



# WREN in Scotland



# WREN in Scotland



Kilsyth - Scents & Sensitivities Nature Trail

WREN employs Grant Managers to help and assist applicants in and around Edinburgh and Glasgow.

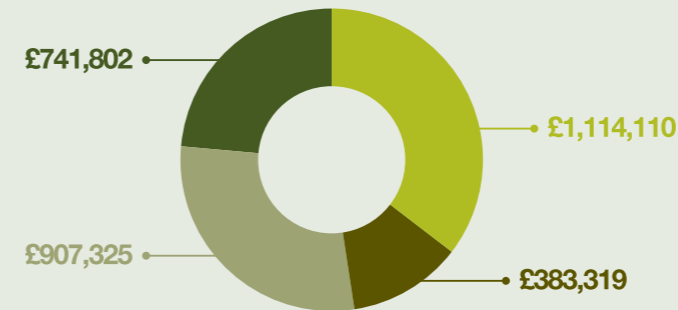
WREN started working in Scotland in 2002 and has helped fund over 200 projects totalling more than £6 million. The majority of funding we distribute is in respect of our community funding programmes, which we operate within 10 miles of Waste Recycling Group (WRG) landfill sites near Greengairs and Penicuik. In addition WREN provides funding through its Biodiversity Action Fund for projects which aim to halt biodiversity loss by supporting priority habitats.

WREN employs Grant Managers to help and assist applicants in and around Edinburgh and Glasgow. In addition we have a dedicated Head Office based Grant Administrator to offer additional guidance and support.

As part of the decision making process WREN works with volunteer panels of local people who have the knowledge and expertise to assess applications and make funding recommendations to the WREN Board. Through this process we ensure that funding decisions are taken at a local level.

For more details about what we can fund and the areas we operate please visit our website [www.wren.org.uk](http://www.wren.org.uk).

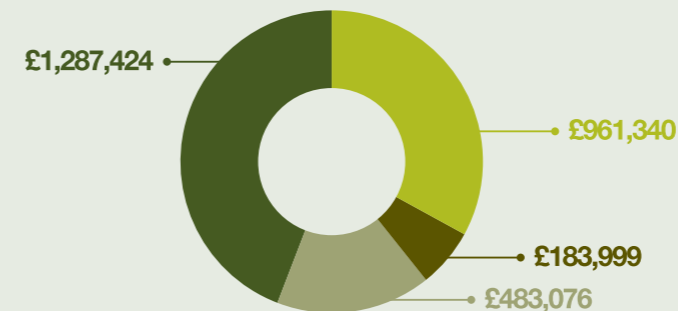
## Edinburgh & Midlothian



- Community Buildings - £1,114,110
- Biodiversity and Natural Environment - £383,319
- Parks, footpaths and open spaces - £907,325
- Play areas, MUGAs and skateparks - £741,802



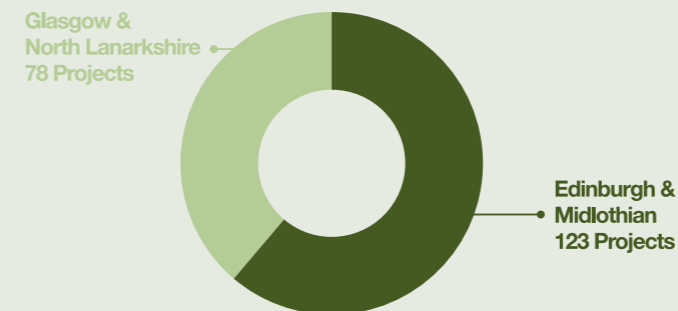
## Glasgow & Lanarkshire



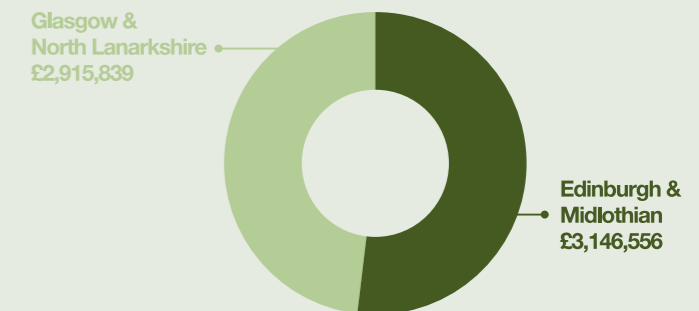
- Community Buildings - £961,340
- Biodiversity and Natural Environment - £183,999
- Parks, footpaths and open spaces - £483,076
- Play areas, MUGAs and skateparks - £1,287,424



## Projects



## Funding



City of Edinburgh

Small Grant Scheme - £6,789



## Bavelaw Bird Hide

Visitors to the 13-hectare Threipmuir Reservoir on the edge of the Bavelaw Estate near Edinburgh can now view whooper swans, teal, pochard, tufted duck and other wildlife at close quarters (and in greater comfort!) thanks to WREN funding.

