplan Training



Our Board

The A+DS Board was re-shaped in 2014 when Branka Dimitrijevic and Martin McKay stepped down at the end of a four-year term. The two vacancies were filled by the appointment of Sue Evans and Graham Hill, who took up their post from April 2014.

In 2014 the Board visited Inverness ([click to read more here](#)) and supported the development of the A+DS Corporate Strategy, as well as taking active roles in events such as the Design Skills Symposium, GREEN2014 and a special event featuring Dutch architect Winy Maas.

Formal Board meetings were held six times in 2014, chaired by Karen Anderson. There are three formal sub-committees: Audit, Communications and Planning/Consultation Committees.

Pictured from top left
Karen Anderson, Sandy Beattie
Andrew Burrell, David Chisholm,
Martin Crookston, Branka Dimitrijevic,
Sue Evans, Graham Hill,
Jonathan Hughes, Martin McKay,
Graham Ross, Alan Sim.
(A+DS, except KA by Michael McGurk)

The A+DS Board

Karen Anderson (Chair)
Sandy Beattie
Andrew Burrell
David Chisholm
Martin Crookston
Branka Dimitrijevic (until 31/3/14)
Sue Evans (from 01/04/14)
Graham Hill (from 01/04/14)
Jonathan Hughes
Martin McKay (until 31/3/2014)
Graham Ross (depute chair)
Alan Sim



Financial Summary

The total revenue for the year ended 31 March 2014 was £1,781,640.

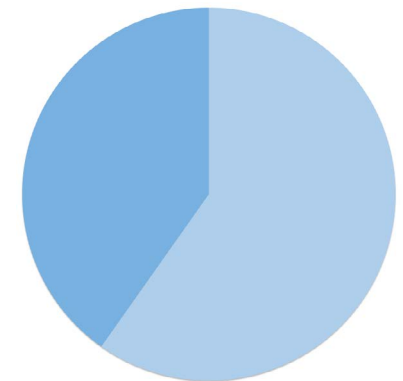
Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ending 31 March 2014.

	2014
	£
Revenue	1,781,640
Staff Costs	(1,157,408)
Other Expenditure	(778,904)
Operating Deficit	(154,672)
Finance Cost	-
Deficit Before Tax	(154,672)
Taxation	-
Deficit for the Year	(154,672)

All of the activities of the company are classified as continuing. The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the result for the year set out to the left. A full set of our audited annual accounts is available on www.ads.org.uk

Expenditure
For year ended 31 March 2014

- Staff Costs: £1,157,408
- Other Expenditure: £778,904



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