

The Leven Programme

In 2030 the Leven catchment will be a living, breathing example of inclusive growth, achieving the environmental improvements whilst maximising social and economic opportunities.

The River Leven catchment runs largely through the Mid-Fife area. The main stem of the river originates from tributaries around Loch Leven (with Loch Leven itself being situated in the Perth and Kinross Council area) and flows to the Firth of Forth through several towns and communities. Historically the catchment sustained several hundred mills and factories and was home to a proud population of miners and workers in manufacturing industries; it was the engine of Mid-Fife, towns and communities grew around and along it.



The Leven catchment, with connectivity project area highlighted.

"Through strong partnership working the Leven catchment can be transformed into a world-leading example of environmental excellence while maximising social and economic opportunities."

**Pauline Silverman,
Water Specialist, SEPA.**



SEPA has a responsibility to tackle and improve or remove these pressures, which include barriers to fish migration, water quality issues and physical modifications to the rivers. The area has pockets of severe deprivation and much of it is economically stagnant. With a population often disconnected from the natural environment there are serious problems associated with poor health and well-being.

The vision of the Leven Programme includes creating a network of paths and sustainable travel routes, attracting and supporting business and industry, being a dynamic hub for social enterprise, youth and education and making productive use of vacant and derelict land.

Reconnecting people and place is a key focus of the initiative and plans start with the connectivity project, which will focus on a 5km stretch of the River Leven at Levenmouth.



Industrial site along the River Leven

Working in partnership, we intend to achieve environmental improvements whilst maximising social and economic opportunities. The Sustainable Growth Agreement solidifies and formalises our strong partnership approach to the area's issues and recognises that we can achieve more and better outcomes working together.



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