

The River Leven starts its journey at Loch Leven and flows through several communities before entering the Firth of Forth at Leven.

In the past, the river was the powerhouse of Fife, sustaining several hundred mills and factories, and was home to a proud population of miners and workers in the manufacturing industries.

Today, instead of being something that once brought communities together and provided their livelihoods, the river has become a barrier, cutting people and towns off from one another.

The river itself also faces some serious environmental challenges, including barriers to fish migration and physical river modifications, caused by the river's industrial past.



How does The Leven Programme fit in with other major works happening in Levenmouth?

We are working closely with Network Rail, Fife Council and SGN to maximise the opportunities brought to Levenmouth with the reintroduction of the Leven rail line, the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme and the H100 Hydrogen pilot.

We want to ensure that there is a joined-up approach with all projects and any public engagement being undertaken.

How can I have my say or get involved?

Public collaboration is at the heart of our approach to the regeneration of the River Leven and its communities.

There will be key points in our projects, where we will be looking for community feedback on our proposals. However, we welcome feedback or questions from local people, groups, river users and other interested parties at any time.

If you would like to get in touch, please email us at: theleven@sepa.org.uk



- www.theleven.org
- [TheLevenProgramme](https://www.facebook.com/TheLevenProgramme)
- [@TheLevenFife](https://twitter.com/@TheLevenFife)
- [TheLevenFife](https://www.instagram.com/TheLevenFife)



Bringing communities and the environment closer together



What is The Leven Programme?

The Leven Programme brings together government agencies, non-government organisations, private sector businesses and local community groups who are making a positive difference by delivering change to the River Leven and its surrounding communities.

By improving the physical and ecological conditions of the river and its banks; creating better access to it and between communities; as well as creating opportunities to improve people's health, well-being and economic prospects, all partners realise that more can be achieved working together than can be achieved working in isolation.

What is the Programme delivering?

We are currently working on a number of different projects within Levenmouth that are all at various stages. The intention is to develop a series of projects along the entire length of the river over the next few years.

The overall aim is to breathe life back into the River Leven, improving the areas surrounding it and making them great places to live, work and visit.

Our current projects include:

Active travel improvements

We are working on delivering a series of on-road and off-road improvements along key routes within Levenmouth that will enable easier and safer travel for those wishing to get around by foot, wheeling or cycling. This includes:

- the creation of 24km of active travel routes, including connections to the two new rail stations, as well as cycle paths, crossings and widened footpaths;
- the creation of 11km of shared paths for walkers, wheelers and cyclists along the River Leven from Cameron Bridge to Leven, including connections to the two new rail stations.

River Park

We are working to create an accessible, attractive and biodiverse public park for the local communities of Levenmouth, as well as visitors to the area. The aim is to have six themed gardens along the river, built on areas of land that are currently abandoned and/or in poor condition.

River restoration

We are currently delivering two projects that aim to address some of the challenges faced by the River Leven as a result of its historical past.

One of the projects focuses on a 4km section of the River Leven between Windygates and Leven, and the other focuses on one of its streams, the Back Burn, which flows from the Lomond Hills.

Nature

We are delivering activities where local people can view and learn about nature and wildlife along the River Leven. This includes developing a series of pollinator corridors, which involves planting wildflowers along the river routes to encourage more insects, including bees, which are important and endangered pollinators.

Historical

We are working to incorporate the river's heritage into a series of dedicated projects and initiatives over the next few years.

Health and well-being

We are working closely with NHS Fife to develop a series of projects that encourage physical activity and improved connection to the natural environment.

Skills and training

We want to create as many skills and training opportunities locally within all the projects we are running.

