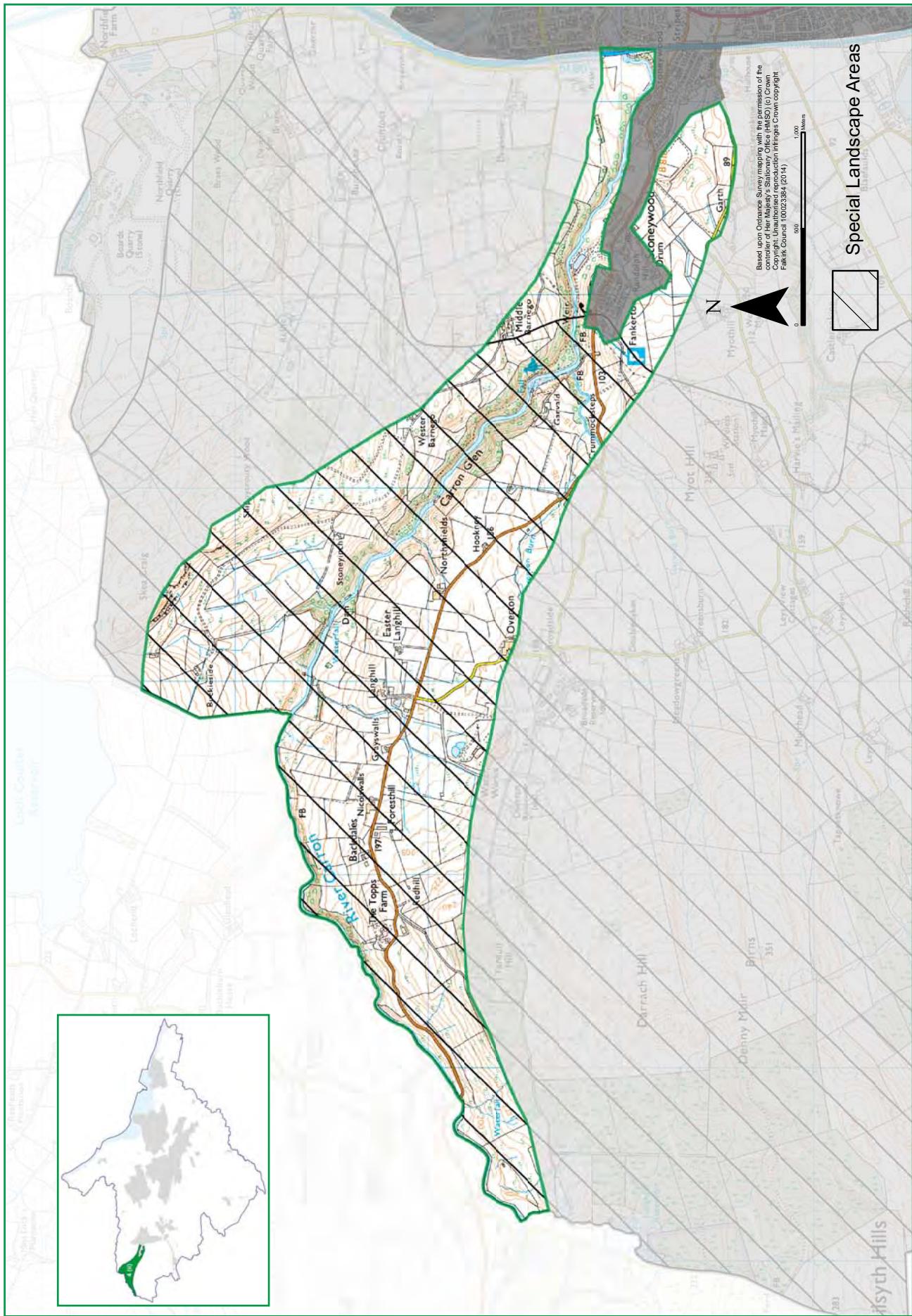


### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Local Landscape Character Area 4(ii) Carron Glen

3.43



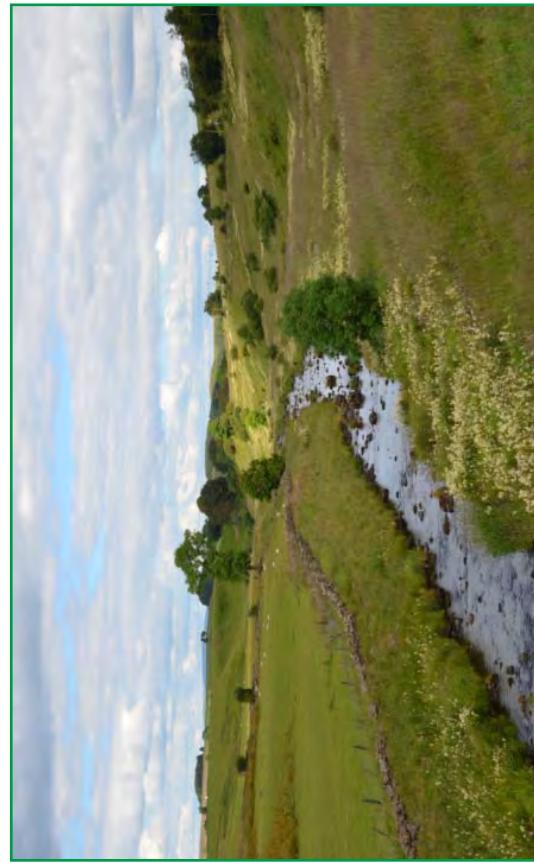
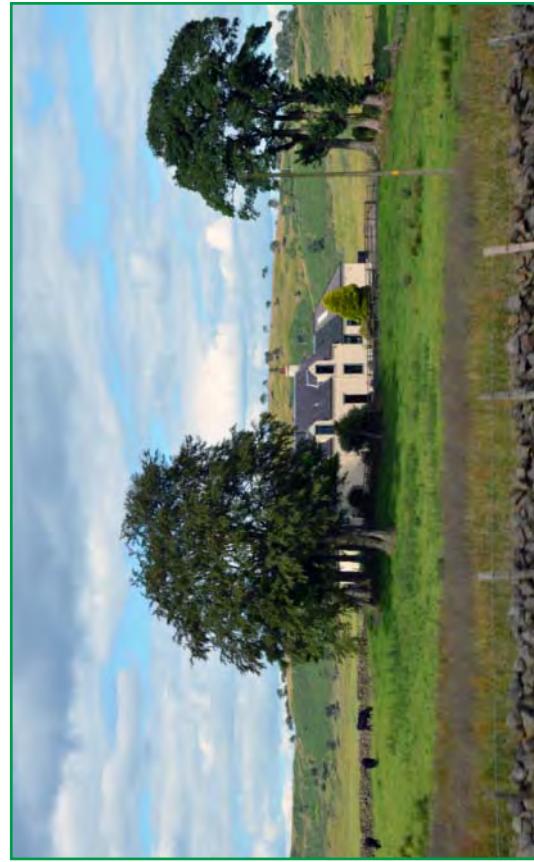
### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Likely future forces for change

**3.44** New farm buildings. Conversion of farm steadings to residential use/equestrian centres. New agricultural dwellings/single rural dwellings. Tourism development and accommodation. Telecommunication masts. Small scale wind energy development and associated infrastructure. Solar energy. Potential expansion of Fankerton and Stoneywood in long term. Road widening and improvements. Loss of road and field boundary trees, hedges and drystone walls. New transmission lines and pipelines. Expansion of water treatment works. New woodland planting.

