

To: GREENER RENFREWSHIRE THEMATIC BOARD

On: 7 NOVEMBER 2016

Report by:
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OVERVIEW OF INITIATIVES AND GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of recent developments, initiatives and funding streams made available to Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland. It takes account of the emerging work streams and actions identified by the Board.
- 1.2 A similar update will be provided for each Board to stimulate awareness and decisions about the wider Greener theme and agenda. If any Board member has any information they would like included and circulated in future issues of the update, please forward to the report author.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board notes the content of the appendix to this report.

3. Background

- 3.1 In order to provide the Board members with support, policy advice and consistency of approach, this report explores communication received from the Scottish Government and other statutory bodies, good practice examples from other local authorities as well as national and local initiatives and projects. Where available, a local view has also been provided on the topic.



4. Resources

- 4.1 Information on funding streams which have been identified and which Community Planning Partners can apply for in relation to the Greener agenda are included in the appendices of this report.

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Appendix 1

Good Practice Examples

Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Plans to create Scotland's largest urban heritage and nature park have been given a major boost thanks to a £4.5m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). [The Seven Lochs](#) Wetland Park project is a partnership between Glasgow City Council, North Lanarkshire Council, Forest Enterprise Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and The Conservation Volunteers Scotland, working alongside local communities, to bring together 16km² of lochs, parks, nature reserves and woodlands between Glasgow and Coatbridge. The £6.8m project sets out how the area's heritage buildings, wildlife habitat and archaeology will be improved, protected and brought together to create a new attraction of national significance.

The Seven Lochs Wetland Park will become a major new hub for heritage conservation and learning and engagement, and will leave an important legacy for the communities within and neighbouring the park. When complete, the project will enable local people and visitors to experience the natural and cultural heritage of the Seven Lochs area like never before and help local communities to take ownership of the park for generations to come.

Aberdeen City Council

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Aberdeen City Council recently won two awards at a national transport awards ceremony in recognition of their H2 Aberdeen initiative. H2 Aberdeen brings together a strategy and series of projects to create a cleaner transport system in the city, and will cut emissions from public transport, the council fleet and other vehicles through the introduction and operation of hydrogen fuel cell electric buses, vans and cars.

H2 Aberdeen has introduced Europe's largest fleet of hydrogen fuel cell buses, as well as the UK's largest hydrogen production and bus refuelling station provided by BOC. The bus companies using the technology – First and Stagecoach - report that the vehicles are proving to be extremely efficient compared to their diesel equivalents



The result of good partnership working is a success story which has seen this green fleet travel the equivalent distance of 10 times around the world, reducing carbon emissions in the city and introducing the travelling public to a new, environmentally friendly form of public transport

Edinburgh City Council

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

New sensory technology has been installed in over 300 litter bins by the City of Edinburgh Council as part of a trial to ensure that they are emptied before they reach capacity. The sensor sends data via a mobile network to staff who can then predict which bins are almost full. It is hoped that the data gathered will also help to identify any improvements required in the collection of bins and routes. The information collected also allows staff to prioritise collections at busier spots as some bins may not need to be emptied as often as others.

The success of the pilot is attracting a lot of attention from other major cities particularly in the US, where the authorities in Washington DC have contacted Edinburgh City Council to share their experiences with them

Sustrans

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Sustrans Scotland's National Director has written to key Holyrood committee members reminding them of the major health, social and economic benefits that active travel can bring to communities. The briefing for members of the health committee argues that by making walking and cycling a part of daily journeys we can overcome one of Scotland's major public health challenges - physical inactivity. Physical inactivity contributes to nearly 2,500 deaths annually, costing the NHS around £94 million a year.

Sustrans Scotland's National Director stated that 'By providing information on our work we hope to see this support translated into positive debate this parliament so that more of Scotland can enjoy the benefits of walking and cycling as healthy, economically viable, clean and cheap ways to get around.'



Appendix 2

Funding Opportunities

Central Scotland Green Network

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) is inviting applications for green projects to bid for a share of £400,000 to enhance woodlands and green infrastructure, boost active travel and encourage community growing in the Central Belt. The CSGN aims to transform the Central Belt into a place where the environment adds value to the economy and enriches the quality of people's lives. Since 2010 more than 150 projects have benefitted from a share of £6.2 million.

The closing date for applications to the CSGN Development Fund is 21 November. For further information and eligibility criteria visit the [development fund webpage](#). The fund is supported by Forestry Commission Scotland, Transport Scotland, Scottish Government Food and Drink and Scottish Natural Heritage.

Greenspace Scotland

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Tesco Bags of Help grant scheme, which is administered in Scotland through greenspace scotland, is now permanently open for applications. Projects that can be put forward for funding include both physical improvements to outdoor spaces, greenspaces and parks and activities on them. There is no match funding requirement and no restrictions on existing project funding.

Projects that will now get the green light as a result of the funding will include volunteer training, physical improvements of open spaces, equipment purchases, community events and sports and leisure activities. Following a public vote in local Tesco stores, three projects in each of the Tesco regions will receive a grant each month, with first place receiving up to £5K, second place up to £2K and third place up to £1K.

Full eligibility criteria and detailed application guidance is available online here <http://bit.ly/bagsofhelp3>.