

Edinburgh Living Landscape Programme Plan



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Edinburgh Living Landscape Programme Plan

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Edinburgh Living Landscape Programme Plan has been developed in 2013 - 2014 and brings together the views and aspirations of the project's formally signed up partners and the expertise of the Programme Plan Board. The Programme Plan has been designed to act as a strategic overview of the initiative but it will also act as a working document to which more detail will be added as the partnership matures and specific and/or new projects are developed. The Partnership recognises that its ability to deliver projects will depend on being able to access additional resources whether that is financial or in kind from a range of sources.

2 Background

- 2.1 In 2006, the Scottish Wildlife Trust launched a long term vision for nature conservation in Scotland entitled 'Natural Connections'. Underpinned by the concept of the 'ecosystem approach', the vision was about scaling up Scotland's nature conservation efforts from species and sites focused activity, to an ecosystem scale (the three pillar approach). But it was also about taking nature conservation itself out of its silo, and making it a much stronger element of socio-economic decision making. The 'ecosystem approach' works at multiple scales within a landscape, or cityscape; a crucial element involves making the links between a healthy environment, a healthy economy, people's wellbeing and ultimately the prosperity of Scotland.
- 2.2 From the outset, the Trust has been keen to demonstrate how the concept might work on the ground and following on from its Policy Futures Publication *Living Landscapes*¹ in 2009 the Trust has developed, through partnership working, two long term Living Landscape initiatives: the Coigach-Assynt Living Landscape - a predominantly rural focused landscape initiative in the far north west and the Cumbernauld Living Landscape – an urban landscape initiative in the Central Belt.
- 2.3 A Living Landscape involves the creation and restoration of robust, resilient and connected green (and blue) infrastructure on a large scale. Living Landscapes not only create healthy environments, able to withstand and combat the effects of climate change, they are also highly valued and accessible to people. Living Landscapes allow wildlife to flourish and are rich in opportunities for learning and improving health and wellbeing. Living Landscapes are as much about fostering sustainable local economies through creating high quality places where people want to live their lives, as they are about safeguarding nature.
- 2.4 At a city scale, a Living Landscape in Edinburgh considers the urban and peri-urban ecosystem as a functioning unit and will develop ways to improve over the long term, the health of that ecosystem as a whole. This will not only benefit urban wildlife but will also improve the quality of 'natural services' upon which city dwellers rely, such as improved air quality, flood prevention, and increased encounters with nature. An *Edinburgh Living Landscape* will provide an overarching vision under which existing and future initiatives can sit. It is also very practical in that it provides a management framework in which high levels goals can be linked to projects and performance indicators to track progress.

3 Scope of Edinburgh Living Landscape

- 3.1 The extent of the Edinburgh Living Landscape is defined by City of Edinburgh's Council boundary (see Appendix 1).

¹ See: http://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/docs/002_050_publications_Policy_Futures_Series_1_Living_Landscapes_1292841506.pdf

3.2 The programme involves working at multiple scales, which compose the urban ecosystem, across the city of Edinburgh from window box to regional green networks. See Figure 1 below.

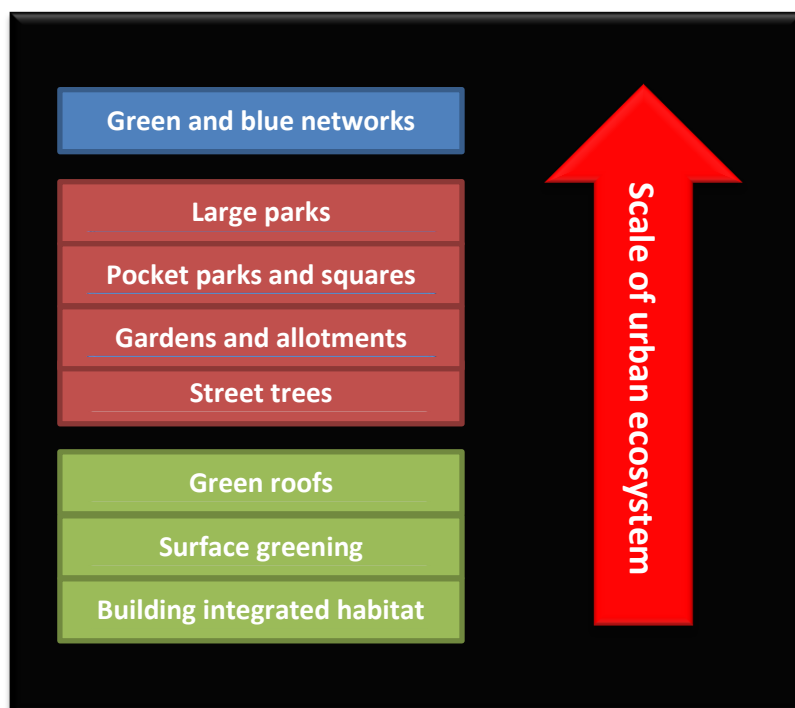


Figure 1: The multiple scales of green and blue infrastructure which make up the urban ecosystem

3.3 There is a sound ecological basis for taking this multiple scale approach and attempting to make functional connections between each of the levels. The more connected and coalesced fragments of habitat become, the more resilient to change they become. A good example is pollinators such as bees and butterflies, which thrive better when there is a connected patchwork of suitable habitat. At the other end of the scale, improving the connectivity and quality of green and blue networks will mean they increasingly deliver a range of 'ecosystem services' to city residents, e.g. clean water, slowing water movement, safe, low-pollution active travel networks and green areas within the city for play, exploration and education for children.

3.4 There are three fundamental ways of improving habitat quality, which apply to every scale in the urban ecosystem:

- *Nativeness* – encourage native species and discourage non-native invasive species. Native species support other native species in complex ecological relationships which have evolved over millennia.
- *Habitat complexity* – encourage vertical and horizontal complexity of structure within habitat patches, whatever their size. This maximises the number of niches available for species.
- *Connectivity* – encourage physical and functional connections between habitat patches so the green infrastructure begins to coalesce into a more resilient system.

3.5 The scope of the programme therefore would be to improve the quality and quantity of semi-natural habitats and features across multiple scales using the three principles of nativeness, habitat complexity and connectivity. Within this broad framework, there is also need to target action in the species and habitats pillars towards particularly rare and threatened species and habitats with specialised requirements, including those on the Edinburgh local biodiversity action plan.²

² For details of action plan See: http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/94/wildlife_conservation/550/wildlife_conservation_and_biodiversity

- 3.6 In 2012, the Scottish Wildlife Trust and City of Edinburgh Council formally agreed to collaborate on the development and implementation of a Living Landscape programme for Edinburgh. It was agreed that the Scottish Wildlife Trust's Head of Policy would be the programme director and that a programme board would advise on and oversee the development and implementation of the programme plan. Following on from this initial agreement, Edinburgh and Lothian Greenspace Trust, GREENSURGE and the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh have become partners.
- 3.7 The vision, the strategic objectives and underpinning values and list of projects and indicators to measure success have all been agreed by the ELL programme board.

4 Edinburgh Living Landscape (ELL) vision

It is 2050, Edinburgh is widely regarded as one of the best cities to live in Europe. The city is an exemplar of sustainable living where both people and nature thrive. People are increasingly accessing their local neighbourhoods on foot and car use is continuing to decline year on year, helping make urban areas more culturally vibrant and more liveable. The high quality of both the built form and green and blue spaces of the city has significantly improved the health, well-being and happiness of all people living and working in Edinburgh and cut carbon emissions dramatically. This quality is attracting inward investment and talented people in increasing numbers. Local people have taken ownership of safeguarding the health of their urban ecosystem by becoming more actively involved in planning decisions and the day to day stewardship of greenspaces.

5 A climate change adapted city

- 5.1 In 2011, the Scottish Wildlife Trust produced Policy Futures 3: *Climate Connections*³ which explained how the maintenance and restoration of ecosystem health plays a key role in helping balance Scotland's carbon budget and creating a low carbon, high biodiversity economy. *Climate Connections* recognised that most people in Scotland live in an urban setting and adapting the urban environment to the impacts of climate change to ensure towns and cities remain 'liveable' will be a key challenge in the coming decades.
- 5.2 The Edinburgh Living Landscape has modified the characteristics of a climate change adapted city listed in *Climate Connections* to meet Edinburgh's requirements and an outline of the characteristics of an 'ideal future' city of Edinburgh are summarised below; the full details are given in Appendix 2.
- 5.3 Characteristics of an 'ideal future' city of Edinburgh:
- Compact
 - Walkable
 - Water smart
 - Networked
 - Liveable
 - Providing multiple recreational opportunities
 - Adding value to the economy
 - Being partly self-sufficient
 - Clean and healthy
 - Biologically diverse
 - Inclusive and democratic
 - Providing educational opportunities

³ Scottish Wildlife Trust Policy Futures 3: Climate Connection: towards low carbon high biodiversity economies
http://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/docs/027_104_publications_Climate_Connections_final_low_res_1306398243.pdf

6 ELL strategic objectives

- Ecosystem health of Edinburgh is improving year on year
- Improved ecosystem health in Edinburgh is having measurable socio-economic benefits for the city, particularly in areas of deprivation
- More people are engaged in caring for their local greenspaces
- More people are making use of Edinburgh's connected network of green and blue spaces to move around the city by walking and cycling
- New developments are planned and delivered in such a way as to create low carbon, walkable neighbourhoods, and workplaces containing high quality green infrastructure.

7 ELL strapline

7.1 The Strapline for Edinburgh Living Landscape is:

Nature in your neighbourhood

8 Underpinning values

8.1 To achieve the above, a number of underpinning values have been adopted that will run across all projects and activities. These are:

- **Working in partnership:** all projects under the initiative should involve more than one partner; differences between partners should be respected
- **Multiple benefits:** all projects should look to deliver a range of benefits including creating local employment wherever possible
- **Monitoring as a core part of building knowledge:** all projects/work should contain an element of monitoring to help improve understanding which will then be used to feedback into ongoing or developing projects
- **Inclusiveness:** a core value of the partnership is that it must be open to local groups and local people whose opinion and ideas will be sought during the roll out of the programme
- **Pool knowledge and resources:** partners will share both knowledge and resources in order reduce potential duplication and to ensure good value for money
- **Openness and transparency:** the initiative will disseminate information regarding all its activities through a dedicated website, email bulletins and the local press. Minutes of all meetings and decisions taken will be made available to the public (except when of commercially sensitive to one or more of the Partners)

9 ELL area description

- 9.1 Edinburgh is Scotland's capital city and is located in the Central Belt in south-east Scotland. The city fills a narrow gap between the Firth of Forth (an estuary of the River Forth which flows into the North Sea) to the north and the Pentland Hills to the south. The built form extends over a landscape which is the product of past volcanic and glacial activity, both of which have also contributed to Edinburgh's distinct natural environment. Edinburgh enjoys a temperate, maritime climate. The mean maximum daily temperatures range from 6°C in January to 19°C in July with an average annual rainfall of 680 mm.
- 9.2 The city's historic character is of such exceptional quality that the medieval Old Town and the Georgian New Town (which make up a substantial part of the city centre) have been given UNESCO World Heritage status.
- 9.3 Choice of dwelling for Edinburgh's c. 500,000 residents range from compact tenements located in the heart of the city and its immediate surrounding area, to suburban dwellings which stretch out to

the hinterlands before Edinburgh's greenbelt. The average population density is 1,889 persons m⁻². A sizable population commutes from neighbouring areas to work in the city. Key sectors include financial and business services, creative industries, life sciences, information technology, retail, education and tourism. Four universities and two further education colleges are based in and around Edinburgh, with a total student population of about 90,000.

