

National Committee on Carved Stones in Scotland
Problem-tree analysis of the key issues relating to carved stones and NCCSS objectives (December 2013)

<p>Effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal and moral responsibilities (individual and institutional are not clear • Fragmented knowledge • Lack of joined-up working • Carved stones and their needs are not prioritised • Lack of sufficient evidence-base on which to make fully informed decisions, or decisions that take into account wider context • Increased vulnerability (threats materialise; particularly at change of ownership) • Missed opportunities • Difficulties sourcing central and/or local knowledge and expertise • Movement of carved stones • Changes to access. 	<p>Overall objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achieve optimum regulation and stewardship : clarity about roles and responsibilities; no 'gaps'; greater strategic initiative; enhanced casework) 2. Effective networking and information sharing 3. Better targeted resources 4. Improved and readily accessible sources of information and advice 5. Wider education about threats to carved stones 6. Wider promotion and celebration of the benefits of caring for carved stones 7. Development of evidence base, <i>and its use</i> 8. Wider public appreciation 9. Improved stewardship by owners and local communities 10. Formal recognition of specific needs of carved stones in government policies, guidance and operations 11. Clarity about priorities for recording, and to what level.
<p><u>Focal problem:</u> General under-appreciation of significance of carved stones in Scotland and the threats to them, and missed opportunities</p>	<p><u>Project purpose:</u> To promote an increased awareness of the interest and value of carved stones, and improved handling of their needs, for wider public benefit</p>
<p>Causes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diffuse communities of responsibility • Various issues to do with available information, guidance and support • Status of SG policy is ambiguous/vulnerable • Limitations of legislation, policy and practice, particularly ambiguities and gaps • Threats: under-appreciation and at change of ownership, in particular • Specific character of the resource: ambiguous, diffuse, 'commonplace' • NCCSS could do more. 	<p>Results sought:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connected individuals, institutions and communities • Co-ordinated actions • Readily accessible , co-ordinated sources of information and advice for target audiences • No loss, minimised damage, particularly to most significant carved stones • Legal and regulatory clarity (institutions, owners) • Resolution to specific needs of loose and vulnerable carved stones (legal, moral, etc) • Official recognition of status and significance of carved stones • Monitoring of threats • Comprehensive and accessible register of carved stones • More effective NCCSS.