



SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION  
COIMISEAN FEARAINN NA H-ALBA

# Partners in Planning Adaptation of Places

13<sup>th</sup> November 2020



# Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

- Prioritise brownfield development
- Disincentivise greenfield development





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**Simples**



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# The Opportunity



Build new homes



Provide new allotments and city farms



Create new parks and greenspace



Attract new investment



Generate renewable energy





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**NOT SO**

**PRETTY VACANT**

Transforming vacant and  
derelict land in Scotland

[www.landcommission.gov.scot/notesoprettyvacant](http://www.landcommission.gov.scot/notesoprettyvacant)  
#notesoprettyvacant

***Transform Scotland's approach to tackling vacant and derelict land, create the conditions necessary for eradicating persistent dereliction in urban communities and realise the social, economic and environmental benefits of returning unloved derelict urban land back to productive use.***



# MAKING BETTER USE OF DATA

#notsoprettyvacant



**1.** Scotland's register of vacant and derelict land to be reformed to include a wider range of information to bring sites back into use.

**2.** The information on the register to be presented on a map that is easy to understand and that everyone can access.

# LAND AS PART OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

#notsoprettyvacant

3.



Reform Scotland's regeneration strategy to focus on place-based regeneration and land reuse to empower communities.

4.



The public sector to take an active role in development. Fixing up 'brownfield' sites should be a priority in the next national Infrastructure Investment Plan.

5.



Easier to buy land for reuse. New laws for compulsory sales orders - making people sell land if unused, and a review of the current ways land is bought and sold by the public sector.



# SUPPORTING DELIVERY THROUGH FUNDING

#notsoprettyvacant

6.



Increase funding to local authorities to bring vacant and derelict land back into use and review the allocation of the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund.

7.

The Scottish Government to review how funding is allocated to ensure that money goes to areas most in need. New ways of appraising investment that includes wider benefits and not just financial return.



8.



Develop new ways of funding improvements to vacant and derelict land, including: compensate loss of biodiversity by balancing it with improving derelict sites; a publicly-owned development bank of land; and communities developing local derelict sites.



# STOPPING THE FLOW OF NEW VACANT AND DERELICT SITES

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It must be unacceptable for land to be derelict or left vacant indefinitely. Organisations should embed this into corporate social responsibility objectives.



Public funding only given to responsible landowners. Public land and property that is lying empty to be brought back into use.



Landowners to review their land and buildings frequently, to identify and avoid sites falling into disuse. Support for public sector asset disposal expanded to help with this.



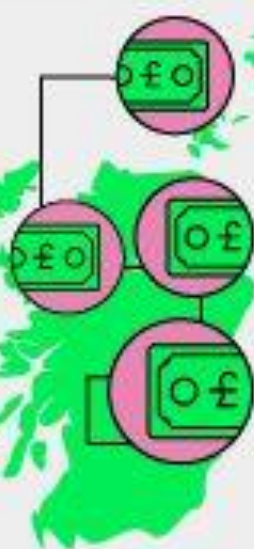
Government should use the tax system to encourage landowners to repurpose empty commercial property. This could help prevent a new legacy vacant and derelict land resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic.

# TACKLING THE LEGACY

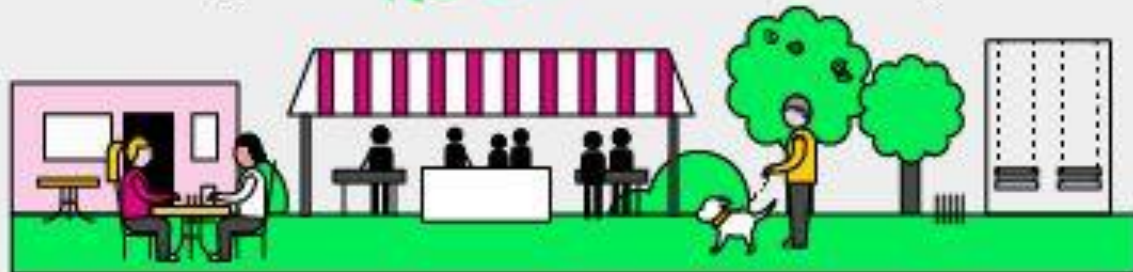
#notsoprettyvacant

12.

A national programme investing in green infrastructure, to bring derelict land and buildings back into use in ways that will help tackle climate change.

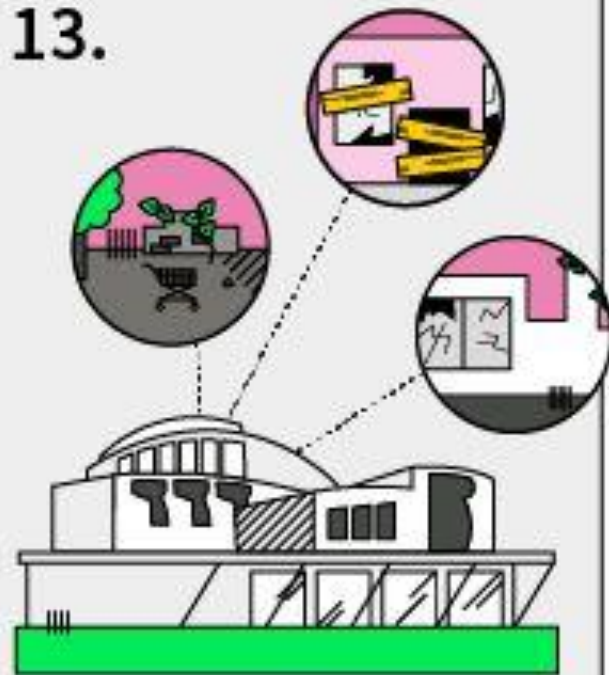


This should support jobs and skills development and help rebuild community resilience.



The programme should focus on urban green spaces, community-led regeneration, renewable energy and low carbon housing and attract investment. Local authorities should take responsibility for coordinating this and prioritise reusing sites that meet the needs of the community.

13.



Scottish Government should make a commitment to eradicating urban dereliction, keeping track of this goal and appointing a national coordinator to help achieve this.



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# What Can You Do?

- Be an ambassador
- Agitate, endorse, make some noise!
- Ask questions
- Make suggestions
- Don't ask permission!





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# Thank You

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Scottish Land Commission



@ShonaMairead  
#NotSoPrettyVacant