

# Trees, Planning and Development in Scotland

How can the planning system, policy  
and practice help protect and expand  
our trees and woodlands which make  
up our Urban Forests?



Lead Partners



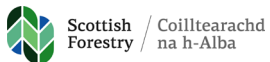
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## Headline Sponsor/exhibitors



## Supporting Partners



## Seminar schedule

This seminar provides seven hours of CPD

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### What we need to discuss

We need to protect and expand the trees and woodlands which collectively make up our Urban Forests for the multiple social, economic and environmental benefits that they can deliver. However, ambition as represented by government policies (NPF4) and recent legislation (Planning Scotland Act 2019) along with the need for healthy place making and climate resilience, does not often or, indeed, very rarely coincides with successful delivery on the ground.

### Key questions:

- *How can we close the gap between ambition and successful delivery on the ground?*
- *Who are the key players?*
- *What are the barriers and how can they be overcome?*

### Our aims for this seminar

We aim to identify and discuss the key steps required to make a positive shift in the planning and development process aligned with emerging policy and best practice. The seminar seeks to inform and empower those working in planning and development control and those involved with delivery on site. This seminar is aimed at everyone who has the potential to impact trees and woodlands during the planning, design and development stages.

**8.45-9.30**

**Registration: tea, coffee and exhibitors' stands**

**Chair for the day: Fiona Melville**, Arboricultural and Urban Forestry Consultant

**9.30-9.40**

**Introduction**

**9.40-10.10**

**Keynote**

**Brian M. Evans**, Professor of Urbanism and Landscape, Glasgow School of Art and Glasgow City Urbanist

**10.10-11.15 – Morning session**

**The planning perspective – how can planners and the planning system drive the protection and long-term sustainability of the urban forest?**

The key players who are in a position to drive implementation of both policy and aspirations, are those in planning and development control, from pre-application stage through to setting planning conditions for successful delivery and enforcement of best practice. A 'level playing field' should be consistent in setting out what is required and what should be aspired to in any development, large or small.

This morning session will focus on how the planner can drive the Urban Forest agenda. What information do they need? How can they ensure that the right professionals and decision makers are engaged at the right time?

**Session Chair: Sharon Durdant-Hollamby**, Past-President, Institute of Chartered Foresters and Managing Director of Sharon Hosegood Associates

**10.10-10.15**

**Chair's introduction**

**10.15-10.35**

**Biodiversity and development**

**Simon Brooks**, Strategic Planning Manager, NatureScot

**10.35-10.55**

**How does the planning process for trees and biodiversity work in practice?**

**Steve Milne**, Arboricultural Officer City of Edinburgh Council and Vice Chair Scottish Tree Officer Group (STOG)

**10.55-11.15**

**Discussion and Q&A**

**11.15-11.45**

**Break: tea, coffee and exhibitors' stands**

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**11.45-13.15**

### **Achieving successful delivery on the ground**

A successful planning application has been approved and there is a commitment to both retention of existing healthy trees and a fulfilment of the statutory duty to “support positive effects for biodiversity” through skilled selection and planting of a diverse palette of tree species to increase canopy cover and climate resilience. The choices will complement the development design and make for a sustainable robust urban forest. All parties are focused on a successful outcome – so what can go wrong?

This session will outline some of the common pitfalls and how to overcome them.

**Session Chair: John Parker**, Chief Executive, Arboricultural Association

**11.45-11.50**

### **Chair’s introduction**

**11.50-12.10**

### **From planning permission to implementing and supporting successful delivery on the ground**

**Jeremy Barrell**, Managing Director, Barrell Tree Consultancy

**12.10-12.30**

### **Designing with Trees – Case Studies**

**Kirsty Maguire**, Director, Kirsty Maguire Architect Ltd.  
Case Studies: The Seed, and Urban Woodland House

**12.30-12.50**

### **Central Scotland Green Network and its relevance to the planning process and NPF4**

**Dr. Emilie Wadsworth**, Operations Director, Green Action Trust,  
Chair Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) Partnership

**12.50-13.15**

### **Discussion and Q&A**

**13.15-14.30**

### **Lunch break: networking and exhibitors’ stands**

**14.30-16.30 – Afternoon Session**

Having explored our subject area, in this session we return to the key questions and interrogate our answers:

- *How can we close the gap between ambition and successful delivery on the ground?*
- *Who are the key players?*
- *What are the barriers and how can they be overcome?*

**Chair: Fiona Melville**

**14.30-14.35**

### **Chair’s introduction**

**14.35-14.55**

### **Successful Delivery of sustainable greenspaces and urban woodlands through local planning policy and partnership working**

**Douglas Worrall**, Operations Director, Green Action Trust

**14.55-15.15**

### **Where are we now? What should we do next?**

Discussion and Q&A with all chairs and speakers

**15.15-15.40**

### **Break: tea, coffee and exhibitors’ stands**

**15.40-16.00**

### **Closing address – how policy and effective governance is a key to the protection and expansion of resilient Urban Forests in Scotland making positive connections between people and nature**

**Dr. Fiona Simpson**, Chief Planner, Scottish Government

**16.00-16.20**

### **Discussion and Q&A**

**16.20-16.30**

### **Fiona Melville: summary of the day**

### Fiona Melville

Fiona is a professional Forester, Arboriculturist and Tree Risk Assessor with a first class honours in Arboriculture and a Diploma in Forestry. Having worked in the public, private and commercial sectors over the past thirty-seven years, latterly as a self-employed consultant, Fiona has extensive experience in arboriculture, commercial and urban forestry with projects including the design, strategic planning, management and landscaping of Forest Parks, iconic woodland sites, street trees and gardens. Fiona is highly skilled in extensive consultations and communications with various public and private bodies including complex planning applications involving trees. Fiona explores technical solutions to overcome potential difficulties with development build and/or planning progression, particularly where mature trees are concerned. Fiona specialises in Arboriculture, Urban Forestry and Designing with Trees and Hedgerows in the Landscape.

Fiona was a panel member of the Scottish Tree Health Action Group 2014 to 2015, Vice Chair of the Scottish Branch of the Arboricultural Association 2014 to 2018, and currently a Professional member of the Arboricultural Association and Associate member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters. In January 2022, the Scottish Branch of the Arboricultural Association presented Fiona with the Ken Martin Award for "Outstanding service to Scotland's trees".

### Brian M. Evans

Brian is a City Planner, Landscape Architect, Designer and Urbanist. He is professor of urbanism and landscape design at the Glasgow School of Art and Director of the Glasgow Urban Laboratory. In 2019, he was appointed City Urbanist for Glasgow, an independent civic role to advise on people, design and the city. He has a doctorate in urbanism and design awarded by the University of Glasgow.

From 1990-2015 was a partner with Gillespies LLP, the international design practice. From 2005-2010 he was Deputy Chair & Chair of Design Review with Architecture & Design Scotland and before that an Enabler with the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) London. From 1998-2004 he was Artistic Professor of City Building at Chalmers University School of Architecture, Gothenburg, Sweden.

He is a founding Director and Academician of the Academy of Urbanism, London and has led award-winning projects in some 20 countries on 3 continents leading to over 50 national and international awards for professional and design excellence.

Brian is an adviser to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and was lead writer for the Regional Report on Housing and Urban Development for Habitat III (2016) and The UNECE Regional Action Plan 2030: Place and Life (2022). He is a widely published author on urbanism, the future city and the inherited landscape. He practices, researches, teaches and speaks widely on the contemporary and future city, urbanism, urban design and landscape planning.

### Sharon Durdant-Hollamby

Sharon is President of the Institute of Chartered Foresters until April 2023 and a Chartered Arboriculturist and Fellow of the Institute, with experience in local government and contracting. In 2007 she assumed the role of Managing Director for a private environmental consultancy, and since 2015 has been the Director of Sharon Hosegood Associates Ltd. Her specialisms are trees in relation to planning and construction, tree hazard management, and tree radar. A Fellow of the Arboricultural Association and an Expert Witness, Sharon brings to the Institute a passion for promoting careers in arboriculture and forestry, spreading the word about trees in general, and improving the well-being of our society through improved environments. She is a member of the BSI committee on Trees. She is the host of Tree Lady Talks podcast.

