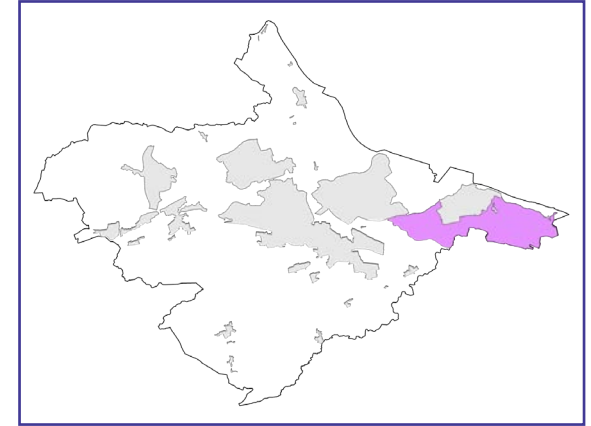


Local Landscape Character Area 5(ii) Bo'ness Coastal Hills

6.17 Key Characteristics of the LLCA

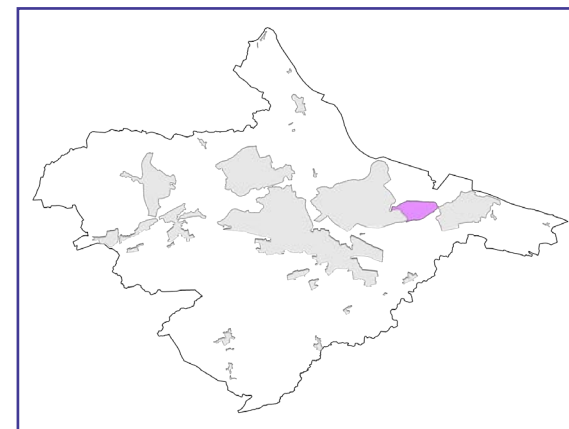
- A series of east-west aligned rolling coastal hills extending from the edge of Grangemouth, around Bo'- ness to Blackness, approximately between 100-150m AOD with a general down slope to the north to Bo'ness and to the south to the River Avon;
- Mudflats at Blackness Bay between the mean low and high water tides of the Firth of Forth, designated SPA and SSSI, and Bo'ness Foreshore wildlife site and Nature Reserve provide estuarine habitat supporting various plants and animals;
- Flat coastal margin at Bo'ness is developed with industrial units and the disused dock, with the Bo'ness steam railway line running from the former docks southwards;
- A series of minor burns drain the area either northwards to the Forth or south to the steep, well-wooded gorge of the River Avon which marks the southern boundary of the LLCA;
- A network of 'B' roads and other minor lanes generally run east-west along slightly raised ridges, providing extensive views in all directions, whilst two 'A' roads roll north-south through the LLCA providing extensive views from high ground northwards across the Forth to the Ochil Hills and southwards to the Pentland Hills;
- In contrast, views are limited from lower-lying areas, providing a more enclosed, small-scale, strong rural character;
- Network of Core Paths, including a circular path around Blackness Castle, foreshore path from Blackness past the fishery near Stacks Farm to Kinneil Nature Reserve, Sustrans National Cycle Network Route 76 and path to the steam railway and Birkhill Clay Mine, provide valuable recreational and commuting routes for the local community and non-motorised visitors.
- Airngath Hill just over the boundary in West Lothian is a localised high point at 171m AOD, where the West Lothian Golf Clubhouse is conspicuous, and the folly tower at the House of the Binns is another landmark feature just beyond the Falkirk Council area, on Binns Hill at 113m AOD;
- Predominantly medium-large scale, open or semi-open farmland mostly ley grassland but with arable cultivation reflecting the fertile nature of the well-drained soils;
- Large fields where hedges have been removed, elsewhere a mix of post and wire fences, dry stone dykes and hawthorn and beech hedges which provide a mostly well maintained, well managed appearance to the landscape which is designated as AGLV;
- Woodlands are rare but there are frequent lines of roadside trees and narrow shelterbelts;
- A steep escarpment with mature broadleaved woodland and a conifer plantation lies between the River Avon and the designed grounds and wood at Kinneil House, providing a strong, well defined edge to the LLCA;
- Similarly a steep escarpment runs between Carriden Brae and Blackness Bay, and includes the mature broadleaved woodland at Shore Woods;
- Many historical and archaeological features, including the course of the Antonine Wall and Roman Camp remains, Blackness Castle, Carriden House and Roman Fort;
- In the extreme eastern corner of the LLCA is a smaller scale landscape divided into small rectilinear fields with a grid pattern of minor roads and numerous regularly-spaced single storey small-holdings alongside the roads, with large farm estates of the Champany Holdings, Cauldcoats Holdings, and the Mannerston Holdings in-between, and other landuses including a garden centre, reflecting the fertile nature of the soils.



