



SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION
COIMISEAN FEARAINN NA H-ALBA

Annual Review 2018-19

Land is at the heart of Scotland's identity, economy and communities. The Scottish Land Commission is making more of the nation's land by shaping and driving a programme of land reform across urban and rural Scotland.

"We are providing the leadership that will bring parties together in fresh thinking and change so that the way we own and use land realises Scotland's potential."

The Commission is continuing a programme of engagement with both stakeholders and the wider public about the opportunity land reform can bring to Scotland's people and economy.

We continued our series of public meetings in communities around Scotland. We have also held several stakeholder events and discussions on specific topics such as community ownership, Compulsory Sales Orders, land rights and responsibilities and land value capture.

In this, our second year of operation, we have continued to build an innovative, fast-paced and empowered organisation that stimulates ideas and change.



R-L: Hamish Trench, CEO Scottish Land Commission, with Roseanna Cunningham, Land Reform Cabinet Secretary and Jo Green, Chief Officer SEPA at the launch of the vacant and derelict land initiative.

Steve Dunlop, CEO Scottish Enterprise, Chairs the first meeting of the vacant and derelict land taskforce.



Launch of the Commission's first Land Rights and Responsibilities Protocol on Community Engagement in Decisions Relating to Land at St Monans.

Publication of a 'Guide to – Joint Ventures with New Entrants'



Scottish Land Commission staff at a team development session.

During 2018-19

Throughout 2018-19 the Scottish Land Commission has delivered a substantial programme of engagement, research, recommendations and guidance.

LAND FOR HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT

Transforming Vacant and Derelict Land

Taskforce and partnership with SEPA, Scottish Enterprise and Scottish Futures Trust established. Investigation of the challenges to reforming vacant and derelict land.

Compulsory Sales Order proposals submitted to Scottish Government.

Land Value Capture

Review of international and previous UK experience on land value capture.

Urban land use decision making

Partnership established with SURF exploring how the community engagement guidance and Protocol can be applied in urban environments.

YoungScot project completed. Survey and event exploring the level of involvement young people in urban settings feel they have on the environment around them.

Public Interest Led Development (PILD)

Seminar held with local authorities and the development sector looking at examples of effective PILD and how it can be achieved.

Raising awareness of PILD at RTPI events.

MODERNISING LAND OWNERSHIP

Community Ownership

Recommendations to Scottish ministers on making community ownership a normal option across Scotland.

Scale and Concentration of Ownership

Publication of the Investigation into issues associated with scale and concentrated land ownership in Scotland alongside Recommendations to Scottish Ministers to stimulate a more diverse and dynamic pattern of land ownership.

Land Value Taxation

Publication of the report on potential role of land value tax for Scotland.

Agents Review

Review of the conduct of agents of agricultural landlords and tenants published and recommendations made to Scottish Ministers to improve the operation of agents.

Tenants Improvements Amnesty

Campaign to raise awareness of the tenants amnesty, providing tools and guidance.

LONG TERM OUTCOMES FOR LAND REFORM

Fall in area of vacant and derelict land

Fall in concentration of land ownership

Increase community control of land

Improved relations between agricultural landlords and tenants

Increase in community involvement in land management decisions

Land Rights & Responsibilities (LRRS)

First LRRS protocol and supporting tools published on community engagement in decisions relating to land.

Codes of Practice and Guidance published

Lease Management
Joint venture for new entrant
Late Payment of Rent
The Maintenance of the Condition of Tenanted Agricultural Holdings

LAND USE DECISION MAKING

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS

The year ahead 2019-20

The Commission's focus for the year ahead will be to stimulate fresh thinking, supporting change on the ground and making recommendations to Scottish Ministers, where appropriate, for legislative and policy change across our four priority areas.

LAND FOR HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Identify vacant and derelict pilot sites demonstrating the systemic changes needed.

Assess the nature, prevalence and impact of land banking.

Support development of effective models of land value capture.

MODERNISING LAND OWNERSHIP

Engage on the evidence report and recommendations to address concentrated power in land ownership.

Review of options to encourage a more diverse pattern of private ownership.

Investigate governance models for public interest ownership including common good land.

Investigate options to enhance accountability of charitable and trust status land ownership.

LAND USE DECISION MAKING

Support the practical implementation of the Land Rights and Responsibilities Statement through the publication of protocols and guidance.

Develop mechanisms for improving community involvement in land-use decision making for rural and urban areas.

Establish an expert working group to investigate the potential role of tax policy and land value tax in delivering land reform objectives.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS

Continued development and use of Codes of Practice and guidance to support improved landlord/tenant relationship.

Promotion of advice and guidance on joint venture options and support the development of a land matching service.



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