#### Sensitivities within Local Landscape Character Area

**3.45** This area has particularly high sensitivity to tall or large structures (such as telecommunication masts, transmission masts, wind turbines, power lines/pylons, large agricultural/equestrian buildings and industrial buildings) within the valley or on the valley sides where these structures would be out of scale, intrude on the intimate rural character of the valley and interrupt views along the valley. The area is also highly sensitive to the loss of, or lack of management of, the existing defining landscape elements through agricultural/forestry operations and development (such as the woodland cover, tree groups, boundary trees and stone walls); loss of these features would reduce the intimate valley character and erode the enclosure pattern. Any expansion of Fankerton and Stoneywood in the long term and individual dwellings could impact on the rural valley character. There is also sensitivity to any increase in commercial forestry, which could limit views along the valley and change the open character, if poorly designed. New pipelines, utility routes, major drainage operations and tracks are sensitive operations in this location due to the time taken for surface vegetation to effectively re-establish on the uncultivated and visible valley sides. The Landscape Character Area also falls within the Denny Hills Special Landscape Area.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Guidelines 4(ii) Carron Glen

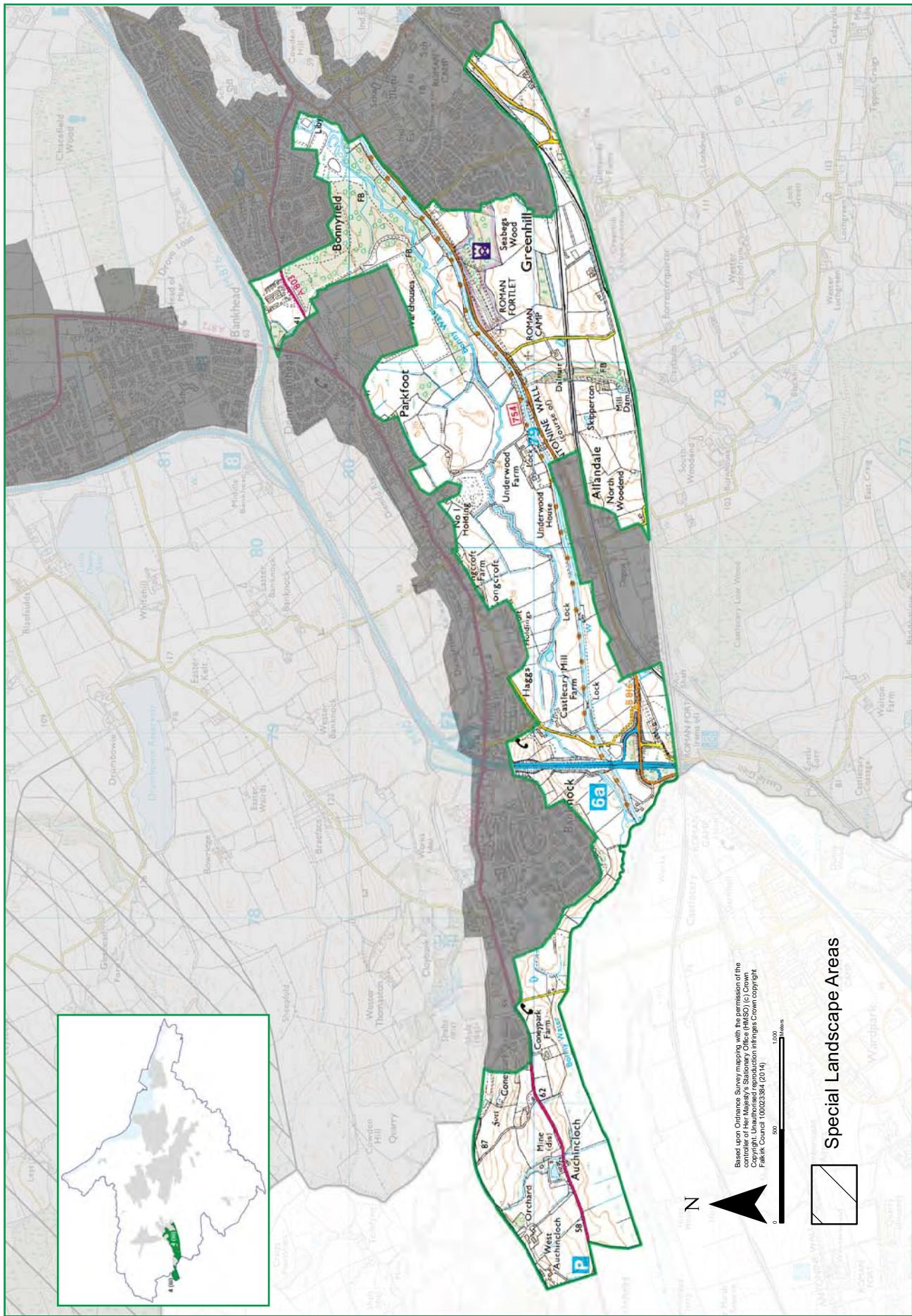
- 3.46** ■ Encourage sensitive management of existing woodland and encourage expansion of well designed native broadleaf woodland within the valley and along watercourse to provide linkages to other woodland areas for landscape and biodiversity value, and for access routes along the River Carron, this will contribute to Falkirk's green network.
- Ensure design of existing commercial forestry at restructuring and areas of new forestry meet the UK Forestry Standard Guidelines: Forests and Landscape; poorly designed forestry in the LLCA is a particular sensitivity. Ensure that the opportunity is taken for landscape and biodiversity enhancement at the next rotation.
- Ensure all road and other infrastructure improvements and any pipeline routes fully reinstate boundary trees, walls and hedgerows; these important landscape elements are sensitive to loss.
- Ensure sensitive siting of telecommunication equipment, new and replacement powerlines and small scale wind turbines; the glen has a high sensitivity to such development.
- Ensure any proposals for wind energy development follow the landscape guidance in the Supplementary Guidance 'Spatial Framework and Guidance for Wind Energy Development'.
- Ensure solar energy developments are sensitively sited and landscape and visual impact assessments support proposals; there is a high level of sensitivity to such development.
- Ensure new agricultural buildings, other large new industrial buildings and structures (particularly those associated with the water treatment works) are sympathetically designed for the landscape setting, are associated with existing building clusters and are orientated to minimise visual effects from key viewpoints; there is a high sensitivity to such development. Mitigating screen planting must be incorporated.
- Ensure steading conversions, tourism developments and other new buildings plus associated fences, gates and boundary treatments are of sympathetic design to the rural setting.
- Ensure all developments are well designed and integrated and positively restore the landscape character and features; there is high sensitivity to development in this glen.
- Ensure new native species structure/screen planting is undertaken in association with expansion of settlements (Fankerton, Stoneywood) and with other new buildings; this will contribute positively to landscape character.
- Encourage new planting around existing housing and industrial buildings where appropriate.
- Encourage retention, maintenance and reinstatement of field boundary trees, hedgerows and stone walls; these are noted as important landscape elements which are sensitive to loss.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Local Landscape Character Area 4(iii) Bonny Water

