

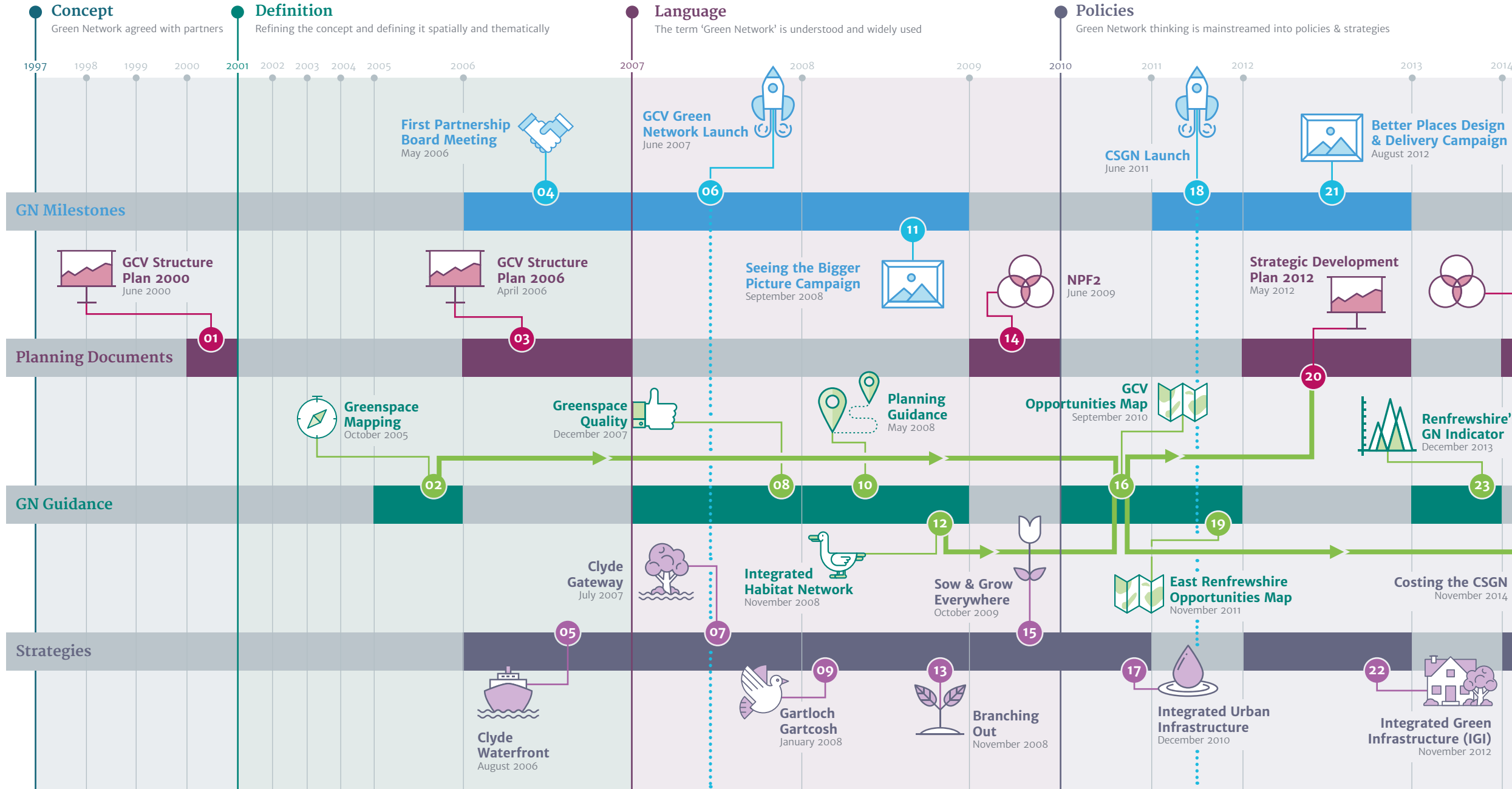


gcv green network

Ten Year Partnership Review



The Journey So Far



Mighty oaks from small acorns grow...

Our vision is being brought vibrantly to life thanks to the commitment and support of our partners.



The establishment of the Glasgow & Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership ten years ago was in recognition of the simple fact that improving the environmental quality, economic competitiveness, and health and wellbeing of the Glasgow & Clyde Valley region required the creation of a Green Network. This Green Network would link urban and rural areas and be transformational in terms of its vision, scale and commitment to action. Since then, the Partnership has worked tirelessly to achieve that goal.

