

Architecture & Design Scotland

Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN SCOTLAND

BOARD STRATEGY DISCUSSION

Bakehouse Close, Canongate, Edinburgh

1.30 pm on Monday 15 January 2018

Present : Karen Anderson (KA)(Chair), Alan Sim (AS), David Chisholm (DC), Jonathan Hughes (JH), Martin Crookston (MC), Sandy Beattie (SB) & Sue Evans (SE)

Staff : Jim MacDonald, Chief Executive (JMacD), Heather Chapple (HC), Lynne Lineen (LL), Diarmaid Lawlor (DL), Sue Reynolds (SR), Andrea Hepburn (AH - Minutes) & Anja Ekelof (AE)(Item 6)

Guests: Ian Gilzean (IG), Planning & Architecture Division, Scottish Government

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Andy Burrell, Graham Hill and Graham Ross.

2 2018/19 OUTLINE BUDGET

JMacD presented an initial outline of our budget for 2018/19 highlighting an increase in salary and overhead costs and the consequent reduction in project funding.

The Board asked what is being done to mitigate this. JMacD confirmed that our way of working has been adapted to rely more on staff expertise to deliver advice, capacity building and promotional work. At the same time, we will still be in a position to undertake individual projects via additional funding, eg Venice Biennale 2018.

The Board asked what planning is being undertaken for 2019/20 and beyond. JMacD confirmed that we are obliged to look at efficiencies across all of our operating budgets and that this year that would include accommodation owing to the expiry of leases in March/April 2019. Specific plans for this will be presented to the Board later in the year. In light of the policy on redundancy we will also be obliged to look carefully at any post that may become vacant between now and the next spending review.

The Board agreed that the outline budget presented should form the basis for preparing a detailed operating budget for approval in February.

3 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC SPACE

The briefing paper was tabled as a follow up to the papers on Housing and Public Sector Investment tabled at previous meetings. Of all our themes this one has the potential to use the least resources and comes into practically all conversations. IG advised that the new planning bill will have links to infrastructure – SFT will have funds to invest and there will be an increase in budgets for cycling and walking.

Discussion took place regarding partners we can work with and modernising the language used. JMacD advised the comments would be taken on board.

4 PLANNING BILL

IG made a presentation on the Planning Bill which was introduced to Parliament on 4 December. This will now progress through the Parliamentary process with calls for evidence by 2 February and JMacD advised that A&DS will provide evidence to the Committee Stage of the Bill.

KA thanked IG for the presentation.

6 MORE AND BETTER HOMES CAMPAIGN

AE joined the meeting to present plans for an awareness raising campaign focused on elected members in Holyrood and local government. The aim is to raise awareness of our work and include design in housing debate/delivery. The approach involves dissemination of a leaflet, which will be distributed with the Annual Review, alongside face to face meetings, presentation at conferences, production of articles and blogs and focused use of social media.

The Board were supportive of this campaign.

5 CHAIR AND BOARD RECRUITMENT

A&DS Chair

SR confirmed that a new panel is being recruited along with an updated role description - a draft timetable for this should be available next week.

Board Members

Public Appointments are working on the recruitment of two new Board Members the timetable for which will be shared following the planning meeting to be held on 22 January.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

March Meeting

KA advised that she is not available for the 12 March meeting and asked if this be moved to the following Monday, 19 March. AH to contact all Board Members to check availability.

Corporate Values Update

LL delivered a presentation on our new Corporate Values which will be used to frame relationships and once we have implemented them they will then be evaluated.

The Board welcomed the Values and commended LL for ensuring they were developed by and with the wider staff.

Annual Design Forum Event – 28 February

KA advised that the Annual Design Forum Event will take place on 28 February and that Board Members are strongly encouraged to put this in their diaries.

The Meeting closed at 4.55 pm.