

Talking About Our Place

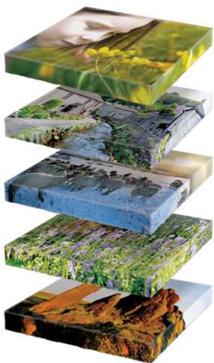
Jonathan Porter

ialeUK Postgraduate Workshop 2015

www.countryside.org



What is landscape?



"Landscape" means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors

European Landscape Convention

European Landscape Convention

- International convention developed by the Council of Europe
- Opened for signature in Florence in 2000
- Entered into force in 2004 when ratified by 10 Council of Europe Member States



38 states have ratified the European Landscape Convention

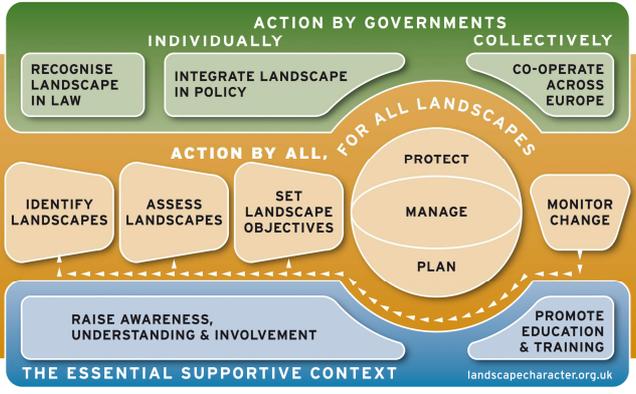
Andorra	Greece	Romania
Armenia	Hungary	San Marino
Azerbaijan	Ireland	Serbia
Belgium	Italy	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Latvia	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Lithuania	Spain
Croatia	Luxembourg	Sweden
Cyprus	Moldova	Switzerland
Czech Republic	Montenegro	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Denmark	Netherlands	
Finland	Norway	Turkey
France	Poland	Ukraine
Georgia	Portugal	United Kingdom

May 2015

UK has ratified

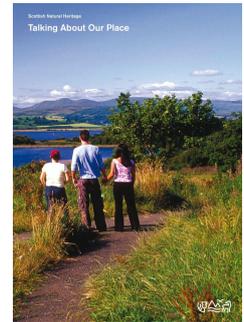
- UK signed convention: 21 February 2006
- UK ratified convention: 21 November 2006
- European Landscape Convention entered into force in the United Kingdom: 1 March 2007

making a reality of the European Landscape Convention



Talking About Our Place

- A web based toolkit
- Engages communities in decisions about the future of their landscapes
- Guidance and resources
- Tools and techniques



Helping with community planning

- Flexible and adaptable
- Can help communities to:
 - Learn about their place
 - Promote or celebrate their place
 - Comment on strategies
 - Develop projects to improve their place

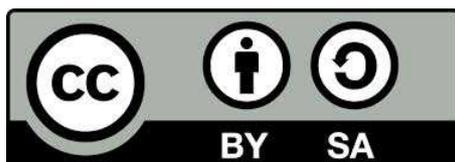


Aims to provide support

- Written in plain English
- Summarises the technical information
- Links to resources
- Aims to be fully self-led



Creative Commons



How the toolkit is being used

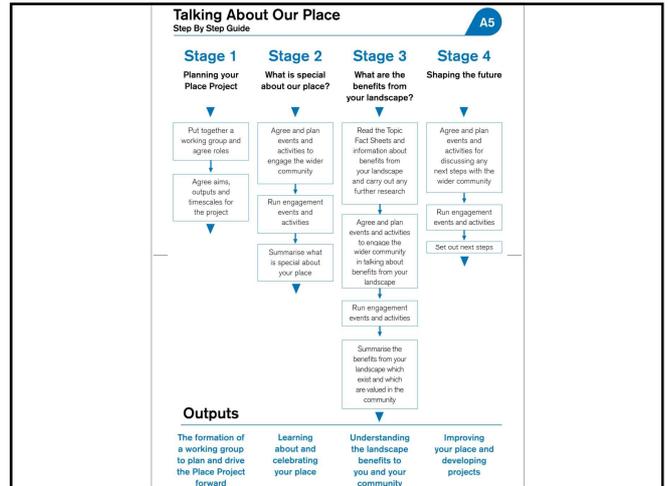
- Inner Forth Landscape Initiative
- Carse of Gowrie Climate Change Project
- Living Lomonds Landscape Partnership
- A New Vision for Lindow Moss
- Resource to support Scottish Natural Heritage grants



www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/looking-after-landscapes/communities/talking-about-our-place