A decade is a significant milestone for the Partnership but, in some ways, it's still just the start of our journey and it's only through continued collaboration that delivery of the Green Network will be achieved. I therefore welcome the continued support of the eight Glasgow & Clyde Valley local authorities, Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Glasgow Centre for Population Health. And I'd also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of the Partnership's executive team.

Over the last ten years, we've seen the Partnership go from strength to strength and become recognised as an exemplar of Green Network thinking and delivery. As we look forward to the next ten years, I would commend all those with an interest in transforming the quality of people's lives in the Glasgow & Clyde Valley region to continue to support and work with the Partnership.


Stuart Tait
 Chair of the Glasgow and Clyde Valley
 Green Network Partnership

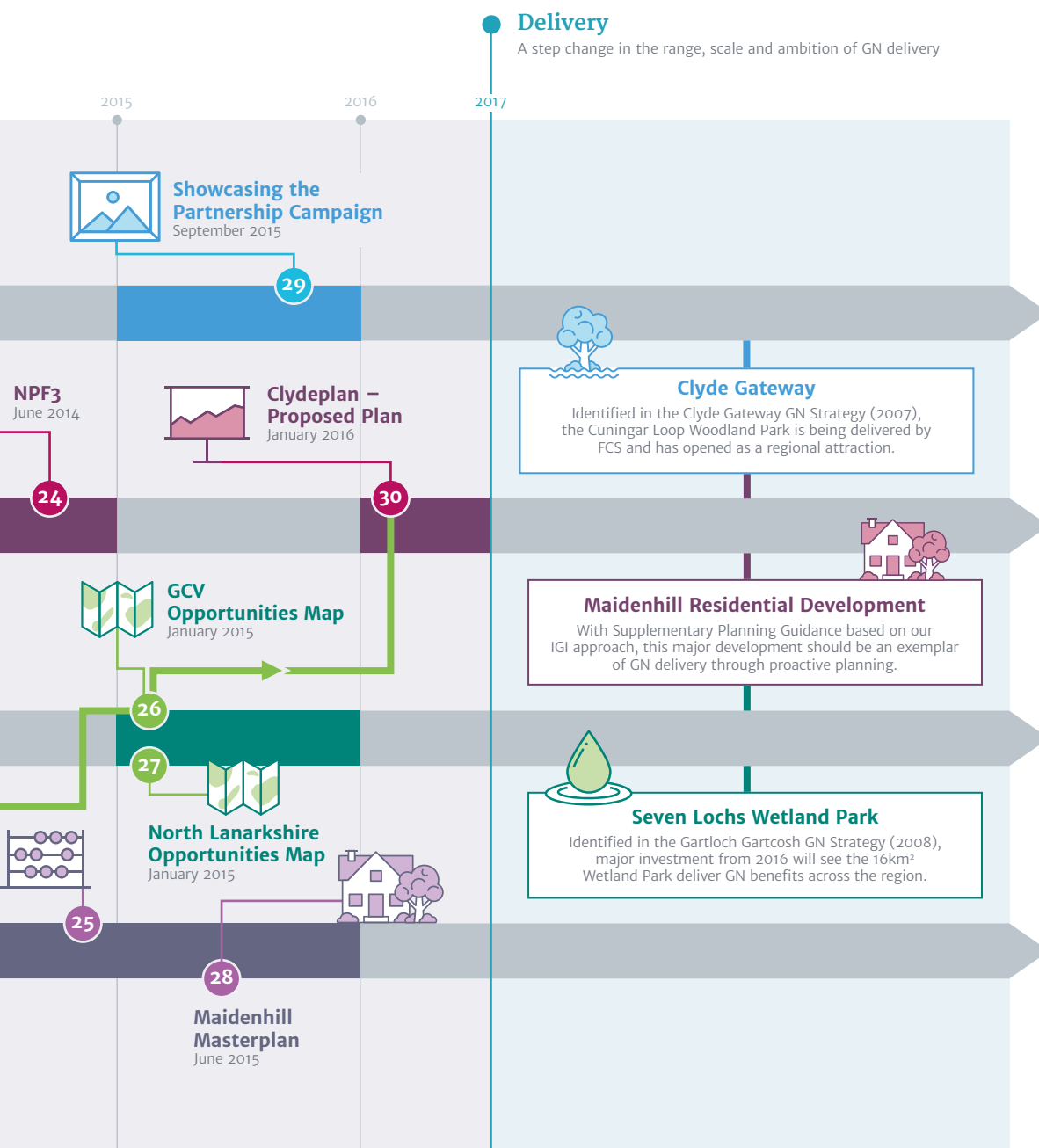
I welcome the publication of the GCV Green Network Partnership's Ten Year Partnership Review. This documents how effective partnership working over the last decade has championed the Green Network vision and assisted its translation into policy.