Local Landscape Character Area 5(iii) Grangemouth/Kinneil Flats

6.18 Key Characteristics of the LLCA

- A unique, developed character due to the presence of the huge petrochemical works, docks and other industrial installations on the wide, extensive, large scale coastal flats alongside the Firth of Forth;
- Flat land at Kinneil between Grangemouth and Bo'ness lies on land reclaimed from the Forth saltmarsh and comprises a sewage works, industrial units and an extensive area of land-raise, with horticultural land uses and wet grassland in-between;
- Mudflats between the mean low and high water tides of the Firth of Forth are designated SPA and SSSI, and together with Kinneil saline lagoon provide important estuarine habitat supporting various plants and animals;
- Kinneil Nature Reserve to the east provides an important feeding and roosting area for birds and is a former landfill site.



Local Landscape Character Type 6: Coastal Carselands

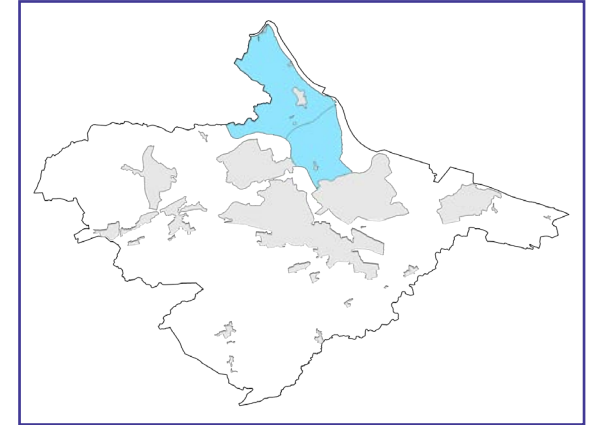
Local Landscape Character Areas (LLCAs)

6.19 There are two LLCA's in this LCT within the Falkirk Council area:

- **LLCA 6(i) Skinflats**
- **LLCA 6(ii) Carse of Forth**

Key Characteristics of the LCT

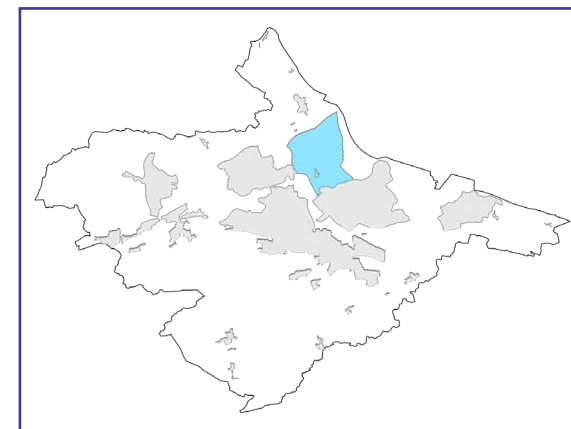
- A broad swathe of land alongside the Firth of Forth and influenced by it, ranging from inter-tidal mudflats, to flat, low-lying and largely unsettled carselands, designed landscapes and mansion houses, areas dominated by built development and industrial infrastructure, to rolling coastal hills;
- The low-lying carseland in the northeast and east are the main arable and mixed farming areas of the Falkirk Council area;
- Complex inter-relationships between coastal processes, including flooding, erosion and sea level rise, pollution, internationally important habitats, and development and recreational pressures, gives the coastal zone a distinctive character more specifically distinguished as either developed or un-developed coast.