3.47



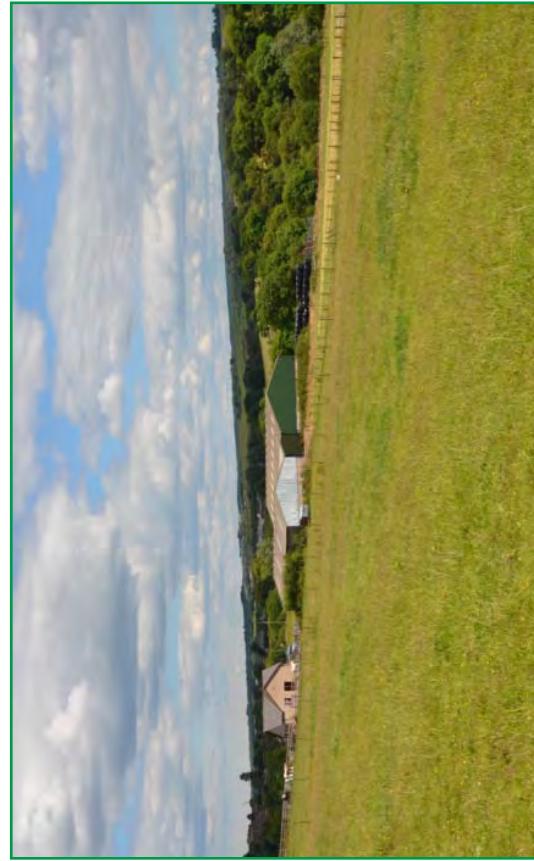
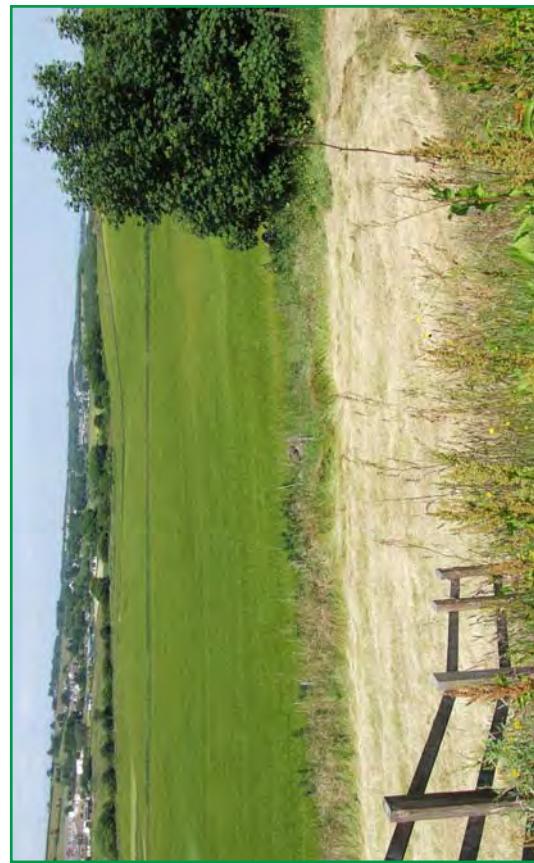
### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Likely future forces for change

- 3.48 Expansion of settlements in long term along A803 (Banknock, Haggis, Longcroft, Allandale), Canalside/recreational development. Mixed use/housing development. Single dwellings. Agricultural buildings. Extension to existing commercial buildings on settlement edges. Road improvements. Quarrying and access routes. Loss of boundary trees and hedges. Woodland planting. Biomass crops. Further dilapidation of stone walls. Small scale wind energy and associated infrastructure. Solar energy. Railway improvements with introduction of overhead line equipment and associated structures.

#### Sensitivities within Local Landscape Character Area

- 3.49 The open character of the Bonny Water valley, with its proximity to settlements and the presence of the Forth and Clyde Canal as a recreational route/path, and the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site increases sensitivity to large or very tall industrial scale structures which could impact on the setting of these features and the residential areas of nearby villages. There is sensitivity to the further expansion of settlements on the northern boundary leading to an increased coalescence of development; this could impact on the landscape character generally and setting of the canal route and the Antonine Wall. There is also a general sensitivity to the loss, or lack of management of, the few existing woodlands, tree groups and stone walls.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Guidelines 4(iii) Bonny Water