- 9.4 Across the city, local people have access to 142 council managed parks as well as semi-natural habitats which accounts for one-third of the total City of Edinburgh Council area (see also section 10.4 below). The city is rich in rivers, burns, lochs, woodlands, farmland, grasslands, wetlands and rock faces. Important wildlife corridors weave through the city and are provided by wooded river corridors such as the Water Of Leith, cyclepath networks and railways.
- 9.5 Within the City of Edinburgh Council boundary there are four internationally significant wildlife areas, six nationally important sites and 35 locally important sites (29 local biodiversity sites; six Local Nature Reserves) (see Appendix 3 for list of sites.). Scottish Wildlife Trust manages four wildlife reserves: Bawsinch and Duddingston Loch, Johnston Terrace, Red Moss of Balerno and Pepper Wood.

10 The partnership

- 10.1 The ELL partnership comprises City of Edinburgh Council, the Scottish Wildlife Trust, Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust, GREENSURGE, and the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Scottish Wildlife Trust

- 10.2 The Scottish Wildlife Trust was formed in 1964 and is a membership-based charity with well over 36,000 members. The Trust works with its members, partners and supporters in pursuit of its vision of healthy, resilient ecosystems across Scotland's land and seas. Salaried staff are supported by over 1,000 volunteers, who help out with a broad range of activities from reserve management, species protection, surveying and recording to running visitor centre activities and events.
- 10.3 The Trust manages 120 wildlife reserves covering a total area of c. 20,000 ha across Scotland. Bawsinch and Duddingston Loch, Johnston Terrace, Red Moss of Balerno and Pepper Wood are wildlife reserves located in the ELL boundary. Management of these reserves is overseen by the Trust's southeast Scotland Reserves Manager who is also supported by Trust staff with specialist skills including fundraising, biological surveying and recording, GIS and mapping, marketing and volunteer training.

City of Edinburgh Council (CEC)

- 10.4 The City of Edinburgh Council is responsible for the governance of a wide range of public services, including education, social care, housing, planning, local transport, economic development, and environmental services. The Parks and Greenspace service oversees the development, management and maintenance of 1520 ha of publicly accessible green space, which is made up of 142 public parks, 6 statutory nature reserves, 12 natural parks, 3 botanic gardens, 25 allotments, and an urban forest of some 638,000 trees spread across several hundred woodlands, parks, and green spaces, including 8550 street trees. Strategic management objectives derive from the city's Open Space Strategy, Biodiversity Action Plan, Parks & Gardens Strategy, and Trees & Woodlands Action Plan, more detailed management being led by the national Green Flag Award programme and internal Park Quality Assessment performance programme.

Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT)

- 10.5 ELGT, which was set up as an independent charity in 1991, works to develop, manage and promote quality greenspaces in and around Edinburgh and the Lothians through creative annual programmes of capital and engagement projects. ELGT is dedicated to improving the quality of life for our communities by enabling people to re-connect with and enjoy their local greenspaces.
- 10.6 ELGT has a strong track record of partnership working and project delivery and is widely regarded as a trusted partner, with its professionalism well-established and maintained across all areas of its work. As a consequence of the increased demand for its services, the staff team and annual project programmes have grown significantly over recent years and overall turnover has risen to around £1M per annum for the past three years.
- 10.7 ELGT believes that quality local greenspaces have a positive impact on the health and well-being of individuals and, through inspiring, ground-breaking and imaginative programmes of environmental and community projects, ELGT are able to bring real benefits to people, wildlife, landscape and heritage. ELGT's comprehensive portfolio of professional environmental project development, management and fundraising services helps to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to enjoy their natural environment.

11 ELL partnership and programme board structure

- 11.1 It has been agreed that the following structures be adopted for the effective running of the ELL programme.

The Partnership

- 11.2 The partners have agreed to work in cooperation, subject to input from the 'Programme Board', (see below) on a Living Landscape programme which aims to take a collaborative, ecosystem-based approach to the management of the Edinburgh area, addressing key threats including habitat fragmentation, invasive non-native species and biodiversity loss whilst also delivering vital socio-economic benefits to local people. A Memorandum of Cooperation has been signed by the partners and is provided in Appendix 4.

The Programme Board

- 11.3 The programme board was established in June 2013. (See Appendix 5 for members and Appendix 6 for Terms of Reference.) The purpose of the programme board is to guide, shape and steer the delivery of the programme plan for the Edinburgh Living Landscape (ELL) partnership. The Head of Policy and Planning for Scottish Wildlife Trust is the programme director and has been responsible for writing up the draft programme plan, with guidance from the partners and programme board.
- 11.4 The programme board has been responsible for finalising and approving the programme plan. The programme board will continue to meet to monitor the ongoing delivery of the programme.
- 11.5 Membership of the board is by invitation of the ELL partnership. Board members have been selected to reflect the ambitions of the ELL partnership with the aim being able to draw on their area of expertise/local knowledge to help guide and shape the programme plan.
- 11.6 The period of membership of the board will cover both the development and implementation of the programme plan. It is envisaged that smaller working groups of stakeholders will be needed on an ad hoc basis to implement projects in the programme plan. Working groups will report back to the programme plan board.

12 Consultation and programme development process

12.1 The ELL programme plan has been developed through securing input from the partners and the programme board.

Working methods

12.2 The main approach to working was a collaborative working style in which aspects of the proposed programme plan are discussed at board meetings or in between meetings via emails. (See Appendix 6 for Terms of Reference).

12.3 In between board meetings, a subgroup may be convened with the agreement of the programme board, to address aspects of the programme plan which require a particular area of expertise and would be best addressed initially through a subgroup. The subgroup reports back to the programme board. An indicator subgroup comprising five board members has been developing a suite of indicators to measure strategic objectives and the outcomes which characterise a future city of Edinburgh.

Small working groups

12.4 These will be established on an ad hoc basis to focus on specific projects which may draw in members of the partnership and/or board members and representatives from other relevant groups who are relevant to delivery of the programme projects depending on topic.

12.5 In addition to the above it is anticipated that there will be the following:

Public relations and communications strategy

12.6 A subgroup consisting of the partners has drawn up a PR strategy, so that activity under the ELL programme is publicised in an open and transparent way, makes full use of social media opportunities and aligns with any media protocol agreed by the partners and approved by the board. The Communication strategy is given in Appendix 7.

Communications list

12.7 This will be a list of all groups, individuals and agencies which have a passing interest in the project. Regular email updates of what the ELL initiative is doing will be issued.

Open Events

12.8 In order to celebrate the achievements of the Initiative or when developing an area of work which would benefit from fresh and creative thinking there is the scope to host open days and events with associated workshops. Invitations to some of these events will be targeted to meet the specific objectives of each occasion; others will be open to a wider audience.

13 Strategic context

International legislative and policy context

The Convention on Biological Diversity - the ecosystems approach

- 13.1 The development of the Edinburgh Living Landscape programme has been partly facilitated through Scottish Wildlife Trust's Living Landscapes policy⁴ and their support for and investment in demonstration areas such as Coigach-Assynt and Cumbernauld. The Trust's Living Landscape policy is based around the concept of an ecosystem approach linked to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which first opened for signature in 1992 at The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (see also sections 13.3-13.3).
- 13.2 The ecosystem approach has 12 principles:⁵
1. The objectives of management of land, water and living resources area matter of societal choices.
 2. Management should be decentralised to the lowest appropriate level.
 3. Ecosystem managers should consider the effects (actual or potential) of their activities on adjacent and other ecosystems.
 4. Recognising potential gains from management there is usually a need to understand and manage the ecosystem in an economic context.
 5. Conservation of ecosystem structure and functioning, in order to maintain ecosystem services, should be a priority target of the ecosystem approach.
 6. Ecosystems must be managed within the limits of their functioning.
 7. The ecosystem approach should be undertaken at the appropriate spatial and temporal scales.
 8. Recognising the varying temporal scales and lag-effects that characterise ecosystem processes, objectives for ecosystem management should be set for the long term.
 9. Management must recognise that change is inevitable.
 10. The ecosystem approach should seek the appropriate balance between, and integration of, conservation and use of biological diversity.
 11. The ecosystem approach should consider all forms of relevant information, including scientific and indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices.
 12. The ecosystem approach should involve all relevant sectors of society and scientific disciplines.
- 13.3 In summary, the basic idea behind the approach is that healthy, well managed ecosystems provide a range of 'goods and services' for communities. These services can be broadly grouped into supporting, provisioning, regulating and cultural services and these can be linked to a range of benefits. Figure 2 below, taken from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,⁶ summarises this relationship.
- 13.4 More details of the ecosystem approach and its international and national context and scope for implementation are set out in the Scottish Wildlife Trust's Policy Futures Paper 1: *Living Landscapes: towards ecosystem-based conservation in Scotland*.

⁴ Op cit 1

⁵ For further details on the ecosystem approach see the Convention on Biological Diversity's web page: <https://www.cbd.int/ecosystem/principles.shtml>

⁶ See: <http://www.millenniumassessment.org/en/index.html>

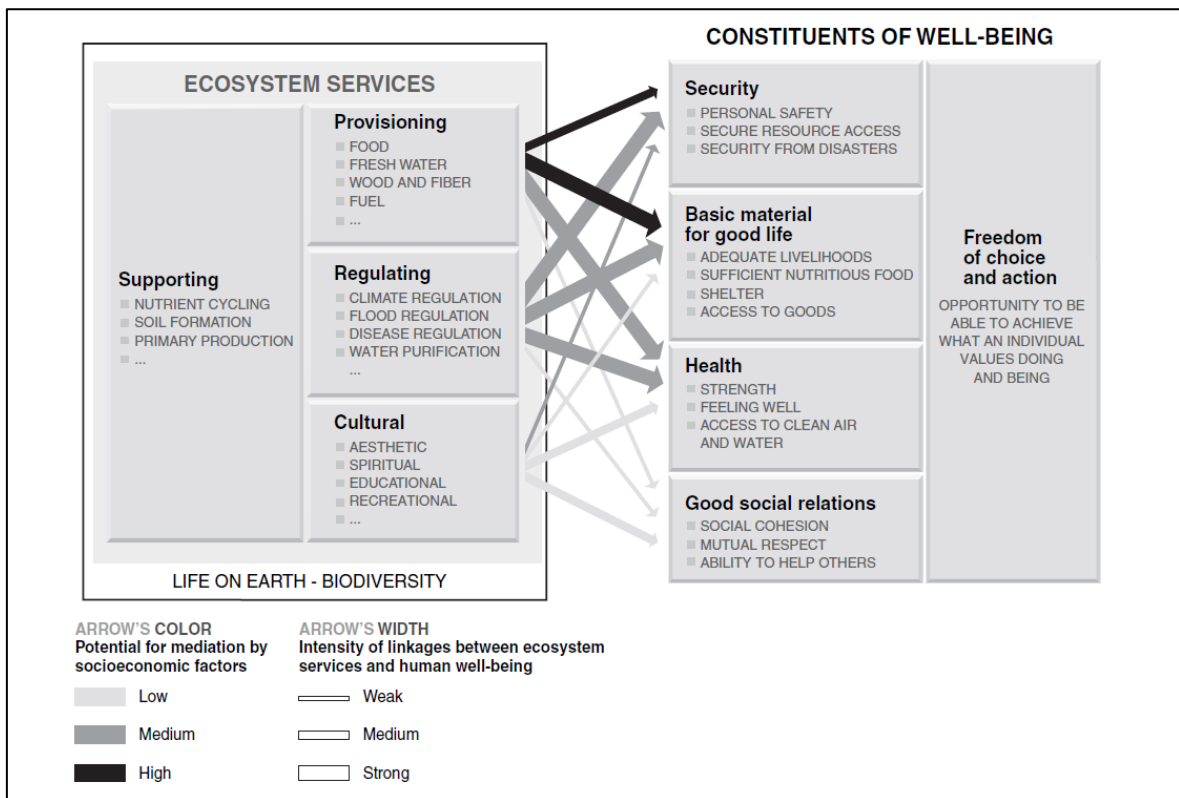


Figure 2: Linkages between ecosystem services and human well-being.

The Convention on Biological Diversity - Aichi biodiversity targets

13.5 At its tenth meeting in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010, the CBD Conference of the Parties adopted a revised and updated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, for the 2011-2020 period, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets⁷.