Local Landscape Character Area 6(i) Skinflats

6.20 Key Characteristics of the LLCA

- Extending from the M876/A876 to Grangemouth, and bounded by the M9 and the urban edge of Carronshore to the west;
- Very low lying, flat coastal margin at between 4-8m AOD, and including the internationally important Skinflats Nature Reserve on the mudflats between the mean low and high water springs of the Firth of Forth, designated SPA and SSSI;
- Predominant land use is arable farmland in large scale, rectilinear fields with few hedges and mostly post and wire fences as boundaries;
- Small woodland copses are conspicuous within the flat landscape;
- A905 cuts a very straight course through the LLCA, with a roundabout junction to the A88 link road to Stenhousemuir, otherwise minor roads and tracks link to small isolated farmsteads with Skinflats, a narrow ribbon village alongside the A905 being the only settlement of any size;
- The Muirdyke Burn is inconspicuous and follows a shallow, narrow course through the area to the Forth, with the River Carron marking the northern edge of Grangemouth;
- Brackish/saline lagoons at Bothkennar Pools are a priority estuarine habitat supporting various plants and animals;
- Usually unnoticeable features such as lamp columns and telegraph poles are conspicuous in the open landscape;
- Northern views of the Ochil Hills provide a dramatic contrast to the flat landscape, whilst the Longannet Power Station (in particular the tall chimney) and similar structures at Grangemouth also provide contrasting views;
- Network of Core Paths, including route alongside the River Carron and past Bothkennar Pools, and links to Sustrans National Cycle Network Route 76, provide valuable recreational and commuting routes for the local community and non-motorised visitors.

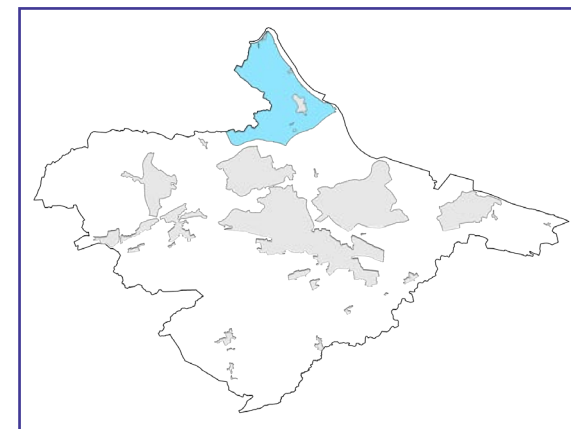


Part of Falkirk/Denny Urban Fringe 'Landscape Character Area' in original Landscape Character Assessment.

Local Landscape Character Area 6(ii) Carse of Forth

6.21 Key Characteristics of the LLCA

- Extends from the Falkirk Council northern boundary to the M876/A876/Kincardine Bridge;
- Generally flat, expansive, large scale, horizontal carseland with a gradual transition to the Lowland Hill Fringes and Lowland River Valleys to the west and south, to a maximum height of 15m AOD;
- Hill of Dunmore and Hill of Airth are conspicuous features above the carseland, rising to around 30m AOD and 38m AOD respectively;
- Predominantly arable cultivation of good quality soils, with permanent improved pasture for sheep grazing on poorer soils;
- Extensive wooded peatlands at Dunmore Moss and Letham Moss, including in part artificial drainage in unnatural, long straight lines;
- Very large scale fields with few hedges or hedgerow trees and predominantly post and wire boundary fencing;
- Occasional shelterbelts and policy woodland associated with the designed landscape at Dunmore and around Airth Castle;
- Includes the northern end of the internationally important Skinflats Nature Reserve on the mudflats between the mean low and high water springs of the Firth of Forth, designated SPA and SSSI;
- Occasional shelterbelts and policy woodland associated with the designed landscape at Dunmore and around Airth Castle;
- Includes the northern end of the internationally important Skinflats Nature Reserve on the mudflats between the mean low and high water springs of the Firth of Forth, designated SPA and SSSI;
- Settlement is concentrated on the high ground at Airth but with smaller settlement inland at Letham and on the coastline at Dunmore and South Alloa where there are piers and slipways in to the Forth;
- Elsewhere a small number of isolated farmsteads accessed off the A905 or one of the small number of minor roads;
- Network of Core Paths, including routes alongside the River Forth, through woodlands, farmland and past historic buildings of The Pineapple and Airth Castle, and links to Sustrans National Cycle Network Route 76, provide valuable recreational and commuting routes for the local community and non-motorised visitors;
- A number of small burns meander across the carseland in shallow, narrow courses and into the Forth;
- Extensive views from the flat carselands across the Forth to the Ochil Hills which provide a dramatic contrast in landform and a backcloth to the coastline;
- Occasionally views are foreshortened by woodland;
- Overhead power lines and pylons, including two close parallel lines and two huge pylons at either side of the Forth with continuously flashing lights on the top are significant, conspicuous features across the flat landscape;
- The Clackmannanshire Bridge and Kincardine Bridge are obvious built features although their low, horizontal form is in-keeping with the flat carseland landscape.



