

Local Landscape Areas in Angus

Consultation Draft

September 2023



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Executive Summary

Local Landscape Areas will protect and celebrate those landscapes within Angus which are special. This study, to identify Local Landscape Areas within Angus, has been undertaken in-house within the Planning Service of Angus Council and was overseen by a steering group comprising SNH and Angus Council officers. It has identified four Local Landscape Areas within Angus which will be designated following public consultation. They will be protected by policy 4 of National Planning Framework 4 adopted by the Scottish Government on 13 February 2023.

The European Landscape Convention (ELC) is a Council of Europe treaty that highlights the importance of all landscapes and commits signatories to their care and planning. The UK signed up to the convention in 2006, The National Planning Framework (NPF4) sets out the Scottish Governments long-term spatial strategy and includes national planning policies which form part of the statutory development plan. Policy 4 – Natural Places, advises that Local Development Plans will identify and protect locally, regionally, nationally and internationally important natural assets, on land and along coasts. This policy specifically refers to Local Landscape Areas. This is further supported by the Planning Advice Note 60 on Natural Heritage and the emphasis on the importance of landscape within Getting the Best From Our Land: A Land Use Strategy for Scotland 2016 -2021. Angus Local Development Plan 2016(LDP) Policy PV6 Development in the Landscape sets out the general approach to protecting and enhancing the quality and diverse character of the landscape in Angus and the requirements for development. Policy PV6 and the Angus LDP Action Programme include an undertaking to identify special landscape areas in Angus which are valued locally or regionally.

NatureScot has published the refreshed Guidance on Designating Local Landscape Areas in 2020. The guidance not only emphasises the importance of local landscape designations but provides guidance on methodologies to identify these areas. This study has been undertaken in accordance with this guidance and overseen by a steering group comprising SNH and Angus Council officers. The methodology is contained within appendix 1.

At the start of the project a desk study was undertaken to inform the assessment process and this is contained within appendix 2. There are a substantial range of information sources, often as digitally mapped which has informed the process and guided field survey.

The first assessment stage was to identify the “areas of search”. This assessed the special qualities by landscape character types identified in the Tayside Landscape Character Assessment. This process identified five areas of search would formed the basis for the public engagement exercise. This is contained within appendix 3. Public engagement took was undertaken between 12 October

and 3 November 2018. Public engagement was carried via a webpage created through the SocialPinpoint engagement platform. The webpage provided background to the study; included a project timeline with the Areas of Search Report available for download. Feedback was encouraged via an interactive map which showed the proposed areas of search. The map enabled structured feedback by using a pop-up questionnaire for each area of search as well as a “my special landscape” option to allow respondents to drop a pin to identify other parts of Angus special to them. Further information is contained within appendix 4.

There was a limited response in relation the Ruthven to Airlie area of search and following a more detailed assessment, it was considered that there are insufficient special qualities to merit a local landscape area designation. Therefore, following the public participation exercise, it was decided to prepare statements of Importance for four Local Landscape Areas:

The Angus Glens

Wild upland plateau incised by glaciated glens, with moorland and birch woods. The Highland Boundary Fault has created an abrupt change from upland to lowland with gorges and waterfalls.

The River South Esk

The sinuous River South Esk linking together a chain of designed landscapes from the edge of the Angus Glens past Brechin Castle to Montrose Basin and including the historic landscapes around Aberlemno.

Sidlaw

The picturesque Lundie Crag together the scenic Kinpurney observatory and the iron age hillforts on both Kinpurney Hill and Auchterhouse Hill.

The Angus Coast

Dramatic rugged cliffs with promontory forts combined majestic sweeping beaches and the magnificent Montrose Basin.

These statements describe the special qualities, forces for change; and provide landscape guidance. The four Local Landscape Areas within Angus. It is intended that these statements are material in relation to the consideration of development in respect of policy 4(d) of National Planning Framework 4.

1 Introduction

Local Landscape Areas will protect and celebrate those landscapes within Angus which are special.

When we talk of the Angus landscape, most will think of the iconic Angus Glens with their wild heather covered hills and birch woods with gorges and waterfalls. Or you may fondly think of the Angus coast with its dramatic cliffs, arches and sweeping beaches. You may prefer the majesty of Strathmore with its regular patterns of tree lines and dykes.

The story which underlies the landscape can sometimes increase our marvel at the landscape whether it is the dramatic highland boundary fault or the corries, glens and glacial moraines which have resulted from glaciation.

Our landscape also is steeped in human history with prehistoric forts on our hilltops and cliffs; castles and designed landscapes grace our lowlands; and the haunting remains of abandoned farmsteads scattered on the glen floors.

The experience of landscape is further enriched by the spring flowers in the ancient woodland; the salmon in our rivers; or the skeins of geese which criss-cross our skies from autumn onwards.

There is a strong thread from the European Landscape Convention, through the National Planning Framework emphasising the importance of locally important and distinctive landscapes and their contribution towards local identity. This is reflected in the Angus Local Development Plan. The Land Use Strategy for Scotland further emphasises sustainable landscape change. Guidance published by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) similarly highlights the role of Local Landscape Areas in managing change. This is particularly relevant given the need for our landscapes to adapt to address the twin crises climate change and biodiversity loss. Therefore, we have identified those landscapes within Angus that are special, but the need for guided change and enhancement is emphasised in order that change can occur to meet our changing needs whilst retaining those qualities that make our landscapes special.

We have carried out an assessment and identified four Local Landscape Areas within Angus – areas where we believe that the landscape is special and have prepared a Statement of Importance for each. These include a description of special qualities for each along with a summary of forces for change and landscape guidance specific to each local landscape areas.

The Angus Glens

Wild upland plateau incised by glaciated glens, with moorland and birch woods. The Highland Boundary Fault has created an abrupt change from upland to lowland with gorges and waterfalls.

The River South Esk

The sinuous River South Esk linking together a chain of designed landscapes from the edge of the Angus Glens past Brechin Castle to Montrose Basin and including the historic landscapes around Aberlemno.

Sidlaw

The picturesque Lundie Crag together the scenic Kinpurney observatory and the iron age hillforts on both Kinpurney Hill and Auchterhouse Hill.

The Angus Coast

Dramatic rugged cliffs with promontory forts combine majestic sweeping beaches and the magnificent Montrose Basin.

The process has included public participation using the innovative Social Pinpoint online engagement platform which incorporated interactive digital maps which allowed people to click on the map and provide opinions via a response form.