We are now seeing the fruits of those labours on the ground and this review showcases how the Partnership is influencing Green Network delivery in new developments, regeneration areas and landscape scale projects such as the Seven Lochs Wetland Park which we're pleased to have been able to support through the CSGN Development Fund.

These projects and the lessons learned from them are valuable contributions to the wider Central Scotland Green Network which will, over the coming decades, transform the quality of people's living and working environments across the Central Belt.

The GCV Green Network Partnership will continue to have an important role to play in bringing about that transformation and I wish it continued success in the coming years.


Keith Geddes
 Chair of the CSGN Trust



Transforming lives by enhancing environments

How the Green Network works

Our vision is of a transformed environment, one that improves lives and communities and lets business flourish. Through the Green Network, we aim to make the Glasgow & Clyde Valley region one of the most attractive places in Europe in which to live, work and play.

The big picture...

The Glasgow & Clyde Valley (GCV) Green Network is part of a wider Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) and the CSGN is, in turn, one of 14 National Developments in the Scottish Government's overall National Planning Framework.

By 2050, the CSGN aims to change the face of Central Scotland through a programme of strategic greenspace enhancements that will benefit the lives and prosperity of our people. In the Glasgow & Clyde Valley region (which represents one third of the CSGN area and 50% of its population) we have a significant opportunity to transform the lives of nearly 1.8 million people and make this region one that is vibrant, resilient and hugely successful, right in the heart of central Scotland.

... and the big impact

The GCV Green Network will provide well-connected, high quality, multi-functional greenspaces throughout the region. From cycle paths to allotments, wildlife habitats to urban rain gardens, the Green Network will provide easy and well-linked access to the outdoors for people of all ages, wherever they live or work, creating new opportunities to actively explore our region's wonderful assets as part of their everyday lives.

We deliver the GCV Green Network through six key components:



