



Legend	Local Plan Proposals and Opportunities	Access Routes	Strategy Key
Urban Limit	Environment	Sustrans Cycle Route	Potential lack of access to semi-natural open space
Surveyed Open Spaces	Recreational & Community Facilities	Green Travel Path	Potential lack of access to public parks
Open Space*	Transport	Green Travel Proposed Route	Potential lack of access to sports area
Priority Regeneration Areas	Economic Development	Right of Way	Potential lack of access to play spaces
SIRR Areas	Housing		Improve connections between open space
	Path proposals		Improve access to open space
			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

\* Areas of open space may include open water.

### Falkirk Open Space Strategy

Figure 7.7X (TOR.6)  
Conceptual Strategy - Torwood

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).

**Torwood****Survey/ Issues**

- Torwood has a population of approximately 226 people, and 1.1ha of public open space within its urban limit. This excludes access to surveyed public open space adjacent to the urban edge and to the surrounding countryside.
- Only 37% of households in Torwood has access (within 400m) to the one surveyed public open space.
- The supply of private gardens, with an average of 583m<sup>2</sup> per household is much higher than the average village supply of 384m<sup>2</sup> and the average town supply of 193m<sup>2</sup>.
- The one surveyed open space (79 – Torwood Wood) is of good quality and therefore is fit for purpose. Therefore 37% of households have access within 400m to a fit for purpose surveyed public open space.
- As the village's one surveyed open space is a regional-level natural/ semi-natural open space of good quality, it offers facilities that are good enough for village to access and use them in a manner which benefits quality of life.
- There is no access to a surveyed public parks and gardens within 400m.
- There is no access to a surveyed site with a playspace within 400m.
- There is no access to a surveyed sports area (within 800m).
- There is very good access (88% within 1200m) to surveyed sites containing natural/ semi-natural greenspace.
- The Forth and Clyde Canal at Bonnybridge is the nearest surveyed national open space – it is over 7km away. Torwood Wood is the nearest regional open space – it is 0.3km from the village.

**Strategy Overview**

**The surveyed open space, Torwood Wood, is good quality and fit for purpose, and its value as a diverse open space resource for the village should be maximised. Torwood is, however, seemingly deficient in terms of access to park, play and sports areas. Any proposed improvements should therefore be related to new local facilities once actual underprovision has been determined.**

**Strategy Actions***National/Regional-Level Open Space*

- Torwood benefits from the regional facility of Torwood Wood. Connections should be improved where necessary, potentially through adjacent woodland from the village, and clear signage and parking provided. Its extensive biodiversity and cultural value to the village and the region should be maximised.

*Settlement-Level Open Space*

- No settlement-level spaces were surveyed in Torwood. From the quantitative audit, there appear to be one or no unsurveyed spaces.

*Neighbourhood-Level Open Space*

- No neighbourhood-level spaces were surveyed in Torwood and, from the quantitative audit, there appear to be only two or three unsurveyed spaces.

*General*

- Access to natural/ semi-natural open spaces is very well-provided for in Torwood and, as there are large areas of un-surveyed semi-natural greenspaces around the village, is probably higher than 88%.
- The strategy, in terms of typology provision, should be to focus on addressing the deficit in park/ playspace/ sports facilities as a priority. Consultation to determine community interest should be undertaken.
- A quality survey of the few unsurveyed open spaces should be undertaken as a priority to determine actual underprovision.
- Increasing provision in Torwood should consider: new park/ play/ sports facilities, potentially utilising planning gain from new housing as part-contribution; and diversifying facilities within local unsurveyed amenity spaces/ pocket parks.
- Implement local biodiversity 'toolkit' for the settlement spaces.
- Maximise opportunities for conservation and enhancement of the regional resource of Torwood Wood.
- Provide interpretation of the rich cultural heritage of the woodland.