

Partners In Planning Conference
Working with Climate Change in Mind
9-13 November 2020

Session 5: How do we adapt for a changing climate?



Changing Behaviours, Changing Places

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PAS: Who We Are

We are a charity and social enterprise.
For over 25 years, we have been helping individuals and community groups to get involved in the planning system.

Charity & social enterprise

Volunteer-led

Impartial & independent

- **Advice**
- **Skills training**
- **Inclusive**
- **Local Place Plans**

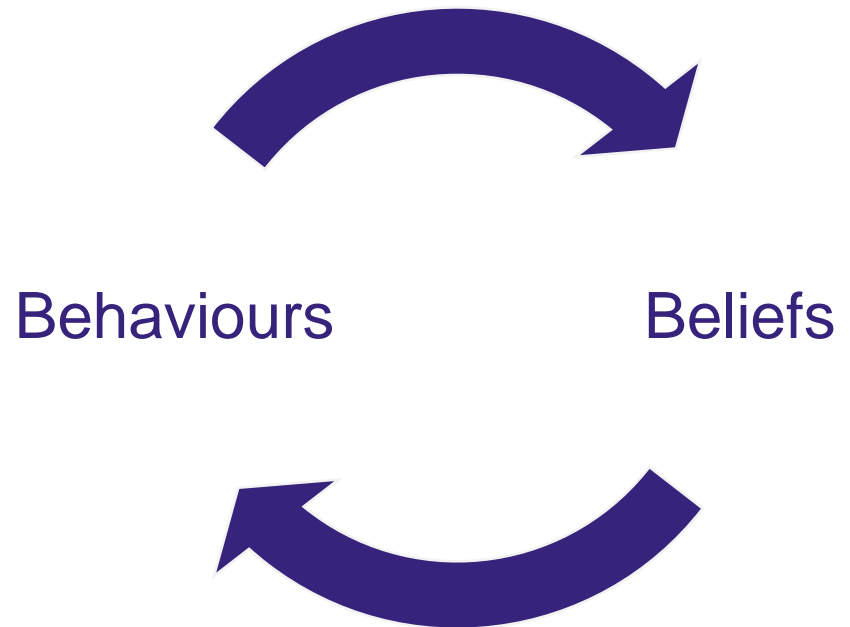
In the last 12 months, our 400 volunteers have given 3 years' worth of time, skills and experience



Changing Behaviours

What do we believe about ourselves and our places?

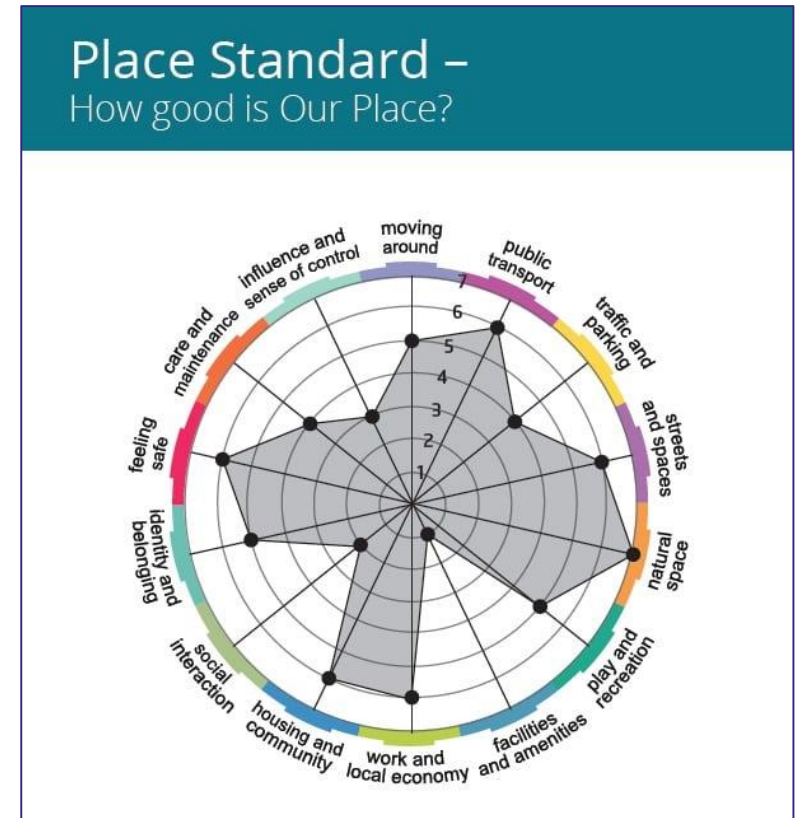
- All behaviours come from beliefs.
- Every habitual action is run by a habit of thought.
- Doing what we've always done is comfortable because it's familiar.
- **Our challenge is to make the unfamiliar familiar.**