New & Improved Greenspace
Parks, gardens, woodlands and meadows



Urban Green Infrastructure
Street trees, green roofs, rain gardens and ponds



Vacant & Derelict Land (VDL) Greening
Transformed spaces and places for wildlife



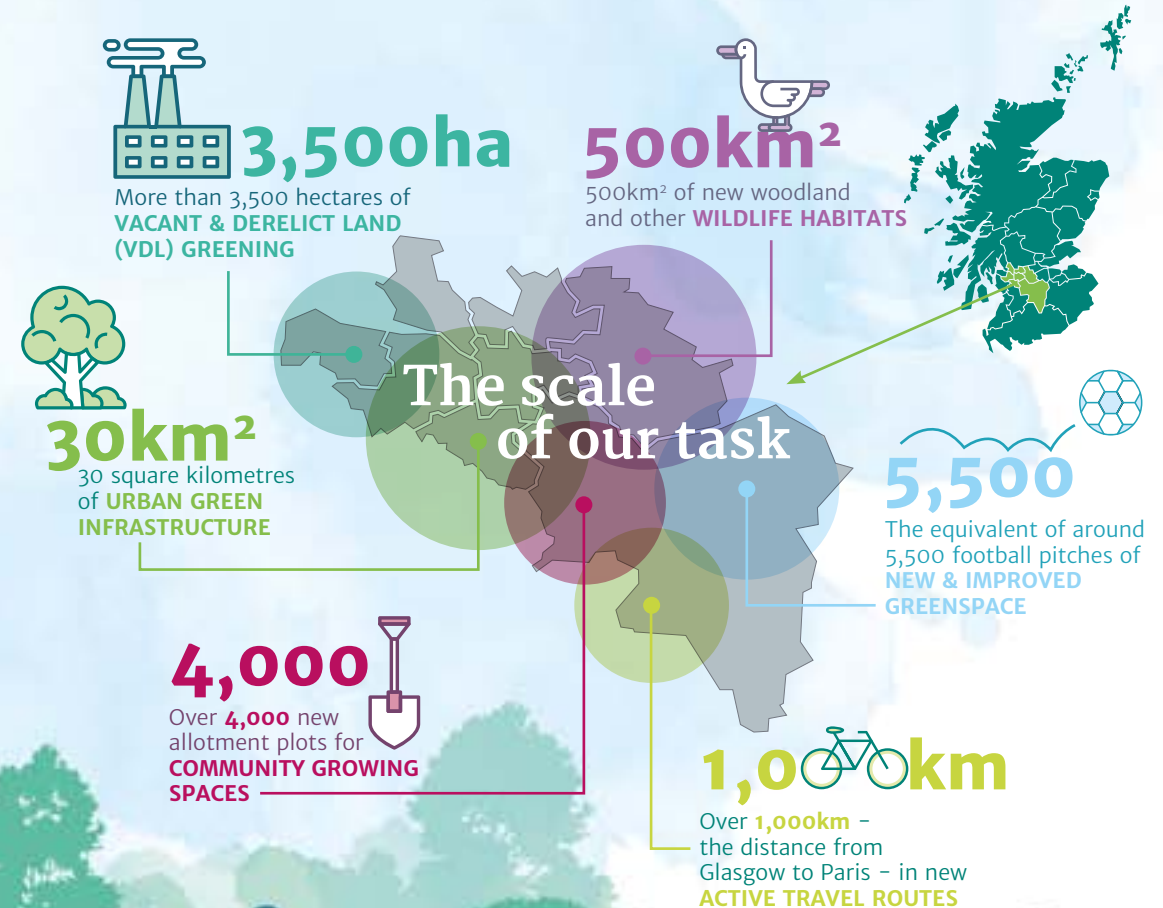
Community Growing Spaces
Allotment sites, orchards and community gardens



Wildlife Habitats
More and better-connected places for nature



Active Travel Routes
More opportunities to walk and cycle away from busy roads



“The GCV Green Network is a vital component of the CSGN, covering a third of the CSGN area and home to 50% of its population. In order to make the CSGN happen, programmes like the GCV Green Network need to succeed.”

Bridget Campbell, Chair of the CSGN Programme Committee & Director of Environment & Forestry, Scottish Government

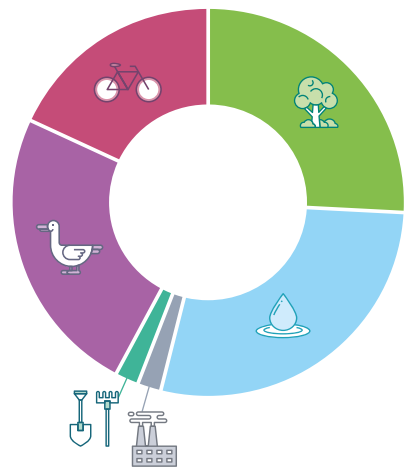


1.8m people's lives will be transformed

Investing wisely to secure valuable benefits

The funding of the GCV Green Network

Delivering the GCV Green Network over the next 35 years will require an estimated £1.1billion – equivalent to approximately £31million per year. A significant investment yes, but annually it equates to the cost of creating just one mile of motorway – so a comparatively small amount given the significant benefits it will yield for all of us, now and in the future.



GCV Green Network investment by component

- New & Improved Greenspace **26%**
- Urban Green Infrastructure **28%**
- Vacant & Derelict Land Greening **2%**
- Community Growing Spaces **2%**
- Wildlife Habitats **24%**
- Active Travel Routes **18%**

The benefits of the GCV Green Network

In line with the Scottish Government’s vision for Scotland, the GCV Green Network has the potential to provide a wide range of meaningful and valuable benefits for this area, its environment and the people living and working here.