Part of Carse of Forth (East Stirling) 'Landscape Character Area' in original Landscape Character Assessment.

The Denny Hills Local Landscape Area: Statement of Importance

7.1 Overview:

Highly visually prominent area of lowland hills and hill fringes, forming the eastern edge of the Campsie/Kilsyth Hills range. This high ground together with the enclosed character of the Carron Valley and the relatively low level of development form a landscape of distinct character that is unique within Falkirk Council area. The area forms a strong contrast to the highly settled area on lower ground to the east and south.

Landscape Description:

- Local Landscape Character Areas falling within/partially within SLA: 1 (i) Kilsyth/Denny Hills (entire area), 2(ii) Denny Hills Fringe (western part), 2(ii) Touch Hills Fringe (western part), 4 (ii) Carron Glen (main section west of Fankerton);
- Locally distinctive area of lowland hills, hill fringes and incised valley of River Carron to the west of Denny containing the highest land within Falkirk Council area which forms a strong western backdrop to the main settlements;
- Highest ground (rising to 357m) is open, of medium to large scale upland character, with land cover of moorland, commercial forestry plantations and unimproved rough grazing land and a lack of development. Hills include some craggy rock outcrops. Middle hill slopes with large improved and unimproved grazing fields enclosed with fencing or stone dykes, shelterbelts. Lower hill ground of small to medium scale, rolling landform, open character, with rough/ semi-improved/improved grassland and arable fields, including some hedges and hedgerow trees, small blocks of broadleaf and mixed woodland;
- River Carron forms a steep sided glen, developing into a distinctive broadleaf wooded gorge as it flows east, with semi-natural woodland, forming a distinctive feature in the lower eastern part of the area; a diverse vegetation cover is located on the valley sides of the Carron Valley includes pasture, native shrub cover and woodland as well as rough grassland. Minor burns flow into river;
- Farms, equestrian centres and outlying dwellings form main development; some dwellings are steading conversions. Telecommunication masts on Myot Hill and the transmission line on the eastern lower ground on the edge of the SLA are visually prominent; also large buildings associated with the water works on the edge of the Carron Valley and a quarry on the north-east boundary. Some boundary treatments of dwellings not in keeping with rural location;
- Roads limited to B818 along Carron Valley and minor roads on lower slopes on eastern side of LLA;
- Strong sense of relative wildness, naturalness and remoteness of 'upland' character, experienced particularly from highest ground and the upper Carron Valley. Area is unique within the Council area, forming strong contrast to the developed lowland to the east;
- Highest land is visually prominent from outside LLA over an extensive area of lower ground to the east, including Falkirk, surrounding settlements, roads, railways, canals and notably from the Falkirk Wheel which is a nationally important visitor attraction;
- Extensive panoramic views are obtained from minor roads and higher ground within and across this LLA over the Forth Valley and to the Pentlands to east, southwards, northwards and eastwards to where Craigengelt and Earlsburn windfarms are prominent;
- Enclosed internal views along the lower Carron Glen and to the open upper valley sides and woodland along the river are locally distinctive and unique within the Falkirk Council area;
- Area covers approximately 21km².

