



Sustrans Community Links Programme

The Community Links Programme is a grant scheme run by Sustrans, with funding from Transport Scotland, for the creation of walking and cycling infrastructure for everyday journeys. It is a key element in Sustrans Scotland's commitment to meeting the vision of the Scottish Government's Cycling Action Plan for Scotland (CAPS) of 10% of trips by bike by 2020.

For 2014/15 Sustrans has allocated over £14 million to help deliver 136 cycling projects across Scotland, including over £3.5 million to projects in Edinburgh and the Lothians. A further £10 million has been allocated for 2015/16, much of it for larger projects continuing from 2014/15.

Statutory bodies, such as local authorities, were invited to submit applications for proposed projects, with a condition that they must at least match fund what they receive from Sustrans. In reality, they are actually set to contribute over £18 million and, therefore, over £32 million will be invested into cycling and walking facilities.

New facilities will include many short links to schools, shops and other useful destinations, as well as bold initiatives which overcome significant barriers. This year, for the first time, the schemes to be funded include a selection of large scale exemplar projects. In Edinburgh and the Lothians there are three such projects: Leith Walk, the Canal-Meadows-Innocent route, and at Almondvale in Livingston. See overleaf for details.



Photo credit: Edinburgh Cycle Chic (edinburghcyclechic.wordpress.com)

Sustrans Scotland

Sustrans makes smarter travel choices possible, desirable and inevitable. We're a leading UK charity enabling people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more of the journeys we make every day. We work with families, communities, policy-makers and partner organisations so that people are able to choose healthier, cleaner and cheaper journeys, with better places and spaces to move through and live in.

Find out more at www.sustrans.org.uk/scotland

EXEMPLAR COMMUNITY LINKS PROJECTS IN EDINBURGH AND THE LoTHIANS

The **City of Edinburgh Council** successfully led eight bids to Sustrans for Community Links Funding and for the first time a University, Edinburgh Napier University, made a successful bid. Sustrans is set to contribute over £2.8 million of 'Community Links' funding towards cycling and walking improvements in Edinburgh in 2014 / 15.

Funding includes the previously-announced money to greatly enhance walking and cycling conditions in Edinburgh Council's redevelopment of Leith Walk. It allows replacement of London Road roundabout by traffic signals, segregated cycle routes up from Pilrig, carefully-designed onroad cycle lanes between Pilrig and the Foot of the Walk, and convenient cycle parking. Overall, the project will mean development of a high quality streetscape along this lively and complex street

which contains more than 1,000 dwellings. Sustrans is delighted to be involved in this huge enhancement of options for walking and cycling.

Edinburgh will also see the development of a route for pedestrians and cyclists linking the Union Canal, the Meadows and National Cycle Network Route 1 at the Innocent Tunnel. Sustrans will contribute £500,000 of 'Community Links' funding, which will be matched by £500,000 from the Council. The project will transform the quality of the National Cycle Network in the area and link East and West Edinburgh to the Tollcross and Southside shops and to the central University area.

The project by Edinburgh Napier University will benefit staff, students and visitors to both Edinburgh College and Edinburgh Napier, in

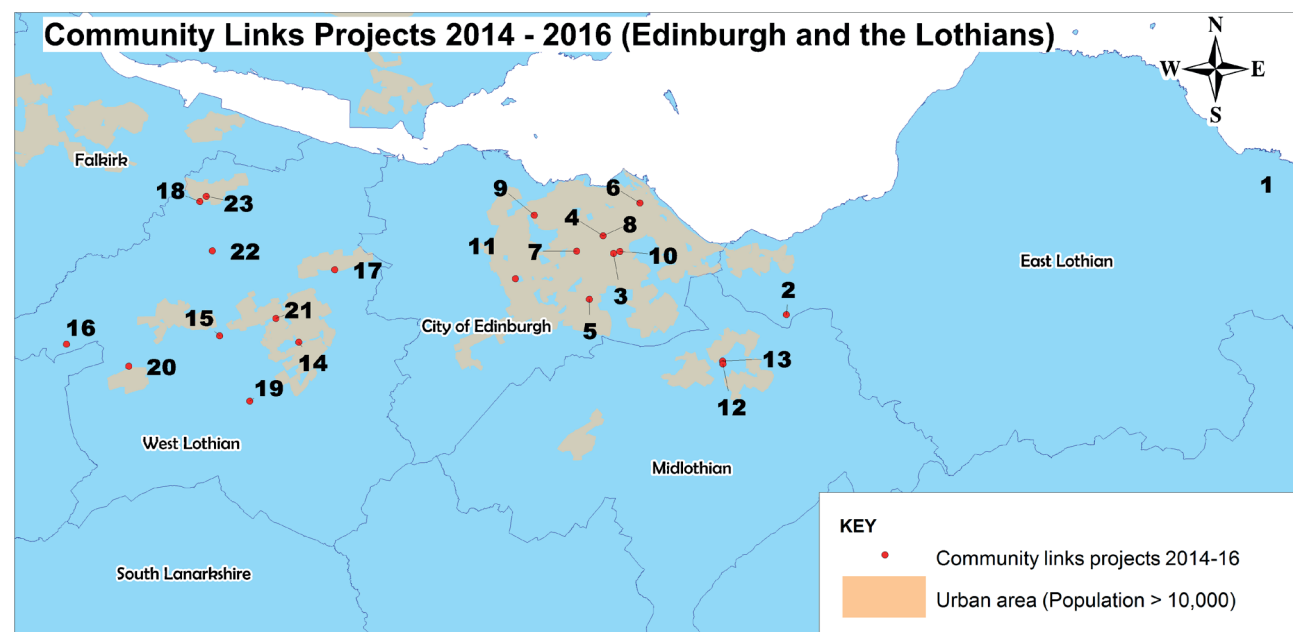
addition to students attending Forrester High and St. Augustine High and members of the general public who cut through both campuses between Calder Road and Bankhead Avenue. It will see a shared cyclist and pedestrian path joining Bankhead Avenue to the Napier Sighthill campus via the Edinburgh College Sighthill campus. This will provide a pleasant route for cyclists and pedestrians to reach public transport services north of both campuses, such as the new Bankhead tram stop and Edinburgh Park Train Station, instead of through a busy car park as at present.

