



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

**Falkirk Open Space Strategy**  
 Figure 7.7E (GRA.6)  
 Conceptual Strategy - Grangemouth

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Falkirk Council 100023384 (2007).

## Grangemouth

### Survey/ Issues

- Overall there is a high supply of public open space in Grangemouth in quantitative terms (19.84ha per 1000 people), yet there are many neighbourhoods (e.g. Bowhouse, Newland Road area, Bo'ness Road area) which have restricted accessibility.
- Although there appears to be a high supply of public open space in Grangemouth, the accessibility to this open space resource is poor. This is reflected by a relatively low percentage of households (53.2%) with access (within 400m) to a surveyed public open space.
- There are large amounts of public open space which are associated with the industrial facilities at Grangemouth, either being within or on the peripheries of the works or its outlying industrial parks, where they are not fully accessible to the public. There are also several backcourts/amenity spaces around flats, surveyed as part of the study which have since been re-classified as private space.
- The supply of private gardens, with an average of 133m<sup>2</sup> per household, is lower than both the average village supply of 384m<sup>2</sup> and the average town supply of 193m<sup>2</sup>.
- The percentage of households with access (within 400m) to a fit for purpose surveyed public open space is 53.2%. This indicates that all the open spaces surveyed in Grangemouth are considered to be fit for purpose, yet there is a notable quantitative under-provision in several parts of the town.
- Although all of the town's surveyed public open spaces are considered to be of good quality and 'fit for purpose', there are considerable improvements that can be made to the facilities and maintenance of these spaces (e.g. sites 211, 212 and 214) to bring them up to a 'very good' standard and improve quality provision in Grangemouth.
- Generally the accessibility (within 400m) to surveyed public parks and gardens is low (22.1%) in Grangemouth. There are notable under-provisions in many parts of the town, with just Zetland Park and Dalgrain Park providing this type of open space.
- Generally there is better accessibility (within 800m) to surveyed sports areas in Grangemouth, with 79.4% of households having access to a surveyed site containing a sports area. Despite this, there are variations in provision, with some neighbourhoods having restricted access (e.g. Newland Road area, Roxburgh Street area). There are very few areas with access (within 800m) to more than one site containing a sports area.
- There is variable access (within 400m) to surveyed playspaces, with only 50.5% of households having access to a surveyed playspace. Many areas within Grangemouth have access to a playspace, often associated with access to a sports area e.g. areas within 400m of Zetland Park, Inchyra Park, Rannoch Park and Dalgrain Park). However, for many areas, playspaces are under-provided e.g. Bowhouse, Newland Road area, Bo'ness Road area. There are very few areas with access (within 400m) to more than one site containing a playspace.
- Generally the accessibility (within 1200m) to surveyed green corridor or semi-natural greenspace is low in Grangemouth, with only 22.1%

of households having access. There are notable under-provision in many parts of the town, with just Jupiter Wildlife Site and Polmont Woods providing this type of open space in the settlement.

- The town benefits from a higher proportion of amenity greenspace than any other settlement in Falkirk as there are large areas of amenity greenspace within the Grangemouth industrial area and along the M9 corridor. There is also an abundance of open water, at Grangemouth docks, yet these areas are not actively used as public open space due to their location within Grangemouth industrial works.

### Strategy Overview

**Develop the connection between residential Grangemouth and the strategic open spaces resources on its western fringe through the Helix project, whilst improving quality and accessibility at the local level through the upgrading of key parks such as Zetland Park and Inchyra Park, augmented by some new open spaces in new development within areas of quantitative deficiency. Improve greenspace linkages through the town, focusing on the potential of the Grange Burn to link other spaces, while diversifying the function of the town's amenity greenspace resource.**

### Strategy Actions

#### National/ Regional-level Open Space

- There are few regional/ national open space resources within the Grangemouth settlement boundary. Jupiter Wildlife Site is regionally important as an educational facility for its biodiversity and is an important example of a successful restoration project of an industrial site for nature conservation. The site would benefit from a management plan to set out its long-term future as a nature reserve/ educational facility and consideration should be given to expanding this successful model to other vacant industrial land in Grangemouth.
- There are several 'good' quality regionally important semi-natural open spaces on the town's urban fringe, such as Polmont Woods and the Falkirk Helix area, yet the accessibility to them from the residential parts of Grangemouth is poor, with several physical barriers (M9, Industrial estates etc) obstructing access. Improve greenspace corridor access linkages between residential Grangemouth and these semi-natural greenspaces on the urban fringe e.g. through Falkirk Helix project.
- The Firth & Clyde canal passes the north of the settlement on its route to the Forth Estuary.

#### Settlement/ Neighbourhood-level Open Space

- At the settlement level, the town benefits from the provision of a good quality 'core' park at Zetland Park in the centre of the town. Much of the access to good-quality open space in the town relies on the provision from this old and well-established park with many historic features, which is slowly degrading. An effort to maintain and restore

the historic character and facilities of Zetland Park should be planned to maintain and improve the quality of this key open space. The park should be placed at the centre of green network with connections into this centrally sited park.

- The town has a better provision of sports areas than any other type of open space. Inchyra Park and Rannoch Park have large areas given over to sports pitches and have been classified as playing fields rather than public parks because of the extent of sports pitches within these spaces. Inchyra Park also provides an important buffer between residential and industrial Grangemouth. Its quality should be improved through the provision of new facilities and planting to support its function for recreation and visual amenity.
- The town benefits from the provision of amenity open spaces/ backcourts around flats on Torwood Avenue, Kingseat Avenue and Burnside Court. The definition of public-private space around these flats is unclear. Although they improve the setting of the area, they generally lack facilities and active functional use, and there are opportunities to improve these open spaces with the involvement of residents, for example through community gardens, new play spaces and greater community involvement etc.

#### General

- Diversify the function of amenity greenspace in Grangemouth, which is currently over-provided and not always very accessible or usable space. Explore ways in which amenity greenspaces in the industrial works and along motorway corridors can be diversified into green corridors or semi-natural greenspaces to improve biodiversity and connectivity. Greening of vacant industrial land.
- Improve linkages along and into Grange Burn and promote this corridor as a green spine through Grangemouth with links to other open spaces.
- Maximise the open space potential of ponds at Grangemouth docks, while being cognisant of working docks area, and their wildlife connections to Forth SSSI/ SPA.
- Improve the quality of sites identified as being of only 'fair' quality through improvements in facilities and maintenance to support their function.
- Opportunities to enhance the health and well-being of the local population through improved provision to public parks, sports areas and play spaces in areas identified as being under-provided.
- Opportunities to enhance provision of links into strategic green corridors that pass through urban Grangemouth and form the basis of strong green access network through the town.
- Biodiversity – make across the board improvements to biodiversity in all settlement/neighbourhood level open spaces. Implement local biodiversity 'toolkit' for settlement-level spaces.
- Opportunities to enhance awareness of the cultural history and importance of the settlement through interpretation of open spaces and public art – Antonine Wall, Canal, Zetland Park etc.
- Opportunities for new allotments/ community gardens as part of land allocated for new housing and as part of Falkirk Helix.