Structure of the toolkit

- Section A – Step-by-step guide
Includes 4 stages:
 1. Planning your project
 2. What is special about your place?
 3. What are landscape benefits
 4. Shaping the future
- Section B – Tools and techniques
- Section C – Topic Sheets
- Section D – Project forms



Talking About Our Place Tools and Techniques

B10

Which tool when?

The table below can help you decide which tools and techniques to use at each stage of the project.

Tool	Stage One: Planning our project	Stage Two: What is special about our place?	Stage Three: What are our ecosystem services	Stage Four: Shaping the future
B12. Community site visit	○	●	●	●
B13. Field survey	○	●	●	○
B14. Street stall	●	●	●	●
B15. Mental maps	○	●	●	●
B16. Photographs	○	●	●	○
B17. Arts and crafts	○	●	○	○
B18. Plays, music, poems and storytelling	○	●	○	○
B19. Fishbowl exercise	●	●	●	●
B20. Mind maps	○	●	●	●
B21. Theoretical budget	○	●	●	○
B22. Ideas gallery	●	●	●	●
B23. Writing	○	●	●	○
B24. Social media	●	●	●	●
B25. Questionnaires	●	●	●	●
B26. Flash cards	○	●	●	●
B27. Scenario building	○	●	●	○
B28. Desk research	●	●	●	●
B29. Talks and presentation	●	●	●	●
B30. Oral histories	○	●	●	●
B31. Workshops	○	●	●	○

● Suitable ○ Could be suitable ○ Less likely to be suitable

Talking About Our Place Tools and Techniques

B11

Which tool suits which audience?

Communities are made up of many different people and you should consider how well suited each tool or technique is to each group of people. Use the table below to identify which tools are best suited to which groups:

Tool	Young people	Schools	Young families	Other people	People with disabilities	Other adults	Local groups	Community
B12. Community site visit	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
B13. Field survey	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B14. Street stall	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
B15. Mental maps	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B16. Photographs	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B17. Arts and crafts	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B18. Plays, music, poems and storytelling	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B19. Fishbowl exercise	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
B20. Mind maps	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B21. Theoretical budget	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B22. Ideas gallery	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
B23. Writing	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B24. Social media	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
B25. Questionnaires	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B26. Flash cards	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B27. Scenario building	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B28. Desk research	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
B29. Talks and presentation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
B30. Oral histories	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
B31. Workshops	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

● Suitable ○ Could be suitable ○ Less likely to be suitable

Talking About Our Place Topic Sheets

C1

Landscapes and their benefits

Mountains, moors and heathlands	Meadow and rough grassland	Woodlands and forests	Green space	Coastal margins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food products Climate regulation Places for solitude, freedom and enjoyment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food for livestock Water and soil purification A place for learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timber, fibre and woodfuel Climate regulation Habitat to a range of wild species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food and fibre Helps prevent erosion and flooding Attractive setting for encouraging economic investment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shall fish farming Waste breakdown and detoxification Escape and respiration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage and recharge of groundwaters Sense of identity Aesthetic value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Water purification and storage Creating sense of place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water for drinking, bathing, industry, etc. Carbon regulation Science and education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place to live and work Habitat to many species Landmarks and notable features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood, storm and coastal protection Tourism and recreation

This diagram is adapted from the UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011) NER-WCMC

Talking About Our Place Topic Sheets

C5

Woodlands and forests

- Woodlands and forests are areas of trees and shrubs dominated by trees over 5 metres tall when fully grown, with over 20% of the ground shaded by the tree canopy.
- They provide resources including timber and flood protection as well as recreation opportunities such as bird watching and walking.
- Woodlands and forests can be valuable for tackling climate change by storing carbon that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere (as CO₂).
- Woodlands could be at risk from climate change, which may cause damage to trees and change the species that live in woodlands and forests.