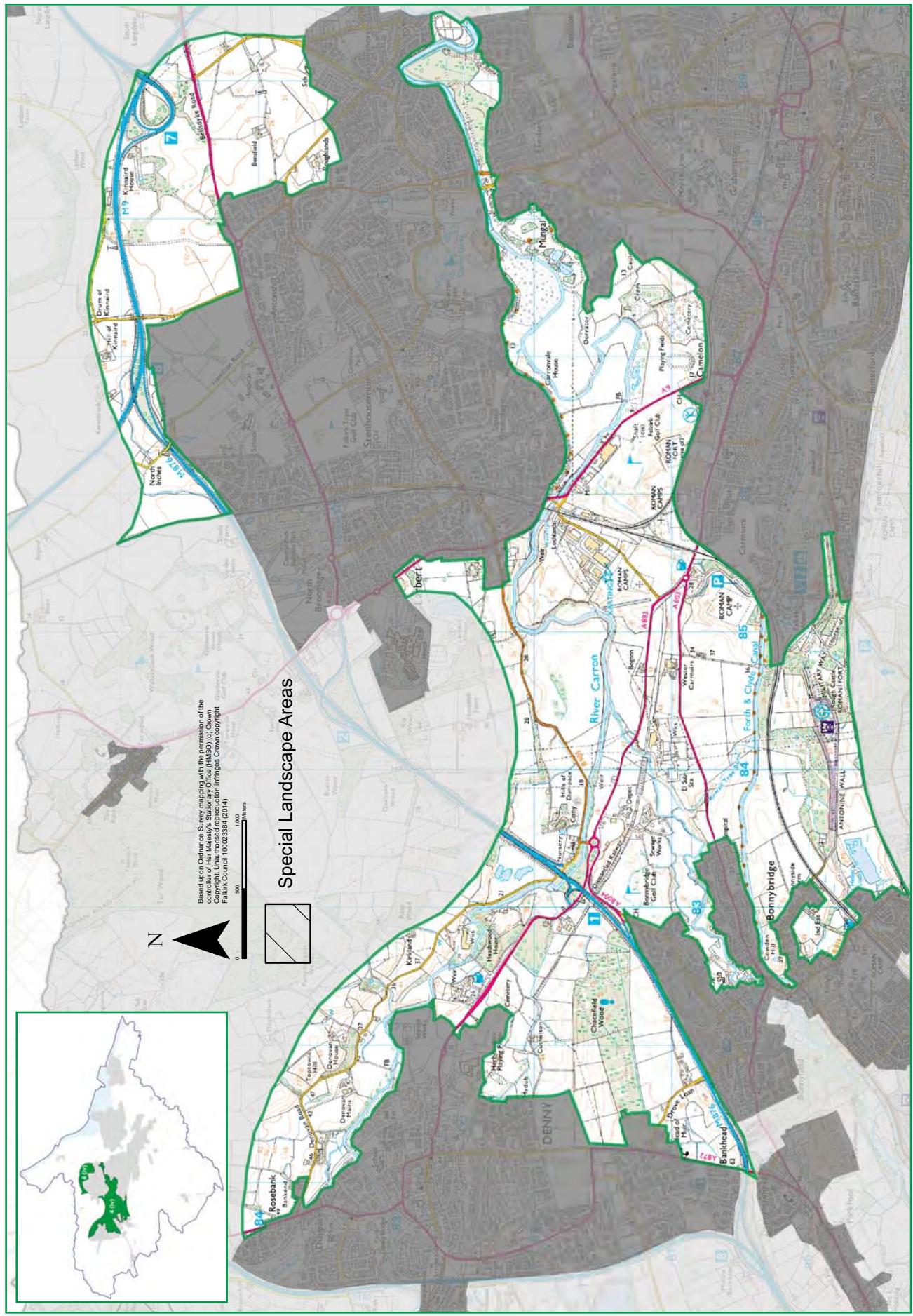
- 3.50 ■ Encourage expansion of native broadleaf trees and woodland along watercourses, field boundaries, around settlements and on derelict land, to enable linkages to other woodland areas, open spaces, recreational routes (eg John Muir Way, Forth and Clyde Canal towpath, Antonine Wall) and wildlife corridors (eg Bonny Water); this will enhance landscape, biodiversity value, and access routes, making a positive contribution to Falkirk's green network.
- Encourage sound management of woodlands and ensure they meet the UK Forestry Standard Guidelines: Forests and Landscape and good biodiversity practice; the existing woodlands are an important landscape element which are identified as being sensitive to loss. Ensure principles of good landscape design practice are followed for biomass crops.
- Ensure all road and other infrastructure improvements incorporate appropriate replacement tree, hedgerow and stone wall reinstatement where these features are removed; these important landscape elements are identified as being sensitive to loss.
- Ensure any proposals for wind energy development follow the landscape guidance in the Supplementary Guidance 'Spatial Framework and Guidance for Wind Energy Development'.
- Ensure solar energy developments are sensitively sited and landscape and visual impact assessments support proposals.
- Ensure all proposals for quarries and quarry extensions are subject to a full landscape and visual assessment. Landscape mitigation must be undertaken during the works and full landscape reinstatement undertaken following extraction; reinstatement must be undertaken to match the existing natural landform and gradients of the locality and incorporate appropriate boundary treatments, landscape features, native woodland planting, appropriate habitat creation and habitat linkages to the surrounding area. Long term maintenance and management following initial restoration must be undertaken through planning conditions or agreements.
- Ensure new agricultural buildings, other large new industrial buildings and structures are sympathetically designed for the landscape setting, are associated with existing building clusters where possible and are orientated to minimise visual effects from key viewpoints. Mitigating screen planting must be incorporated.
- Encourage new planting around existing housing and industrial buildings where appropriate.
- Ensure all new development on edges of settlements is of sympathetic design with appropriate landscape treatment; there is sensitivity to poor design of development on the edges of settlements.
- Encourage removal of derelict industrial structures and buildings on edges of settlements; settlement edges are identified as sensitive.
- Ensure new native species structure/screen planting is undertaken in association with expansion of settlements (Banknock, Haggs, Longcroft, Allandale) and with other new housing and new industrial buildings.
- Encourage reinstatement of field boundary trees, hedges and stone walls; there is sensitivity to loss of these few remaining landscape elements.
- Ensure the guidance contained within the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site Supplementary Guidance is followed for areas within the buffer zone.
- Ensure compliance with Antonine Wall Policy (Policy D07) of Local Development Plan.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Local Landscape Character Area 4(iv) Lower Carron/Bonny Water

3.51



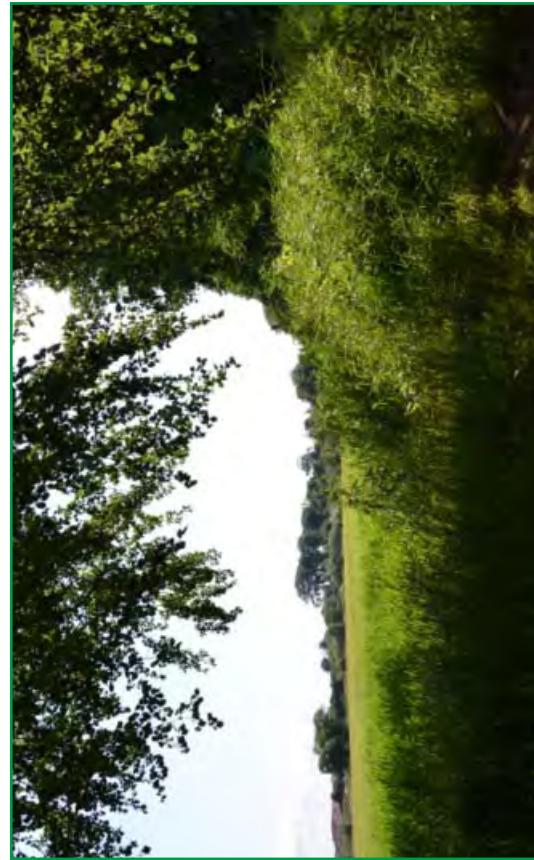
### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Likely future forces for change

3.52 Expansion of Denny, Bonnybridge, Stenhousemuir/Larbert and Falkirk in the long term, for industrial and residential uses, including extension of development into greenbelt. Single dwellings. Recreation developments. New power transmission lines, extensions to substations, water treatment works and telecommunication masts. Further road improvements and pipeline routes. Development resulting in an overall loss of field boundary trees, roadside trees and hedgerows. Loss of tree cover providing valuable screening to urban edge. New woodlands. Biomass crops. Small scale wind energy development and associated infrastructure. Solar energy. Small scale quarrying. Surface coal mining. Coal bed methane extraction (eastern area). Railway improvements with introduction of overhead line equipment and associated structures.

#### Sensitivities within Local Landscape Character Area

3.53 Area includes the River Carron corridor, a section of the Bonny Water, the Forth and Clyde Canal, wildlife sites, a section of the Antonine Wall and the important local tourist attraction of the Falkirk Wheel on the southern boundary; a substantial portion of Greenbelt is also in this area. The area is particularly sensitive to further infrastructure and large scale industrial development which could further erode the setting of these locally accessible and highly valued features, the views from them, and the existing landscape elements. The accessibility of the area from residential areas of the surrounding settlements and views from settlements to this landscape character area suggests a high level of sensitivity to poorly screened /unsympathetic development. There is also sensitivity to the loss of, or poor management of, existing landscape elements such as woodland, tree groups, individual trees, and stone walls and hedgerows that form field and road boundaries.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Guidelines 4(iv) Lower Carron/Bonny Water

