

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

2017-2022

# Callander

# Callander Community Action Plan 2017-2022

This Action Plan was developed by a group of people representing Callander Community Council, Callander Community Development Trust, Callander Youth Project Trust, McLaren High School, Callander Primary School and the Ben Ledi View community newspaper, with support from the Community Partnership for Loch Lomond & The Trossachs and the Callander Town Coordinator. Financial support for the process came from the Community Partnership and Callander Community Hydro Fund.

This Community Action Plan (CAP) replaces the previous one developed at the time of the 2011 charrette and it carries forward many of the same themes and concerns for further development.

Through partnership working and using the plan to help secure funding, many of the priorities in the 2012-17 plan were achieved, including the following:

- ➔ The part-time post of Town Coordinator, recruited in 2013, supported delivery of CAP actions and provided continuity and consistent point of contact for partners. Funding came from FVL LEADER, Stirling Council, National Park Authority, Scottish Government People & Communities Fund and Callander Community Hydro Fund.
- ➔ The programme of community events was expanded to include the annual Summerfest promoting arts and culture and Winterfest.
- ➔ Callander Youth Project Trust developed an award-winning social enterprise to deliver youth training and activities.
- ➔ The community-controlled McLaren Leisure Centre secured Climate Challenge funding, improved its environmental performance and extended its activities.
- ➔ An all-weather pitch was installed at McLaren Leisure Centre with funding from Sportscotland.
- ➔ Access to the outdoors was promoted and encouraged by many local groups, such as Callander's Countryside, Skidaddle and Trossachs Mobility.
- ➔ BT Highspeed Broadband was installed.
- ➔ The Callander Landscape Partnership secured £1.7m from the Heritage Lottery Fund for access and heritage projects, including improved signage of our path network, to be delivered from 2018.
- ➔ The Flood Action Group was set up by the Development Trust to support people affected by flooding.







- ➔ Works to extend and improve Ancaster Square were carried out by Stirling Council.
- ➔ The National Park Authority commissioned a feasibility study into safer cycling and walking including construction of a bridge at the east of Callander.
- ➔ Creative in Callander was set up by the Development Trust to occupy an empty shop and is now an independent company run by a group of artists and crafters.
- ➔ Both the Primary and High School developed a safe routes to school plan.
- ➔ Greener Callander extended and improved the floral displays on the town centre and constructed the Community Friendship Garden in South Church Street
- ➔ St Kessog's was purchased by the Clanranald Trust, an educational charity.
- ➔ VisitScotland has continued its presence in Callander through a partnership with the National Park Authority.
- ➔ Callander Enterprise produced a promotional video and developed its website [incallander.co.uk](http://incallander.co.uk) to help promote Callander and its businesses.
- ➔ Callander Community Hydro Scheme started generating electricity in 2014. It donates funds to the Development Trust which distributes them to local projects through the Community Hydro Fund.

Some priorities from the last plan were still important in the 2016 consultations and have been carried forward.

### Our Community Our Voice

Community views were canvassed in 2016 through surveys in the Ben Ledi View, an on-line survey, a series of workshops with McLaren High School pupils, community meetings and a business workshop hosted by Callander Enterprise. Callander Primary School conducted a peer-led consultation.

A total of 379 paper surveys of which 226 were from young people and a further 133 were completed online. The community meetings and business workshop were attended by 56 people.



**512**  
SURVEYS RETURNED  
FROM OUR COMMUNITY

**56** 

**PEOPLE ATTENDED  
THE CAP COMMUNITY  
& BUSINESS MEETINGS**

*Thanks to everyone who participated*



# Our Community Now

The following section summarises our Community Profile. All facts and figures are based on local research and updated through the community consultation.

## Location

Callander is on the eastern edge of, and is the largest settlement in, Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park. It is often described as the gateway to the Highlands as it sits on the southern edge of the Highland Boundary Fault.

The town is dominated to the west by Ben Ledi (879m), and runs in a ribbon along the A84 trunk road, sandwiched between Callander Craggs to the north and the River Teith to the south. It is 16 miles north-west of Stirling, 45 miles north of Glasgow and 50 miles north-west of Edinburgh.

Callander is a focus of the surrounding rural area, providing shopping, schooling and health and leisure services to a much wider population.

## Population

Callander's population at the 2011 census was 3,077.

