



City Chambers
DUNDEE
DD1 3BY

14th August, 2026

Dear Colleague

You are requested to attend a MEETING of the **CLIMATE, NET ZERO AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** to be held in the Council Chamber, City Chambers, City Square, Dundee and also to be held remotely on Monday, 24th August, 2026 to follow the meeting of the City Council called for 5.00pm.

The meeting will also be livestreamed to YouTube. Members of the Press or Public wishing to join the meeting as observers should follow this link www.dundee.gov.uk/live or alternatively they may attend in person.

Should you require any further information please contact Committee Services on telephone (01382) 434818 or by email at committee.services@dundee.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

GREGORY COLGAN

Chief Executive

AGENDA OF BUSINESS

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members are reminded that, in terms of The Councillors Code, it is their responsibility to make decisions about whether to declare an interest in any item on this agenda and whether to take part in any discussions or voting.

This will include all interests, whether or not entered on your Register of Interests, which would reasonably be regarded as so significant that they are likely to prejudice your discussion or decision-making.

2 SHARED ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL AND ANGUS COUNCIL (AN26-2026)

This agenda note provides the Committee with an update on a shared services agreement between Dundee City Council and Angus Council.

In February 2022, Dundee City Council granted access to Angus residents living in the Monifieth and Sidlaw ward only, allowing them to use Baldovie and Riverside Recycling Centres. This was a pre-existing agreement, arranged to commence following the start of the next stage of the Dundee & Angus Waste Partnership Contract. This arrangement formally ended on 30th June, 2026, following the closure of the former DERL facility operated by MVV.

The formal agreement has been updated in relation to existing partnership working and collaborative arrangements between the two authorities. This provides a framework for the delivery of environmental monitoring at Riverside Closed Landfill Site, the processing of dewatered road sweepings and gully emptyings, and continued access to Dundee City Council Recycling Centres for residents of the Monifieth and Sidlaw ward of Angus.

This is intended to support operational resilience, regulatory compliance and the efficient use of resources across both authorities while maintaining service continuity. The agreement will be effective from July 2026 to June 2029, with an option to extend for a further year by mutual agreement. There are no financial implications associated with this proposal.

3 DUNDEE'S BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN – 2026/2030 - Page 3

(Report No 179-2026 by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services, copy attached).

4 DUNDEE'S LOCAL FOOD GROWING STRATEGY 2026-2030 - Page 77

(Report No 180-2026 by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services, copy attached).

REPORT TO: CLIMATE, NET ZERO AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 24 AUGUST 2026

REPORT ON: DUNDEE'S BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN – 2026-2030

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

REPORT NO: 179-2026

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2026-2030, which updates from the previous 2020-2025 strategy to incorporate current national policy and will monitor the development of Dundee's Nature Network.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the committee: -
- i. approves the reviewed Biodiversity Action Plan and draft Nature Network Map as detailed within Appendix 1, and Updated Actions within Appendix 2.
 - ii. notes that progress on actions will be reported annually to the Climate, Net Zero and Environment Committee for consideration and will be incorporated into the reporting cycle for the Biodiversity Duty Report to Scottish Government and the forthcoming reporting guidelines for Nature Networks.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with the approval of this report. Any costs incurred in the implementation of the strategy will require to be contained within existing budgets. In consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate Services, the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services will seek to maximise the use of any external funding opportunities as they arise to ensure the strategy can be implemented successfully.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 Reference is made to Article VII of the minute of the Neighbourhood Services Committee of 13th January 2020, which approved the Biodiversity Action Plan (report [14-2020](#)). Subsequent annual updates on the progress and implementation of this plan have been presented to committee. Reference is also made to Article II of the minute of the Climate, Environment and Biodiversity Committee of 18th August 2025, which noted the achievements and progress of the Biodiversity Action Plan in 24/25 and highlighted the intention to produce a review of the current plan in line with updated national policy (Report [220-2025](#)). Reference is also made to Article II of the minute of the Climate Net Zero and Environment Committee of 16th February 2026, which notes the progress of the draft Nature Network and gave approval to seek input from communities prior to the network being considered by elected members as part of the Biodiversity Action Plan Review (Report [34-2026](#)).

4.2 Context

- 4.2.1 The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, places a duty on public bodies 'to further the conservation of biodiversity so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.' The publication of a Biodiversity Action Plan for Dundee in 2020 sets out how Dundee City Council fulfils this duty and how it works in partnership with other local organisations to achieve the plan's vision of 'Working together to protect, enhance and raise awareness of biodiversity in Dundee for the benefit of all'. However, updates to national policy and guidance, such as National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy, has prompted a review of the Dundee's Biodiversity Action Plan. Future iterations of Dundee's Biodiversity Action Plan will be set against the context of statutory, legally binding biodiversity targets as required by the Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2026. These targets are yet to be determined.
- 4.2.2 The Dundee Biodiversity Action Plan continues to raise awareness of Dundee's biodiversity (flora and fauna) in a local, national and international context. The plan highlights the contribution and influence of Dundee's biodiversity on the quality of life and economic opportunities for everyone who lives in the city. The plan focuses action on important urban ecosystems, habitats and species and ensures prioritisation of resources at a local level. All updated actions are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time bound) to better monitor and report on progress in the future.
- 4.2.3 The Biodiversity Action Plan is a key delivery plan that supports the objectives of Dundee's Climate Action Plan and Net Zero Transition Plan. It contributes to adaptation and resilience by enhancing greenspaces, increasing carbon sequestration, supporting nature-based solutions, and engaging communities in nature positive climate action. It also delivers wider benefits for biodiversity, health, wellbeing and the just transition, helping create a greener, fairer and more climate-resilient Dundee.

4.3 Update on Previous Actions

- 4.3.1 Through the Council's Nature Restoration Funding from the Scottish Government, last year a wide-ranging programme of biodiversity projects aimed at strengthening the city's Nature Network and fostering community stewardship was delivered (Report [221-2025](#)). Working in partnership with organisations, community groups and residents, these initiatives have enhanced habitats and encouraged greater public engagement with nature. The projects include:-
- A Stobswell Community Project delivered by RSPB Scotland
 - Pond Improvement at Barnhill Rock Garden with support from the Friends group
 - Citywide biodiversity planting including the Covid Memorial Garden, biodiversity enhancements at Western Cemetery, wildflower plug planting at Broughty Ferry Local Nature Reserve, and 40,000 spring bulbs were planted at locations across the city
 - A bird box project, in partnership with Eden, delivering bird boxes to all primary schools in the city
- 4.3.2 Further detail of these and other actions will be included in the forthcoming Biodiversity Duty Report. As with other Scottish local authorities, Dundee City Council reports on its biodiversity duty to the Scottish Government every three years. The next report is due on the 1st January 2027, with committee approval sought in November 2026 before its submission.

4.4 Nature Networks Consultation

- 4.4.1 One of the main changes to the updated plan is the incorporation of a Nature Network Map for the city. Nature Networks have been identified as a key concept in environmental and planning policy, such as The Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and are

aimed at tackling biodiversity loss and climate change. Rather than being a single physical feature, a Nature Network is a strategic, landscape scale approach featuring core sites and connecting features such as wildlife corridors and stepping stones. These connections allow species to move, feed, breed and adapt, which is vital in fragmented landscapes.

4.4.2 Dundee's Draft Nature Network was developed utilising available data of habitats and species, mapping tools provided by Nature Scot and local knowledge and experience of Dundee's greenspaces as detailed in previously distributed Ward Profiles. An initial, limited consultation with internal council staff and key stakeholders was held in December 2025 with a wider public consultation held between March and June this year.

4.4.3 For the wider public consultation, a GIS StoryMap and accompanying online survey were developed to provide information and encourage broad public participation. A paper version of the survey was also made available in local libraries to ensure accessibility. An initial launch event was held in March in partnership with the RSPB. Since then, officers have attended a range of venues, including the Central Library and local Climate Cafés, to engage directly with the public and promote completion of the online survey where possible. Officers have also participated in wider community events, such as Uppertunity's Nature Day at Dudhope Castle. In addition, the survey has been circulated through Community Officers and promoted via the Council's social media channels to maximise reach and engagement.

4.4.4 The consultation results indicated that the majority of respondents agreed that the Draft Nature Network successfully captured the key areas of biodiversity importance across the city and that the proposed routes were the most appropriate. Some respondents, however, expressed concern that smaller sites had not been fully incorporated and that their significance within the urban context was not sufficiently recognised. In response, the biodiversity map will be integrated as an additional layer within the online Nature Network map, allowing it to be viewed as required. Feedback also highlighted a perceived absence of a route through the city centre. This has been addressed in the updated plan through the inclusion of an action to explore and develop a future route within the city centre. Further detail on the consultation can be found in appendix 3 of the Biodiversity Action Plan.

4.5 **Biodiversity Action Plan Review**

4.5.1 It is proposed that the main body of the Biodiversity Action Plan remains largely unchanged along with the format and style. The review has incorporated updated statistics, policies and guidance where required. Information on the Nature Network and the map has been added. Two of the topics have been renamed to better reflect the updated actions and the Urban Green Network theme has been renamed as simply Urban to avoid confusion with the Nature Network.

4.5.2 The format of the action tables has been updated to ensure that all actions are SMART making commitments clear, measurable and deliverable, supporting effective monitoring, accountability and alignment with wider strategic objectives. Some ongoing actions from the previous plan have been updated and new actions added. Some of the new actions have been based on those identified in the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Delivery Plan, where Local authorities were identified as a lead, and all of the actions will support the protection and enhancement of the Nature Network.

4.5.3 The actions have been subjected to internal consultation and are also based on feedback received through the Nature Networks consultation, Urban Re-Leaf citizen science data as well as other relevant council consultations such as the Place Standard Survey.

4.5.4 One of the issues identified with the previous action plan was its limited flexibility over time. The revised actions have therefore been deliberately framed at a more strategic level, allowing for greater

adaptability and the ability to respond to emerging opportunities. A key action within the plan is the development of a publicly available Opportunity Map. Ongoing engagement with key stakeholders and local communities will support the identification and mapping of projects at different scales, contributing to the delivery of the plan's objectives. This map will capture both planned and aspirational projects helping to attract investment, support collaboration and knowledge sharing and provide a mechanism for tracking progress. Overall, this approach will improve the co-ordination of biodiversity activity across the city ensuring that partners work together and that resources are used as effectively as possible to maximise impact.

- 4.5.5 Due to the substantial length of the draft Biodiversity Action Plan, an abridged version has been provided in Appendix 1. This includes the sections of the Plan that contain the relevant changes, together with the associated appendices. The remainder of the Plan remains largely unchanged from the previous version; however, a copy has been sent to elected members for their information.

Formal design of the full document will be completed if approval is agreed, with an online interactive version produced shortly after.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment to identify impacts on Equality & Diversity, Fairness & Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. An impact, positive or negative, on one or more of these issues was identified. An appropriate senior manager has checked and agreed with this assessment. A copy of the Integrated Impact Assessment showing the impacts and accompanying benefits of / mitigating factors for them is included as an Appendix to this report.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Council Management Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

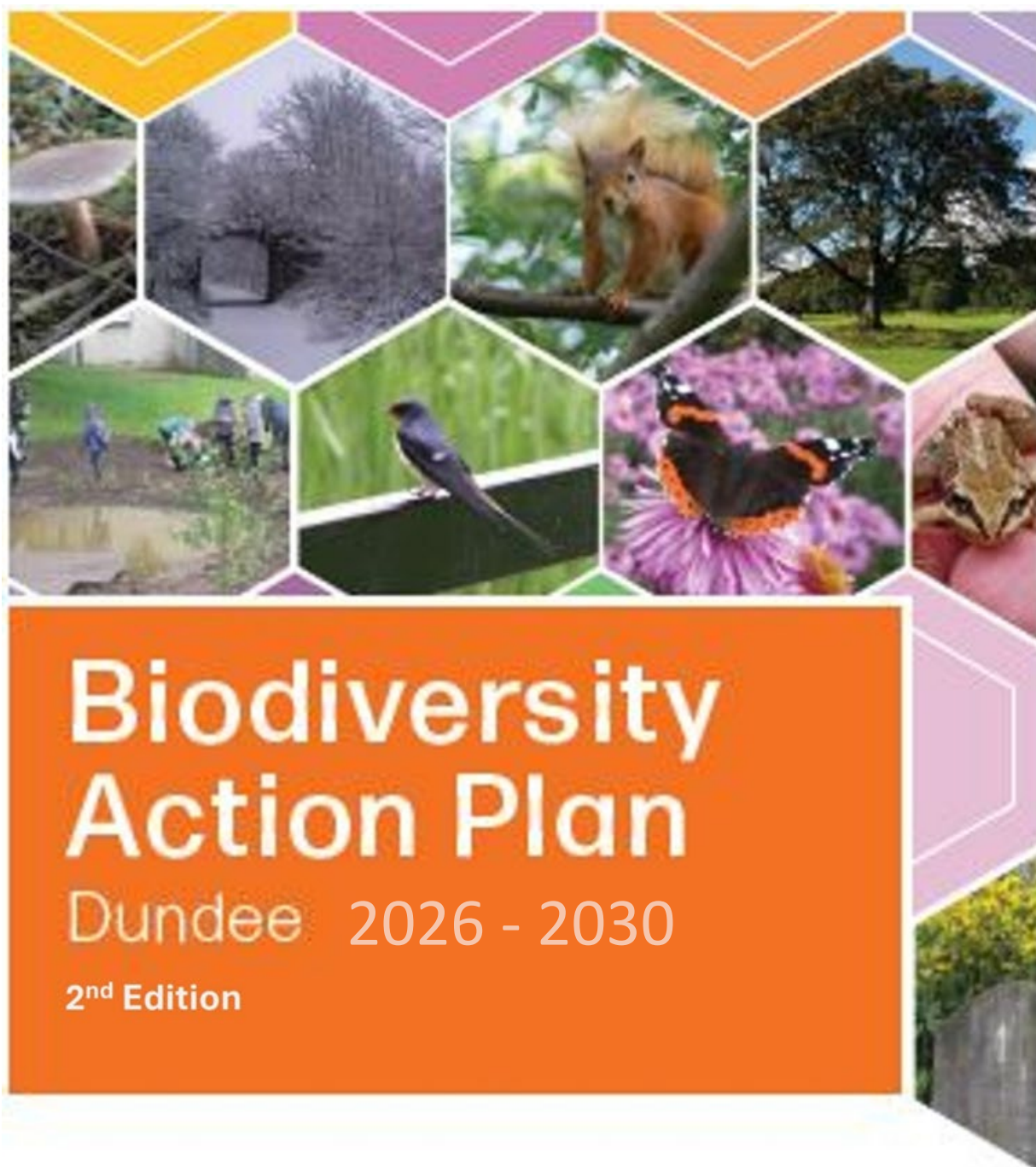
7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None.

Tony Boyle

Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

22 July 2026



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Introduction

What is Biodiversity?

Biodiversity is the variety of all living things and includes diversity within a species, between different species, between habitats and the ecosystems of which they are a part. Greater levels of biodiversity help to ensure the natural sustainability of all life, which is especially important in a time of global climate change.

In this plan we refer to the conservation of biodiversity as the care and protection of all habitats and species, i.e. wildlife, in the city. This includes both common and rare plants, invertebrates, mammals and birds.

Context

Background

At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 the UK signed up to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). This led to the first UK biodiversity Action Plan being published with the goal –

"to conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK and to contribute to the conservation of global biodiversity through all appropriate mechanisms".

At a Conference of Parties (COP15) for the CBD in Kunming and Montreal in 2022, it was acknowledged that nearly all previous biodiversity targets had been missed and new global biodiversity targets for 2030 were agreed. The Scottish Government published a new Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and a 5-year Delivery Plan in 2024 with these new targets in mind.

The UK and Scottish biodiversity plans are implemented through Local Biodiversity Actions Plans (LBAPs), which seek to ensure that internationally, nationally and locally important species and habitats are conserved through local action.

The Dundee Biodiversity Action Plan was first published in 2020, and this edition is the first review.

Current State

The State of Nature Report 2023 found that, in Scotland, there has been an average decline of 15% in the abundance of land and freshwater species studied since 1994. In addition, the average abundance of Scottish seabirds has decreased by 49% since 1986 (latest figures proceed Avian Flu). The report also highlights that 11% of species found in Scotland have been classified by the IUCN as being at risk of extinction within the UK.

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) published the first inter-governmental global assessment of biodiversity, ecosystems and their contributions to people in 2019. This assessment of nature, nature's contribution to people and drivers of their changes has informed decision makers and end users at all scales and sectors. Subsequent reports by IPBES have added to this data: -

- Nexus Assessment (2024)
- Transformative Change Assessment (2024)
- Business and Biodiversity Assessment (2026)

These reports above all highlight a consistent message that reversing biodiversity loss requires fundamental, system-wide change and coordinated action across sectors. They emphasise the need to address underlying financial and decision-making factors and recognise the connections between biodiversity, climate, food, water and health. Together, they stress that governments, businesses and society must adopt collaborative, nature-positive approaches to achieve long-term, landscape-scale change.

The effects of contact with nature on our physical and mental wellbeing have been widely studied. NatureScot SPANS 2023/24 Health & Wellbeing Report found that 84% of outdoor visits are motivated by health and wellbeing. Scotland's Green Health Framework was published in 2026 by Public Health Scotland and

recognised nature as a core health infrastructure. Increasing weekly outdoor visits is now a Scottish Government national indicator, used to track progress in encouraging more people to use Scotland's outdoor spaces, which benefits their mental and physical health.

Current Legislation

Dundee City Council (DCC) is bound by the following legislation:-

- **Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 Section 1 (1)** states:-

“It is the duty of every public body and office-holder, in exercising any functions, to further the conservation of biodiversity so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.”

- **Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act (WANE) 2011, Part 5 Section 36** states:-

- (1) “A public body must prepare and publish a biodiversity report within 3 years of...the base date;
- (2) A biodiversity report is a report on the actions taken by the body in pursuance of its duty under section 1 during the period to which the report relates.
- (3) The base date is – (a) the date on which section 36 of the WANE (Scotland) Act 2011 (asp 6) comes into force, or (b) where the body is established after that date, the date on which the body is established. “

Under the legislation above, DCC is required to report on their actions to conserve biodiversity every three years. Previous reports can be found on the council website with the next report due at the end of 2026. This plan enables us to measure and report our progress in a uniform manner.

National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), adopted in February 2023, forms part of the statutory development plan alongside the Local Development Plan. This strengthens the role of biodiversity in plan-making and planning decision-making, particularly through NPF4 Policy 3, which promotes biodiversity enhancement and the strengthening of Nature Networks. It places a clear duty on local authorities to secure “positive effects for biodiversity” in new developments, including through nature recovery, enhancement and the strengthening of Nature Networks. As a result, local authorities must go beyond mitigation, ensuring that development contributes to measurable biodiversity gains.

Local authorities in Scotland are required, through NPF4 and related policy, to identify, map and safeguard Nature Networks as a core component of spatial planning. This involves using ecological evidence to map existing habitats and opportunities for enhancement, ensuring connectivity across administrative boundaries and integrating these networks into Local Development Plans. This aligns with wider policy and legislative commitments, including the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy.

In July 2019, the Scottish Government and Dundee City Council declared a ‘Climate Emergency’. Climate change and biodiversity are interconnected. Biodiversity is negatively affected by climate change, but the ecosystem services it supports make an important contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation. As such, this plan is a key document in the delivery of the city-wide ‘Climate Action Plan’.

Future

The Natural Environment (Scotland) Act was enacted in March 2026 introducing statutory, legally binding biodiversity targets via amendments to the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, thus shifting the focus from general duties towards measurable national outcomes for nature recovery. These targets are yet to be developed but are expected to drive stronger expectations on public bodies in delivering their biodiversity duty by having regard to these biodiversity targets.

The next Conference of Parties (COP 17) to the UN convention on Biological Diversity is to be held in Yerevan, Armenia in October 2026. This COP is expected to be significant in that it will include the first global review of progress on achieving the Kunming- Montreal targets set in 2022. This COP is expected to focus on demonstrating delivery and accelerating action on reversing the decline of biodiversity globally.

Nature Network

All Local Authorities in Scotland have been asked by Scottish Government to map Nature Networks to identify, protect and strengthen ecological connectivity across their areas. This mapping helps to pinpoint key habitats and opportunities for restoring links between green and blue spaces. This will support biodiversity recovery, climate resilience and sustainable development by guiding planning decisions and focusing conservation efforts in areas that will have a large impact. This ensures nature is integrated with urban growth and helps to meet national targets for nature's recovery. It will also provide benefits for people and communities such as improved health, access to green space and climate adaptation.

Dundee's Nature Network Map is composed of Locally Important Nature Conservation Sites (LINCS) and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) combined with nationally designated areas on the Tay and smaller, but important, local green spaces. The potential routes of connectivity between the core sites are made up of natural corridors such as the Dighty and the Miley and stepping stone sites such as Ardlar Ponds and Ninewells Arboretum.

