

Levenmouth Adapts – climate ready placemaking in Fife

Adaptation
Scotland
supporting climate change resilience



Purpose

The Levenmouth Adapts project aims to promote climate ready decision-making in a way that incorporates community interests and champions the value of creative approaches to bring about change. The project is taking place between September 2018 – March 2019 and is the first of its kind in Scotland. This overview provides background information and key facts about the project.

About Levenmouth

The Levenmouth area of Fife is the location of a number of programmes of regeneration – including the ambitious River Leven Catchment Programme – which is being undertaken for the benefit of the local environment, people and businesses.

The programme is looking long term at projects that can be developed in the area through to 2030. Levenmouth is a priority area identified in the Levenmouth Strategic assessment 2018 and [Plan for Fife](#).

This area is one of the most deprived in Scotland and is also vulnerable to climate change; Levenmouth is likely to be impacted by increased flooding, temperature changes, sea level rise and coastal erosion. It is therefore vital to think about the impacts of a changing climate and how to adapt as part of delivering a regeneration programme. The Levenmouth Adapts project has been created as the first step in considering climate ready placemaking.

What will change as a result of the project?

Decision makers and those living, working and studying in Levenmouth will have greater understanding of how climate impacts will affect the area and its implications for future plans and adaptation responses. It is intended to increase understanding and support for adaptation action at all levels and prioritise action. The aim is to explore integrating actions into the Local Community Plan.

The learning will also feed into key programmes and plans including Fife's Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP).

Whilst the project is short term, taking place over six months, the learning will have longer term value and be applied to ongoing engagement within Levenmouth, and beyond.





This ambitious project has five key features:

- Builds on science and evidence of climate impacts that relate to Levenmouth
- Brings together institutional decision-makers within the area and looks to create pathways for communities to be involved in those decisions through community planning partnerships and use of the place standard tool
- Provides opportunity to work with younger people living and studying in the area
- Involves a creative approach, working with an artist commissioned to facilitate new ways of thinking about impacts and encouraging imaginative responses
- Incorporates reflective learning and evaluation throughout the process

Who is delivering the project?

The project involves four partners each bringing different perspectives and playing complimentary roles

- **Fife Resource Solutions (Fife Council's arm's length company)** are the climate change team for Fife Council, with specialists in climate, carbon reduction, renewable energy and community engagement. FRS

are responsible for ensuring that the project dovetails with existing meetings and events, engaging with the key individuals within a range of partner organisations. FRS is also providing the project management role and coordinating input from across Fife Council.

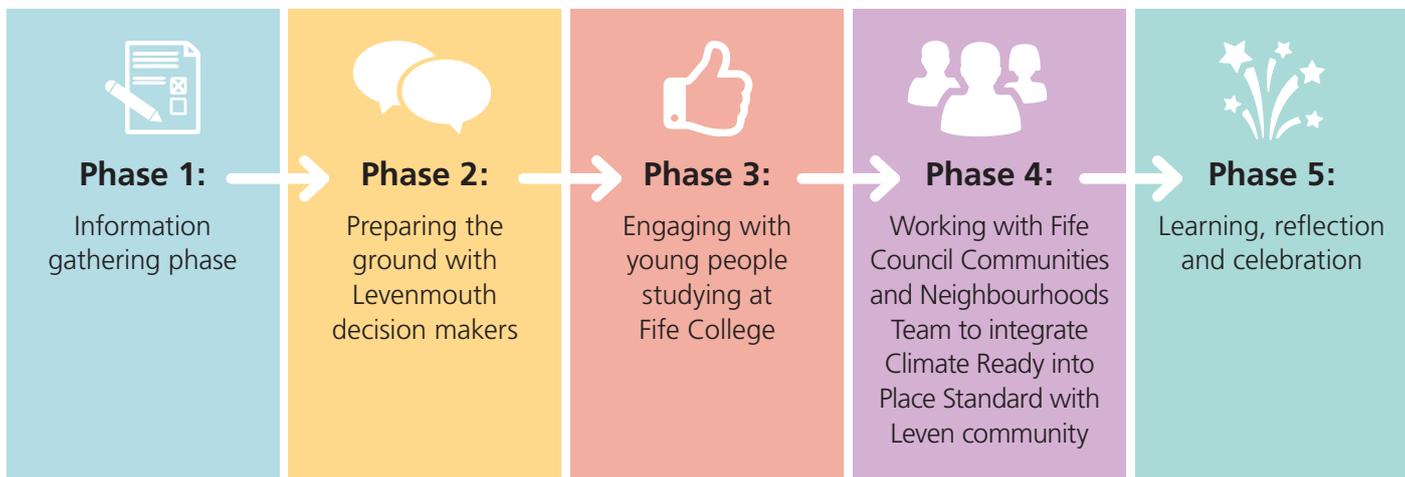
- **Adaptation Scotland** is providing funding for the project and will be responsible for bringing together the evidence base in relation to climate impacts relevant to Levenmouth, which will be validated by key policy teams in Fife Council. Adaptation Scotland will also draw from our knowledge of working in other locations to increase resilience in the face of climate change. We will draw on our facilitation skills and knowledge of tools that support change making including use of the place standard tool.
- **Creative Carbon Scotland** will use their knowledge of the role of creative practitioners in helping to achieve sustainability outcomes to commission a creative practitioner to apply their particular skills and experience to the project design and delivery. They will help design and contribute to the overall project to ensure that the conditions and environment are in place to so that the Creative Practitioner can work effectively. They will help to evaluate

