



**Annual  
Report  
2024/5**

**DISCOVER | EXPLORE | ENJOY**

# Lagan Valley Regional Park

NI's only Regional Park

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NI's most popular  
outdoor attraction

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1.31 Million visitors

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Connecting Lisburn and  
Belfast



## Vision

A Park which offers a  
thriving, diverse and  
valued riverside  
heritage that  
welcomes  
exploration, learning  
and enjoyment whilst  
ensuring a  
sustainable  
environment for all.

## AONB

Conserving and enhancing  
outstanding natural beauty

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Conserving natural and  
cultural heritage

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Promoting public  
enjoyment

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Supporting public access





# 1.31 Million visitors

**i** Community interface

945

Complaints Assistance Enquiries Helps

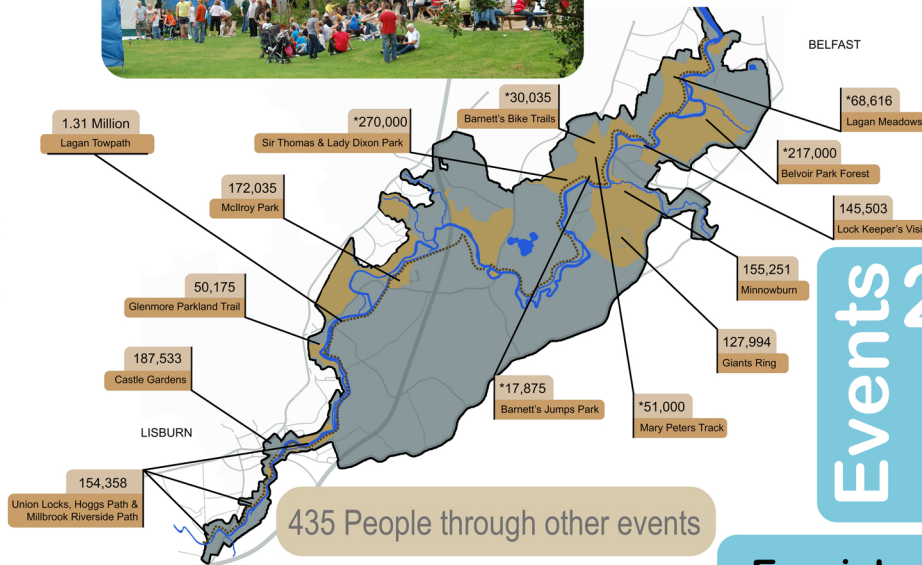
Handled directly  
80%

135k 

Visitors to Lock Keeper's Site

 125k  
Visitors to the Giant's Ring

**Take5**



45km Paths  
Patrolled and monitored weekly

LCCC: 329 hours  
BCC: 342 hours  
HED: 76 hours

Events 27 Engaging 428 people  
Engagement  
Friends School, Lisburn  
Mayors family fun day  
QUB Careers fair  
190 students

178



Bags of litter and other detritus removed



**Evariste Galois School,**

**Paris**  
'Everything was perfect, even the weather, thank you so much! Dan and Andy gave us an amazing overview of Northern Ireland nature and local history. On behalf of all the teachers and the students, thank you so much for being so welcoming and friendly and for giving us such a unique learning experience.'

## Volunteering



Conservation	599 hours
Wildlife surveys	156 hours
Heritage guides	1572 hours
Volunteer Ranger/garden	405 hours
Board	279 hours



Volunteer  
value  
**£63k**

## Biodiversity

31 Conservation management tasks across LCCC & BCC  
28 Bumblebee transect walks  
40 Butterfly transect walks

Woodland



Scrub control

## Heritage

Cottage & Barge 10.5k visitors

## Community



Grassland

Invasives



Derek - cottage and wildlife surveyor

Volunteering provides an opportunity to meet people and share my interest in heritage and history with them. It's allays good to get out and about in the weather and surroundings here. My wildlife survey role gives me the chance to be out in nature and contribute to citizen science. To appreciate the changes in conditions for wildlife, it is essential to survey in real time in real circumstances.

