

# National Walking Strategy Action Plan - confidential final draft

Mar-16

Key	Timescales (completed within)	Future Development (FD)			
		S - short (1- 3 years)	M - medium (within 5 years)	L - long (within 10 years)	
					Continue
					Grow
					New
	Objectives	Key Activities and Projects	Timescales	Lead / Support	FD
<b>1</b>	<b>Strategic Aim 1: To deliver on creating a culture of walking where everyone walks more often as part of their everyday travel and for recreation and well-being.</b>				
	A walking culture where Scotland's communities are empowered to develop community-based approaches to walking development and the value of social capital (e.g. through volunteering) can be harnessed.				
1.1	To increase the awareness and availability of the opportunities and benefits of walking to residents and visitors to Scotland ( including everyday walking for pleasure, for health, to school, to the park, playing golf, hillwalking etc)	Deliver agreed outcomes within the overall PFA grant (including Health walks, Care home setting, environment, living Streets schools and community work, active travel etc)	S	Paths for All	Grow
		Deliver agreed outcomes relating to walking within the delivery of the Central Scotland Green Network	S	Central Scotland Green Network Trust, SNH, FCS, SG - Environment	Grow
		Paths for All, Sustrans Scotland, Ramblers Scotland, CSGN and other partners will, in addition to their unique areas of responsibility, identify key areas of collaborative delivery where it is deemed to be most effective and efficient to do so.			
		Support and promote recreational walking groups (particularly young peoples groups) in communities across Scotland	S/M	Ramblers Scotland, Scouts, Guides, Boys Brigade, Duke of Edinburgh	Grow
		Support walking and links to local walking groups in Community Sports Hubs.	S/M	sportscotland, Paths for All, local authorities, Sporta	Grow
		Encourage and support Community Planning Partnerships (and their associated Alliances) to articulate within relevant plans and budgets clear actions and developments consistent with best practice to generate higher levels of walking across communities. Increase the priority for walking within the delivery of new Communiyt Empowerment legislation	S/M	NHS Health Scotland, Health Boards, Community Planning Partnerships, local authorities, RTPs, Greenspace Scotland, Living Streets Scotland	Grow
1.2	Walking opportunities increase within Health and Care Service delivery programmes eg. health walk referral, walking routes at hospitals	Increase health walking opportunities within all communities across Scotland through a range of partnerships	S/M	Paths for All, local authorities, Health boards, RTPs, PAHA, The Alliance, MacMillan, Diabetes UK, Alzheimer's Scotland, Dementia UK, Volunteer Scotland	Grow
		Increase the priority for walking within a range of health and care policy and strategy areas eg Dementia Strategy 2016	S/M	SG - Active Scotland, Paths for All, SAMH, Alzheimer's Scotland	Grow
		Deliver Strength and Balance training and support across Health and Care sectors	S/M	Paths for All, Care Inspectorate, NHS HS	New
		Deliver agreed outcomes relating to walking within the delivery of the Natural Health Service Action Plan ( <i>currently proposal - tbc</i> )	tbc	SNH, NHSHS, FCS, PFA, CSGNT, LSS, RS	New
		Influence undergraduate courses to include walking eg planning , health	S/M	PHARC, SG - Active Scotland	New
		Expand Medal Routes across the whole NHS estate and sign routes in strategic locations	S/M	Ramblers Scotland, NHS Health Scotland, Forestry Commission Scotland, Paths for All, SNH	Grow
1.3	Develop and mainstream initiatives that support mode shift from driven to walking journeys e.g. walking as part of every journey and integrated with use of public transport	Deliver and evaluate 2015/16 Smarter Choices Smarter Places - travel behaviour change projects	1 year	Paths for All, Transport Scotland	Continue
		Promote walking in partnership with rail, bus and ferry operators, through better route information and facilities for vulnerable users at stops and stations	M	Transport Scotland, Local Authorities, RTPs, Living Streets Scotland, Scot Rail Alliance	New
		Development of new Smarter Choices Smarter Places travel behaviour change programmes. 2016 onwards (tbc)	M	Transport Scotland, Paths for All	New
1.4	Enable workplaces across Scotland to support staff to walk more every day eg	Support and deliver Walk to Work Week	ongoing	Centre for Healthy Working Lives, Living Streets Scotland, Paths for All, Sustrans Scotland	Grow

	by active travel planning, walking meetings, lunch time walks	Promote and encourage employers to achieve Exemplar Physical Activity Employer status following its roll-out in 2016/17.	M	NHS Health Scotland/Centre for HWLs, PAHA, RTPs. NWSDF	