A successful, sustainable place

- Vibrant places that will attract and retain business investment
- Attractive places where people want to live and work

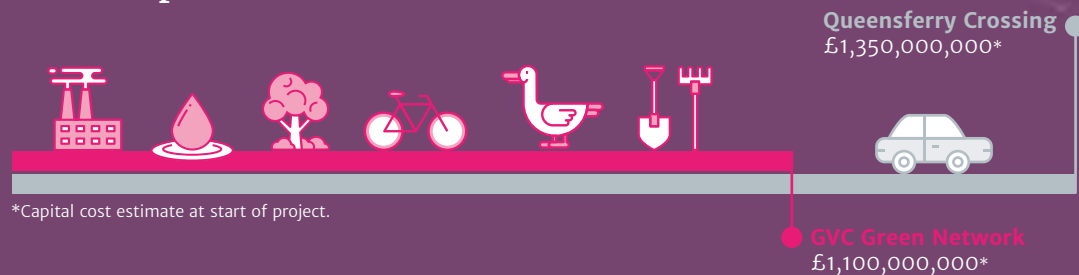
A natural, resilient place

- Enhanced natural environments delivering a range of ecosystem services
- A protected natural environment that supports our precious wildlife

A better place for people

- Well-designed, safe places where communities can thrive
- Attractive, well-connected places providing opportunities for exercise and active travel, and promoting mental wellbeing

GCV Green Network cost comparison



*Capital cost estimate at start of project.



“I have no doubt that the GCV Green Network will continue to thrive in coming years. This is essential if we are to deliver real change in the quality of people’s lives, especially those most disadvantaged in our communities.”

Vincent Goodstadt, Green Network Visionary and former GCV Structure Plan Manager

Working together to deliver our vision

The role of the GCV Green Network Partnership

The GCV Green Network can only be fully realised and implemented through an effective, collaborative approach. The role of the GCV Green Network Partnership (GCVGNP) is therefore absolutely crucial to delivering our vision for transforming places and lives and makes a critical difference by

- delivering a **change in thinking** and
- delivering a **change on the ground**.

“The Partnership has been a champion of the Green Network vision for more than ten years. It has helped to drive forward many innovative green network projects across the region in that time.”

*Arthur Keller, Operations Manager,
Scottish Natural Heritage*

The GCV Green Network Partnership is made up of the eight local authorities in our area as well as Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Glasgow Centre for Population Health, Scottish Enterprise and Clydeplan. As a Partnership they carry out three vital tasks that both support and drive our work:

Making a case for support

The Partnership has been a **champion** of the Green Network vision for more than ten years.

Working at both local and national government level in the public sector, the GCV Green Network Partnership helps to embed Green Network thinking into new policies and guidance, and presents compelling evidence on the range and scale of benefits that will emerge from the implementation of the Green Network in our area.

Securing new funding

The Partnership acts as a **facilitator** to ensure funds are in place for delivering Green Network initiatives and projects in the Glasgow & Clyde Valley area.

It carries out financial studies to estimate costs – even in these challenging times – to allow work to be carried out.

It compiles funding applications, seeks out match funding and identifies future funding opportunities.

Delivering on the ground

The Partnership is a **catalyst** for Green Network delivery on the ground, identifying priority locations through strategic spatial analysis.

Developing local strategies and contributing to design plans, the Partnership is instrumental in facilitating new project collaborations and helping to deliver ambitious initiatives that contribute to our Green Network vision.

The role of the GCV Green Network Partnership



CASE STUDY

Delivering an exemplary landscape-scale Green Network Masterplan

Seven Lochs Wetland Park

Destined to become Scotland's largest urban wildlife site, this is a prime example of Green Network planning and delivery in action.

Extending to more than 16km², the Seven Lochs Wetland Park straddles the Glasgow and North Lanarkshire boundary between Easterhouse, Coatbridge and Stepps. It's a fantastic natural asset situated right in the heart of the Glasgow & Clyde Valley Green Network. The Wetland Park is home to a number of important natural habitats – including two sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) – as well as locally protected lochs, wetlands and woodlands, which are home to water vole, great crested newt and other important species.

Plans for the integration of 4,300 new homes into the area are being carefully managed to support the Green Network vision and the Seven Lochs Wetland Park will demonstrate exactly how green infrastructure and housing development plans can be integrated to protect and enhance the area's Green Network status while creating a vibrant and sustainable place to live.

“The GCV Green Network Partnership has worked extremely hard over the last few years to bring the relevant people together and move Seven Lochs forward. I think their role has been crucial.”

Councillor Maureen Burke,
Chair of the Seven Lochs Partnership

“The GCVGNP helped the Council produce clear guidance for developments that would support the Seven Lochs Wetland Park's vision through the creation of functional greenspace.”