the contribution of the Creative Practitioner to the project.

- **Creative practitioner** – Natalie Taylor will bring her extensive experience of working with communities, young people and planners on environmental issues. She will apply her training in creative thinking, working in collaboration with Adaptation Scotland to complement the scientific evidence of climate impacts and encourage imaginative responses to adaptation in Levenmouth. She will synthesise this learning to engage students in their visions for Levenmouth in 2030 and contribute to the development of an innovative approach to climate ready placemaking with the Communities and Neighbourhoods team within Fife Council.

Who will the project engage with?

Through the project we will engage with members of the Fife Environmental Partnership, the River Leven project working group, councillors and senior management within Fife Council including Fife Council's Communities and Neighbourhoods Team. We will engage with students at Fife College and involve representatives from community groups.



How will the project be run?

The project has five key phases:

(1) Information gathering phase

We will create climate evidence and scenarios, find out about existing projects and plans for Levenmouth and research tools, resources and creative approaches that can be used to engage stakeholders.

(2) Preparing the ground with Levenmouth decision makers

We will run a workshop in November to engage with key decision makers in Levenmouth including Fife Environmental Partnership and the River Leven project working group. The workshop will raise awareness of the Levenmouth Adapts project, explore what climate ready means for Levenmouth and inform future stakeholder engagement. A tool will be developed to ensure that adaptation is considered in future projects.

(3) Engaging with young people studying at Fife College

We will design and deliver a Creative Minds competition with

students developing visions of a Climate Ready Levenmouth 2030. The 'visions' will then be used to inform future engagement including with the community planning partnership.

(4) Working with Fife Council's Communities and Neighbourhoods Team to integrate Climate Ready into Place Standard with Leven community

We will hold a workshop in January 2019 with Fife Council's Communities and Neighbourhood Team to develop materials that can be used at Place Standard 'open days' for the Levenmouth communities.

(5) Learning, reflection and celebration

This project is a springboard to future climate ready approaches, we will take an active approach to learning as the project progresses. We will hold an event with participants to evaluate key learning from all perspectives, to celebrate achievements and to set foundations for follow on work.

More information

Levenmouth Adapts is a partnership project delivered by Adaptation Scotland, Fife Resource Solutions and Creative Carbon Scotland.

Find out more about the project:

- ruth@sniffer.org.uk
- www.adaptationscotland.org.uk
- [@AdaptationScot](https://twitter.com/AdaptationScot)
- [@CCScotland](https://twitter.com/CCScotland)
- [Creative Carbon Scotland](https://www.facebook.com/CreativeCarbonScotland)
- www.natalietaylor.org.uk
- hayley.williamson@refsol.co.uk

The Adaptation Scotland Programme is funded by the Scottish Government and delivered by Sustainability Charity Sniffer.



Adaptation support

Adapting to climate change takes time and Adaptation Scotland are here to provide support and advice with all your adaptation queries and projects. Get in touch to discuss how we can help you with your climate change adaptation work.

www.adaptationscotland.org.uk

**Adaptation
Scotland**
supporting climate change resilience

Contact Adaptation Scotland

Email: adaptationscotland@sniffer.org.uk
Telephone: 0131 651 4674

@AdaptationScot