		Deliver support and interventions for employers such as step count challenge, which integrate walking into a healthy working day e.g. across NHS and Scottish Government	M	Paths for All, Centre for Healthy Working Lives, Living Streets Scotland, RTPs	
1.5	Support and enable schools and youth organisations to get young people to walk as part of their everyday commuting and learning activity	Deliver agreed outcomes within the Living Streets Scotland grant related to promoting walking to school across Scotland	S	Living Streets Scotland, Paths for All, LAs	
		Encourage and gather evidence on the effectiveness of measures to promote walking to school including, park & stride, street closures and safe routes	M	Living Streets Scotland, Sustrans, Paths for All	
		Support and develop Walk to School Week	M/L	Living Streets Scotland, Sustrans Scotland, Paths for All, Education Scotland	
		Encourage the development of active learning / walking classes within the Curriculum for Excellence. Education Scotland to explore opportunities and develop plans / commitment to this area	M/L	Education Scotland, Living Streets Scotland, Sustrans Scotland, Paths for All, Ramblers Scotland	
		Encourage the development of active learning / walking classes within Universities and colleges. Explore opportunities and develop plans / commitment to this area	M/L	Scottish Student Sport, Education Scotland,	
1.6	Support walking sports to widen participation base, particularly in older adults e.g. walking football, rambling, hill walking, golf, foot-golf, bowls etc	Develop a range of walking 'sport' programmes eg. walking football, bowls, etc	M/L	SportScotland (Community Sports Hubs), Paths for All, SAMH, Age Scotland	
		Develop Walking Football across Scotland for over 50's through clubs, league, events	S/M	Paths for All, Age Scotland, SAMH, SPFLT, SFA, Sportscotland	
		Support research to prove the positive impacts/effectiveness of interventions to increase walking eg. Go Golf Health - Walking / Golf research - looking at walking, golf and health	M/L	PAHRC - University of Edinburgh, University of St Andrews, World Golf Federation, SGU	Research
1.7	Increase the number of visitors walking (urban, rural, mountain, playing golf etc) as part of their holiday / visit	Promotion of walking opportunities to domestic and international tourists in line with Tourism Scotland 2020. Monitor Day visitor survey/Great Britain Tourism Survey and/or International Passenger Survey	ongoing	Visit Scotland	
1.8	Support research proving health benefits of walking and walking sports and implementation to increase participation	Develop partnerships to prove the positive impacts/effectiveness of interventions to increase walking	M/L	PAHRC - University Edinburgh, University St Andrews	Research
<b>2 Strategic Aim 2: To achieve better quality walking environments with attractive, well designed and managed built and natural spaces and places for everyone</b> By developing and managing attractive, well designed communities, towns, cities and places and by promoting opportunities e.g. signed routes close to where people live and work, we will encourage people to use them on a regular basis for active travel, health, education or learning, recreation and sport NB. this will include - local woods, beaches and hills which can offer less structured opportunities for local community members to explore and experience					
2.1	Develop high-quality, well maintained walking (and cycling) networks in every local authority area, particularly in lowest 15% SIMD areas; Ensure existing routes are maintained and promoted effectively.	Local Authority and National Park Authority support route / path management and maintenance	M/L	local authorities, national park authorities, RTPs, local access fora, National Access Forum	
		Deliver CSGN Strategic Routes Project, including increase in green infrastructure	S/M	SNH, CSGNT, local authorities	
		Deliver walking outcomes within Sustrans Scotland grant (including through Community Links Projects, NCN development etc)	S/M	Sustrans Scotland, Transport Scotland, local authorities, RTPs	
		Deliver walking opportunities through ERDF Green Infrastructure Plan 2014 - 2020 particularly relating to providing increased and better opportunities for people to improve their health and well-being <a href="https://www.greeninfrastructurescotland.org.uk/">https://www.greeninfrastructurescotland.org.uk/</a>	M	SNH, Local authorities, Scotland's Towns Partnership	
		Deliver agreed outcomes within the National Walking and Cycling Network - NPF3.	M	SNH, Scottish Canals, Sustrans Scotland, local authorities, RTPs	
		Ensure grant/funding bodies pay cognisance to the priorities and objectives within the NWS Action Plan	S/M	NWS Delivery Forum, PFA	
		Support development and planning for NPF4 and future review of Scottish Planning Policy. Walking needs to feed through to Strategic Development plans and Local Development Plans.	M/L	SG - Planning, RTPI Scotland	