Following public consultation and any subsequent amendment, this study will be reported to committee to confirm the Local Landscape Areas identified and that they be considered under policy 4 of National Planning Framework 4 in respect of planning applications. The descriptions of Special Qualities for each area relate to the qualities referred to within NPF4 and the sections relating to Forces of Change & Landscape Guidance describe how development and land management can take place without adversely affecting those qualities.

2 Background to Local Landscape Areas

European Landscape Convention

The European Landscape Convention (ELC) is a Council of Europe treaty that highlights the importance of all landscapes and commits signatories to their care and planning. The UK signed up to the convention in 2006,

Signatories to the Convention have undertaken:

to recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people's surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity (article 5a)
to establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection, management and planning through the adoption of the specific measures set out in Article 6 (article 5b)
to establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies mentioned in paragraph b above (article 5c)
to integrate landscape into its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.
to increase awareness among the civil society, private organisations, and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them (article 6B);

In addition, signatories have undertaken to analyse, characterise and assess landscapes taking into account the value placed upon them by the general public; and to define landscape quality objectives for the landscapes after public consultation and to put landscape policies into effect, for protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape (article 6C, D & E).

Landscape Character Assessment in Scotland

A suite of landscape character assessments covers all of Scotland. The Tayside Landscape Character Assessment published by SNH in 1999, includes the Angus Council area and provides the baseline for this study. This was digitised along with other assessments to create the Landscape Character Assessment in Scotland. Whilst updating was carried out in some parts of Scotland, the substantive content relating to Angus remains unchanged.

National Planning Framework 4

The National Planning Framework (NPF4) sets out the Scottish Government's long-term spatial strategy and

includes national planning policies which form part of the statutory development plan. Policy 4 – Natural Places, advises that Local Development Plans will identify and protect locally, regionally, nationally and internationally important natural assets, on land and along coasts. The intended policy outcomes are that:

- Natural places are protected and restored.
- Natural assets are managed in a sustainable way that maintains and grows their essential benefits and services.

Policy 4 has seven parts relating to natural places, with 4(d) specifically referring to local landscape areas, but 4(a) and (e) are also relevant.

a) Development proposals which by virtue of type, location or scale will have an unacceptable impact on the natural environment, will not be supported.

d) Development proposals that affect a site designated as a local nature conservation site or landscape area in the LDP will only be supported where:

- i. Development will not have significant adverse effects on the integrity of the area or the qualities for which it has been identified; or*
- ii. Any significant adverse effects on the integrity of the area are clearly outweighed by social, environmental or economic benefits of at least local importance.*

e) The precautionary principle will be applied in accordance with relevant legislation and Scottish Government guidance

Land use - getting the best from our land: strategy 2021 to 2026

The Land use - getting the best from our land: strategy 2021 to 2026 is Scotland's third land use strategy. The Land Use Strategy sets out the long term vision for sustainable land use in Scotland, objectives and key policies for delivery.

The strategy uses a landscape approach to describing sustainable land use. It refers to awe-inspiring landscapes and seeks to adopt an ecosystem services approach to land use. It emphasises that natural assets underpin many of the ecosystem services that our economy relies on such as provision of fresh water, food and timber, healthy soils, forestry and peatlands for carbon storage, wildlife and landscapes for tourism. The strategy highlights the importance of the different types of ecosystem services including cultural which includes landscapes.

The strategy specifically highlights the opportunities to achieve sustainable land use through NPF4.

Planning Advice Note on Natural Heritage

Planning Advice Note on Natural Heritage (PAN60) published by the Scottish Government indicates that:

"Safeguarding and enhancing landscape character is an important planning objective. Planning authorities can contribute to the protection and enhancement of landscape by:

- *safeguarding the scenic quality and character of National Parks, National Scenic Areas, designed landscapes and wild land;*
- *setting clear policy objectives in relation to landscapes distinctive to the development plan area; and*
- *promoting high standards of siting and design and the use of appropriate materials".*

PAN60 paragraph 23

Angus Local Development Plan 2016

Angus Local Development Plan (LDP) Policy PV6 Development in the Landscape sets out the general approach to protecting and enhancing the quality and diverse character of the landscape in Angus and the requirements for development. Policy PV6 and the Angus LDP Action Programme include an undertaking to identify special landscape areas in Angus which are valued locally or regionally.

Guidance on Local Landscape Designations

NatureScot has published Guidance on Designating Local Landscape Areas in 2020. This is a refreshed version of earlier guidance from 2006. The guidance has provided the basis for studies in Scotland since its publication. This guidance is intended primarily for local authorities to use in taking forward their own designation process. Other stakeholders, including developers, landowners and managers, community organisations, and environmental and heritage groups, will find this guidance helpful in developing an understanding of Local Landscape Areas (LLAs).

The guidance advises that designation of an area serves three main objectives:

Accolade

- Designation recognises that a specific area has special importance. Celebrating these values raises awareness and understanding amongst communities and wider stakeholders.

Policy

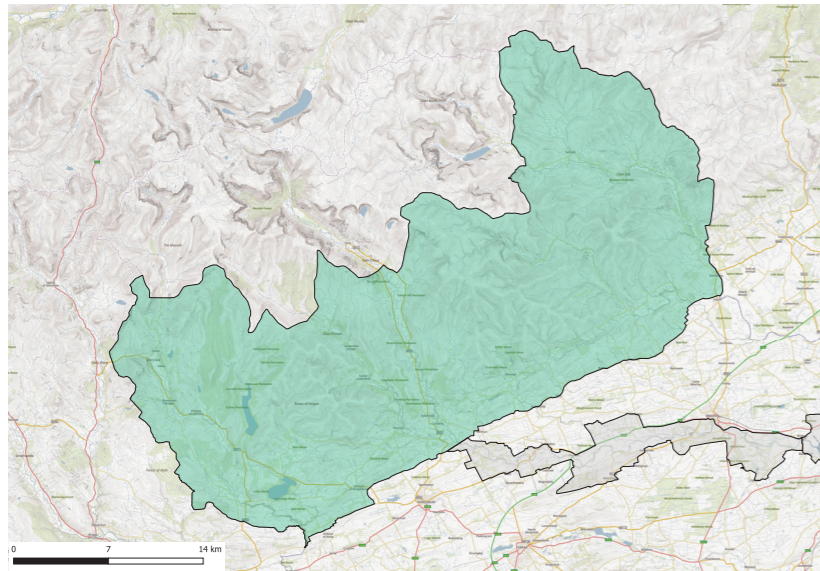
- The designation process provides a useful opportunity to engage communities in identifying policy priorities and objectives. Landscapes will evolve, and this change is managed better if the values of a landscape are well understood. Designation highlights the landscape values that are important to communities.

