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Grangemouth Area Strategy

5.7 Larbert and Stenhousemuir

Analysis

	Number of surveyed open spaces	Area of open space (hectares)	Rate of open space provision (hectares per 1000 people)	Percentage of total area of open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment	Percentage of households with access to an open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment within a 400m walk (5mins)	Percentage of households with access to a park or amenity space of 2000m ² or greater within a 400m walk (5mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a playspace within 800m (10mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a sports area within 1200m (15mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a natural/ semi natural open space within 1200m (15mins)
Larbert and Stenhousemuir	109	223.6	8.8	40.5%	58.1%	90.8%	98.7%	97.0%	99.6%
FC Area	632	2448.9	15.9	64.0%	65.7%	85.7%	96.9%	92.9%	96.6%

The Larbert and Stenhousemuir settlement area, which includes Carron and Carronshore has a significantly lower rate of open space provision than the Council average. Nonetheless the rate of open space provision is still well above the 5ha/ 1000 people standard. Quality of open space is a more significant issue as the settlement area has the 2nd lowest average quality of open space, 2nd lowest percentage of the total number of open spaces which scored good or better in the fitness for purpose assessment and the lowest percentage of the total area of open space scoring good or better in the fitness for purpose assessment. Although there have been significant quality improvements since 2010, there is still much work to be done. Improving the quality of open space in Larbert and Stenhousemuir should therefore be one of the Council's highest investment priorities. Access to fit for purpose open space within 400m is below the Council average. Although the Larbert and Stenhousemuir settlement area performs at or above the Council average for access to every function of open space, there is still a deficit in access to playspaces in South Broomage, and East Antonshill and sports areas in Kinnaird Village. There appears to be widespread scope for rationalisation of the portfolio of playspaces across the settlement area without reducing the percentage of households which have access to an open space containing a playspace within an 800m walk.

Relevant Objectives

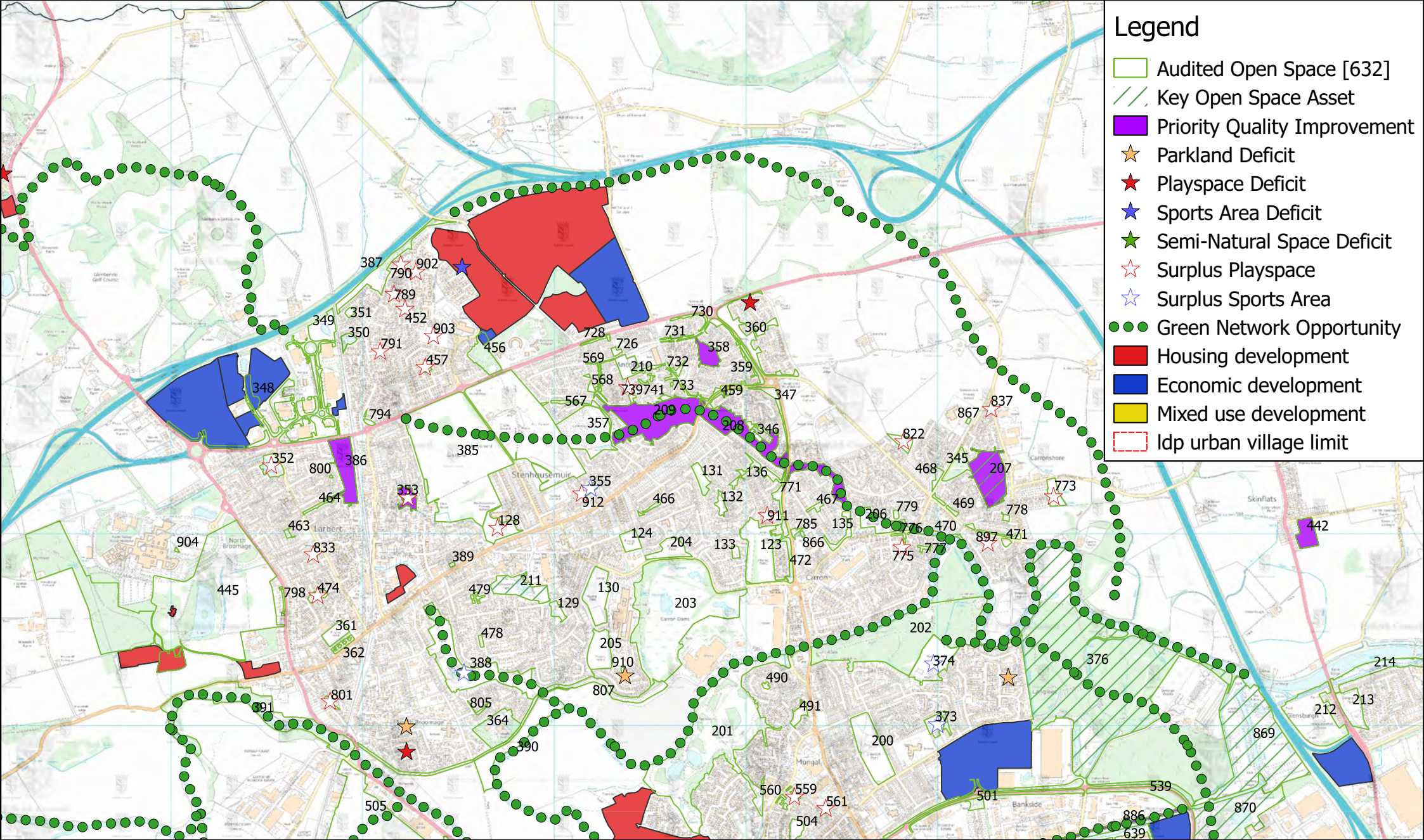
1. Investing in the parks and open spaces that are particularly valued by the local community
3. Investing in poorer quality parks and open spaces where there is no better quality alternative provision
4. Developing new play facilities in areas of identified need
5. Developing new sports areas in areas of identified need