		Deliver the outcomes for Paths for All Active Environments work	S	PFA, SNH, community path groups	

2.2	Promote everyday walking for short journeys to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants.	Engage with refresh of National Transport Strategy to help prioritise walking (and cycling) and links to sustainable transport over vehicular transport as per hierarchy. Encourage all regional and local transport strategies to adopt similar priority	S/M	Scottish Government - Greener, Transport Scotland, Regional Transport Partnerships	
		Promote the development and implementation, relating to walking, within the context of a range of strategies including : Cleaner Air for Scotland - The Road to a Healthier Future; Community Empowerment Act; Land Reform Act Review; Planning Review; Social Justice Strategy, Tourism Scotland 2020	ongoing	NWS Delivery Forum, Scottish Government - all	
		All Town Centre Action Plans will ensure delivery of opportunities linked to walking including: Town Centre walking environment improvement plans; Town centre health checks and audits. All towns will use Masterplan Toolkit and Place Standard Toolkit (when launched).	S/M	Scotland's Towns Partnership, Scottish Government Regeneration, Scottish Improvement Districts (BIDS), local authorities, RTPIS, Greenspace Scotland, Living Streets Scotland	
		Review, within communities, the availability of public transport linked to the integration with walking in all local authorities i.e. Bus stops within walking distance of homes (400m)	S	Local authorities, Transport Scotland, RTPs	
		Support the principles within the Accessible Transport Strategy and Action Plan for Scotland	M/L	Transport Scotland, MACS, Local authorities, RTPs	
2.3	Prioritise and support good quality walking environments, including green infrastructure, through planning and development (land use, transport, housing etc.) at national and local authority levels in both urban and rural areas.	Where regeneration, repair and/or re-design opportunities arise, retrofit street layouts to support environments that encourage more walking, consistent with Designing Streets principles	M/L	Scottish Government - Planning, OPENspace, local authority planning, Transport Scotland, Living Streets Scotland	
		Mainstream walking (and cycling) infrastructure and facilities into Scottish Government Infrastructure Plan	M/L	Scottish Government - Economic Development	
		Support infrastructure implementation within SRDP through: Improving Public Access scheme / Agri-Environment Climate Scheme / Forestry Grant Scheme	M	Scottish Natural Heritage / Forestry Commission Scotland, local authorities	
		Increase the priority for walking delivery within Single Outcome Agreements incorporated into next rounds, particularly in relation to vulnerable users and equalities obligations	M/L	COSLA, VOCAL, Scottish Government, Local Authorities, Community Planning Partnerships	
		Collate, promote and celebrate best practice in terms of new or improved walking environments so they can be replicated across Scotland	S	Paths for All, Living Streets Scotland	
		Ensure paths are clear of obstructions - bollards, road works, wheelie bins and are accessible for all	ongoing	Transport Accessibility Policy Group(Transport Scotland)	
		Consider scope for improvements to national policies and guidance on signs and crossings, when additional powers through the Smith Commission	L	Transport Scotland, SCOTS, Living Streets Scotland	
		Increase the provision of easy grade paths across all of the public estates (urban and rural)	M/L	Local / Park Authorities, Public land owning / managing bodies eg NTS, Green Exercise Partnership - Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, NHS Scotland - estates, SEPA etc	
2.4	Ensure all households in Scotland's urban areas are no more than 5 minutes' walk from promoted, publicly accessible and attractive greenspace, parks or local path networks	All Core Paths, priority community routes, wider networks, long distance routes etc are signed, promoted and graded (where appropriate) using new Path Grading System	M/L	Local Authorities, CSGNT, National Parks, Community Planning Partnerships, Community Trusts , Local Access Fora, grant giving bodies	
		MyPark Scotland used to promote parks and greenspaces across Scotland	S/M	MyPark Scotland, Greenspace Scotland	
2.5	Ensure all future planning policies / developments prioritise walking	Develop guidance, monitor, engage with consultations on major developments (NPF4, SPP review), training etc relating to Place Standard etc	M/L	Scottish Government - Planning, RTPIS, Community Planning Partnerships, Living Streets	
