



Sustainable Glasgow

**GREENING THE CITY HUB UPDATE
18TH MARCH 2021**

Purpose of Report:

To update the Sustainable Glasgow Board.

Recommendations:

- That the Board notes the paper.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Hub held third meeting on 16 March 2021 to discuss continued expansion of group membership, potential collective projects, alignment of objectives and deliverables.
- 1.2 New members from Glasgow Science Centre and SPEN joined the meeting, Wheatley Group and the Centre for Population and Health have accepted an invite to attend future meetings. 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, GCPH, Wheatley Group, Glasgow Science Centre, SPEN and Scottish Government.
- 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 Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network about the Climate Forest, and the second from the Green Action Trust about the opportunities for support to address the climate and ecological emergencies in the city.
- 1.6 Partners were receptive to the projects outlined and the potential for a collective approach to greening the city, contributing to reducing carbon emissions, offsetting residual emissions, enhancing local biodiversity and improving health & wellbeing. Partners began identifying actions and projects that their own organisations can propose in support of the Hub action plan delivery in the short, medium and long term.

2. What We Propose To Do

- 2.1 The following are the projects that the HUB will continue to take forward and develop in the **short term** (months ahead of COP 26):
 - 2.1.1 Tiny Forests – implementation of tiny forest project at various locations within the City prior to COP and in partnership with Earthwatch- there are some legal issues arising which will require to be resolved. This can be resolved through national approach to tiny Forests in collaboration with the Scottish Government and NatureScot.

2.1.2 After the Pandemic Project at Broomielaw;

2.1.3 Continue to assess opportunity for mapping or sharing project information across the HUB and beyond, aligning this with the newly developed Sustainable Glasgow Website.

2.2 In the **Medium/Long-term**, the hub will consider the following partner projects and how they can support action to address the climate and ecological emergencies:

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

2.2.2 Clyde Gateway – opportunities at Toryglen with Urban Roots and also at Cunnigar Loop.

2.2.3 Supporting the Clyde climate Forest through supporting the increase in urban tree canopy by at least 20% by 2030, in particular through the Cart and Kitoch Woodland creation project which includes education and citizen engagement.

2.3 As stated previously, the group's remit will align with the Climate Emergency Implementation Plan and the recommendations from the Ecological Emergency Working group. The hub will now consider how partner organisations can support action and recommendations aligned with the Climate Emergency Implementation Plan and Ecological Emergency Working Group recommendations. The template appended will be circulated with partners who have agreed to propose supporting action that their organisations are prepared to take. The proposals will then be prioritised, following from this a Hub action plan for the short, medium and long term will be developed and adopted

2.3.1 Following on the presentations from Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network about the Clyde Climate Forest and Green Action Trust about their support for green infrastructure and woodland creation, in particular offering support with feasibility work as part of their Central Scotland Network funding, 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.

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 agreed to collectively shape and outline a hub action plan to support the climate and ecological emergencies.
- 3.3** The group has a commitment to continue to explore the option of green infrastructure projects mapping aligning this with the development of the Sustainable Glasgow website, and continuing to reflect and explore resource implications, scope for users and benefits of taking this approach, building on existing mapping work across the city and region.