## Housing

The number of households has increased from the 2001 census to 1,553, of which about 70% are owner occupied, and 20% classed as social housing. Although Rural Stirling Housing Association has built a number of homes in recent years, difficulty finding affordable family accommodation is still a significant local issue.

## Employment and the Local Economy

The tourism and service industries are the main employers in Callander, with retail, accommodation and food, and health and social care comprising the bulk of employment.

The construction industry follows closely, employing 10% of the local population. Self-employment is higher than the national average at 13% as opposed to 7%. Significant local employers include McLaren Leisure Centre, the schools, and Campbell's Shortbread.

Many residents out-commute to parts of the central belt or are self-employed.

## Education and Childcare

Most local children attend Callander Primary School, which has a pupil roll of 231, and also provides 30 places of pre-school nursery care during school hours. McLaren High School has a roll of 591, and covers a wide catchment from Tyndrum in the north to Aberfoyle in the south-west. There is no under-3 or private nursery care in Callander but there are several registered childminders.

McLaren Leisure Centre provides holiday and extra-curricular activities for children, including swimming, climbing, hockey, football and rugby. Callander Youth Project runs a youth club and provides other activities for children and young people.

## Services & Community

Local health services can be found at the Bracklinn and Leny Practices at the Callander Medical Centre, a modern building on the edge of town, covering Callander and the surrounding rural area. Dental and optical services can be found separately in the town centre. The nearest hospital is the NHS Forth Valley Royal Infirmary in Larbert. A small library is located just off the main street. Sheltered housing is provided by Stirling Council and Trust Housing, and there are two private nursing homes in the town. Further social-care for disabled and the elderly is provided by Enable Scotland and Stirling Council. Support for young people can be found through the Callander Youth Project, who liaise with local organisations, businesses and groups to provide support for 11 to 25 year olds through activities, education, training, recreation, and resources, aiming to stem the flow of young people from rural areas. They set up and run the five-star Callander Hostel as a social enterprise to train young people in hospitality.





## Retail, Food and Accommodation

Callander hosts a variety of shops, mainly aimed at the visitor and tourist market, including arts and crafts, clothing, and gift shops. The town also has a butcher, three bakeries, a farm shop, charity shops and two small supermarkets. The Edinburgh and Trossachs Woollen Mill recently vacated four premises in the town, and one of the two banks closed. Two of these four premises and several others have been refilled and a relatively small number are currently empty. A small, light industrial estate is located on the southern edge of Callander, providing premises for a number of local enterprises. Callander has a number of popular cafes, restaurants and hotels. A significant amount of holiday accommodation can be found in and close to Callander, including self-catering, bed and breakfasts, hotels and Callander Hostel; cabin and camping and caravan sites are located on the edges of town.

## Leisure and Activities

McLaren Leisure Centre provides, gym, swimming, relaxation, soft-play and other indoor and outdoor activities for locals and visitors. Callander hosts several popular festivals over the year, including Summerfest, Callander Jazz and Blues Festival, the Trossachs Beer Festival and Winterfest.

More than 60 clubs and groups have active memberships in all age groups, covering interests such as outdoor activities, sport, film, photography, heritage, music and crafts and there is a thriving U3A. Trossachs Mobility provides all-terrain vehicles for less-abled people to access the outdoors, as well as information to assist disabled people to fully enjoy the National Park.

## Heritage

Callander and its surrounding area has a long a varied history. Some of the earliest can be found at the Auchenlaich Neolithic burial cairn and the Neolithic settlement at Claish Farm and significant Roman remains can be found on the Bochastle Plain. The main town of Callander was constructed in the late 1730s as a planned-town by the Duke of Perth, although there is settlement evidence dating back to the 14th century. By the late 18th century the town became the focus of a retired soldiers' settlement and the construction of the military road. Cotton manufacturing was one of the main industries during this period. Following publication of Sir Walter Scott's *Lady of the Lake*, Callander became a popular tourist destination further boosted by the arrival of the railway in the 1850s, which laid the foundations of Callander's economy today.

Key characteristics of the Callander Conservation Area are the 18th century linear plan along the Main Street; Ancaster Square and the former St Kessog's church; the satellite village at Bridgend; the narrow lanes and vennels leading off Main Street; and the suburban 19th century villas located on the higher ground to the north and west of the town.

## Roads & Transport

Callander is located on the main A84 trunk road from Stirling to Fort William, which is a popular tourist route very accessible to the Central Belt. This can lead to congestion and traffic management problems at busy times. The large number of heavy vehicles and speeding are concerns for residents.