Working with the Pentland Hills Regional Park Ranger Service, the Friends of the Pentlands have erected a new bird-watching hide overlooking the reservoir and nearby Bavelaw Marsh, a Site of Special Scientific Interest due to its importance in attracting over-wintering birds. Capable of accommodating over 20 visitors at a time and open 24-hours a day all year, the hide is connected to a large car park by a new boardwalk and is used by hundreds of enthusiasts and school groups. Accessed by a muddy path, the old hide was much smaller and had to be unlocked using a key held by the nearest Post Office!

Midlothian

Main Grant Scheme - £24,994



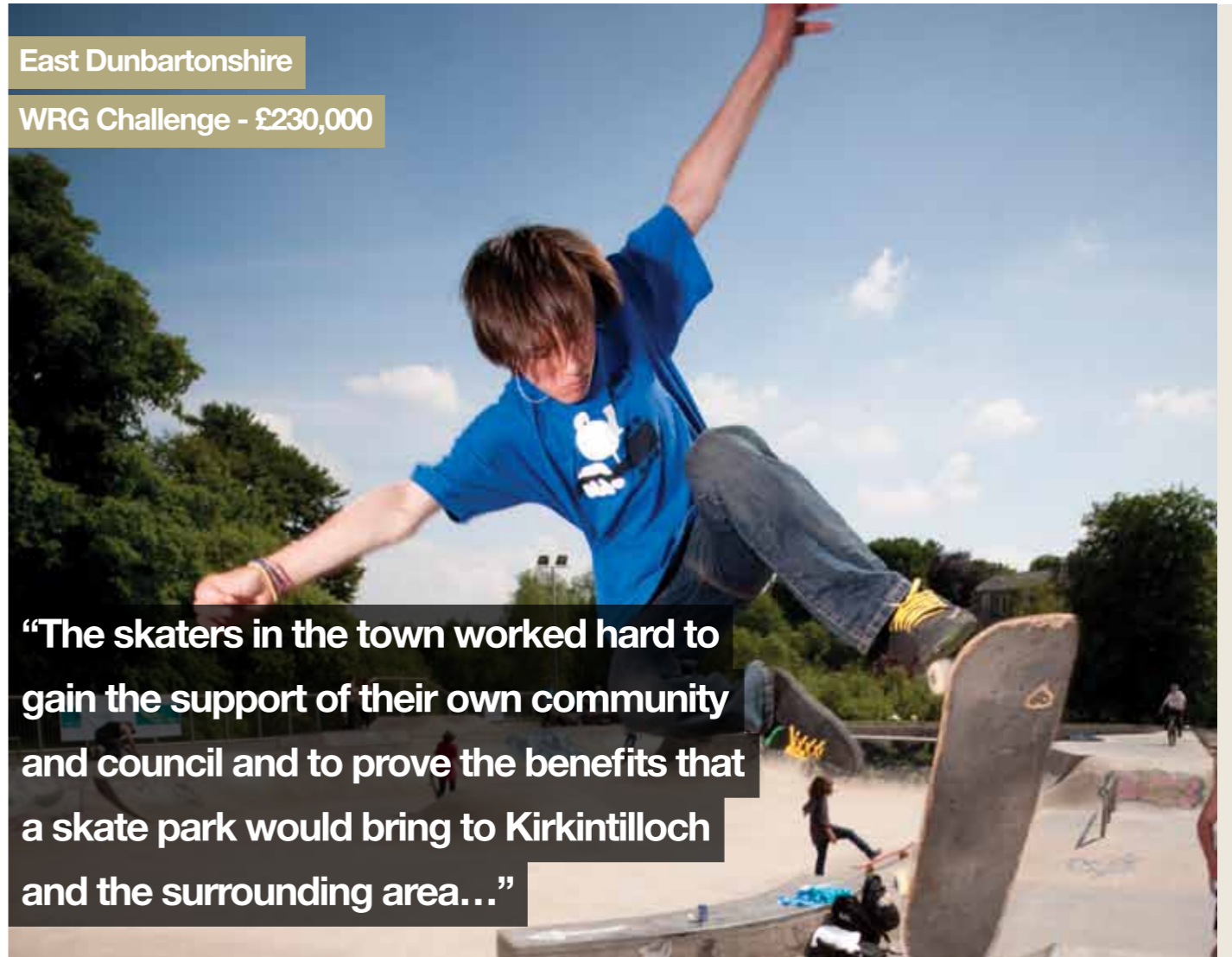
## Silverburn Village Hall

Nestling below the Pentland Hills south of Edinburgh, Silverburn consists of a handful of roadside houses and a few outlying homes and farms but it is a tight-knit community, determined to ensure the village remains intact.

