

The River Park - FAQs

Q: What is the 'River Park'?

A: For the purposes of this project, the River Park is the river valley within Levenmouth, Fife. It's roughly 4km-long from the Cameron Bridge and Methilhill side of Levenmouth along to the coast at Leven and Methil.

The river valley goes by many names – some people to the south of the river call it the Dam. For the purposes of the project, we call it the River Park. However, everyone should continue to call it what they like – it's for you to explore and enjoy!

Q: Why is there so much construction activity going on at the same time?

A: There are two projects being delivered in the River Park. The River Park programme, managed by Green Action Trust, and the Connectivity Project (Also known as River Park Routes) managed by Fife Council.

The Connectivity Project, for walking, wheeling and cycling, will be built in phases to keep disruption to a minimum, and some parts of the path network will be closed with diversions in place where practical.

The first phase of work began in June 2025 at the west of the site (Poplar Road) moving east to Bawbee Bridge/Leven Train Station. Completion of this first phase of the Connectivity Project is anticipated to be early 2026. This phase will concentrate on the stretch between Kirkland Walk and Oakvale Road and carry on eastwards to the north of Mulberry Crescent, tying in with Mountfleurie to the east.

Green Action Trust's work on the River Park Programme including the new nature network routes and greenspace improvements will begin later in summer 2025.

Q. Are paths going to be built or upgraded directly beside the River Leven?

A. The current projects – Levenmouth Connectivity Project (also known as River Park Routes) and River Park Programme – will not make changes to the existing concrete path beside the River Leven during the construction programme this year. The design for upgrading this path has been completed but construction is not currently funded. The Connectivity Project will provide a main walking, wheeling and cycling route between Cameron Bridge and Leven Stations to help connect these two new stations and the local communities. The River Park Programme will provide a series of accessible grass paths throughout the park. These will allow locals and visitors alike to visit and enjoy all areas of the park. The River Park Programme will also provide better connections to the

existing riverside path – in particular a hard-surfaced path will connect the Eastern end of Poplar Road to the existing riverside path and provide access for everyone to the riverside.

Q: Will I still be able to use the Park during construction?

A: Yes, the project team will keep core paths open to the public. Other paths and areas of the park will only be restricted where needed to keep members of the community safe during construction. Any restrictions will be clearly signposted.

Q: When will the work be finished?

A: The major construction work for the Nature Network and River Accessibility projects aims to be complete by Spring 2026. The connectivity project is also estimated to be complete by Spring 2026. There will be activities, events and smaller-scale improvements running in the park and surrounding area until Spring 2029 as part of the River Park Programme.

Q: Who will look after the park when the project is finished?

A: Once the project is completed, Fife Council's Levenmouth Area Communities Team will take responsibility for the upkeep of the River Park. Additionally, they will oversee the training of local people in the skills necessary to maintain the park through the Green Skills Academy project.

Q: Why are you cutting down some trees and bushes in the park?

A: Some trees and bushes have been removed to make way for new paths, open spaces, and improved access. This was designed to improve how the natural environment functions. We committed to protecting wildlife during the tree removal process. The tree removal was carefully timed to avoid the bird nesting season.

However, we will be planting more trees than we have cut down. This allows for a more diverse range of plants, creating better habitats for wildlife and making the space even greener and more enjoyable for visitors.

Q: Why have recently planted trees been removed on Kirkland Walk?

A: Unfortunately, these trees needed to be moved to allow space for the construction compounds. They will be reinstated following the project work. This has been done as a last resort. The interconnected paths and the construction vehicle movement throughout the park have meant that other locations which were considered could not be used for the full duration of the project construction period.

Q: How can the community get involved?

A: Community engagement has been fundamental in shaping The River Park, ensuring that local voices influence its design and development. We will continue to work closely with the community through events, activities and

volunteering opportunities throughout. Your input helps make this space the best it can be for everyone. If you'd like to keep in touch with what's happening, please sign up to stay in touch: [Signup link for River Park Programme Updates](#)

Q: How will the park support local wildlife?

A: The project is designed to increase biodiversity by introducing a wider variety of plants and habitats, such as woodlands and wetlands. These improvements will create better conditions for birds, insects, and other wildlife to thrive.

Q: Will there be new paths for walking and cycling?

A: Yes, the park will include new paths connecting to the new rail stations, bridges and linking to the wider active travel network, making it easier and safer to walk, wheel and cycle in the area.

Q: Where will benches be located?

A: There are a number of benches and rest stops included in the Connectivity Project (River Park Routes). These are designed to give regular opportunities for rest along the active travel paths. More benches will be designed during the four-year River Park Programme. The location of these will be determined by the local community and the project team in the coming months.

Q: How can I stay updated on the project's progress?

A: You can stay informed by keeping up with our posts on [social media](#), visiting the project's website, www.theleven.org, and signing up to our newsletter: [link to River Park Programme newsletter](#)

Q: How is the project funded?

A: This project has secured almost £3 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for its delivery phase over the next 4 years. Match funding has also been secured from Fife Council, Diageo, SEPA, Historic Environment Scotland Grants for Heritage and Nature Restoration Fund, Leven Reconnected and Green Action Trust.

Q: Who are the partners?

A: The River Park Programme is led by Green Action Trust, who are also leading on a few of the projects. The other project leads are Fife Council, Fife Coast & Countryside Trust and Archaeology Scotland. SEPA and Diageo are partners on the River Park Steering Group and Historic Environment Scotland are partners in an advisory capacity.