Councillor Michael McPake,
North Lanarkshire Council

Planning ahead

The GCV Green Network Partnership has led on plans for the Seven Lochs Wetland Park for many years with initial proposals in its *Green Network Strategy* of 2008 and a vision for the Park in the *Seven Lochs Masterplan* of 2013.

The Park comprises seven lochs, five local nature reserves, a country park and the Seven Lochs Trail. Ongoing plans include the development of four visitor gateways, the restoration of the medieval Provan Hall, the conservation of important habitats and a range of community events and activities such as nature walks and 'come and explore' days.

A secure future

The GCV Green Network Partnership's hard work and dedication over a number of years has resulted in an injection of millions of pounds of funding for the project. With £6.8m now on the table (including £4.5m from Heritage Lottery Fund), plans are beginning to take shape for developments that will protect and enhance the area's natural habitats and the ecosystems they support.



Between 2016 and 2020, Heritage Lottery Funding will help to deliver a programme of community engagement, miles of trails and paths and four visitor gateways.



Seven Lochs Wetland Park will provide opportunities to learn about the area's heritage and take part in training and volunteering programmes.



CASE STUDY

Embedding Green Network thinking in planning for new development

Maidenhill

An innovative development where Green Infrastructure principles go hand in hand with large-scale housing development plans.

Maidenhill is an 85ha residential development site on the edge of Newton Mearns, to the south of Glasgow. With Green Network and Integrated Green Infrastructure (IGI) principles as central components of its Masterplan and Design Guidance, it's a shining example of how well thought out planning policy can give the same level of importance to green infrastructure

as to 'grey' infrastructures such as roads and energy supplies. It puts forward a strong case for 'designing in' from the outset with the promotion of biodiversity and the integration of recreational and active travel opportunities featuring highly in the Masterplan vision.

A model of integration

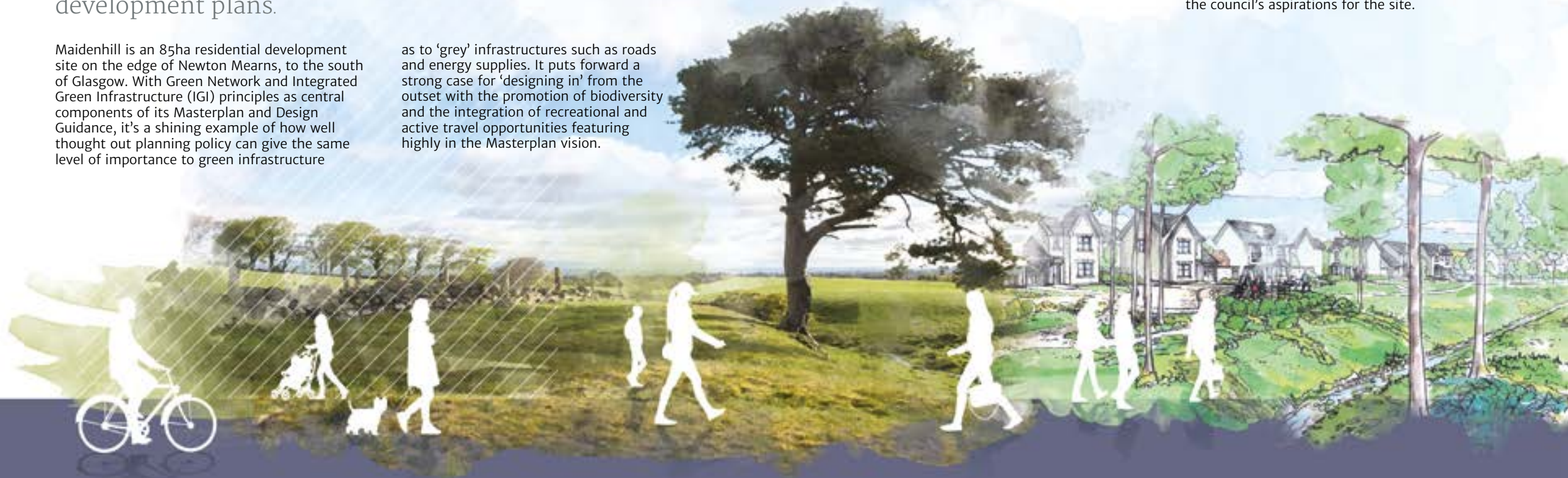
The GCV Green Network Partnership's approach to an IGI has been promoted to a number of potential partners for over two years now and was recognised by East Renfrewshire Council as a model that would be beneficial to the Maidenhill development.