West Lothian Council has been awarded funding for 10 projects. With match funding, this will mean over £3.5 million of new cycling and walking initiatives over the next two years.

West Lothian's 'exemplar' scheme will bring

major improvements for cyclists and pedestrians in and around Almondvale Park in Livingston, with £1.6m invested in the area. National Cycle Network route 75 will be transformed, moving into the park from the main road, and linked by new and upgraded subsidiary routes to the shopping centre, local housing and other useful destinations. The greenspace around the park will also be improved to make the whole area more pleasant for cycling and walking.

Other West Lothian projects include links from local towns to the new rail stations at Armadale and Blackridge, and to the canal towpath from Linlithgow Academy, Linlithgow Leisure Centre, and from Broxburn town centre. An innovative scheme to make the Bathgate Hills rural roads more walking and cycling friendly is also planned.



Map number	Project name
1	Broxburn to Whitesands Linking Path
2	Smeaton Bing Cycleway
3	Innocent Railway Path via the Meadows to the Union Canal Cycle Route
4	Leith to Portobello (Links Place to Constitution St)
5	NCN 1 Improvements (A90 Path)
6	Leith Walk Improvements
7	The Causey Active Travel project
8	Roseburn to Leith Walk via George St.
9	Roseburn Path to Union Canal
10	Family Network Signage (City-wide)
11	Edinburgh College and Edinburgh Napier Bankhead Avenue Access
12	Newbattle Abbey Crescent, Eskbank - path links to Eskbank Station
13	B6392 Dalhousie Road - Footpath Widening (National Cycle Network Route 1)
14	Almondvale Park Corridor
15	B8084 Whitburn to Armadale - Cycle path Provision
16	Blackridge Path Realignment and Access to Station
17	Linlithgow Academy & Sports Centre Links to Union Canal Towpath
18	Starlaw West Roundabout to Boghall Roundabout - Cyclepath Provision
19	Polbeth to West Calder - Cyclepath Upgrade
20	Broxburn Links to Union Canal Towpath
21	Golf Course Road & Braehead Park Links to Union Canal Linlithgow
22	Livingston Network - Wheeling Ramp Installation
23	Bathgate Hills - Cycling and Walking Friendly Roads

Community Links Projects 2014 - 2016 (Scotland wide)

	Number of Projects	Grant 2014/15	Match 2014/15	Grant 2015/16	Match 2015/16
Aberdeen City Council	5	497,023	497,022		
Aberdeenshire Council	7	428,750	428,750	270,000	270,000
Argyll & Bute Council	6	835,000	835,000		
Cairngorms National Park	2	115,000	115,000		
Central Scotland Forest Trust	1	105,000	105,000		
Clackmannanshire Council	1	100,000	100,000		
Clyde Gateway URC	1	50,000	50,000	300,000	300,000
Comhairleanan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council)	2	62,500	62,500		
Dumfries & Galloway Council	3	198,000	198,000		
Dundee Council	2	893,750	3,404,255		
East Ayrshire Council	2	85,000	125,000	51,000	180,000
East Dunbartonshire Council	4	445,000	885,000	600,000	760,000
East Lothian Council	2	69,000	69,000		
East Renfrewshire Council	4	110,000	70,000	175,000	
Edinburgh (City of) Council *	8	2,810,000	390,000	1,800,000	500,000
Edinburgh Napier University	1	25,412	25,412		
Falkirk Council	4	659,425	684,907	186,334	186,334
Fife Council	4	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,245,000	1,245,000
Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership	1	60,500	80,000		
Glasgow City Council	3	390,000	1,140,000	900,000	650,000
Highland Council	6	370,669	370,744	170,000	170,000
HITRANS	2	645,000	645,000		
Inverclyde Council	2	73,500	73,500	250,000	250,000
Lomond & Trossachs National Park	1	33,500	33,500	487,500	487,500
Midlothian Council	2	50,000	51,000	50,000	50,000
Moray Council	2	470,000	402,500	245,000	312,500
North Ayrshire Council	4	350,000	350,000	610,000	610,000
North Lanarkshire Council	3	200,000	360,000	50,000	50,000
Orkney Islands Council	1	25,000	25,000	660,000	660,000
Perth & Kinross Council	12	168,159	159,659		
Renfrewshire Council	4	65,000	95,000		
Scottish Borders Council	6	194,000	194,000		
Scottish Canals	4	665,000	575,000		
Shetland Island Council	1	495,000	495,000	12,500	12,500
South Ayrshire Council	2	174,500	174,500	25,000	
South Lanarkshire Council	5	457,500	457,500	237,500	237,500
Stirling	3	76,500	3,016,500	530,000	50,000
West Dunbartonshire Council	3	139,500	139,500	50,000	50,000
West Lothian Council	10	755,000	745,000	1,055,000	755,000
Grand Total	136	14,547,188	18,827,749	9,959,834	7,786,334

* This includes the Leith Walk funding announced by the Transport Minister in September .