Management

- Designation of areas that are specifically valued provides a useful means to concentrate effort and prioritise resources for positive action and management

The guidance provides guidance in relation the process for identifying Local Landscape Areas.

3 The Angus Glens Local Landscape Area



[View map in digital viewer](#)

Overview

Wild upland plateau with moorland and birch woods incised by glaciated glens, with pasture and native woodland. The Highland Boundary Fault creates an abrupt change from upland to lowland with gorges and waterfalls. This Local Landscape Area is one where greatest change is desirable in terms of climate change adaptation, by creating a more resilient landscape; contributing towards the ambitions of the Scottish Forestry Strategy and increasing biodiversity.

Description of Special Qualities

Highly scenic

An extensive elevated plateau and rounded hill tops which has strong unity despite being regularly incised by the Angus Glens. Rounded heather clad hills are a particularly feature of the eastern Cairngorms and is a character which is often associated with the Braes of Angus. Extensive areas are managed as grouse moor with the distinctive muirburn mosaic. The upland plateau is often fringed by dramatic cliffs and crags which contrast with the more tamed glen floor adding picturesque qualities.

The Angus Glens are a mosaic of pasture, native woodland and heath combine in views to form patterns and scenic views with strong gestalt properties, often with marked contrast between green pasture of glen floor and the native



woodland, forestry, heath and unimproved grassland on the hillsides. There are differences of character between glens, however have high scenic qualities, but with varying combinations of glacial landforms; rivers with gorges, rapids and waterfalls; dykes enclosed and unenclosed pasture; birch woodland and heather moorland, with frequent scenic views across the area.

Rich in nature

The upland area is almost entirely comprised of semi-natural upland heath, grassland and bog. Despite extensive muirburn, it has strong natural characteristics to many observers.

Much of the foothills are pasture, a proportion of which is semi-improved grassland. Fragments of ancient or long-established native, birch dominated woodland persist despite heavy grazing pressure often substantially contributing towards the richness of the landscape.

Rivers are a strong focal point in the glens often more visible

within the northern parts of the glens where land cover becomes semi-natural and remote in character. Often a strong linear network of native woodland such as along the West Water in Glen Lethnot.

Iconic birch woodland

The birch woods of the Angus Glens contribute towards scenic qualities, particularly during spring and autumn. Glens Prosen and Esk in particular contain significant areas of native Birch woodland which often form a strong linear pattern as the ground steepens between the glen floor and the heather moorland above. In both glens, their respective rivers gently meander through the flat pasture dominated glen floors. In Glens Lethnot native woodland follows the river creating an attractive organic pattern, emphasising the route of the river and transitioning into heath and occasionally pasture as the landform rises up the sides of the glen. In all glens, there is strong pattern and unity adding special qualities.

Designed landscapes

The Airlie Castle and Cortachy Castle statutory designed landscapes both have extensive policy woodland and field boundary trees which both combine with dramatic gorges and waterfalls within the Den of Airlie on the River Isla and the River South Esk respectively to create scenic and picturesque qualities.

A wild upland landscape

The north-western part of the Summits and Plateau type is within Wild Land Area 16. The other parts of the type as well as parts of the upper glens also have wildness of moderate or high relative levels.

A glaciated landscape

Strongly characterised by the consequences of glaciation with pronounced U-shaped valleys with corries above with extensive areas of distinctive terraces and hummocky glacial moraine landforms. The glacial landscape is particularly prominent in Glen Clova.

The dramatic Highland Boundary Fault

The Highland Foothills are strongly associated with the Highland Boundary Fault (HBF) where the descending of the Midland Valley of Scotland and subsequent planes of over thrust created complex geology with the scenic landforms. Landscapes associated with the HBF extend across Scotland between Kintyre and Stonehaven. The geology has created a complex and unusual landscape with special qualities of national importance.

As the glens cut through the Highland Foothills, they cross the HBF where there are dramatic gorges, waterfalls and rapids along the route of all of the larger Angus rivers.

The Highland Foothills are strongly characterised by SW-NE valley and ridge landforms, associated with the HBF. This has created a number of hidden valleys at right angle to the Glens and with highly scenic ridge top minor roads between glens. Often pasture with a strong pattern of enclosure by dykes which creates scenic landscape topology where lines in the landscape are distorted by landform and emphasise the often pronounced undulating landform.

A rich cultural landscape

There is a high concentration of prehistoric and post-medieval settlement and cultivation remains visible on the glen floors as earthworks and the footings of buildings,

dykes, drainage systems, field systems and differences in vegetation cover. Whilst often subtle, they can contribute significantly to the special qualities of the landscape and act as tangible evidence of the region's societal and historical development. Many areas of prehistoric settlement remains are designated as Scheduled Monuments.

There are statutory designed landscapes at Airlie and Cortachy Castles both have extensive policy woodlands and field boundary trees. The 17th Century Forter Castle (Category B Listed Building) is a prominent focal feature in Glen Isla and the Airlie Monument is similarly a hilltop landmark between Glens Prosen and Clova.

The hill forts at the White and Brown Caterthuns in the Highland Foothills, occupied in the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Pictish/Early Medieval periods, are highly visible in the wider landscape and provide views over landscapes peppered with the visible remains of contemporary, and later, settlement and cultivation remains. Both hill forts are designated as Scheduled Monuments.

The high elevation contains limited evidence of historic human activity within this type but a number of historic paths and drove roads cross the hills connecting communities. Scant settlement post-medieval settlement remains, and occasional stone cairns on high ground are testament to the inhospitable nature of this terrain.

A place for enjoyment

A popular hillwalking landscape, with a number of hilltop destinations and nationally promoted routes. Also increasingly popular for mountain biking; wildlife watching; camping and quiet recreation. There are a number of core paths up the glens, most notably along the length of Glen Esk, but also connecting between glens and paths leading to nearby hilltops. Many of these routes are promoted in walking guides. The promoted Cateran Trail passes through Glen Isla.

The Caterthuns near Edzell are popular tourist and recreational attractions in the care of HES, with associated parking and interpretation.

Much of this landscape is managed for the shooting of grouse and deer, with angling popular on the lochs, reservoirs and rivers.

There are regular parking areas in the larger glens and they are known for scenic drives particularly during summer and autumn for the heather flowering and autumn colour. Backwater Reservoir is a popular walking area; Lintrathen Loch is an SWT reserve with bird hides.