- 13.6 The ELL strategic objectives align most closely with the following Aichi strategic goals:
- Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity
 - Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

The EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy

13.7 The EU vision is:

By 2050, European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides – its natural capital – are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human well-being and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided.

13.8 The ELL most closely aligns with the EU target of:
Better protection and restoration of ecosystems and the services they provide, and greater use of green infrastructure

13.9 The EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 includes a commitment for the Commission to develop a green infrastructure (GI) strategy. The Commission defines GI as:

⁷ For further information on CBD Aichi targets see: <http://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

a strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services. It incorporates green spaces (or blue if aquatic ecosystems are concerned) and other physical features in terrestrial (including coastal) and marine areas. On land, GI is present in rural and urban settings.

13.10 The Commission is committed to developing an EU GI strategy that helps to conserve and enhance Europe's natural capital and to achieve Europe's 2020 objectives. Such is the importance of GI that the Commission specifically identifies GI as one of the investment priorities in the Cohesion Fund and the European Regional Development Fund. GI is recognised as contributing to regional policy and sustainable growth in Europe and facilitating smart and sustainable growth through smart specialisation.⁸

Scottish Government legislation and policy

Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004

13.11 Part 1 of the 2004 Act places a duty on public bodies and office holders to further the conservation of biodiversity. Re:

(1) It is the duty of every public body and office-holder, in exercising any functions, to further the conservation of biodiversity so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.

(2) In complying with the duty imposed by subsection (1) a body or office-holder must have regard to—

(a) any strategy designated under section 2(1), and

(b) the United Nations Environmental Programme Convention on Biological Diversity of 5 June 1992 as amended from time to time (or any United Nations Convention replacing that Convention).

2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity - A strategy for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in Scotland

13.13 The Scottish Government's 2020 Challenge sets out what types of activities should be considered by public bodies and office bearers with regard to that duty. The ELL objectives are closely aligned to the overarching aims of the Scottish Government's strategy, namely:

- protect and restore biodiversity on land and in our seas, and to support healthier ecosystems
- connect people with the natural world, for their health and wellbeing and to involve them more in decisions about their environment
- maximise the benefits for Scotland of a diverse natural environment and the services it provides, contributing to sustainable economic growth

National planning strategy and policy

13.14 The National Planning Framework (NPF)⁹, which is in its third iteration, is the long-term strategy for Scotland and is described as the spatial expression of the Scottish Government's economic strategy. Statutory development plans must have regard to NPF, and the Scottish Government expects planning decisions to support its delivery. One of the ambitions of NPF is to see the creation of high quality, diverse and sustainable places that promote well-being and attract investment.

13.15 ELL aligns with NPF priorities for green infrastructure (GI); NPF refers to:

⁸ From: COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS Green Infrastructure (GI) — Enhancing Europe's Natural Capital {SWD(2013) 155 final}

⁹ See: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/06/3539>

“Well-designed green infrastructure can support regeneration efforts within towns and cities, and improved attractiveness and environmental performance can act as a catalyst for economic investment. Temporary uses for vacant and derelict land, for example for community growing or supporting biodiversity, can also help to attract investment in specific sites or wider areas. Whilst re-use of vacant land remains a priority, in some cases greening initiatives could be the best permanent solutions for sites where built development is unrealistic for cost or other reasons.”

13.16 Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) is a material consideration in the planning system. SPP is a statement of Scottish Government policy on how nationally important land use planning matters should be addressed across the country.¹⁰

13.17 With regard to Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) principles on GI, SPP states that:

Planning should protect, enhance and promote green infrastructure, including open space and green networks, as an integral component of successful placemaking.

The planning system should:

- consider green infrastructure as an integral element of places from the outset of the planning process;
- assess current and future needs and opportunities for green infrastructure to provide multiple benefits;
- facilitate the provision and long-term, integrated management of green infrastructure and prevent fragmentation; and
- provide for easy and safe access to and within green infrastructure, including core paths and other important routes, within the context of statutory access rights under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

Creating Places - A policy statement on architecture and place for Scotland

13.18 Creating Places sets out the Scottish Government’s position on architecture and place. The policies are material considerations in determining planning applications and appeals. Two policies that align with the ambitions of ELL are given immediately below.

Everyone responsible for Scotland’s built and natural environment must recognise that architecture and places are not simply elements of the planning process – they are among the most important outcomes that the process exists to support, and their quality should be a priority.

Communities and places benefit from investment decisions that consider all impacts – societal, environmental as well as economic. Decisions should prioritise long term benefits. The public sector should set an example by ensuring high design standards are adhered to in public procurement.

Green Infrastructure – Design and placemaking

13.19 Although not a policy statement, the Scottish Government’s guidance on GI illustrates what benefits are derived from GI and recommends that GI should be thought about at every scale of planning, from the strategic framework right down through neighbourhoods and within streets to the individual house or flat. The guidance shows, inter alia, how GI can help deliver the six qualities of successful places: Welcoming, Adaptable, Distinctive, Easy to move around, Resource efficient, Safe and Pleasant.

Central Scotland Green Network

¹⁰ See: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/Policy>

13.20 The Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) is a National Development in NPF. NPF gives a steer for focus of CSGN on remediation of derelict land, prioritised action in disadvantaged communities and active travel (walking and cycling).

13.21 As a signatory to CSGN, the Council has committed to a “step change” in restoring and improving Edinburgh’s green network, including a focus on naturalisation, increased greenspace connectivity, and enhanced landscapes resilient to/having reduced the impact of climate change. The CSGN identifies an attractive and diverse physical environment as a principle for the delivery of a healthy and sustainable economic future for central Scotland.

City of Edinburgh Council policy

The Capital coalition pledges

13.22 The Capital Coalition Pledges were agreed by the Council (Labour and the Scottish National Party) in August 2012. The pledges set out the Council’s commitment to build a cooperative, more prosperous Edinburgh in which every resident and community benefits in a “contract with the capital” which sets out six key priorities and the 53 pledges that support them:¹¹

- Ensuring every child has the best start in life
- Reducing poverty, inequality and deprivation
- Providing for Edinburgh’s economic growth and prosperity
- Strengthening and supporting our communities and keeping them safe
- Ensuring Edinburgh, and its residents, are well cared for
- Maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in Edinburgh

13.23 The ELL will contribute to the following coalition pledges:

- P33 Strengthen Neighbourhood Partnerships and further involve local people in decisions on how Council resources are used
- P43 Invest in healthy living and fitness advice for those most in need
- P48 Use Green Flag and other strategies to preserve our green spaces
- P50 Meet greenhouse gas targets, including the national target of 42% by 2020

13.24 The ELL will also contribute to the following Council Strategic Outcomes:

- CO7 Edinburgh draws new investment in development and regeneration
- CO10 Improved health and reduced inequalities
- CO18 Green - We reduce the local environmental impact of our consumption and production
- CO19 Attractive Places and Well Maintained – Edinburgh remains an attractive city through the development of high quality buildings and places and the delivery of high standards and maintenance of infrastructure and public realm
- CO23 Well engaged and well informed – Communities and individuals are empowered and supported to improve local outcomes and foster a sense of community
- The Council communicates effectively internally and externally and has an excellent reputation for customer care

¹¹ Taken from City of Edinburgh Council’s document: Coalition Pledges, Council Outcomes and Single Outcome Agreement Guidance for Reports

13.25 The ambitions of ELL align with The Edinburgh Partnership’s vision:

Edinburgh is a thriving, successful and sustainable capital city in which all forms of deprivation and inequality are reduced

13.26 The ELL programme will also contribute to all four of the Partnership’s priority outcomes:

- Edinburgh’s economy delivers increased investment, jobs, and opportunities for all.
- Edinburgh’s citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health.
- Edinburgh’s children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential.
- Edinburgh’s communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric.

Draft City of Edinburgh Local Development Plan (LDP)

13.27 The ELL aligns with the aims of the proposed LDP:

1. Support the growth of the city economy
2. Help increase the number and improve the quality of new homes being built in Edinburgh
3. Help ensure that the citizens of Edinburgh can get around easily by sustainable transport modes and can access jobs and services by these means
4. Look after and improve our environment for future generations in a changing climate
5. Help create strong, sustainable communities, enabling all residents to enjoy a high quality of life.

Sustainable Edinburgh 2020

13.28 Sustainable Edinburgh 2020¹² is the Council's framework for the sustainable development of the city until 2020. The vision is:

Edinburgh in 2020 will be a low carbon, resource efficient city, delivering a resilient local economy and vibrant flourishing communities in a rich natural setting

Local Biodiversity Action Plan

13.29 The Council’s Local Biodiversity Action Plan contains actions to improve the extent, quality and connectivity of Edinburgh’s semi-natural habitats, and forms the key instrument for realising the Council’s “Biodiversity Duty” under The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

Scottish Wildlife Trust policy

13.30 The Scottish Wildlife Trust’s three Living Landscape projects (Coigach- Assynt, Cumbernauld and Edinburgh) are a practical demonstration of the ecosystem approach and embody the principles of the Trust’s *Policy Futures 1: Living Landscapes* and *Policy Futures 3: Climate Connections*. How ELL aligns with the Trust’s two Policy Futures is discussed above in sections 2.1-2.4; 5.1-5.3 and 13.1 - 13.4.

¹² See: http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20142/sustainable_development_and_fairtrade/841/sustainable_edinburgh_2020

The Scottish Forum on Natural Capital

13.31 The Scottish Wildlife Trust is a founding partner of the Scottish Forum on Natural Capital¹³ which is an initiative to rebuild Scotland's natural capital. The Scottish Forum was launched at the World Forum on Natural Capital¹⁴, which was held in November 2013. The vision of the Scottish Forum on Natural Capital is:

- A Scotland in which all parts of society, including companies, NGOs, the Government, public bodies and communities, recognise our reliance on natural capital and the impact we have on it.
- A Scotland in which an understanding of our relationship with natural capital leads to action to protect and rebuild it.
- A Scotland which is exercising leadership to galvanise action both here and beyond Scotland's borders.

13.32 The Scottish Forum on Natural Capital will enable businesses and policy makers to make informed decisions about their impact on the environment, to assess the financial and other benefits they obtain from Scotland's natural capital, and to make a concerted effort to protect it. Where opportunities arise, ELL will engage with the Scottish Forum on Natural Capital to further ELL's vision.

Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust policy

13.33 The Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust works to make a positive difference in the quality of life for communities across the Lothians, through the creation and development of sustainable, well-managed and accessible greenspaces and green networks.

13.34 ELGT recognises that access to quality local greenspaces can have a positive impact on the health and well-being of individuals, particularly in disadvantaged areas, and that everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy their natural environment.

13.35 ELGT works for the benefit of people, wildlife, landscape and heritage, in partnership with communities, landowners, local authorities and other organisations, to support the wider development of sustainable green networks in Central and Eastern Scotland.

14 Activity to date

The Council greenspace resource

14.1 In order to get up-to-date information on the extent and type of landscape features maintained by the Council, Parks and Greenspace has been leading an initiative to map the current open space estate in GIS (Geographical Information System). In broad terms, this shows that the Council maintains c. 1520 ha of greenspace, across parks, housing estates, schools, nature reserves, and roadsides. Of this:

- 58% is standard amenity grassland
- 23% woodland
- 9% low maintenance grassland
- 6% sports pitches
- 2% shrubs and bedding
- 2% play areas, water features, hedges etc.

¹³ For further information see: <http://naturalcapitalscotland.com/>

¹⁴ For further information see: <http://www.naturalcapitalforum.com/>

- 14.2 Because such a large proportion of the greenspace estate is intensively-maintained grassland, a further exercise was undertaken to determine how much of this could be maintained in a less-intensive manner without impacting on amenity or sports use. As a result, it is estimated that between 10-25% of the Council's standard amenity grassland could be maintained with larger (and less intensive) machinery, or altered to low maintenance grassland (e.g. wildflower meadow), woodland, or as other less intensive landscape features. A successful example of this naturalisation can be seen in Holyrood Park, where once regularly cut grassland is now cut only once per year; to the benefit of both wildlife and public amenity.
- 14.3 Realising the possibilities for change, twenty-two low amenity grassland trials were undertaken in 2012 and 2013. Some of these were monitored for their benefits to pollinating species by Edinburgh University (see Urban pollinators initiative below), and others were assessed for their attractiveness to greenspace users. All the meadows created attracted large numbers of pollinating species, and those meadows that were particularly colourful over a long period of time proved popular amongst people.