This was evident when a 1914 Scottish Water building, covering a 20-foot deep underground storage tank, came up for sale. Residents formed Silverburn Community Association and bought the Chisholm Tank building with a variety of grants. They then gained a WREN award to assist with the total conversion of the building into a village hall. Finally, they obtained from 'Beechgrove Garden' producers Tern TV a £3,000 televised makeover of the grounds. The project involved local people and took just three years to complete from start to finish.

East Dunbartonshire

WRG Challenge - £230,000



**“The skaters in the town worked hard to gain the support of their own community and council and to prove the benefits that a skate park would bring to Kirkintilloch and the surrounding area...”**

## Kirkintilloch Skate Park

**The Kirkintilloch Skate Park Initiative (KSI) came together in 2003 to appeal to East Dunbartonshire Council for somewhere for the many skateboarders, inline skaters and BMX bikers to go instead of the town's pavements and streets. For years, locals had complained about skaters in the streets but not much had been done to persuade the council for a skate park.**

With the help of a project committee, the Kirkintilloch skaters began fundraising and applied to the council for land. It took nearly 3 years to obtain planning permission but in 2006 the group started fundraising for the construction costs of the park, including CCTV, fencing and cycle racks.

The group submitted an application to WREN's 2007 Community Challenge and was lucky enough to have been chosen as one of the winners and awarded £230,000 towards the project. After much hard work, in November 2009 the 1000 square metre skate park, partially constructed from recycled tyres and costing £458,000, was completed.

Willy Beattie, WREN's associate in Glasgow & Lanarkshire, believes this is a prime example of a project which has a real impact on its local community: “The skaters in the town worked hard to gain the support of their own community and council and to prove the benefits that a skate park would bring to Kirkintilloch and the surrounding area. Their determination and drive to improve facilities for a large number of local people was obvious, and their application for funding impressive. WREN wants to see funds generated from rubbish invested in projects that will have a massive impact for the local community, and this is definitely going to do just that.”

City of Glasgow

Biodiversity Action Fund - £190,687

“The UK’s frog, toad and amphibian population is under threat as ponds decline at a dramatic rate...”



Daniel Roche from the BBC's Outnumbered announces the winners of WREN's Biodiversity Action Fund with a little help from a toad.

## Glasgow Living Waters

Froglife have received funding to deliver a programme of works to introduce and rejuvenate ponds in urban areas in Glasgow and North Lanarkshire. This large-scale urban pond creation project will restore a stronghold environment for many nationally protected pond species. It will also give children living in urban areas the rare chance to get up close to creatures like frogs and toads – once common sights in our gardens and parks.