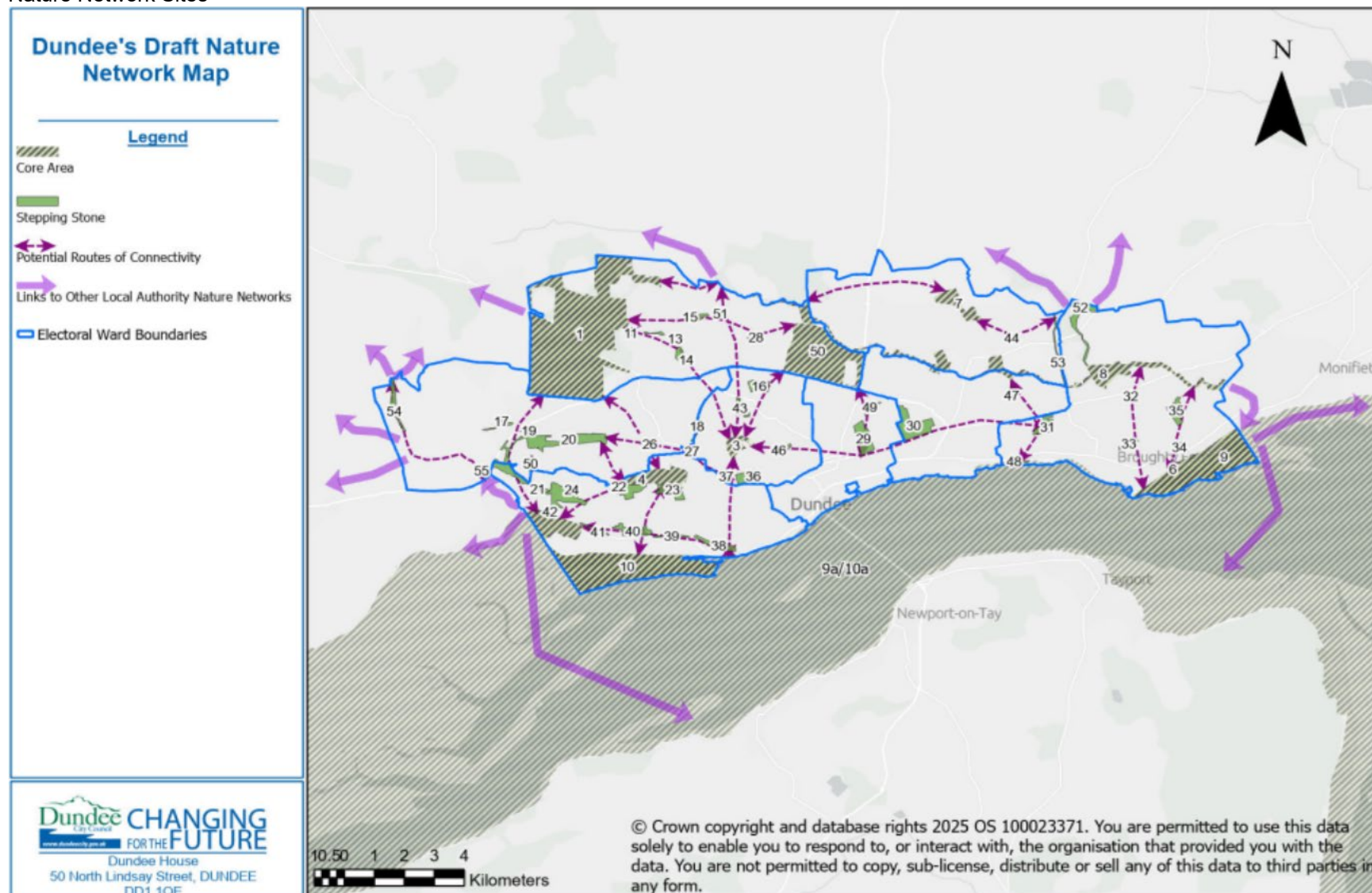
There are a number of smaller but locally significant sites such as community growing spaces and, 'Wee Forests' which are not shown on the printed map. However, these sites will be shown as additional information which will be available online. Private gardens are also not specifically highlighted on the map but will play a significant role in helping nature to move around the city.

Public consultation on a draft map was held from 15th March to 30 June 2026. All comments received from this have been considered and incorporated into the actions in this plan.

There are no changes to the proposed draft map as a result of the consultation. However, this map is not intended to be static, but rather serves as an initial framework that will develop over time. It will be updated in accordance with future Biodiversity Action Plans and associated reviews, as well as revisions to the Local Development Plan. It will also be supported by an Opportunity Map, which will highlight existing and proposed biodiversity projects at a range of scales across the city which will enhance the Network and improve ecological connectivity.

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Nature Network Sites



Nature Network Sites

1	Greater Camperdown	Core Site
2	Caird Park	Core Site
3	The Law	Core Site
4	Greater Balgay	Core Site
5	Riverside Nature Park	Core Site
6	Broughty Ferry Esplanade	Core Site
7	Middleton Woods and adjacent greenspace	Core Site
8	The Dighty Corridor	Core Site
9	Monifieth Bay SSSI (part of internationally important wider Tay site- 9a/10a)	Core Site
10	Inner Tay Estuary SSSI (part of internationally important wider Tay site-9a/10a)	Core Site
9a/ 10a	River Tay (national and international conservation designations)	Core Site (partly within city boundary)
11	Ardler Pond West	Stepping Stone Site
12	Ardler Gleneagles	Stepping Stone Site
13	Ardler Pond East	Stepping Stone Site
14	Crematorium	Stepping Stone Site
15	St Leonards Park	Stepping Stone Site
16	Fairmuir Park	Stepping Stone Site
17	Denhead of Gray	Stepping Stone Site
18	The Miley	Stepping Stone Site
19	Myrekirk Park	Stepping Stone Site
20	South Road Park	Stepping Stone Site
21	Technology Park	Stepping Stone Site
22	Balgay Cemetery Elliot Park and Royal Victoria	Stepping Stone Site

23	Victoria Park	Stepping Stone Site
24	Ninewells Arboretum	Stepping Stone Site
25	Spey Drive Biodiversity Grassland	Stepping Stone Site
26	Helenbank Park	Stepping Stone Site
27	Lochee Road Biodiversity Grassland	Stepping Stone Site
28	Keswick Park	Stepping Stone Site
29	Baxter Park	Stepping Stone Site
30	Eastern Cemetery	Stepping Stone Site
31	Dawson Park	Stepping Stone Site
32	Balgillo Road Park	Stepping Stone Site
33	Anton Drive Woodland	Stepping Stone Site
34	Reres Park	Stepping Stone Site
35	Gillies Park and Eastern Cemetery	Stepping Stone Site
36	Dudhope Park	Stepping Stone Site
37	Lochee Road	Stepping Stone Site
38	Magdalen Green	Stepping Stone Site
39	Riverside Biodiversity Grassland	Stepping Stone Site
40	Dundee Botanic Gardens	Stepping Stone Site
41	Riverside Drive	Stepping Stone Site
42	Riverside Drive (North Side)	Stepping Stone Site
43	Kings Cross Hospital Woodland	Stepping Stone Site
44	Kellyfield Park	Stepping Stone Site
45	Hilltown Park	Stepping Stone Site
46	Rosebank Park	Stepping Stone Site
47	Douglas Park	Stepping Stone Site

48	Stannergate	Stepping Stone Site
49	Stobsmuir Ponds	Stepping Stone Site
50	Thurso Crescent	Stepping Stone Site
51	Balgowan Avenue	Stepping Stone Site
52	Fithie Burn	Stepping Stone Site
53	Murroes Burn	Stepping Stone Site
54	Airlie Den	Stepping Stone Site
55	Swallow Roundabout Wetland	Stepping Stone Site

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Action Plan

The format of the tables below has been updated from the previous version of the plan to ensure that all actions are SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound). This ensures that commitments support effective monitoring, accountability and alignment with wider strategic objectives. Some ongoing actions from the previous plan have been updated and included but new actions have also been added. Some of the new actions have been based on those identified in the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Delivery Plan, where Local authorities were identified as a lead, and all the actions will support the protection and enhancement of the Nature Network. The timescales for the actions only go to 2030, this is in keeping with the original timeframe of the plan (2020-2030). A new plan will be published after this date aligning with the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Delivery Plan and Kunming- Montreal Biodiversity Targets.

The actions are intended to provide a strategic framework which will be delivered through council policies and maintenance plans or through externally funded projects. Details of individual projects delivering these actions will be mapped on a publicly accessible Opportunity Map with input from a range of stakeholders. Funding is not mentioned in the tables below. Funding for Biodiversity projects can be obtained from a variety of sources including SEPA's Water Environment Fund and the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, whilst communities have access to various National Lottery funding streams and local charitable trusts. Each funding stream usually has set criteria to qualify and each project or action in the plan will seek the most appropriate source. Some projects may be able to apply to multiple sources, and partnership working is a great way to ensure that applications achieve the most benefits for biodiversity. The Opportunity Map will assist with future investment for biodiversity projects in the city.

Progress on actions will be reported annually to council committee and will be incorporated into the reporting cycle for the Biodiversity Duty Report to Scottish Government and the forthcoming reporting guidelines for Nature Networks.

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Woodlands

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	WD1	To merge the Strategic Forest Plan and Tree and Urban Forestry Policy into one robust Urban Forest Masterplan.	• Draft the Masterplan • Include a defined action plan • Undertake stakeholder consultation and incorporate feedback • Publish and implement plan	• Build on existing plans, policies and available data • Use internal expertise • Work with external stakeholders and consult relevant guidance	• Unsympathetic/lack of Management • Climate Change • Fragmentation • Poorly managed recreation	Provides a unified strategic approach to tree and woodland management, supporting the Nature Network, climate resilience and tree equity within the city. Compliance for strategic planning within LDP is achieved.	New Urban Forest Masterplan to be completed by April 2027. Progress on actions within the plan to be reviewed and reported on annually	DCC
	WD2	Continue to implement a co-ordinated programme to manage Ash Dieback on DCC owned property across the city, including inspection, risk assessment and appropriate intervention.	• Ash trees to be re-surveyed annually • High risk trees are prioritised and removed annually • Actions are recorded within the relevant tree management system • A re-planting programme is implemented	• Dedicated budget to be identified and used when possible • Utilising existing arboricultural resources when additional budget cannot be identified • Phased work programmes to deliver management actions	• Disease	Ensures public safety, protects infrastructure and supports long term resilience of the urban forest and Nature Network.	Ongoing work annually	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	WD3	Update Deer Management Plan or create new management statement	• A new plan/statement to be drafted • Appropriate stakeholders are consulted • A final plan/statement with relevant actions is approved and implemented	• Build on existing plans and data • Utilise internal expertise and external guidance and examples of good practice	• Deer Management	Deer are being managed responsibly and to within sustainable levels within the city.	Updated plan/statement to be completed by December 2027	DCC, supported by Nature Scot
	WD4	Carry out woodland condition assessments across all woodland areas within the Nature Network	• Complete 100% of assessments for agreed sites • Produce a report for each site including condition scores and recommended actions	• External funding to be sourced • A specialist contractor to be procured to carry out assessments and produce reports	• Unsympathetic/lack of management	Baseline data gathered on woodland conditions within the Nature Network. Data to be used to inform effective woodland management and enhancement.	Initial surveys should be completed by April 2027. Should be repeated every 5 years if funding allows	DCC and contractor
	WD5	Retain standing dead wood within managed sites where it is safe to do so, to support provision and biodiversity	• All sites to be assessed during inspections and maintenance • Retain standing dead wood where possible, removing or modifying only where a safety risk is identified	• Utilise existing guidance and arboricultural expertise to determine safety and suitability	• Unsympathetic management	Enhances habitat availability for wildlife, supporting ecosystem health and Nature Networks	Ongoing, approach to be applied consistently	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	WD6	Manage storm damaged areas of woodland by clearing debris, restoring site conditions and replanting with a diverse range of suitable species	• 100% of identified storm damaged areas are cleared and made safe • Cleared areas are replanted or allowed to naturally regenerate • New areas are monitored to ensure regeneration and survival of new trees	• Initial clearing funded through emergency tree works budget • All works managed and monitored by Forestry Team as part of the new woodland strategy.	• Unsympathetic/lack of Management • Climate Change	No net loss of woodland through damage and opportunities taken to diversity the species and structure of our woodland enhancing climate resilience, long term sustainability and Nature Networks.	Storm damaged areas cleared within 1 year of damage. Replanting or regeneration to be initiated within 3 years of clearing. Monitoring will be ongoing.	DCC
	WD7	Identify and apply for appropriate funding to support the creation of new woodlands in priority areas which enhance Dundee's Nature Network	• Funding is sourced and applied for • Funding is successfully obtained • Projects are fully completed	• Regular monitoring of funding streams • Collaboration with partners and stakeholders to develop strong applications • Good project management to enable projects to be completed successfully	• Fragmentation	Dundee's woodlands and wider Nature Networks are well connected, resilient and in good condition.	Funding submissions to be completed as opportunities arise	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	WD8	Identify and secure the necessary financial, staffing and technical resources to undertake a comprehensive review of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) across the city	• Obtain sufficient resources to enable a full review of all existing TPOs • Complete full review and develop an updated register and mapping facility • Confirm all updated and new TPO applications	• Engage with all internal departments, external partners for initial feasibility study • Secure funding source • Procure contractor to carry out work if necessary	•Development and Fragmentation	Ensures TPOs are up to date, accurate and fit for purpose. Trees with high levels of natural, amenity or cultural benefits are legally protected and preserved.	April 2028 for completion of feasibility study 2030 to secure funding and procure contractor	DCC
	WD9	Support the development of community orchards by providing guidance, resources and partnership opportunities to local groups and stakeholders	• Measurement of number of groups supported • Measurement of number of new orchard areas planted	• Working collaboratively with community groups, internal teams and external partners to deliver technical advice and help identify suitable sites and resources	• Fragmentation	Enhances Nature Networks, local food production and community engagement	Deliver support and facilitate the development of 2 orchard projects by 2030	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	WD10	Identify suitable locations and support the development of new 'Wee Forests' across the city, including site assessment, stakeholder engagement, planting and initial establishment	• The number of new opportunities explored • The number of Wee Forests established • Continued support of current Wee Forests at Keswick Park, Robertson Street, Helenbank Park and Balmerino Road	• Working in partnership with internal DCC teams, community groups and environmental organisations to deliver planting projects and ensure resources, funding and expertise are in place	• Fragmentation	Increase canopy cover, enhance climate resilience and increase connectivity of the Nature Network	Identify 3 new sites and complete one project by 2030	Local Community Groups to identify suitable locations with support from DCC
	WD11	Work with Tayside Climate and adaptation group to investigate the feasibility and potential delivery of a Tayside Climate Forest project, including scoping, stakeholder engagement and initial concept development	• Convene a stakeholder group and identify resources and funding for a feasibility study • Complete a feasibility assessment and produce a report outlining options	• Utilising existing partnerships within the Climate Resilient Tayside Group, drawing on shared expertise, data and regional collaboration opportunities to support the process	• Fragmentation	Support regional climate mitigation and adaptation efforts by exploring large-scale tree planting and habitat creation, contributing to carbon sequestration, biodiversity enhancement, and landscape resilience across Tayside.	Complete feasibility study and report by March 2030	Climate Resilient Tayside (TBC)

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	WD12	Provide and maintain appropriate paths within woodlands to ensure they are safe, accessible, and fit for purpose, while minimising environmental impact and supporting sustainable use.	• Inspect core paths within woodlands on a regular schedule • Identify and address high priority maintenance issues • Complete planned maintenance works maintain a record of inspections and repairs • Respond to user feedback and reported issues	• Deliver through co-ordinated maintenance programmes, available staffing and budgets • Working with relevant partners, volunteers or contractors where necessary to address repairs and improvements	• Poorly managed recreation • Unsympathetic management	Enable safe and inclusive public access to woodland areas, promoting health and wellbeing, encouraging outdoor recreation, and supporting sustainable use of natural green spaces.	Maintain standards across all core paths through to 2030	DCC

Water and Wetlands

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	WT1	Develop and implement a sustainable management regime for DCC maintained SuDS and rain gardens that supports Nature Networks and system functionality	- Research and trial new management techniques - Produce and adopt a management regime and apply it to all DCC maintained SuDS and rain gardens - Put appropriate monitoring in place to assess ecological value and operational performance	- Utilising existing ecological and SuDS maintenance guidance as well as internal expertise - Collaboration across DCC departments and with partners to trial, design and implement the new regime	- Climate Change - Pollution - Nutrient enrichment - Development - Unsympathetic/lack of management	Enhances the Nature Network whilst ensuring SuDS and rain gardens continue to function effectively for water management and climate resilience	Maintenance trials and new regime agreed by April 2029. New regime fully rolled out across all SuDS and rain gardens by 2030	DCC supported by WRD
	WT2	Carry out targeted wetland management at key sites, including assessments of pond/wetland health and undertaking restoration works where required	- Key areas within the Nature Network identified - condition assessments completed - Sites requiring restoration work are identified - Required resources are identified and obtained - Restoration work is completed	- Utilising existing internal and external sources of ecological expertise and survey methods - Collaborating with partners and stakeholders to source appropriate funding and resources to carry out restoration works	- Pollution - Nutrient enrichment - INNS - Recreation Pressure - Unsympathetic/lack of management	Condition of ponds and wetlands in key areas are monitored and managed to protect and enhance the Nature Network	Complete all condition assessments by April 2029 Sourced resources to enable restoration of at least 1 area by 2030	DCC,

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	WT3	Investigate and identify effective, environmentally sustainable methods for managing urban waterways impacted by increasing beaver activity within the city, including flood mitigation, habitat protection and infrastructure safeguarding	• Review similar case studies of urban beaver management approaches • Assess management techniques such as protective fencing, flow devices and habitat modification • Receive input from stakeholder groups	• Use existing ecological data, internal council resources and consultations with relevant experts	• Unsympathetic management	Supports biodiversity and Nature Network protection by ensuring beavers are managed in a way that balances ecological benefits with infrastructure protection	Management policy in place by 2030	DCC
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	WT4	Identify and apply for suitable funding opportunities to support the creation of new wetland habitats in areas that would improve the ecological connectivity of the Nature Network	• Identify suitable sites with opportunities for wetland creation • Apply for and secure funding to deliver identified opportunities • Complete new wetland projects	• Work with internal and external partners and stakeholders to identify potential wetland creation opportunities • Monitor relevant funding streams and work collaboratively to develop strong proposals • Good project management to ensure delivery of projects	• Development	Supports the expansion of the Nature Network, improves biodiversity, strengthens climate resilience and flood management	3 sites identified with wetland creation opportunities by April 2027 Funding secured for one project by April 2028 One project completed by April 2030	DCC supported by WRD

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	WT5	Actively promote and support river restoration and projects to remove culverted sections across waterways in the city, as appropriate.	- Identify appropriate opportunities for restoration/removal of culverted sections of waterways - Contribute to the development and delivery of identified projects	The Water Resilient Dundee Partnership will collaborate and explore opportunities and work with internal and external stakeholders to advocate for and progress of these opportunities	- Unsympathetic/lack of management - Development - Climate Change	Rivers and burns in the city are in good condition and de-culverted where possible, maximising the amount of high-quality wetland habitat across Dundee's Nature Network.	Continue to work on current opportunities at St Mary's and the Dighty up to 2030 Identify at least 2 further opportunities by 2030	DCC and WRD supported by SEPA,
	WT6	Identify and address physical and environmental barriers to fish passage in burns and rivers within the city, focusing on improving connectivity for migratory and resident fish species	- Conduct a survey of priority watercourses in the city - Identify and map any barriers - Develop any remedial actions required - Resource and implement any remedial actions - Track improvements where feasible	- Work collaboratively with internal teams, SEPA and fisheries experts - Use existing mapping tools and site inspection regimes - Source suitable funding	Unsympathetic management	Supports Nature Network enhancement, ecological connectivity, and compliance with environmental regulations, while contributing to healthier river ecosystems and wider climate adaptation objectives	Complete all mapping by April 2029, develop remedial action for a least 1 barrier by 2030	DCC supported by SEPA

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	WT7	Ensure all new SuDS and wetland projects are designed and delivered to provide multiple benefits, including enhanced ecosystem services and improved access and value for local communities for example new paths and additional biodiverse planting.	• Apply a multi-benefit design approach to 100% of new SuDs and wetland projects • Demonstrate the delivery of at least 2 ecosystem services and at least 2 community benefits in each project plan	• Use established best practice guidance and work collaboratively with relevant teams and stakeholders during project planning and delivery.	• Development Unsympathetic/ lack of management • Recreation • Pressure • Nutrient enrichment • Pollution	Supports climate resilience, biodiversity enhancement, and community wellbeing in line with Dundee's Nature Network.	Ongoing as projects arise.	DCC, WRD

Marine and Coastal

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	MC1	Implement an ongoing management programme for the sand dunes at Broughty Ferry to maintain habitat quality, stability and biodiversity	- Continue to monitor and maintain the marram grass and other vegetation on the dunes - Continue to control access across the dunes using chestpale fencing - Assess and repair any damage after significant high tides and storm events	- Utilising existing management plans, staff knowledge and expertise - Resourced through general maintenance budget	- Climate Change - Poorly managed recreation - Unsympathetic management	Protects and enhances a key coastal habitat, supporting biodiversity, erosion control, and public amenity.	Annual Maintenance	DCC
	MC2	Implement ongoing management programme for the coastal grassland at Broughty Ferry to maintain and enhance habitat quality and biodiversity whilst ensuring access through the new active travel remains unimpeded	- Continue with annual cut and lift mowing regime - Complete annual rapid assessment surveys to assess the condition of the grassland and identify any remedial action required - Control any encroachment of scrub or invasive species on site	- Utilising existing management plans, staff knowledge and expertise - Resourced through general maintenance budget	- Climate Change - Poorly managed recreation - Unsympathetic management	Protects and enhances a key coastal habitat, maintaining its ecological and amenity value.	Annual Maintenance	DCC

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	MC3	Work collaboratively with neighbouring Local Authorities, Nature Scot and the Tay Estuary Forum to manage and protect the designated protected areas in the Tay, ensuring consistent practices and co-ordinated conservation efforts	- Establish formal engagement with PKC, Fife and Angus - Set up regular events to share best practice and challenges	- Utilise existing regional partnerships, data-sharing agreements, and ecological expertise across Local Authorities - Supported by available resources and collaborative working structures.	- Unsympathetic/lack of management - Climate Change	Supports statutory obligations for protected area management, enhances biodiversity conservation, and ensures a coordinated, catchment-scale approach to environmental protection within the Tay	Formal engagement and events agreed by April 2028	DCC, Angus Council, PKC, Fife Council
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	MC4	Ensure that beach cleaning methods at Broughty Ferry Beach are environmentally sensitive and do not negatively impact local biodiversity, including coastal habitats and species	- Review and assess current beach cleaning methods against best practice guidance - Implement any required amendments to the current methods	- Work with internal teams and ecological specialists - Use existing operational processes and available guidance to adjust practices, if required, without additional maintenance burden	Unsympathetic management	Supports biodiversity conservation, coastal habitat protection, and sustainable land management, while maintaining public amenity and cleanliness standards at a key city beach	Undertake review of current practices by April 2028 and implement any improvements by 2029	DCC

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	MC5	Publish bathing water quality at Broughty Ferry Beach and promote good environmental practices to protect water quality and public health	• SEPA to analyse routine water quality data during the bathing season • Liaise with relevant agencies to track compliance with bathing water standards • Deliver or support public awareness initiatives such as signage and campaigns • Record and respond to any identified pollution incidents or risks	• Use existing monitoring data and systems • Build on current communication channels to promote best practice without significant additional resources	• Pollution • Unsympathetic management	Supports public health, environmental protection, and regulatory compliance, while contributing to maintaining or improving bathing water classification and promoting responsible use of the coastal environment	Monitoring by SEPA annually through the bathing season. Implement 1 awareness raising initiative each summer. Report annually.	DCC with support from SEPA
	MC6	Promote responsible wildlife watching practices along the River Tay to minimise disturbance to wildlife while encouraging public enjoyment and awareness of local biodiversity.	• Work with stakeholders to develop clear guidance material • Deliver awareness campaign • Identify key users groups to contact and work with	• Use existing communication channels, partnerships and best practice guidance to deliver outreach activities with current resources	• Poorly managed recreation	Supports biodiversity conservation, reduces human impact on sensitive species and habitats, and aligns with wider environmental education and sustainable tourism objectives within the Tay catchment.	Deliver by 2030	DCC supported by RSPB, additional partners such as Fife Council and Forth Ports also to be included.