Urban pollinator project

- 14.4 The Council has been part of the Urban Pollinator Project, a three year scientific collaboration between universities, city councils and Wildlife Trusts in four UK cities: Bristol, Edinburgh, Leeds and Reading. It is a scientific study to determine which urban environments best support populations of insect pollinators, and to this end 15 wildflower meadows (annual or perennial mixes) have been sown in parks and greenspaces across Edinburgh in 2012 and 2013.
- 14.5 Chosen sites in Edinburgh included:
- Cairntows Park
 - Davidsons Mains Primary School
 - Inch Park
 - Sighthill Park
 - West Pilton Park
 - Joppa Quarry Park
 - Pilrig Park
 - Saughton Park
 - St Katherines Park
 - St Mark's Park
 - Drum Brae Drive
 - Firrhill High School
 - Hailes Quarry Park
 - Jewel Park
 - Montgomery Street Park
- 14.6 Whilst surveying the meadows 3,480 plant-pollinator interactions, including five bumblebee species, honeybees, solitary bees, sawflies, beetles, butterflies and countless hoverflies, were recorded - far more than in typical amenity grassland.

Edinburgh and Lothians Forestry and Woodland Strategy 2012-17

- 14.7 The strategy outlines targets for expanding woodland cover. It identifies priority areas for woodland expansion which help to create a forest habitat network at a landscape scale.

Appointment of a Living Landscapes officer

- 14.8 The Council has appointed a part-time Living Landscapes officer, who has been mapping out opportunities for habitat enhancement and connectivity in the west and southwest of the city.

Development of an Edinburgh wildflower meadows seed mix

14.9 Following on from the urban pollinator initiative, Edinburgh University has secured funding for the development of an Edinburgh wildflower meadow seed mix. The project brings together academic expertise at Edinburgh University, commercial wildflower development expertise at Scotia Seeds, CEC's Parks and Greenspace team.

14.10 Proposed sites have been identified; locations chosen build on the work of the urban pollinator initiative:

- Inch Park
- Montgomery Street Park
- Cairntows Park
- Jewel Park

14.11 This project will help CEC in its ambition to transform some of the standard amenity grassland estate into wildflower meadows

CEC trees and woodland strategy

14.12 In 2014, the Council launched a new Trees & Woodlands Strategy and an active tree management programme to prioritise works across the city's 638,000 trees. Recent creation of the Edinburgh i-Tree model for estimating the value of ecosystem services delivered by the city's trees shows that trees cover 17% of the city, store 145,611 metric tonnes of carbon within their tissues, sequester 5,329 metric tonnes of carbon per year, scrub €2.5m worth of PM10, NOx, SOx, O3 and CO pollutant from the air and provide a structural value of €420m to Edinburgh's economy.

Green Infrastructure – European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds (2014 – 2020) bid

Background

14.13 Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has submitted a bid to the European Structural funds.¹⁵ SNH's project on Green Infrastructure is one of 13 projects. The project bid is for £20 million ESI funds to be match funded by 60%, (£30 Mill) for Scotland wide projects on delivering green infrastructure.

14.14 Significant areas of land currently transferring into CEC ownership have the potential to form important new green infrastructure linkages – notably the South East Wedge and Edinburgh Tram route. The Edinburgh Living Landscape partnership, led by CEC, is applying for funding from SNH's ESI funds bid to naturalise three significant Council-owned locations: SE Wedge (Craigmillar); Tram Route (Sighthill/Saughton); Gypsy Brae (Muirhouse). The outline proposals are given in Appendix 8.

15 ELL Programme Description

15.1 The proposed projects have been developed and were signed off by the programme board in January 2014. The proposed projects and how they link to the ELL strategic objectives are listed in Table 1 below. Potential delivery partners, status and proposed timescales for commencement of projects are also given.

15.2 Of note the projects listed in Table 1 were those agreed and signed off by the ELL board in 2014. Once the programme is launched it is envisaged that more projects will emerge that will align with the ELL vision and help deliver the strategic objectives listed in Section 6.

¹⁵ European Structural Funds provide EU Member States and regions with assistance to overcome structural deficiencies and to enable them to strengthen competitiveness and increase employment. The Scottish Government is the 'Managing Authority' for Structural Funds in Scotland and has overall responsibility for supervising the implementation, ongoing management and effectiveness of the programmes.

- 15.3 The *status* reflects the difficulty or ease of delivery/extent of influence needed e.g. CEC or privately owned land? /any cultural shift required /involvement of external partners. E.g. Project 9 - *Work with volume house builder* etc. would require identifying and working with external partners, it may need a considerable amount of advocacy/influence to deliver the aspirations of the ELL; therefore the status would be assigned as proposed /aspirational.
- 15.4 Timescales reflect the amount of time initially needed to engage and get agreement from the identified house builder to commit to such a proposal. Project 12- *Increase areas of sealed soil 'depaved'* would require working with CEC, external partners, local groups and homeowners. There would need to be a cultural shift in attitude to see the benefits of converting 'grey' back to 'green;' it is likely that once other projects have been delivered and there is a growing awareness of ELL this project would become easier to deliver. For these reasons this project would be assigned as aspirational and given a 5 years + timescale.

Table 1: Projects for Edinburgh Living Landscape and their link to the ELL five strategic objectives (see Section 6 above for five objectives)

Project	Baseline data	Strategic objectives	Potentially delivered by [†] :	Status and likely timescale for commencement of project [∞]
1. Mapping broad and fine-scale greenspace/bluespace connectivity and greenspace typology (including ecosystem services)	CEC have already produced a report Mapping Edinburgh's Natural Green Network- data inputted from: Open Space Audit; Natural heritage sites; woodland sites. Identified 15,288.1 hectares of natural green network, comprised of 488 patches; several categories which will need to be included to increase sensitivity range from school grounds to road verges. ELGT have carried out an integrated habitat network model for Edinburgh working at the broad scale.	1,4,5	Lothians and Fife Green Network partnership, CEC, SWT, GREENSURGE	<i>Ongoing/proposed</i> Year 1-2 (Dependent on capacity; may need volunteer or funded post, may also draw on expertise of Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network who have conducted similar work in Renfrewshire). SWT, in conjunction with Durham Wildlife Trust are mapping ecosystem services as part of Cumbernauld Living Landscape – the methodology could be applied in Edinburgh. Also opportunity through GREENSURGE who will be remapping connectivity at both fine and broadscale using updated landcovers and incorporating both public and private greenspace. This will also draw on the work Forest Research undertook in GCVGN looking at both ecological and people networks, opportunity mapping etc. over the next six months (see also 11).
2. Increase by c. 10 % area of wildflower meadows on council owned land	c. 138 ha, includes biodiversity/grass meadow and low maintenance grass); CEC have assessed that around 10% of CEC managed open space has the potential to be	1,3,4	CEC, ELGT, Scotia Seeds, Friends of Parks, University of Edinburgh	<i>Ongoing</i> Year 1 (Pilot already underway: 'Edinburgh seed mix' being trialled in 2014 - CEC policy)

Project	Baseline data	Strategic objectives	Potentially delivered by [†] :	Status and likely timescale for commencement of project [∞]
	converted to wildflower meadows.			
3. Increase no. of urban trees and urban woodland; selecting trees appropriate for the location (i.e. increase land coverage to 20% inclusive of increasing number of street trees by 1500 street trees. Both would take around a decade to achieve)	17% of Edinburgh's land area is covered by tree canopies and there are c. 638,000 trees in Edinburgh ¹⁶ ; current population of street trees is 8,550; The area of native woodland in Edinburgh is 515 ha, which is 18.1% of the total woodland area, or 2.0% of the total land area of Edinburgh. ¹⁷ A woodland strategy for Edinburgh has been developed see: Edinburgh and Lothians Forestry & Woodland Strategy	1-5	CEC, ELGT, SWT*, Lothian and Fife Green Network partnership	<i>Ongoing/proposed</i> Year 1-5 (Adopted CEC policy to increase no. of street trees; projects such as SE wedge would increase urban woodland)
4. Increase the number of green exteriors of buildings (e.g. green roofs and walls) where such armature and building design would be appropriate for the location	No data	1, 2,5	External (CEC planning policy?) and CEC?	<i>Aspirational</i> Year 5+ (Green roofs referenced in proposed local development plan; difficult to place a timescale on delivery – may be easier to deliver initially through new build before retrofitting). Green roof forum could advise.
5. 15% of city parks naturalised (excluding wildflower meadows)	There are 590 ha of public parks and gardens (Open Space Strategy 2010)	1,3,4	CEC, ELGT	<i>Ongoing/proposed</i> Year 2 (CEC is already identifying amenity grassland areas to convert to more natural and less intensively managed areas)
6. At least 10,000 people signed up to wildlife gardening pledge	No data; although CEC has advice about gardening for wildlife on their website.	1,2,3	SWT*, CEC, ELGT, RBGE	<i>Proposed</i> Year 1 (Will need public facing campaign which could be developed for the Spring after the launch; ELL board will develop

¹⁶ From CEC's Trees in the City Trees & Woodlands Action Plan

¹⁷ Forestry Commission's Native Woodland Survey of Scotland: City of Edinburgh Council

Project	Baseline data	Strategic objectives	Potentially delivered by [†] :	Status and likely timescale for commencement of project [∞]
				guidance and exemplars)
7. Increase no. people growing their own food (or increase number of food growing areas)	The City of Edinburgh Council manages 1233 allotment plots, spread over 21 sites across the city.	2,3	ELGT, CEC, SWT*	<i>Proposed</i> Year 1-2 (To some extent, dependent on CEC being able to allocate more land for allotments –part of proposed LDP; may also be able to encourage new development to incorporate food growing areas.) Funding available to communities through Climate Challenge Fund.
8. Work with planning department to produce a policy statement on the ecosystem approach and planning in Edinburgh	N/A	1,5	SWT,CEC	<i>Proposed</i> Year 1 (SWT have already worked on some draft guidance which after sign off from ELL board could be adapted for CEC)
9. Work with volume house builder to showcase exemplar high quality and wildlife rich landscapes in new development(s)	N/A	3,5	ELGT, CEC, SWT, GREENSURGE External (e.g. developer)	<i>Aspirational</i> Year 3-5 (Work required before year 3 will involve identifying a house builder and ensure that broad principles of proposed development align to city characteristics- input to Masterplan; would need input from landscape architect (funded post?) - links to 1ansd 11)
10. Work with flood prevention team on nature based solutions to slow water movement	N/A	1,5	CEC, SEPA, SWT*	<i>Proposed/aspirational</i> Year 1-3 Dependent on influencing CEC flood risk management policy; funding which is administered by SEPA (e.g. Water Environment Fund) may be available. Initially this will require liaison with both SEPA and CEC's flood risk management team - GREENSURGE may be able to help.
11. Provide accessible,	Data is available on accessibility of different	2,3,4,5	CEC (greenspace mapping), ELGT,	<i>Ongoing/proposed</i>

