

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.

Oversight of the CSGN initiative is provided by the CSGN Programme Committee (CSGN PC). The CSGN PC works to ensure progress is in line with Ministers’ ambitions, as expressed through the CSGN Vision, the National Planning Framework and other relevant plans, policies and strategies.

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.

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**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.**

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As a strategic partnership programme with wide political and partner support, the initiative 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 actively supports the Scottish Government's economic and social objectives. It is transforming places for the better by bringing back to life Scotland's vacant and derelict land, delivering strategic networks of access routes for active travel and recreation throughout Central Scotland, addressing areas of environmental deficit, contributing to the delivery of well-designed future development and significantly increasing woodland cover.

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

**For media enquiries, please contact The BIG Partnership:**

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