

Pentland Hills Regional Park Work Plan 2011/12

Planned Activities in the West Lothian

1. Responsible Enjoyment and Understanding of the Hills

- Regular Patrolling of the area.
- Maintenance of paths gates, stiles and access infrastructure.
- Creation of new walking route on the South Shore of Harperrig to link the West End of Harperrig with the Cauldstane Slap to Little Vantage right of way.
- Design and provision of new way marking signage and interpretation at Harperrig.
- Provide guided walks in the Pentland Hills as part of West Lothian Walking Festival.

2. Partnership & Participation

- Management and Administration of the Harperrig Local Management Group.
- Manage relationship with Friends of the Pentlands to carry out access improvements.
- Work with Oatridge College to provide new bird hides at Harperrig Reservoir Local Nature Reserve (LNR).
- Maintain and develop relationship with local farmers and landowners to support integrated management of the Harperrig area.

3. Local Economy of the Hills

- Provide text based early warning system to alert farmers and landowners about rural crime or other incidents likely to impact business activities.
- Convene and administer Pentland Hills Produce – including producers in the WLC area.
- Participate in the West Lothian Tourism Forum to ensure that the Pentland Hills play their part in the tourism offer from West Lothian.

4. Conservation and Enhancement of the Landscape, Natural and Cultural Heritage.

- Monitor the Harperrig Wildlife Refuge area.
- Biodiversity surveys, recording, monitoring and reporting.
- Co-ordinate the implementation of the Harperrig Reservoir LNR Management Plan.
- Planting of new areas of riparian woodland within Harperrig Reservoir LNR in partnership with Central Scotland Forest Trust.
- Liaise with WLC Planning, Scottish Natural Heritage and others regarding the impact and implications of large scale renewable energy projects on the periphery of the Regional Park.