The Denny Hills Local Landscape Area: Statement of Importance

Other Natural Heritage, Cultural Heritage and Recreational Interests:

- B818 is important scenic route to Fintry and the Carron Reservoir with associated forest recreational activities (eg mountain biking sites); it is also the most direct route from Denny and Falkirk to the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park;
- SSSIs at Denny Muir and Carron Glen, Scottish Wildlife Trust Reserve at Carron Glen, three Falkirk Wildlife Sites;
- Hill forts at Myot Hill and Braes.

Boundary:

Continuous to Council border to north and linking with Southern Hills Local Landscape Area of Stirling Council and the Regional Scenic Area of North Lanarkshire Council to the west and south. Southern and eastern boundaries generally defined by visual horizon and ridges as viewed from lower ground and approaches, following the 150m contour, but excluding the settlement of Fankerton and quarry to the north. Boundary extends from Council border north of Cowden Hill quarry, eastwards to the north side of Drumbowie reservoir, then northwards around the east side of Myot Hill, crossing the Carron Glen on the west side of Fankerton towards Middle Barnago; boundary then takes in upper hill slopes and woodland north east to Braes and the M80, then extends north west around the quarry to the Falkirk/Stirling border.

Special Qualities:

- Includes area of highest ground in Council area with locally distinct and diverse 'upland' and hill fringe character forming important western backdrop and setting to main settlements and a prominent area of hill land seen from majority of the lowland area of Falkirk Council area;
- Limited development, forming strong contrast with developed lowland to south and east;
- Extensive panoramic views from minor roads and paths within area;
- River Carron, with steep wooded slopes and gorge like character in eastern part of area and diverse vegetation cover along valley sides;
- Carron Valley, with B818 (Denny-Fintry) providing a scenic route through valley with views from it of distinct 'upland' character, unique within Falkirk;
- Enclosed views along lower Carron Valley to valley sides with more open views from upper valley.



Slamannan Plateau/Avon Valley Local Landscape Area: Statement of Importance

7.2 Overview:

Combines two distinct areas separated by Avonbridge. Area of varied land cover and landform to west comprising of worked agricultural land and forestry contrasting with a more intimate and wooded agricultural valley landscape to the east. Settled, but incorporating the most intact and representative areas of landscape in the southern part of the Falkirk Council area.

Landscape Description:

Area West of Avonbridge

- Local Landscape Character Areas: 3(i) Slamannan Plateau (western part of LLCA), 3 (ii) Darnrig/Gardrum Plateau Moorland (small southern area of LLCA directly north of Slamannan);
- Excludes settlements of Slamannan and Avonbridge and associated areas allocated for future development;
- Generally rolling plateau with very varied landcover and frequent changes in landform; large-medium scale and open with improved and semi-improved grassland and areas of arable land; includes part of area of rough and improved grassland which is nationally important for overwintering flocks of bean geese;
- Settled, agriculturally worked landscape, with evidence of former opencast area and associated infrastructure in surrounding area;
- Generally covers area of improved land and lower more fertile valley area of plateau;
- Coniferous plantation and mixed woodland in the western part of area; policy woodland and shelterbelts in the smaller scale, intimate and hummocky area south of Loch Elrig, in northern part of area; elsewhere, blocks of broadleaf woodland, policy woodland, tree groups, shelterbelts, tree avenues; overgrown hedges with individual trees, broadleaf woodland along field edges and watercourses;
- Area to west is more open and of moorland character with conifer plantation;
- Central and eastern part of area of small to medium fields, with hedgerow enclosure;
- Wind turbines evident within area;
- Area drains west to east into River Avon via tributary burns.