Reekie Linn, a dramatic waterfall on the River Isla is a popular tourist attraction on the Highland Boundary Fault.

Boundaries

The north-western boundary follows the edge of the Cairngorms National Park. The north-eastern boundary follows the Angus boundary and is therefore contiguous with Special Landscape Areas within Aberdeenshire. The south-western boundary follows the Angus boundary contiguous with a special landscape area within Perth & Kinross Council. The south-eastern boundary follows the edge of the Highland Foothills landscape type demarcating the abrupt change to lowland landscapes following a combination of roads and field boundaries and is also contiguous with the River South Esk and Aberlemno local landscape area boundary.

Forces for Change & Landscape Guidance

Forces for change can often significantly enhance, erode or change special qualities.

Climate Change – It is predicted that summers will become warmer and drier whilst there will be an increase in precipitation in the winter months, which may be milder. It will also become stormier with more torrential rain events. This is likely to result in a reduction in snow cover which may melt more quickly combined with shorter periods when the ground is frozen in the uplands. On the lower ground there is predicted to be increased flows within watercourses. This pattern is likely to lead to a risk of increased erosion from upland areas and an increased frequency of flood events. The climate will become more favourable for woodland on higher ground and some pasture on lower slopes may become suitable for arable crops.

Development – There are a number small villages within the glens, within the Mid Highland Glens landscape character type, which are typically small often with a low density, slightly scattered arrangement adapted to local terrain. Kirkton of Kingoldrum has higher density and more nucleated. Outwith villages, development is typically restricted to the glen floors, becoming less towards the top of glens. It tends to be close to roads and typically clustered around farm buildings and hamlets, on knolls or slightly higher ground above areas prone to natural flooding. Within the foothills, the development pattern is more varied, but development tends to be on lower ground sometimes with roads running along the tops of relatively low ridges, with farms and houses located away from the road on lower ground. Higher ridges within the foothills however remain free from development. In both cases, houses and farms are often associated with remnants of native woodland and sometimes more recent plantations, which soften and integrate their appearance in the landscape.



The LDP Design & Placemaking Supplementary Guidance provides guidance on how development can contribute towards a sense of place taking account of the landscape within which it is located. It is expected that an assessment as detailed in section 3 of the guidance be undertaken.

The following principles can assist development integrate into the landscape without eroding special qualities:

- New development should reinforce traditional patterns of development in existing villages, hamlets and groupings of farm buildings, located within the mid highland glens and the foothills. In the upper highland glens there is a more remote character with development typically being individual houses or lodges. Consequently there is less opportunity for development without eroding special qualities.
- Rural development is often lower density than within urban areas with larger gardens, trees, woodland, paddocks and other non-developed areas. Increasing density can create a more urban character and in such circumstances should be avoided. Trees in particular

often help integrate existing development into the landscape and their loss is often undesirable.

- Whilst traditional design and materials would be supported, modern designs which reflect traditional building proportions and respond well to their landscape context would also be suitable.
- Designed landscapes at Cortachy and Airlie Castles with tree lines and woodland often provide a landscape structure. Development should avoid impacting on the setting of listed buildings; the overall character of the designed landscape and the more important views in or out of such landscapes, particularly to and from the focal building(s) of the design.
- Within the mid highland glens and the foothills, existing trees and woodland often provide a setting for the building groups and development which would erode these features is unlikely to be acceptable. However, trees and woodland can soften impacts of new development by partially screening development. Development viewed against a backdrop of existing trees can effectively integrate it into the landscape. In some locations, landform can provide a similar function.
- New landscaping including new trees, woodland, hedges and dykes should be included to soften and integrate new development into the landscape.
- New farm buildings should not be in isolation but be grouped with existing buildings, on lower ground and use existing trees and woodlands to soften impacts by partially screening new development or use backdrop of existing trees to integrate it into the landscape or provide backdrop of existing trees to integrate it into the landscape. Development should work sensitively with landforms, positioning buildings where they are less likely to be viewed as skyline. Landform can reduce prominence by partially screening or providing a backdrop to development. Underbuilding should be minimised with careful choice of site and building size and the use of recessive colours is important in reducing prominence in views.
- The setting of historic sites is often important and this should be assessed as part any development proposal in accordance with Historic Environment Scotland and LDP guidance. This is particularly relevant to upstanding monuments and listed buildings. Development should avoid significant impacts on their setting and important views towards and from these sites.

The caravan and camping site in lower Glen Esk is currently the only site in the Angus Glens. A tent camping site at Glen Doll (within the national park) closed a number of years ago. There is likely to be unmet demand for caravan and camping provision in the glens. Caravans and motor homes in particular can be visually intrusive, particularly when viewed from nearby higher ground. Locations

adjacent to native woodland or sometimes within forest areas can provide good levels of screening if carefully located and designed.

Hill tracks sometimes extend to the highest summits. Much of the upland areas and the upper glens have wildness of moderate or high levels. Some hill tracks are historical and hand-built not intended for modern vehicle usage, often becoming unconstructed worn routes on higher areas. The upgrading and extending of existing tracks together with new tracks have in places eroded special qualities. New tracks or inappropriate upgrading where they would erode scenic qualities or erode wildness would not be acceptable without over-riding justification. Consideration of the appropriateness of a track together with its design and location should comply with the guidance within the SNH publication Constructed Tracks in the Scottish Uplands (updated 2015).

Renewable Energy & Tall Structures - Inappropriate solar photovoltaic schemes and wind turbines can create a more developed character and erode scenic qualities. The Council has published landscape capacity studies for wind and solar energy and Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Development Supplementary Guidance. These studies and guidance on how development can be undertaken taking account of landscape and visual sensitivity should inform considerations of the principle and design of such schemes. The summits and plateau typically have a higher relative wildness and an undeveloped character, whilst the smaller scale and channelled nature of the views limits the opportunities for turbines within the glens. There is sometimes more opportunity for turbines on the lower ground within the foothills. Solar voltaic development is better suited to areas with strong arable landcover pattern, which is uncommon within the glens and foothills.

As well as issues of creating a developed character and reducing wildness, tall structures can adversely affect the perception of scale, particularly when placed on top of hills or in a position where visual comparison is possible.

Tall structures would not normally be supported, where they create a developed character in areas of higher relative wildness; adversely affect the perception of scale; create focal points on the tops of hills or detract from scenic qualities. Otherwise, tall structures should be located in positions where they are viewed against backdrops and designed to be a recessive element in views through the appropriate choice of colour and use of natural materials.