What are woodlands?
 Woodlands and forests are areas of trees and shrubs. Coniferous woodlands are dominated by evergreen trees (which don't drop leaves in autumn), whereas broadleaved woodlands are dominated by broadleaved or 'deciduous' trees (which drop their leaves in autumn). Broadleaved woodlands support about one and a half times more species than coniferous woodlands. Woodlands can be naturally generated these are often very old - or they can be human-made and planted by people for timber or shelter.

Talking About Our Place

Topic Sheets

C5

What landscape benefits do they provide?

Landscape products

- **Food products** (fruit, fungi, moss and foliage and a place for game birds and deer to live)
- **Timber, fibre and woodfuel** (timber for building, wood pulp for paper and wood for burning to produce energy)
- **Water** (woodlands around reservoirs and rivers reduce water pollution)

Landscape management

- **Climate regulation** (protecting soils from erosion; providing shelter to cool soil, water, animals and people; and absorbing carbon from the atmosphere)
- **Hazard regulation** (reducing soil erosion; slowing water flow and run off; and so providing flood protection)
- **Limiting the spread of diseases and pests** (animals and insects living in woodlands can help to control and prevent pests and diseases that affect crops, livestock, people and ecosystems)
- **Detoxification and purification** (trees absorb pollutants from soil, air and water, which helps to reduce harm to people, crops, buildings, etc.)
- **Providing habitats for pollinating species** (woodlands provide a home for many insects that in turn pollinate trees, crops and other plants)



Landscape experiences

- **Providing habitat for a wide range of wild species** (woodlands provide a home to many plants, insects and animals that people enjoy watching or listening to)
- **Landscape setting** (woodlands provide places for learning about nature; trees are used in art and are culturally and spiritually important; woodlands are popular for leisure pursuits and recreation; woodlands also provide important variation in the landscape and give a sense of place and identity for communities)

Talking About Our Place

Topic Sheets

C5

How might woodlands change in future? And what might be the causes of change?

- **Climate change** - changes in temperature, rainfall and wind will affect how and where different types of trees can grow. Woodlands remove carbon from the atmosphere and reduce flood risk by absorbing water and slowing rainfall runoff, so they help to manage climate change impacts.
- **Increasing woodland cover** - woodlands are increasingly becoming owned by charities and trusts, which often manage them for wildlife and recreation, rather than commercial timber production. This is leading to woodlands becoming larger, more diverse and valuable for nature conservation.
- **Renewable energy** - woodlands may provide sustainable sources of local fuel (although managing woodlands to grow fuel crops can reduce their nature conservation value).
- **Pollution** - nitrogen from air pollution will make some trees grow faster but can damage other woodland plants and fungi.
- **Land use** - new development and road building can cause woodlands to be cut down or broken up into smaller parts (this is now more controlled than in the past). More recent land uses such as recreation and nature conservation are increasing.

- **Grazing damage, pests and diseases** - grazing by animals (primarily deer and sheep) is causing the variety of plants in woodlands to change because certain plants are eaten and so other plants can become more dominant. Outbreaks of pests are made worse by warmer winters and the global trade in plants, which brings new pests into the country.
- **Ageing woodlands** - many woodlands were cleared during the First and Second World Wars for timber. Regeneration of felled woodland has created age imbalances among tree populations, which has affected the character of woodlands and the quality of habitat they provide to birds and other species.

Sources of further information:

The following links are provided to help you research and further your understanding of this landscape.

- **National Ecosystem Assessment** uknea.unep-wcm.org/Resources/tables/82/Default.aspx
- **SNH description of woodland** www.snh.gov.uk/about-scotlands-nature/habitats-and-ecosystems/woodland/
- **Forestry Commission** www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland



Section D – Project Forms

Talking About Our Place

Step By Step Guide

A6

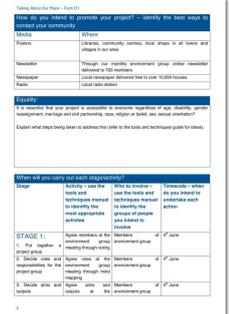
Form D1: Example



Talking About Our Place

Step By Step Guide

A6





Thanks

Thanks to Elli Carlisle
from Scottish Natural Heritage

countryside 

Jonathan Porter
Countryside
Manchester

jonathan@countryside.org
@jonlandscape
0161 236 3432

www.countryside.org

