



To: **Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board**

On: **31<sup>st</sup> August 2015**

Report by:  
**Renfrewshire Council**  
**Director of Development & Housing Services**

## **LOCAL GREEN NETWORK PROJECTS UPDATE GREENER COMMUNITIES SUB-GROUP**

### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides a review of the Renfrewshire Council Local Green Network projects delivered in 2014/15.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board notes the projects completed through the Renfrewshire Council Local Green Network Programme in 2014/15.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 The improvement of Green Networks is a key element of the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan and in recent years a successful programme of projects has been delivered for the benefit of communities across Renfrewshire.
- 3.2 In 2014/15 seven projects were completed, the largest of which was the 'Grand Fountain: Interpretation and Restoration Project'. The remaining completed projects comprised:
- Linwood Lade Phase 4,
  - Renfrew Riverside Walkway study,
  - Lighting the National Cycle Network through Saucelhill Park,
  - Improvements to the lighting and new benches in Fountain Gardens,
  - various small scale access projects concentrating on Core Paths, and
  - various small scale green network upgrades.



- 3.4 As with previous years, Local Green Network projects continue to focus on creating green links, improving access and interpretation, and environmental improvements.

## **4. Benefits**

- 5.1 Local green network projects aim to create, improve and extend access routes for active travel, recreational walking and cycling. In addition, projects address community safety by improving lighting, cutting back vegetation and improving sight lines as well as improving biodiversity and preventing damage to property through woodland management. The restoration of the Grand Fountain has increased activity in the park as well as preventing the loss of the category A listed fountain.

## **5. Community Engagement**

- 6.1 Community engagement is a key component of the delivery of green network projects, demonstrated by the involvement of community groups in the Grand Fountain project, the success of work carried out by the Conservation Volunteers on various sites throughout the area and the involvement of over 1000 school children in the delivery of the Activity Plan for the Semple Trail Heritage Project.

## **6. Resources**

- 4.1 Funding for the delivery of projects in 2015/16 is secured within approved Council budgets and external funding opportunities will continue to be maximised.