



Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO (c) Crown Copyright and database right 2016. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey License Number 100020780

Polmont Area - Area Strategy Map

5.9 Rural North

Analysis

	Number of surveyed open spaces	Area of open space (hectares)	Rate of open space provision (hectares per 1000 people)	Percentage of total area of open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment	Percentage of households with access to an open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment within a 400m walk (5mins)	Percentage of households with access to a park or amenity space of 2000m ² or greater within a 400m walk (5mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a playspace within 800m (10mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a sports area within 1200m (15mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a natural/ semi natural open space within 1200m (15mins)
Rural North	21	70.9	26.3	5.1%	59.9%	51.9%	88.3%	82.7%	93.0%
FC Area	632	2448.9	15.9	64.0%	65.7%	85.7%	96.9%	92.9%	96.6%

The rural north area contains the villages of Airth, Dunmore, Letham, Skinflats, South Alloa and Torwood. Although the area has a higher rate of open space provision than the Council average, the villages of Dunmore and Skinflats have a rate of open space provision lower than the proposed 5 hectare per 1000 people standard. The average quality of open space and the percentage of the total number of open spaces which are fit for purpose is the highest of all settlement areas, however, notably it has the lowest percentage of the total area of open space which is fit for purpose, this is because a few, extremely large open spaces score below 3 in the fitness for purpose assessment.

There is a very high percentage of households which have access to fit for purpose open space within 400m, however none of the households in Dunmore, Skinflats or Torwood have access to an open space which is fit for purpose. The area has the lowest percentage of households with access to park or amenity space of over 0.2ha within a 400m walk. Torwood does not have a public park or amenity space of that size in or close to the village. The area has a below average percentage of households with access to an open space containing a playspace within 800m. Torwood is the only settlement in the Council area that does not have access to an open space containing a playspace within 800m. The area has a lower than average percentage of households with access to sports area within 800m, mainly due to the lack of such a facility in South Alloa and Torwood. There may be scope to rationalise the portfolio of playspace in Airth without reducing the number of households with access to an open space containing a playspace within an 800m walk.

Relevant Objectives

2. Raising the quality standard of our national and regional level open spaces
3. Investing in poorer quality parks and open spaces where there is no better quality alternative provision

4. Developing new play facilities in areas of identified need
5. Developing new sports areas in areas of identified need
6. Developing new park and amenity space in areas of identified need
8. Improve the green network in and around the Council area by improving open space sites corridors and connectivity
9. Rationalise our portfolio of playspaces and sports areas to improve overall quality
10. Provide new open space where the rate of open space provision is below the 5ha/1000 people standard

Priority Actions

Action (Parks Development Plan action reference in bold, open space reference number in brackets)	Objective	Agency/Mechanism	Strategic/Thematic Priority	Local Priority
MQUAL.33; MNATREG08 - Improve the quality of the Torwood (431) exploring opportunities for woodland management and development of an outdoor access network around Torwood	2,3,8	Private landowner	Objective 2: Priority 3 Objective 3: Priority 1	Top local priority
MQUAL.32,34-35 & 48 - Improve the quality of Moss Cottages Green (438); Airth Castle Woodlands (434); Airth Recreation Ground (427); and Skinflats Park (442)	3,8	Falkirk Council. Developer contributions may be available	Skinflats: Priority 1 Dunmore: Priority 1 Airth: Priority 4	
MPLAY.09 & 12 - Investigate opportunities to provide a new playspace in Torwood and South West Airth	4	Falkirk Council	Torwood: Priority 1 Airth: Priority 3	
MSPOR.14,17 & 18 - Investigate opportunities to provide a new sports area in Airth, South Alloa and Torwood	5		Priority 4	Creating a new sports area in Airth is a top local priority
MPARK.01 & 16 - Investigate opportunities to provide new park or amenity open space of over 0.2 hectares in South Airth and Torwood	6	Falkirk Council	Torwood: Priority 1 Airth: Priority 1	Creating a new park or amenity space in Torwood is a top local priority.
MGNT.32 - Create missing link in the Round the Forth Foreshore Path between Airth Sewage Works and Dunmore	8	Falkirk Council		
MGNT.26 - Create missing link in in the core	8	Falkirk Council, Private		Top local priority

Action (Parks Development Plan action reference in bold, open space reference number in brackets)	Objective	Agency/Mechanism	Strategic/Thematic Priority	Local Priority
path network to enable the creation of a circular route between North Broomage and Denny via Glenbervie and Torwood		Landowners		
MGNT.33 - Investigate opportunities to enhance the abandoned opencast site at Waterslap between Airth and Letham including potential river restoration along the Pow Burn and access improvements from Airth and Letham	8			
Rationalise playspace provision in Airth	9	Falkirk Council		
Investigate opportunities provide new open space to increase the rate of open space provision in Dunmore and Skinflats	10	Falkirk Council		