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| <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Limit Surveyed Open Spaces Open Space* Priority Regeneration Areas SIRR Areas | <p>Local Plan Proposals and Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Recreational & Community Facilities Transport Economic Development Housing Path proposals | <p>Access Routes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustrans Cycle Route Green Travel Path Green Travel Proposed Route Right of Way | <p>Strategy Key</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential lack of access to semi-natural open space Potential lack of access to public parks Potential lack of access to sports area Potential lack of access to play spaces Improve connections between open space Improve access to open space | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve + enhance regional semi-natural spaces for biodiversity Enhance local biodiversity through local biodiversity toolkit Conserve + enhance awareness of cultural heritage Opportunity for new allotments/ community gardens Promote + enhance canal as a national green space Priority quality improvements required <p>* Areas of open space may include open water.</p> | <p>Falkirk Open Space Strategy Figure 7.71 (ALL.6) Conceptual Strategy - Allandale</p> |
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Allandale

Survey/ Issues

- Allandale has a population of approximately 274 people, and around 4.41ha of public open space within its urban limit. This excludes access to the surrounding countryside.
- A relatively high percentage of households (73%) has access (within 400m) to the one surveyed public open space.
- The supply of private gardens, with an average of 223m² per household, is lower than both the average village supply of 384m² and the average town supply of 193m².
- The one surveyed open space (31 – Allandale Recreation Ground) is of good quality and therefore the percentage of households with access (within 400m) to a fit for purpose surveyed public open space is 73%.
- As the village's one surveyed open space is a settlement-level sports area of good quality, it offers facilities for the local population to access and use this space in a manner which benefits their quality of life.
- There is excellent access to the one surveyed sports area in Allandale, with 99% of households having access to it (within 800m).
- There is no access (within 400m) to any surveyed public parks and gardens in Allandale.
- There is also no access (within 400m) to any surveyed sites with playspaces.
- There is excellent access (99% of households) to surveyed sites containing natural/ semi-natural greenspace within 1200m.
- The surveyed section of the Forth and Clyde Canal Corridor at Bonnybridge is the nearest national open space – it is 0.6km from the centre of Allandale. Seabegs Wood is the nearest regional open space – it is 1.2km from the village.

Strategy Overview

The one surveyed open space, although centrally located and fit for purpose, is limited in typology and function. This central space should be prioritised for improvements to its diversity to offer complementary functions, and if possible extended to form a central village park.

Strategy Actions

National/Regional-Level Open Space

- Allandale is well-served by nearby national- and regional-level surveyed sites, which offer green corridor and natural/ semi-natural open space.

Settlement-Level Open Space

- Allandale Recreation Ground – the settlement-level sports area is of good quality and meets 'fitness for purpose' requirements. Although improvements to its function as a sports area are not a priority, better access to it and more diverse facilities would benefit the community.

Neighbourhood-Level Open Space

- No neighbourhood-level spaces were surveyed in Allandale. However, from the quantitative audit there appear to be some other small areas of public open space in both parts of the village.

General

- Green corridors and natural/ semi-natural open spaces, and sports areas, are well-provided for in and around Allandale. Connections from the village northwards to the canal should be maintained and upgraded as necessary.
- The strategy, in terms of typology provision, should be to focus on improving provision of and/ or access to public parks and playspaces as a priority.
- The surveyed open spaces do not, however, include what appear to be a number of small amenity open spaces or pocket parks. A quality survey of these spaces should be considered prior to addressing potential underprovision.
- Where actual underprovision is determined after survey, the need to determine providing new spaces should relate to how far access to these types of spaces falls below the accessibility thresholds – e.g., if the village still does not have access to a park or playspace within 1km this would be unacceptable, whereas if part is 500m rather than 400m from a playspace then improvements to existing quality rather than new provision would be preferable.
- Increasing provision in Allandale should consider: improving access to the Recreation Ground; determining through consultation the level of interest in diversifying and/ or extending it to create a central linear focus for both parts of the village with park and playspace functions; and, if this is not feasible, increasing pocket park and playspace functions if these remain under-provided for after survey.
- Implement local biodiversity 'toolkit' for the settlement and other unsurveyed neighbourhood-level spaces.
- Maintain the high level of provision of natural/ semi-natural greenspace provided by the adjacent canal, while ensuring appropriate conservation and management of this space for natural heritage and biodiversity benefits.
- Enhance awareness of the cultural history and connection of the settlement through interpretation of the canal and Antonine Wall.