

## Summary

The purpose of the workshop was to provide an opportunity for a range of interested parties to exchange their views about current and planned development activities in this area, and to consider what issues need to be addressed and what mechanisms need to be in place to support a “joined-up approach” to developing the area.

Delegates worked in syndicate groups to:

- Identify a list of current and planned activities taking place in the area.
- Consider what key issues should be taken into account in order to adopt a “joined up” approach to developments in the area.
- Identify the main blocks or barriers that would need to be addressed to support a “joined up approach”.
- Recommend mechanisms or actions that would support a “joined up approach.”

Each syndicate presented back their views to the main group and then all delegates voted to identify the priority mechanisms that would be required to develop a “joined up” approach to developments in the area.

The feedback from all syndicates revealed some common themes. Overall, delegates indicated a need to have a more integrated approach to developments in the area, primarily because it was felt that the travel links and road infrastructure must take account of the needs of a wide range of interest groups, including those travelling into the area for recreation and leisure pursuits, as well as local residents. There was also considerable debate about the boundaries of the area, what it should be called and how it should be promoted.

The results of the voting were as follows:

<b>Mechanism</b>	<b>Votes</b>
<b>1. Joint Management Group – Infrastructure Forum</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>2. Develop an Action Plan for Area</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>3. Ensure Communication &amp; Co-ordination</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4. Audit / Consultation of user needs / Best Practise*</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>5. Management of Carron Valley Stakeholder input to Action Plan*</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6. Funding</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>7. Steering Group / Working Groups</b>	<b>10</b>

\*Points 4 and 5 above may be the same, but differently worded. If so, the joint votes would make it the top issue with 26 votes.

The discussions prior to voting indicated that delegates felt a need to have a Steering Group develop an overarching strategic framework and action plan, which was based on local consultation to ensure an integrated approach, and which enabled local implementation of various projects.

Detailed notes from each syndicate group are contained on the following pages. Feedback from the delegates is contained in Annexe 1. Annexe 2 contains contact details for those delegates who asked to be added to the circulation list.

## **Syndicate Feedback - Recreation Group A**

Activities	Status	Who's involved	Impact
Huskies	Ongoing	Private group	Increase tourism & benefits to local economy, BUT positive and negative impact – more visitors bring more noise, pollution etc.
Mountain biking / cycling	Ongoing	CVDG	
Walking	Ongoing	All	
Horse Riding	Ongoing	Horse riders	
Fishing	Ongoing	Private – Sc. Water	
Windsurfing	Ongoing	Private – Sc. Water	
Kelvin Valley	Ongoing	NL Council & partners	
Campsie Fells / Touch Hills	10 years ago	Dead – but re-born today	
Routes identified (cycling, horse riding, walking)	Recently started	NL Council + Stirling, Falkirk, East D Councils	
Educational uses	?	Councils, schools	

### Issues to be addressed

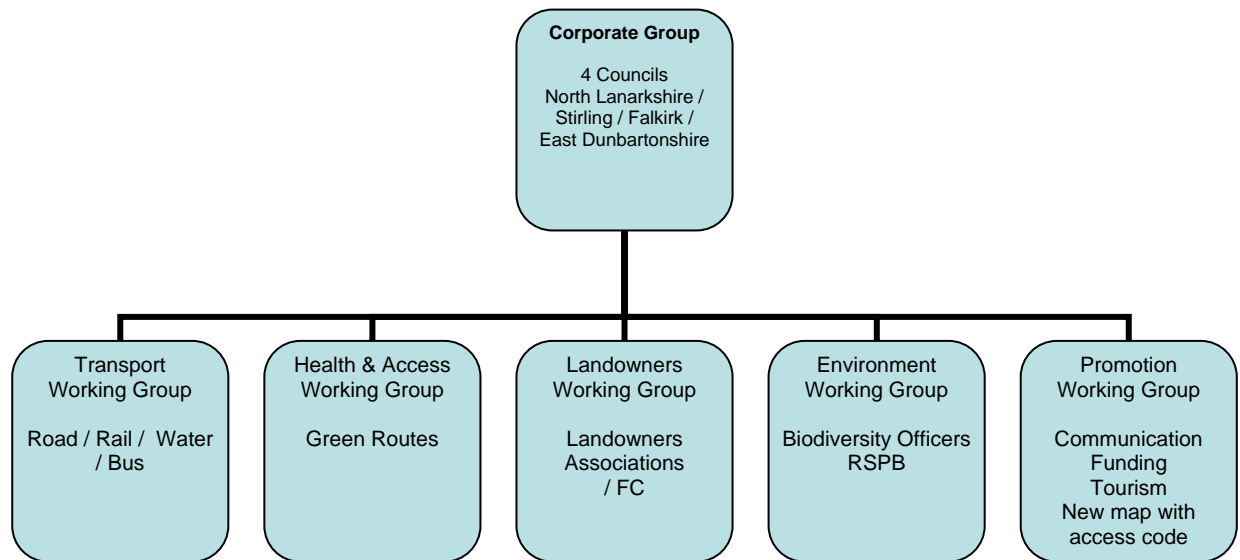
1. Communication & Co-ordination
2. Infrastructure – road / off road / rail links
3. Promotion / Education
  - Enthusiasts / not yet enthusiasts
  - School initiatives
4. Funding – Scot Exec / Councils/ LECs / Lottery / Europe / Local business
5. User Group Needs