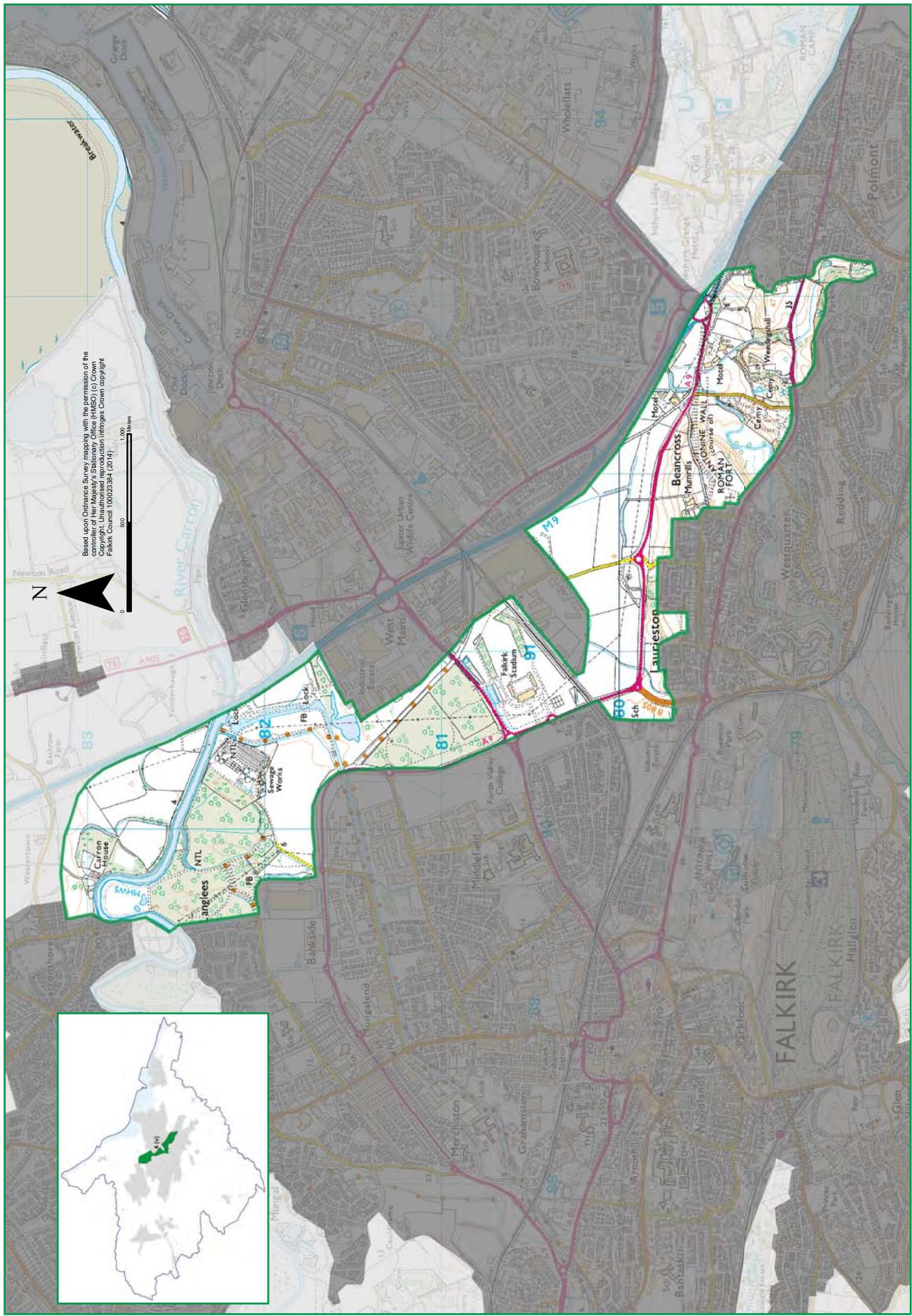
- 3.54** ■ Encourage expansion of native broadleaf trees and woodland along watercourses, field boundaries, around settlements and on derelict land to provide screening and definition of the urban edge and to enable linkages to other woodland areas, open space and recreational routes; this will enhance landscape character, biodiversity value, and access (including the River Carron route, and the Forth and Clyde canal towpath) and contribute to Falkirk's green network.
- Encourage sound management of existing woodlands and ensure they meet the UK Forestry Standard Guidelines: Forests and Landscape and good biodiversity practice; these important landscape features are identified as being sensitive to loss.
- Ensure principles of good landscape design practice are followed for biomass crops.
- Ensure all new road and other infrastructure improvements incorporate appropriate planting and that field boundary trees, hedges and stone walls are maintained and replaced where lost; these important landscape elements are identified as being sensitive to loss.
- Ensure any proposals for wind energy development follow the landscape guidance in the Supplementary Guidance 'Spatial Framework and Guidance for Wind Energy Development'.
- Ensure solar energy developments are sensitively sited and landscape and visual impact assessments support proposals.
- Ensure all proposals for surface coal mining, quarries and quarry extensions are subject to a full landscape and visual assessment. Landscape mitigation must be undertaken during the works and full landscape reinstatement undertaken following extraction. Reinstatement must be undertaken to match the existing natural landform and gradients of the locality and incorporate appropriate boundary treatments, landscape features, native woodland planting, appropriate habitat creation and habitat linkages to the surrounding area. Long term maintenance and management following initial restoration must be undertaken through planning conditions or agreements.
- Ensure coal bed methane extraction points and associated works are appropriately sited, utilising existing landscape features and new planting for screening; where landscape features (trees, hedgerows, stone walls) are removed they must be replaced.
- Ensure conversions of existing farm steadings and new rural dwellings are of appropriate design, scale and materials to enable integration into the surrounding area.
- Encourage screen planting around existing outlying visually intrusive buildings and structures.
- Ensure all new development and recreational features and their boundary treatments are well designed and integrated with appropriate structure planting to enhance the setting and provide screening.
- Ensure new native species structure/screen planting is undertaken in association with expansion of settlements (Denny, Bonnybridge, Stenhousemuir and Falkirk) and with new housing and new industrial buildings; this will ensure a level of visual containment to address the identified landscape and visual sensitivities at settlement edges.
- Ensure designated sites of nature conservation and watercourses are fully protected and carefully integrated into any new development, road improvement, pipeline and powerline routes; this will also assist in addressing the identified landscape sensitivities.
- Ensure compliance with Green Belt Policy (Policy CG02) and Antonine Wall Policy (Policy D07) of Local Development Plan for parts of character area affected.
- Ensure the guidance contained within the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site Supplementary Guidance is followed for areas within the buffer zone.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Local Landscape Character Area 4(v) Falkirk - Grangemouth Urban Fringe

3.55



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Likely future forces for change

- 3.56 Urban expansion, particularly industrial and business parks. General pressure on Green Belt. Further road improvements with associated signage and lighting. New transmission lines and telecommunication masts. New pipelines/pipeline replacement. Recreational development, particularly associated with canal and cycle paths. Further loss of field structure and associated boundary trees and hedgerows. New woodland planting. Loss of tree cover providing valuable screening to urban edge. Biomass crops. Small scale wind energy development and associated infrastructure. Solar energy.

#### Sensitivities within Local Landscape Character Area

- 3.57 This character area is predominantly Green Belt and includes the Helix, Grange Burn, River Carron, part of the Forth and Clyde Canal, a section of the Antonine Wall and recreational areas and paths. The area is particularly sensitive to further infrastructure development and large industrial development on its edges which could further erode the setting of these locally accessible and highly valued features and the views out from them. The accessibility of the landscape character area from residential areas of the surrounding settlements (Stenhousemuir, Falkirk, Grangemouth, Laurieston, Polmont), and views from these settlements to this landscape character area, gives rise to a high level of landscape and visual sensitivity to any development. Particular issues are poorly screened and designed development and the loss of, or poor management of, existing landscape elements that define the area (e.g. woodland, tree groups, individual trees and the stone walls and hedgerows that form field and road boundaries).