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	MC7	Design and promote a targeted campaign to raise awareness of the environmental and wildlife dangers associated with waste from fishing activities along the River Tay, encouraging responsible disposal and behaviour.	• Deliver campaign materials highlighting risks such as entanglement and pollution • Deliver outreach initiatives • Install informative signage at key locations	• Work with internal communications teams, fisheries groups, and environmental partners using existing channels and resources to develop and disseminate campaign materials effectively	• Poorly managed recreation • Pollution	Supports biodiversity conservation, reduces pollution, enhances river health, and aligns with wider environmental protection and public awareness objectives along the River Tay	Complete campaign by 2030	DCC supported by RSPB

Grasslands

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity.	GR1	Implement an ongoing management programme for areas designated as biodiversity and naturalised grasslands to maintain and enhance their ecological condition.	- All areas will be cut as per agreed maps each year - Condition assessments will be carried out	- Delivery through annual maintenance plan - Rapid assessment surveys to be carried out - Utilise best practice guidance, staff training and existing staff expertise and ensure that appropriate consultation with SFRS	Poor Management/ lack of management	Supports biodiversity conservation, improves habitat connectivity, and contributes to Dundee's Nature Network objectives.	Ongoing annual maintenance Condition assessment every 3 years	DCC
	GR2	Implement an ongoing management programme for areas designated as annual and perennial wildflower areas to maintain and enhance their ecological condition.	100% of areas will be sown and cut as per agreed maps each year	- Delivery through annual maintenance plan - Rapid assessment surveys to be carried out for perennial meadows - Utilise best practice guidance, staff training and existing staff expertise	Poor Management/ Lack of management	Greenspaces across the city provide a mosaic of habitats suitable for a variety of species, contributing to Dundee's Nature Network.	Ongoing annual maintenance Condition assessment for perennial meadows every 2 years	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	GR3	Protect and enhance grassland areas designated for biodiversity and increase their extent where appropriate.	• Areas designated will not decrease • Areas for expansion to be identified where feasible	• Ongoing consultation with local communities • Use agreed management practices and allocate resources strategically to support both maintenance and expansion opportunities	• Poor management/lack of management	Contributes to biodiversity conservation, habitat connectivity, and the strengthening of Dundee's Nature Network.	Annual maintenance ongoing, Annual reporting on the area of grassland designated for biodiversity	DCC
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	GR4	Area within Riverside Nature Park will continue to be promoted as an area where dogs should be on leads during bird breeding season.	• Fencing and signage to be erected and removed each year • On site presence by staff and volunteers to promote this.	• Number of breeding skylarks to be surveyed annually	• Recreation	Ground nesting bird species such as skylarks will be protected.	To be carried out annually during the breeding season	DCC, Friends of Riverside Nature Park

Urban

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity.	UR1	Map DCC owned street trees, park trees and trees in local greenspaces within the DCC GIS Tree Management System	Progress tracked monthly	Build on existing GIS Tree Management system and current mapping progress using available data sets, surveys and field work	- Climate Change - Habitat fragmentation - Unsympathetic/lack of management.	DCC has well managed, accessible and interrogable information regarding urban tree assets within the city, facilitating efficient management.	At least 5000 trees recorded by April 2027 All known street trees mapped by 2030	DCC
	UR2	Maintain Green Flag (GF) Status for existing DCC Parks and Identify additional parks that meet the criteria for future applications	- Retain GF status for all current parks annually - Secure at least 1 additional Award	Utilise existing park management practices, staff expertise and green Flag criteria assessments to prepare and submit applications	Unsympathetic/lack of management	Key parks in Dundee have individual Management Plans and are externally assessed against set criteria and a national benchmark for quality, including biodiversity.	Prepare and secure 1 additional award by 2030	DCC supported by relevant 'Friends of Parks' groups

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity.	UR3	Update DCC's Open Space Strategy to reflect new planning legislation and include targeted actions to improve the quality and accessibility of open spaces across the city	• Open space maps are up to date • Quality assessments of open spaces are completed • New Open Space Strategy: • drafted • agreed • published • implemented	• Use existing policy frameworks, stakeholder engagement and available data including Open Space Audit to inform the update • Contractor procured to complete draft.	• Development • Habitat fragmentation • Unsympathetic/lack of management	An Open Space strategy that links to other DCC strategies, provides a direction for management of open spaces and ensures equal and fair access to these spaces.	Complete by April 2027	DCC supported by WRD
	UR4	Ensure all new Dundee City Council projects and developments incorporate measures to protect and enhance habitats for European Protected Species and other protected species known to occur in Dundee, including otter, bats, red squirrel, beaver, common toad, and bottlenose dolphin.	• Assess all new projects and developments for potential impacts on protected species and their habitats. • Include species-specific habitat enhancement measures in all relevant projects. • Monitor and record enhancement measures through project completion reports.	• Utilise ecological surveys, planning assessments, biodiversity guidance, and stakeholder expertise to identify and implement appropriate enhancement opportunities.	• Development • Habitat fragmentation • Unsympathetic/lack of management	• Supports biodiversity conservation, statutory obligations relating to protected species, and Dundee's wider environmental and nature recovery objectives.	Ensure that Dundee City Council projects and developments from April 2026 onwards protect European Protected Species.	DCC

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	UR5	Ensure all new DCC development and regeneration projects incorporate blue and green infrastructure and include measures to mitigate any loss of habitat	• All new city projects assessed for blue/green infrastructure • All projects to demonstrate at least one blue/green infrastructure element • No net loss of biodiversity, with mitigation and enhancement measures clearly documented	• Apply existing policies, design standards and environmental assessments within project development and approval process	• Climate change • Development • Habitat fragmentation	Supports climate resilience, the Nature Network and sustainable urban development across the city.	100% of new projects from September onwards with compliance monitored through project reporting	DCC, WRD
	UR6	Hedges will be retained where feasible and ensure they are properly maintained and enhanced to improve their biodiversity value	• All DCC managed hedges are mapped • All DCC managed hedges are assessed for quality • Restoration/enhancement of hedges is carried out where deemed necessary	• Utilise existing maintenance plans and practices, ecological guidance and surveys to inform retention and enhancement decisions	• Habitat fragmentation • Unsympathetic management	Enhancing and protecting the Nature Network	Hedge condition to be assessed at least once every 5 years. Achieve a good condition status for at least 80% of retained hedges by 2030	DCC

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	UR7	Nature Network for the city is identified and mapped with opportunities for protection, restoration and enhancement identified.	• Nature Network is mainstreamed into council strategies and policies • Develop a list and map of actionable opportunities for restoration and enhancement • Establish baseline data and indicators for ongoing monitoring	• Build on existing public ecological data • Utilise GIS systems • Complete new habitat surveys • Partnership working with relevant stakeholders	• Habitat fragmentation • Unsympathetic/lack of management	The city has a well-connected nature network which is resilient to forecasted climate change risks and in line with national and local policy	A list/map of opportunities to be produced by April 2027 Annual monitoring and reporting on delivery progress of actions to council committee	DCC supported by WRD
	UR8	Identify and apply for relevant funding opportunities to support the planting of new street trees, ensuring that proposals prioritise areas of greatest need in line with Nature Network and Tree Equity principles	• Review available funding on an ongoing basis • Submit funding applications • Ensure applications include considerations for tree equity and Nature Networks • Track success rate of applications and number of trees funded	• Work with internal and external stakeholders to develop robust, evidence-based funding bids within capacity	• Habitat fragmentation	A well-connected nature network in the city which also benefits people through the ecosystem benefits street trees provide	Review and submit funding bids as opportunities arise	DCC supported by WRD

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	UR9	Investigate and identify practical solutions to reduce barriers to ecological connectivity within the Nature Network, with a particular focus on mitigating the impact of busy roads on wildlife movement	- Identify and map key barriers affecting potential routes of connectivity within the Nature Network - Identify 3 high priority locations - Evaluate potential mitigation measures - Produce a recommendation report outlining feasible interventions and next steps	Use existing GIS data, ecological surveys and collaboration with stakeholders to assess barriers and develop realistic, evidence-based solutions with existing resources	Habitat fragmentation	Supports biodiversity, habitat connectivity, and climate resilience, aligning with Nature Network objectives and contributing to the reduction of habitat fragmentation caused by transport infrastructure	Barriers mapped and prioritised by April 2028 Potential mitigation explored by April 2029 Report complete by 2030	DCC supported by WWCT
	UR10	Support schools across the city to develop and enhance gardens and biodiversity areas within their grounds, promoting outdoor learning, habitat creation, and environmental awareness	- Engage schools and provide advice and support - Assist with projects which create or enhance habitats in school's grounds - Develop guidance materials for schools - Record levels of participation and feedback from schools	- Work collaboratively with school staff, community groups and environmental partners - Use existing resources, volunteer support and small-scale funding opportunities when available	Habitat fragmentation	Supports biodiversity enhancement, climate education, and community engagement, while contributing to greener school environments and fostering long-term environmental stewardship among young people	Support 3 schools to develop projects by 2030 e.g. as part of St Mary's Drainage Strategy. Develop guidance materials and distribute by 2030	DCC supported by WRD

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	UR11	Encourage and support community growing initiatives with an emphasis on organic practices, while promoting the inclusion of biodiversity-enhancing features such as orchards and ponds within community garden spaces.	- Engage with Community Growing Network - Facilitate the development of new biodiversity features - Provide sharing best practice opportunities	- Work with community groups, local volunteers and environmental partners - use existing knowledge, guidance and small-scale funding or in-kind support to deliver practical improvements	- Climate Change - Habitat fragmentation,	Supports biodiversity, sustainable food production, and community wellbeing, while contributing to climate resilience and increased access to green spaces within the city	Hold 2 sharing best practice events by 2030 Support the development of additional biodiversity features in 4 existing community growing spaces by 2030	DCC, WRD
	UR12	Continue to support and collaborate with Friends groups across Dundee to deliver effective habitat management and creation projects that enhance local biodiversity and green spaces	- Engage with groups through meetings, site visits or joint activities - Support the delivery of habitat creation or enhancement projects - Provide advice or training as required - Record projects delivered, areas improved and participation levels	Build on existing relationships with Friends groups, utilising council expertise, volunteer input, and available resources to provide practical and ongoing support	- Unsympathetic/lack of management - Habitat fragmentation	Supports biodiversity conservation, community engagement, and improved management of green spaces, aligning with Nature Network objectives and improving climate resilience in the city	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	UR13	Ensure that all relevant Active Travel projects incorporate blue and green infrastructure elements, such as sustainable drainage systems, tree planting, habitat creation, and green corridors, to enhance environmental and user benefits	- Review all new Active Travel project designs for inclusion of blue and green infrastructure - Incorporate at least 2 types of blue/green infrastructure features (e.g., rain gardens, street trees, swales, habitat corridors) into applicable projects - Collaborate with internal teams and partners to ensure integration at design stage - Track and report on number of projects incorporating these elements	Work with transport planners, engineers, and environmental specialists to integrate blue and green infrastructure into project design using existing planning processes, design standards, and available funding streams	- Climate Change - Development - Habitat fragmentation	Supports climate resilience, sustainable urban drainage, biodiversity enhancement, and improved wellbeing, while aligning Active Travel projects with wider environmental and Nature Network objectives	All new active travel projects up to 2030	DCC, WRD supported by WWCT
	UR14	Manage cemeteries to reduce reliance on herbicides and enhance habitat connectivity, contributing to the wider Nature Network through the creation and maintenance of wildlife-friendly spaces	- Reduce herbicide use across all cemeteries - Identify and implement alternative management practices - Enhance several cemetery sites across the city - Monitor and record the changes and biodiversity outcomes	Work collaboratively with grounds maintenance teams, ecologists, and external partners to introduce practical alternatives to herbicide use, using existing resources and adapting maintenance regimes where feasible	- Habitat fragmentation - Unsympathetic/lack of management	Supports biodiversity conservation, reduces chemical inputs, and strengthens ecological connectivity within the city, aligning with Nature Network goals and sustainable land management practices	Reduce herbicide use in cemeteries by April 2028 Implementation of alternative management practices by 2029 Monitoring to occur before and after any management changes	DCC

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	UR15	Investigate and identify suitable planting methods and tree pit systems that improve tree health and longevity while minimising damage to surrounding infrastructure such as pavements, roads, and underground services	- Review different tree pit and planting system types - Assess their effectiveness in terms of tree health, root growth and infrastructure protection - Identify preferred solutions - Produce a guidance document with recommendations for future planting schemes	Use a combination of existing research, case studies, supplier information, and collaboration with arborists, engineers, and planning teams to evaluate practical and cost-effective solutions within available resources.	Unsympathetic/lack of management	Supports urban tree health, reduces maintenance costs and infrastructure damage, and contributes to sustainable urban greening and Nature Network objectives within the city	Review and identify preferred systems by April 2029 New guidance documents by 2030	DCC supported by WRD
	UR16	Continue to reduce the use of herbicides in maintenance activities across the city by implementing alternative, environmentally sustainable vegetation management practices	- The amount of herbicide used by DCC will be reduced - Investigate and trial alternative weed control techniques - Record and report herbicide usage annually	Work with grounds maintenance teams and contractors to adapt existing practices, supported by staff training, pilot projects, and the gradual introduction of alternative methods within available resources	Unsympathetic/lack of management	Supports environmental protection, biodiversity enhancement, and public health by reducing chemical inputs, while aligning with sustainable land management and climate resilience goals	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC

Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Threat Addressed	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	UR17	Investigate opportunities to improve ecological connectivity between green spaces in the city centre and the wider Nature Network, identifying practical measures to create or strengthen habitat corridors	• Map and assess existing green spaces and potential connectivity routes within the city centre • Identify potential opportunities for improving connections • Evaluate types of intervention and produce a report or action plan with recommendations to be taken forward	• Use existing GIS mapping, planning data, and collaboration with urban planners, transport teams, and environmental partners to identify realistic, implementable solutions within available resources	• Habitat fragmentation	Supports biodiversity enhancement, strengthens the Nature Network, and contributes to urban climate resilience, placemaking, and improved access to green infrastructure in the city centre	Potential opportunities identified by April 2029 Action Plan by 2030	DCC supported by RSPB, WRD and other partners.
	UR18	Investigate and map small sites within built-up areas that could support new blue green infrastructure, including pocket parks, or be restored and enhanced by local communities with appropriate guidance and support.	• Map and assess small /underutilised sites across Nature Network areas • Identify a number of quick win sites • Categorise sites based on potential interventions/ uses • Engage with local communities to explore interest and feasibility • Add feasible projects to Nature Network Opportunity map	• Use existing GIS data, site visits, and collaboration with planning teams, community groups, and environmental partners to identify feasible opportunities and support community-led improvements within available resources.	• Habitat fragmentation	Supports urban greening, biodiversity enhancement, and community engagement, while contributing to climate resilience and expanding the Nature Network within densely built environments	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC supported by WWCT, WRD

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Planning and Policy

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To balance biodiversity issues with sustainable development within the city.	PL1	Ensure that Nature Network principles are effectively embedded within the new Local Development Plan (LDP) Review, integrating ecological connectivity, biodiversity enhancement, and blue green infrastructure into planning policy and land use decisions	• Contribute to relevant sections of the LDP Review, ensuring Nature Network objectives are clearly incorporated • Develop or influence policies and guidance that support habitat connectivity and blue green infrastructure • Ensure inclusion of mapped Nature Network priorities and opportunity areas within the plan	• Work collaboratively with planning teams, GIS specialists, and environmental partners, using existing data, evidence bases, and policy frameworks to integrate Nature Network priorities into the LDP within available resources and timelines	Supports statutory planning requirements, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience, ensuring that long-term development aligns with Nature Network objectives and strengthens ecological connectivity across the city	To work with existing LDP review timescales	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To balance biodiversity issues with sustainable development within the city.	PL2	Develop and produce specific guidance to support the integration of biodiversity and Nature Network principles into development, ensuring that new projects contribute positively to habitats, species, and ecological connectivity	• Review relevant national and regional biodiversity and planning guidance to inform local adaptation • Engage with key internal teams and stakeholders (e.g., planning, developers, ecologists) to gather input • Produce comprehensive guidance documents covering key topics • Record uptake and feedback from users of the guidance	• Use existing policy frameworks, best practice examples, and internal expertise, working collaboratively across departments to develop practical, locally relevant guidance within available capacity	Supports sustainable development, strengthens biodiversity protection and enhancement, and ensures that planning decisions contribute to the Nature Network and wider environmental goals within Dundee	Produce new guidance by 2030	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To balance biodiversity issues with sustainable development within the city.	PL3	Ensure that all relevant planning applications are systematically assessed in accordance with Policy 3 (Biodiversity) of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), to protect and enhance biodiversity and support the Nature Network	• Assess all applicable applications against NPF4 Policy 3 requirements • Provide documented biodiversity input or recommendations for each relevant application • Ensure mitigation, enhancement, or biodiversity net gain measures are identified where required • Track and report number of applications reviewed and influenced, including outcomes • Monitor compliance with Policy 3 in approved developments where feasible	• Work collaboratively with planning officers, developers, and consultees, using existing policy guidance, ecological expertise, and standard assessment processes to ensure consistent and efficient application reviews	Supports statutory planning responsibilities, biodiversity protection and enhancement, and alignment with national policy, ensuring development contributes positively to the Nature Network objectives	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure that any plans and strategies produced by Dundee City Council protect and enhance biodiversity.	PL4	Ensure biodiversity principles and Nature Network objectives are fully embedded across all Dundee City Council (DCC) strategies, policies, and plans, integrating ecological considerations into decision-making processes across departments.	- Review all relevant DCC strategies and plans to assess current inclusion of biodiversity and Nature Network principles - Integrate biodiversity considerations into 100% of new or revised strategies where applicable - Track and report on the number of strategies influenced or updated	Collaborate with internal departments (e.g., planning, transport, operations, climate teams) and use existing policy frameworks, guidance, and ecological expertise to integrate biodiversity considerations without requiring significant additional resources	Supports statutory biodiversity duties, strengthens the Nature Network, and ensures a coordinated, cross-departmental approach to environmental sustainability, climate resilience, and nature recovery	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	PL5	Review all current Locally Important Nature Conservation Sites (LINCS) using up-to-date guidance and criteria, making evidence-based decisions to add, amend, or remove sites as appropriate, and produce a formal site statement for each agreed site	- Review all existing LINCS sites against current criteria - Identify and assess potential new sites - Produce a formal site statement for each agreed site - Maintain a revised and mapped dataset of LINCS	Utilise existing ecological data, GIS mapping, and current best-practice guidance, supported by collaboration with ecologists, planners, and relevant stakeholders to ensure a robust and achievable review process within available resources	Supports the Nature Network, strengthens the evidence base for planning and land management decisions, and ensures that locally important sites are accurately identified, protected, and managed in line with current standards	To be completed for inclusion in updated LDP	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	PL6	Ensure that local suppliers of plants and seeds are registered and accessible within the council's procurement system, enabling staff to source locally provenanced planting material for projects across the city.	• Identify and onboard local suppliers of trees and seeds onto the procurement system • Ensure procurement guidance is updated to promote use of local provenance materials • Track number of purchases made from local suppliers annually • Provide guidance or awareness sessions to relevant staff on sourcing local materials • Monitor percentage of tree and seed procurement sourced locally where feasible	• Work collaboratively with procurement teams, nurseries, and suppliers to facilitate registration processes, using existing procurement frameworks and communication channels to improve access without significant additional resources	Supports biodiversity, strengthens local supply chains, improves resilience of planting schemes through appropriate provenance, and aligns with sustainability and Nature Network objectives	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	PL7	Ensure that the sale or leasing of council-owned assets does not result in an overall loss of biodiversity, by embedding biodiversity assessment, mitigation, and enhancement requirements into all relevant asset transfer processes	- Assess all applicable asset sales or leases for biodiversity impact - Require biodiversity mitigation or enhancement measures in all relevant agreements where impacts are identified - Provide documented recommendations for each case	Work collaboratively with property, legal, planning, and Greenspace teams to integrate biodiversity considerations into existing asset management and disposal processes, using standard guidance and available ecological expertise	Supports biodiversity protection, aligns with Nature Network and policy objectives, and ensures that council decisions contribute to sustainable land management and environmental stewardship	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC

Invasive Non-Native Species

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	IN1	Source and secure appropriate resources to deliver ongoing grey squirrel control measures at key parks and woodlands across the city and Belmont Estate, to protect native species and woodland biodiversity	• Identify and secure funding, staff time, or partnership resources to support control measures • Implement grey squirrel control at priority sites • Collaborate with partner organisations (e.g., wildlife groups, forestry bodies) • Record levels of activity, effort, and outcomes achieved annually	• Work with internal teams, external partners, and potential funding bodies to secure resources, using existing networks, grant opportunities, and management frameworks to deliver control activities within practical limits	Supports biodiversity conservation, protects native species (e.g., red squirrels, woodland birds), and contributes to improved woodland health and resilience within the city's green spaces	Ongoing annually up to 2030	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	IN2	Continue to map the distribution of Giant Hogweed across Dundee City Council (DCC) maintained properties and use this information to inform and deliver a coordinated annual programme of control	• Update and maintain a comprehensive GIS map of Giant Hogweed locations across all relevant DCC sites • Survey and record extent and condition of infestations annually • Deliver targeted control measures at identified priority sites • Report on progress annually	• Utilise existing staff knowledge, GIS systems, established control methods (e.g., herbicide treatment, physical removal) to manage infestations effectively within available resources	Supports invasive species management, protects public health, safeguards biodiversity, and helps maintain safe and accessible public spaces	Ongoing annually up to 2030	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	IN3	Biosecurity is promoted to prevent the spread of INNS across the city through education of grounds maintenance staff.	• Develop and distribute biosecurity guidance materials (e.g., signage, leaflets, online content) • Deliver training sessions or awareness initiatives for operational staff • Undertake public engagement activities or campaigns • Increase awareness by capturing feedback or participation data from staff and public engagement activities	• Work with internal teams, environmental partners, and existing campaigns to deliver training and awareness using established communication channels and available resources	Supports biodiversity protection, reduces environmental and economic impacts of INNS, and aligns with wider environmental management and biosecurity objectives at a local and national level	Guidance to be distributed by April 2028 Deliver at least 1 training session by 2030	DCC
	IN4	Continue to work collaboratively with partner organisations to deliver a coordinated and strategic approach to the management and control of animal and plant Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) throughout the Dighty Catchment, such as Giant Hogweed and Mink.	• Participate in partnership meetings or coordinated activities within the catchment • Contribute to or support the delivery of joint INNS control programmes at priority sites • Share and update mapping and data on INNS distribution with partners	• Build on existing partnerships with local authorities, environmental organisations, and community groups, utilising shared resources, data, and expertise to deliver coordinated action efficiently	Supports effective catchment-scale management of INNS, helping to reduce environmental impacts, improve biodiversity, and align with wider biosecurity and river management objectives	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC, SEPA, SISI, Angus Council

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Communication and Awareness Raising

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
Communicate and engage with local communities, groups, businesses and organisations regarding biodiversity, supporting and educating them where necessary and encouraging them to consider the impacts of their actions.	CM1	Continue to work with local communities through the Take Pride Campaign to promote responsible use of greenspaces.	• Deliver or support Take Pride engagement activities or events each year • Promote clear biodiversity-focused messaging (e.g., responsible access, simple actions individuals can take) through campaign materials • Track participation levels, feedback, and outcomes from campaign activities	• Build on existing Take Pride Campaign structures and action plan, working with community groups, colleagues, and partners to deliver engagement using established communication channels and available resources	Supports community involvement, promotes sustainable, biodiversity friendly behaviour across the city	Ongoing annually to 2030	DCC
	CM2	Work with schools to support the successful integration of biodiversity and Nature Network principles into the curriculum, enhancing environmental education and student engagement with local nature	• Engage with schools to provide curriculum support or input • Assist in developing or sharing biodiversity-focused learning resources or lesson materials • Deliver or support educational sessions, workshops, or events annually • Gather feedback from teachers and students to assess effectiveness	• Collaborate with teachers, education teams, and environmental partners, using existing curriculum frameworks and resources to integrate biodiversity topics without requiring significant additional funding	Supports environmental education, biodiversity awareness, and long-term stewardship by embedding ecological understanding in young people, aligning with wider Nature Network and sustainability goals	Ongoing annually to 2030	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
Communicate and engage with local communities, groups, businesses and organisations regarding biodiversity, supporting and educating them where necessary and encouraging them to consider the impacts of their actions.	CM3	Work with volunteers to improve local greenspaces and habitats, enabling meaningful contributions to site management while increasing understanding and awareness of biodiversity.	- The number of groups engaged each year - Support delivery of habitat improvement activities - Provide training or educational sessions - Record data and seek feedback from volunteers on their experiences	Work with existing volunteer networks, Friends groups, and community organisations, using available resources, staff support, and practical guidance to deliver manageable and impactful activities	Supports biodiversity enhancement, strengthens community involvement, and builds local capacity for sustainable greenspace management, contributing to wider Nature Network and environmental objectives	Ongoing delivery of activities and support for volunteers Report on progress annually	DCC supported by NHS Tayside, RSPB
	CM4	Design and deliver a campaign to promote responsible feeding of birds, highlighting risks such as disease transmission, inappropriate food types, and feeding in unsuitable locations.	- Develop and distribute campaign materials outlining responsible feeding practices - Deliver awareness raising initiatives - Install or update informational signage at key locations - Monitor and record reported issues	Work with communications teams, environmental partners, and local communities, using existing channels and resources to design and deliver clear, practical messaging on responsible bird feeding	Supports animal welfare, biodiversity protection, and public health, while reducing negative environmental impacts and promoting responsible use of public spaces	Develop and launch a campaign by April 2028 Signage installed at key locations by April 2029	DCC supported by RSPB
	CM5	Ensure the Council webpage provides clear, accessible information on biodiversity within the city, including details on local habitats, species, initiatives, and links to relevant strategies, guidance, and resources	- Review content of biodiversity pages - Track page metrics - Incorporate feedback from users and stakeholders to improve content	Work with communications and digital teams to develop and maintain content using existing platforms, available information, and internal expertise without requiring significant additional resources	Supports public awareness, transparency, and engagement with biodiversity issues, providing a central and reliable source of information aligned with Nature Network objectives	Review of webpage annually	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
Communicate and engage with local communities, groups, businesses and organisations regarding biodiversity, supporting and educating them where necessary and encouraging them to consider the impacts of their actions.	CM6	Design and deliver a campaign to encourage wildlife-friendly gardening practices, highlighting the important role that private gardens play in enhancing biodiversity and improving connectivity within the Nature Network	- Develop and distribute campaign materials - Deliver awareness raising initiatives - Promote key actions that can be taken by householders - Engage with community groups	Utilise existing communication channels, partnerships with community groups and environmental organisations, and established best-practice guidance to deliver a practical and achievable campaign within available resources	Supports biodiversity enhancement, strengthens habitat connectivity across urban areas, and empowers residents to contribute to the Nature Network from their own gardens, aligning with wider environmental and climate resilience goals	Develop and launch campaign by April 2029 Ongoing delivery of awareness activities up to 2030	DCC supported by RSPB
Celebrate Dundee's biodiversity through community engagement and publications	CM7	Deliver a programme of events throughout the year across the city to educate the public about biodiversity, including local habitats and wildlife, and encourage positive environmental behaviours.	- Organise and deliver events annually across different locations in the city - Ensure events cover a range of topics - Gather participant feedback and attendance data	Utilise existing staff expertise, partnerships, and community networks to organise and deliver events, supported by available venues, materials, and communication channels	Supports public awareness, biodiversity conservation, and community engagement, helping to foster greater understanding and stewardship of local environments in line with Nature Network objectives.	At least 5 public events each year	DCC supported by NHS Tayside, RSPB, Eden (tbc)
To find a balance between providing for biodiversity and providing public amenity for all users within the city	CM8	Ensure that the public are actively consulted on new projects involving biodiversity improvements, enabling community input to inform design, delivery, and long-term success	- Appropriate consultation is completed prior to any new biodiversity projects - Record and incorporate feedback into project design and decisions	Work with communications teams, community organisations, and existing engagement platforms to deliver consultations effectively, using established processes and available resources	Supports transparent decision-making, strengthens community involvement, and improves the quality and acceptance of biodiversity projects, aligning with wider Nature Network and environmental objectives	Ongoing for all biodiversity projects	DCC

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	CM9	Ensure DCC staff are provided with appropriate training on biodiversity and how to incorporate biodiversity and Nature Network principles into their respective areas of work	• Deliver training for staff across relevant departments • Develop guidance materials or toolkits to support staff in applying biodiversity principles • Track staff participation and feedback from training sessions	• Work collaboratively with internal teams and external experts where needed, using existing knowledge, training materials, and communication channels to deliver practical and accessible training within available resources	Supports organisational capacity building, ensures biodiversity is consistently embedded across council functions, and contributes to achieving Nature Network objectives	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC

Biological Recording and Data

Overall Objective	Action ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	BD1	Promote and support citizen science initiatives and biological recording across the city to improve data collection on species and habitats, and increase public engagement with biodiversity	- Promote citizen science platform and initiatives - Deliver a range of awareness raising events - Track participation levels and feedback	Work with environmental organisations and community groups, using existing platforms and resources to promote and facilitate participation	Supports biodiversity monitoring, strengthens the evidence base for decision-making, and increases community involvement and awareness	Ongoing delivery of activities and promotion of seasonal events up to 2030	DCC supported by RSPB and Leisure and Culture Dundee (TBC)
	BD2	Source and secure ongoing funding to contract North East Scotland Biological Records Centre (NESBReC) to manage, maintain, and provide access to biological records data for Dundee	- Identify relevant funding opportunities annually to support biological records management - Secure sufficient funding to maintain an active agreement with NESBReC - Ensure all agreements are maintained - Monitor the use of records in projects, planning and decision making	Work with internal finance teams, external funding bodies, and NESBReC to identify funding streams and justify investment through demonstrated value of high-quality biological data for planning and biodiversity management	Supports evidence-based decision-making, biodiversity conservation, and effective planning processes, ensuring access to up-to-date biological records that underpin Nature Network development	Identify and apply for funding opportunities as they occur.	DCC

Overall Objective	Action ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	BD3	Complete baseline habitat and ecological surveys for all areas identified as core or stepping-stone sites within the Nature Network, prioritising these locations to establish a robust evidence base for future management and enhancement	- Complete baseline habitat surveys for all identified core and stepping stone sites - Record this data in a suitable, open-source format	Utilise existing ecological data, GIS tools, and staff expertise, supplemented by external survey support where required, to undertake surveys efficiently within available resources	Supports evidence-based decision-making, strengthens the Nature Network, and provides a foundation for biodiversity enhancement, monitoring, and future project development	Complete by 2030	DCC
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	BD4	Work collaboratively with relevant stakeholders to establish and maintain effective systems and processes for sharing biodiversity and environmental data to support coordinated decision-making and Nature Network delivery	- Identify and engage with stakeholders with relevant data - Establish data sharing protocols where required - Ensure regular updates or exchanges of key data sets	Build on existing partnerships and networks, utilising current data systems, agreements, and communication channels to improve coordination without requiring significant additional resources	Supports evidence-based decision-making, improves efficiency across organisations, and strengthens biodiversity conservation and Nature Network delivery through better access to shared information	Complete by 2030	DCC supported by JHI, Abertay (TBC)
	BD5	Build and maintain a list of potential biodiversity-focused projects suitable for collaboration with colleges and universities, supporting survey, monitoring, and research activities within Dundee.	- Develop and maintain a project list - Engage with local academic institutions - Track number of research opportunities taken up and completed	Work collaboratively with academic partners, using existing networks, staff expertise, and identified data gaps to develop relevant and achievable project ideas that align with course requirements and research interests	Supports biodiversity monitoring and research, strengthens the evidence base for decision-making and fosters ongoing collaboration	Complete by April 2028, list to be maintained and updated to 2030	DCC supported by JHI, NHS Tayside, Abertay (TBC)

Overall Objective	Action ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To ensure no net loss of habitat and, where appropriate, increase the distribution and connectivity of all habitats	BD6	Actively identify, review, and promote relevant research, guidance, and best practice relating to biodiversity actions that are applicable to Dundee, ensuring this information is shared with appropriate stakeholders to inform decision-making and project delivery	- The number of relevant research papers and case studies identified annually - Maintain a central repository or reference list for relevant research	Use existing networks, publications, and professional resources to identify relevant research, working with colleagues and partners to disseminate information through established communication channels	Supports evidence-based decision-making, improves the effectiveness of biodiversity actions, and ensures Dundee benefits from current best practice and innovation	Ongoing up to 2030	DCC supported by JHI, NHS Tayside, Abertay (TBC)

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Geodiversity

Overall Objective	Action Ref	Specific Action	How will progress be measured?	How will this be achieved?	Relevant Outcome	Time	Lead
To promote sympathetic management to improve the health of Dundee's Ecosystems and ensure key sites are managed to a high standard for biodiversity	GD1	Source appropriate funding to assess the current condition of designated geodiversity sites across the city and implement any necessary repairs or management actions to ensure they are maintained to a high standard	- Secure appropriate funding - Survey and assess current sites - Implement any identified maintenance or repairs	Use existing site inventories, staff expertise, and partnerships (e.g., geologists, environmental organisations), alongside external funding opportunities	Supports the protection of geological features, enhances educational and heritage value, and ensures geodiversity sites are well maintained and resilient	Complete by 2030	DCC
	GD2	Identify and assess potential new geodiversity sites within the city, evaluating their significance and suitability for formal recognition and ongoing management	- Identify potential new sites through desk-based research, stakeholder input and site visit - Produce site assessment reports and recommendations for formal adoption	Utilise existing geological data, mapping tools, and collaboration with relevant experts (e.g., geologists, environmental organisations) to identify and assess sites within available resources	Supports the protection and recognition of geodiversity, enhances the evidence base for planning and conservation, and contributes to wider environmental, educational, and heritage objectives.	Ongoing	DCC

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List of Acronyms

Acronym	Full Name
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CNC	City Nature Challenge
COP	Conference of Parties
DCC	Dundee City Council
EU	European Union
GB	Great Britain
GIS	Geographic Information System
INNS	Invasive Non-Native Species
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
JHI	James Hutton Institute
LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan
LDP	Local Development Plan
LINCS	Locally Important Nature Conservation Site
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
NBN	National Biodiversity Network
NESBReC	North East Scotland Biological Records Centre
NPF4	National Planning Framework 4
PKC	Perth and Kinross Council
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SBIF	Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum
SEPA	Scottish Environment protection Agency
SISI	Scottish Invasive Species Initiative
SMART	Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, timebound
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPANS	Scotland's People and Nature Survey
SRFS	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems
SWT	Scottish Wildlife Trust
TPO	Tree Protection Order
TDSFB	Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board
UK	United Kingdom
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
WANE	Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act
WRD	Water Resilient Dundee
WWCT	Walk, Wheel, Cycle Trust

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Nature Networks Consultation 2026- Results

The Nature Network public consultation was undertaken between the 14th March and the 30th June 2026. The consultation comprised an online survey, with paper copies made available at libraries, alongside face to face engagement activities at a range of public events.

The consultation generated:

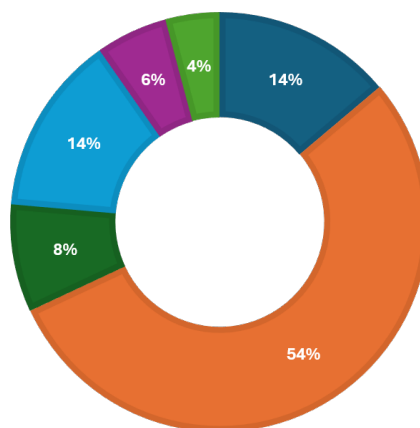
- 73 responses to the online consultation
- 1 completed paper copy of the survey
- Engagement with approximately 150 individuals through face to face discussions at public events.

Overall, the consultation demonstrated a strong appreciation for nature and greenspaces amongst residents of Dundee, with many respondents highlighting the value they place on their local parks and natural areas. While awareness and understanding of the Nature Networks concept varied, and some participants expressed limited interest in the terminology itself, there was clear support for improved management of natural spaces to deliver benefits for both local communities and biodiversity.

Core Areas:

WOULD YOU AGREE THAT THE CORE AREAS ON THE MAP ARE THE MAIN AREAS FOR WILDLIFE IN DUNDEE?

■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree ■ Neutral ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree ■ Unsure



Respondents who selected a neutral response generally indicated that they were not familiar with all the areas well enough to provide a view. Those who disagreed with the proposed core areas most commonly did so because they felt that at least one of the areas identified as stepping stones should be a core site or that private gardens should be recognised more.

This feedback was consistent with comments received during face-to-face engagement activities undertaken by Council officers, where the identified core sites were frequently highlighted as valued locations for recreation and enjoyment of nature.

Participants were also invited to provide further comments on the proposed core sites. The principal themes arising from these responses were:

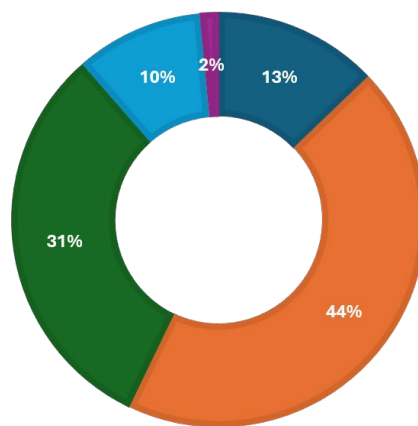
- Recognition that these areas already support rich biodiversity.
- The importance of protecting mature, veteran and heritage trees, alongside the implementation of effective woodland management practices.
- Desire to increase habitat diversity through varied interventions.
- Support for protecting existing grasslands and balancing habitat enhancement with existing ecological value.

- Red squirrel conservation was highlighted with strong concern about grey squirrel competition.
- There were concerns regarding proposed development within and adjacent to these areas.
- Antisocial behaviour and site management issues were frequently mentioned.
- Opportunities for education and community engagement.
- Need to balance biodiversity objectives with public access and recreational use.

Potential Nature Network Routes:

WOULD YOU AGREE THAT THE ROUTES ON THE MAP REPRESENT THE BEST POTENTIAL ROUTES OF CONNECTIVITY FOR NATURE BETWEEN THE CORE SITES

■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree ■ Neutral ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree



Comments provided in support of respondent's answers indicated that there was some misunderstanding regarding the purpose of the proposed routes. Many people interpreted them as active travel routes, whilst others understood them to represent continuous nature corridors and raised concerns about routes passing through private gardens. A small number of respondents questioned the need for Nature Networks, expressing the view that wildlife would simply go where it wanted without any human intervention.

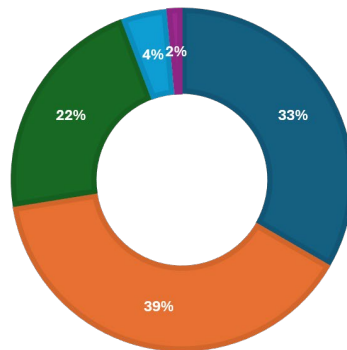
These responses suggest that further engagement and awareness raising will be required to improve public understanding of the role and functions of Nature Networks.

Respondents also identified locations where they felt potential routes were missing, most notably within the city centre. Given the highly developed nature of this area, the current lack of connected habitat is not unexpected. This issue has been recognised within the Biodiversity Action Plan, which includes actions to explore opportunities for strengthening habitat connectivity through the city centre in the future

Stepping Stones:

WOULD YOU AGREE THAT THE SITES HIGHLIGHTED AS STEPPING STONES ARE EITHER GOOD, OR HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BE GOOD, FOR NATURE?

■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree ■ Neutral ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree



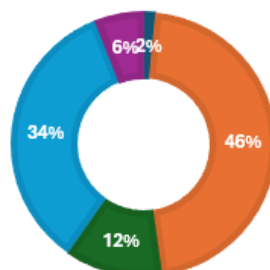
While some respondents considered that certain stepping stone sites would be more appropriately designated as core sites, and others suggested that additional smaller sites should be included, there was generally broad support for the areas identified.

Participants were invited to provide further comments on the proposed stepping stone sites. The themes emerging from these responses closely reflected those raised in relation to the core sites, including biodiversity value, habitat management, species conservation, public access and community engagement.

It was recognised that a number of smaller, locally important sites were not shown on the map. Respondents were therefore asked to consider how such sites might best be represented within the Nature Network framework.

OTHER SMALLER SITES SUCH AS COMMUNITY GARDENS AND WEE FORESTS, WHICH MIGHT BE IMPORTANT FOR NATURE, HAVE NOT CURRENTLY BEEN HIGHLIGHTED AS STEPPING STONE AREAS ALONG THE ROUTES. THIS IS IN ORDER TO KEEP THE MAP SIMPLE WHEN VIEWED AT FULL SCALE AND WHEN IN PRINT FORMAT

■ Agree should not be included as part of this map
 ■ Thinks smaller sites should be included as Stepping Stone sites
 ■ Feel that smaller sites should be added as single points in a separate category
 ■ Think that smaller sites should be included as an online layer that can be switched on and off
 ■ Other



This will be taken forward when the updated Biodiversity Action Plan is made available online and when considered as part of the Local Development Plan Review.

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Integrated Impact Assessment

Committee Report Number: 179-2026

Document Title: Dundee's Biodiversity Action Plan Review

Document Type: Strategy

Description:

This is a revision of Dundee's current Biodiversity Action Plan taking into account updated legislation and the requirement to develop a nature network for the city. The plan also updates the actions contained within the plan.