There have been a number of planning applications for hydro schemes most notably in Glen Esk and Glen Isla. Such development can significantly erode special qualities by reducing wildness, impacting biodiversity as well as potentially reducing the drama of waterfalls and rapids particularly during spate. Discourage hydro scheme

development where they would significantly erode wildness, biodiversity scenic qualities or reduce the drama of waterfalls and rapids particularly during spate, where these contribute towards special qualities. Tracks leading to such installations are often an important factor and guidance in this regard above similarly applies.

Land Management – Scotland’s Forestry Strategy 2019 – 2029 commits to increasing the forest and woodland cover of Scotland from 18.5% to 21% of the total area of Scotland by 2032. (Forest and woodland coverage within Angus is currently 10%). The strategy also includes the bringing into management and expanding existing native woodland. These commitments are consistent with the Angus Woodland & Forestry Framework which identifies the Angus Glens and the foothills as an area appropriate for woodland expansion and the management of native woodland. Native woodland within the Angus Glens and foothills is often fragmented and at risk of being lost due to lack of active management combined with grazing pressure. There are however examples in Glen Clova where active management is regenerating these woodlands and which also have the potential to reduce flooding downstream by slowing run-off from hillsides.

Encourage the expansion of woodland and forestry to contribute towards national targets, create green networks, provide livestock shelter, slow run-off from hillsides and reduce surface erosion. This could also include appropriately located and designed commercial forestry. Encourage the increase in wet pasture and wet woodland within flood plains and discourage arable farming in these areas.

Intensive muirburn in parts of the type can lead to the erosion of peatlands, reduces biodiversity, particularly in the ground flora and also can inhibit scrub and woodland regeneration. Encourage moorland management practices which create more diverse flora and increased biodiversity, with the expansion of native woodland onto higher ground and providing greater resilience to climate change

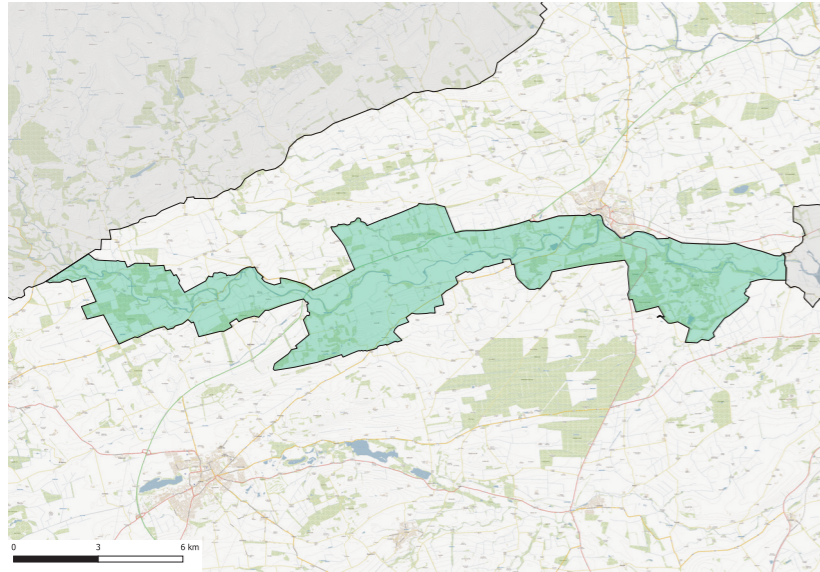
The Highland Boundary Fault has created a distinctive landscape with a strong ridge and valley landform also with a strong pattern of enclosure by dykes which creates scenic landscape topology where lines in the landscape are distorted by landform and emphasise the often pronounced undulating landform. Encourage the management dykes and hedges in both the foothills and the glens.

Recreation – Recreational access is popular within the Angus Glens, with a number of promoted routes. Creating paths where erosion occurs and well as upgrading and maintain existing paths is likely to be necessary. New paths and bridges may become desirable to enable access and create a network. Limited opportunities for car parking can sometimes limit recreational opportunities and can lead to

conflict with land management.

Path erosion can be managed through the appropriate creation and management of paths in the uplands. Best practice is published by SNH in Uplands Path Management: Standards for delivering path projects in Scotland’s mountains. With increased rainfall and more freeze thaw events as a result of climate change there is likely to be an increased need for path construction and maintenance in the uplands to limit erosion and unsightly landscape features. Where demand for car parking is met by informal roadside parking, seek to avoid the loss of such areas and provide additional opportunities where demand exists.

4 The River South Esk Local Landscape Area



[View map in digital viewer](#)

Overview

The sinuous River South Esk linking together a chain of designed landscapes from the edge of the Angus Glens to Montrose Basin and including the historical landscapes around Aberlemno.

Description of Special Qualities

Highly scenic

Around Careston and west of the Brechin Castle statutory designed landscapes there is a strong rectilinear larger scale pattern of woodland strips; field boundary tree lines and road avenues. Between both areas the River South Esk has large sweeping meanders lined with trees and narrow woodland strips which visually connect both designed landscapes. Views across these areas from higher ground to the south towards the Braes of Angus are highly scenic. Similarly, to the east of Brechin, the Kinnaird statutory designed landscape has extensive woodlands, parkland and an avenue overlooked from higher ground most notably from Rossie Moor to the south.

Around Aberlemno, a mixture of arable on the lower ground and pasture with a strong pattern of enclosure by dykes create scenic landscape topology where lines in the landscape are distorted by landform and emphasise the often pronounced undulating landform. There is a repeating pattern of hilltop woodland which adds richness



due to their prominence in views.

Scenic minor road between the distinctive hilltop village of Aberlemno and Finavon with complex landforms, steep twisting road, woodlands, hillfort and views across Strathmore. Scenic views from higher ground, most notably from Angus Hill, Aberlemno and Burghill which also provides a setting for Brechin.

Rich in Culture

Statutory Historic Garden and Designed Landscape at Brechin Castle and at Kinnaird. Non-statutory designed landscapes at Careston and adjacent to the statutory designation at Brechin Castle.

The area around Aberlemno is a rich historic landscape with Pictish carved standing stones by the roadside and at the

nearby Aberlemno church. Iron Age / Pictish period hillfort at Hill of Finavon and a small number of castles with associated landscapes.

There are also several standing castles in this area, variously designated as Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings, including the reconstructed Melgund Castle near Aberlemno.



Rich in Nature

The River South Esk and its tributaries, together with associated riparian habitats form a blue/ green network which is often a focal feature in views. The river and its tributaries are designated as a Special Area of Conservation.