6. Developing new park and amenity space in areas of identified need
8. Improve the green network in and around the Council area by improving open space sites corridors and connectivity
9. Rationalise our portfolio of playspaces and sports areas to improve overall quality

Priority Actions

Action (Parks Development Plan action reference in bold, open space reference number in brackets)	Objective	Agency/Mechanism	Strategic/Thematic Priority	Local Priority
MVAL.10 - Develop and implement a masterplan for Crownest Park (211)	1,8	Falkirk Council. External funding to be sought	Priority 2	
MVAL.11 - Develop and implement a masterplan for Gairdoch Park (207)	1,8	Falkirk Council. External funding to be sought	Priority 1	
MQUAL.22-26 - Improve the quality of Chapel Burn Park East (208); Chapelburn Park West (209); Broomage Park (386); Hillview Road (353) and Drumlanrig Place Wood (258)	3,8		Priority 2	
MPLAY.08 & 13 - Investigate opportunities to provide new playspace in South Broomage and East Antonhill	4		Priority 4	
MSPOR.12; EACC05 - Investigate opportunities to provide a new sports area in Kinnaird Village	5	Falkirk Council	Priority 3 Dependent on timing of development	
MPARK.09 & 10 - Investigate opportunities to provide new park or amenity open space of over 0.2 hectares in South Broomage and the residential area to the south of Larbert High School	6	Falkirk Council	Priority 6	
MGNT.11 - River Carron Corridor improvements	8	Falkirk Council, CATCA		
MGNT.23 - Introduce buffer planting as part of Bellsdyke/ Hill of Kinnaird urban expansion. Investigate opportunities to secure the management and reinforcement of remnant parkland landscapes along the eastern edge of Stenhousemuir and Carronshore	8			
MGNT.25 - Investigate opportunities to	8			

Action (Parks Development Plan action reference in bold, open space reference number in brackets)	Objective	Agency/Mechanism	Strategic/Thematic Priority	Local Priority
provide a missing link in the core path network to enable a circular route between North Broomage and Denny via Glenbervie and Torwood				
MGNT.24 - Investigate opportunities to improve the quality, function and diversity of opens space corridors running alongside the Chapel Burn and the How Burn	8			
Rationalise play space provision Stenhousemuir, Larbert, Carron, Carronshore and Kinnaird	9	Falkirk Council		
Rationalise sports area provision in Stenhousemuir and South Broomage	9	Falkirk Council		



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Larbert and Stenhousemuir Area Strategy