Intended Outcome:

The plan focuses on the ecosystems, habitats and species most in need and ensures prioritisation of resources at a local level to protect, restore and enhance the city's Nature Network. It sets out clear objectives and targets to enable measurement of achievements. The plan builds upon current Council plans and strategies, and aims to inform any future plans. Through the Biodiversity Action Plan Dundee City Council meets its biodiversity duty as set out in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

Period Covered: 24/08/2026 to 31/12/2030

Monitoring:

The progress of the plan will be measured by monitoring the progress of actions contained in the document. An annual report of progress will be considered by elected members annually. Under the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011 Dundee City Council is required to report on its actions to conserve biodiversity every 3 years. The next such report is due on 01/01/2027 and it will be considered by elected members in November 2026 before submission.

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Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

Impacts & Implications

Age: No Impact

Disability: No Impact

Gender Reassignment: No Impact

Marriage & Civil Partnership: No Impact

Pregnancy & Maternity: No Impact

Race / Ethnicity: No Impact

Religion or Belief: No Impact

Sex: No Impact

Sexual Orientation: No Impact

Are any Human Rights not covered by the Equalities questions above impacted by this report?

No

Fairness & Poverty

Geographic Impacts & Implications

Strathmartine:	No Impact
Lochee:	No Impact
Coldside:	No Impact
Maryfield:	No Impact
North East:	No Impact
East End:	No Impact
The Ferry:	No Impact
West End:	No Impact

Household Group Impacts and Implications

Looked After Children & Care Leavers: No Impact

Carers: No Impact

Lone Parent Families: No Impact

Household Group Impacts and Implications

Single Female Households with Children: No Impact

Greater number of children and/or young children: No Impact

Pensioners - single / couple: No Impact

Unskilled workers or unemployed: No Impact

Serious & enduring mental health problems: No Impact

Homeless: No Impact

Drug and/or alcohol problems: No Impact

Offenders & Ex-offenders: No Impact

Socio Economic Disadvantage Impacts & Implications

Employment Status: No Impact

Education & Skills: No Impact

Income: No Impact

Caring Responsibilities (including Childcare): No Impact

Affordability and accessibility of services: No Impact

Fuel Poverty: No Impact

Cost of Living / Poverty Premium: No Impact

Connectivity / Internet Access: No Impact

Income / Benefit Advice / Income Maximisation: No Impact

Employment Opportunities: No Impact

Education: No Impact

Health: Positive

Many studies have shown that access to good quality green spaces can have positive impacts on people's health, encouraging people to get out, move more and choose more active travel options.

Life Expectancy: No Impact

Mental Health: Positive

Studies have shown that access to good quality green space and areas with high biodiversity value can positively impact people's mental health, reducing reliance on antidepressant drugs in some cases.

Overweight / Obesity: Positive

Many studies have shown that access to good quality green spaces can have positive impacts on people's physical health, encouraging people to get out, move more and choose more active travel options.

Child Health: No Impact

Neighbourhood Satisfaction: Positive

Well maintained and biodiverse parks and green spaces help to improve neighbourhood satisfaction. Green infrastructure such as street trees, pocket parks, SUDs and rain gardens can all improve neighbourhoods and people's sense of pride in their local area.

Transport: No Impact

Environment

Climate Change Impacts

Mitigating Greenhouse Gases: Positive

Actions in this plan will assist in the mitigation of greenhouse gases by:

Carbon capture and sequestration by woodlands and grasslands

Encouraging active travel

Reducing the amount of fuel required to maintain parks and greenspaces

Adapting to the effects of climate change: Positive

Implementing the Biodiversity Action Plan will improve Dundee's resilience to climate change with increased woodland canopy cover providing urban cooling, enabling the movement of wildlife around the city utilising the city's nature network, therefore being more adaptable to local conditions and, increased diversity of species making blue and green spaces more resilient to pests and diseases.

Resource Use Impacts

Energy efficiency & consumption: No Impact

Prevention, reduction, re-use, recovery or recycling of waste: No Impact

Sustainable Procurement: Positive

Actions in the plan encourage the procurement of seeds, plants and trees of local provenance, reducing the carbon footprint of transportation.

Transport Impacts

Accessible transport provision: No Impact

Sustainable modes of transport: Positive

Better managed green and blue spaces with high levels of biodiversity will encourage increased walking and cycling in the city.

Natural Environment Impacts

Air, land & water quality: Positive

Dundee's Nature Network will not only have positive benefit on nature in the city but will also provide more good quality spaces which will filter air and water pollution and benefit soil conditions.

Biodiversity: Positive

All actions in the plan will enhance, restore and protect biodiversity in a number of ways, aligning with local, national and international objectives and targets.

Open & green spaces: Positive

This plan aims to balance the protection and enhancement of biodiversity with providing high quality green spaces for the people who live, work and visit the city.

Built Environment Impacts

Built Heritage: No Impact

Housing: No Impact

Is the proposal subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

Screening has determined that the proposal is unlikely to have any significant environmental effects. The reason(s) for this determination are set out in the Screening Report, a copy of which will be available to view at <http://www.dundee.gov.uk/cplanning/sea/>

Corporate Risk

Corporate Risk Impacts

Political Reputational Risk: No Impact

Economic/Financial Sustainability / Security & Equipment: No Impact

Social Impact / Safety of Staff & Clients: No Impact

Technological / Business or Service Interruption: No Impact

Environmental: No Impact

Legal / Statutory Obligations: Positive

This report fulfils Dundee City Council's legal biodiversity duty under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

Organisational / Staffing & Competence: No Impact

Corporate Risk Implications & Mitigation:

The risk implications associated with the subject matter of this report are "business as normal" risks and any increase to the level of risk to the Council is minimal. This is due either to the risk being inherently low or as a result of the risk being transferred in full or in part to another party on a fair and equitable basis. The subject matter is routine and has happened many times before without significant impact.

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REPORT TO: CLIMATE, NET ZERO AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 24 AUGUST 2026

REPORT ON: DUNDEE'S LOCAL FOOD GROWING STRATEGY 2026-2030

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

REPORT NO: 180-2026

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Committee approval for the draft Local Food Growing Strategy 2026-2030 and note the achievements of the previous Local Food Growing Strategy 2020-2025.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is recommended to approve the draft Local Food Growing Strategy 2026–2030.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with the approval of this report. Any costs incurred in the implementation of the strategy will require to be contained within existing budgets. In consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate Services, the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services will seek to maximise the use of any external funding opportunities as they arise to ensure the strategy can be implemented successfully.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Reference is made to Article VI Policy and Resources Committee on 28th September 2020 (report [178-2020](#) refers), which approved Dundee's Local Food Growing Strategy (2020–2025) was approved.

- 4.2 Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 ('the Act') places a duty on every local authority to prepare a food growing strategy which must be reviewed every 5 years. Dundee's reviewed, draft Local Food Growing Strategy is appended to this report.

4.3 Allotments sites

- 4.3.1 A 2025 survey by APSE (Association of Public Service Excellence) into the state of the UK's allotments found that over 31% of local authorities had waiting lists of over 1,000 people. Likewise, 63% of local authorities reported extended waiting times for available plots.

- 4.3.2 For the purposes of the Act, an allotment is land owned or leased by a local authority for use by people to grow vegetables, fruits, herbs or flowers on a non-profit basis. Under section 111 of the Act, Dundee City Council is obligated to maintain waiting lists of all sites it owns. Under Section 112 of the Act, Dundee City Council also has a duty to provide allotment sites so that:-

- sufficient allotments are provided to keep the waiting list referred to in section 111 at no more than 50% of the authority's current number of allotments; and,
- a person entered on the waiting list does not remain on it for a continuous period of more than 5 years.

- 4.3.3 As of July 2026, there are 4 council owned and directly managed allotment sites, and 7 council owned and leased allotment sites in Dundee. There are also 3 private allotment sites which are excluded from the legislation. Out of the 11 allotment sites considered under the Act and Local Food Growing Strategy, there are a total of 509 allotment plots with 529 people on waiting lists. The waiting list represents over 100% of the total plots available.

- 4.3.4 In 2024, Dundee City Council introduced a digital process to assist with the management of its allotments. The process includes the ability for those wishing to have an allotment to be added to Dundee City Council's waiting list. The process requires those on the waiting list to confirm their continued interest annually, which enables an up-to-date waiting list to be maintained. The digital process also enables plot holders to pay for their allotment plots online, update their details and withdraw from their allotments if they no longer wish to keep their plots. The digital process has increased the efficiency and accuracy of the Council's management of its allotment sites.
- 4.3.5 To address the requirements of Section 112 of the Act, the Local Food Growing Strategy proposes to develop an additional allotment site in the lifetime of the plan. Officers will progress the identification of sites and carry out consultation with stakeholders and local people. Funding will also be identified for the site's development.

4.4 Achievements during the 2020-2025 Local Food Growing Strategy

- 4.4.1 The action plan associated with the 2020-2025 strategy was ambitious in its breadth and extent. However, it is estimated that approximately 80% of actions have been achieved, with others ongoing, superseded or carried forward into the draft 2026-2030 strategy.
- 4.4.2 Achievements during the lifetime of the strategy are detailed in pages 6 – 8 of the draft Local Food Growing Strategy at Appendix 1. However, there are significant developments which are worth highlighting:-
- Dundee City Council's Climate Fund (2022 – 2026) supported 12 community food growing projects with just under £400,000 awarded helping to staff and equip local projects.
 - Establishment of a community gardens network – Grow Dundee, hosted and promoted by the MAXwell centre.
 - Development of the Camperdown Growing Hub supported by a £1million grant from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund which has enabled the creation of an exciting and successful community growing initiative.
 - The emergence of the Campy Growers and their development alongside the Camperdown Growing Hub and now established as a major urban food growing facility producing tonnes of vegetables annually.
 - Continued development of the community food growing network with 30 projects highlighted in the draft Local Food Growing Strategy at Appendix 1.

4.5 The new draft Local Food Growing Strategy

- 4.5.1 In addition to the achievements made by the local food growing community and identifying the legislative requirements to construct an additional allotment site, the draft Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the role that local food production plays in developing a Local Good Food Nation Plan as required by the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 which must be published by April 2028.
- 4.5.2 The Dundee Local Food Growing Strategy is a key delivery plan that supports the objectives of Dundee's Climate Action Plan and Net Zero Transition Plan. It contributes to emissions reduction and promoting sustainable food systems as well as engaging communities in climate positive action. It also delivers wider benefits for health and wellbeing, and the just transition, helping create a greener, fairer and more climate-resilient Dundee.
- 4.5.3 The success of the Local Food Growing Strategy relies on the involvement of a number of partners and third sector agencies. With this in mind 2 rounds of consultation have taken place with key stakeholders who have helped to shape the draft strategy at Appendix 1.
- 4.5.4 The draft Local Food Growing Strategy identifies the challenges and opportunities to community growing and discusses the development of further community growing spaces. The strategy also proposes a number of actions under the themes of policy / strategy, supporting existing community growing, expansion of community growing, promotion of community growing and

the provision of allotments. There is also a map showing existing projects and a number of interesting case studies are included at Appendix 2.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment to identify impacts on Equality & Diversity, Fairness and Poverty, Environmental and Corporate Risk. An impact, positive or negative, on one or more of these issues was identified. An appropriate senior manager has checked and agreed with this assessment. A copy of the Integrated Impact Assessment showing the impacts and accompanying benefits off / mitigating factors for them is included as Appendices to this report.

6 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Council Leadership Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

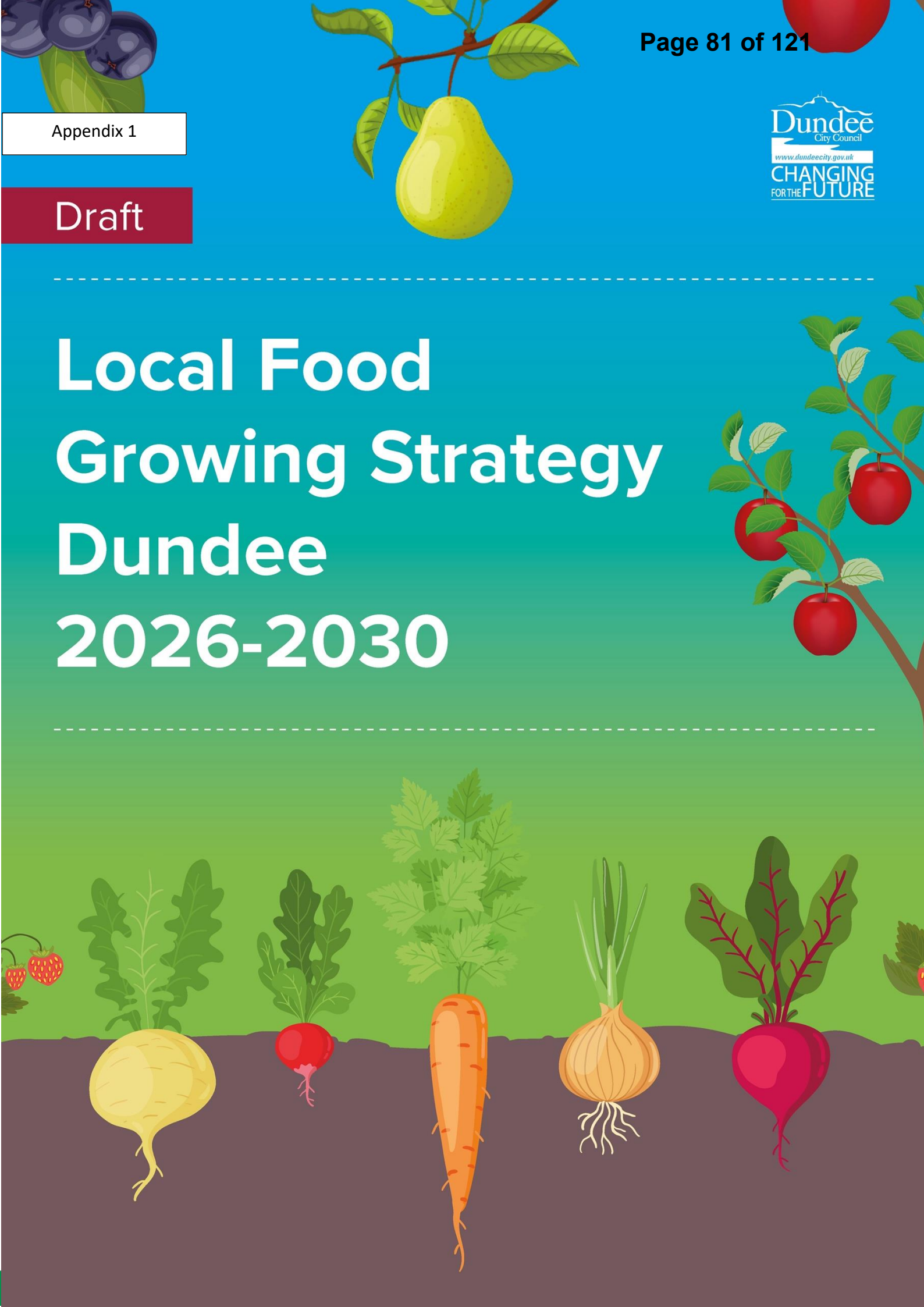
- 7.1 None.

Tony Boyle
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

23 July 2026

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Local Food Growing Strategy Dundee 2026-2030



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Introduction

Since the publication of Dundee's first Local Food Growing Strategy (2020-2025), the amount of land under community food cultivation has increased by 6 hectares whilst the population of the city has remained stable at just under 150,000.

Food security and food poverty are major issues nationally, internationally and for people here in Dundee, which have become more critical in recent years. These topics are highlighted in the City and Council plans. Food growing is also referenced in ward-based local plans.

Dundee City Council's Climate Choices Fund was established as part of DCC's Participatory Budgeting commitment and has been a major contributor to food growing projects across the city.

The many, varied and inspirational food growing projects in Dundee are described in this Local Food Growing Strategy, as well as the highlights and achievements during the lifetime of Dundee's first Local Food Growing Strategy.

The Strategy also considers the requirements of Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 with regards to allotment sites and discusses the opportunities for further expansion whilst recognising associated challenges. The Strategy's action plan seeks to take forward new community growing spaces, support existing initiatives and includes actions which give a strategic context for community growing.

This is the second five-year Local Food Growing Strategy for Dundee. The first was published in the Summer of 2020, as the world emerged from the COVID 19 pandemic.

Vision

Dundee will build on its enviable resource of community growing spaces and allotments, working with communities, local people and organisations to enable them to access 'grow your own' opportunities, whilst recognising the value of such growing spaces in reducing food insecurity, improving health and wellbeing, creating resilient communities, combatting climate change and protecting biodiversity.

Aims

- Health and Wellbeing: Promoting physical and mental wellbeing through outdoor activity, practical skill development, and improved access to fresh, nutritious produce.
- Environmental Sustainability: Reducing carbon impact and packaging by minimising food miles, while enhancing biodiversity and supporting sustainable green spaces.
- Community Cohesion: Encouraging social interaction, reducing isolation, and strengthening community pride and self-esteem.
- Food Security and Equity: Supporting local food resilience, addressing food poverty, and reducing reliance on global supply chains.
- Education and Skills: Building knowledge across all age groups on food provenance, sustainable production, and waste reduction.

This local food growing strategy seeks to:-

- consolidate and support existing growing spaces
- work with partners and local people to develop existing growing spaces, share skills and resources, identify and develop additional spaces for growing and develop new local growing spaces
- promote good environmental practice in growing spaces
- support innovative solutions for encouraging, 'grow your own', through development opportunities and existing infrastructure
- Integrate, 'grow your own' opportunities into existing strategic plans, processes and structures



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Context

The benefits of community food growing and allotments are well recognised. Appendix 1 gives an illustrative summary. This is also further supported by international, national and local strategy and policy.

The main legislative driver for the production of Local Food Growing Strategies is Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 which seeks to empower communities by improving access to land for food growing, helping more people grow their own produce and supporting food security. The Act requires local authorities to prepare a Food Growing Strategy which identifies land suitable for allotments and other community growing opportunities, explains how additional growing space will be provided when demand requires action under statutory waiting list thresholds, and sets out how provision will support communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage. Local authorities must review their Food Growing Strategy every five years.

Local Food Growing Strategy 2020-2025

The action plan associated with the 2020-2025 strategy was ambitious in its breadth and extent. However, it is estimated that approximately 80% of actions have been achieved, with others ongoing or superseded.

With support from Dundee City Council, much of this success is attributable to organisations such as the MAXwell Centre, Scottish Action for Mental Health (SAMH) and the Campy Growers, who have taken local community food growing to a new level of engagement, productivity and inspirational projects, supported in large part by Dundee City Council's Climate Choices Fund.

This fund was launched in 2022 this funding was directed by participatory budgeting. It has been invaluable in helping to staff and equip local food growing projects, with funding paying salaries for support staff, sinking boreholes and providing polytunnels (tough polytunnels):

- First round: £385,000 – 34% awarded to 4 community food growing projects.
- Second round: £279,647 – 63% awarded to 4 community food growing projects.
- Third round: £106,762 – 81% awarded to 4 community food growing project.

The [MAXwell](#) Centre facilitated the [Grow Dundee](#) network (established in June 2022), **promoting and connecting food growing projects** as well as taking on more staff to engage their community, focused on their urban garden and the food from it. The Dawson Park Community Garden, managed by SAMH have diversified into community growing by taking on a disused bowling green incorporating permaculture principles and forest gardening.

Bolstered by £1million grant from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund and financial support from Dundee City Council which enabled the construction and opening of the **Camperdown Growing Hub** in 2023, the [Campy Growers](#) have established a major urban food growing facility producing tonnes of vegetables annually, with three members of staff and a new SCIO (Camperdown Growing Collective), also set up in 2023 to make it happen. (See Case Study) Several tonnes of fresh fruit and veg are produced at the site and used for cooking sessions and volunteer meals. Excess is distributed to local food larders and community cafes, with a Community Supported Agriculture veg box delivery scheme being re-introduced in 2026. This system allows people to sponsor the charity by a monthly donation, which includes delivery of two veg boxes per month in season. Part of the delivery includes 'referral' boxes, which are delivered free to families referred by local health/community workers so those who are less able to afford the subscription can also benefit from Campy Growers' organic, fresh produce.

The Criminal Justice Service's Community Payback team have been instrumental in being able to respond rapidly to **requests for support for food-growing** facilities in settings such as sheltered housing and nursery/primary schools. A small revenue budget allocated to community growing from Dundee City Council delivers a process using local materials, recycled green waste and 'free' labour/transport that delivers useful tasks for people serving community sentences, to provide growing facilities.



A **Community Gardens Network** (see Appendix 2 for Case Study) has been funded with a part-time coordinator post based at the MAXwell Centre. Bimonthly meetings take place, and members are connected by WhatsApp to ask for/offer help/material. This is a vibrant, enthusiastic and dynamic group who are mutually supportive and committed. This network enables further publicity and engagement to take place with stalls and events advertised throughout the group so people can turn up to help out.

The network has been very successful in helping garden participants to feel less isolated and has contributed to the expansion of special interest groups such as, 'Seed Saving' and 'Permaculture'. The [Grow Dundee](#) blog also operates out of the MAXwell Centre offering advice and signposting for interested new gardeners. This was specifically funded by the Climate Choices fund, illustrating the synergy between directed climate-positive funding and the development of community food growing. Dundee now has a pool of experienced, skilled and well-supported community focused gardeners who are making sure the gardens are productive and welcoming.

The independent bimonthly **Community Garden Network** meetings have largely superseded the need for the annual community gardens network meeting organised by Dundee City Council, which ceased due to the pandemic, with regular attendances of 50 or 60 people rotating around different garden venues.

Transition Dundee has become re-established in the city. With a variety of projects aimed at cultural shift towards a more sustainable society, Transition Dundee have encompassed local food and food waste particularly with their Gleaning project. This concept makes links between farmers and a group of volunteers to harvest crops that are not economically viable but are nourishing and local. This system redirects large quantities of otherwise wasted crops such as cauliflower and berries into the network of community larders.

