

## Outdoors for you consultation responses analysis

58 responses to the consultation

**Question 1: Do you agree with the proposed aims of the Outdoor Access Strategy?**

Aim	Yes	%	No	%
Improve health and well being	58	100	0	0
Increase economic benefit	50	87.7	7	12.3
Improve connectivity between people and places	57	98.3	1	1.7
Aid responsible access	57	98.3	1	1.7

**Overall 96% of respondents agree with the proposed aims**

**14 responses suggested other aims, these include:**

Suggestion / comment regarding aims	Council response
Leads to social gatherings helps with physical and mental recovery	This is covered under improve health and wellbeing
Signposts indicating interest in history and nature	This action is covered in actions I-10 and C-3 bespoke heritage trails
Employability – training of leaders walk/jog/cycle	This is covered under improve economic development
Ensure that designated walking routes are safe and pedestrian friendly	This is covered in improve connectivity

To align with current council strategic objectives	Text added to page 9 of the Strategy
Improved environments give people pride in the area and decrease littering and vandalism	This is covered under aid responsible access
Safety – having off road connectivity via cycle paths/walking paths would allow people of all ages to feel safe when cycling running or walking	This is covered in improve connectivity
Improve links between members of the community	This is covered in improve connectivity
The condition of road surfaces within Paisley must be examined	Refer comment to Community Resources
Use of outdoors for Life Long Learning	This is covered in improve health and wellbeing
Encourage pride in the environment	This is covered under aid responsible access
Sustainability and climate change	This is covered in actions that increase opportunities for active travel such as actions I-1, I-2
The strategy will support Let's get Scotland Walking: the National walking strategy could be given more emphasis. Similarly this strategy will support the Long Term Vision for Active Travel in Scotland and that should be highlighted	Additional text in Policy section page 9 indicating that the access strategy will contribute to the delivery of national and local policy
Aid understanding of the natural environment and its importance for our future well being, improve respect for the environment	This is covered in aid responsible access
Increase multi use off road recreational opportunities including horses	This is covered in actions I-5 I-7, I-15

**Question 2: Do you agree with the proposed measurable outcomes?**

	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
1	Actively travel by cycle 3% **	50	89.3	6	10.7
2	Use walking as means of transport 1+ day per week	51	91.1	5	8.9
3	Walk for pleasure or to keep fit 1+ day per week	53	94.6	3	5.4

**Overall 92% of respondents agree with the proposed measurable outcomes**

<b>Suggestions/ comments regarding measurable outcomes</b>	<b>Council response</b>
Reduction in the use of cars	This is covered by outcomes 1 and 2
Actively travel to work by bike or on foot many people drive when they could walk	This is covered in the outcomes
There should be a qualitative measure for instance to establish if someone wants to walk because they enjoy it or because they can't afford the bus and do they enjoy walking more or less than previously	Qualitative measures can be too subjective to use as a target. They may be able to be incorporated into monitoring for individual projects
Measurement on success of referrals from a number of different sources	Refer to Health and Social Care Partnership and Live Active projects within GP practices
Social activities and mental health	Data used for monitoring people walking for leisure could be informed by data from Renfrewshire Walking Network as they have some groups that are specifically targeted towards mental health

Suggestions/ comments regarding measurable outcomes	Council response
Encourage children to be active e.g. walk a mile in school time; make sport more affordable to increase participation	Walking in/to schools measured by “hands up survey  Refer comment to Renfrewshire leisure
Would like to see more references to jogging	Text added - jogging added to list on page 7
Council investment to assist in these outcomes being achieved	Additional text added to indicate working with internal and external groups to source funding to maximise opportunities
Consider travel to work and school	This is included in outcomes 1 and 2
Estimated CO <sub>2</sub> saving based on modal shift to active travel	Refer comment to Community Resources for Cycling Strategy
Increase the number of communities connected by off road walking routes and the number of routes connected to the national cycle path by creating new routes to communities	This is covered in aim of connecting communities. Connections to the cycle route being considered under Community Resources Wayfinding project and Sustrans proposed cycle link improvements
Increase multi-use off road recreational opportunities, ensure reference to horses	This is covered in actions I-5 I-7, I-15
None of the measurable outcomes can be achieved without improvements to infrastructure	Additional text added in relation to working with partners to take full advantage of any funding opportunities
The strategic aim of improving connectivity between people and places particularly where connections don't currently exist should be included	Additional text has been added in relation to working with partners to take full advantage of funding opportunities