Adapting for a Changing Climate

Making climate adaptation familiar

- The **Place Standard** tool is an opportunity to consider climate adaptation in the **context** of a real place, with real issues, led by communities.
- The more we encourage people to **think holistically about their place**, the more people can understand what a changing climate means for them and their place.
- **Adaptation comes up in conversation** when people are discussing all sorts of issues, including for example:
 - Flood risk
 - Greenspaces and environment
 - Amenity (e.g. park floods for half the year, so children can't play)
 - Deterioration of building fabric
 - Preservation of heritage
 - Community food growing



Adapting for a Changing Climate

Look for the multiple benefits

- **Climate Ready Places** – we worked with Adaptation Scotland on their Climate Ready Places project, creating visuals and resources for planners and communities.
 - A key learning from this project was the importance of weaving climate adaptation into **everyday planning practice** – not seeing it as an extra.
 - Let's change our thinking about adaptation – **reframe our thinking about adaptation** from a challenge or a problem, to an opportunity to achieve even better outcomes.
 - Look for **multiple benefits** from each action we take for climate adaptation.



- e.g. Taking action to mitigate flood risk could that mean a park floods less often which in turn increases amenity, improves greenspace and creates more play opportunities for children.
- e.g. Turning land over to food growing could have an additional benefit of reducing flood risk in that area.

The Heart of Newhaven

Community-led intergenerational project

Spring/summer 2019, PAS conducted engagement activities in the Newhaven area to assist The Heart of Newhaven community group to understand what residents and stakeholders wanted to see happen in the soon-to-be-vacated Victoria Primary School.

The community felt that Newhaven lacked a single centre which could bring people of all ages and backgrounds together and the idea for a multigenerational centre emerged.

These were used to inform the community group's intended application to the City of Edinburgh Council for the Community Asset Transfer of the school.

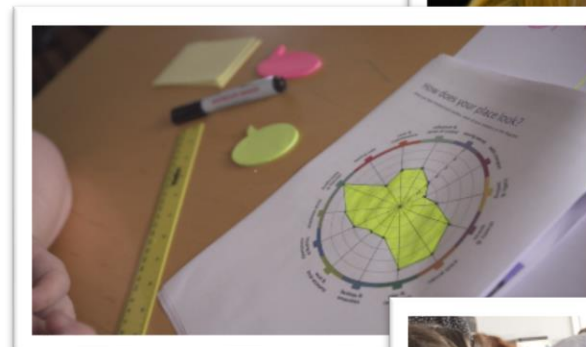
Update: the project has passed the Community Asset Transfer test with Edinburgh City Council and been given permission to purchase the site, now awaiting a decision from the Scottish Land Fund.



Change Takes All Of Us

The role of children and young people in place

- Placemaking
- Decision-making
- Civic structures
- Active citizenship
- Systemic barriers





- Free, impartial and confidential **advice** on planning matters – contact our Advice Service



www.pas.org.uk/advice

- **Information** and support on how to take forward Local Place Plans



www.pas.org.uk/localplaceplans

- **Training** for community councils, community groups, elected members on the planning system
- Time, knowledge and expertise of our network of specialist **volunteers** who deliver services to communities across Scotland