Slamannan Plateau/Avon Valley Local Landscape Area: Statement of Importance

Landscape Description:

Area East of Avonbridge

- Local Landscape Character Areas: 4 (i) Avon Valley (main part of LLCA, excluding small northern section);
- Rolling landform in north and east with gradual transition southwards to south facing valley side of river Avon; deep, narrow, gorge-like river valley of River Avon marks southern boundary and Council boundary with West Lothian;
- Generally small fields of grassland and arable, but some areas of rough pasture and poor drainage and well maintained boundaries;
- Valley widens westwards near Kaemuir and east of Whitecross into gently rolling wooded landscape with arable farmland interspersed with small scale fields of permanent pasture close to the river;
- Strongly wooded character; many small areas of broadleaf woodland, particularly along watercourses, road and field boundaries; tree avenues and policy woodlands; overgrown hedgerows with individual trees frequently forming field boundaries; limited stone boundary walls;
- River valley is intimate, small scale and enclosed with dense mixed and ancient semi-natural woodland beside the river, with woodland policies and tree at Candie;
- Small burns from area flow west and south into river Avon and form important attractive landscape features where they cut deeply into wooded valleys;
- A801 is only main road cutting through the area, but a number of minor roads run through the area which link Avonbridge, Standburn, Muiravonside, Whitecross and numerous farm steadings;
- Settled with numerous farm steadings and outlying dwellings;
- Two major overhead power lines cross area running north - south.

Generally:

- Very varied landcover and landform in western part provides differing sense of tranquility and naturalness depending on location. Area east of Avonbridge has strong intimate wooded character with sense of enclosure and naturalness;
- Eastern section of LLA is unique within the Council area due to intimate character, whereas western area locally unique due to its very varied and changing character within a relatively small area;
- Visibility within the area is limited by undulating topography and landcover (particularly in the east), although extensive views are obtained out of area towards the Denny Hills, the Ochils and the Pentlands from higher exposed areas and minor roads on ridges;
- Higher points within AGLV are visible from the surrounding outside area and from high points in adjacent authority areas (eg from Cockleroy and Cairnpapple Hill and environs in West Lothian Council area);
- Overall area of LLA covers 27km².

Slamannan Plateau/Avon Valley Local Landscape Area: Statement of Importance

Other Natural Heritage, Cultural Heritage and Recreational Interests:

- Muiravonside Country Park in east of LLA;
- The River Avon Heritage Trail (between Avonbridge and Linlithgow) is an important recreational feature following the river with a range of features along the route (weirs, waterfalls, Avon Viaduct, Avon Aqueduct);
- Falkirk Wildlife Sites throughout area;
- Bean geese have high fidelity to the fields around Slamannan and Avonbridge;
- Battlefield site near extreme east of LLA.

Boundary:

Western Section: The AGLV boundary generally follows the ridge lines and area of improved land that surrounds the valley of the upper tributary of the River Avon. The north boundary follows ridgeline north of Wester Jaw and westwards following the minor road between Strathavon and Broom and across a ridge to Hareburn. The boundary then follows B8028 south to the western edge of Avonbridge and then west along the B825 to the junction with the B8022. The boundary runs west along the watercourse flowing from Arnloss and along the ridge through woodland to Binniehill. From Binniehill the boundary follows the minor road as far as Lodge Farm and returns north on the minor road running to Greenhill and then north to include an area of forestry, running to Parkhead before linking with the ridgeline north of Wester Jaw. The area excludes the settlement of Slamannan and the areas allocated for future development on the western and northern sides of the village.

Eastern Section: The northern boundary generally follows the route of the B825 and the ridgeline that visually apparent from this road, before following the River Avon on its southern boundary. The southern boundary forms the boundary of West Lothian Council and this is also continuous with The Bathgate Hills and River Avon Valley LLA designation within that Council area. The western boundary runs along the eastern side of Avonbridge, then extends eastwards forming the northern boundary along the B825 to just south of Standburn. From here, the boundary extends along the ridge south of Standburn, (also forming the boundary of a commercial forestry plantation), along the edge of a shelterbelt to cross the A801 and then follow the northern side of the A825 after Muiravonside; it crosses the Union Canal, generally following the B825 and sections of the visual envelope from this road as far as the railway viaduct over the B825 and the River Avon.