Project	Baseline data	Strategic objectives	Potentially delivered by [†] :	Status and likely timescale for commencement of project [∞]
multifunctional, high quality greenspace for all (i.e. within a 10 minute walk) to suit the biocultural needs of residents	types of outdoor space in the Open Space Strategy: http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20178/park_management_and_rules/427/open_space_strategy		GREENSURGE	Year 5+ (Dependant on CEC policy; likely to be delivered on CEC land as well as privately owned land- will need to prioritise sites- e.g. in areas of multiple deprivation? through consultation and open space audit.) (See also 1)
12. Increase areas of 'sealed soil' 'depaved'	No data	1	External, CEC, SEPA, SWT*	<i>Aspirational</i> Year 5+ (Requires working with CEC, external partners, local groups and householders. There would need to be a cultural shift in attitude to see the benefits of changing 'grey' back to 'green' and it is likely that once other projects have been delivered and there is a growing awareness of ELL this will be easier to deliver)
13. Increase the number of local communities adopting local parks	There are 43 Friends Groups of parks out of a potential 142 parks	2,3,4	CEC, ELGT	<i>Ongoing/proposed</i> Year 2-3 (Requires working with community groups, target specific areas such as those with high SIMD; increased awareness of ELL brand should help.)
14. Increase and coordinate activity to remove invasive non-native species (INNS)	No data on total area covered by INNS; CEC has set up a team to tackle Himalayan balsam, giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed on Council owned land.	1	CEC, SNH, River Forth Fisheries Trust? SEPA?	<i>Proposed/aspirational</i> Year 5+ (Need to identify priorities for action, CEC already tackling some INN on council owned land. Would require strategy- e.g. 1 species a priority? 1 catchment a priority? etc.)
15. Bringing all Local Biodiversity Sites under active management	29 LBS	1,3	CE, SWT	<i>Ongoing/proposed</i> Year 5+ (Already CEC Local Biodiversity Site Committee but active management would require funding)
16. No. of schools having access to a high quality local greenspace for outdoor	No data	3	CEC, Forest Schools, Eco schools	<i>Aspirational</i> Year 5+ Requires research into what exists; how often used etc. do not have this

Project	Baseline data	Strategic objectives	Potentially delivered by [†] :	Status and likely timescale for commencement of project [∞]
learning				information presently. High quality greenspace could be internal or external to schools- could also prioritise new build schools.
17. At least 10 'stalled sites' rejuvenated to deliver benefits for local people and wildlife	ELGT prepared a Vacant Land Feasibility Study in 2010 which identified 12 suitable sites	1, 3,4	ELGT, CEC, external	<i>Aspirational</i> Year 3 (ELGT has already identified sites- would require funding community input to rejuvenate sites.)
18. Increase biodiversity value of active travel routes	No data	1-5	CEC, ELGT, Sustrans, Lothians and Fife Green Network Partnership (LFGP)	<i>Proposed/aspirational</i> Year 4 (Would require funding/volunteers)
19. Increase the awareness of nature conservation value of Edinburgh's freshwater and coastal habitats	No data	1,2	River Forth Fisheries Trust, SEPA, Water of Leith Conservation Trust, SNH, SWT*	<i>Proposed</i> Year 3 (Would require an awareness raising campaign)

† The list is not intended to be exhaustive at this stage; it is highly likely that other partners will emerge – it will be up to the partners, board and the ELL project officer to identify who would enable the delivery of the project (s).

∞ Indicates latest start date for project

* Advocacy/campaigning role

16 Programme delivery

16.1 Following the launch, an essential part of the programme delivery and advocacy will be to coordinate action amongst stakeholders, partners, major external landowners, community groups etc. and identify and engage with potential funders to deliver the projects. Although securing external funding for some projects will be required, it is also envisaged that aligning CEC policies and actions with the objectives of the ELL will facilitate the delivery of the projects. The CEC Parks and Greenspace Department is already promoting ELL objectives and some of the projects will be delivered through this department's activities on CEC owned land. It will also be necessary to 'mainstream' the strategic objectives of ELL across other CEC departments. As outlined in section 14, some activities which will help deliver the projects are already underway therefore post launch, ELL is likely to deliver some 'quick wins'.

17 Measuring success

17.1 An essential part of the programme was to develop a set of indicators to measure successful outcomes of the ELL. Any indicator needs a starting point (baseline) which should change overtime in

a positive manner as the numerous projects, which help deliver the ELL strategic objectives, start to take effect.

- 17.2 The suite of indicators for ELL need to capture ELL outcomes, be easy to interpret and link directly (where possible) to the strategic objectives (see Section 6) which includes the list of outcomes which characterise a future city of Edinburgh (see Appendix 2). Where a suitable indicator does not exist, proxy measures may be appropriate. Indicators must include measures of both environmental and socio-economic outcomes. Indicators have been developed by the indicator subgroup to measure the strategic objectives and the characteristics of the city of Edinburgh. Table 2a and 2b below lists the indicators. Indicators have mainly been selected using data that already exists and is likely to continue to be available in the future.
- 17.3 The indicator subgroup comprised the Programme Director, Lyndsay Grant (CEC), Julie Dewar (CEC), Mike Smith (GREENSURGE), Catherine Ward-Thompson (University of Edinburgh) and Scot Mathieson (SEPA).
- 17.4 Ecosystem health indicators (EHI) were based on the indicators developed by the Scottish Government supported Ecosystem Health Indicator Working Group¹⁸ which was established through the Biodiversity Science Group to take the work forward. The list of EHI developed by the Scottish Government supported working group is given in Appendix 9.
- 17.5 The suite of socio-economic indicators mainly uses the data collected by the City of Edinburgh Council's *People's Survey* which gathers data on resident perceptions of the City of Edinburgh Council and the services it provides.¹⁹ However, some data gaps that would inform socio-economic impacts remain; it is likely that suitable indicators will be developed through the EU's Seventh Action Programme GREENSURGE initiative (GREENSURGE are a partner in ELL).
- 17.6 The GREENSURGE project is a collaborative project between 24 partners in 11 countries. GREENSURGE will identify, develop and test ways of linking green spaces, biodiversity, people and the green economy in order to meet the major urban challenges related to land use conflicts, climate change adaptation, demographic changes, and human health and wellbeing. It will provide a sound evidence base for urban green infrastructure planning and implementation, exploring the potential for innovation in better linking environmental, social and economic ecosystem services with local communities. Edinburgh is one of the five European cities selected for inclusion in the initiative.²⁰

Reporting time scales

- 17.7 Reporting on indicators must account for time scales of implementation and delivery of each project, lag effects and when meaningful positive outcomes should be expected. For instance, yearly reporting for 'species indicator' - birds, using Breeding Bird Survey data, may reflect perturbations in weather rather than an impact of ELL projects; measuring impacts on mental health may not show meaningful and attributable results in the short term, rather effects may only be seen after c. 10 years.

Risks

- 17.8 The socio-economic indicators rely on data collected through the CEC's *People's Survey*. If this survey discontinued or certain questions changed or were removed, three indicators (see Table 2a) would

¹⁸ Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Ecosystem Health Indicators Working Group: Chair - Roddy Fairley, SNH; Sue Marrs, SNH; Allan Watt, CEH; Davy McCracken, SRUC; Debbie Bassett, SNH; Des Thompson, SNH, Mary Christie, SNH; Gordon Patterson, FCS, Helaina Black, James Hutton Institute; Rob Brooker, James Hutton Institute; Jeremy Wilson, RSPB; Joanna Drewitt, Scottish Government; Scot Mathieson, SEPA; Jonathan Hughes, Scottish Wildlife Trust

¹⁹ See:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20066/council_research/628/resident_perceptions_of_the_city_of_edinburgh_council_and_the_services_it_provides

²⁰ Text from University of Copenhagen's website: <http://greensurge.eu/>

be affected and five for measuring progress of city outcomes (see Table 2b). To reduce this risk, the ELL will have to ensure it is engaged in, and can influence, future iterations of the survey. If the survey ceases, the survey questions and methodology are available such that the survey could be replicated which would ensure consistency with the baseline.

17.9 In the short term (e.g. in the first five years) changes in baseline data for each indicator may be small which will make it difficult to demonstrate success. To minimise this risk, an analysis of how sensitive indicators are to change would be helpful; furthermore what would constitute a successful result needs to be explored (e.g. . would a 1% increase in the number of people who are *very satisfied* or *'fairly satisfied* with their neighbourhood as a place to live' be an acceptable measure of success in the first five years?).

17.10 Because of the difficulty in finding robust socio-economic indicators, there is a risk that some of the socio-economic indicators chosen may not be greatly influenced by the ELL programme. Because of this they may not change from the baseline (or they move in the opposite direction to what would be expected; they may also change positively but not because of any ELL activity). To reduce this risk it is proposed to carry out a more in depth analysis of each indicator, in order to critically assess the level of influence the ELL has, and assign each indicator a confidence value e.g. high, medium, low. Where confidence in an indicator is deemed to be low a new indicator may have to be developed if it is of central importance– which of course has a resource implication.

Table 2a: Proposed indicators to measure progress of the five strategic objectives

Strategic object	Indicator	Data Source	Monitor and report timescale	Comments
1. Ecosystem health of Edinburgh is improving year on year	1) habitat networks (indices of habitat connectivity) 2) % cover by trees/ Native Woodland Survey of Scotland 3) ecological status of water bodies 4) a species indicator (birds, bees)?	1) CEC (Mapping natural green network- update to include fine scale connectivity)/SNH 2) CEC/Forestry Commission Scotland 3) SEPA 4) CEC 118 Bird species RSPB garden bird survey? BTO/BBS University of Edinburgh - continue transects of urban pollinators initiative?	Every 5 years	1- CEC has already done analysis- SNH's tool may be useful- need to include fine scale, such as gardens, road verges and golf courses 3 – Risk of not influencing overall ecological status- choose underlying indicator which informs ecological status 4 –Breeding Bird Survey may be best to measure changes in species abundance, rather than listing spp. present. Citizen science already capturing garden birds- but will need to see if this is a useful indicator of change over time Collecting data on wild pollinators would require volunteers to continue work of University of Edinburgh

2.Improved ecosystem health in Edinburgh is having measurable socio-economic benefits for the city, particularly in areas of deprivation	1) GS initiative likely to develop indicator which could be used for ELL	GREENSURGE? Input question for CEC People's Survey? ²¹ Mental health indicator e.g. <i>Office for National Statistics - National Well-being</i> ; Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics proxy: <i>Estimated percentage of population prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis</i>	Between 5 years 10 years	Difficult to find an indicator to measure this outcome- closet maybe a mental health indicator or well-being indicator- will need to find data for areas of multiple deprivation
3.More people are engaged in caring for their local greenspace	1) % of people who are 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with their neighbourhood as a place to live. CEC People's Survey. 2) No. of park friends groups	1) CEC People's Survey (e.g. Q10) 2) presently 43/141 parks - CEC	3 years	1- may not be an accurate reflection of caring for local greenspace 2- limited to those who want to get involved in local parks and doesn't measure other activities
4.More people are making use of Edinburgh's connected network of green and blue spaces to move around the city by walking and cycling	1) % people walking/cycling through park greenspace or woodland	1) CEC People's Survey (e.g. Q11)	5 years	1) Have baseline data from People's Survey
5.New developments are planned and delivered in such a way as to create low carbon, walkable neighbourhoods, and workplaces containing high quality green infrastructure	1) CEC biodiversity award- or A and D design quality award? Natural Capital standard	1) To develop?	Depends on development of award and take up by developers and CEC	

²¹ See: Edinburgh People's survey
http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/9940/eps_2012_overall_report

Table 2b: Proposed indicators to measure progress of the city outcomes City outcomes	Indicator	Data source	Monitor and report timescale	Comments
Compact	1) Density measure e.g. no. of new houses per km ² or density of people 2) Public accessible greenspace as total of area	1) GIS? 2) Greenspace Scotland / CEC Open Space audit	5-10 years depending on new build	May be too little new development to influence 1 2) Could be influenced by new build and retrofitting – figure likely to be only small change CEC Open Space Audit may not be conducted every 5 years
Walkable	1) % people walking through park greenspace or woodland	1) CEC People’s Survey (Q11)	At least 5 years	1) Quality and perception of safety of greenspace will be an important factor here
Water smart	1) Incidence of flash flooding 2) SEPA’s flood risk management maps? 3) Could include increased number of SUDs/rain gardens	1) CEC- flood prevention team 2) SEPA – flood risk management maps 3) CEC records?	At least 5 years	1) Need to ascertain if CEC collect data on incidence of flash flooding/surface water movement. 2) SEPA map these areas but need to determine when a risk is reduced. 3) Unlikely to capture all records but may be able to indicate rate of increase
Networked	1) % using public or sustainable transport methods most often in last 12 months	1) CEC People’s Survey (Transport question) Also 4.7% people cycle to work (Edinburgh by Numbers)	5 years	1) Projects in ELL may not exert a great influence over public transport choices- unless through new build – tram will have impact 2) if increase biodiversity value of cycle/walking network may make both activities more desirable
Liveable	1) Measurement of well being 2) Air pollution data 3) Residents’ satisfaction with Edinburgh as a place to live	1) Office for National Statistics - National Well- being 2) DEFRA - Air pollution levels in major UK cities 3) People’s Survey	5-10 years	1) May only be small changes over time- risk collection of this data may not continue 2) Road traffic likely to be major influence – trams may help reduce which depends if ELL can reduce this . 3) Already using this indicator (see table 2a)

