

**North Lanarkshire Council**

**Report**

**Enterprise and Housing Committee**

**Kilsyth and The Kelvin Valley Framework and Action Plan  
Appendix: Action Priorities and Project Priorities**

# Action Priorities

## Early Win Actions

Early win actions are easily undertaken and completed quickly with either little or no demand for resources or funding.

- Set up a Stakeholder Forum to deliver the Action Plan (Ref1)
- Adopt the list of projects from this action plan (Ref3)

## Early Win Projects

- Set up an NLC-led steering group to manage Dumbreck Marsh (Ref37)
- Brand Kilsyth with The Kelvin Valley (Ref5)
- Encourage businesses to develop a business working group (Ref16)
- Provide consistent standard of amenities at arrival points catering for needs of all users (Ref30)
- Encourage people to use Kilsyth as a hub from which to explore The Kelvin Valley (Ref38)

## Short Term Actions

Can expect to run from a 12 to 18 month period, are simpler to complete and can help bring a sense of achievement with which to build momentum for delivery of more complex elements of the action plan.

- Explore the creation of workplaces for professionals (Ref20)
- Create promotional resources for Kilsyth Town Centre (Ref23)
- Explore the creation of new or improved traffic free or quiet walking / cycling connections (Ref28)
- Comprehensively connect transport hubs with main attractions (Ref29)
- Identify key weaknesses in active leisure networks (Ref32)
- Encourage Scottish canals to develop facilities / interpretation / accessibility at Auchenstarry - Forth and Clyde Canal Centre (Ref40)

## Medium Term Actions

To deliver these actions it is necessary to lay the groundwork and explore ideas tentatively before beginning the planning stages. Implementation may also have a longer time frame, whether that involves building construction or similar. 18 months - 3 years should be allowed to complete such actions.

- Develop overview elements such as a common branding and a transport strategy (Ref2)
- Clearly identify tourism market (Ref6)
- Consolidate star attractions (Ref7)
- Create and implement a monitoring framework (Ref9)
- Encourage business activity to 'spill out' into Main Street, Kilsyth (Ref14)
- Report on the vacant buildings within Kilsyth town centre (Ref17)
- Develop and implement a comprehensive wayfinding strategy (Ref21)

- Support SPT / bus operators to develop travel planning apps and smart info systems (Ref22)
- Explore opportunities to improve public transport provision (Ref26)
- Implement a cost-effective programme of minor works to improve accessibility (Ref27)
- Feasibility study to create an off road link between Craigmarloch and Banton Loch (Ref35)
- Integrate itineraries with travel options to and within The Kelvin Valley (Ref38)

#### Long Term and Ongoing Actions

Long term actions are often most complex in terms of their size and scale. These things may also require a higher degree of coordination between different groups and stakeholders, and have more complicated supporting funding structures and sources. Other long term actions involve longevity due to their nature, such as monitoring and actions that involve review and ongoing amendment. 3 or more years should be allowed for the delivery of these kind of actions and it is likely these may extend beyond the life of this action plan.

- Diversify promotional reach (Ref8)
- Look for new economic opportunities (Ref12)
- Create new places where people can work within Kilsyth Town Centre (Ref13)
- Seek to secure a 'critical mass' of amenities in Kilsyth town centre (Ref15)
- Examine opportunities and mechanisms for bringing vacant buildings into reuse (Ref18)
- Ensure uses of key buildings contribute to the local community (Ref19)

By their nature, these actions are never complete, recognising that some things are ever changing and require maintenance, refreshing or replacement. Ongoing actions may require an annual progress review or another suitable process to ensure that they remain purposeful.

- Keep list of projects up to date (Ref4)
- Monitor numbers of visitors (Ref10)
- Find out where visitors are spending their money (Ref11)
- Programme and operate events to celebrate Kilsyth's heritage (Ref24)

- Ensure that specialist urban design input is sought for sensitive heritage areas of Kilsyth (Ref25)
- Support refreshment of digital interpretation resources for The Antonine Wall (Ref31)
- Set up a live working project list of key weaknesses (Ref33)
- Create and implement a continuous path maintenance programme (Ref34)
- Include cycle friendly design that avoids conflict between users (Ref36)

# Project Priorities

## Resources and Deliverables

As with the actions, projects are also arranged according to their likely timeframe. Again, the delivery of these projects is highly dependent on the availability of funding and other variables. However, it is important to keep these projects in mind, so that valuable ideas are not forgotten, and can be carried forward should some of these be undeliverable during the life of the action plan.

## Early Win Projects

(Less than 12 Months)

- A. Install new signage in prominent positions on approach to Kilsyth
- G. Refresh the interpretation boards at Dumbreck Marsh

## Short Term Projects

( 12 to 18 months)

- K. Battle of Kilsyth battlefield interpretation resources
- H. Create a range of thematic visitor itineraries that help people find their way through The Kelvin Valley, engaging with multiple attractions

## Medium Term Projects

(18 months to 3 years)

- B. Make improvements to the quality of car parking provision in the town
- C. Install interpretation boards that help the local community and visitors understand the historical development of the town

- F. Enhance accessibility along the route of the wall, and connections between the wall and Kilsyth town centre
- I. Refresh and digitise itineraries for smartphone access
- L. Create a circular route around Banton Loch
- M. Improve access to the Kilsyth Hills

## Long Term Projects

(3 or more years)

- D. Deliver quality public realm design works at key approaches to Kilsyth Town Centre, to improve access for people walking and cycling
- E. Create a replica section of The Antonine Wall
- J. Scope the restoration and re-use of Craigmarnloch Stables (study)