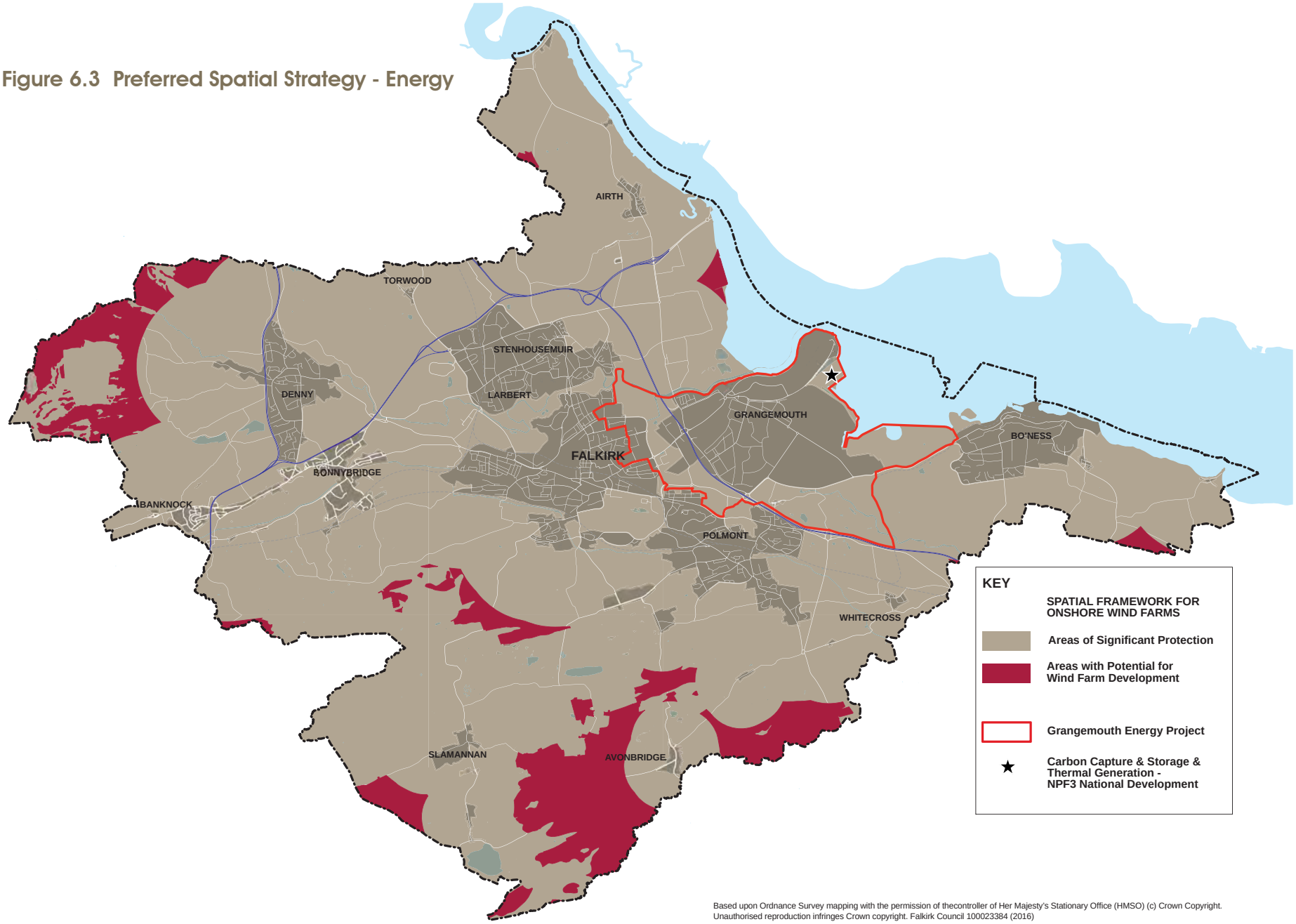
Figure 6.3 Preferred Spatial Strategy - Energy



Issue 10: Energy

Heat Networks

6.23 Planning has an important role to play in the development of heat networks, whereby sources of heat supply are connected to developments with high heat demand. Heat produced by energy generation, or recovered from industrial processes or groundwater, can be conveyed via district heating systems to commercial or residential heat users.

6.24 LDP1 gives general support to heat recovery and recycling through combined heat and power and district heating schemes in major new developments. SG17 on Renewable Energy outlines progress on using heat mapping in the area to identify areas of heat demand, potential 'anchor' loads and heat sources, and opportunities for co-location. The main strategic focus for the potential development of heat networks is in and around Grangemouth where there is a cluster of potential heat sources and heat anchors which could be linked, raising the possibility of reducing energy costs for business and domestic users. Work carried out as part of the Grangemouth Energy Project has identified three potential network areas (Figure 6.4) which could be developed, and a business case is to be progressed for two of these. It is proposed that these areas of potential be built into the spatial strategy for LDP1, along with a strengthened policy supporting district heating, including the 'future-proofing' of sites.

6.25

Preferred Option

Strengthen the policy on heat networks and the incorporation of district heating into major new developments. Identify the network opportunities associated with the Grangemouth Energy Project within the spatial strategy.

Alternatives

The potential networks within the Grangemouth Energy Project are effectively alternatives in terms of where investment in infrastructure might be prioritised. However, it is too early to commit to any one option, pending the development of the relevant business cases.

How does this differ from LDP1?

The preferred option will strengthen the coverage of heat networks in LDP2, as compared to LDP1, and will identify network opportunities for the first time.