There are limited buses to and from Killin and Stirling, which hosts rail and bus links to further afield. This lack of a comprehensive and reliable public transport system is a significant issue locally, impacting those who cannot drive, such as the young and elderly, and makes accessing essential services, such as hospitals, extremely difficult.

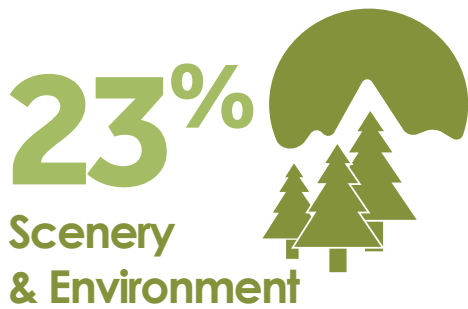
## Environment & Outdoor Access

The stunning landscape surrounding Callander is very mixed, comprising wooded uplands to the north and west, floodplain, parkland and farmland to the south and east, with a plethora of flora and fauna. There are three local SSSIs (Sites of Special Scientific Interest), and the River Teith is a Special Conservation Area (SAC). A wide variety of paths and walks are accessible from Callander, from steep hill and woodland walks to the Bracklinn Falls or through Coihallan Woods, to riverside walks through the Meadows, which also provides further formal and informal recreational activities.

Several long-distance walking and cycle routes pass through Callander, including the Rob Roy Way, NCN Route 7 (cycle route connecting Sunderland and Inverness). The Great Trossachs Path runs from Callander to Inversnaid on Loch Lomond. Development of the proposed NCN Route 765 will link Stirling and Callander. A large range of outdoor activities are accessible from Callander: mountain biking in the local hills and woods; fishing on the River Teith; water sports on the Teith and Loch Venachar; Callander Golf Course; and close proximity to all that the Trossachs has to offer. A local concern is the lack of pedestrian access to the high school and leisure centre from the eastern end of Callander.



# Community Views Survey Likes



## What we said about our top likes.

“ The positive attitude of people who give their time freely to do things to help the town and the community, the visitors who enjoy coming to the town many returning frequently”

“ Being able to walk to anywhere in the town (especially kids walking to school)”

“ Safe area to bring up children”

“ The excellent McLaren High School”

“ Beautiful scenery, clean and tidy streets, the buzz, it is a one stop place for everything”

“ Great place for biking; nice scenery and trails; accessible.”



# Community Views Survey

## Dislikes

58%

Town  
Centre



6%

Infrastructure



5%

Lack of community



1%

Housing



Transport

16%

### What we said about our dislikes.

"The Meadows used to be a nice place where you could have a picnic. Now it is full of trees and wet."

"In the 14 years I have heard the same old moans, complaints, proposals, ideas; nit-picking, breakaways... but it is still like Groundhog Day. Too many so called leaders have egotistical agendas."

"Too many community organisations, why not work all together?"

"terrible on-street parking for residents and workers on Main Street."

"Lack of active travel links to Stirling."

"Not enough quality shops & restaurants, stuck in the past."

"The seeming lack of support to encourage retailers to the area."

"No bike or proper outdoor shops."

"Charging for car parking stops people stopping off as it costs. Aberfoyle has free parking, why not Callander?"





# What Callander Young People Said . . .

## Introduction

From the beginning, the young people of Callander played an active part in setting the CAP priorities. A survey was circulated through McLaren High School and Callander Primary.

220 surveys returned from McLaren High School and 96 returned from Callander Primary

This was followed by a series of engagement sessions with members of the Student Council from McLaren High and Primary 7 pupils from Callander Primary who conducted a peer-led consultation.



## What our young people liked about Callander



### 66% LIKED SERVICES & AMENITIES

Our young people love all that the town has to offer and the fact that you are not too far from Scotland's cities.



### 23% LIKED SCENERY AND NATURE AND ACCESS TO OUTDOOR PURSUITS

Being able to get into some of the most beautiful countryside in Scotland is a big plus. Our young people were also more concerned about protecting the environment and wildlife and planning for the future.



### 8% LIKED THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Our young people liked that there were plenty of activities and opportunities for sport, art and recreation. They also liked that people were friendly and helpful.

