**Place Based Adaptation Working Group- Terms of reference**

## Purpose

This document provides an overview of the purpose and role of a new Place Based Adaptation Working Group. It describes the benefits of membership, activities and next steps.

## Background

Adaptation Scotland is a programme funded by the Scottish Government and delivered by the sustainability charity [Sniffer](http://www.sniffer.org.uk/about-us/). The programme provides advice and support to help organisations, businesses and communities to prepare for, and build resilience to the impacts of climate change.

A key element of the current programme is effective partnerships and collaborations for place-based adaptation, tailored to the unique geographical, cultural and economic needs of Scotland’s diverse communities, organisations and localities. There is increasing recognition of the need for place-based adaptation approaches at a range of geographic scales as well as a demand for advice and support to implement them. We want to collate collective learning from action and generate evidence of ‘what works’ to enhance the effectiveness of current and planned adaptation activities. We are setting up a new working group to accelerate this learning and are inviting those with a wide range of perspectives to be part of this Group

## Membership

Membership of the Working Group is open to those who are committed to sharing their knowledge, insight and opinion on place based adaptation or place-making generally to enable and enhance learning. Participants are invited from a wide range of organisations and professions who are involved with adaptation or place-making activities across sectors such as land reform, planning, mitigation, economic development, human rights, healthcare, natural, cultural and historical heritage, conservation, architecture or design.

## Benefit to members

Benefits of being part of the group include:

* networking, opportunity to form partnerships
* being at cutting edge of place based adaptation
* playing a key role in ensuring a climate ready Scotland
* professional development, learning, knowledge exchange with others
* collaborating on events and resource development (attributed to your organisation).

It will offer an opportunity to share learnings AND learn from others.

## Way of working and activities.

* The Group will be supported by a small secretariat from Sniffer.
* The Working Group will meet up to four times between November 2019 and November 2020 with the opportunity to re-evaluate after one year.
* Attendance at meetings may be virtual or in person.
* Members will not be remunerated for their participation however travel costs can be reimbursed to support attendance.
* The Working Group will explore aspects relating to place based adaptation and how to build on and document what works. We will work collaboratively to develop guidance and case studies showing how place-based approaches can be implemented at different scales. A list of related activities can be found in the table below.

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| **Activity** | **Description** |
| Introductory Meeting  | An initial meeting as a group to meet each other, explore and shape a proposed approach to place based adaptation learning.  |
| Exchange Events | Annual events to share the latest examples of adaptation progress and challenges, exchange ideas and identify training and collaboration priorities.It is anticipated that a place based event will take place in January 2020.  |
| Thematic Meetings |  We will collate knowledge of what works in relation to a number of themes/sectors such as governance, engagement, business case development etc.  |
| Written reports on shared learning  | Members will feed into documents and outputs that collate the identified knowledge on place based adaptation in Scotland. These documents will be available in the public domain and attribute all authors and organisations involved.  |

## Intended outcomes

The process and the outputs will support Scotland’s approaches to place based adaptation through current and new initiatives. This will aid not only adaptation focused projects but will also support mainstreaming adaptation into other policy and practice agendas. We will establish a community of place-based adaptation leaders who are able to share their learning, and support others to gain confidence and to develop and implement place-based initiatives across Scotland.

The vision of this learning is to ensure that across Scotland there are many successful approaches to place-based adaptation that address cross-sectoral and multi-level governance issues, empowering communities to be part of change processes and with sharing of experiences across them.

## Next steps

If you are interested in joining the Working Group, please send an email containing a brief description of your background and why you wish to be part of the group by October 21st to AdaptationScotland@sniffer.org.uk. We will then be in touch to schedule the first meeting at a time that is suitable for members.