Fluvioglacial landforms, particularly kame terraces are often found along the course of the river corridor.

Locally hedges, trees and woodland add qualities, but much of the landscape is intensive arable. Distinctive hilltop woodlands at Burghill and Finavon Hill, much of which is ancient or semi-natural.

Enjoyment

Burghill south of Brechin is within the Brechin Path Network and includes core paths. The River South Esk are popular for salmon and trout angling and also has some use by kayakers and canoeists.

Boundaries

The eastern and western boundaries are contiguous with the adjacent Angus Glens and Angus Coast local landscape areas. Boundaries along the route tend to follow visible features such as roads and field boundaries and include areas of designed landscape along the river corridor and including higher ground at Burghill, Aberlemno and Finavon Hill.

Forces for Change & Landscape Guidance

Climate Change - It is predicted that summers will become warmer and drier whilst there will be an increase in precipitation in the winter months, which may be milder. It will also become stormier with more torrential rain events. This is likely to result in a reduction snow cover which may melt more quickly. On the lower ground there is predicted to be increased flows within watercourses. This pattern is likely to lead to a risk of increased erosion from upland areas and an increased frequency and severity of flood events particularly along the River South Esk.

Development Settlement is concentrated in Brechin adjacent to the area, villages and a scatter of farmsteads and occasional rural houses. This results in strong rural character outwith Brechin. Houses are often associated with groups of trees which help integrate them into the landscape.

Guidance on settlement expansion at Brechin is contained within the Angus Settlements Landscape Capacity Study and this has informed land allocations within the LDP. It is important to retain the clear distinction between town and country to avoid a perception of urban sprawl and retain quality landscapes close to towns both to provide a setting for the town and an attractive recreational landscape close to where people live. Therefore development which would weaken the distinction between town and country including ribbon development would not be acceptable.

The LDP Design & Placemaking Supplementary Guidance provides guidance on how development can contribute towards a sense of place taking account of the landscape within which it is located. It is expected that an assessment as detailed in section 3 of the guidance be undertaken.

The following principles can assist development integrate into the landscape without eroding special qualities:

- Outside Brechin, small scale new development should reinforce the existing development pattern within villages, hamlets and groupings of farm buildings.
- Rural development is often lower density than within urban areas with larger gardens, trees, woodland, paddocks and other non-developed areas. Increasing density can create a more urban character and in such circumstances should be avoided. Trees in particular often help integrate existing development into the landscape and their loss is often undesirable.
- In other settlements, notably Tannadice, there is strong linear patterns of cottages at a relatively high density. New development should reflect the existing pattern and massing.
- Whilst traditional design and materials would be supported, modern designs which reflect traditional building proportions and respond well to their landscape context would also be suitable.
- Within designed landscapes, development should avoid impacting on the setting of listed buildings; the overall character of the designed landscape and the more important views in or out of such landscapes, particularly to and from the focal building(s) of the design.
- Outwith designed landscapes, trees are less common but where they exist, trees and woodland can soften impacts by partially screening new development. Development viewed against a backdrop of existing trees can effectively integrate it into the landscape. In some locations, landform can provide a similar function.

- New landscaping including new trees, woodland, hedges and dykes should be included to soften and integrate new development into the landscape.
- New farm buildings should not be in isolation but be grouped with existing buildings, on lower ground and use existing trees and woodlands to soften impacts by partially screening new development or use backdrop of existing trees to integrate it into the landscape. On higher ground, development should work sensitively with landforms, positioning buildings where they are less likely to be viewed as skyline and landform reducing prominence by partially screening or providing a backdrop to development with underbuilding being minimised with careful choice of site and building size. The use of recessive colours is important in reducing prominence in views.
- The setting of historic sites is often important and this should be assessed as part any development proposal in accordance with Historic Environment Scotland and LDP guidance. This is particularly relevant to upstanding monuments and listed buildings. Development should avoid significant impacts on their setting and important views towards and from these sites.

With glacial deposits of sand and gravel along the River South Esk corridor, quarrying takes place on lower ground within the area. Deposition landforms are often an important part of the special qualities of the area with distinctive pattern of terraces emphasising the river corridor. Quarry proposals should not erode these patterns and visual effects should be capable of being mitigated by landscaping. Quarries visible from higher ground nearby present challenges as it is often difficult to mitigate visual impacts.

SNH guidance River South Esk Special Area of Conservation - Guide to Planning Applicants also provides helpful guidance in respect of development which may affect the designated status.

Renewable Energy & Tall Structures- Inappropriate solar photovoltaic schemes and wind turbines can create a more developed character and erode scenic qualities. The Council has published landscape capacity studies for wind and solar energy. This guidance on how development can be undertaken taking account of landscape and visual sensitivity should inform considerations of the principle and design of such schemes. Solar voltaic development is suited to areas with strong rectilinear landcover pattern which is typical of this arable area, but less appropriate on hillsides around Aberlemno. Similarly, a strong landscape structure of field boundary hedges and trees as well as woodland can help soften development. With a strong landscape structure associated with the many designed landscapes within this type, there are opportunities for solar development to be integrated into the landscape; however

it is important that such development does not erode special qualities of such areas, by affecting key views in or out of such landscapes or the setting of important buildings or features, or by leading to the loss of trees to avoid shading. The enclosed character of this area reduces capacity for wind turbines. Turbine sizes should predominantly be small/medium with some medium in more open areas, with turbines positioned to clearly relate landscape features such as field boundaries, river terraces and larger farm buildings. On higher ground, the smaller scale landform again reduces capacity for larger turbines.

Tall structures can adversely affect the perception of scale, particularly when placed on top of hills or in a position where visual comparison is possible. There is opportunity for both wind turbine and solar development on lower ground within the area.

Encourage guidance contained within these studies to be taken into account.

Government funding supports the demand for small-scale on-farm green energy production including biomass digesters and there are a number of such developments across Angus and advice in relation to the siting and design of such buildings is the same as for farm buildings above.

Land Management – The quality of agricultural land on lower ground means that it is unlikely that there will be significant increase in the level of forestry and woodland except where it may contribute towards flood mitigation.

Scotland’s Forestry Strategy 2019 – 2029 commits to increasing the forest and woodland cover of Scotland from 18.5% to 21% of the total area of Scotland by 2032. (Forest and woodland coverage within Angus is currently 10%). The strategy also includes the bringing into management and expanding existing native woodland. New forestry should comply with the UK Forestry Standard which provides guidance on how forestry can be designed

Encourage the expansion of woodland and forestry on higher ground to contribute towards national targets, create green networks, provide livestock shelter, slow run-off from hillsides and reduce surface erosion. This could also include appropriately located and designed commercial forestry. However it is recommended that care is taken to avoid adversely affecting views to and from historic sites on hilltops.