### Simon Brooks

With a background in planning, landscape and protected areas, Simon's current focus is on enabling good development and encouraging business to play their part in achieving a nature rich future. His responsibilities include supporting the Scottish Government's approach to securing 'positive effects for biodiversity' (as set out in NPF4) and examining the potential for establishing a common Scottish approach to measuring the scale of biodiversity enhancement to be delivered.

### Steve Milne

Steve is a Chartered Arboriculturist and member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters. He has previously worked at Middlesborough, Bolton and Aberdeen City Councils and has been in his current post as Arboricultural Officer in the Planning Service of City of Edinburgh Council for 18 years. Out of his 32 years in local authority arboriculture he has spent the last 29 of those embedded in town planning. He is currently the Vice Chair of the Scottish Tree Officers Group (STOG) having been the previous Chair and has contributed directly to Scottish Government policy and legislation in relation to trees and high hedges.

### John Parker

John Parker has been Chief Executive Officer of the Arboricultural Association since July 2021, and was the Association's Technical Director from August 2019. John is UK Component President of the International Society of Arboriculture and a member of the European Forum on Urban Forestry (EFUF) International Steering Group. He is a Chartered Environmentalist, Chartered Forester and an Associate Member of the Royal Society of Biology. He frequently presents at national and international conferences and has delivered a TED Talk entitled "Why trees are better than people" (available on YouTube). Since spring 2020 John has chaired the Arboricultural Association webinar series, covering a wide range of topics to a global audience. From 2012-2019 John was a member of the Executive Committee of the London Tree Officers Association, which he Chaired in 2016-18, and until 2019 he was a Director of the National Association of Tree Officers. In 2018 he was named Young European Urban Forester of the Year and from 2020 until 2022 was as a Trustee of the Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum, the national UK tree collection. John is interested in public engagement, green equity and promoting the benefits of trees, with particular consideration for their social and cultural value. He is the founder of the Stonehouse Community Arboretum.

### Jeremy Barrell

Jeremy is the Managing Director of Barrell Tree Consultancy, one of the UK's leading planning and legal tree management practices. He leads a team of 15 specialists assessing trees on development sites and project-managing their protection, from design to occupation.

Jeremy started his career with the Forestry Commission before establishing his own tree management company in 1980, which evolved into his current consultancy Practice. He is an accomplished expert witness, regularly appearing in High Court in cases where tree failures have caused harm, and is a frequent keynote speaker at international conferences. He has authored more than 150 articles and papers on tree management and is currently a Trustee of the Trees and Design Action Group.

### **Kirsty Maguire**

Kirsty is an architect who combines building performance, industry training and the creation of creative and beautiful spaces. She leads her eponymous architecture practice, an award-winning micro business based near Dundee. The practice blends design led work and environmental responsibility with quality of design, detailing and performance of the building at the heart of the process. Low energy, low carbon design is at the centre of all their projects, developing solutions that combine spatial quality, comfort and environmental criteria including biodiversity and how the building integrates with the immediate landscape to minimise the impact of the construction in the short and long term. Kirsty is a pioneer of energy efficient architecture in Scotland using Passivhaus as a tool for this. She works locally and internationally in design, teaching and specialist consultancy.

### **Dr. Emilie Wadsworth**

Emilie has worked in the environmental sector for approaching 20 years, spending the last 18 of those with the Green Action Trust. Since becoming Operations Director in December 2021, Emilie has led the Trusts Strategy and Development team with overall responsibility for the major Green Infrastructure initiatives currently being developed and delivered by the Trust.

These include the Central Scotland Green Network, Europe's largest green infrastructure programme; and the 10,000 Raingardens for Scotland programme, a national initiative to increase the use of nature-based climate solutions. Emilie has worked on the CSGN since its inception in NPF2 in 2010, has supported the creation of the various CSGN Delivery Plan and now chairs the CSGN Partnership.

Emilie is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (MCIEEM).

### **Douglas Worrall**

Douglas has 25 years' experience of delivering environmental improvements across Central Scotland. His current role at Green Action Trust is Operations Director where he is responsible for the management of a rolling programme of environmental improvement projects across Central Scotland as well as overseeing the provision of technical support to partner organisations. Douglas oversees all land management activities including purchase, sale, development and management of the charity's landholdings.

He is a Graduate of Edinburgh University (BSc hons, Forestry) and a Chartered Forester (MICFor).

