



Sustainable Glasgow

**GREENING THE CITY HUB UPDATE
16TH FEBRUARY 2021**

Purpose of Report:

To update Sustainable Glasgow Board on progress and actions associated with the Greening the City Hub.

It is recommended that the Sustainable Glasgow Board

- note the content of the report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1** The Hub held their second meeting on 16 February 2021 to discuss continued expansion of group membership, potential collective projects, alignment of objectives and deliverables.
- 1.2** The Chair welcomed new members and reiterated the importance to focus on project delivery as a collective and beyond the city council's activity.
- 1.3** The Hub now includes representatives from Glasgow University, Strathclyde University, Clyde Gateway, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC), Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network (GCVGN), Green Action Trust (GAT), Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP), NatureScot, Lateral North and Scottish Government. Climate Ready Clyde has also been invited to join this Hub.
- 1.4** New members introduced themselves to the group and the Hub collectively agreed to continue to meet monthly, working collectively towards identifying and delivering projects supporting wider Sustainable Glasgow targets and ambitions to build a low carbon, inclusive and resilient city.
- 1.5** The group had the opportunity to see two presentations, the first from Lateral North about their After the Pandemic work, as well as proposals for city wide projects and engagement ahead of COP 26. The second presentation was from Paola Pasino, City Centre/ City Deal regeneration. Paola outlined a number of projects proposed, ongoing and planned for the city centre pre-COP 26.
- 1.6** Partners were receptive to the projects outlined and began identifying areas of synergies, overlap and opportunities for collaboration.

2. What We Propose To Do

- 2.1** The following are projects the HUB will be taking forward and developing in the months ahead:

Tiny Forests – implementation of tiny forest project at various locations within the City prior to COP and in partnership with Earthwatch.

After the Pandemic Project at Broomielaw.

Further assess opportunity for mapping or sharing project information across the HUB and beyond.

Medium/Long-term

GGCNHS – Active Travel development and connecting communities.
Landscaping at Queen Elizabeth University Hospital.

Clyde Gateway – opportunities at Toryglen and Cunnigar Loop.

- 2.2** As stated previously, the group's remit will align with the Climate Emergency Implementation Plan and the recommendations from the Ecological Emergency Working group.
- 2.3** Following from the presentations by Lateral North and City Centre/ City Centre Regeneration, the group also discussed individual and collective action. In particular, potential to align priorities around planned and proposed projects covering the following areas of the Climate and Ecological Emergency:
- Identify Vacant and Derelict Land for greening and rewilding in combination with renewable energy generation measures.
 - Enhance and improve green & biodiversity corridors in the city by improving open space provision and increasing tree cover, in particular tiny forests.
 - Expand Local Nature Reserves in the city and protect wider areas of open space in the city for greening and public use.
 - Food growing sites (allotments and community gardens) are located out with biodiversity diverse sites and are supported to deliver biodiversity net gain and habitat connectivity.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1** The Hub will continue to meet and have agreed a number of parallel discussions to explore synergies and opportunities associated with city centre/ Cop 26 projects in the city.
- 3.2** The hub partners will further discuss plans and proposals currently being considered by their organisations, exploring opportunities for collaboration, identifying synergies and avoiding overlap, by maximising resources and fostering city wide or regional collaboration. A hub action plan will begin to be outlined and shaped collectively by all partners in the group.
- 3.3.** The group had a lengthy discussion about the mapping exercise proposed at the first meeting. There is a commitment to continue to explore this option, while also being mindful of potential resource implications, scope for users and benefits of taking this approach, building on existing mapping work across the city and region.

3.4 With a view to continue to explore opportunities for collaboration, avoiding duplication and identifying deliverables, the hub invited presentations from Glasgow and Clyde Valley Network and Green Action Trust at their next meeting. This will help inform the group about the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network's plans in implementing their Blueprint for the city region, particularly around the Clyde Climate Forest and their recently launched Climate and Ecological Emergency campaign. Green Action Trust will also present their plans and proposals to the group, this will help to build an understanding of potential for collaborative work in supporting the creation and enhancement of green & biodiversity corridors in the city by improving open space provision and increasing tree cover.