



Socio-cultural Acknowledgement for Environmental Regeneration (S.A.F.E.R.)

A learning approach to local place
meaning in two Scottish regeneration
sites

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EFLN Opening
Conference

2 September 2026

Premier Inn
Glasgow
ECCI,
Conference Room

Relevance, Gap, Opportunity

Policy relevance

- Scottish National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)
- Planning (Scotland) Act 2019
- Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

Current gap

- Inclusion of co-created knowledge of place in regeneration planning
- Examination of feelings and values to understand place belonging and expectations

Research opportunity

- Including experiential accounts of sites to meet policy aspirations and environmental justice principles
- Moving beyond consultative approaches, aiming towards long-term inclusivity

Greenoakhill

- Peri-urban area
- Relatively low levels of local economic and social deprivation
- Former waste management site
- Regeneration through derelict land recovery – Forestry Land Scotland



Sighthill

- Urban area
- Relatively high levels of economic and social deprivation
- Former high-density residential area
- Regeneration through changes in housing and neighborhood facilities



**Two
case
studies**

Research foundations

Aims

To identify locals' feelings and values about regeneration through situated knowledge

To explore how locals' experiential accounts of place can inform Scottish regeneration planning

Questions

Which values and feelings do people from the two sites associate with their places undergoing regeneration?

How can forms of experiential, emotional, and place-based knowledge contribute to regeneration planning in Scotland?

Supervision

Prof. Sukanya Krishnamurthy

Collaboration

Dr. Anthony Schultz

Researcher at Forest Research

Dr. Harry Marshall

Social Scientist at Forest Research

Methodology

Epistemology

Decolonial praxis
principles

Experiential knowledge:
Feelings and Values

Ethics

PAR principles

Ethics of care

Dialectical approach
- Learn to unlearn

Methods

Walking-mapping

Survey

Thematic and descriptive
analysis

Participatory GIS/
Emotional GIS

Findings

VALUES

Intrinsic: nature as inherently positive

Instrumental: utility of landscape changes
(e.g. employment, housing, community)

Relational: environmental and wellbeing
reciprocity, sense of identity in relation to
place and belonging

EGIS Greenoakhill

EGIS Sighthill



Figure 3. Word cloud of the feelings expressed by the participants in Greenoakhill

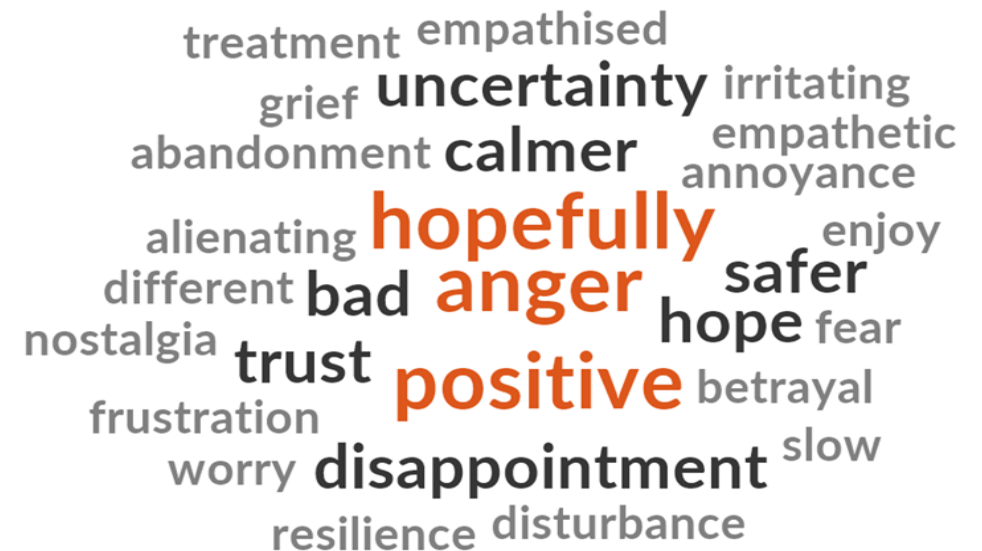


Figure 4. Word cloud of the feelings expressed by participants in Sighthill

TIME

- Chronopolitics of regeneration
- Slow Violence
- Identity and Belonging

GOVERNANCE

- Communication among stakeholders
- Extent of involvement in decision-making processes
- Renewal and loss

Discussion

Conclusion and Takeaways



Regeneration generates frictions and tensions that become visible through locals' feelings, values, and experiential knowledge



Values reveal how people relate to environment during periods of change



Learning across different sites helps identifying common patterns and concerns in regenerative processes



The SAFER approach offers a way to identify experiential challenges, facilitate deeper dialogue between stakeholders during regeneration, strengthen governance practices, and support policy aspirations

For any further questions or information, please feel free to email

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