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Guidelines 4(v) Falkirk - Grangemouth Urban Fringe

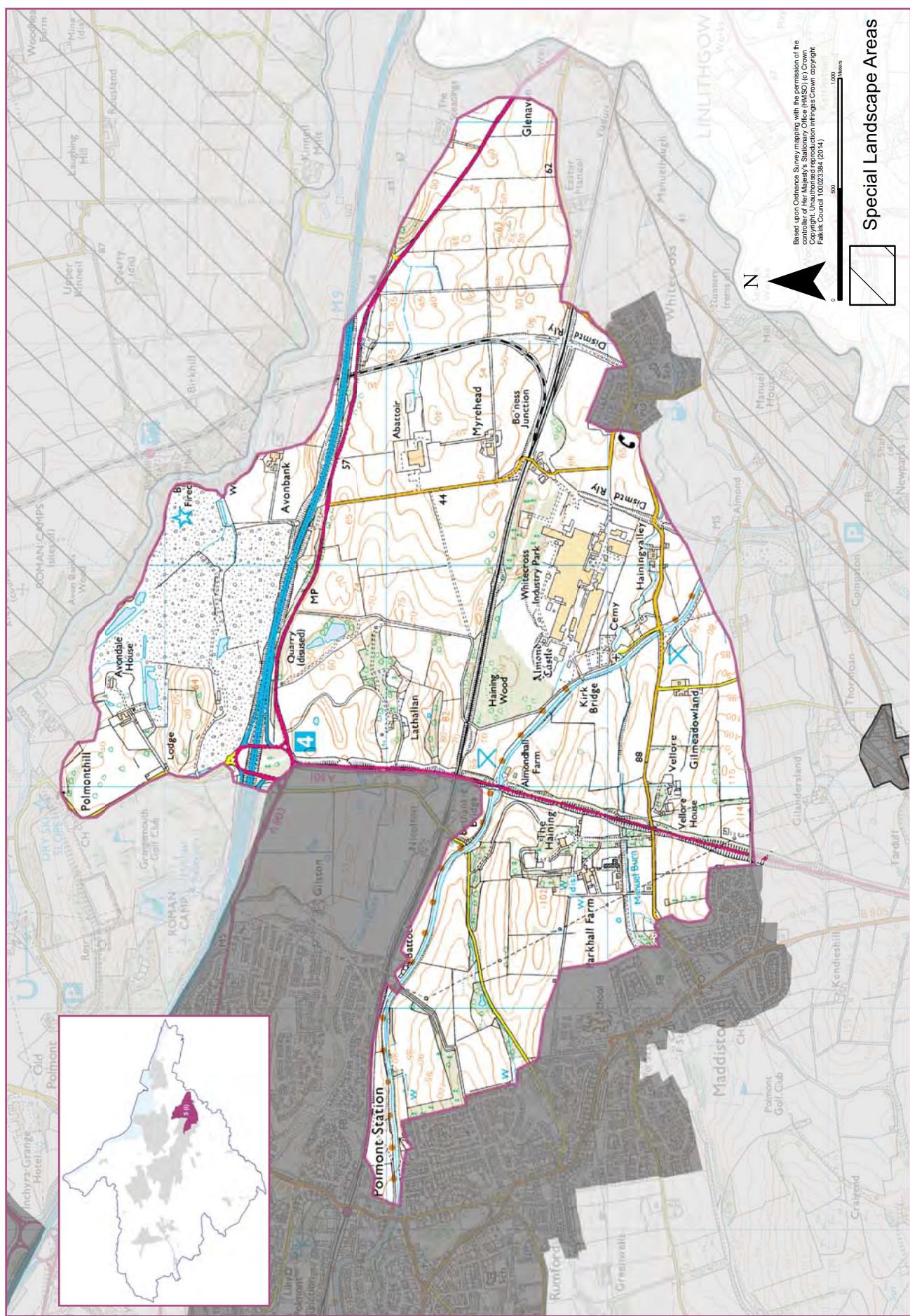
- 3.58** ■ Encourage management and expansion of native broadleaf trees and woodland along field boundaries, around settlements and on derelict land to enable linkages to other woodland areas, wildlife sites, and paths to recreational areas (The Helix, Langlee, and watercourses) for improvement of landscape, biodiversity value, and access ; this will contribute to Falkirk's green network. This LLCA is highly sensitive to woodland loss.
- Ensure new woodland planting follows the UK Forestry Standard Guidelines: Forests and Landscape; there is high sensitivity to poorly designed woodland in this location. Ensure principles of good landscape design practice are followed for biomass crops.
  - Ensure all new road and other infrastructure improvements incorporate appropriate levels of planting and that any boundary trees, hedges and walls removed for road improvements or new pipelines are replaced; these important landscape elements are sensitive to loss.
  - Ensure any proposals for wind energy development follow the landscape guidance in the Supplementary Guidance 'Spatial Framework and Guidance for Wind Energy Development'.
  - Ensure solar energy developments are sensitively sited and landscape and visual impact assessments support proposals.
  - Encourage removal of derelict industrial structures and buildings on edges of settlements; settlement edges are of high sensitivity.
  - Ensure new native species structure / screen planting is undertaken in association with expansion of settlements and new industrial buildings.
  - Encourage new screen planting around existing industrial buildings, structures and housing on adjacent urban edge; the setting of the recreational features in the area, views to and from the green belt and views from the housing areas are sensitive.
  - Ensure all new development on edges of settlements is of sympathetic design with appropriate landscape treatment.
  - Ensure recreational features and other development permitted within the Green Belt, including associated ancillary structures, are well designed and integrated with appropriate structure and screen planting; this LLCA is sensitive due to proximity of the urban area.
  - Ensure sites of nature conservation value and watercourses are protected and carefully integrated into any new development, road improvements or pipeline routes; this will also assist in addressing the identified landscape sensitivities.
  - Encourage the retention and maintenance of existing field boundary trees and hedges; these few remaining landscape elements are highly sensitive to loss in this area.
  - Ensure compliance with Green Belt Policy (Policy CG02) and Antonine Wall Policy (Policy D07) of Local Development Plan.
  - Ensure the guidance contained within the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site Supplementary Guidance is followed for areas within the buffer zone.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Local Landscape Character Area 5(i) Manuel Farmlands