## What our young people would like to change



**58%** of them were concerned about the town centre with the variety of shops, litter and parking being issues



**19%** had public transport concerns - It is difficult if you are reliant on public transport and it is hard to engage with things outside of the town if you can't get back from Stirling in the evenings. "Bring back DRT the way it used to be"



**14%** were concerned that there was not enough for young people to do and that parks and facilities were in need of refurbishment.



While many of the themes identified by the young people were the same as those of the rest of the people in the communities, their priorities were different

**The young people highlighted four main areas for future development:**

### 1. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

This should be easier to access, cheaper and more responsive. It should include a service which allowed connections to other places, including surrounding communities.

### 2. THE TOWN

The town should have a facelift with more variety of shops catering to local people and with the problem of empty shops being addressed. Dealing with litter and tidying the town up should also be prioritised. Parking and roads should be investigated so that Callander is a safe place for pedestrians.

A new bridge linking the eastern part of the town with the south should be a priority as this will ensure safe travel to school and will make the town centre safer. Both The Meadows and the Roman Camp parks need refurbishment, with the Meadows of particular concern.

### 3. THINGS TO DO

There needs to be more organised activities for young people, more youth clubs and clubs catering for arts, crafts, photography and cinema. A skatepark and other upgraded sports facilities should be investigated. The cost of accessing the astroturf pitch and the gym are prohibitive and mean that young people can't easily access healthy activities - this should be reviewed.

### 4. ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS

More outdoor events and activities should be developed, making the best use of the wonderful landscape. Several facilities were envisaged: An Outdoor Centre offering bike, canoe and kayak hire and providing information for walkers and cyclists; A Wildlife Centre providing access to the animals of the National Park and introducing people to conservation; A Waterpark allowing safe access to the river and providing another opportunity to brand Callander as the Outdoor Capital. More paths and walkways should be developed with signs and interpretation.

**There was also concern for the future of Callander**

***"There needs to be something done about flooding in the town",***  
with the flooding of the Meadows being of particular concern.  
***"Callander should be an eco-town"***



# Callander vision statement

Over the next five years, Callander's community groups and their partners will work together to make Callander an even better place in which to live, work and do business and a fantastic place to visit and enjoy. We will build on the achievements of recent years, using our partnerships and community empowerment opportunities to develop a sustainable future for Callander.

- ➡ Our young people were fully engaged with this plan's development and we will continue to involve them as its activities and projects grow.
- ➡ The long-term vision for Callander as agreed at the 2011 charrette is to be the outdoor capital of the National Park, an aspiration fully supported in our 2016 community surveys (89% agreed with this aspiration). By making more of our surrounding landscapes and heritage and stimulating businesses to provide the services and activities needed to help residents and visitors access the wealth of outdoor recreation on our doorstep, we hope to secure the local economy and wellbeing of the town.
- ➡ Progress has already been made and this plan aims to secure further development towards this overall vision together with other key priorities identified during community consultations in 2016-17.





# Main Themes and Priorities

These are the main themes and priorities the community will focus on over the next five years, in partnership with public agencies and other supporters.

- ➔ **Callander Community: Facilities, Activities & Events**
- ➔ **Green Callander: Environment & Sustainability**
- ➔ **Connected Callander: Infrastructure, Transport & Roads**
- ➔ **Prosperous Callander: Local Economy & Town Centre**
- ➔ **Outdoor Capital**

## TOP TEN PRIORITIES AS IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMUNITY THROUGH CONSULTATION

- ➔ Promote Callander and the wider surrounding area as an outdoor activity destination
- ➔ Improve public transport
- ➔ Improve the town centre environment
- ➔ Support and extend the range of events, activities and community celebrations for all
- ➔ Improve and maintain walking, cycling & all abilities access routes
- ➔ Better signage and maps promoting activities, attractions and heritage
- ➔ Support the development of a diverse economy including retail, outdoor activity, tourism, food and drink and creative industries
- ➔ Support the development and management of assets for community benefit
- ➔ Encourage the development of childcare
- ➔ Build a road bridge linking the eastern approach to the south across the river

# Theme 1: Callander Community: Facilities, Activities & Events

Callander has an active and engaged community, which has already achieved many improvements through working together and with public sector partners. In the five years of this plan we aim to take control of more local assets, improve community resilience and promote social inclusion.



A guide to the first steps to be taken over the next 12 months and into next 5 years...

## PRIORITY 1:

### Organisation and communication

- ➔ Continue the role of the town coordinator to encourage cooperation and collaboration.