### Mechanisms

- Corporate Group comprised of four Councils
- Identify user groups
  - Develop corporate plans
  - Establish steering groups – access / funding / transport
  - Sub groups – walkers / horse riders / cycling / landowners

**See chart on next page illustrating group's recommendations on how it all needs to be linked by the corporate group**

**Syndicate A's recommendations for a Corporate Group and working groups**



## **Syndicate Feedback - Recreation Group B**

<u>Activities taking place</u>	<u>Status</u>
Walking	Informal - hill walking, short strolls, dog walking, rambler groups – health, recreation, social, nature walks Formal – specific annual festival
Horse Riding	Informal + 2 organised Events
Cycling	Mountain biking, recreational, road cycling
Fell Running	Training / informal
Paragliding	Informal
Fishing	Water is stocked
Wind Surfing	Club use
Husky Racing	Training
Quad Cars / Motor Bikes	Informal!!!
Clan Ranald	Promote living education
Historical Sites	John le G Castle, I A Fort, Standing stones

### Barriers to Joined up Approach

- Access – poor quality of roads
- Lack of awareness / promotion
- Land ownership
- Physical barriers – horse unfriendly gates – DDA
- Lack of facility development

### Top 3 Issues to be addressed

1. Planned / integrated approach
2. Resources – funding / people
3. Infrastructure

### Mechanisms

- Working group to make progress
- Audit to identify sensitive sites
- Consultation
- Agreed objectives

### Top 3 Recommended Mechanisms

1. Steering Group / working group
2. Audit – consultation / best practise
3. Agreed objectives

## **Syndicate Feedback - Economic Development Group A**

Activities	Status	Who's involved	Impact
Kelvin Valley Action Plan			
Kilsyth Town Centre Environmental Improvements	Phase 1	NLC	Improved visual identity of Kilsyth Increased footfall
Kelvin Valley Park		NLC Community Groups	Improved branding / image of Kelvin Valley Linked network of attractions
Dumbreck Marsh Art Project	Yr 1 end 2 years to go	KCC / DCC / NLC / Kilsyth Academy	Ownership of L.N.R. by local people
Kilsyth booklet	Planned	KCC & Kilsyth Academy	To produce a tourism booklet for Kilsyth & surrounding area
Friends of Burngreen	Recently started	KRVF, KCC & members of the public	To develop Burngreen Park as a recreational park
Duncarron Fort Advisory Committee	Recently started writing constitution	KCC, D + DCC, CuCC, Clanranald Trust	Increase community involvement and raise funds
Local Nature Reserves	1 designated, others underway	EDC, Scottish Natural Heritage	Environmental awareness for residents & visitors
Clachan of Campsie	Planning underway	EDC, Caledonian Properties, Residents	Improved visitor facilities
Mugdock Country Park	Nearly ready - should start April 2005	EDC / SC / Private Sector	Additional visitors & revenue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpretation of Mugdock Castle</li> <li>• New restaurant</li> </ul>			