Working with East Renfrewshire Council to advise on how best to ensure the integration of Green Infrastructure, one of the Partnership's first recommendations was to undertake a hydrological study to inform surface water management for the site and also provide the 'backbone and skeleton' for the Green Network.

Putting principles into practice

Through a rigorous application of the IGI approach, which seeks to drive multiple benefits for a new community environment by integrating Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS), access routes, habitat corridors and multi-functional open space into the same land parcels, Maidenhill has the potential to be a truly innovative development and an exemplar of good practice.

To ensure the principles are delivered, detailed guidance has been prepared for developers, clearly stating what is expected from their planning applications. These documents will also go on to guide development management planners in assessing whether planning applications meet the council's aspirations for the site.



“The GCV Green Network Partnership’s approach really helped the development team set out high standards for Green Infrastructure delivery on the site. Their continuing support was invaluable.”

*Anne McAleer, Principal Development Officer,
East Renfrewshire Council*

“By working in partnership, East Renfrewshire Council were able to bring together different developers with disparate housing proposals to help create a vision for a better connected new housing area linked by Integrated Green Infrastructure.”

*Karen Anderson, Consulting Partner,
Anderson Bell Christie*

CASE STUDY

Retrofitting the Green Network into a wider regeneration project

Clyde Gateway Green Network

From the outset, delivery partners have embraced the principle of integrating the Green Network as a fundamental part of the regeneration of this area.

Transformation through regeneration

The Clyde Gateway takes in an area of Glasgow and South Lanarkshire which totals 3.3 square miles and has been identified within the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework 3 as a National Regeneration Priority. It has undergone a massive transformation in recent years – and will do so for many years to come.

The GCV Green Network Partnership's *Clyde Gateway Green Network Strategy*, completed in 2007, set out the original case for Green Network integration in the area. Today, many of its recommendations have been taken forward by the Clyde Gateway Urban Regeneration Company (URC), the organisation responsible for delivering the transformation.

“Cuningar Loop will be a major new urban woodland park. The GCV Green Network Partnership helped make that happen.”

Keith Wishart, Conservator, Forestry Commission Scotland

From strategy to activity

Green Network thinking was embedded in Glasgow City Council's East End Development Framework and is being put into action in developments being led by the URC such as those at South Dalmarnock and Shawfield. The Cuningar Loop too, identified in the original strategy document as a major Green Network opportunity, has been taken forward by Forestry Commission Scotland, South Lanarkshire Council and the URC and has now opened as a regional attraction.

Other elements of the Green Network Strategy which have influenced change include detailed design studies for the Clyde Corridor, Rutherglen Station and Bridgeton Cross. The Strategy also highlighted opportunities associated with the London Road Corridor and the Dalmarnock Riverside Park, both of which the URC are continuing to explore and develop.

The Clyde Gateway today

The Partnership's influence and input at an early stage helped to ensure a rigorous yet sympathetic integration of the Green Network into the wider regeneration process, ultimately delivering attractive, liveable and connected communities.



The original Green Network Strategy, and four subsequent Green Network Studies, have informed many of the changes seen in the area today.

“The Partnership's input to the development of an integrated Green Network in the Clyde Gateway has been inspirational.”

