

Green Networks: Supplementary Guidance

Action Programme

May 2011

Contents

Introduction

This is the Action Programme which accompanies the Green Networks: Supplementary Guidance.

The Action Programme sets out:

- A list of actions required to deliver each of the guidance's proposals; and
- The timescale for carrying out each action.

The Action Programme follows the order of the supplementary guidance and identifies the key projects which the Council is, and intends to be involved in to deliver a Highland Green Network

The action programme is a 'live' document reflecting the continuous development of the green network concept in Highland. It is based on information currently available and will be updated to include further information as it comes forward. It will also be used to provide an update on the progress of particular actions. A key part of the development of this document will include liaison with the development industry and Key Agency Partners to feed into the identified actions.

Following the adoption of the Green Networks: Supplementary Guidance the Action Programme will be updated every 12 months.

Green Networks: Supplementary Guidance Action Programme

Action	Timescale	Description	Lead Agency	Other Partners
Identification of Inner Moray Firth Green Network	2011/12	Identifies key green network features between Inverness and Tain	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Forestry Commission Scotland
Publish analysis of Inner Moray Firth Green Network	2012	Provides an analysis of the Inner Moray Firth Green Network and sets priorities for delivery	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Development Industry • Local landowners
Identification of South East Sutherland and Thurso-Wick Green Network	2012/13	Identifies key green network features between Dornoch and Helmsdale and Thurso and Wick.	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Forestry Commission Scotland
Publish analysis of South East Sutherland and Thurso-Wick Green Network	2013	Provides an analysis of the South East Sutherland and Thurso-Wick Green Network and sets priorities for delivery	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Development Industry • Local landowners
Identification of Fort William and Portree Green Networks	2013/14	Identifies key green network features around Fort William and Portree.	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Forestry Commission Scotland

Action	Timescale	Description	Lead Agency	Other Partners
Publish analysis of Fort William and Portree Green Networks	2014	Provides an analysis of the Fort William and Portree Green Networks and sets priorities for delivery	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Development Industry • Local landowners

A96 Corridor Green Network - Delivery of Priorities

Priority 1 – Realise the Potential of the Inverness-Nairn Coastal Trail, as well as a Landward Trail, north-south connections between the trails and a tourist trail.

Action	Timescale	Description	Lead Agency	Other Partners
Consultation with land owners on route of coastal, landward and north-south trails	2011	Further consultation to help establish methods of delivery of each section of the path network.	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Development Industry • Local landowners
Finalise route of trails	2011	Finalise route of trails taking into account landowner consultation and Habitats Regulation Appraisal	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Forestry Commission Scotland
Programme for delivery of routes	2011	Set out programme for construction new section of trails and improvement of existing sections (where appropriate). At this stage necessary consents will also be sought.	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local landowners • Development Industry
Delivery of Coastal Trail, Landward Trail, North-South Links and Tourist Trail	2012 onwards	Delivery on the ground of trails.	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Forestry Commission Scotland

Priority 2 – Maintain and Improve the green network connection between habitats in areas for proposed development.

Action	Timescale	Description	Lead Agency	Other Partners
Biodiversity training for all Highland Council Planners	2011	Training for all Highland Council Planners on emerging biodiversity supplementary guidance	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage
Dissemination of good practice on creating/maintaining habitat connections	2011	Dedicated green networks webpage with information on habitat connections and possible mitigation measures including links to badger guidance note, squirrel crossings etc.	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage
Develop developer requirements for each new allocated site in A96 Corridor	2010/2011	Write appropriate developer requirements into the Highland wide Local Development Plan site allocation policies to ensure habitat connections are taken into consideration	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Priority 3 – Identify positive land uses for important undeveloped wedges providing a setting and framework for settlements, and maintaining separation of existing settlements.

Action	Timescale	Description	Lead Agency	Other Partners
Green Network to be a consideration in Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan Call for Sites	2011	Call for sites to have questions to landowners on how they will contribute to the green network	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Local landowners • Development industry
Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan SEA to ensure Green Network opportunities are identified	2011/12	Strategic Environmental Assessment of sites to identify positive uses for undeveloped areas	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Historic Scotland
Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan to identify positive land uses for undeveloped wedges	2011/12	Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan to identify uses for undeveloped wedges	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Priority 4 – Influence major development proposals within the corridor to minimise negative impacts on the green network and ensure the contribute positively to the further development of the green network and high quality local greenspace.

Action	Timescale	Description	Lead Agency	Other Partners
Green network to be raised to all proposals coming through the Pre-application Advice Service for Major Development	2011 onwards	Modification of template for pre-application advice pack to ensure Green Network is a key consideration and area of advice.	Highland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Local landowners • Development industry