

Scotland's Landscape Alliance - Working Groups

Draft Terms of Reference

Scotland's Landscape Alliance

Scotland's Landscape Alliance (SLA) was established in April 2019 and is currently engaging over 60 organisations and individuals in its work. The aim is to collaborate to raise awareness of the importance of Scotland's landscapes to climate resilience and biodiversity, our economic performance and public health and wellbeing. In doing this, we want to gain public and political support for the better care of Scotland's landscapes and places to maximise future benefits.

Objective

- An updated regulatory and policy framework that is joined-up in its approach, ensuring that the potential of landscape and place to deliver multi-functional benefits to people and our ecosystems across every area of public policy.
- Increased understanding and heightened awareness with stakeholders and the public of the values and challenges facing Scotland's landscapes.
- A reinvigorated and connected landscape community acting as a landscape forum able to offer expertise and skills to support positive action on landscape matters.

Ongoing Engagement

The SLA are committed to engaging with the new Scottish Government and others to assist them in their current priorities in tackling the changes required to address climate change ([Read here](#)); public health and wellbeing ([Read here](#)) and inclusive economic growth ([Read here](#)) as set out in our call to action *Landscape and Place for Success* ([Read here](#))

Purpose of the Working Groups

To gather evidence and opinion to inform the development of a set of clear recommendations and an agreed SLA response to four upcoming landscape and place policy opportunities in order to strengthen the role in delivering Scotland's national outcomes and Scotland's contribution to embedding the principles of the European Landscape Convention and UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Proposed Structure of the Working Groups

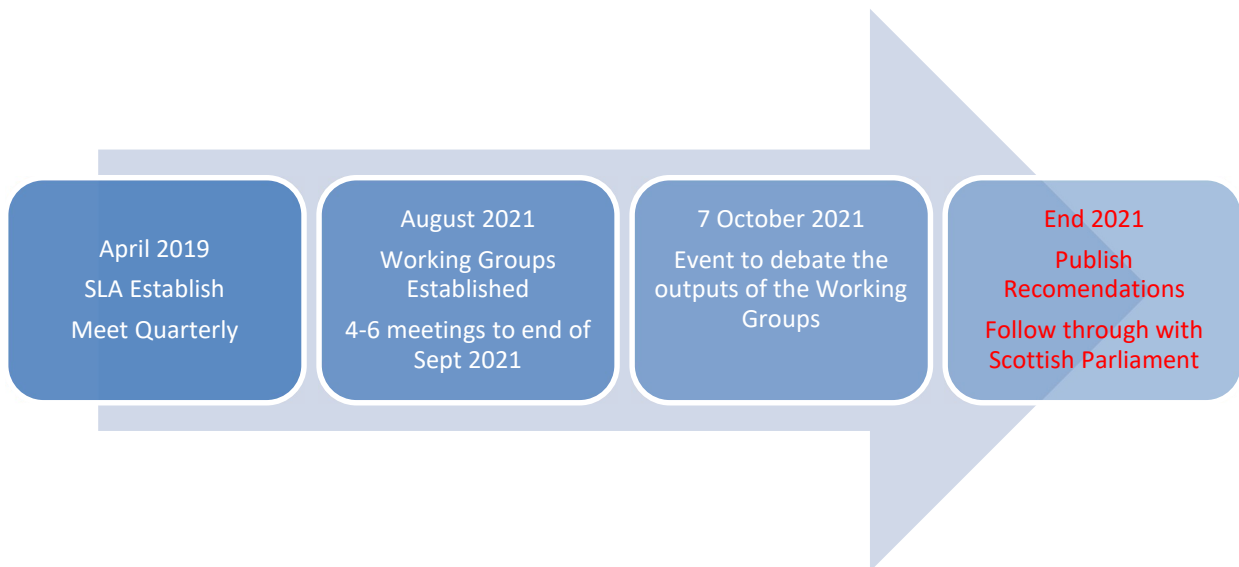
Four time-limited working groups have been established. The scope of their work is framed by an overarching principle of *landscape and placemaking for public benefit* and underpinned by recognition of the need for *effective stewardship and management of landscape and place*. The Groups will develop outputs that respond to the following current landscape and place policy opportunities

1. **30 by 30 Targets** – what does this mean for Scotland's protected areas and the integration of landscape and biodiversity whilst tackling climate change?
2. **Responding to the Social Renewable Advisory Board's Report "If not now, when?"** – how landscape can help address the issues of inequality and exclusion faced by those in our deprived communities/sectors through access to locally available, quality greenspace and green infrastructure for climate adaptation, health and wellbeing, recreation, learning, play, food growing and community cohesion.
3. **The Draft Climate Action Plan and the Just Transition Commission's Report** – developing an approach to large scale landscape change to meet the future pressures from agriculture, renewables and forestry and to support related rural employment– the approach to large scale landscape change from agriculture, renewables and forestry.
4. **The Environment Strategy** – developing landscape indicators to link to the Strategy Vision as well as our National Outcomes and the UNSDG

Method of Working & Timeframe

The working groups will comprise approximately 6-12 individuals (this is not mandatory but felt to be a manageable number whilst representing a range of interests). Each working group has been assigned a Temporary Chair who is a member of the SLA Executive Committee (see separate terms of reference). At the first meeting of the Group the Chair and a Vice Chair (if appropriate) will be agreed.

Working groups are expected to meet online for a period of 1 month (number of meetings determined by the Chair) At the end of that period all working groups will come together to share and debate outcomes at an event on 7th October 2021. At the end of September Chairs will report their findings to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will oversee collation of the working group reports after the debate for final publication at the end of 2021



Membership of Working Groups

Membership is open to any organisation or individual with relevant knowledge and experience. Chairs are appointed by the Executive Committee. The Chairs of the working groups are responsible for ensuring there is appropriate balance of knowledge and experience including representation from third sector, private, community and public sectors.

Resources & Support for Working Groups

Members of working groups will cover their own costs of attending meetings. The Chairs of the working groups will be responsible for organising suitable online meeting platforms. The Executive Committee may receive requests for support for research or costs associated with report production or wider stakeholder engagement.