

ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP

The Edinburgh and Lothians Forest Habitat Network Partnership is a joint initiative between:

- Forestry Commission Scotland
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- City of Edinburgh Council
- Midlothian Council
- East Lothian Council
- West Lothian Council
- Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust
- Central Scotland Forest Trust
- Woodland Trust Scotland

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Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust





What is the ELFHNP Vision?

“Edinburgh and the Lothians will have attractive, biodiverse networks of forest, woodlands, greenspaces and semi natural habitats. These networks will contribute to the development of a strong local economy and provide diverse benefits for local residents including recreation, health and well-being. Local people will be actively involved in the planning, creation and development of these networks, which will be key assets for the community.”

What is the Edinburgh & Lothians Forest Habitat Network Partnership?

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The Partnership was established in 2008 to provide a more co-ordinated approach to the development of forestry throughout the Region, to embrace the concept of habitat networks and to promote the associated social and ecological benefits that these can provide. The strategic objectives of the Partnership will be set out for a regional forestry framework which will determine the direction for Forestry policy within the Edinburgh and the Lothians Region over the next 40 years.

Regional Forestry Framework & Action Plan

ELFHNP will deliver this co-ordinated vision through provision of a Regional Forestry Framework & Action Plan with the following key principles:

- To link social, environmental & economic strands of sustainable development
- To use an outcome based approach
- To complement and cross reference existing strategies and plans from forestry, planning, Scottish, UK and European Government
- To use accessible user friendly language
- To add value to what is already happening
- To embrace habitat network concepts as one of a range of mechanisms to promote biodiversity, connectivity and sustainable forest management
- To be inclusive and encourage participation from a wide range of partners
- To promote case study examples of best practice
- To create a mechanism to deliver real benefits on the ground

Strategic Outcomes

- To create an attractive environment for inward investment and economic competitiveness
- To provide biodiversity and green infrastructure benefits
- To improve health and well-being benefits
- To promote empowered communities
- To assist education and lifelong learning through use of the outdoor classroom