#### **Community Champions:**

Callander Partnership, Community Council, Community Development Trust

## PRIORITY 2:

### Housing

- ➔ Provide more affordable housing for families and vulnerable residents

#### **Community Champions:**

Stirling Council, Rural Stirling Housing Association, Private Landlords, National Park Planning

## PRIORITY 3:

### Childcare and education

- ➔ Support provision of wrap-around childcare, including of out of school care
- ➔ Address concerns about future capacity at the Primary School

#### **Community Champions:**

Callander Primary School Parent Council, Stirling Council, McLaren Leisure, Independent Childcare Providers, Community Council

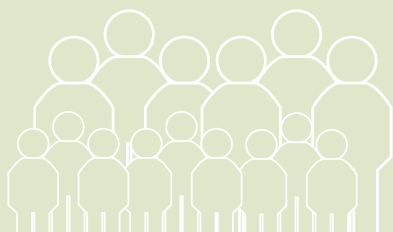
## PRIORITY 4:

### Community safety and resilience

- ➔ More visible policing at night
- ➔ Develop a Callander Resilience Plan to ensure coordinated response to emergencies, including flooding
- ➔ Support residents who are experiencing social, health or economic difficulties

#### **Community Champions:**

Resilience Group (formerly Flood Action Group), Community Council, Stirling Council, Emergency Services, McLaren Leisure, Start up Stirling, Citizens Advice Bureau, NHS Forth Valley, Craigard Club, Transport Scotland







#### PRIORITY 5:

##### Community control of assets & facilities

- ➔ Support Callander Youth Project Trust to deliver training and activities for young people
- ➔ Manage and maintain Callander Community Hydro Scheme
- ➔ Progress plans for community control of Coilhallan Woods for mountain bike trails and other community activities/enterprise
- ➔ Progress plans to transfer car parks, Lower Craggs Wood, the Meadows and Camp Place park to community control
- ➔ Support McLaren Leisure's development plans for long-term sustainability of the community leisure centre
- ➔ Secure premises for a business hub

##### Community Champions:

Community Development Trust, Community Council, Mountain Bike Trail Group, McLaren Leisure, Callander Youth Project Trust, Callander Community Hydro Scheme

#### PRIORITY 6:

##### Events and community celebration

- ➔ Support and extend the range of community celebrations, such as ceilidhs, dancing, festivals and activities for all (disabled people, families, young people, older people, and visitors).
- ➔ Secure a site for outdoor events and Highland Games.
- ➔ Support and promote existing events and festivals such as Callander Jazz & Blues Festival, Summerfest and Winterfest.

##### Community Champions:

Community Development Trust, Callander Enterprise, Callander Jazz & Blues Festival, Callander Highland Games, social clubs, hospitality businesses, National Park Authority, McLaren Leisure

#### PRIORITY 7:

##### Community hall

- ➔ Investigate opportunities for a performance space and community hub in new or existing premises

##### Community Champions:

Community Council, Community Development Trust, Callander Partnership, Hall Committees, Golf Club, McLaren Leisure, Callander Youth Project Trust



# Theme 2: Green Callander: Environment & Sustainability

Callander is surrounded by some of the most scenic landscapes in Scotland, something that our residents value highly and many thousands of visitors and tourists travel here to enjoy. But we still need to make much more of it and improve access as well as signage to encourage more people to venture further into the outdoors.



A guide to the first steps to be taken over the next 12 months and into next 5 years...

## PRIORITY 1:

### Floral displays

- ➔ Support Greener Callander volunteers and others to maintain and extend floral displays and community garden spaces.

#### **Community Champions:**

Greener Callander, Community Development Trust, Community Council, Stirling Council, Rotary Club, British Legion

## PRIORITY 2:

### The Meadows

- ➔ Improve the Meadows area and the Meadows play park for visitors and residents

#### **Community Champions:**

Callander's Countryside, Community Development Trust, Stirling Council

## PRIORITY 3:

### Callander Landscape Partnership

- ➔ Support Phase 2 Heritage Lottery Fund bid in August 2017
- ➔ Support delivery of projects from early 2018

#### **Community Champions:**

Landscape Partnership Partners: National Park Authority, Community Development Trust, Community Council, Callander's Countryside, Callander Heritage Society, Callander Ramblers, Callander Youth Project Trust, Drumardoch Estate, Forestry Commission, McLaren Leisure, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Wildlife Trust (Callander), Stirling Council.