5.8 Polmont Area

Analysis

	Number of surveyed open spaces	Area of open space (hectares)	Rate of open space provision (hectares per 1000 people)	Percentage of total area of open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment	Percentage of households with access to an open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment within a 400m walk (5mins)	Percentage of households with access to a park or amenity space of 2000m ² or greater within a 400m walk (5mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a playspace within 800m (10mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a sports area within 1200m (15mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a natural/ semi natural open space within 1200m (15mins)
Polmont Area	97	274.0	12.3	66.0%	66.0%	81.9%	94.1%	91.8%	99.1%
FC Area	632	2448.9	15.9	64.0%	65.7%	85.7%	96.9%	92.9%	96.6%

The Polmont area includes a number of historic villages which have, over time merged into a single urban area including the villages of Polmont, Laurieston, Westquarter, Redding, Reddingmuirhead, Brightons, Wallacestone, Rumford and Maddiston. The area has a lower rate of open space provision than the Council average, but over double the 5ha/1000 people standard. The quality of open space in the Polmont area is generally very good and is above the Council average on all three measures of quality. It also performs well in relation to distribution of open space, only falling significantly below the Council average for access to a sports area within 800m where eastern Polmont and Wallacestone have a deficit of provision. There appears to be widespread scope for rationalisation of the portfolio of playspaces across the settlement area without reducing the percentage of households which have access to an open space containing a playspace within an 800m walk.