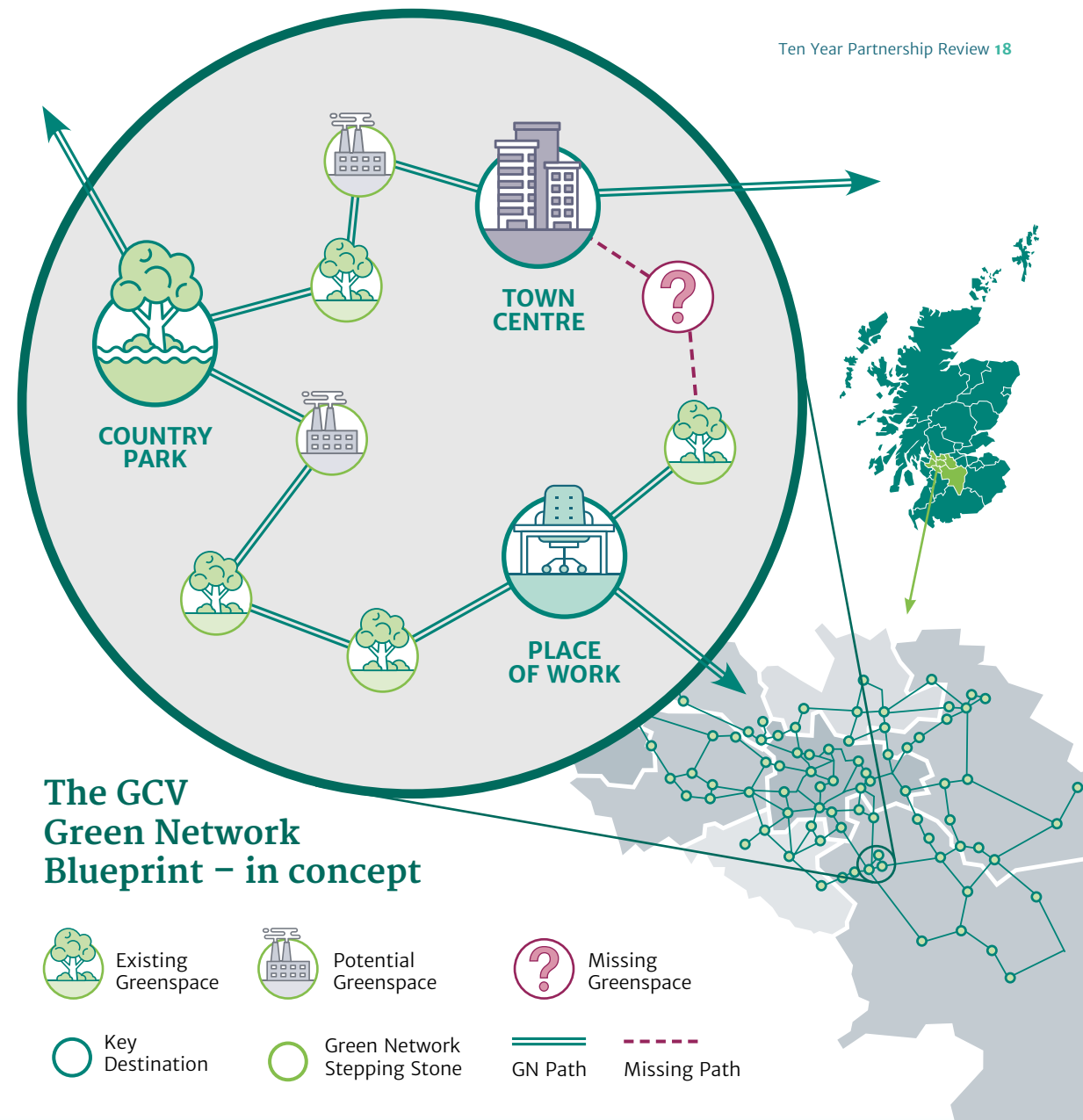
Martin McKay, Executive Director of Regeneration, Clyde Gateway URC



A focus on delivery; a focus on the future

The GCV Green Network Blueprint

Over the last 10 years we've come a long way in our understanding of what the Green Network is and what it can deliver. We've mainstreamed the way in which it's considered and raised ambitions for its delivery. Now we're working on a strategic masterplan – the GCV Green Network Blueprint – to guide its systematic delivery across the Glasgow & Clyde Valley region over the coming decades.



The GCV Green Network Blueprint – in concept

-  Existing Greenspace
-  Potential Greenspace
-  Missing Greenspace
-  Key Destination
-  Green Network Stepping Stone
-  GN Path
-  Missing Path

The Green Network should enable people and wildlife to move freely between key locations or 'nodes' through urban and rural landscapes. People, for example, may wish to use the Green Network to get to their local high street, their place of work, a nearby park or nature area. While wildlife – particularly isolated species – will be able to reach new and preferred habitats using the network as 'stepping stones' for movement.

The Blueprint will identify both the key nodes for the region and also the greenspace stepping stones and paths which provide connections between them; additionally, it will identify opportunities to make connections where there are gaps in existing provision.

Ultimately, the Blueprint will help to identify who has a role to play in the delivery of the GCV Green Network and it will lead to a robust plan identifying the Green Network assets that need to be protected and the new assets that need to be delivered.



gcv green network



Central Scotland Green Network

Helping to deliver the Central Scotland Green Network

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