

# 2026 Conference: Shaping Green and Blue Spaces

## Programme:

**09:30 - Arrival and Refreshments**

**10:00 - Conference Start**

**10:10 - Keynote Speaker**

**Following the River Tweed: How Catchment Thinking and Partnership Working Unlocks Investment and Impact**

Luke Fisher – Destination Tweed Project Director, Tweed Forum

**10:35 - Session 1: Presentations and panel discussion**

- **Cherished Landscapes**  
Mike McClure – Landscapes NI Development Manager, Landscapes NI
- **Developing Public Access and Educational Resources at Haughey's Bog:  
A restoration-first approach**  
Simon Gray – Head of Peatland Recovery, Ulster Wildlife  
John Donaghy – Centre Manager, An Creagán

**11:20 - Comfort Break**

**12:00 - Session 2: Presentations and panel discussion**

- **Community-led Integrated Development in the Uplands: A case study of Dunlewey and Errigal**  
Josephine Kelly – Project Officer, Cairde na hEaragail
- **Ancient Woodland Restoration**  
John Martin – Director-Northern Ireland, The Woodland Trust
- **Ward Park Improvement Scheme**  
Edel Trainor – Outdoor Recreation Officer, Ards and North Down Borough Council

**13:00 - Lunch**

**14:15 - Breakout Sessions**

Delegates will attend two of the three breakout sessions below:

- **Breakout 1 – Divis and the Black Mountain – A View to the Future**  
Andrew Corkill – Lead Project Manager, National Trust  
Fiona Milne – Place Shaping Principal, Outscape  
Sarah Noble – Place Shaping Principal, Outscape
- **Breakout 2 – Mountain Bikers and the Capercaillie: Finding a solution to a conservation crisis**  
Adam Streeter-Smith\* – Outdoor Access Officer, Cairngorms National Park (\*Please note change of speaker - Adam will be joining remotely)  
Philip Weston – Head of Place Shaping, Outscape  
Karen Coulter – Place Shaping Specialist, Outscape
- **Breakout 3 – Key Principles of a Successful Blueway**  
Chris Scott – Blueway Coordinator and Development Advisor, Blueway Partnership

**15:35 - Plenary Feedback**

16:15 - Conference Close