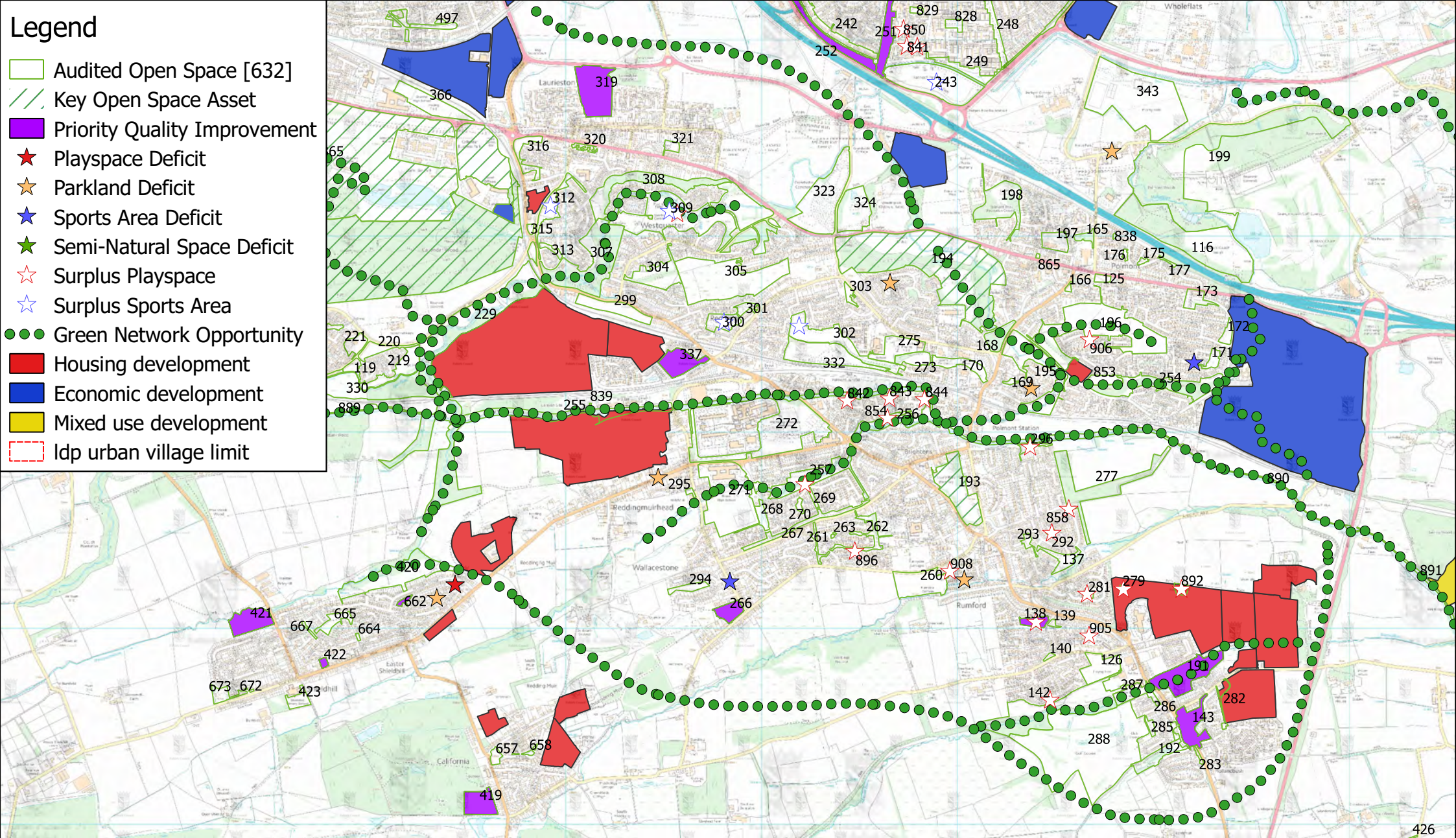
Relevant Objectives

1. Investing in the parks and open spaces that are particularly valued by the local community
3. Investing in poorer quality parks and open spaces where there is no better quality alternative provision
5. Developing new sports areas in areas of identified need
6. Developing new park and amenity space in areas of identified need
8. Improve the green network in and around the Council area by improving open space sites corridors and connectivity
9. Rationalise our portfolio of playspaces and sports areas to improve overall quality

Priority Actions

Action (Parks Development Plan action reference in bold, open space reference number in brackets)	Objective	Agency/Mechanism	Strategic/Thematic Priority	Local Priority
MVAL.12 - Develop and implement a masterplan for Grey Buchanan Park (211)	1,8	Falkirk Council. External funding to be sought	Priority 4	
MVAL.13 - Develop and implement a masterplan for Laurie Park (207)	1,8	Falkirk Council. External funding to be sought	Priority 2	
MQUAL.27-31 & 47 - Improve the quality of The Thrums (319); Wallacestone Park (266); Abercairney Crescent (138); Valley Park (191); King George V Playingfields (337) and Main Road, Maddiston (143)	3	Falkirk Council. Developer contributions have already been secured for Valley Park and may become available to assist with improvements to other open spaces.	Priority 3	
MSPOR.07 & 11 - Investigate opportunities to provide new sports areas in East Polmont and Wallacestone	5	Opportunities may arise in association with new development	Priority 2	
MPARK.11-15 - Investigate opportunities to provide new park or amenity open space of over 0.2 hectares in Rumford, Old Polmont, West Polmont and Reddingmuirhead	6	Falkirk Council	Priority 4	
MGNT.26 - Retain and enhance the Manual Burn corridor as an amenity and biodiversity asset.	8	In conjunction with housing development sites at Parkhall Farm	Dependent on timing of development	
MGNT.28 - Enhance connectivity to the Polmont and Westquarter Burn corridors and the Union Canal. Improve the quality, function and diversity of open space corridors running through Polmont.	8	Falkirk Council		
MGNT.29 - Create new woodland edge along the eastern edge of Maddiston	8	In conjunction with housing development sites at Parkhall Farm and Vellore Road	Dependent on timing of development	
MGNT.27 - Develop a green corridor along the Gilston Burn	8	In conjunction with economic development site at Gilston	Dependent on timing of development	
MGNT.30 - Improve internal path networks and access to the Helix from Laurieston and Polmont	8			

Action (Parks Development Plan action reference in bold, open space reference number in brackets)	Objective	Agency/Mechanism	Strategic/Thematic Priority	Local Priority
Rationalise playspace provision in Rumford, Maddiston, Brightons, Redding, Wallacestone, Polmont and Westquarter	9	Falkirk Council		
Rationalise sports area provision in Westquarter and Redding	9			



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Polmont Area - Area Strategy Map

5.9 Rural North

Analysis

	Number of surveyed open spaces	Area of open space (hectares)	Rate of open space provision (hectares per 1000 people)	Percentage of total area of open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment	Percentage of households with access to an open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment within a 400m walk (5mins)	Percentage of households with access to a park or amenity space of 2000m ² or greater within a 400m walk (5mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a playspace within 800m (10mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a sports area within 1200m (15mins)	Percentage of households with access to an open space containing a natural/ semi natural open space within 1200m (15mins)
Rural North	21	70.9	26.3	5.1%	59.9%	51.9%	88.3%	82.7%	93.0%
FC Area	632	2448.9	15.9	64.0%	65.7%	85.7%	96.9%	92.9%	96.6%