Recreational	% people visiting greenspace, park woodland every week (other than for commuting)	CEC People's survey - Parks question Q12	5 years	
Economy	1) Tourism 2) GS indicator?	Visit Scotland	5 years	Generally difficult to find a suitable indicator 1) Difficult to ascertain direct influence of ELL on this when top tourist attractions is National Museum- better figure maybe number of nights stayed
Partly self-sufficient	1) Area of land devoted to growing food 2) % of people growing food (?) 3) Reduction in allotment waiting lists	1) CEC 2) Difficult to determine precise figures without census/survey 3) CEC	3 years	1) May depend on utilising stalled sites 2) Difficult to determine without survey/census 3) CEC should hold this data NB 1 and 3 linked
Clean and healthy	1) Life expectancy of residents 2) Life quality	1) National Records of Scotland 2) People's Survey: Residents' satisfaction with Edinburgh as a place to live / Office for National Statistics - National Well-being	1) May take a generation (e.g. 20-25 years) 2) At least 5 years	1) May take a generation to influence- heavily dependent on area of residence 2) Already using this indicator
Biologically diverse	1) Species indicator such as birds/wild pollinators abundance 2) % reduction in total area covered by invasive non-native species	1) BBS / Local recording groups/Edinburgh University (for wild pollinators) 2) CEC owned land - baseline will be what is present now	1) 5 years 2) 3 years + depending on when removal programme starts	1) Already counting as part of EHI – see Table 2a 2) Council don't presently hold accurate data and this will not account for private land
Inclusive and democratic	<i>% of people who feel they are able to have a say on local issues or how services are run</i>	CEC People's Survey (Q29)	5 years	1) May not be directly influenced by ELL
Educational	1) No of Eco schools with green flag status 2) No of schools using outdoor greenspace as educational tool at least once a week?	1) CEC 2) CEC/school survey	Depends on implementation of ELL educational project	1) Award id dependent on using outdoors 2) CEC does not hold data- would require questionnaire to schools

18 Risk Analysis

Risk Factor	Likelihood	Scale of Impact	Description of Impact	Mitigation
Unable to secure funding for first 3-5 years.	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to employ ELL advocacy/project coordinator • Unable to progress with some of the more ambitious proposals such as SE wedge – will require new planning process. • Lose momentum and credibility for delivering programme plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early discussion with key potential funders. • Approach more funders than may be necessary to spread risk. • May have to scale back initial proposals and timescales.
Delay in securing funding for first 3-5 years.	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to recruit project staff within timescale. • Will affect ability to deliver on original projects. • Lose momentum for whole programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit proposals at earliest opportunity. • Greater activity undertaken by partner organisation to get Initiative moving.
Inability to appoint appropriate staff.	Low/Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in implementing some key activity/advocacy work on the ground. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertise in a range of locations. • Use local networks to get word out. • Be flexible in terms of nature of contract
Lack of buy-in from external landowners	High/Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability to deliver full benefits of initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish relationships with key external landowners from outset-use board and CEC contacts as appropriate
Lack of buy-in from other CEC departments	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability to deliver full benefits of initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish relationships with other CEC departments as a priority in first year • Include advocacy with key Councillors • All partners to assist in advocacy as necessary • Ensure all partners can convey key messages.
Lack of buy-in from wider community.	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of credibility of initiative within wider community. • Potential objections to proposals for changes in greenspace management and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue consultation and engagement with key community organisations • Seek to deliver some early wins in terms

			<p>development of other projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to deliver key objectives 	<p>of socio-economic benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify key contacts/networks within the community and keep them informed of progress/opportunities
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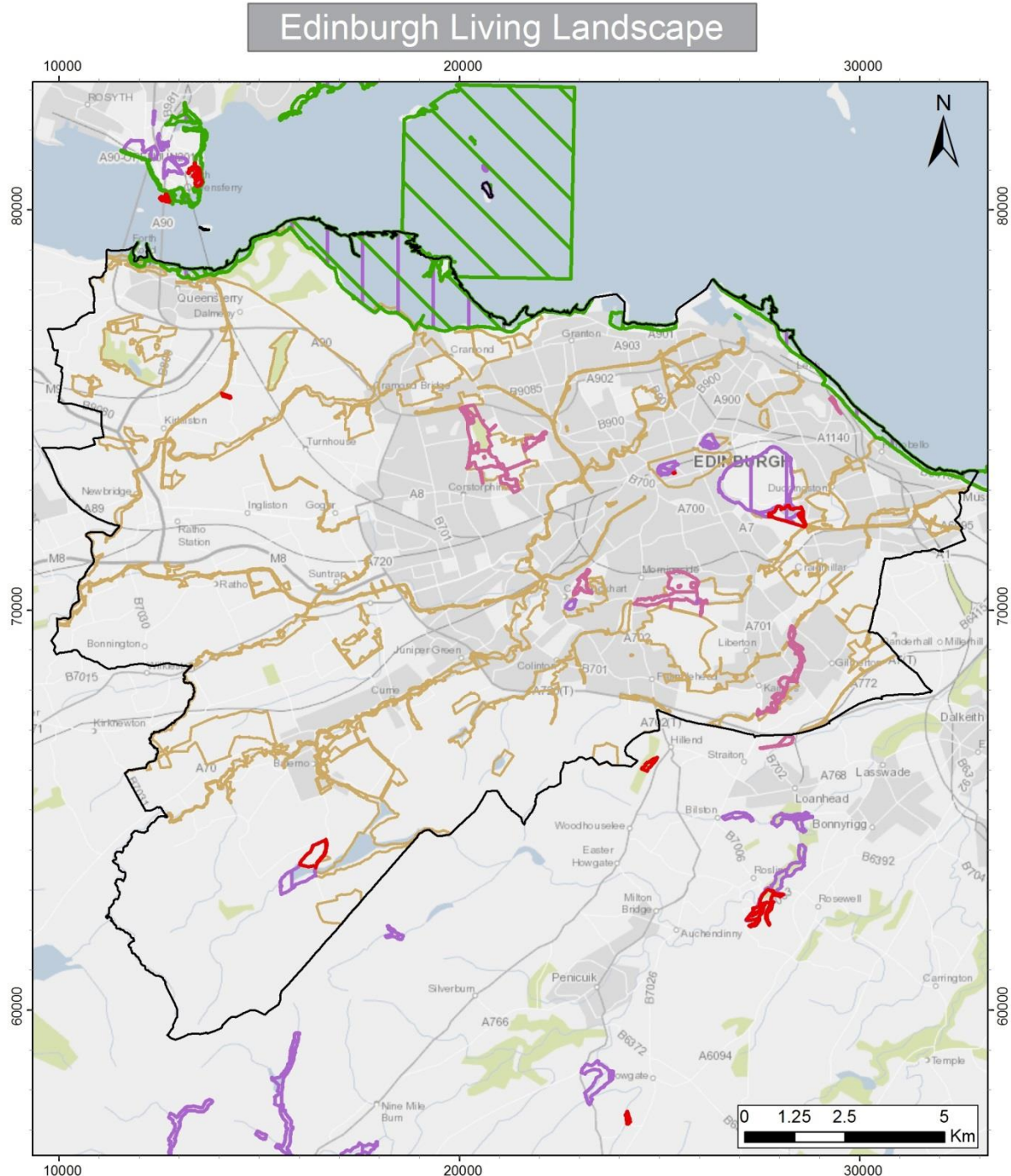
Dr Maggie Keegan, Programme Director Edinburgh Living Landscape

Head of Policy and Planning



Appendix 1

Map showing Edinburgh Living Landscape boundary (in black) and areas of statutory and non-statutory greenspace (note that the boundaries of Local Nature Conservation Sites include Local Biodiversity Sites and Local Geodiversity Site; the boundaries are also currently being reviewed)



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Scottish Wildlife Trust, Harbourside House,
110 Commercial Street, Edinburgh EH6 6NF

Legend

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| City of Edinburgh Council boundary | Local Nature Reserve |
| Special Protection Area | Scottish Wildlife Trust reserve |
| Site of Special Scientific Interest | Local Nature Conservation Site |

Appendix 2

Characteristics of an 'ideal future' city of Edinburgh²²

Compact - New developments reflect Edinburgh's local vernacular; high-density, urban forms that create vibrant, attractive and multifunctional new places where people can live, work and play.

Walkable - Urban streets are attractive and accessible for non-motorised traffic; encouraging more people to walk, cycle, and spend more time in their neighbourhood.

Water smart - Improved green infrastructure, such as planting more urban trees, is slowing water movement, reducing flash flooding, and enhancing the local environment.

Networked - Public transport networks are integrated, with interchanges at key locations linking into active travel networks. Where feasible, green networks are created alongside transport routes, enabling species to move through the urban fabric, and helping nature adapt to climate change.

Liveable - Heat island effects, wind tunnels, air pollution and noise are reduced through the strategic deployment of quality green infrastructure. This is improving the health and well-being of city dwellers year on year.

Recreational - People are spending more time in Edinburgh's parks and greenspaces. Everyone has a good quality greenspace within a ten minute walk of their house, providing both activity-based recreation, and areas for quiet recreation.

Economy - Investment in quality places and green infrastructure is actively improving city form and function, encouraging inward investment and tourism, and generating sustainable wealth.

Partly self-sufficient - There are allotments and other food-growing opportunities for all residents who wish to "grow your own". Food is being grown in surprising places, including stalled spaces, rooftops and schools, and private and public gardens are more productive.

Clean and healthy - Air quality, active lifestyles and quality local food are improving life expectancy and life quality for all.

Biologically diverse - Green spaces at all scales contain plants which are attracting a rich array of birds, mammals and invertebrates.

Inclusive and democratic - Decisions about new developments and management of the urban environment involve a range of local stakeholders and communities of interest.

Educational - School classes spend at least a fifth of their week out of school 'real world learning'. Green spaces have become tools for teaching children about the natural world and allowing them to explore nature at first hand.

²² Adapted from Policy Futures 3; Climate Connections

Appendix 3

Nature Conservation Sites

International Sites	Interest
Firth of Forth Special Protection Area (part of)	Seabird assemblage and breeding area.
Forth Islands Special Protection Area (part of)	Seabird assemblage and breeding area.
Firth of Forth Ramsar Site (part of)	Wildfowl habitat.
Imperial Dock Lock Special Protection Area	Supports breeding populations of European importance – common tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> .

National Sites: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).	Interest
Agassiz Rock	Quaternary. Striated rock surface. Associated with the early development of the glacial theory in Scotland.
Arthur's Seat Volcano	Carboniferous/Permian igneous strata. Grassland habitat & botanical species.
Duddingston Loch	Carboniferous/Permian igneous strata. Standing water transition mire with wintering wildfowl.
Firth of Forth (part of)	Extensive mosaic of intertidal and coastal habitat for breeding seabirds. Biodiversity and Geodiversity.
Inchmickery Islands (Inchmickery & Cows and Calves)	Rocky offshore islands of importance as a breeding ground for four species of tern – common, artic, sandwich and roseate.
Wester Craiglockhart Hill	Lowland grassland habitat.