Suggestions/ comments regarding measurable outcomes	Council response
In policy section – the Current Physical Activity Strategy is Let's Make Scotland More Active 2003 – still relevant as it is a 20 year plan	The Access Strategy is based on the most up to date policy position
Walking and cycling should be encouraged but my reservations are about ability to measure increases such as the 3% quoted for cycling	Through the Outdoor Access Strategy the intention is to develop a robust base line and then monitor through specific mechanisms including national / local surveys and on site counters, cordon counts, and surveys etc
In relation to cycling could there be further road improvements	These actions are included in route improvements within the Council's Cycling Strategy
Use the length of access network, number of path users using counters, access related enquiries, access expenditure as measurable outcomes	The length of the access network is measured but this does not relate to the benefits of outputs. A few of the routes in Renfrewshire have counters, these will be a good source to measure in the base line data
An additional measurable outcome could be to reduce CO <sub>2</sub> as a result of activities	The reduction in CO <sub>2</sub> is already monitored and recorded by many different sources and is reported as part of the Council's Climate Change Declaration returns which are submitted to the Scottish Government annually
Base line - unrealistic to get data from referrals from GPs	Refer to Health and Social Care Partnership and Live Active projects within GP practices

**Question 3: Do you agree with the four strategic actions?**

Strategic action	Yes	%	No	%
People will have an <b>enhanced</b> resource	51	98.1	1	1.9
People of all abilities will be able to move <b>confidently</b> within and between communities and will be <b>aware</b> of opportunities for active travel and recreational access	51	94.5	3	5.5
Access planned with <b>respect</b> to land management and conservation and people will <b>understand</b> their rights and responsibilities with regard to access	51	98.1	1	1.9
People will be <b>involved</b> in outdoor access provision	50	98.1	1	1.9

**Overall 97.13 % of respondents agree with the strategic actions proposed**

Suggestions /comments regarding strategic actions	Council response
Use upkeep, maintenance of existing network with provision for further access as a strategic action	This is covered as a strategic action 'People will have an 'enhanced' resource'
Make access to information easier	Information is covered in 'People ...will be 'aware' of opportunities ..... 'Reporting – is covered in action C-15
People already have a right of access "planned access" sounds like a way to reduce access to limited path routes	Text added new and enhanced access provision will be planned
Increased ranger services to provide access for all members of the community as well as to teach youngsters respect for the outdoors and wildlife	Comments to be referred to Community Resources and Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park

Suggestions /comments regarding strategic actions	Council response
The Strategy should link directly to the Strategic Council objectives	Text added to policy section to indicate how the strategy fits with Council objectives / Community Plan
Connectivity between communities should be a priority where these off road links do not currently exists or are inadequate	This is covered in people will have 'enhanced' resource
Safety should be regarded as a strategic action	Safety is covered in people will move 'confidently' within and between communities
The strategy should specifically target areas where outdoor links between communities doesn't currently exist	Provision of new routes will be prioritised in areas that have greatest need of new or improved routes
The strategy should link communities to the National Cycle Network in cases where safe off road links don't currently exist	Community Resources' wayfinding project has looked at connectivity to the National Cycle Route along with improved signage. Sustrans currently have proposals to improve the physical connections to the National Cycle Route at various sites within Renfrewshire
Renfrewshire badly lacks safe provision for cycling in urban areas. There is a great need for marked and recognised cycle lanes in streets and roads	Points covered in the Cycling strategy
People should be involved not just in provision but with maintenance too	This is covered in People will be 'involved' in outdoor access provision
People should be educated about the importance of the natural environment	This already occurs as part of Education's commitment to eco schools
Provision of enablers for healthy, outdoor exercise e.g. riding stables should be encouraged and facilitated	This is covered in People will be 'involved' in outdoor access provision

**Question 4: Do you agree with the detailed actions?**

<b>Do you agree with the detailed actions?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Agree with some</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
	36	72	13	26	1	2

People were asked if there were other detailed actions that could be considered

<b>Are there other actions that could be considered?</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
	13	28.3	33	71.7

<b>Suggestions/ comments regarding detailed actions</b>	<b>Council response</b>
Actions should include reference to education regarding maintenance and respect for the natural environment	Included in Actions I-29 and I-30
Action C-11 to C-14 say nothing about nature conservation	Actions C11 – 14 relate to ensuring that access is carried out in a responsible manner in terms of land management and nature conservation



Suggestions/ comments regarding detailed actions	Council response
Appendix 2 should include actions to educate children and young people about environmental issues and practical tasks they could be involved in	Considered in the delivery of actions identified in the plan.
Ensure that wherever possible tracks are suitable for multi user activity to make the best use of available facilities	This is covered in a number of the actions - Actions I -11, I-15, I-19, I-20, C-1, C-2, C-7, C-13
Although Renfrewshire Walking Network and Paths For All are mentioned they could have wider role	Text added to strategy
The Walking Network should have a role in working with GP's prescribing outdoor access activity	The Health and Social Care Partnership project in GP surgeries will be provide information on a number of health opportunities including outdoor access groups
Walking groups could also give feedback on sign posting or maintenance of paths	Voluntary groups included as part of Action I-29
There should be more opportunities to train leaders/volunteers locally	Rewording of text in action C-7 to include reference to training
The Semple Trail is designed as a walking route but between Howwood village from railway to Garthland Bridge – there is no pavement for people to be separated from road traffic at this point	Refer comment to Community Resources

