

# CASE STUDY

**Project:** Little France Park Active Travel Route

**Location:** Southeast Edinburgh, EH16

**Date:** 2015 and 2018

## Client/ Partners

Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust, Edinburgh City Council, Midlothian Council, landowners, funders, developers.

## Project type

Design and supervision of construction of peri-urban all-abilities active travel path infrastructure.

## Items of Interest

Peri-urban all-abilities active travel paths; award winning; partnership project; best practise design; accessibility; placemaking; delivery of masterplan; consultation; development sites.

## Project Content

Little France Park Active Travel Route is an innovative cross-boundary project within the SEStran region. Collaboration between Edinburgh Lothians Greenspace Trust, Edinburgh City Council, Midlothian Council, TP&E and other partners was required to realise the active travel infrastructure vision set out in the masterplan for the developing area of Little France in the southeast of Edinburgh. TP&E's role in the project was Principal Designer and Site Supervisor.

The active travel route has been installed through parkland that is being developed from unmanaged grassland, providing a key sustainable transport link and connection to greenspace for the residential and employment centres establishing nearby. Little France is Edinburgh's biggest new park in a generation.

The path has been designed to support high levels of everyday walking, cycling and wheeling use as the area develops and was designed in accordance with current best practice guidelines. The project delivers all-abilities access, incorporating Equalities Act compliant gradients, a cambered path profile and well-placed resting places with seating provision. Through the design process TP&E were required to negotiate, develop and agree the design with several project stakeholders including the planning authority, roads authority, Sustrans, NHS and Scottish Enterprise.



The success of the project has been recognised by several agencies. The project was shortlisted at the Scottish Transport Awards in 2019 in the category of “Excellence in Walking, Public Realm and Cycling”. The Central Scotland Green Network and the Scottish Outdoor Access Network have both used the project as a Sharing Best Practice Case Study.



## Outcomes

Little France Park has become established as a destination in its own right and the network of lit paths that has been established as a result of this project is a major factor in the placemaking effort, affording users of all abilities convenient and safe access to an extended greenspace encompassing a wide variety of habitats.

The path network has largely been installed along existing desire lines modified to comply with accessibility needs and as a result it sees a good level of use for utility journeys, providing access to medical facilities, places of employment and residential areas. Being lit means that the network is attractive for utility journeys at all times of day throughout the year, providing multiple traffic free links to the active traveller.



*Transport Planning and Engineering is a social enterprise engineering consultancy which specialises in designing and managing the delivery of active travel infrastructure in Scotland through working with local authorities and many empowered communities.*

*TP&E is a subsidiary organisation of Scotland's national cycle training, events and promotion charity Cycling Scotland.*

TP&E, 24 Blythswood Square, Glasgow G2 4BG 0141 229 5448 [info@tpande.org](mailto:info@tpande.org) [www.tpande.org](http://www.tpande.org)