Douglas is a judge for Scotland's Finest Woods Award and has previously sat on both the CSGN Woodland Steering Group and the Central Scotland Regional Forestry Forum.

### **Dr. Fiona Simpson**

Fiona is the Scottish Government's Chief Planner and has worked for the Scottish Government for 15 years. She has overall responsibility for the work of Planning and Architecture Division, including national planning policy, casework and the digital transformation of the planning system. Fiona provided secretariat support to the independent review of the planning system in 2016, played a key role in planning reform including the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, and is currently leading the preparation of National Planning Framework 4. Fiona led the preparation of National Planning Framework 3, and prior to that was Head of Environmental Assessment and worked across Government to provide technical advice on a wide range of energy, marine and environmental policies and programmes.



### Flexipave by KBI UK

KBI UK was established in 2010 to supply the UK market with the class-leading Flexipave surfacing that had been developed by KBI USA.

Flexipave is a highly porous surfacing system constructed using equal quantities of recycled rubber (derived from vehicle tyres) and natural stone aggregate. When bonded using our unique Polyurethane binding agent, the resulting product creates a hard surface with dynamic flexibility. Being highly porous, water and air is allowed to pass freely through the surface.

The sustainability aspect of our Flexipave surfacing has always been at the heart of our business. By using recycled vehicle tyres as one of its base components, Flexipave is contributing to local and national carbon reduction targets. Several of our larger projects have used the equivalent of over 15,000 tyres, which has contributed to several hundred thousand kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub> saved when compared to those same tyres being burned.

Our focus on sustainability prompted the creation of our Green Partnership programme, a scheme that recognises clients who use Flexipave to contribute to sustainable practices.

Our surfacing systems are specified by a multitude of different client types and installed into numerous different locations for many different applications. Our clients include major housing developers, local authorities, engineering companies, utilities companies, family attraction operators, FM service providers, architects and golf courses.

#### Stand representatives:

Graham Pell, Managing Director, KBI UK Ltd

[graham@kbiuk.co.uk](mailto:graham@kbiuk.co.uk)

Kevin Sellwood, Regional Sales Manager, KBI UK Ltd

[kevin@kbiuk.co.uk](mailto:kevin@kbiuk.co.uk)

#### Website:

[kbiuk.co.uk/about](http://kbiuk.co.uk/about)



### Greenblue Urban (GBU)

GreenBlue's unique suite of products act as an interface between nature and the built environment. Creating healthier urban spaces in harmony with nature.

#### Stand representatives:

Howard Gray, PR & Specification Consultant

[howard.gray@greenblue.com](mailto:howard.gray@greenblue.com)

Kristina Sodomkova, Planning & PR Consultant

[kristina.sodomkova@greenblue.com](mailto:kristina.sodomkova@greenblue.com)

#### Website:

[greenblue.com/na/arbor-system](http://greenblue.com/na/arbor-system)



### Greenfix

Greenfix is the leading designer and supplier of soil stabilisation and erosion control systems in the UK. Greenfix has developed a comprehensive range of products and systems to combat the complex and diverse problems associated with erosion control and soil stabilisation. At Greenfix we are committed to delivering the highest quality service to all our customers, offering help from the early design stages through to guidance at installation.

Greenfix is the UK stockist of the Presto Geoweb® cellular confinement system, used extensively for a wide variety of solutions to issues including tree root protection, load support, slope and channel protection, earth retention and flood defence.



Geoweb was the very first Geocell product to be approved and used for tree root protection in the mid-1990s.

Greenfix erosion control products vary from biodegradable pre-seeded blankets and permanent turf reinforcement mats (TRMs) to un-seeded blankets and meshes in biodegradable and permanent materials. Our product range also extends to grass seed, mulch mats, root barriers, silt control and much more.

**Stand representative:**

Roy Partington, Special Products Manager  
[roy@greenfix.co.uk](mailto:roy@greenfix.co.uk)

**Website:**

[greenfix.co.uk](http://greenfix.co.uk)



**Polypipe**

Passionate about inspiring a green urban environment as well as mitigating the effects of flooding, Polypipe Civils & Green Urbanisation not only work with landscape architects and urban planners to develop solutions fit for next-generation commercial and residential plans, but work within traditional civils and infrastructure sectors utilising bespoke offsite fabrication to deliver large scale flood alleviation solutions.