3.59



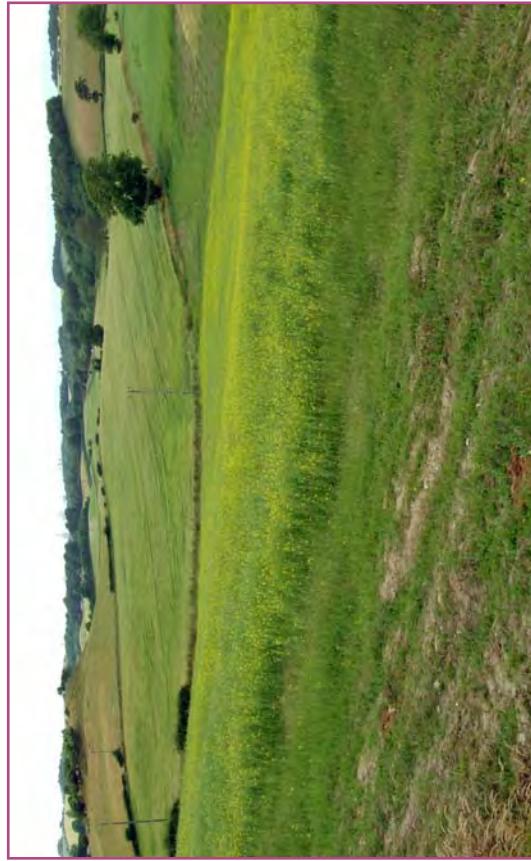
### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Likely future forces for change

- 3.60 Expansion of Maddiston/Polmont eastwards to A801, for large scale housing / mixed use development in the long term. Major development at Whitecross. Single rural dwellings. Conversion of steadings to residential and business/industrial use. Enabling developments for renovation of old buildings and sites. Landfill/recycling facilities and expansion. Road improvements and other infrastructure resulting in loss of trees and hedgerows and lack of their management. New woodland planting. Biomass crops. Power lines. Telecommunication apparatus. New farm buildings. Canal related recreational/tourism developments. Small scale wind energy development and associated infrastructure. Solar energy. Railway improvements with introduction of overhead line equipment and associated structures.

#### Sensitivities within Local Landscape Character Area

- 3.61 A section of the Union Canal passes through the area, along with the associated cycle path and tow path; a section of the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site is also on the northern border. The setting of these features and views from them together with the proximity to Polmont/Brightons/Maddiston and Whitecross indicates a high level of sensitivity to any development that is poorly screened or designed. The higher ground within the area is particularly sensitive to large or very tall structures, (such as telecommunication masts, transmission masts, wind turbines, power lines/pylons, large agricultural/equestrian buildings and industrial buildings) due to the potential for visibility over the wider area. In addition, this landscape character area would be particularly sensitive to the loss of the existing defining landscape elements, or to a lack of management of these features (e.g. existing woodlands, shelterbelts, tree groups, hedgerows, stone walls). The area is also sensitive to the expansion of the adjacent settlements which could impact on these landscape elements and associated habitats.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Guidelines 5(i) Manual Farmlands

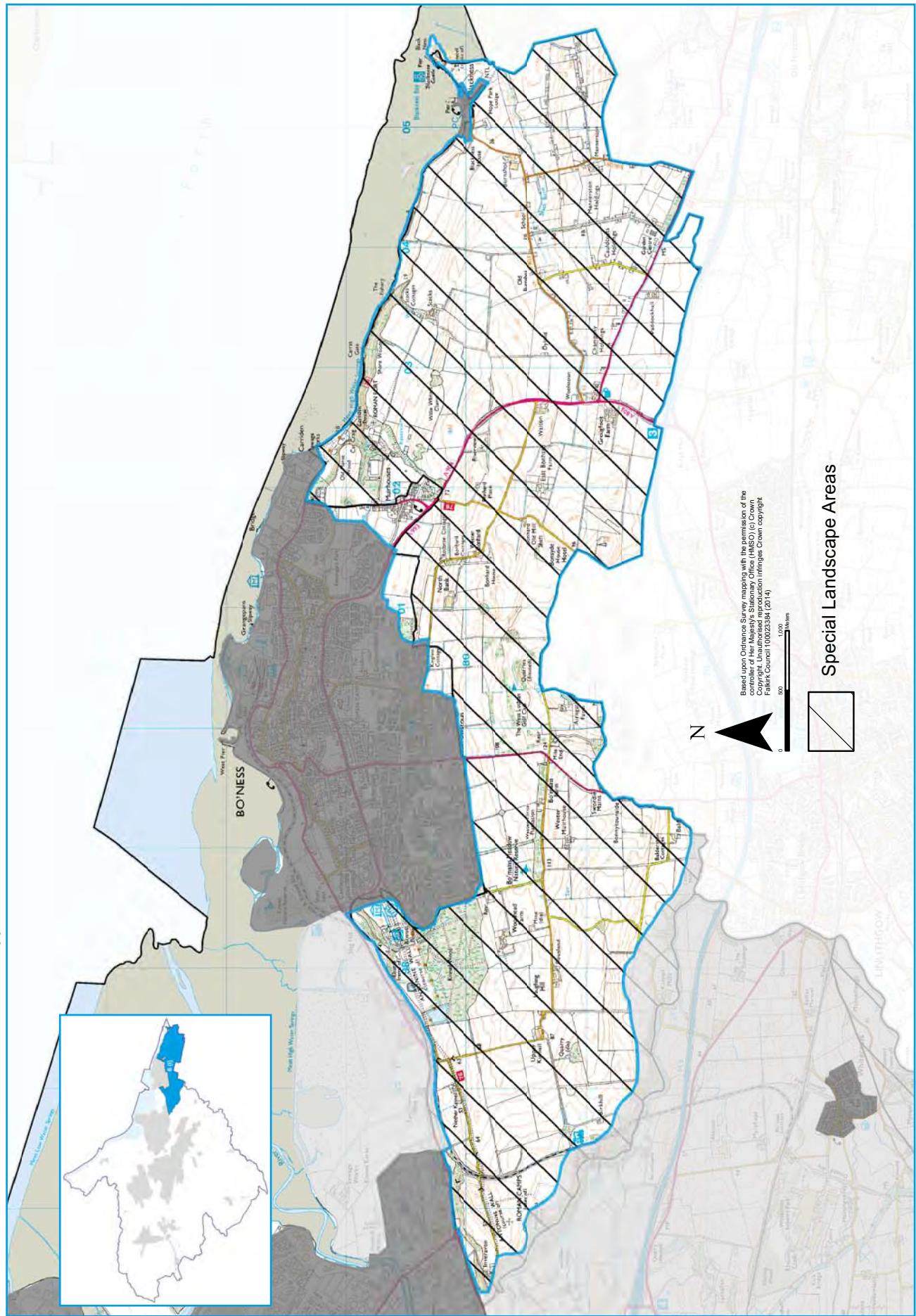
- 3.62** ■ Encourage expansion of native broadleaf trees and woodland along watercourses, field boundaries and as backdrops to settlements to enable linkages to other woodland areas and wildlife areas for improvement of landscape, biodiversity value, and access routes; this will contribute to Falkirk's green network.
- Encourage sound management of woodlands and ensure they meet the UK Forestry Standard Guidelines: Forests and Landscape and good biodiversity practice; ensure principles of good landscape design practice are followed for biomass crops. There is sensitivity to the loss of woodland as an important landscape element.
- Ensure all road and other infrastructure improvements and design are appropriately mitigated to minimise landscape and visual effects and that tree and hedgerow loss in particular is reinstated; there is sensitivity to the loss of defining landscape elements.
- Ensure telecommunication and transmission towers are not located on prominent ridges and are concentrated at sites with existing installations with mast sharing; the LLCA is sensitive to these structures.
- Ensure any proposals for wind energy development follow the landscape guidance in the Supplementary Guidance 'Spatial Framework and Guidance for Wind Energy Development'.
- Ensure solar energy developments are sensitively sited and landscape and visual impact assessments support proposals.
- Ensure new agricultural buildings/equestrian centres, steading conversions, and other new buildings and structures are sympathetically designed for the landscape setting, are associated with existing building clusters where possible and are orientated to minimise visual effects from key viewpoints; mitigating screen planting must be incorporated. The LLCA is sensitive to these structures.
- Encourage sensitive restoration and conversion of traditional steadings and encourage removal of non-traditional unused/dilapidated farm buildings.
- Ensure that all proposals for large scale developments are subject to landscape and visual impact assessment in accordance with good practice guidelines and include examination of alternative sites. Design must be of high quality and sympathetic to the character of the Avon Valley with mitigating structure planting; development that is visually intrusive or not in scale with the character of this small scale intimate landscape will not be acceptable.
- All new development on the edge of the urban area and settlements must be of appropriate scale, design and siting; ensure native species structure/screen planting is undertaken in association with expansion of settlements (Maddiston/Polmont, Whitcross) and with other new housing . The LCA has high sensitivity to poor design and siting.
- Encourage new planting around existing housing and industrial buildings where appropriate.
- Ensure compliance with Green Belt Policy (Policy CG02) of Local Development Plan.
- Encourage replacement and management of field boundary trees and hedgerows; there is sensitivity to loss of these defining landscape elements.
- Ensure the guidance contained within the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site Supplementary Guidance is followed for areas within the buffer zone.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Local Landscape Character Area 6(i) Bo'ness Coastal Hills