## engagement

Christmas

Volunteer thank you celebration



planted

**400** Trees





## Removed

- 5 Chairs
- 3 Tables
- 4 Scooters
- 12 Bicycles
- 5 Footballs
- 5 Car tyres
- Wire fencing
- 2 Gas bottles
- 1 Ironing board
- 8 Shopping trolleys

**63 bags  
of  
detritus**

**6 Community river cleans**



Lagan Valley Island  
Moore's bridge  
Shaw's bridge  
Drumbridge  
Glenmore



166 hours

River Lagan

# Management plan



# Funding Bids 3

367 hours

Staff and board time spent on funding issues



Year 2 Progress

2025



Biodiversity

16 actions 4 part complete 12 pending

Overall: 51%



Visitors

15 actions 6 part complete 9 pending

Overall: 55%



Community

9 actions 1 complete 4 part complete 3 pending

Overall: 68%



Landscape

3 actions 1 part complete 2 pending

Overall: 57%



Heritage

5 actions 5 part complete

Overall: 50%



Health & Recreation

2 actions 1 part complete 1 pending

Overall: 62%



# Planning 12

Statutory consultations responded to

# Student placement

# Storm Eowyn

64 hours:

liaising: support: clearing damage



## Expenditure

Description	Amount
60001 - Salary/Wage	196,281.75
60311 - Conf/Courses	243.00
60321 - Mainten project	- 39.29
60323 - Overheads	3,000.00
60373 - Project Costs	400.00
60416 - Other - Volunte	254.12
60468 - Brochu Pr&Dist	775.00
61036 - Stock Tools	978.91
61037 - Stock PPE	35.85
61164 - Fleet Mat	3,075.55
63001 - Audit Service	3,490.00
63039 - Electric Chrg	1,578.09
63042 - Water	984.43
63043 - Rent	4,725.00
63080 - Land Call/Rent	385.74
63109 - Insure All/Oth	8,114.74
63404 - Print/Stat/Sup	295.58
63504 - Travel General	175.43
63620 - IT Sup All Dir	720.00
	<b>225,473.90</b>

Revenue costs only	5,878.55
-	127.27
	3,357.60
-	50.00

**£234,532.78**

LCCC

bank

## Finance

### £63k Volunteer value

The added economic value that the community involvement and volunteer engagement brings to the area, based on National Living Wage for unskilled tasks and HF benchmarks for skilled and professional roles.

## Income

Funder	Amount
HLF Legacy	£4,452.92
BCC - Core	£88,000.00
BCC Cottage and barge	£15,104.00
LCCC - Core	£67,000.00
	<b>£174,556.92</b>
Events	£140.00
Donations	£2,200.00
Book and map sales	£310.00
DFC	£5,757.00
QUB	£540.00
NT	£120.00
Annual income from event bookings	£4,079.57
	<b>£13,146.57</b>
Total income	<b>£187,703.49</b>

Core

self generated

We acknowledge and thank Belfast City Council and Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council for providing core funding to Lagan Valley Regional Park.

Self generated income has grown considerably this year.

We would like to acknowledge and thank PSSquared for their generous donation which has been used to carry out valuable conservation work in the furtherance of the aims of the charity.

This years shortfall in funding was offset from accumulated reserves.

Lagan Valley Regional Park is a charity (NIC103700) and welcomes donations to help us continue to protect and conserve the unique landscape character of the Park, enhance its biodiversity, cultural heritage and promote its benefit to visitors and the community. You can find out more by contacting the office or visiting our website.

Lagan Valley Regional Park,  
3 Lock Keeper's Lane,  
Belfast,  
BT8 7XT

T: 02890 491922

E: [admin@laganvalley.co.uk](mailto:admin@laganvalley.co.uk)  
W: [www.laganvalley.co.uk](http://www.laganvalley.co.uk)



**Belfast**  
City Council

**LCCC**  
Lisburn &  
Castlereagh  
City Council

**NI EA** | Northern Ireland  
Environment  
Agency

An Agency within the Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**  
[www.darra-ri.gov.uk](http://www.darra-ri.gov.uk)

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**FOREST SERVICE**