## PRIORITY 4:

### Litter and dog fouling

- ➔ Reduce litter and tackle dog fouling through enforcing by-laws and public campaigns
- ➔ Continue annual Spring Clean by volunteers

#### **Community Champions:**

Community Council, Community Development Trust, Stirling Council

## PRIORITY 5:

### Flood management

- ➔ Work with Stirling Council on plans for flood alleviation

#### **Community Champions:**

Community Council, Stirling Council, Resilience Group

## PRIORITY 6:

### Local food growing

- ➔ Encourage local food growing and opportunities for allotments

#### **Community Champions:**

Community Council, Community Development Trust, Greener Callander, McLaren Leisure





# Theme 3: Connected Callander: Infrastructure, Transport & Roads

Callander's connections with neighbouring communities and the wider world are not always as good as they could be. There are fewer public transport links than five years ago and despite installation of high speed broadband, its benefits are not reaching those at a distance from the hubs in the town centre. Parking, traffic on the A84 and lack of public toilets are still concerns.



A guide to the first steps to be taken over the next 12 months and into next 5 years...

## PRIORITY 1:

### Transport

- ➔ Improve public transport/affordable fares
- ➔ Investigate community-based transport solutions
- ➔ Improve active travel/cycle links to neighbouring communities, especially Stirling
- ➔ Improve patient transport to FV Royal Hospital at Larbert
- ➔ Encourage bike friendly buses
- ➔ Consider a feasibility study on reinstating a rail link

#### Community Champions:

Stirling Council, Public Transport Providers, Cycle Stirling, Sustrans, Community Development Trust, Callander's Countryside, McLaren Leisure, Forth Environment Link

## PRIORITY 2:

### Parking

- ➔ Investigate parking solutions across Callander

#### Community Champions:

Community Council, Callander Partnership, Stirling Council

## PRIORITY 3:

### Broadband and phone signals

- ➔ Faster broadband and improved mobile coverage for all premises, not just town centre
- ➔ Develop project to install free WiFi in town centre

#### Community Champions:

Callander Partnership, Callander Enterprise, Businesses, Stirling Council, National Park Authority

## PRIORITY 4:

### Public toilets

- ➔ Secure additional public toilets closer to town centre and improve signage

#### Community Champions:

Stirling Council, Community Council, Community Development Trust

## PRIORITY 5:

### Roads

- ➔ Build road bridge linking the eastern approach to the south across the river
- ➔ Reduce speeding, manage and control traffic on the A84

#### Community Champions:

National Park Authority, Stirling Council, Community Council, Callander Partnership, Transport Scotland



# Theme 4: Prosperous Callander: Local Economy & Town Centre

Callander's community, and the wider surrounding area, depends a great deal on the local economy and a thriving town centre as a source of jobs and services and an interesting and enjoyable place to spend time and meet friends and colleagues. Improvements have been made but the community is keen to see more investment. In the five years of this plan significant investment is expected through the Stirling City Region Deal and Callander Landscape Partnership.



A guide to the first steps to be taken over the next 12 months and into next 5 years...

## PRIORITY 1:

### Town centre

- ➔ Improve the public areas in the town centre including Ancaster Square
- ➔ Encourage wider variety of shops, including more arts and crafts and promotion of local heritage
- ➔ Fill empty shops
- ➔ Improve disabled access
- ➔ Develop strategies to encourage more businesses including start-ups and small business help
- ➔ Investigate options for wet weather cover in Ancaster Square

#### **Community Champions:**

Callander Partnership, Callander Enterprise, Businesses, National Park Authority Planning, Community Development Trust, Community Council, Trossachs Mobility, British Legion

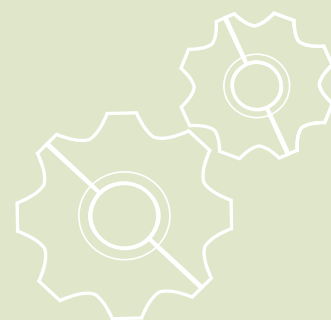
## PRIORITY 2:

### Marketing and branding

- ➔ Collaborate on marketing and promotion to make best use of resources
- ➔ Research and collate the destination product to include the surrounding area
- ➔ Continue to improve communication between businesses and community groups
- ➔ Callander Enterprise to secure funding for destination branding/marketing campaign.

