

Climate Change Adaptation



Climate change is one of the major challenges facing our city region and the people who live here.

UK Climate Projections predict that over the next few decades the Glasgow city region will progressively have:

- drier, hotter summers on average
- milder, wetter winters on average
- rising sea levels
- more extreme weather events leading to flooding and heatwaves

The changing climate will have impacts on:

- the city's economy
- vulnerable communities
- critical infrastructure

Planning to adapt our city region to make it more resilient to the changing climate makes good sense. The Green Network has a vital and major role to play in providing that resilience.

The Green Network and climate change

Greenspace provides a range of ecosystem services which improve the quality of life within the city region. These include:

- reducing flood risk by absorbing and temporarily retaining rainfall
- moderating heatwaves in urban areas through natural air conditioning
- reducing cooling and heating energy demand by providing shade and reducing wind speeds
- supporting biodiversity
- helping to reduce noise and air pollution
- providing places for recreational and leisure activities that improve health

These ecosystem services are essential to the wellbeing of the city region and its resilience to climate change. Improving the quality, quantity, connectivity and diversity of our Green Network will create a 'green infrastructure' for a 'climate ready' city region.

Our work to date

Our Integrating Green Infrastructure (IGI) approach is delivering urban neighbourhood design solutions that will deliver climate change resilience.

We are working on new analyses to identify where the Green Network can provide climate change adaptation solutions. This work focuses on urban areas vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and areas where land-use change can help reduce downstream flooding.

We are actively working with Adaptation Scotland on their Climate Ready Clyde project.

Our plans for the future

The GCV Green Network Partnership will work with the Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership, the Glasgow & Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority and Adaptation Scotland to draft a regional Adaptation Strategy.

A regional Adaptation Strategy will include:

- the role of the Green Network in providing climate change resilience
- identification of where the Green Network can provide required adaptation
- an action plan for Green Network delivery