Suggestions/ comments regarding detailed actions	Council response
The focus is on people but little said about responsibility of dog owners	This is covered under 'People will understand their rights and responsibilities' and actions such as C-11 to C-14
In addition to encouraging residents of Renfrewshire to use existing access facilities, new ones should be made available where they don't already exist	Provision of new routes will be prioritised in areas that have greatest need of new or improved routes
Provision for safe urban area cycling	Provided for in the Cycling strategy and referred to in action I-21
Look at programme of phototrails to encourage use by less able people	Text added to Action I-17
Action plan would benefit from having specific performance indicators to measure progress.	Progress will be measured against the base line
Needs base line indicators	Base line to be developed during first year of the strategy
Action C-8 is unrealistic. More realistic to work with Live Active Councillors that way there could be baseline and monitoring data supplied	Text added in C-8 to include Live Active as a proposed partner
Little mention of how actions link to green network and enhance biodiversity...would Renfrewshire Council consider developing a green space strategy looking at access, active travel, green space and biodiversity	A green network strategy is being prepared as part of the preparation of the next Local Development Plan
Needs better linkage to Renfrewshire Cycling Strategy Actions I-21 and C-10 refer to the strategy but apart from that there is no linkage so it is unclear how the two documents will complement each other	The action plan highlights the partnership working between departments
Little mention of cross boundary connections it would be beneficial to make reference to strategic routes in the Clydeplan area	Additional Action added (I-31)

**Question 5: Do you agree with the partners proposed for the detailed actions**

	<b>yes</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Do you agree with the proposed partners</b>	43	91.5	4	8.5
<b>Are there other partners</b>	17	36.9	29	63.1

<b>Suggestions/ comments regarding partners</b>	<b>Council response</b>
Other partners will “appear” as projects take shape and it would be good to ensure the plan is flexible to take advantage of this	Noted – Action plan to be updated every two years
Other voluntary groups given that “The Conservation Volunteers” no longer active in Renfrewshire	Wording changed in proposed partners list to volunteer groups at action I-29
For actions C-7 and C-15 Community Resources should be a partner	Refer comment to Community Resources
Ramblers Scotland, Sustrans, Community Councils, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and Community health agencies, Walking network, RSPB, Woodland trust, Buglife, British Horse Society , Rotary and other community based clubs and organisations should be a partner	Text added
Involve Intu Braehead in future discussions and strategic consultations in particular with the ambition to increase the percentage of those cycling to work. Action I-16 of particular interest to us and we would be willing to help support active travel related events	Noted
Action C 16 refers to developing cross boundary partnership to develop leisure cycling ,SPT not included as a possible partner here	SPT will be approached regarding this action.

### Additional suggestions/ comments received

Additional suggestion/ comment	Council response
Be consistent in use of terms such as strategic aims and themes	Consistency checked.
The map was hard to read it didn't follow with the legend especially to identify the country parks	The plan in this strategy has been altered to reflect comments
Action 1-5 increase opportunities for mountain biking the e.g. to formalise desire lines at Gleniffer Braes is too definite. Change to "formalise appropriate desire lines" so it is consistent with 3 <sup>rd</sup> strategic action of respecting land management etc	Text has been changed to reflect comments.
More information about access is required and this should be available in more places i.e. libraries	This is covered in actions C-1, C-6, C-13, C-15
Active Communities are happy to be involved but would need help with funding to deliver action points tasked with	Text added regarding maximising funding opportunities
We have an aspiration to increase the number of staff who cycle to work at Intu Braehead and particularly the number of customers who visit the centre.. All opportunities to work more closely with those producing this outdoor access strategy (and cycling strategy) would be welcomed	Continue dialogue with Intu
Houston does not have any off road links to the national cycle network. All communities in Renfrewshire should be connected to this system so that our residents can share the benefits described in this draft access strategy.	Ongoing discussions with all groups
Resource constraints will make delivery of this strategy challenging	Priorities will be based on internal and external funding opportunities

Additional suggestion/ comment	Council response
<p>The Outdoor Access Strategy does not include organisations such as British Horse Society which can provide advice and assistance in developing and increasing the use of access rights</p> <p>While the strategy has limited number of references to horse riding, it does not recognise the very significant financial benefit to communities of horse ownership and use and the major health benefits that derive from riding. These benefits should be more clearly recognised and articulated</p>	<p>BHS have been specifically included in actions that specify horse riding and are further included in general points under the generic term “stakeholder groups”</p> <p>Health and economic benefits of all forms of outdoor access has been included in the strategy. No single form of access has been singled out regarding these benefits.</p>
<p>No reference to walkway at Renfrew</p>	<p>Renfrew walkway is included as a specific action in I -8</p>