*Notes of Campsie /Touch Hills Workshop 27<sup>th</sup> January 2005*

Activities	Status	Who's involved	Impact
West Highland Way - 25 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations	Planning – ongoing	EDC / SC / Highland Council / SNH	Raising awareness + community ownership of the route
Kirkintilloch Initiative - Arts centre - Sports centre - Marina - Cycle ways - Walk ways	Planning permission granted  Routes planned Complete April 2006	EDC / Health board / Private sector	Re-design of Kirkintilloch Town Centre and improved facilities for visitors and residents
Lennoxton Initiative - Training - Business devt - Cycle ways & walk ways, incl. Heritage Trail	Ongoing Ongoing Some complete, others complete by June 2005	EDC / Health board	Regeneration of the village with improved facilities for residents and visitors
Festivals - Canal - Walking - Gala days	Aug 05 Sept 05 Summer 05	EDC / Ramblers / Police / F & C Canal Society / Community Councils	Increased profile for the area and increased local pride
Scottish Water Access Policy regarding access to reservoirs:- - current demand - future demand	Policy approved / assessment ongoing	Scottish Water & stakeholders	Increased usage on and around reservoirs
Auchinstarry Marina (Kilsyth) Key Node on Millennium Link Canal – Marina Development with Boat Maintenance business re-locating from Falkirk Wheel (expansion)	Completion mid 2005-01-30 Hotel / bothy still to be developed along with business relocation	British Waterways (canal owners) Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire	Increased visitor numbers / spend in Kilsyth  Business expansion & jobs for Kilsyth area  Part of bigger picture Millennium Link

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Mechanisms	Impact	Actions	Who should be involved
Joint Marketing with other Tourist Attractions	Raise awareness	Link websites Joint publications Events programme Build identity of Carron Valley	Joint approach with stakeholders
Management of Carron Valley Groups / stakeholders input to action plans	Co-ordinated approach to pull in one direction	Look at action plan for area Feasibility study to produce a framework policy document for area	Involving input from all Business / Attractions in Carron Valley + Local Authorities + other Public Bodies
Develop Roads Infrastructure Strategy	Improve access and opportunities in area	LA's co-ordinated approach to road needs	LA's Local groups / stakeholders

## **Syndicate Feedback - Economic Development Group B**

### Current Activities

- Fishery
- Bike Hire
- Corporate Days
- Clanranald Fort Development
- B & B, Hotel, Chalet Accommodation
- Arts & Crafts Workshop / Tearoom
- Distillery (Dumgoyne)
- Wind Farm (Harthill)
- Farming / Forestry
- Hotel Conference (Fintry)
- Millennium Link
- Horse Riding
- Hillwalking
- MTB

### Key Issues

- Cross boundary discussions – what ends where? Where are the boundaries?
- Who are the people? (stakeholders)
- Possible need for a user survey / audit
- How do Tourist Boards dovetail with recreation?
- Interpretation and information at Car Parks
- What are the growth areas? (pressure points)
- Funding and economic support
- Transportation links

### Mechanisms

- Work Groups / Steering groups comprised of key players
- Links to community planning procedures
- Develop an action plan for the area

### Actions

- Forum to circulate ideas / stimulate debate
- Specific discussions with Tourist Boards
- Working Group
- Develop a brief for the user survey / audit



## **Syndicate Feedback - Environment Group A**

Activities	Status	Who's involved	Impact
Wind farm	Current	West Coast Energy	Landscape / Infrastructure / Natural Heritage
F.H.N.	Current developing	FC / Landowners / CSFT	Enhance biodiversity of area SSSI
MTB Centre	Current	CVDG	Traffic / Pollution
Fort Duncarron	Current	Clanranald	Tourism Traffic / Pollution Neighbour Issues
SERC Usage Horse Riders	Annually	SERC	Traffic / Pollution User conflict
Fishery	Current	Fishery owner	Traffic / Pollution
National Park – increased tourism	Current	Tourist	Traffic / Pollution

Issues to be addressed	Why important?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographical definition of boundaries</li> <li>• Native Woodland</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Lack of facilities (design issues with environment protection)</li> <li>• Lack of Ecological / Archaeological knowledge</li> <li>• Lack of communication between authorities (LA's Police, etc.)</li> </ul>	<p>Badging Fragmented at present At breaking point Increased visitors</p> <p>Important sites could be lost</p> <p>Key to success</p>

### Key issues to be addressed

- Infrastructure
- Cross-boundary Co-ordination (communication and broader consultation)
- Definition of structure and geography

*Notes of Campsie /Touch Hills Workshop 27<sup>th</sup> January 2005*

Mechanisms	Impact	Actions	Who should be involved
Joint Management Group – Infrastructure Forum	Assume Responsibility	Identify and verify key issues Identify Funding Source	LA's / Road Traffic Engineers / Community Councils / Police
Regional Park Group (forum)	Co-ordinated approach to pull in one direction (joined-up thinking and action)		LA's / Landowners
Boundaries Forum	Definition of structure and geography		