Local Biodiversity Sites	Interest
Bawsinch	Extensive area of native woodland and scrub. Features fresh-water ponds and a goose-green.
Bonaly Reservoir	Scarce aquatic plants (flowering plants and mosses) that occur around the reservoir and its outflow.
Braid Burn Complex	Semi-natural woodland & glades of unimproved neutral grassland.
Braid Burn Valley Park	The burn and associated vegetation.
Braid Hills and Mortonhall	Gorse, Elder scrub, and unimproved grassland, mature trees, and Elf loch.
Brunstane Burn	Water quality of the burn and associated habitat.
Bruntsfield and Royal Burgess	Intermittent woodland and Barnton Quarry pond.
Calton Hill and Regent Gardens	Less intensively managed areas valuable to wildlife.
Corstorphine Hill and Ravelston Wood	Mixed and pure woodland and developed shrub.

Craiglockhart Hills	A wide variety of important habitats are supported.
Craigmillar Castle Hill & Hawkhill Wood	Mature woodland and scrub.
Dalry Community Park	Rough grassland and scrub bordered with deciduous trees. A wide diversity of animal habitat.
The Dells – Colinton, Craiglockhart and Woodhall Mains	Water of Leith. Substantial areas of mature semi-natural deciduous woodland and dense understorey.
Disused Railway Network	Wildlife corridor with mature woodland.
Drum Wood	Ornamental and native tree species.
Duddingston Golf Course	Mature native trees and dense undergrowth.
Edmonstone	Woodland and mixed shrub.
Figgate Burn Park	Burn and pond are important for breeding birds.
Hermitage of Braid and Blackford Hill	Established mixed deciduous woodland. Shrub, open grassland and the burn.
Lochend Park	Pond, particularly for wildfowl.
Meadowfield Park	Open grassland and mixed deciduous woodland.
Niddrie Burn Complex	Network of burns, marshy grassland and semi-natural woodland.
Redford Brae and Laverlock Dale	Large areas of mixed semi-natural woodland and diverse ground flora.
River Almond	Variety of shrub and field layers, the river and banks.
Royal Botanic Gardens	Water features and nectar plants.
Silverknowes	Short grassland important to wading bird
Union Canal	Moorhen, Mallard, Coot and a solitary pair of Mute Swan breed on the canal.
Water of Leith	A wide variety of important habitats and species are supported.
Warriston Cemetery	Diverse tree species. Foxes, Badgers, Bats, Tawny Owl and Sparrowhawks all spotted

Local Nature Reserves	Interest
Hermitage of Braid	Biodiversity, recreation and community involvement.
Corstorphine Hill	
Meadows Yard	
Ravelston Woods	
Easter Craiglockhart Hill	
Burdiehouse Burn Valley Park	

Appendix 4

Edinburgh Living Landscape Partnership

Memorandum of Cooperation

between

Scottish Wildlife Trust
City of Edinburgh Council
Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust
GREENSURGE
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

The Partnership

1. The Edinburgh Living Landscape (ELL) Partnership Area (see Map 1) currently comprises the following organisations: Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT), City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) and Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT), GREENSURGE and Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.
2. The ELL Partnership remains open to any other landowner or local stakeholder group within the ELL area who wishes to join.

The Programme

3. The partners have agreed to work in cooperation, subject to input from the 'programme board', on a Living Landscape programme which aims to take a collaborative, ecosystem-based approach to the management of the Edinburgh area, addressing key threats including habitat fragmentation, invasive non-native species and biodiversity loss whilst also delivering vital socio-economic benefits to local people.
4. The partners will agree the vision and detailed objectives of the programme within a 'programme plan' which will be developed and endorsed by the programme board made of representatives of each of the partners and other stakeholders. The programme board will be chaired by CEC and meet at least 3 times a year.

Purpose of the Memorandum of Cooperation

5. This non-legally binding Memorandum outlines the relationships between the partners. These relationships may be both formal and informal depending on the type of collaborative working involved. The Memorandum aims to clarify:
 - The spirit in which the partners work together
 - Mutual obligations to each other and to the partnership as a whole
 - The responsibilities expected regarding common standards and co-operation

Status of the Memorandum

6. The governing documents of the individual partners will always take precedence over this Memorandum which does not create a legal relationship between the partners.

Duration of the Memorandum

7. This Memorandum will begin on the 18 June, 2013 and continue until such a time as the partners terminate the agreement.

Upholding the Spirit of the Memorandum

8. In signing this memorandum, partners agree to adhere, as fully as is reasonably practicable, to the provisions of this Memorandum and to participate in the evolution of the Memorandum in the light of ongoing experience.

9. Partners also accept that some primary areas of co-operation may require the adoption of minimum standards, guidelines or protocols in conjunction with collaborative working, particularly where joint funding applications and subsequent reporting may be required.

Co-operation and Joint Working

10. The partners are independent organisations which are free to respond to needs assessed on the basis of their own analysis. Individual partners deliver the direct charitable / business, or other, aims of their organisations. However, all partners also recognise the value of working effectively together and the strength to be gained by collective leadership, open governance and a sense of trust and strategic unity. Fundamental to this cooperation, is that partners undertake to show commitment to the vision of a Living Landscape in the Edinburgh area. Partners will endeavour to protect and enhance this collective reputation, for example by treating sensitive internal conflicts and difficulties confidentially and by not disclosing commercially sensitive issues to third parties.

Strategic Planning

11. Individual partners will have their own strategic plans but will also engage in collective strategic thinking, planning and delivery, as facilitated by the partnership 'programme board'. This will enable the development of a shared vision, strategic objectives and values. The partners will, as far as practicable and within the constraints of their own objectives, endeavour to align their own individual strategic plans so they contribute coherently to the mutually agreed Living Landscape partnership objectives.

Reporting and data provision

12. Individual partners recognise the value of generating collective key performance data as a tool to help deliver partnership objectives. Partners will undertake to provide accurate, timely data and information to enable the partnership's collective impact to be measured. Data and information sought will reflect Living Landscape programme objectives.

Ad hoc and other partnership working

13. There may be ad hoc groupings formed to help to guide the partners work and in particular help the effective delivery of agreed Living Landscapes objectives. Partners will, where possible, look favourably upon invitations to lead or take part in such groupings, including welcoming new members to the partnership where appropriate.

Personnel (staff and volunteers)

14. Partners will look favourably at opportunities for employment of joint programme staff and also encourage volunteers to work within the spirit of this Memorandum. Joint employment of staff by the partners may require legally binding Memoranda of Agreement as appropriate.

Common Standards, Protocols & Guidelines

15. Partners will undertake to adhere to their own legal requirements placed upon them as charities and businesses and to adopt any best practice guidance issued by the relevant regulator and in doing so to protect the integrity of partnership. Beyond this, partners will undertake to strive towards endorsement and achievement of any standards, protocols or guidelines that may, from time to time, be agreed by the programme board in order to deliver the programme plan, and / or satisfy the requirements of funding bodies.

Advocacy and Reputation

16. To be successful in promoting the Living Landscape vision (and attracting funding), partners recognize that advocacy is a shared activity between partners, each with different roles and audiences. Partners recognise that their interface with external audiences and decision makers - whether through publications, media appearances, or in meetings - can affect the reputation, power and success of the Living Landscape project as a whole. Partners share a responsibility to contribute towards this collective reputation and success.

Branding and Profile

17. In dealing with their stakeholders, partners recognise their responsibility to promote the positive brand image of Living Landscape as a whole, recognising the role this plays in boosting the partnership profile and positioning locally and nationally. A key strength of the partnership is its localness, and its values include being “active, participative, welcoming, engaging, inspiring and authoritative”.
18. Style guidelines (including logos) and protocols for their use may be agreed by the programme board as appropriate.

Local Communications

19. Partners recognise that engagement and close involvement with local people is vitally important to the delivery of the programme. With this in mind, in communicating with local people, partners will undertake to be open, transparent and involving and seek to harness local people’s views and expertise for the good of the programme, and for the good of the local community.

Media Communications

20. Press releases and other media communications dealing with partnership issues should, whenever possible, be agreed by the ‘programme board’ before being released. In those situations where partners are speaking to the media and prior agreement with other partners has not been possible (due to urgency or opportunity for example), then partners should be guided by agreed documentation such as the programme plan or points agreed in the minutes of the steering group. The steering group may wish to produce a PR strategy as part of the programme plan as appropriate.

Fundraising and Reputation

21. Partners recognise that their interface with funding bodies and individuals from whom they are seeking to secure support affects the reputation of the partnership as a whole. Partners share a responsibility to contribute towards this collective reputation and success.

Financial Management

22. This Memorandum does not cover financial issues. However, the partnership may wish to draw up a more formal legally binding Memorandum of Agreement which covers financial issues if appropriate or as required, for example in order to jointly apply for funding, or, to clarify the status of employed programme staff.

Risk Management: Individual and Collective Risk Management

23. Partners will undertake to ensure that effective procedures for risk management exist within their organisation, and recognise the necessity to manage collective risks, including reputational, which are from time to time identified.

Dispute Resolution

24. Partners accept the need for a mechanism to resolve any disputes that may arise (between individual partners or between the partnership and one partner) that have not been resolved informally.

Implementation

25. All individual partners undertake to work collaboratively together to ensure effective implementation of this Memorandum and the Living Landscape programme agreed under the programme plan by the programme board. The programme board provides the mechanism for overseeing the Memorandum's effective implementation and for taking ownership for its ongoing development.

Signatories:

1. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

2. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

3. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

4. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

5. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

Appendix 5

ELL Programme board

Board member	Current job
Nick Gardner (Chair)	Labour Councillor, CEC
David Jamieson	Parks and Greenspace Manager, CEC
Janice Winning	Operations manager, SNH
Dr Maggie Keegan (programme director)	Head of Policy and Planning, Scottish Wildlife Trust
Dr Scot Mathieson	Principal Conservation Policy Officer, SEPA
Charlie Cumming	CEO, Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust
Mike Smith	Landscape Ecologist, Forest Research and coordinator of EU's GREEN SURGE for Edinburgh
Marion Williams	Director, Cockburn Association
Professor Graham Stone	University of Edinburgh: Research Group: Population Genetics Evolution, Animal Ecology and Behaviour
Professor Catherine Ward Thompson	Professor of Landscape Architecture, Director OPENspace
Dr Tim Duffy	SWT Council Member and Chairman of Easter Craiglockhart Hill LNR and member of CEC Local Biodiversity Site committee
Professor Peter Hollingsworth	Director of Science, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Appendix 6

Edinburgh Living Landscape programme board

Terms of reference

Purpose of the Programme Board

1. The programme board was established on 18 June 2013.
2. The purpose of the programme board is to guide, shape and steer the delivery of the programme plan for the Edinburgh Living Landscape (ELL) partnership.
3. The ELL Partnership comprises Scottish Wildlife Trust, City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust, GREENSURGE and Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. The Head of Policy and Planning for the Trust is the Programme Director and will be closely involved in writing up the draft programme plan.
4. The programme board is responsible for finalising and approving the programme plan. Once the programme plan is completed, the programme board will continue to meet to monitor the ongoing delivery of the programme.

Membership

5. Membership of the board is by invitation of the ELL partnership. Board members have been selected to reflect the ambitions of the ELL partnership with the aim being to draw on their area of expertise/local knowledge to help guide and shape the programme plan.
6. The period of membership of the board will cover both the development and implementation of the programme plan; the final programme plan will be completed by June 2014. It is envisaged that smaller working groups of stakeholders will be needed on an *Ad hoc* basis to implement projects in the programme plan. Working groups will report back to the programme plan board.

Working methods

7. The main approach to working will be a collaborative working style in which aspects of the proposed programme plan are discussed at board meetings or in between meetings via emails. (See also Appendix 1- successful collaboration)
8. In between board meetings, a subgroup may be convened with the agreement of the programme board, to address aspects of the programme plan which require a particular area of expertise and would be best addressed initially through a subgroup. The subgroup would report back to the programme board.

Meetings

9. The board will meet three times a year.
10. The agenda topics will be generated by the ELL partnership and board members as appropriate. The programme manager, guided by the programme board, will generate draft sections of the programme plan for discussion and approval by the board.
11. After the first meeting on 18 June, meeting papers will be circulated by email a week prior to the next board meeting. Hard copies will be made available on request.
12. The Scottish Wildlife Trust will provide the secretariat function.