#### **Community Champions:**

Callander Enterprise, VisitScotland, National Park Authority, Destination Callander, Businesses, Outdoor activity providers, McLaren Leisure, Callander Landscape Partnership, Stirling Council





# Theme 5: Outdoor Capital

Our community survey revealed strong feelings about the landscapes that surround Callander and a need to better promote and share our rich heritage and natural history, as well as continued support for the aspiration to be the outdoor capital of the National Park. Many of the activities listed here will contribute to other themes, but will primarily help us to achieve this ambition.



A guide to the first steps to be taken over the next 12 months and into next 5 years...

## PRIORITY 1:

### Providing & maintaining outdoor activities

- ➔ Improve and maintain walking, cycling & all abilities access routes
- ➔ Develop mountain bike trails close to town
- ➔ Extend the offering at McLaren Leisure to promote outdoor activities
- ➔ Establish a visitor centre/museum displaying Callander heritage
- ➔ Provide access to more water-based activities
- ➔ Establish an outdoor centre offering the best activities, including cycle facilities
- ➔ Investigate installation of a skate park
- ➔ Develop at least one destination play park

#### Community Champions:

Callander Enterprise, Callander Landscape Partnership, Businesses, Outdoor Activity Providers, Golf Club, McLaren Leisure, Mountain Bike Trail Group, Callander Heritage Society, Forth Environment Link, Trossachs Mobility, FABB Adventure, Community Council, Stirling Council, Community Development Trust

## PRIORITY 2:

### Marketing & information

- ➔ Promote Callander and the wider surrounding area as an outdoor activity destination for all
- ➔ Improve signage and maps promoting activities, attractions and heritage

#### Community Champions:

Callander Enterprise, Destination Callander, National Park Authority, VisitScotland, Community Development Trust, Callander Landscape Partnership, Businesses, Outdoor Activity Providers, Callander Heritage Society, Stirling Cycle Hub and Callander Active Travel Hub, Trossachs Mobility

## PRIORITY 3:

### Tourism

- ➔ Develop wet weather/indoor attractions
- ➔ Acquire premises for the Heritage Society for public display/museum
- ➔ Improve information/signage to attractions, activities & heritage
- ➔ Create more visitor focused events and festivals all year round
- ➔ Develop new outdoor attractions
- ➔ Attract a large hotel/spa

#### Community Champions:

Callander Landscape Partnership, Callander Enterprise, Businesses, McLaren Leisure, Callander Heritage Society, Callander Partnership, National Park Authority, Stirling Council



# Making It Happen

The priorities outlined in this plan will be taken forward by our community groups and a range of private, public and voluntary sector partners. Many already have champions who will take them forward or are already underway. Others do not have clear owners and will need to be further investigated. Where responsibility lies with partners, this plan is a clear steer from Callander's community on how their resources should be directed.

Callander Community Development Trust, which was set up to improve life in Callander and has directors from each of the key groups, will manage and monitor the plan on behalf of the community. It will report on progress through the Callander Partnership, which is chaired by Callander Community Council and includes representatives from the National Park Authority, Stirling Council, Transport Scotland, Rural Stirling Housing Association and other public-sector partners.

The Town Coordinator, a part-time post employed by Callander Community Development Trust on behalf of the community, will coordinate the delivery of the plan and support specific projects where appropriate.

Most of the work and projects by community groups is done by volunteers so if you are interested in getting involved with any of the activities in this plan please get in touch.

## **Callander Town Coordinator**

E-mail: [coordinator@callandercdt.org.uk](mailto:coordinator@callandercdt.org.uk)

Telephone: 07852 106605

## **Callander Community Development Trust**

E-mail: [secretary@callandercdt.org.uk](mailto:secretary@callandercdt.org.uk)

Website: [www.callandercdt.org.uk](http://www.callandercdt.org.uk)

## **Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Community Partnership**

E-mail: [info@thecommunitypartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@thecommunitypartnership.org.uk)

Telephone: 01389 722639







# Acknowledgements

Callander Community Action Plan Steering Group have prepared this community document. A special thanks to all Steering Group members for their time and dedication.

*We are grateful to the following organisations for funding and assistance:*

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The Community Partnership in  
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Area  
[www.thecommunitypartnership.org.uk](http://www.thecommunitypartnership.org.uk)  
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Loch Lomond & The Trossachs  
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The photographs in this publication are by Pauline Deas, Callander Youth Project Trust, Greener Callander, Freddie Mills, Creative in Callander, Callander Highland Games, Sheila Winstone.

