Development Planning Forum
20 April 2018
The Studio, Glasgow
Workshop Summary Notes

Workshop F: Digital Task Force - opportunities and potential for plan making
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The following notes summarise participant comments and are not necessarily the views of the Scottish Government who helped to facilitate the workshops.

The DTF workshop considered four categories: Community engagement, Preparing the plan and processing, Monitoring and delivery, and Presenting the plan and making it accessible. Each category considered: What are the opportunities? What are the barriers? How do we overcome them?
A voting method highlighted in green any comments that got at least 1 vote. Each section is summarised in terms of the discussion rather than just the voting.

Community engagement	
Opportunities:	- Marketing LDP's - Explaining why people should get involved - Use of social media x 2 - Interactive engagement online - Increase participation - Tapping into future communities - Visualising what planning does - Engage with PAS for lessons learnt - Schools and youth groups - Place standard - Joint engagement with community planning
Barriers:	- People want face to face engagement - IT policy - Understanding the community - Competition from other 'plans' - IT compatibility and resources - Finance - Large volume of resources - Fear of protectionism - Community councils - Loudest voices
How do we overcome them?	- Did you know topics to increase understanding - Tech to support non-tech engagement - Introduce 'governance' (how to get involved in local decisions) in school curriculum - Train planning staff to use tech - Don't call planning 'Planning' - Speak to non-planners - Trying things out – creating examples - Large volume of response – be organised and systematic - Engage in lots of small groups and use a range of methods
Summary:	Discussion was focussed around engaging young people (future communities) and in different ways. Stop calling planning 'planning' and frame it in a way people can understand it to increase engagement and involvement. Community councils are seen as barriers as don't represent wider community and budgets and IT resources are also significant barriers.

Preparing the plan and processing	
Opportunities:	- Map based - Story maps - Evidence base as live document - make the process more lean - Make it modular rather than restarting every 5/10 years - Task management - Collect, share and use data consistently - **Why** am I doing this? Why **I** am doing this? Why am I doing **this**? - Validation standards - Community planning
Barriers:	- Loss of supplementary guidance - Resources - People - Time - Volume of data sets, stakeholders makes standard systems difficult - Robustness of data for evidence base - Politics
How do we overcome them?	- Review plan in part - Local place plans = flexibility - Simplified planning zones - Project plan and manage - Government lead + government guidance - Online portal linked to property refs - Take communities with us on journey
Summary:	Focus on map based presentation and story maps. Data is not collected, shared or used properly and could be used much more effectively. There's not enough resources to do the job the way it's currently done. General consensus that there needs to be consistent guidance across local authorities – not as strong consensus that the government should lead.

Monitoring and delivery	
Opportunities:	- Community monitoring - Geo-referencing - Map based presentation of audits - Raise industry and public awareness of funding to deliver tricky sites - Delivery programme: who, when, why, cost - Use technology to run reports - Package prime site with sub-prime - Live info - Partnership working with key agencies - Poor data management systems - Focus on change – rather than A.P I.e what is the physical change? - Reflect changing nature of delivery programme - Change the plan - Integrating capital plans and delivery programmes
Barriers:	- Access to good internet is not universal - Resources to do these things?

	- Balance of information received/available - Honesty of info presented received/available - Joint working isn't where it needs to be - Things are out of planning authority control (government) - Volume of data sets - Resources - Lack of influence (LDP minor part of process) - Lack of analytic skills to analyse big data
How do we overcome them?	- Increase duty to collaborate - Better data on 'deliverability' - Delivery programme and reporting (business plan) - Consistency in databases
Summary:	Strong desire to collaborate with other key stakeholders/agencies more closely. Lack of good quality data and lack of skills to utilise what good data there is.

Presenting the plan and making it accessible	
Opportunities:	- More visual, map-based (easier to understand) - Reduce publishing costs - Live land use map with updated new applications - One online LDP portal - More visuals, fewer words - make it interesting - GIS online plans - Design for digital - Use apps for access - Show in 3D
Barriers:	- Not everyone has access to good internet - Keeping things up to date - IT and standardisation - IT capabilities - Plans are complex no matter how they are presented - Accessibility - Procurement
How do we overcome them?	- Test – opinion panels - Use better technology
Summary:	Plans need to be more visual and more interesting for people to make it easier to engage and encourage them to be more involved. Current IT is a barrier to creating better plans but also in presenting them. General consensus that an example of a good LDP would be useful as well as a having one entry point for LDP's.