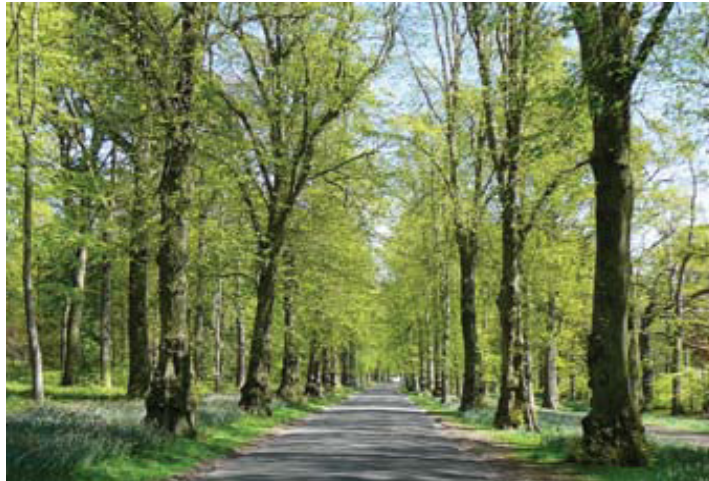


DUNDEE WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT



Introduction & Aims

The purpose of this project is to build upon the previous work undertaken in 18 of Dundee's city woodlands. This was funded by Forestry Commission Scotland through the Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme (SFGS). The objective is to identify a wide range of individually-tailored improvement works for each wood within the context of a long term city-wide strategy. Each woodland management plan will then be delivered with practical project works to further improve public access and enjoyment of the woods. Works will include further access and interpretation development, more improved recreational and educational opportunities, arboreal enhancement and habitat enrichment through continuous woodland programmes.

Due to recent Council budget cuts, external funding is essential for this project to be implemented. In the past, woodland projects have largely been funded by the Forestry Commission's funding scheme - Woodlands In and Around Towns (WIAT), through which the Environment Department has been very successful in gaining grants. Unfortunately it was announced in April this year that due to oversubscription, this scheme is no longer accepting new grant applications until 2014. However, other sources of funding are available. The Scottish Government operate the Scotland Rural Development Programme (SRDP) which provide Woodland Improvement Grants for this type of project. This is the route which the Council are working towards however other sources are also being explored.

Outcomes

Outcomes of the project will include:

- Increased appropriate usage of the woods both by 'formal' means e.g. Ranger and Education Services and by 'informal' users such as walkers, cyclists and horse riders.
- Improved progress towards the position of continuous cover woodland for Dundee's woods.
- Increased public awareness of the flora and fauna of the woods.
- Monitoring and control of vermin access to sensitive areas.
- An increase in the amenity and habitat value of Dundee's woodlands.
- Reduction of exotic and invasive species in favour of native species, promoting natural regeneration towards the goal of continuous cover forest.

Proposal

WHAT

The Woodland Management Plans will contain prescriptions for physical tree work including thinning of the woodland area to remove dead, diseased, damaged, unstable or unsafe trees, creating space and light for healthy trees to grow successfully. In addition to tree work, issues relating to access routes, signage, biodiversity, social activity and site heritage will be addressed.

WHY

It is essential to maintain the city's woodlands for the safety and of users. If woodlands were left to regenerate and grow naturally without maintenance, people would not be able to enjoy this high quality resource. Due to the recent severe storm damage affecting Dundee, it is even more of a priority to attend to the woodland areas and maintain the trees in order to reduce the risk of dangerous wind blow in the future. It is also crucial to promote Dundee's strong arboricultural heritage and to continue to attract locals and visitors to the woodland areas of Dundee for recreation and enjoyment.

WHEN

Gaining funding from the Scottish Government through SRDP is a timely procedure. Therefore it is difficult to gauge when notice of formal approval will be received. The Woodland Management Plans for each of the 18 sites are due to be submitted for approval by early Autumn.

WHERE

- Camperdown Country Park
- Templeton Woods
- Clatto Country Park
- The Law
- Balgay Hill
- Reres Park
- Dawson Park
- Menzieshill
- South Road Park
- Dighty Valley - Panmurefield
- Dighty Valley - West Pitkerro
- Dighty Valley - Arbroath Road
- Dighty Valley - Mill O'Mains
- Dighty Valley - Trottick
- Dighty Valley - Drumgeith
- Riverside Drive East
- Middleton Wood
- Caird Park

Dundee Woodland Management Project

