



# GALLOWAY AND SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE BIOSPHERE

INSPIRE A POSITIVE FUTURE...

“ A BIOSPHERE IS A SPECIAL DESIGNATION AWARDED BY THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO) TO AREAS RENOWNED FOR THEIR SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTS WHICH ARE VALUED BY LOCAL PEOPLE. ”

Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere unites three local authority areas to demonstrate ways that Scotland's rural communities can become more successful through sustainable environmental, social and economic growth.

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**Challenges:** The Biosphere status is given in recognition of its special natural qualities but acknowledges the challenges rural communities now face.

**Solutions:** The Biosphere is a model that offers solutions by working towards ambitious goals which encourage people to share an enthusiasm for their special place.

**Support:** For the Biosphere to deliver a sustainable ethos at an international level it requires national support.

Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere joins over 600 Biosphere's around the world. The global Biosphere network encourages sharing of experiences and knowledge to help us take better care for our surroundings locally, nationally and internationally.

## ***The goals of all Biospheres are:***

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***Conservation: promoting the preservation of wildlife, habitats and landscape.***

***Learning: supporting a better understanding of nature and global issues.***

***Development: fostering a sustainable economy and society.***

## The Biosphere strengthens connections;

- **between the public and private sector** – encouraging best practice, developing stronger partnership working and shared outcomes.
- **between individuals and communities** – taking responsibility for our own actions and fostering pride in a strong, fair and inclusive society.
- **between business and environment** – realising our full economic potential to benefit people and nature.
- **between people and nature** – valuing our natural environment and preserving it for future generations.
- **between health and satisfaction** – enjoying the outdoors and benefitting from better access.
- **between science and art** – encouraging research and innovation to become more creative and better educated.
- **between local with global** – striving to reduce our environmental impact and creating places which have adapted for climate change.

## A FIRST FOR SCOTLAND

GALLOWAY AND SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE BIOSPHERE IS A FIRST IN SCOTLAND TO DEMONSTRATE OUR PASSION FOR LIVING IN A WAY THAT BENEFITS PEOPLE AND NATURE.

# BIOSPHERE VISION...

A Biosphere is a unique and particularly flexible area designation that is the centrepiece of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme. It differs from other designations by being voluntary with no additional rules. A Biosphere is an ethos which encourages cooperation and collaboration to show that a sustainable way of living is not only possible but already happening.

The Biosphere model promotes positive community action to tackle rural issues and deliver national outcomes.



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United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



**Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere**

*member of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves*

The Biosphere Partnership is a charity made up of representatives from communities, businesses, organisations and agencies. Registered Charity number SCO44137