**Stand representative:**

Sean Robinson, Specification Director  
[sean.robinson@polypipe.com](mailto:sean.robinson@polypipe.com)

**Website:**

[polypipe.com](http://polypipe.com) and  
[polypipe.com/civils/gi/urban-trees](http://polypipe.com/civils/gi/urban-trees)



**McLaren's Nurseries Ltd**

McLaren's Nurseries Ltd is an independent, family-owned business that has been operating for 50 years and are the largest nursery in Scotland. We pride ourselves on growing hardy, Scottish produced plants at affordable prices, supplying a vast range of customers from retail purchasing single items, small independent garden centres and nurseries to large scale landscaping projects which require thousands of items.

**Plant Health Policy**

McLaren's Nurseries Ltd is committed to operating and working in a manner that promotes good plant health by ensuring that relevant plant health regulations are known and understood, ensuring that staff are trained and able to carry out the duties required by the Company's Plant Health Management System and that the Company's suppliers are selected with due consideration to plant health.

McLaren's Nurseries Ltd is committed to continual improvement of its Plant Health Management System.

It is the responsibility of the Managing Director to implement this policy, consulting with all Directors, Plant Health Management Team and departmental managers who within their areas of responsibility give full support to the Directors.

The Directors and Managers will ensure that they and their staff are made aware of plant health issues that might be affected and influenced by company activities.

This will be achieved by:

1. Maintaining a Plant Health Management System following the Plant Healthy Management Standard.
2. Full co-operation from all Directors and employees.
3. Promotion of plant health awareness amongst all employees and provision of sufficient levels of training to allow them to meet their plant health responsibilities.

4. Regular review of relevant regulations and plant health bulletins and other requirements to ensure compliance.
5. Recording plant health actions and issues.
6. Conducting regular reviews of performance against the Plant Health Management System and being proactive in our approach to future improvements.
7. Producing crops responsibly following current Codes of Practice, regulations, assessing risks to plant health and taking into consideration the risk associated with plants and suppliers used.
8. Promoting and encouraging good plant health in planting schemes through specialist advice and growing a wide range of plant species not thought vulnerable to pest and disease.
9. To reduce plant health risk by continuously aiming to minimise plant miles and the use of non UK plant sources.
10. The policy will be maintained and reviewed on an annual basis.
11. McLaren's Nurseries Ltd will make this policy available to all staff, customers, suppliers, contractors and the general public.

**For any trade enquiries please contact:**

Adam McGowan, General Manager  
[adam@mclarensnurseriesltd.co.uk](mailto:adam@mclarensnurseriesltd.co.uk)

**Website:**

[mclarensnurseriesltd.co.uk](http://mclarensnurseriesltd.co.uk)

Selected trees provided on site by McLaren's Nurseries Ltd.

### Covid

All Covid rules and restrictions have been lifted in Scotland, but it is important to follow guidelines and stay vigilant. The University of Stirling exercises Scottish Government guidelines as a minimum: [stir.ac.uk/coronavirus](http://stir.ac.uk/coronavirus)

### Travel, car parking and wheelchair access

Travel to the university is [here](#).