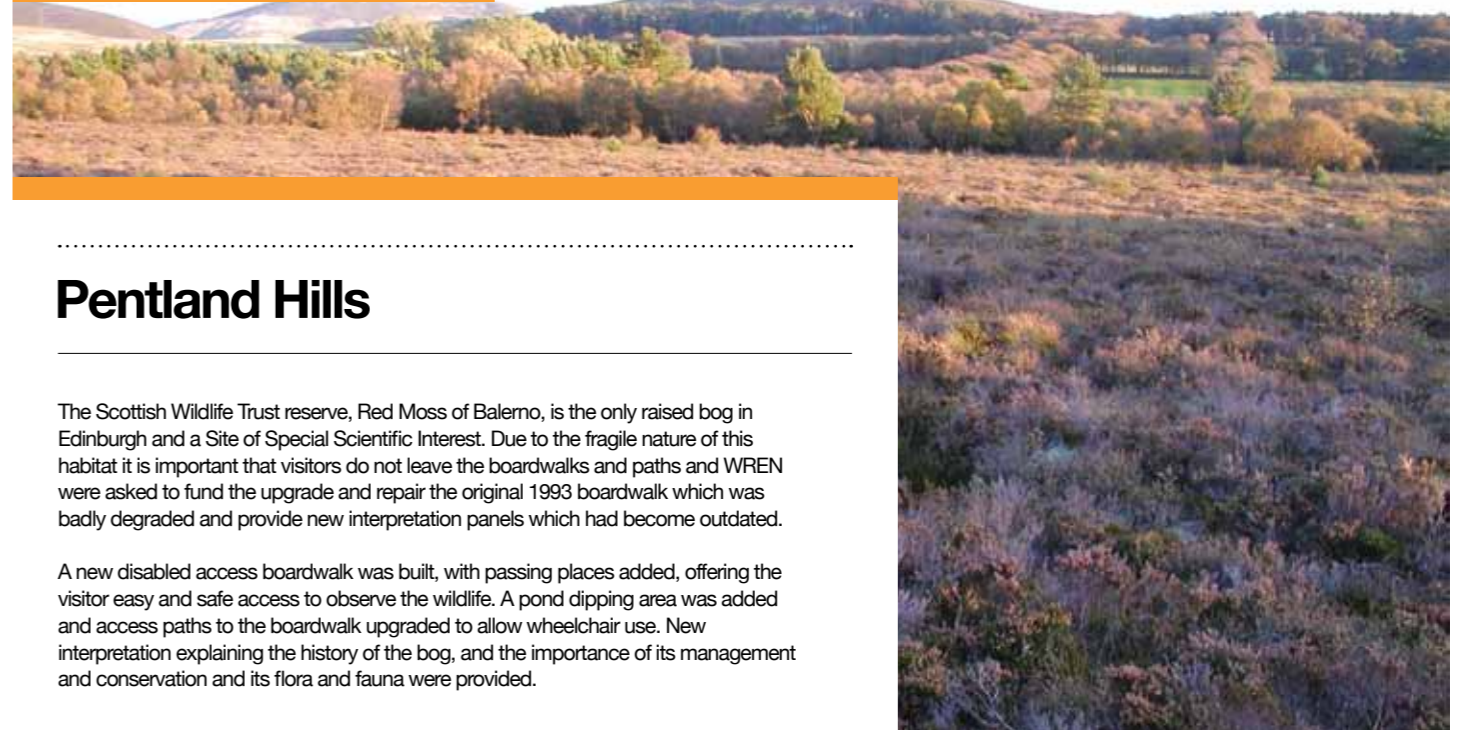
Kathy Wormald, chief executive of Froglife, said WREN's funding will directly increase the amphibian population of Scotland by restoring and introducing priority habitats.

“The UK’s frog, toad and amphibian population is under threat as ponds decline at a dramatic rate,” she added.

© Geoff Caddick / PA

City of Edinburgh

Main Grant Scheme - £27,755



## Pentland Hills

The Scottish Wildlife Trust reserve, Red Moss of Balerno, is the only raised bog in Edinburgh and a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Due to the fragile nature of this habitat it is important that visitors do not leave the boardwalks and paths and WREN were asked to fund the upgrade and repair the original 1993 boardwalk which was badly degraded and provide new interpretation panels which had become outdated.

A new disabled access boardwalk was built, with passing places added, offering the visitor easy and safe access to observe the wildlife. A pond dipping area was added and access paths to the boardwalk upgraded to allow wheelchair use. New interpretation explaining the history of the bog, and the importance of its management and conservation and its flora and fauna were provided.

North Lanarkshire

Main Grant Scheme - £50,000 and £48,558



## Stanrigg Memorial Park Play Area

Commemorating the 19 miners who lost their lives in the 1918 Stanrigg colliery disaster, Stanrigg Memorial Park now has a new play area and a playing field for youngsters of the remote villages of Greengairs and Wattston in the hills overlooking Glasgow.

The two projects were funded by WREN and the Environmental Justice Fund. With major financial support from WREN, Greengairs Community Council has been working hard over the past eight years to develop a number of facilities in the area. “We are delighted that WREN has committed such significant funds for these projects so keenly desired by the community,” commented Chair of Greengairs Community Council Maria Donovan.



Waste Recycling Group Limited, a leading UK waste management and energy recovery company, is part of FCC, the international environmental services, infrastructure and energy group. Focused on delivering integrated waste management and energy recovery solutions to meet national, regional and local needs, WRG operates facilities for the receptions, recycling, recovery and disposal of waste, including a network of waste transfer and recycling centres and regional network of landfill sites.  
[www.wrg.co.uk](http://www.wrg.co.uk) [www.fcc.es](http://www.fcc.es)

---

If you would like further details about any of the information included in this report please contact us:

**Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd.**  
**WREN House, Manor Farm, Bridgham, Norfolk NR16 2RX**  
**Telephone: 01953 717165**  
**Email: [wren@wren.org.uk](mailto:wren@wren.org.uk)**  
**Visit: [www.wren.org.uk](http://www.wren.org.uk)**

Registered in England No. 3368008  
Environmental Body No. 566176



This review has been printed on 100% recycled paper