		Ensure that planning policy at all levels mainstreams walking as an integral part of future development through the NPF4, the review of SPP, the planning review, Strategic Development Plans, Local Development plans, supplementary guidance, masterplans and charrettes	M/L	Scottish Government - Planning, RTPIS, Community Planning Partnerships, Planning authorities, Improvement Service, Heads of Planning Scotland	
		Promote the Place Standard as a means of encouraging developments to mainstream walking in their design	S/M	A+DS, SG Planning, Planning authorities, NHS Health Scotland	
		Encourage and support planning authorities to prioritise walking infrastructure and facilities as part of Section 75 Agreements on new developments	M/L	Scottish Government planning, local authorities, Heads of Planning Scotland	
		Promote the value of mainstreaming walking in new developments with investors and developers	M/L	Scottish Property Federation, Homes for Scotland	

2.6	Identify and monitor level of funding available for small scale high impact improvements to the walking environment including new or upgraded controlled crossings drop kerbs, tactiles etc.	Encourage local authorities to review signalised crossing wait times to cross inline with research on the needs of vulnerable users	S/M	SCOTs, Living Streets Scotland, A+DS, local authorities, Community Planning Partnerships	
		Encourage local authorities to disaggregate expenditure on lower cost walking improvements for vulnerable users to allow monitoring of progress	M/L	SCOTs, COSLA, Living Streets Scotland	
<b>3</b>	<b>Strategic Aim 3: To enable easy, convenient and safe independent mobility for everyone.</b> By promoting conditions that make it easier and more attractive for people of all ages and abilities to walk, rather than a situation where people do not have the opportunity to walk or walk only if there is no alternative				
3.1	Prioritise the protection of vulnerable road users to ensure that pedestrians of all abilities and other users are safer on Scotland's roads.	Actively encourage the introduction of 20mph speed restrictions on all streets serving homes, schools and shops	M/L	Local authorities, Transport Scotland, Road Safety Scotland	
		Effectively enforce existing road traffic legislation	S/M	Police Scotland	
		Ensure Local Authorities and Police Scotland have adequate powers to tackle issues such as parking on pavements and drop kerbs	M/L	Scottish Government, COSLA, VOCAL, Living Streets Scotland	
		Support national and local road safety campaigns	M/L	Transport Scotland, Road Safety Scotland, Local authorities, RTPs, Living Streets Scotland, Sustrans Scotland, Cycling Scotland, Paths for All	
3.2	Ensure designs for public and private developments deliver secure connectivity within communities for pedestrians	Use the Place Standard Tool to inform design of new build and regeneration schemes. Ensure consistent application of Designing Streets		PAS, SG - Planning, RTPIS, A+DS, local authorities	
3.3	Ensure existing or developing walking / cycling / active travel plans assist with delivery of NWS and AP	Monitor and review Active Travel Plans (5 years)	S/M	Sustrans Scotland, Local authorities, Transport Scotland, RTPs, Paths for All, Living Streets Scotland	
3.4	Develop the capacity of locally based organisations, including community planning partnerships, to identify the scope for large and small improvements to the walking environment	Provide training to communities and professional and assist local organisations identify large and small scale improvements to streets, using techniques including Street Audits, Scot Gov Place Standard Tool. & Charrettes	S	Community planning partnerships, Living Streets Scotland, Greenspace Scotland	
3.5	Ensure all local authorities, national park authorities and other land managers adopt the Path Grading System across Scotland	Local / Park Authorities / land managers- survey existing routes as part of any management process	M/L	SNH, FCS, Paths for All, local/national park authorities, countryside trusts	
3.6	Increase the percentage of footways (by authority and nationally) deemed in good condition	Require consistent implementation of local authority footways condition survey. Monitor progress on improved condition against this. Establish baseline and set targets within 3 years	M/L	Local authorities, SCOTS, Improvement Service	
3.7	Promote safe, courteous and responsible shared use practices on footpaths, recreational and urban paths/trails.	Promote guidance, develop training and continue education programme linked to the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. Consider training widely as an overarching action for all relevant staff – also influencing relevant undergraduate content.	S/M	SNH, local authorities, national park authorities, National Access Forum, Local Access Forums, membership organisations eg BHSS, Cycling Scotland	