Special Qualities:

- Incorporates the most intact and least developed sections of countryside to the south side of Falkirk;
- In west, generally rolling plateau with localised variations and very varied land use, with changing landcover, enclosure size and pattern;
- In east, transition from rolling landform to shallow south facing valley side of River Avon which flows eastwards into distinctive narrow, gorge-like river valley;
- Farmed and populated rural lowland surrounded by plateau river catchment area and extending to lower ground down river valley eastwards;
- Eastern area has strongly wooded character and is distinctively more intimate in character with small fields and limited extensive views out;
- Wide range of woodland and tree cover overall: conifer plantation, small broadleaf blocks, woodland along watercourses, policy woodland, tree avenues, overgrown hedge and field boundary trees and tree groups and small areas of recent woodland;
- Provides an important contribution to setting of Avonbridge, Slamannan, Standburn and Muiravonside.

South Bo'ness Local Landscape Area: Statement of Importance

7.3 Overview:

Locally distinctive area of rolling hills comprising of agricultural land, forming a strong backdrop and setting to the settlements of Bo'ness and Linlithgow and providing a physical separation between them. Includes sites and features of historic and recreational importance, undeveloped coastline and minor roads. The area forms a strong contrast to the adjacent industrial complex at Grangemouth and the settlement of Bo'ness. The area has a high recreational value due to its juxtaposition with Bo'ness.

Landscape Description:

- Local Landscape Character Areas: 6(i) Bo'ness Coastal Hills (entire area), 4 (i) Avon Valley (north eastern edge of river corridor);
- Gently rolling coastal hills extending from east of Grangemouth to Blackness, and from immediate south of Bo'ness to border with West Lothian. Rising to 150m above seal level and sloping northwards to Bo'ness and southwards to Linlithgow with minor watercourses to Forth and River Avon. Internally, landform includes small shallow valley on higher ground above Bo'ness.
- Extends to Forth Estuary coast with mudflats at Blackness (SPA and SSSI designation); predominant aspect is to north;
- Steep, wooded, narrow, incised River Avon valley on south western boundary;
- Farmland mostly ley grassland and arable land comprising medium to large scale fields, open or semi-open farmland. Field boundaries comprise a mix of post and wire fences, well maintained hedges with individual trees and tree groups; few dry stone walls;
- Champany, Cauldcoats and Mannerston Holdings in eastern part of AGLV have distinct small scale rectilinear field pattern with small holdings dwellings and buildings extending along minor roads;
- Areas of woodland cover at Kinneil, small to medium shelterbelts and broadleaf woodland groups elsewhere; field boundary/roadside broadleaf trees frequent. Coastline east of Muirhouses on wooded escarpment; includes some untypical areas with limited woodland/tree cover;
- Steep wooded escarpment on northern boundary between Grangemouth and Kinneil, providing a distinct boundary; also steep wooded escarpment along northern coastal boundary between Carriden and Blackness;
- Roads generally west to east through area on ridges at different elevations, providing extensive views outwards;
- Limited sense of remoteness due to proximity of settlements, but locations on minor roads and paths on higher ground have a strong rural and managed agricultural character with distant views out;
- Rural internal part of area and coastline near Blackness and Avon Valley area contrast strongly with adjacent settlements of Bo'ness, Grangemouth and Linlithgow;
- Extensive panoramic views out from internal minor roads/paths and high points in all directions, across settlements of Bo'ness, Grangemouth and Linlithgow to open countryside beyond; highest point on border at West Lothian Golf Club (170m) provides distinct panoramic views in all directions. Views north across Forth to Ochils are dominant from the highest points and northern slopes; internally, views within the LLA are limited by landform and tree cover;
- In west of area, views to the Grangemouth complex from the high minor road between Nether Kinneil and the A905 are a very dominant feature in the middle ground and form a strong contrast with the more distant views to hills in the west;
- Views of the upper part of the LLA from outside are prominent from the south, where the area forms a backdrop to Linlithgow; the northern slopes of the LLA are also a prominent feature forming a backdrop to Bo'ness when viewed from the Fife coastline on the north side of the Forth. Approaching Bo'ness from the west, the wooded escarpment alongside the A904/A905 is visually prominent, forming the northern boundary of the AGLV; the higher ground is also visible from the eastern end of Falkirk/Grangemouth;
- Area covers approximately 18km².