The requirement for major contractors to allocate a proportion of their contract value to community benefits has recently been streamlined with the creation of the [Community Wishes](#) portal. This facility enables community groups to feed in their needs to the council system, where contractors can view and select which needs they are able to fulfil. As an example, the Campy Growers were able to replace a failed second-hand printer.

Growing spaces were built at the homeless hostel **Lily Walker Centre** in 2021 (see Appendix 2 for Case Study) and Fintry open space in 2022. Further infrastructure was added to the Whitfield bowling green community garden in 2024.

The Dandelion project, now known as the Fair Growing Green, adopted a redundant bowling green at **Fairmuir Park**. It was established in 2022 by the University of Dundee, with funding from the Scottish Government. Partnership with local people and Friends of Fairmuir Park has been key to its success.

The MAXwell Centre has been funded to set up a **garden share scheme** and has been linking underused garden space with aspiring gardeners e.g. the Lily Walker Centre.

Several raised beds and a wildflower meadow have been established at the Brington Place **Sheltered Housing** unit in 2024. This has enabled links between the older residents and the Craigie Barns nursery children.

Dundee City Council has found it challenging to facilitate community growing in residential **back greens and communal gardens**. Despite attempts at different locations in Kirkton, Charleston and Maryfield and with considerable community consultation and residents' support it has not been possible to establish gardens successfully due to lack of complete buy in from residents. The 'Baffin St Backies' are an exception where strong local initiative has made a success of the community rejuvenation of the back areas with DCC support. Residents at Glenmarkie Terrace have recently established communal beds in the back green to the rear of their properties.

Funded by the Nature Restoration Fund as part of a 12ha tree planting project and through funding from the Council, fruit tree planting has taken place in **Riverside Nature Park** in 2022/23. Some trees are thriving, but they have required robust protection against rabbit damage. Orchard trees have also been planted in **Templeton Woods** and **Baxter Park**.



Upscaling urban food growing was highlighted as an action in the previous Local Food Growing Strategy using the old Council plant nursery in Camperdown Park for a major, new community growing project opened in early 2023. The Camperdown Growing Hub and Campy Growers have been a major focus of Dundee's local food growing movement, using a 4-hectare site for community food production (see case study). The Campy Growers produce significant amounts of fresh veg, publicising and popularising local food growing and consumption. However, it is acknowledged that there is significant work to be done to achieve the cultural shift necessary to embed local food growing as the default.

Allotment provision has been supported by the digitisation of the council's allotment process, by enabling plot holders to pay for their plots online and registering onto the allotment waiting list. **Allotment regulations** as required by Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 were published and approved in January 2020.

The first Dundee Local Food Growing Strategy was scheduled for publication in April 2020 but was delayed by the global disruption caused by the **COVID 19** pandemic. As such the 2020 -2025 strategy did not reference the effects of the pandemic on local food growing in Dundee.

During the pandemic, despite lockdowns and infection-control protection, allotments and community gardens were identified as locations for people to get out of the house in the open air. With restrictions in place, green spaces in general played an increased and significant role in society enabling people to meet each other to socialise. This appreciation of the benefits of greenspace saw a burgeoning interest in outdoor activities, particularly cycling, nature and community growing. Allotments quickly became highly sought after, with waiting lists growing significantly. DCC's waiting list increased eightfold and, despite a review in 2024, remains high at approximately 450 names.

Community gardens offer a safe way to connect with people and nature, giving them a vital lifeline with friendship, support and healthy food. Local organisations have reported that pandemic-driven interest in food growing has persisted.

Provision of Allotments and Community Growing Spaces

Dundee brings a wealth of experience and good practice to this updated Local Food Growing Strategy. For many years Dundee City Council has developed a system of leased allotment sites managed by independent Allotment Associations, as well as directly managing a number of allotment sites. There are also several privately run allotment sites. Added to these traditional allotment sites are the community growing spaces which are concentrated in areas of deprivation and regeneration.

The distribution of allotments, community gardens and other food growing areas is shown in Appendix 3.

Allotment Sites

Dundee has 14 allotment sites varying in size and tenure. Dundee City Council owns and directly manages 4 sites, the Council own but lease a further 7 sites which are managed by allotment associations. There are a further 4 allotment sites which are private.

Directly Managed Sites	Number of Plots	Waiting List (May 2026)
Ancrum Road	27	450
Arklay Terrace South	14	
MacAulay Street	16	
Magdalen Green	22	
Total	79	



Leased Sites	Number of Plots	Waiting List (May 2026)
City Road	63	52
Kinnaird	104	9
Murrayfield	40	5
Old Craigie Road	79	11
South Road	8	not known
Stirling Park	49	1
West Law	87	1
Total	430	79

Private Allotment Sites:

Allotment Site	Number of Plots
Clepington Working Mens	82
Gardner Street	31
Magdalen Green	13
Total	126

Waiting Lists

The waiting lists above provide information from May 2026. Under section 111 of the Act, Dundee City Council is obligated to maintain waiting lists for all sites it owns. Under Section 112 of the Act, Dundee City Council also has a duty to provide allotment sites so that: -

- sufficient allotments are provided to keep the waiting list referred to in section 111 at no more than half of the authority's current number of allotments; and,
- a person entered on the waiting list does not remain on it for a continuous period of more than 5 years.

If the above conditions are not met, Dundee City Council would be duty bound to identify additional space for the development of allotments.

Although private sites are excluded from the legislation, the information above is included to provide an accurate reflection of allotment plot provision in Dundee.

Conclusions drawn from the analysis of the above figures and from consultation with Allotment Associations are that as of May 2026: -

- 509 allotment plots are provided throughout Dundee
- The total number of people on the waiting lists for Dundee City Council's directly managed or leased sites is 529.
- The waiting list represents over 100% of the total plots available (over the 50% described by the Act)
- The average waiting time for plots is monitored by a new digital system which has been in place since 2024.

Dundee has made positive progress in supporting and expanding local food growing opportunities, including the improved management of existing allotment sites and a review of the waiting list. The Act requires local authorities to identify land that could be used to provide additional allotment space where required. In the 2020–2025 Local Food Growing Strategy, there was no requirement to provide additional allotment sites as the thresholds detailed under Section 112 of the Act had not been exceeded.



However, as set out above, demand for allotments now exceeds the statutory threshold in relation to the number of available plots. Dundee City Council is therefore required to take reasonable steps to provide additional allotment opportunities during the lifetime of this Strategy. Potential delivery of this is included in the action plan at page 13.

A 2025 [survey](#) by APSE (Association of Public Service Excellence) into the state of the UK's allotments found that over 31% of local authorities had waiting lists of over 1,000. Likewise, 63% of local authorities reported extended waiting times for available plots.

Other legislative requirements

The Act required Dundee City Council to make Allotment regulations. These regulations were agreed by Dundee City Council ([12-2020](#)) and distributed to all sites in January 2020.

The Act defines an allotment as being approximately 250 square metres and obligates local authorities to charge for allotments on this basis. Over the lifetime of the previous Local Food Growing Strategy all directly managed allotment plots have been accurately mapped using GIS. Each plot holder is now charged per square metre using this data.

In 2026/27 the annual cost for a 250 square metre Dundee City Council allotment plot was £67.50 (£57.50 concession). This compares favourably with the costs reported in the 2025 APSE survey where only 22% of local authorities reported lower figures.

Community Growing Spaces

In addition to the traditional allotment sites described above, there is a wide and inspiring network of community growing spaces throughout Dundee, which have been developed by organisations and supported by Dundee City Council (DCC), with set up, ongoing advice, compost delivery, provision of seeds and materials. A number of Council developed projects are now run by local communities. The list at Appendix 2 gives further information about Dundee's Community Growing Spaces with case studies describing the breadth of these inspirational projects.

Development of further Community Growing Spaces

Dundee City comprises 6226 hectares of land. Of that, 24 ha. (0.4%) is given over specifically to food growing in the form of allotments or community gardens. Since the 2020-2025 Local Food Strategy was approved, an additional 6 ha. of community growing space has been created.

The 2020-2025 Local Food Growing Strategy estimated that, assuming the bulk of people's calorific intake will still come from arable farm production of staple grains and potatoes, a significant part of Dundee's 150,000 population's fruit and vegetable needs could theoretically be grown within the city limits, utilising residual open spaces which are not covered by other functions e.g. sports pitches, woodland, formal and private gardens.

Although it is potentially possible to achieve the above, realising this aspiration / vision on the ground will entail the application of dedicated resources, skills development and awareness raising of local communities and decision makers.

Opportunities for further development of Community Growing Spaces (Land Use)

The geographical spread of allotment sites and community growing spaces shows that there are opportunities for establishing further growing areas in certain parts of the city. Many of the existing community growing spaces are at capacity and there is demand for additional allotment plots.

Communal back greens and housing corners

As identified in the first Local Food Growing Strategy there is considerable untapped potential for community growing in communal greenspaces at the rear of both tenemental and low-rise housing developments, for example in the public housing areas to the north of the Kingsway. Despite concerted



efforts this potential remains to be fully realised. However, there are green shoots of success, for example at Baffin Street, where residents are using their communal greenspace for growing.

Likewise, housing corners also offer potential. Nature Restoration Funding from the Scottish Government has supported the planting of fruit trees in housing corners around Court Street. Transition Dundee have also utilised a corner in the same area for a pop-up community growing space.

It is acknowledged that realising the potential, with the delivery of successful and fully supported initiatives in communal areas, takes considerable officer support. The Council will provide support to residents in taking their own ideas forward and provide advice.

Open Spaces

With a tight administrative boundary, Dundee City Council is very urban in nature. Despite this, the city has a wealth of green and open space. However, competing uses for these spaces makes the identification of a site suitable for the creation of further allotment sites challenging. However, as previously described section 112 of the Act the numbers on Dundee's allotment waiting lists requires the Council to identify and create further allotment opportunities.

Successful community growing projects have been established at 6 of the 9 former Dundee City Council bowling greens and are flourishing. Of the remaining 3, one has been leased to a local football club, one is used by a community hub, the Change Centre, and the other is currently being promoted as an opportunity for community asset transfer.

Private Gardens

Another area of considerable potential for the production of fruit, vegetables and herbs is private gardens. At 1170ha. they make up approximately 20% of open space in Dundee.

Using private gardens can significantly increase food security, as well as having wider community benefit. Innovative schemes such as garden share have been implemented on a small scale by the MAXwell centre in Dundee (see Lily Walker case study), where gardens are cultivated by others who have no gardens. Those involved in the garden share scheme keep these spaces productive fruit and vegetables and alleviate social isolation in the process. Garden sharing helps to reduce loneliness in older, isolated people and is likely to effectively improve nutrition.

The MAXwell Centre has utilised funding from the Climate Choices to establish the 'Big Grow' project which had an initial aim to support 100 Hilltown families to grow their own food. The support includes access to Discovery compost and tools, workshops on food growing and cooking and regular communication. The Big Grow project also attracted organisations such as the groundbreaking Scottish Prison Service's Bella Centre, which has growing space within its boundary available to its residents.

Educational Facilities

Many schools and nurseries have set up growing spaces within their grounds or have adopted nearby facilities for pupils to use. Kings Park School has an extensive food growing facility (see case studies). Woodlea Children's Centre has orchard trees and raised beds. Forthill Primary School has a polytunnel and orchard. Craigowl, Mill o' Mains, St Mary's and Eastern Primary Schools all have growing facilities. In the first half of 2026, Greenfield Academy established a growing facility at the Drumgeith Community Campus.

The Scottish Government's Curriculum for Excellence encourages the routine use of the outdoors to support health, wellbeing and wider learning across the general school term and is heavily embedded as an expectation within the national curriculum. Food growing spaces in schools help to achieve the use of the outdoors to enhance learning across the curriculum. This Local Food Growing Strategy supports the development of growing spaces in schools particularly when they are introduced into the design of new schools.



Opportunities for supporting further development of Community Growing Spaces (Policy, Partnership, Practice)

Land use planning

The National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), published in 2023, forms part of the statutory development plan alongside the Local Development Plan. It recognises the wide benefits of community food growing, particularly with reference to health and wellbeing and tackling inequalities as an integral part of placemaking.. This aligns with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

Policy 23 in NPF4 recommends that LDPs should support development proposals which have a positive effect on health and gives an example of proposals that include community food growing and allotments.

Therefore, the review and preparation of Dundee's next Local Development Plan during the lifetime of this Local Food Growing Strategy should create opportunities for healthier places, including through land for community food growing and allotments.

The establishment of additional allotment sites in Dundee is required by section 112 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and therefore new allotments will be established during the lifetime of this Local Food Growing Strategy

The Local Development Plan, added to a mandatory responsibility to produce an open space strategy in 2026 will strengthen the future development of community growing.

Local Good Food Nation Plan

Under the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 all local authorities including Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside are legally required to develop their own Local Good Food Nation Plans. The target date for the production of the plan is 1st April 2028. Local food growing will form part of the wide-ranging scope of the plan and will sit alongside themes such as procurement, healthy weight and tackling diet-related health inequalities, education and the sourcing of public meals (e.g. in schools and hospitals).

Strengthening Partnership Working

Since the publication of the first Local Food Growing Strategy, the [Grow Dundee](#) network has been established (see Appendix 2 for Case Study). This independent network of community groups is supported by a coordinator based in one of Dundee's long-established projects, the MAXwell centre. This vibrant, award-winning community centre and sustainable food garden is in an area of deprivation in the Hilltown and was established to support local wellbeing.

The MAXwell centre operates as a community hub connecting people through urban gardening, cooking, youth work and support services such as welfare advice and community food initiatives. The MAXwell centre provides an inspirational model for others to follow and has been significant in supporting and encouraging the expansion of community growing throughout the city, particularly working extensively through volunteers.

The MAXwell Centre has been at the forefront of the Camperdown Growing Hub development. Since their establishment in 2021, the Campy Growers urban food growing project (see Appendix 2 for Case Study) is now well-equipped with infrastructure and has secured 2 years' worth of salary funding for 2 members of staff. This foundation will allow excellent development as they engage with volunteers and organise sowing plans, seed saving, permaculture plantings etc. that will make future years more productive and less labour-intensive. Embedding this project in Dundee gives a template of how to develop further sites for food production and the costs involved. Several sites are now equipped with polycrubs as protected growing space will be invaluable in the future.

With the connectivity of social media and the work of the community garden network over the last few years, the people involved in local food growing now know each other and are able to welcome new participants who have engaged with community gardening communications or decided to seek out local growing projects. These foundations offer the movement the resilience it needs to sustain itself. The



development of 'on the ground' projects alongside enhanced community connectivity form a secure base for this movement to grow and thrive.

The Eden Project Scotland will be a landmark development for Dundee transforming a former gas works into a beacon for regeneration and green tourism. It will encourage visitors to think, feel and act differently by revealing what can be learnt from and inspired by nature. Whilst the visitor facility is being developed, Eden Project Scotland are carrying out community consultation and collaboration. An example of this being the introduction of the establishment of contemporary guilds inspired by Dundee's Nine Incorporated Trades. The Campy Growers are their first growers' guild member.

Dundee City Council, NHS Tayside and further education bodies support the growth of the community growing movement in the city. Principally this is through officer time and limited funding. The Council has a Community Allotment Officer who can provide expertise and knowledge to fledgling projects as well as low-cost materials. Integral to this support is the involvement of the Criminal Justice Service through the Community Payback Team who are able to use these materials by constructing raised beds and filling them with Discovery Compost. The work of the Community Allotment Officer is greatly supported by council officers working in communities. This supporting work is vital to the sustainability of growing projects.

Communication

Continuing the success of the Community Gardens Network is key to supporting existing initiatives, encouraging new ventures and ensuring this engaged community learns and passes on good practice. In addition to the bi-monthly in person meet ups, the up-to-date website, managed by the MAXwell Centre, offering a range of resources, events and learning opportunities is an essential method of communication to the gardening community, individuals and organisations. However, sustaining all of this is a challenge especially as the network is supported by a dedicated paid employee whose funding is not guaranteed.

Since the last version of the Strategy was published the Council has updated its website information in relation to allotments and community growing. This will be further improved by reviewing and republishing its welcome / good practice guide for allotments.

Incredible Edible / Right to grow

The 'Right to Grow' campaign, led by the charity, 'Incredible Edible', is a movement urging local authorities to give communities the legal right to cultivate food and nature on available public land. It aims to reduce barriers, secure free zero-cost leases and help communities bid on land if it is put up for sale. The campaign was designed to tackle barriers to community gardening.

It is the intention of this Local Food Growing Strategy to investigate the feasibility of Dundee adopting the Right to Grow principles and campaign.

Promoting Permaculture

Permaculture is an approach to land management and settlement design that draws on patterns found in natural ecosystems, using whole-systems thinking to inform practices such as regenerative agriculture, urban planning and community resilience. It emphasises working with nature rather than against it. As both a practical framework and an ethical movement, permaculture promotes actions that protect people and the environment while fairly sharing resources. It focuses on observing and reinforcing natural processes that create abundance, encouraging diverse, interconnected systems and inclusive, collaborative decision-making that builds resilient and adaptive communities.

In the context of global challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss and food insecurity, permaculture offers practical solutions by enhancing local food production, restoring ecosystems and reducing reliance on manmade fertilisers. It strengthens community resilience through shared learning and collective action. In Dundee, permaculture principles are already evident in community growing projects, supported by an active local group and initiatives such as the Campy Growers. There is further potential for the city to expand these approaches through partnerships, low-impact maintenance



practices and the repurposing of underused greenspaces into food forests, helping to build long-term environmental and community resilience.

Challenges to developing further community growing

Climate change

The five years since the first strategy was published have been punctuated by extreme weather events, which have an obvious effect on food growing both at scale and in smaller, local initiatives. Drought in spring has been a feature, leading to loss of early seedlings and greater water demands on an already strained system. Multiple storms have destroyed infrastructure, putting financial burdens on small organisations and damaging crops. The unpredictable nature of our changing climate makes food-growing a challenge, with late/early frosts, extreme rainfall or lack of it, variable sunshine and heat all impacting on the success or failure of various crops. Diversity is key here as failure of some can be compensated by success of others depending on conditions.

A seed saving group has been set up with the aim of establishing a supply of seeds adapted to local conditions, further reducing Dundee's reliance on commercial businesses for vegetable growing. The Community Gardens Network has connected Dundee's growers, facilitating distribution of skills, seedlings and growing space.

Funding and resources

From delivering a community growing project to successfully sustaining it in the long term requires funding and resources. In the past, projects have benefited from Council funding, with the most recent being Camperdown Growing Hub where, in addition to a £1million award from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, Dundee City Council identified £200,000 in order to develop the Camperdown Growing Hub.

Groups have been successful in applications to other funding bodies, such as the National Lottery. In 2025 the Campy Growers had their National Lottery application approved which has enabled them to recruit staff. In time it is hoped that the organisation becomes self-sustaining.

Over the last three years growing organisations have had the opportunity to bid into the Council's Climate Choices fund (see page 2 for further details). Community growing organisations have benefitted from approximately 60% of the total funding available. Also, from the Council the 2025 Neighbourhood Capital Fund has supported various growing projects. The Climate Choices Fund and Neighbourhood Capital Fund have been instrumental in helping to sustain and develop Dundee's growing network and there would be significant support from these groups if it were to continue.

Despite the financial challenges facing the development of community growing spaces, there is considerable experience in attracting funding in Dundee. This can be found in well-established projects including MAXwell Centre and Ninewells Community Gardens.

Identification of land for growing

Dundee City Council's administrative boundary encircles the urbanised area of the city. As a result, there is limited unused space for any kind of redevelopment or development. Competing uses for 'spare' land compounds the identification of further land for growing, particularly establishing new allotment sites.

Contamination considerations

Dundee's industrial past has inevitably led to contamination of the land in certain areas. If soil contamination is considered to be a significant risk, taking into account the previous use of the land and its current condition, soil testing may be necessary to ensure that the area is safe for food growing.



Consultation

In early 2026, initial consultation was carried out with the Grow Dundee Network. Members were specifically asked to identify spaces where additional allotment sites could be established. The responses ranged from expanding existing sites to greenspaces and vacant brown land where development had previously been located. These were mapped for discussion with council colleagues to identify feasible sites. The group also identified additional growing projects which had been instigated since the last version of the strategy. The initial consultation also raised the following comments: -

Comment	Action Taken
A more ambitious vision	Vision updated
Setting an aim of a certain percentage of Dundee land to be used for food growing	Feasibility of taking this forward included in action plan
Mapping land ownership	Not within scope of Local Food Growing Strategy
Integrate food growing with other social services to make it more accessible	Will be considered as part of local Good Food Nation Plan
Funding to pay for community food growing facilitators in every community centre	Identifying sources of funding included in action plan
More examples of food growing in the city centre	Expansion of local food growing included as part of the action plan
Instigate Right to Grow – Incredible edible	Feasibility included in strategy action plan

Further consultation on this draft document was carried out in June 2026 with key stakeholders. Generally, the draft document was well received and minor amendments suggested which have been incorporated into the document.