Whilst inappropriate river bed engineering has taken place locally to improve angling, the re-naturalising of the previously canalised Rottal Burn has improved natural qualities. Discourage river bed engineering consider naturalising water-courses which have historically been canalised, subject to the consent of the statutory authorities. Encourage the management and increase in semi-natural riparian buffer habitats along the River South

Esk and its tributaries including wet grassland and woodland as well as encouraging pasture in areas prone to flooding to reduce siltation and increase climate change resilience. The River South Esk Special Area of Conservation - Guide to Planning Applicants also provides guidance on a diverse range of land management activities which may impact upon the designated interest including buffer strips, vehicle movements across wet areas, soil storage and wheel washing.

Invasive non-native species, particularly associated with rivers corridors such as giant hogweed, Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam reduce biodiversity and can leave riverbanks more vulnerable to erosion during flood events. There is currently an on-going project to eradicate these species within the River South Esk catchment. Continue the project to eradicate specific non-native species within the catchment of the River South Esk.

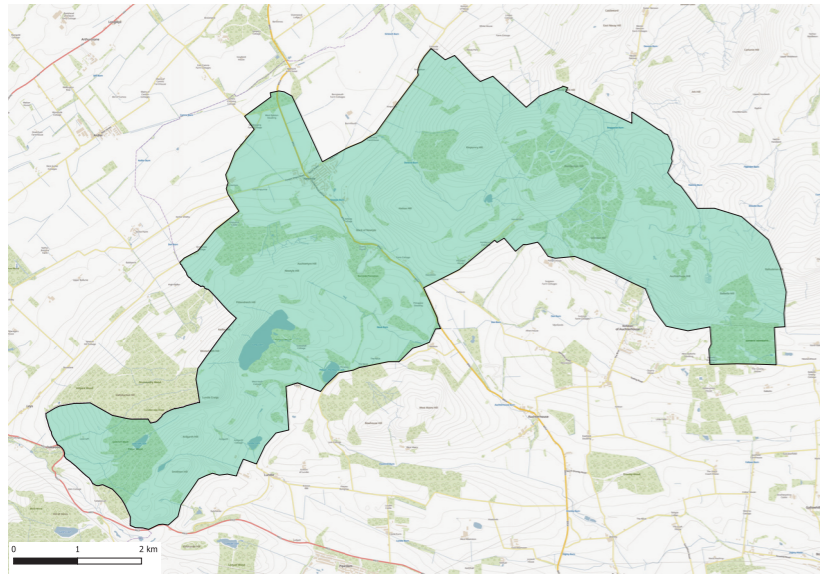
In recent years there has been a notable increase in the area of poly-tunnels to expand the soft fruit growing season. There are currently few such structures with this area. However, poly-tunnels, together with associated working areas create a more developed character and can often erode scenic qualities. It is recommended that poly-tunnels are located where they are not prominent in views.

Give careful consideration to the location and design of new farm buildings particularly on the more open higher ground, to appropriately group buildings, work sensitively with landforms and the use of recessive colours.

Dykes are an important characteristic on higher ground with hedges and tree lines more common on lower areas. Encourage the maintenance of these features with reinstatement where opportunities exist.

Recreation – On the River South Esk, angling is popular with a more limited level of canoeing and kayaking also taking place. Encourage recreational activity on the River South Esk which takes consideration of other activities and does not erode special qualities.

5 Sidlaw Local Landscape Area



[View map in digital viewer](#)

Overview

The Sidlaws with the picturesque Lundie Crag together the scenic Kinpurney observatory and the iron age hillforts on both Kinpurney Hill and Auchterhouse Hill.

Description of Special Qualities

Highly scenic with panoramic views

Distinctive profile of smooth rounded hills with panoramic views across Strathmore towards the Braes of Angus to the north and southwards over the Tay Estuary.

Abrupt change from the Sidlaw Hills to the relatively flat Strathmore, with the village of Newtyle nestled at the northern edge of the Sidlaws. The dramatic cliffs at Lundie Crag with a small loch, forestry and farmland below add picturesque qualities. The ruined observatory on Kinpurney Hill forms a scenic landmark.

Often pasture with a strong pattern of enclosure by dykes which creates scenic landscape topology where lines in the landscape are distorted by landform and emphasise the often pronounced undulating landform.

Dramatic approach to Strathmore across the Sidlaws via the twisting tree lined B954 through the Glack (valley) of Newtyle. The Sidlaws are important in framing Strathmore.



Rich in cultural heritage

Hillforts at Kinpurney Hill, (Scheduled Monument) and Auchterhouse Hill, thought to have been occupied during the Iron Age and/or Pictish periods.

Kinpurney hillfort, the largest in Angus, is topped by a now ruined observatory built in the 18th Century (designated as a Scheduled Monument). It is a prominent feature on the hilltop from both within the Sidlaws and also from Strathmore and The Braes of Angus to the north.

Non-statutory designed landscape at Kinpurney around Newtyle. There is a prominent rectilinear pattern of roadside avenues and field boundary trees and hedges.

The wooded embankments and cuttings of the former Dundee to Strathmore railway line create a distinctive feature through the Sidlaws and their sweeping curves contrast with the rectilinear pattern of Strathmore.

Semi-natural hilltops

Often arable and improved pasture on lower slopes but with semi-natural pasture and extensive areas of heath on higher ground.

Bulluderon Hill is designated as a local geodiversity site,

A place for enjoyment

This a popular recreational area for those who live in south Angus and Dundee, with Lundie Crag, Kinpurney Hill and Auchterhouse Hill being popular hilltop destinations and often the focal point of path networks. Balkello Community Woodland, owned by Forestry Commission Scotland is also an important recreational area and connects directly to the Bulluderon Hill Local Geodiversity Site.

There is an extensive network of paths used locally and by visitors, many of which are Core Paths.



Boundaries

The western boundary follows the Angus Council boundary and in effect extends the designation within Perth & Kinross Council into Angus. To the north, the boundary wraps around the designed landscape to the north of Newtyle. Further east, the area incorporates Kinpurney, Auchterhouse and Bullederon Hills to Balkello Community Woodland. Where they exist, boundaries follow visible features such as roads, field boundaries and water-courses.