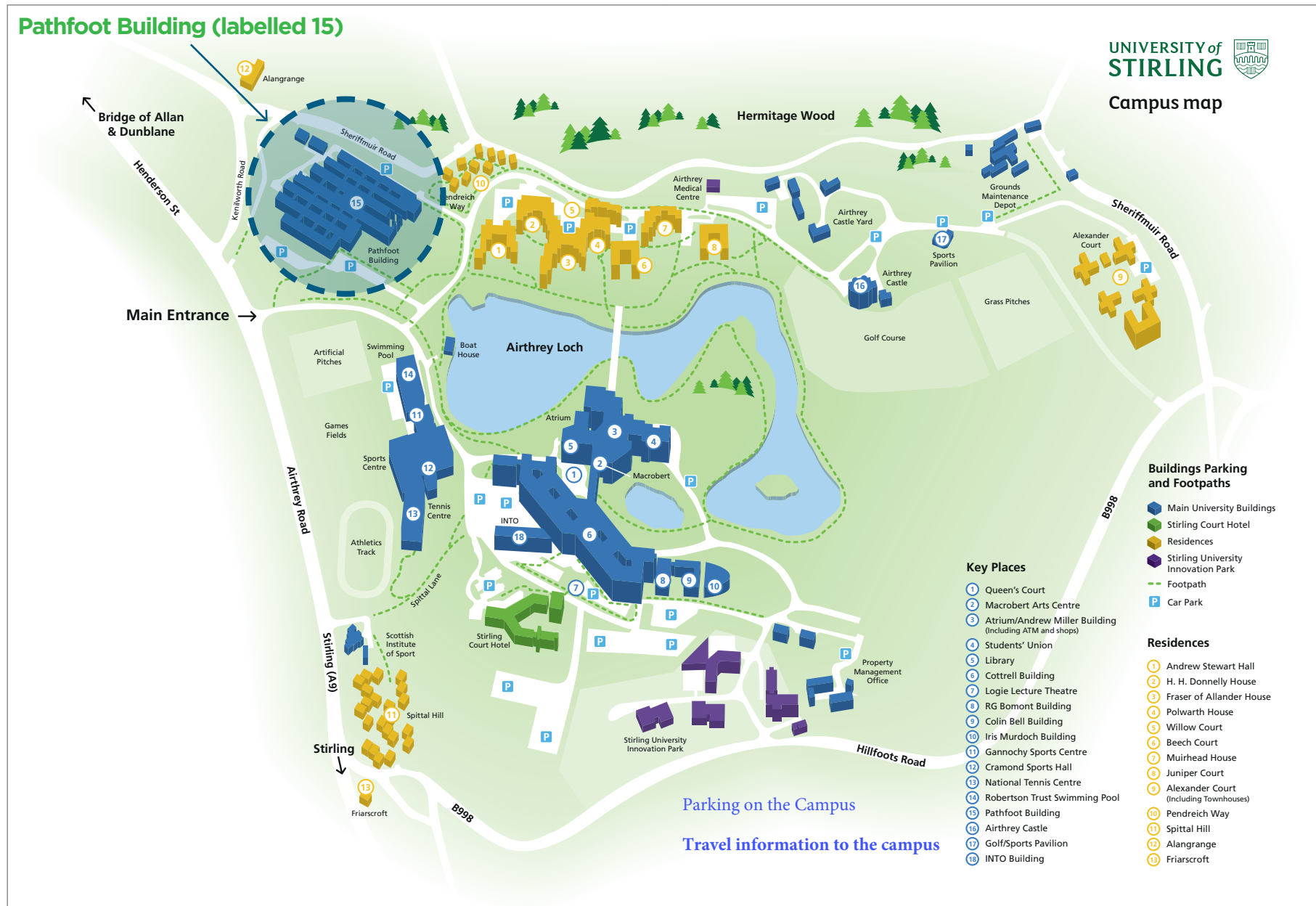
The campus map is [here](#). Pathfoot Building labelled no 15.

Further information on car parking and tariffs is [here](#).

The Pathfoot Building is fully accessible to all. Wheelchair access is available at the main front entrance by ramp and there is level access at the back. Although the building is over several levels, all levels are accessible by lifts, and all doors to the main gallery spaces can be remotely operated.

### Costs

There is a charge of £55 to cover the venue, lunch and refreshments.



## Further visitor information

Welcome and registration, morning tea and coffee from 8.45am will be in the Crush Hall adjacent to the Pathfoot Lecture Theatre where the main event will commence at 9.30am.

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## Further visitor information

### Lunch menu

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100% plant-based menu

#### Main

Roasted Mediterranean vegetable lasagne served with rocket salad and garlic bread (Vegan).

Butternut squash and chickpea korma served with pilau rice and naan bread.

Shepherdess pie with puy lentils and a sweet potato topping served with roasted spring vegetables (Vegan).

#### Hot or cold pudding

Apple and blackberry crumble served with crème anglaise.

Key lime pie served with fruit compote and brandy snap biscuit (Vegan).

Seasonal fruit salad.

Tea and coffee will be served back in the Pathfoot Crush Hall where exhibitors will be happy to discuss their products with delegates.

