

The **BIG** Partnership



PRESS PACK INFORMATION

The Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) is one of 14 national developments for Scotland created in the Scottish Government's second National Planning Framework.

With an all encompassing remit, far beyond just a 'green initiative', the CSGN aims to improve the social, physical, cultural and environmental health and well-being of Central Scotland, as well as assisting the area to meet the challenge of climate change.

The overarching CSGN vision is that by 2050, Central Scotland will be transformed into a place where the environment adds value to the economy and where people's lives are enriched by its quality.

The joint lead partners in the development of the CSGN are Forestry Commission Scotland, which serves as the Scottish Government's forestry directorate, and Scottish Natural Heritage which is the Government's advisor on all aspects of nature and landscape across Scotland.

The CSGN area stretches from Ayrshire, Inverclyde and Dunbartonshire in the west, to Fife and Lothians in the east, encompassing 19 local authorities across 10,000 sq km. As the biggest greenspace project of its kind in Europe, the CSGN has the potential for 3.5million people to benefit, equating to 70 per cent of Scotland's population.

The CSGN will create an environment which supports sustainable economic growth, allows Central Scotland to thrive in a changing climate and encourages healthy lifestyles and good physical and mental well-being. It will create places which people enjoy, where they choose to live and bring up their families and where nature can flourish.

As a strategic partnership programme with wide political and partner support, it aims to change the face of Central Scotland by restoring and improving the rural and urban landscape of the area, and connecting the green and blue spaces in towns and cities with the wider countryside and coast.

The delivery of the CSGN is via an active partnership of national and regional partners, local authorities, local delivery bodies and wider stakeholders, which builds on the great work of existing greening partnerships and initiatives. The partnership aspect adds substantial value by combining expertise, resources and people to realise ambitious projects.

The Network will actively support the Scottish Government's economic and social objectives and transform places for the better by bringing back to life Scotland's vacant and derelict land, significantly increasing woodland cover, contributing to the delivery of well-designed future development and delivering a strategic network or high-quality routes for active travel and recreation throughout Central Scotland.

Furthermore the CSGN aims to engage communities in the development, management and use of locally important assets. It will also deliver a significant increase in the area of land for community growing such as allotments, orchards and gardens to ensure that every home in Central Scotland will have access to attractive, safe and well maintained greenspace.

For media enquiries, please contact The BIG Partnership:

- **Marjorie Calder - 0141 333 9585 / 07966 684 227 / marjorie.calder@bigpartnership.co.uk**
- **Jennifer Hood - 0141 333 9585 / 07921 919 486 / Jennifer.hood@bigpartnership.co.uk**