The rural north area contains the villages of Airth, Dunmore, Letham, Skinflats, South Alloa and Torwood. Although the area has a higher rate of open space provision than the Council average, the villages of Dunmore and Skinflats have a rate of open space provision lower than the proposed 5 hectare per 1000 people standard. The average quality of open space and the percentage of the total number of open spaces which are fit for purpose is the highest of all settlement areas, however, notably it has the lowest percentage of the total area of open space which is fit for purpose, this is because a few, extremely large open spaces score below 3 in the fitness for purpose assessment.

There is a very high percentage of households which have access to fit for purpose open space within 400m, however none of the households in Dunmore, Skinflats or Torwood have access to an open space which is fit for purpose. The area has the lowest percentage of households with access to park or amenity space of over 0.2ha within a 400m walk. Torwood does not have a public park or amenity space of that size in or close to the village. The area has a below average percentage of households with access to an open space containing a playspace within 800m. Torwood is the only settlement in the Council area that does not have access to an open space containing a playspace within 800m. The area has a lower than average percentage of households with access to sports area within 800m, mainly due to the lack of such a facility in South Alloa and Torwood. There may be scope to rationalise the portfolio of playspace in Airth without reducing the number of households with access to an open space containing a playspace within an 800m walk.

Relevant Objectives

2. Raising the quality standard of our national and regional level open spaces
3. Investing in poorer quality parks and open spaces where there is no better quality alternative provision

4. Developing new play facilities in areas of identified need
5. Developing new sports areas in areas of identified need
6. Developing new park and amenity space in areas of identified need
8. Improve the green network in and around the Council area by improving open space sites corridors and connectivity
9. Rationalise our portfolio of playspaces and sports areas to improve overall quality
10. Provide new open space where the rate of open space provision is below the 5ha/1000 people standard

Priority Actions

Action (Parks Development Plan action reference in bold, open space reference number in brackets)	Objective	Agency/Mechanism	Strategic/Thematic Priority	Local Priority
MQUAL.33; MNATREG08 - Improve the quality of the Torwood (431) exploring opportunities for woodland management and development of an outdoor access network around Torwood	2,3,8	Private landowner	Objective 2: Priority 3 Objective 3: Priority 1	
MQUAL.32,34-36 & 48 - Improve the quality of Moss Cottages Green (438); Airth Castle Woodlands (434); Airth Recreation Ground (427); Ferry Road (698); and Skinflats Park (442)	3,8	Falkirk Council. Developer contributions may be available	Skinflats: Priority 1 Dunmore: Priority 1 South Alloa: Priority 2 Airth: Priority 4	
MPLAY.09 & 12 - Investigate opportunities to provide a new playspace in Torwood and South West Airth	4	Falkirk Council	Torwood: Priority 1 Airth: Priority 3	
MSPOR.14,17 & 18 - Investigate opportunities to provide a new sports area in Airth, South Alloa and Torwood	5		Priority 4	
MPARK.01 & 16 - Investigate opportunities to provide new park or amenity open space of over 0.2 hectares in South Airth and Torwood	6	Falkirk Council	Torwood: Priority 1 Airth: Priority 1	
MGNT.31 - Create missing link in the Round the Forth Foreshore Path between Airth Sewage Works and Dunmore	8	Falkirk Council		
MGNT.25 - Create missing link in the core path network to enable the creation of a	8	Falkirk Council, Private Landowners		

Action (Parks Development Plan action reference in bold, open space reference number in brackets)	Objective	Agency/Mechanism	Strategic/Thematic Priority	Local Priority
circular route between North Broomage and Denny via Glenbervie and Torwood				
MGNT.32 - Investigate opportunities to enhance the abandoned opencast site at Waterslap between Airth and Letham including potential river restoration along the Pow Burn and access improvements from Airth and Letham	8			
Rationalise playspace provision in Airth	9	Falkirk Council		
Investigate opportunities provide new open space to increase the rate of open space provision in Dunmore and Skinflats	10	Falkirk Council		