



National Developments – Response Form

Please use the table below to let us know about projects you think may be suitable for national development status. You can also tell us your views on the existing national developments in National Planning Framework 3, referencing their name and number, and providing reasons as to why they should maintain their status. Please use a separate table for each project or development. **Please fill in a [Respondent Information Form](#) and return it with this form to scotplan@gov.scot.**

Name of proposed national development	Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN)
Brief description of proposed national development	<p>The CSGN is one of Europe's largest greenspace and green infrastructure projects. It seeks to develop a high quality, multi-functional green network across central Scotland: delivering environmental, social and economic benefits along with long term climate resilience.</p> <p>Note: CSGN delivery involves a multi-agency partnership and this response has been supported by key partners: Scottish Enterprise; Scottish Forestry and Scottish Natural Heritage</p>
Location of proposed national development (information in a GIS format is welcome if available)	<p>The CSGN currently covers an area of approximately 10,000 sq km – 12% of Scotland's land area. It runs from South Ayrshire in the west to Fife and East Lothian in the east taking in 19 local authorities; the metropolitan areas of Glasgow and Edinburgh and much of Scotland's post-industrial heritage. 3.8M people live within the current CSGN boundaries.</p> <p>We anticipate, however, that this boundary may need to be adjusted in response the emerging regional spatial strategies and regional land use plan geographies.</p>
What part or parts of the development requires planning permission or other consent?	The delivery of the CSGN involves a wide range of actors and actions. Some of these actions will require planning permission - indeed the detail of planning permission is a key tool in delivering better green infrastructure and green network connections.
When would the development be complete or operational?	The Scottish Government's target for CSGN completion is 2050. The CSGN is about long term and continual environmental improvement and delivery for people, place and nature. Continued National Development status will help to embed CSGN delivery into future LDPs, RSSs, masterplans and developments?

Is the development already formally recognised – for example identified in a development plan, has planning permission, in receipt of funding etc.

The CSGN was national development 6 in NPF3.

The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 requires the 19 planning authorities within the CSGN to consult the partnership on their Local Development Plans.

The CSGN is referenced as a key Scottish Government initiative in the 'Protecting Scotland's Future: the Government's Programme for Scotland 2019-2020' and in 'The Environment Strategy for Scotland'.

The Central Scotland Green Network Trust receives annual funding from Scottish Government to drive forward the CSGN.

Contribution of proposed national development to the national development criteria (maximum 500 words):

The CSGN was established as a National Development - initially in NPF2 - with a vision that *'By 2050, Central Scotland has been transformed into a place where the environment adds value to the economy and where people's lives are enriched by its quality.'* This focus on Central Scotland reflects:

1. Levels of population and economic activity across Central Scotland (3.8million residents and 68% of Scotland's Gross Value Added)
2. Concentrations of disadvantage in communities across Central Scotland (87% of Scotland's 15% most deprived datazones are in the CSGN area)
3. The environmental and social legacy of heavy industry across the area which has left a degraded landscape (78% of Scotland's vacant and derelict land lies within the CSGN)

These factors combine to make the CSGN a clear, and continuing, national priority. From its inception, the CSGN has been designed to deliver against the four development criteria.

The successful CSGN will be made up of:

- **quality local environments** for people, communities, businesses and nature
- **network connections** based on active travel routes through greenspaces and green corridors and strong and coherent habitat networks
- **natural climate solutions** at a range of scales from single building and neighbourhood within urban areas to more remote landscape scale interventions reducing carbon emissions, sequestering carbon and minimising flood risk

The CSGN supports (and, as it matures, will increasingly support) integrated approaches to the delivery of:

- **climate change action** - using nature based solutions to:
 - reduce emissions through net zero carbon land use and increased active travel
 - sequester carbon through woodland creation; peatland restoration etc.
 - manage flood risk across whole river catchments through peatland restoration, river woodlands, designed attenuation etc.
 - develop blue green infrastructure in urban areas to:
 - sustainably manage surface water and other flood risks
 - reduce the impact of rising temperatures
 - support everyday active travel

- individual and community **health and wellbeing** – providing high quality, accessible local greenspaces, green infrastructure and path networks to
 - support increased physical activity
 - support mental wellbeing
 - improve air and water quality
 - support local food growing
 - create environments where communities come together
- **inclusive, sustainable growth**
 - creating an attractive environment for business investment and employment
 - developing opportunities in sustainable tourism and new green technologies
 - focusing particularly on areas of disadvantage
- **placemaking:**
 - creating successful, inclusive, net zero carbon, resilient and climate adapted places for people to live and work
 - delivering productive green infrastructure uses for vacant and derelict land – both green network end uses and through green infrastructure unlocking other end uses
- investing in **nature**
 - protecting and enhancing natural systems and processes
 - increasing the area of well managed natural and semi-natural habitats and reducing habitat fragmentation
 - enabling species to adapt to climate change

Crucially, the CSGN aims to develop greenspace, green infrastructure and a green network which is multifunctional, achieving these outcomes simultaneously wherever this is possible. While focused on a key geography of Central Scotland, the CSGN will deliver benefits for the whole of Scotland.

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