3.63



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Likely future forces for change

3.64 Expansion of Bo'ness to south and east in long term. Conversion and expansion of former farm steadings to residential/business/equestrian use. New large agricultural/equestrian buildings. New single rural dwellings. Recreational facilities. Garden centre/allotment expansion, including polytunnels. Loss of field boundary features. Loss of mature tree cover. New woodland planting. Biomass crops. Road improvements resulting in tree/hedgerow loss and loss of rural character. New buildings, conversions of existing buildings and commercial development in area of Cauldcoats/Mannerton Holdings, leading to cumulative effect. Telecommunication structures. Small scale wind energy development and associated infrastructure. Solar energy.

#### Sensitivities within Local Landscape Character Area

3.65 From much of this landscape character area, including the Bo'ness to Blackness coast, there are extensive views outwards into adjacent character areas and towards Fife, due to the elevated character. The area has a very high sensitivity to development of any tall structures or large structures with extensive mass; these could be extensively visible from within the area and from outside (examples are telecommunication masts, transmission masts, wind turbines, renewable energy projects, power lines/pylons, large agricultural/equestrian buildings and industrial buildings). The prominent ridge of high ground between Bo'ness and Linlithgow, in particular, is very sensitive to any development or change in land management practices due to its elevation and greater visibility from the south. The setting of the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site, Blackness Castle, the village of Blackness and the undeveloped coast with coastal path (part of John Muir Way) have valued landscape settings and would therefore be sensitive to development in the surrounding area. National Cycle Route 76 and the Bo'ness and Kinnel Railway are also tourist features and the views from these are sensitive to change. The Grangemouth industrial complex abuts the north west boundary of the character area and is a dominant feature in views from the highest land; any development in the west of the character area that would add to the visual effects of the Grangemouth complex or would result in the loss of any tree cover would also be sensitive. The character area would be particularly sensitive to the visual effects from expansion of Bo'ness onto higher ground and to poorly designed development on the edges of Bo'ness and Muirhouses. The open character of the area around Cauldcoats/Mannerton Holdings and the higher density of small buildings make this area sensitive to further development. There is a particular sensitivity to the loss and lack of management of the existing defining landscape elements (such as the strong existing woodland cover, shelterbelts, tree groups, individual trees, hedgerows, stone walls). The entire landscape character area is covered by the South Bo'ness Special Landscape Area.



### 3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines

#### Guidelines 6(i) Bo'ness Coastal Hills

- 3.66 ■ Encourage expansion of native broadleaf trees and woodland planting along watercourses, field boundaries, access routes and in strategic locations to improve screening of the Grangemouth complex and to create a woodland framework around Bo'ness; this must enable linkages to other woodland areas and habitats for improvement of landscape, biodiversity value, access routes, and will help to mitigate the effects of different development types to address the sensitivity of the area. Sensitive woodland expansion will make an overall contribution to Falkirk's green network.
- Encourage sound management of woodlands and ensure they meet the UK Forestry Standard Guidelines: Forests and Landscape and to good biodiversity practice; the woodland cover is an important landscape element and is sensitive to loss through poor management and neglect. Ensure principles of good landscape design practice are followed for biomass crops.
- Ensure new road and other infrastructure proposals and improvements incorporate appropriate replacement tree planting, hedgerows and boundary walls where these features are removed; these are important landscape elements which are sensitive to loss.
- Ensure telecommunication and transmission towers are not located on prominent ridges and are concentrated at sites with existing installations with mast sharing; the LLCA is sensitive to these structures.
- Ensure any proposals for wind energy development follow the landscape guidance in the Supplementary Guidance 'Spatial Framework and Guidance for Wind Energy Development'.
- Ensure solar energy developments are sensitively sited and landscape and visual impact assessments support proposals.
- Ensure new agricultural buildings, horticultural developments, other large new buildings and structures and recreational developments are sympathetically designed for the landscape setting, are associated with existing building clusters where possible and are orientated to minimise visual effects from key viewpoints; high sensitivity to such development on high ground is identified. Mitigating structure/screen planting must be incorporated.
- Ensure new buildings and conversions in the Cauldcoats/Mannerton Holdings areas are carefully sited and designed to avoid a cumulative visual effect from the surrounding area; the area is sensitive to a high level of development and low key sensitive structure planting may be required to minimise effects.
- Ensure conversions of farm steadings and new rural dwellings are of appropriate design, scale and materials and that appropriate mitigating screen/structure planting is undertaken where buildings are in visually prominent areas.
- Ensure all proposals for new power lines, pipelines and major industrial development are subject to landscape and visual impact assessment, including investigation of alternative routes or sites, and that all developments are well designed and integrated and can positively restore the landscape character and features; high sensitivity to such development is identified.
- Ensure all new development on outer edges of Bo'ness, Muirhouses and Blackness is of sympathetic design, scale, siting and materials; ensure appropriate landscape treatment with mitigating structural planting. There is high sensitivity identified to development in these locations.
- Ensure a high level of protection from any tall structures and large buildings on the upper part of the ridge running west to east between Bo'ness and Linlithgow; this has a very high sensitivity to development.
- Ensure views from Blackness Castle and views inland from the undeveloped coast between Blackness and Bo'ness (part of John Muir Way) are protected from inappropriate development; this area is identified as being particularly sensitive to development that would impact on views from these features.

### **3. Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines**

- Encourage reinstatement and management of lost boundary trees, hedgerows and stone walls along field boundaries; these are important landscape elements which are sensitive to loss.
- Ensure compliance with Green Belt Policy (Policy CG02) and Antonine Wall Policy (Policy D07) of Local Development Plan for parts of character area affected.
- Ensure the guidance contained within the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site Supplementary Guidance is followed for areas within the buffer zone.