South Bo'ness Local Landscape Area: Statement of Importance

Other Natural Heritage, Cultural Heritage and Recreational Interests:

- Recreational features include: a network of core paths, John Muir Way, National Cycle Network Route 76, part of the Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway, and a golf course;
- Historical and archaeological features, including a section of the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site, Roman camps, Blackness Castle and Carriden House;
- Landmark features also include Airngath Hill at 171m, the tower at House of Binns on Binns Hill (just in West Lothian);
- Adjoins Site of Special Scientific Interest and Special Protection Area on Forth coast;
- Local Wildlife Site at Kinneil and east of Carriden;
- Bومains Meadows SSSI (south of Bo'ness) and Avon Gorge SSSI (in west of area);
- Greenbelt to south and west of Bo'ness.

Boundary:

Contiguous with the River Avon on south west boundary and the Falkirk/West Lothian boundary to the south and east. Eastern boundary is contiguous with the Forth Shore LLA in West Lothian. Northern boundary is marked by the distinct steep wooded escarpment running down to the A 904/A905, by the outer western and northern limit of built development of Bo'ness and Muirhouses and by the Forth coast between Carriden and Blackness.

Special Qualities:

- Area of small rolling hills comprising well tended farmland and some woodland blocks / shelterbelts forming an important rural backdrop to Bo'ness and to Linlithgow and providing a strong boundary between these settlements;
- Area forms the landward setting of Bo'ness and uniquely extends to the settlement boundary; incorporates an important stretch of undeveloped coast to north;
- Elevated location near coast enables notable long panoramic views out from high points to the Forth, Ochils and Pentlands and ensures much of the area is visible from the surrounding countryside;
- Includes steep wooded escarpments on northern side and wooded valley and gorge of River Avon to south;
- High recreational usage, framing countryside surrounding Bo'ness.



Appendix 3 - Further Guidance and Sources of Information for Developers

Further Guidance and Sources of Information for Developers

8.1 In addition to this Supplementary Guidance on landscape character and landscape designations, the following are a selection of local and national documents that are related to landscape issues and provide further information and guidance:

- Falkirk Council Supplementary Guidance SG01: Development in the Countryside
- Falkirk Council Supplementary Guidance SG07: Biodiversity and Development
- Falkirk Council Supplementary Guidance SG08: Local Nature Conservation and Geodiversity Sites
- Falkirk Council Supplementary Guidance SG10: Trees and Development
- Falkirk Council Supplementary Guidance SG11: Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Sites
- Falkirk Council Supplementary Guidance SG14: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy
- **Scottish Planning Policy (June 2014)**
- **New Housing, Settlement Expansion and the Natural Heritage (NatureScot)** gives guidance on working with the planning system to ensure positive outcomes for landscape and natural heritage.
- **PAN 44 - Fitting New Housing Development into the Landscape** considers design principles for larger developments on the edge of built up areas and provides suggestions to achieve residential developments which are in harmony with their landscape setting and make a positive contribution to existing character.
- **PAN 72 - Housing in the Countryside** sets out key design principles, with the purpose of creating opportunities for good quality rural housing which respects Scottish landscapes and building traditions.
- **PAN 65 - Planning and Open Space** provides advice on the role of the planning system in protecting and enhancing existing open spaces and providing high quality new spaces.
- **PAN 39 - Farm and Forestry Buildings**
- **PAN 60 - Planning for Natural Heritage**
- **Scottish Government: Guide to Farm Diversification & Planning Permission in Scotland**
- **NatureScot: Central Region Landscape Character Assessment:** <http://www.nature.scot/naturescot-review-123-central-region-landscape-character-assessment>
- **NatureScot: Stirling to Grangemouth Landscape Character Assessment:** <http://www.nature.scot/naturescot-review-124-stirling-grangemouth-landscape-character-assessment>
- **NatureScot: A range of guidance on landscape, planning and development can be found at:** <http://www.nature.scot/information-hub/information-library>
- **Scottish Forestry: Forests and Landscape: UK Forestry Standard Guidelines**
- **Scottish Forestry Guideline Note: Short Rotation Coppice in the Landscape**
- **Scottish Forestry: Conserving and Managing Trees and Woodlands in Scotland's Designed Landscapes**
- **Scottish Forestry: Forest Design Planning - A Guide to Good Practice**