Local Food Growing Action Plan 2026-2030

Action	Lead organisation and partners	Measure of success	Timescale
Policy and Strategy			
Collaborate with partnership organisations in the production of Dundee Local Good Food Nation Plan as required by the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 recognising the role of local food production in delivering outcomes.	NHS Tayside, Tayside Local Authorities, Community Partners e.g. Community Food Network, Nourish Scotland, Bioregioning Tayside	Local Good Food Nation Plan published	April 2028
Dundee's Local Development Plan (LDP) recognises the wide benefits of community food growing and allotments.	Dundee City Council (DCC)	Adopted LDP creates opportunities for community food growing and allotments	2028
Carry out a feasibility study to determine the impact and practicalities of setting a % target for land used for food growing in Dundee	DCC	Percentage determined	December 2030
Build on the 62% reduction of herbicide use achieved since 2018/19 thereby reducing the reliance on glyphosate to manage parks and greenspaces and consider the introduction of alternative weed control options, where possible.	DCC	Reduction in the amount of herbicide applied to parks and greenspaces.	December 2030
Assess the feasibility of adopting the Right to Grow in Dundee.	Dundee City Council (DCC), Community Growing Network, Incredible Edible	Recommendation considered by elected members	December 2027
Investigate the feasibility of Dundee becoming a signatory of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact https://www.milanurbanfoodpolicypact.org/	DCC	Recommendation considered by elected members	Autumn 2028
Supporting Existing Community Growing			
Support and recognise the positive contribution of Transition Dundee with their gleaning (and other) projects, redistributing unharvested crops, providing fresh food to residents and helping reduce food waste.	DCC, Transition Dundee	Annual increase in amount of redistributed unharvested crops.	2026-2030



Food distribution; work with the Community Gardens Network to generate branding for community grown food.	DCC, Community Gardens Network,	Branding launched	Spring 2027
Expansion of Community Growing			
Faith in Communities – engender, support and prioritise local food growing in church and other religious institutional grounds.	Faith in Communities, Community Food Network,	2 in place	December 2027
Support and collaborate with GrowDundee and the Community Gardens Network to help proliferate and expand food growing in public and private spaces.	DCC, Community Gardens Network	Increase in number of community growing projects	Annually monitored
Collaborate with RSPB, Friends groups, third sector organisations, registered social landlords etc to identify, establish and maintain micro food-growing sites across the city.	DCC, third sector organisations	10 micro-food growing sites identified and established	April 2030
Working in partnership expand permaculture opportunities in appropriate spaces throughout the city.	DCC, local permaculture group, third sector organisations	Permaculture sites identified	October 2027
Provision of allotments			
As determined by section 112 of Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2016 develop an additional allotment site in Dundee:			
Identify potential site(s) for additional allotments	DCC	Identification of potential allotment site(s)	December 2026
Carry out consultation with internal and external stakeholders	DCC, local residents	Site(s) identified	April 2027
Identify funding for allotment development	DCC	Budget allocated	August 2027
Development of allotment site	DCC	Allotment site developed	December 2027
Regenerate Arklay Terrace Allotments – make best use of existing sites / manage efficiently and effectively	DCC	All allotment plots let	April 2027
Promotion of Community Growing			
Highlight and recognise the mutually positive impacts of the intersection of food growing with climate action (emissions reduction) and biodiversity restoration.	DCC (Climate and Sustainability Team), Changemakers, Friends groups, RSPB	Ensure that the implementation of initiatives consider food growing, climate and biodiversity restoration.	Ongoing



Support and collaborate with Bioregioning Tayside to promote sustainable local food production.	DCC, Bioregioning Tayside	Bioregioning Tayside	Ongoing
Identify suitable sources of funding to promote, support and expand Dundee's Community Growing Network	DCC, Grow Dundee	Funding secured	Annual
Review and re-publish Dundee City Council's Allotment Welcome Park – Good Practice Guide	DCC	Welcome pack republished	December 2027
Monitoring and Evaluation			
Local Food Growing Strategy subject to monitoring via DCC Pentana system and through Neighbourhood Services service plan.	DCC	Regular monitoring through DCC systems	Quarterly
Review the Local Food Growing Strategy in 2030 and present updated strategy to elected members in 2031.	DCC	Updated strategy published in 2030	2030/31



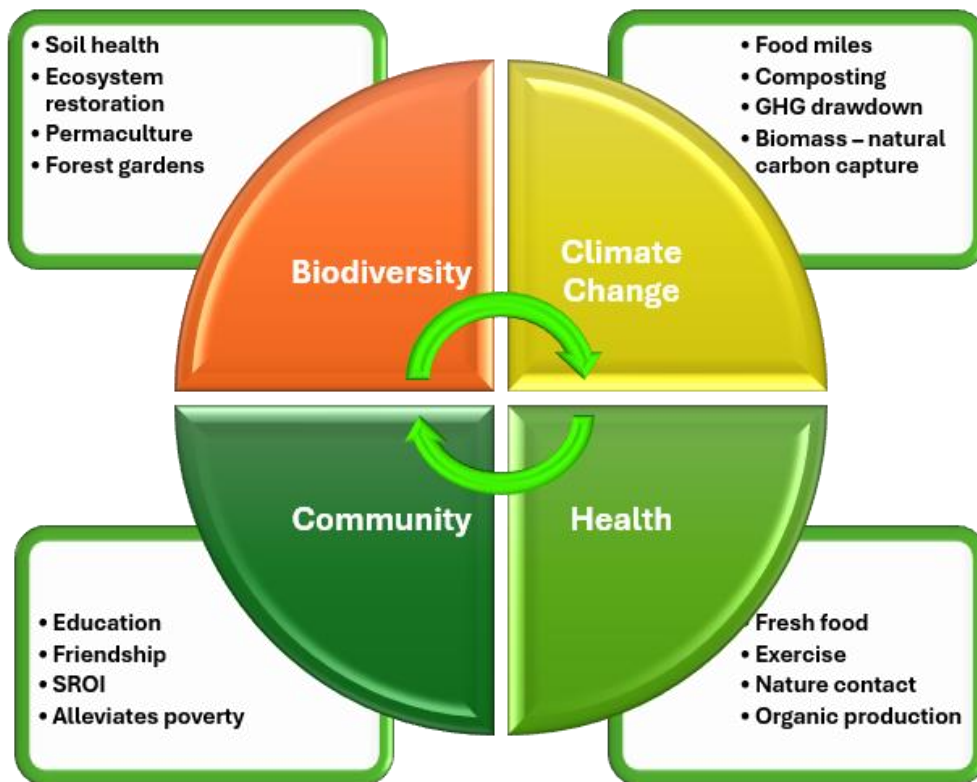
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Appendix 1 – the benefits of Community Food Growing and Strategic Context

The benefits of Community Food Growing

It is important that community food growing is recognised for all the varied benefits it offers. [Edible Estates](#) lists an exhaustive selection of benefits and [Social Farms and Gardens](#) lists links to published research evidencing these benefits.

The benefits of community food growing:



Note: SROI – Social Return on Investment, GHG – Greenhouse Gas

Context

International

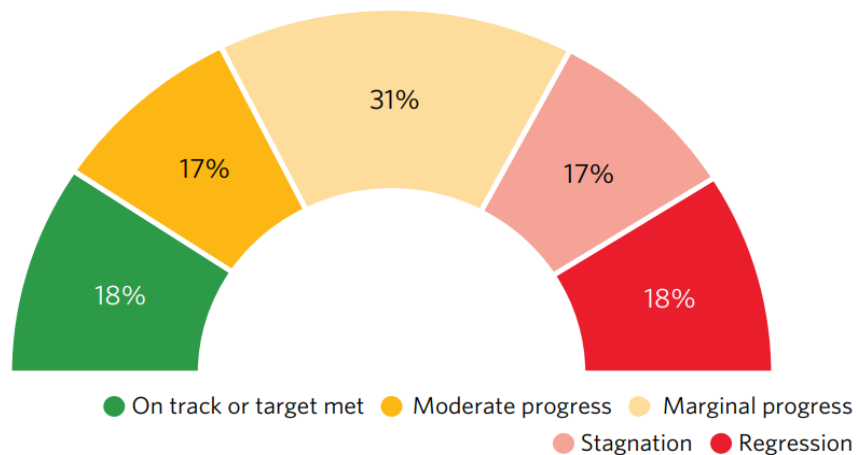
The vast majority of food production and its transport has developed into a significant, global industrial system which has an impact, from its greenhouse gas emissions and negative effects on habitats and ecosystems. The purpose of the Local Food Growing Strategy is to identify pathways and projects that can help to reduce emissions and facilitate a cultural shift towards local food production, resulting in a more sustainable, resilient and healthy food culture. Dundee City Council signed up to the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration in 2021 (report [234-2021](#) refers), which was formerly presented at COP26 (Conference of the Parties 2026) and outlines changes that can help achieve this. There are now over 100 signatories from six continents. Signatories include small towns, rural municipalities, cities, mega cities, states such as Catalonia in Spain and Cross River State in Nigeria, and two national governments: Scotland and Honduras.

In the previous iteration of Dundee's Local Food Growing Strategy, reference was made to the [UN's Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs). Although food is referenced throughout the SDGs, particular



focus is given to it in Goal 2 – ‘No Hunger’. With 5 years remaining to achieve the goals, the 2025 SDGs report published by the UN recognises that ‘despite notable progress, the pace of change remains insufficient to meet our 2030 commitments’.

Overall progress across targets based on 2015–2025 global aggregate data



Note: Percentages do not add up to 100 per cent due to rounding.

Addressing food systems is acknowledged to be one of 6 key pathways where concentrated effort can drive systemic change.

The 2025 report acknowledges that making the progress required on the key SDG of No Hunger, requires urgent action to strengthen food systems, support small-scale producers, improve services, ensure access to nutritious diets and address structural drivers of food price volatility. Dundee’s Local Food Growing Strategy seeks to strengthen the city’s ability to ‘grow your own’ and support those wishing to provide fresh fruit and vegetables to those close to them from family to community.

National

In June 2025 the Scottish Government published the first National Good Food Nation Plan. This was a result of legislative commitments made in the **Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022**, which includes the requirement that all local authorities to publish Local Good Food Nation Plans by April 2028. The Good Food Nation Plan represents how the Scottish Government intends to work collectively to meet their Good Food Nation ambitions. In a Good Food Nation, the people of Scotland can access and enjoy food that keeps them happy and healthy. Scotland’s food industry continues to thrive and grow. The environment is protected, biodiversity loss reversed, and the country’s net zero ambitions achieved.

The Good Food Nation Plan recognises the significance of local food growing under:-

- Outcome 2 – Scotland’s food system is sustainable and contributes to a flourishing natural environment on our land and in our waters. It supports our net zero and climate adaptation ambitions and plays an important role in maintaining and improving animal health and welfare and in restoring and regenerating biodiversity.
- Outcome 3 – Scotland’s food environment and wider food system enables and promotes a physically and mentally healthy population. This leads to the prevention of, and a reduction in, diet-related conditions.
- Outcome 5 – People and communities are empowered to participate in, and shape, their food system. Scotland has a thriving food culture with a population who are educated about good and sustainable food.

As expected, the Good Food Nation Plan references the duty on Scottish local authorities to publish Local Food Growing Strategies. However, the national Good Food Nation Plan recognises that there is no collective indicator to establish the success of Local Food Growing Strategies. The Good Food



Nation Plan also commits the Scottish Government to support local authorities to meet the legislative duties under the **Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015**.

Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 (the Act) aims to empower communities across Scotland and for those wanting to 'grow your own', it improves access to land for food growing purposes, giving more people the opportunity to grow their own food and improving food security.

Section 119 of the Act requires local authorities to include the following in their strategies:-

- land identified in the area that could be used for allotment sites;
- other land identified in the local authority area which could be used by a community to grow vegetables, fruit, herbs or flowers;
- a description of how the authority intends to increase the provision of allotments or other land for community growing, should the authority be required to take reasonable steps under section 112(1); and
- when detailing how the authority intends to increase the provision of allotment sites and community growing areas of land in its area as it is required to take reasonable steps under section 112(1), a description of whether and how this will apply to communities which experience socio-economic disadvantage

Section 112 above describes the points at which the local authority must identify additional land for food growing. These trigger points are based on the allotment waiting lists for both directly managed and leased sites.

Section 120 requires the local authority to review the local food growing strategy every 5 years. The Act also places a duty on local authorities to produce an allotment report for its area each year.

In response to the Scottish Parliament's inquiry into the delivery of Part 9 of the Act in 2022, the Scottish Government recognised the hard work and resilience of Local Government, particularly during the COVID 19 pandemic, Brexit and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The Government also highlighted the challenge of future financial years. However, the Government assured the Parliament that it took all the recommendations of the inquiry seriously and pledged to do its utmost to provide support for the improvements suggested to allow Part 9 of the Act to support allotments and community growing initiatives to reach their full potential across the wide range of policy areas highlighted.

Local

The Dundee Partnership's **City Plan for Dundee 2022-2032** sets out the outcomes that partners will seek to improve, which in turn should improve the quality of life of the residents of Dundee, with a particular focus on reducing inequality and poverty, improving the city's economy and tackling climate change.

Whilst not explicitly referenced, local food growing can contribute to the strategic priorities of the plan:-

- Reduce child poverty and inequalities in incomes, education and health
- Deliver Inclusive Economic Growth (including community wealth building)
- Tackle climate change and reach net zero emissions by 2045.

However, Locality Community Plans explicitly reference food growing and allotments whilst recognising the role they have in sustainability, reducing food insecurity and the benefits to the environment and health.

The **Council Plan 2022-2027** sets out 5 priorities building on those in the City Plan: -

- Reduce child poverty and inequalities in incomes, education and health
- Deliver Inclusive Economic Growth (including community wealth building)
- Tackle climate change and reach net zero emissions by 2045.
- Build resilient and empowered communities
- Design a modern Council.



The Council Plan references food growing as having a role in servicing climate change requirements, reducing emissions and improving resilience. This plan identifies the Local Food Growing Strategy as a key strategy supporting climate action.

Under the **Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022** all local authorities are required to produce local Good Food Nation Plans. Although the relevant legislation had not been enacted at the time of writing this Local Food Growing Strategy it is anticipated that the Dundee Good Food Nation Plan will be published during the lifetime of this plan. This Local Food Growing Strategy will be included in the Dundee Good Food Nation Plan, which will be supported by earlier efforts to establish Dundee as a Sustainable Food Place.

Other key strategies and plans include the Local Development Plan, Climate Action Plan and Biodiversity Action Plan.



Appendix 2 – Community Growing Spaces and case studies

Community Growing Spaces

Site	Description	Organisation
Ancrum Road Allotment	Plot 8 in existing allotment site. DCC built with community involvement and run by Lochee Community Gardeners. Produce used by a community café. Consists of raised beds, polytunnel, greenhouse, growing in the ground and a shed.	Lochee Community Gardeners
Arklay Terrace (North)	Surplus hard-core storage yard developed by DCC as community growing space with raised beds, orchard and polytunnel. Community shed.	Plot holder committee
Ardler Garden	Developed in 2016 by DCC with 16 raised beds either cultivated by local organisations or members of the public. A volunteer is on site one morning/week and facilitates a nursery group using one of the beds.	Local people / organisations
Boomerang Centre	Several raised beds at front of building	Room to Be cultivating beds.
Campy Growers	Large food-growing project established on disused plant nursery site in Camperdown Country Park. See case study.	Camperdown Growing Collective SCIO/DCC
Douglas Community Garden	Built by DCC in 2013/14. Leased to Douglas Community Spaces Group for 25 years. They have 20 raised beds (1m x 3.5m) and a communal orchard.	Douglas Community Spaces
Dudhope Community Garden	Small number of raised beds and orchard developed by Bharatiya Ashram. Charity community centre in one of the most deprived areas of Dundee.	Bharatiya Ashram
Dundee Therapy Garden	The site is leased from DCC, reusing a disused bowling green in Dudhope Park and is specifically for veterans and military services. The project focuses on improving mental health and is run by a Dundee-based charity. It has many raised beds, a polytunnel and orchard.	Dundee Therapy Garden
Dundee University Botanic Gardens	Botanic Gardens has orchard and 8 raised beds for student growing. University Campus has 20 raised beds and fruit areas for students resident in university accommodation.	Dundee University
Dawson Park Community Garden	The demonstration garden is now a community garden space used mainly for therapeutic gardening and is managed by SAMH through an agreement with DCC. Other organisations such as and NHS Dundonald Centre, Hillcrest Futures and Broughty ferry in Bloom use it. SAMH took over adjacent bowling green in 2021 as a community growing space, growing vegetables and fruit.	Scottish Action for Mental Health (SAMH)
Every1's garden	The centre and garden are on land rented from the church. Four members of staff are associated with the garden space with others in main centre. They run school plots and a summer garden club involving four Primary Schools. Funding sources include Rank Foundation, Lloyds TSB, Big Lottery, Children in Need, People's postcode lottery and Dundee Partnership.	Maxwell Centre
Fairmuir Community Garden	Former bowling green with associated pavilion. This was developed in collaboration with the Dandelion Project which had funding for a year and established raised beds, a polytunnel and supported the community group for that time.	Friends of Fairmuir Park.
Fintry Community Garden	Early pilot project to the south of the Finmill Centre which is part of an aspirational initiative. Community designed. Raised beds built by Criminal Justice Team. Group were funded to construct a polytunnel.	Local community



Fruit Bowls - Lochee Park	Disused, double bowling green developed by DCC as orchard, raised beds and polytunnel – see case study.	DCC and local community
Giving Garden - Menzieshill	Parish Church growing fresh vegetables for foodbank. Direct extension to church. The site has a polytunnel and it is also used by the local primary school.	Menzieshill Parish Church
Kerr Street	A local group of residents have taken a space over from DCC that once was a playpark/greenspace and have organised it themselves. Agreement with DCC for use. The site has raised beds, social space and biodiversity planting.	Local residents
Lyon Street	Project established in back green areas. Volunteer led winning an award from Dundee and Angus College.	Local residents
Menzieshill Community Garden	Built by DCC with external funding next to new Primary School and community centre. 35 raised beds, Portakabin, polytunnel, and toilet.	DCC / Local community
Ninewells Community Garden	Therapeutic garden registered as a SCIO. Volunteer-led with focus on health improvement, encouraging use by patients from adjacent hospital. Member of staff. Developed with significant external funding. Leaf Room used as a meeting space.	Ninewells Community Garden
Old Piggery	North East facing; currently under construction and orchard trees planted. Built by Community Justice Team for use by clients.	Criminal Justice Service through the Community Payback Team
Overgate Community Garden (William Gardner Square)	Developed by Dundee and Angus College and Bonnie Dundee in partnership with the Overgate shopping centre. Some in ground growing and flowers established with herb garden	Bonnie Dundee
St. Mary's	Several raised beds and an orchard on church land and was built by the community justice team. The garden is run by a worker employed by the St Mary's Community Centre and is used by local people and groups. Produce supplied to church community café. Possible expansion.	St Mary's Community Church
Tay View	Terraced space developed by DCC has ground level growing plots and an orchard. Plots vary in size depending on gardener's needs. Total area of cultivation excluding orchard area is about 1000 m2.	Plot holder committee
The Attic	Youth Diversionary Project that has a small garden at the back of their shop unit space. It has raised beds and an orchard. Rented shop and use of land at rear by agreement with DCC	The Attic in Kirkton
The Friary	Land and small polytunnel. Church owned, who host a few community groups e.g. The Reconnection Project. RSBP has recently started developing the site for biodiversity.	Friary Church, RSBP
Uppertunity	Uppertunity offer vocational work for people with learning difficulties. Based at The Circle in Dudhope Castle, they have created growing spaces within the grounds for education, biodiversity and relaxation	Uppertunity
Wee Glenmarkie Gardens	Local residents have transformed an unmaintained part of their back green areas into a growing facility to bring neighbours together and grow fresh food. Funded by the Changemakers, a local couple have worked hard to clear litter and build beds while engaging people to join in.	Local residents
Whitfield Community Garden	Disused bowling green taken over and developed by DCC and established local gardening group - left their allotment plot to run the community garden. Fruit trees, polytunnel and raised beds.	Root and Branch local community group.



Whorterbank Tattie Patch	Established by DCC and One Parent Families Scotland as a pilot for a larger community garden. Now run by 'The Laughter Club' and St. Mary's P.S. who have installed raised beds	St Mary's Primary School
Whorterbank Community Garden	15 raised beds have been taken on by individual residents, young families and local organisations. Orchard space with nut trees as well as top fruit.	Local community tenants' association and Lochee Larder.
Victoria Garden	Asset transfer to charity organisation interested in community food. Disused bowling green in Victoria Park developed as orchard, raised beds and polytunnel.	Yusuf Youth Initiative (YYI)
YMCA Community Garden	This garden at the rear of the YMCA in Broughty Ferry has a number of raised beds for vegetable production and fruit trees.	Broughty Ferry YMCA

Whilst the table above captures the majority of community initiatives in Dundee, it is acknowledged that this not an exhaustive list. However, it should be noted that most of the original community growing projects featured in the first Local Food Growing Strategy have been sustained. The list now includes 32 projects, an increase of 9 compared with the 2020–2025 Strategy. For school growing spaces see Educational Facilities on page 7.

Case studies:

1. Camperdown Growing Hub and the Campy Growers

An action to establish a large-scale food growing project at Camperdown Park in the redundant 8-acre plant nursery was contained in the first edition Local Food Growing Strategy.

A successful £1million council bid to the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund and topped up by £200,000 of Dundee City Council funding enabled the construction of a community facility including kitchen, toilets, a cold-store and community space with a lean-to greenhouse. The construction of the building had sustainability at its core using locally produced timber, incorporating natural insulation, an air source heat pump, PVs and battery storage. Two quality and large polytunnels were also refurbished under the funding.



Alongside the physical construction of the Camperdown Growing Hub a small community of people came together in May of 2021 to start clearing, restoring and growing food in a corner of the site. As the Council retreated and compacted their stock of ornamentals, so the 'campysinas' took over more and more space for food. The site had been covered in weed-proof fabric and old carpet for decades, which was lifted to reveal severely compacted, dead soil. A system was adopted, having consulted various sources on sustainable (low-input) vegetable growing, to use a broadfork to loosen and aerate the soil, adding as much organic matter as possible on top. In addition to the two polytunnels the 'love' tunnel was restored that winter: equipped with crop bars, covered with

recycled scaffolding mesh and raised beds built.