Sharing of information and resources (including confidential materials)

13. Between meetings, the board may share information and resources via email. On agreement, the Trust will set up a board email group.
14. Confidential material may be discussed at board meetings and at the discretion of the board, may have to remain confidential.

Appendix 7

Communications strategy

Edinburgh Living Landscape Media protocol

1 Purpose

- 1.1 This agreement aims to provide effective management of media relations for the Programme partners involved in the Edinburgh Living Landscape. This is to be agreed by all the Programme partners and any changes, now or in the future, are to be agreed by all lead organisations, in the first instance the PR & Communications contacts.
- 1.2 The Programme partners are: Scottish Wildlife Trust, City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh and Lothians Green Trust, GREENSUGE and Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

2 All media teams will:

- 2.1 Alert each other as soon as possible by email when they are planning a news release about an issue or project involving Edinburgh Living Landscape.
- 2.2 Ensure the other media teams have sight of relevant news releases five days before they are issued (two days -not including weekends- at the very least).
- 2.3 Contact the respective media teams in the first instance, rather than other staff, when seeking supporting quotes or other input.
- 2.4 Give due credit and acknowledgement to the Programme partners in any in-house publications which feature collaborative work.
- 2.5 Make reference to the Edinburgh Living Landscape in all footnotes accompanying press releases using the approved text (see Section 3).
- 2.6 Distribute all media clippings they monitor related to the Edinburgh Living Landscape to all Programme partners (as long as licenses/copyright allows). The Living Landscape is required to report on the overall number of media hits achieved, so this data is vital and will be requested by the Project Development Manager at quarterly intervals.

3 News releases: Notes to Editors

- 3.1 News releases should contain the following information as part of the 'Notes to Editors':
 - a) Contact details of the Programme partners media teams (see Section 4.1). The lead organisation issuing the news release may put its own PR Officer first in the list.
 - b) The following text on the Living Landscape:

"The Edinburgh Living Landscape is a long-term vision to bring a transformational change to the city's environment. The project will reinforce and expand existing green networks and reconnect the people of Edinburgh to their natural environment. The Edinburgh Living Landscape will work to benefit local people and wildlife with an aim to make the city one of the most sustainable in Europe by 2050.

“Edinburgh Living Landscape is about working with and connecting green infrastructure at multiple scales, from window boxes, green roofs, street trees through to large parks and urban woodlands within the cityscape, and about making the links between a healthy environment, a healthy economy, people’s wellbeing and ultimately the prosperity of Edinburgh.”

“The Edinburgh Living Landscape is a partnership project between the Scottish Wildlife Trust, City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust.”

- c) The following information on the lead organisations:

Scottish Wildlife Trust

“The Scottish Wildlife Trust is the largest voluntary body working for all the wildlife of Scotland, representing over 35,000 members who care for wildlife and the environment. The Scottish Wildlife Trust seeks to raise public awareness of threatened habitats and species and manages over 120 reserves Scotland-wide. “

“The Scottish Wildlife Trust receives financial assistance and support from a range of organisations, funders and individuals including Scottish Natural Heritage and the players of People’s Postcode Lottery”

City of Edinburgh Council

“The City of Edinburgh Council is responsible for the governance of a wide range of public services, including education, social care, housing, planning, local transport, economic development, and environmental services.”

“The Parks and Greenspace service oversees the development, management and maintenance of 1520ha of publicly accessible green space, which is made up of 142 public parks, 6 statutory nature reserves, 12 natural parks, 3 botanic gardens, 25 allotments, and an urban forest of some 638,000 trees spread across several hundred woodlands, parks, and green spaces, including 8550 street trees.”

“Strategic management objectives derive from the city’s Open Space Strategy, Biodiversity Action Plan, Parks & Gardens Strategy, and Trees & Woodlands Action Plan, more detailed management being led by the national Green Flag Award programme and internal Park Quality Assessment performance programme.”

Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT)

“The Trust, which was set up as an independent charity in 1991, works to develop, manage and promote quality greenspaces in and around Edinburgh and the Lothians through creative annual programmes of capital and engagement projects. ELGT is dedicated to improving the quality of life for our communities by enabling people to re-connect with and enjoy their local green spaces.”

“ELGT believes that quality local greenspaces have a positive impact on the health and well-being of individuals and, through our inspiring, ground-breaking and imaginative programmes of environmental and community projects, we are able to bring real benefits to people, wildlife, landscape and heritage. Our comprehensive portfolio of professional environmental project development, management and fundraising services helps to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to enjoy their natural environment.”

- d) As project funders arise, they should be recognised in notes to Editors.

4 Media relations and contacts

- 4.1 Media enquiries should be referred to one of the named contacts below or their nominated deputy. These people should be consulted when a lead organisation is seeking a representative from another organisation to comment:
- Scottish Wildlife Trust: Ryan Gavan, rgavan@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk, 0131 312 4742
 - City of Edinburgh Council:
 - Edinburgh and Lothians Green Trust:
 - Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
 - GREENSURGE
- 4.2 Programme Leaders should inform each other when they receive media enquiries about the Living Landscape or when they pro-actively engage with journalists about the project. These details should be communicated as quickly as possible to the above Media Relations contacts and advance notice of likely appearance of any articles, broadcasts etc. referring to the project should also be communicated to all participants.
- 4.3 During media briefings the lead organisations will be responsible for ensuring journalists are made aware of the partnership nature of the project and given the opportunity to contact other partner organisations.
- 4.4 Verbal communications (e.g. media interviews, public talks) must give credit to the lead organisations within reason and as circumstances permit.
- 4.5 Any printed materials (e.g. news releases, articles, displays, leaflets or other promotional products) should credit the Programme Leaders and the Edinburgh Living Landscape project.

5 Objectives and messages

- 5.1 The Edinburgh Living Landscape project has three key messages that sum up the principles of an Edinburgh Living Landscape:
- Creating and maintaining a high-quality natural environment for wildlife to flourish and people to connect with, enjoy and care for.
 - Working at multiple scales to create well planned high quality and connected green infrastructure across the city of Edinburgh, from the small – think window box; to the large – think urban woodland or city park.
 - Promoting Edinburgh as a great place to live, work and do business due to its high quality greenspaces and thriving biodiversity which deliver natural services upon which city dwellers rely such as pollination, reduced flood risk, and increased air and water quality.
- 5.2 The Edinburgh Living Landscape aims to create a resilient city which is characterised by being:
- Compact
 - Walkable
 - Recreational
 - Liveable
 - Water-smart
 - Networked
 - Economic
 - Partly self-sufficient
 - Clean and healthy
 - Biologically diverse
 - Inclusive and democratic
 - Educational
- 5.3 Resolving disputes - Should the lead organisations be unable to agree on certain aspects of communications output the decision-making process will revert to the Project Development Manager.

- 5.4 Media and politicians - Local MSPs, MPs or Ministers may be invited to projects at the Living Landscape, but they should not be allowed to use the project as a political platform. If in doubt, PR contacts at all three lead organisations should be consulted as early as possible.
- 5.5 Tone - It is agreed between the lead organisations that the tone of external communications will be positive, open and factual. At every opportunity the organisations should stress the vision and objectives (Section 5.1) of the Living Landscape.
- 5.6 National interviews will be conducted with the person having most knowledge about the project.
- 5.7 Pool video and images - Internal video/images captured during the lifetime of the project remain the copyright of the Programme Leaders but will be made freely available to the other leads. The provider will ensure that material has any credits required and will forward any restrictions (including third party availability) as appropriate.

Signatories:

1. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

2. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

3. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

4. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

5. Organisation Name:

Signature:

Name and Position of Signatory:

Date:

Appendix 8

Edinburgh Living Landscape proposal to SNH

SE Wedge (Little France Park) – 151 ha

This extensive expanse of vacant land between Craigmillar and Edmonstone is the final parcel of land that establishes a green, accessible corridor between the city centre and the city edge. Once landscaped and linked with footpaths and cycleways, it will enable people and wildlife to move unencumbered from Holyrood Park, through Craigmillar Castle Park and across the SE Wedge to Midlothian. Now in Council ownership, we intend to develop a Living Landscape in consultation with local residents and other stakeholders, focusing on establishing natural grassland and woodland landscape features.

Key Elements addressed:

- Poor quality Vacant & Derelict Land
- Green Cities
- Access to nature & green corridors
- Green recreation and health

Tram Route – 9 ha

Edinburgh's new tram project is nearing completion. The land adjacent to the tram lines is to transfer to the Council for ongoing maintenance. Rather than revert to traditional amenity grassland we are designing a Living Landscape that will establish a valuable wildlife corridor from the western periphery of the built environment into the city centre. The four kilometre stretch from Edinburgh Park to Murrayfield stops offers the greatest potential to create an attractive and biologically rich landscape, with an emphasis on low maintenance, high-impact features such as pictorial meadows.

Key Element addressed:

- Poor quality greenspace improvement
- Access to nature & green corridors

Gypsy Brae – 20 ha

A large amenity grassland adjacent to the Silverknowes foreshore, this former recreation ground offers the opportunity to demonstrate succession and coastal communities - grassland communities grading into scrub-species such as juniper, hawthorn, holly, blackthorn and elder, then behind this trees such as rowan birch, aspen, hazel, elm and willow. As part of a significant area of GI it also presents the potential to extend the concept into adjacent agricultural and recreational ground, which is also owned by the Council.

Key Elements addressed:

- Poor quality greenspace improvement
- Access to nature & green corridors
- Green recreation and health

Consultation, Costs & Match-Funding

Project teams have been set-up to progress all three projects, and will incorporate consultation with users, residents and other stakeholders. Projects could begin from autumn 2014, and would probably extend over three years.

Total project costs are estimated at of £3.95m. Discussions are underway to secure 60% match-funding, including contributions from City of Edinburgh Council, Section 75 Funds, Sustrans, EDI Group, ELGT and other third-party sources. Spend is anticipated as follows:

Location	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
SE Wedge	£0.10m	£1.00m	£1.50m	£1.00m	£0.10m	£0.10m	£3.80m
Tram	£0.03m	£0.02m					£0.05m
Gypsy Brae	£0.07m	£0.03m					£0.10m
	£0.20m	£1.05m	£1.50m	£1.00m	£0.10m	£0.10m	£3.95m

Appendix 9

Table 1: Ecosystem health indicators and potential data sets

	Indicator	Source	Spatial Metric	Provider
a) Condition of components				
1.	Habitat Quality and Condition	EUNIS Habitat Maps	Habitat extent mapped by EUNIS category	SNH
2		Site Condition Monitoring	Condition of notified feature on protected areas	SNH
3		Native Woodland Survey of Scotland and National Forest Inventory	Area and condition of woodland types	FC
4	Extent of semi Natural habitat	High Nature Value Farming and Forestry	HNV Characterisation	SG/SRUC/FCS
5	Species Diversity	Bird diversity	To be determined	BTO
		Notified species	To be determined	SNH
		Species diversity	To be determined	NBN
6	Ecological Status of Water Bodies	Water Framework Directive	Ecological Status	SEPA
7	Soil	Soil carbon	Soil carbon	James Hutton Institute
b) Function				
8	Fragmentation	Habitat networks	Indices of habitat connectivity	SNH
9	Carbon Sequestration	Soil Carbon	Soil carbon	James Hutton Institute
10	Soil	Critical Load Exceed modelling of soils	Critical load Exceed	CEH/BGS
11	Habitat	Critical load Exceedance of habitat	Critical load Exceedance	CEH/BGS
c) Sustainability / Resilience				
12	Restoration	Biodiversity Action Recording System (BARS)	Extent of restoration action	SNH
13	Invasive Non Native Species	NBN/ GB non natives information portal	Extent of selected INNS	NBN / DEFRA
14	Climate Change	ClimateXChange	(risk assessment maps – to be determined)	Under development
15	Soil	Land capability	Land Capability for Agriculture classes	James Hutton Institute
		Soil erosion risk maps	Soil erosion risk	James Hutton Institute