

CSGN Ideas Fund proposal - flagging up industrial estates: researching the best approach to improving the landscape and biodiversity of Scotland's many industrial estates



Different areas need different approaches when it comes to trying to improve or introduce green networks, landscaping and biodiversity. ELGT want to look at industrial estates, particularly older, established ones, where each site is owned by a range of different interests and where there is no overall management body.

We want to research and prepare a **blueprint for a planting and management plan for Edinburgh's Sighthill industrial estate**. Things to look at would include:

- Assess the land ownership and the different stakeholders
- Identify local priorities: security, access, parking
- Identify the different types of existing planted areas, how they are managed currently
- Look for new areas that could be planted
- Identify the opportunities for making connections to nearby existing green networks
- Prepare planting plan templates for different sized plots to meet different needs and which could be applied as and when opportunities arise
- Look for opportunities for mini parks
- Assess the opportunity for making a visual impact to improve the area's amenity for the local workforce



Persuading a wide range of companies, each with different priorities, to take part will be a major challenge. **Would an officially-recognised Green Flag or other branded/badged accreditation scheme for industrial parks bring different companies together?**

What might the criteria be? How would it be branded? Who would run it?

Market research:

- If presented with a template Green Flag scheme, what do businesses think?
- What benefits would different businesses gain from taking part?
- What level of financial and management commitment would a scheme need and result in?
- What other sources of funding might a scheme lever in?



CSGN support means Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust can research and prepare a feasibility study using the Sighthill industrial estate as a template and case study. Our aim is to find a way of making industrial estates better places to work and which contribute to green networks.