In the succeeding seasons, 3 more tunnels have been installed, and the existing frames of 3 mesh tunnels have been restored into production. Growing medium is mostly the Council's recycled Discovery compost, which is exceptionally well-suited for vegetable growing. 400 metres of raised beds have been



installed, along with water-efficient, drip-line irrigation. A germination chamber was salvaged from the redundant glasshouses and restored to functionality. This speeds up bulk seed germination to only a few days, allowing for rapid and efficient generation of large numbers of seedlings in the Spring.

The site now resembles a commercial-standard production facility, but with the community at heart and show-casing sustainable growing systems and techniques. Regular volunteers have worked daily to keep the plants producing. Alongside the physical veg-growing, a charitable organisation has been developed to run the facility in partnership with the Council.

The Campy Growers became a SCIO in 2023 and have been successful in acquiring funding to pay for members of staff. There is now a gardener and development worker as well as a part-time handyperson who are all salaried to make the site work, coordinate volunteers and engage with the local community. Tonnes of fresh veg are grown, harvested and distributed every year. Further grant funding has allowed the installation of a borehole as well as an outdoor covered space for workshops and meetings. Regular events and outreach work are undertaken, and the reputation of the Campy Growers is now firmly established in Dundee as the go-to place for food-growing expertise.



2. Dundee Community Growing Network (as written by Nicola Macnee – Grow Dundee Network Coordinator)

The Community Growing network was established in the city as an informal group in 2022. The aim is to support each growing space and exchange skills and information to make sustainable food growing a reality in Dundee.

We have gone from strength to strength and now have a funded post to facilitate the network (funded by Dundee Climate Fund). We have developed a website where we can post resources, events and volunteer opportunities, [Grow Dundee](#). Most of the sites are supported by volunteers.

As a network we meet 4-5 times a year and have training days and events interspersed in between.

2025 events

January: Dundee wide Seed Swap at Campy; RSPB supported Bird ID/Feeding workshop; Grow Dundee meeting at Camperdown Growing Hub - Growing Progress updates

April: Grow Dundee meeting at the Maxwell- iNaturalist Training and Dye Plants Project with V&A

June: Launch of the new updated Grow Dundee map; Mini Garden Display Event in collaboration with the V&A as part of Garden Futures (funded by the V&A)

July: Network Picnic at Ninewells Community Garden.

September: Dundee Seed Savers- Tomato seed Celebration Event; attended the Dundee Uni Student Sustainability Fair to promote the network and recruit volunteers; Grow Dundee meeting at Victoria Gardens; Buglife pollinator project collaboration, Permaculture project launch (Foundation Scotland funding through Dundee Changemakers hub)

November: Attending the Christmas light switch on event to promote the network.



Through the Year: Various dye plant workshops delivered by Jek McAllister funded by the V&A

We aim to work in collaboration with other organisations across the city. We have worked with RSPB, Dundee City Council, DVVA, Froglife, Scrapantics, Eden Communities and Keep Scotland Beautiful amongst others. We have benefited from our collaborations with creative and sustainable sectors in making us think out of the box at times. (e.g. The Art & Nature Collective - allows 5 garden spaces to work with 5 local artists on a chosen project).

Our Grow Dundee [map](#) now shows 29 different community growing spaces. At our meetings we usually have between 15 and 20 participants from across the city. Our city-wide events where we engage with the public (e.g. Food Festival or mini gardens at the V&A) are especially well supported by the network.

The network is a great source of information and advice. We also share a lot of resources (plants, seeds, compost) and aim to grow as sustainably as we can. One of our strengths is the knowledge and skill sharing opportunities we create. We have covered topics like composting, marketing, fundraising and seed saving. As a small, mainly volunteer-based group it is very heartening that we are able to do so much and try to improve and raise the profile of this type of work. The benefits to individuals and communities can be huge.



3. The Lily Walker Centre (as written by Nicola Macnee – Grow Dundee Network Coordinator)

The Lily Walker Centre is a unit for temporary housing of the homeless while more permanent housing is allocated. There is space for 11 residents with limited communal space; the unit is located in a deprived inner-city neighbourhood. There was a large, empty outdoor space containing mowed grass and a CCTV tower. Collaboration with the Housing Service generated a plan to landscape the area and create space for food growing, as well as fruit tree/shrub planting. Consultation with local organisations led to informal agreements with a local church and the MAXwell Centre – a well-established local charity known for its community growing project Every 1's Garden. The plan was taking shape as the pandemic started and experienced long delays, during which time the staff had changed, interest waned and agreements forgotten. Planting and building raised beds went ahead, but the project lacked an outside tap and the crucial participants! Meanwhile, the MAXwell Centre was expanding its community growing credentials by establishing a garden share scheme (see Local Food Growing Strategy 2020).

Claire started coming to the Maxwell centre in the Spring of 2024 after she walked past the garden gate and saw the outdoor events timetable. She came along to a few workshops and then she joined the Big Grow project (a 'Climate choices' funded project set up in 2024 to encourage food growing in the local area).





In the winter of 24/25, she came along to the cooking group, the gardener's cafe and joined the tool library and became a garden partner. She really embraced what we do. In the Spring of 2025, she was garden partnered with the Lily Walker centre. The beds have been transformed from weedy patches to bountiful veg filled spaces. As a Big Grower Claire was able to access all her seeds and veg plants at the Maxwell (pic attached), plus fertiliser and compost.

It took time and effort to clear the beds and remove the weeds, but family and friends helped. Claire borrowed tools from the tool library and is now reaping the rewards of her harvest. Pumpkins and squashes, herbs, broccoli plus loads of beans. She has handed in vegetable

supplies to the kitchen at the Lily Walker centre.

4. Fruit Bowls Community Garden (as written by Harold Meikle – Chair of the Fruit Bowls gardeners)

Fruit Bowls is located on Ancrum Road, next to Lochee Park. It is an area which used to be two bowling greens. On one side we have a pond, our orchard, various types of fruit bushes, a polytunnel, the amazing raspberry maze and raised beds, on the other we have more raised beds and an open, grassy space.

Each raised bed is allocated to an individual or group and everyone is able to grow whatever they wish in their bed. People have grown various things including carrots, potatoes, kohlrabi, pumpkins, courgettes and sweetcorn. We like to think that anyone can join us in growing produce in the garden and welcome new additions to our growing group all the time.

Throughout the year we have events; we have had live music, a summer BBQ, art in the garden making pinhole cameras and using light-sensitive inks. We also have events where gardeners can bring along food that they have made with produce from the garden.



5. Kingspark School

Kingspark School caters for children who have complex additional support needs, many have additional physical disabilities or medical problems. The school was relocated into a new building in extensive grounds a number of years ago. A progressive Head Teacher and Depute both spear-headed outdoor learning for the pupils and worked with Dundee City Council (Community Allotment Officer and Community Justice) to create an enviable outdoor growing space. There are several raised beds and planters, fruit trees and bushes and a polycrub installed. The area also has a chicken run. Two teachers have specific responsibility for this outdoor space and have developed it to be an integral part of the school's offering.



6. Clepington Gardens and Allotment Association (CGAA) SCIO (as written by Ann Coull, secretary to CGAA)

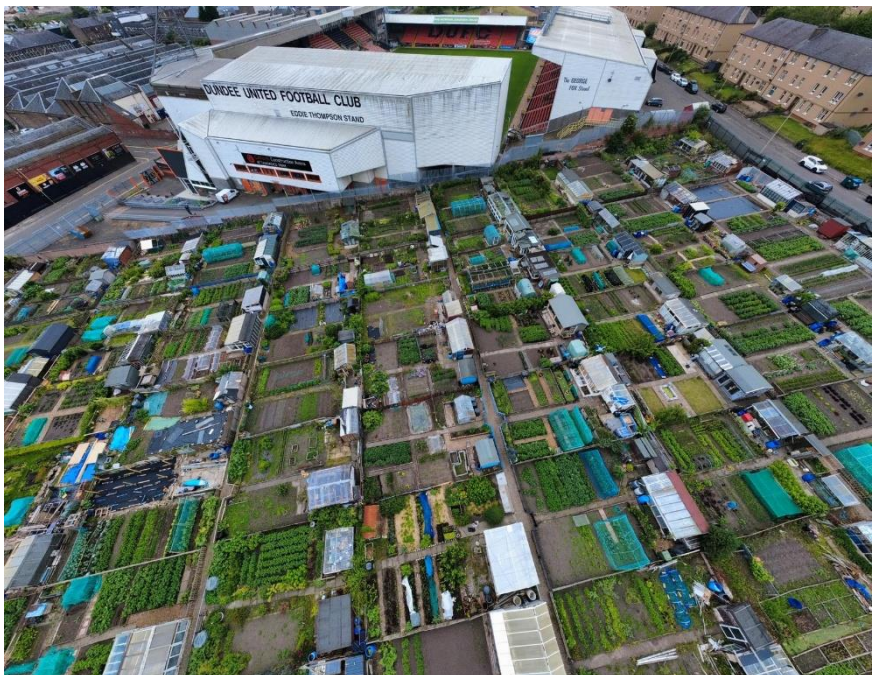
The iconic plots next to Tannadice Football Stadium are probably what comes to most Dundonians' minds when you mention allotments. The site has been allotment plots since 1865, owned by the William Neish Trust and run by the committee of plot-holders. Originally called the Clepington Working Men's Allotments, known to most as the Arklay St plots, now reborn as the CGAA SCIO, for reasons which will become clear.

Gardeners have quietly grown fruit and veg in the land for generations, but in January 2025, the committee was informed that the Trust wished to give up ownership and they were offered the opportunity to buy the site. This offer came with a price tag of £100,000 and a time-scale of 18 months. This is not a huge amount of money for an urban piece of land of this size, but it's a huge amount of money for a wee group of allotmenters to find. This came as a shock to the gardeners and there was a pervasive fear that, if they couldn't find the cash, the site would be sold off for potential carparking/3G pitches/housing developments etc.

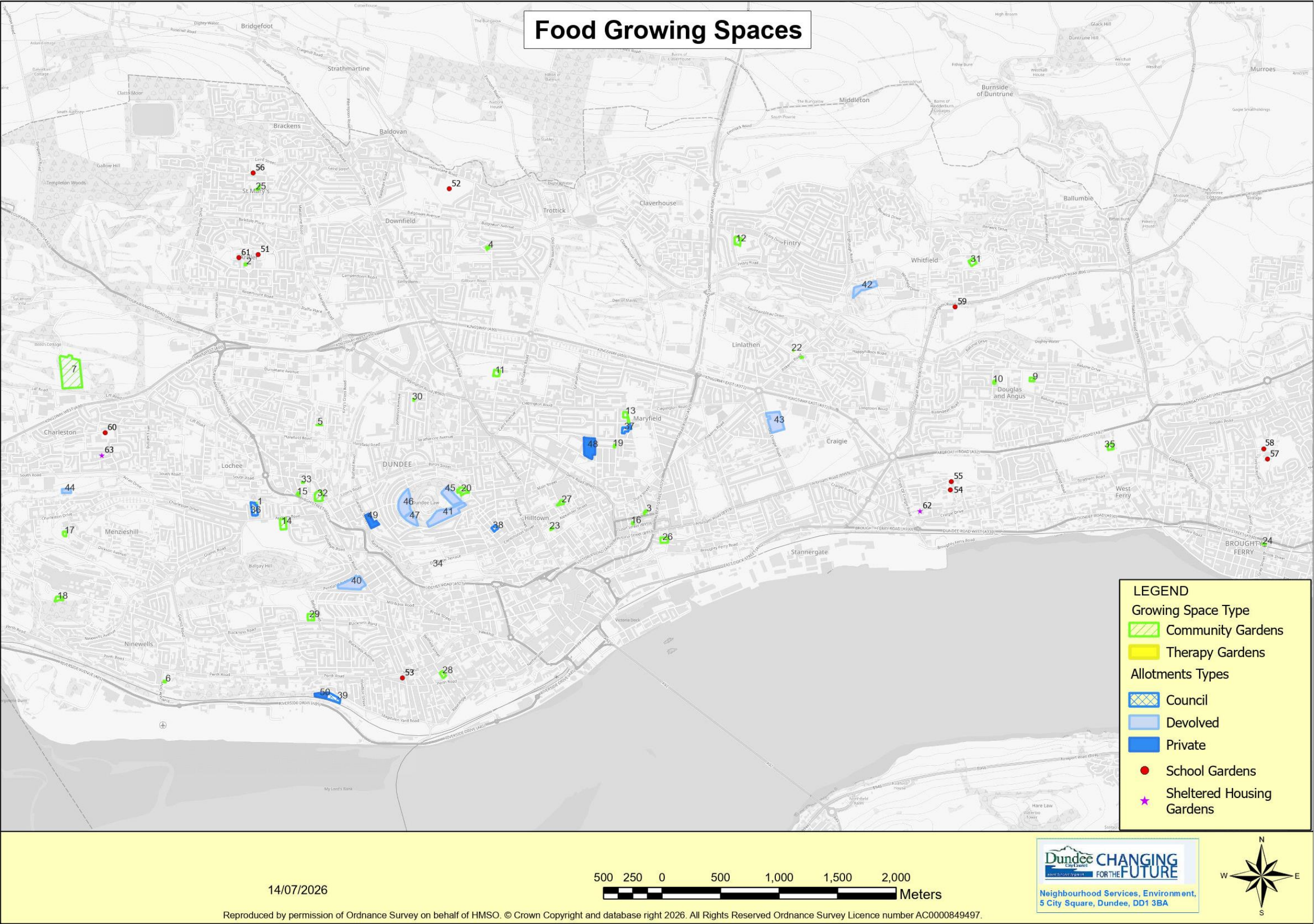
As other gardeners throughout the city were poring over seed catalogues and getting ready for the coming season, members of CGAA wasted no time and planned a strategic approach to take their campaign forward. They started by applying to OSCR for charitable status, which they were successful in securing in May 2025. They set up a Fundraising Group and a Funding Application Group to apply for funding, then they set to work.

Fundraising started with letters to local businesses, a GoFundMe page was established and a schedule of events was planned. Funding applications were submitted; some being more successful than others. Interviews with the local TV station and newspaper were offered, as well as meetings with local councillors, MSPs and other interested parties.

Eighteen months on and through great determination, motivation and support the members of CGAA have secured the finances to buy the site and working on the associated costs for conveyancing and land transfer. By the end of 2026 the Association should be the proud owners and custodians of these productive plots which they have gardened for over a century.



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List of Dundee's Growing Spaces (please refer to preceding map)**Community Gardens**

1. Ancrum Road Community Plot
2. Ardler
3. Arthurstone
4. Attic
5. Beechwood Beds
6. Botanic Gardens
7. Campy Growers
8. Dawson Park
9. Douglas
10. Douglas Medical Centre
11. Fair Growing Green
12. Fintry
13. Foxglove
14. Fruit Bowls
15. Gray's Lane
16. Lyon Street
17. Menzieshill
18. Ninewells
19. North Court Street
20. Old Piggery
21. Pitairlie Road
22. Pitkerro Pirate Park
23. Poppy Land
24. Queen Street
25. St Mary's
26. Tay View
27. The MAXwell Centre
28. University of Dundee
29. Victoria
30. Wee Glenmarkie
31. Whitfield
32. Whorterbank
33. Whorterbank Tattie Patch

Therapy Gardens

34. Dundee Therapy Garden
35. SAMH Chrysalis Garden

Allotments**Council**

36. Ancrum Road
37. Arklay Terrace
38. Macaulay Street
39. Magdalen Green

Devolved / Leased

40. City Road
41. Kinnaird
42. Murrayfield
43. Old Craigie Road
44. South Road
45. Stirling Park
46. West Law
47. West Law

Private

48. Clepington Gardens and Allotment Association
49. Gardner Street
50. Magdalen Green

Schools

51. Ardler Primary School
52. Baldragon Academy
53. Blackness Primary School
54. Craigiebarns Nursery
55. Craigiebarns Primary School
56. Craigowl Primary School
57. Forthill Nursery
58. Forthill Primary School
59. Greenfield Academy
60. St Clement's Primary School
61. St Fergus Primary School

Sheltered Housing

62. Brington Place
63. Craigowan Road



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Integrated Impact Assessment

Committee Report Number: 180-2026

Document Title: Dundee's Local Food Growing Strategy

Document Type: Strategy

Description:

The production of a Local Food Growing Strategy is a requirement under Part 9 Allotments of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. All local authorities in Scotland have a duty to prepare such a strategy and review it every 5 years. This is the second edition of the Local Food Growing Strategy

Intended Outcome:

The Local Food Growing Strategy's vision is - Dundee will build on its significant resource of community growing spaces and allotments, working with communities, local people and organisations to enable them to access growing opportunities, whilst recognising the value of such growing spaces in reducing food insecurity, improving health and wellbeing, creating resilient communities, combatting climate change and protecting biodiversity.

Period Covered: 24/08/2026 to 31/12/2030

Monitoring:

Dundee's Local Food Growing Strategy contains an action plan which will be implemented during the course of the document's lifetime. The strategy will also be monitored through the Council's Pentana monitoring system.

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Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

Impacts & Implications

Age: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the positive impact that involvement in community growing projects can have on older people (reducing isolation, health and wellbeing) and young people (as an educational resource, health and wellbeing)

Disability: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy seeks to involve all in community food growing.

Gender Reassignment: No Impact

Marriage & Civil Partnership: No Impact

Pregnancy & Maternity: No Impact

Race / Ethnicity: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy seeks to involve all in community food growing.

Religion or Belief: No Impact

Sex: No Impact

Sexual Orientation: No Impact

Are any Human Rights not covered by the Equalities questions above impacted by this report?

No

Fairness & Poverty

Geographic Impacts & Implications

Strathmartine:	Positive
Lochee:	Positive
Coldside:	Positive
Maryfield:	Positive
North East:	Positive
East End:	Positive
The Ferry:	Positive
West End:	Positive

Positive Implications: The Local Food Growing Strategy aims to provide access to community growing throughout Dundee and particularly focuses on areas which experience deprivation, where initiatives provide access to healthy fresh produce.

Household Group Impacts and Implications

Looked After Children & Care Leavers: No Impact

Household Group Impacts and Implications

Carers: No Impact

Lone Parent Families: No Impact

Single Female Households with Children: No Impact

Greater number of children and/or young children: No Impact

Pensioners - single / couple: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy encourages access to community growing opportunities to older people e.g. in care home settings.

Unskilled workers or unemployed: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy supports initiatives which are accessible to unskilled workers or unemployed people and which provide healthy fresh produce.

Serious & enduring mental health problems: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the positive impact that involvement in community growing can have on serious and enduring mental health problems e.g. through Therapy Gardens

Homeless: No Impact

Drug and/or alcohol problems: No Impact

Offenders & Ex-offenders: No Impact

Socio Economic Disadvantage Impacts & Implications

Employment Status: No Impact

Education & Skills: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the part that community food growing initiatives play in enhancing the education and skills of those involved in them.

Income: No Impact

Caring Responsibilities (including Childcare): No Impact

Affordability and accessibility of services: No Impact

Fuel Poverty: No Impact

Cost of Living / Poverty Premium: Positive

A particular focus of the Local Food Growing Strategy is establishing community growing spaces in areas experiencing deprivation enabling local people to access fresh, healthy, low cost fruit and vegetables, thus having a positive impact on the cost of living.

Connectivity / Internet Access: No Impact

Income / Benefit Advice / Income Maximisation No Impact

Employment Opportunities: No Impact

Education: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the opportunities that food growing initiatives have in providing outdoor learning places for children.

Health: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the positive impact that access to community food growing can have on the health of those involved from increasing physical activity to nutrition.

Life Expectancy: No Impact

Mental Health: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the positive impact that access to community food growing can have on the mental health of those involved e.g. access to therapy gardens.

Overweight / Obesity: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the positive impact that access to community food growing can have on the health of those involved from increasing physical activity to nutrition.

Child Health: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the positive impact that access to community food growing can have on the health of those involved from increasing physical activity to nutrition.

Neighbourhood Satisfaction: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the positive impact that access to community food growing can have on bringing local people and communities together thus enhancing community cohesion and neighbourhood satisfaction.

Transport: No Impact

Environment

Climate Change Impacts

Mitigating Greenhouse Gases: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises that local community growing can have a positive impact on climate change e.g. reducing food miles and therefore emissions.

Adapting to the effects of climate change: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy recognises the role of community growing in combatting food insecurity due to climate change.

Resource Use Impacts

Energy efficiency & consumption: No Impact

Prevention, reduction, re-use, recovery or recycling of waste: No Impact

Sustainable Procurement: No Impact

Transport Impacts

Accessible transport provision: No Impact

Sustainable modes of transport: No Impact

Natural Environment Impacts

Air, land & water quality: No Impact

Biodiversity: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy encourages community food growing initiatives to garden for biodiversity. Encouraging pollinators is vital to ensure crop success.

Open & green spaces: Positive

The Local Food Growing Strategy encourages community food growing on appropriate open and greens spaces e.g. redundant bowling greens, communal back areas.

Built Environment Impacts

Built Heritage: No Impact

Housing: No Impact

Is the proposal subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

It has been determined that the proposal will have no or minimal environmental effects. The reason(s) for this determination are set out in the following SEA pre-Screening Determination section

Corporate Risk

Corporate Risk Impacts

Political Reputational Risk: No Impact

Economic/Financial Sustainability / Security & Equipment: No Impact

Social Impact / Safety of Staff & Clients: No Impact

Technological / Business or Service Interruption: No Impact

Environmental: Positive

Implementation of the Local Food Growing Strategy action plan will impact positively on urban green spaces, making them healthier, more diverse, inclusive and attractive.

Legal / Statutory Obligations: No Impact

Organisational / Staffing & Competence: No Impact

Corporate Risk Implications & Mitigation:

The risk implications associated with the subject matter of this report are "business as normal" risks and any increase to the level of risk to the Council is minimal. This is due either to the risk being inherently low or as a result of the risk being transferred in full or in part to another party on a fair and equitable basis. The subject matter is routine and has happened many times before without significant impact.