Forces for Change & Landscape Guidance

Forces for change can often significantly enhance, erode or change special qualities.

Climate Change – It is predicted that summers will become warmer and drier whilst there will be an increase in precipitation in the winter months, which may be milder. It will also become stormier with more torrential rain events. This is likely to result in a reduction snow cover which may melt more quickly combined with shorter periods when the ground is frozen in the uplands. On the lower ground there is predicted to be increased flows within watercourses. This pattern is likely to lead to a risk of increased erosion from

upland areas and an increased frequency of flood events. The climate will become more favourable for woodland on higher ground and some pasture on lower slopes may become suitable for arable crops.

Development – Development is concentrated in the village of Newtyle. Elsewhere, there is a scatter of hamlets and groupings of farm buildings within the Glack of Newtyle and on lower ground within the hills.

Encourage development where it would not significantly erode special qualities. New development should be within Newtyle or to consolidate existing hamlets and groupings of farm buildings, located on lower ground. Follow guidance contained within the Angus Settlements Landscape Capacity Study - Newtyle.

The LDP Design & Placemaking Supplementary Guidance provides guidance on how development can contribute towards a sense of place taking account of the landscape within which it is located. It is expected that an assessment as detailed in section 3 of the guidance be undertaken.

The following principles can assist development integrate into the landscape without eroding special qualities:

- Outside Newtyle, small scale new development should reinforce the existing development pattern within

hamlets and groupings of farm buildings.

- Rural development is often lower density than within urban areas with larger gardens, trees, woodland, paddocks and other non-developed areas. This is common in many hamlets and farm groupings. Increasing density can create a more urban character and in such circumstances should be avoided. Trees in particular often help integrate existing development into the landscape and their loss is often undesirable.
- Whilst traditional design and materials would be supported, modern designs which reflect traditional building proportions and respond well to their landscape context would also be suitable.
- Where they exist, trees and woodland can soften impacts by partially screening new development. Development viewed against a backdrop of existing trees can effectively integrate it into the landscape.
- Landform can soften views of development and can provide backdrop. Landscaping can including new trees, woodland, hedges and dykes can help soften and integrate new development into the landscape.
- New farm buildings should not be in isolation but be grouped with existing buildings, on lower ground and use existing trees and woodlands to soften impacts by partially screening new development or use backdrop of existing trees to integrate it into the landscape. On higher ground, development should work sensitively with landforms, positioning buildings where they are less likely to be viewed as skyline and landform reducing prominence by partially screening or providing a backdrop to development with underbuilding being minimised with careful choice of site and building size. The use of recessive colours is important in reducing prominence in views.

Hill tracks in the Sidlaws sometimes extend to the highest summits. Hill tracks sometimes extend close to the hilltops and ridges principally for forestry and access to wind turbines. Inappropriately located or designed hill tracks can significantly erode wildness and scenic qualities. New tracks or track upgrading should not be proposed where they would erode scenic or wildness qualities. Consideration of the appropriateness of a track together with its design and location should comply with the guidance within the SNH publication Constructed Tracks in the Scottish Uplands (updated 2015).

Renewable Energy & Tall Structures - Inappropriate solar photovoltaic schemes and wind turbines can create a more developed character and erode scenic qualities. There is sometimes more opportunity for turbines on the lower ground. Solar voltaic development is better suited to areas with strong arable landcover pattern, which is found on lower ground within this area. As well as issues of creating a developed character and reducing wildness, tall

structures can adversely affect the perception of scale, particularly when placed on top of hills or in a position where visual comparison is possible.

The Council has published landscape capacity studies for wind and solar energy. This guidance on how development can be undertaken taking account of landscape and visual sensitivity should inform considerations of the principle and design of such schemes. In terms of other tall structures, discourage development that would create a developed character in areas of higher relative wildness; adversely affect the perception of scale; create focal points on the tops of hills or detract from scenic qualities. In addition, where tall structures are justified, ensure that they are located in positions where they are viewed against backdrops and designed to be a recessive element in views through the appropriate choice of colour and use of natural materials. Tracks leading to such installations are often an important factor and guidance in this regard above similarly applies.

Land Management – Scotland’s Forestry Strategy 2019 – 2029 commits to increasing the forest and woodland cover of Scotland from 18.5% to 21% of the total area of Scotland by 2032. (Forest and woodland coverage within Angus is currently 10%). The strategy also includes the bringing into management and expanding existing native woodland. These commitments are consistent with the Angus Woodland & Forestry Framework which identifies the Sidlaws as an area appropriate for woodland and forestry expansion and the management of native woodland. New forestry should comply with the UK Forestry Standard which provides guidance on how forestry can be designed

Encourage the expansion of woodland and forestry to contribute towards national targets, create green networks, provide livestock shelter, slow run-off from hillsides and reduce surface erosion. This could also include appropriately located and designed commercial forestry. However it is recommended that care is taken to avoid adversely affecting views to and from historic sites on hilltops.

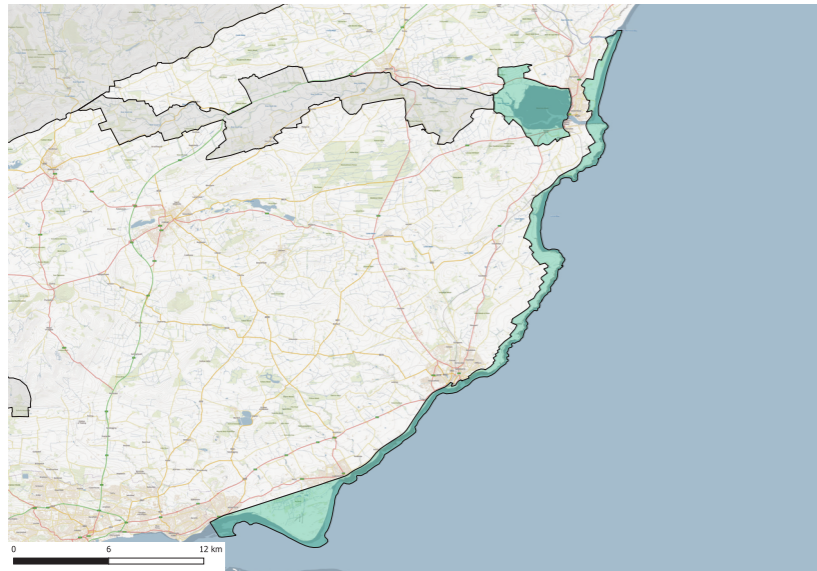
Intensive muirburn in parts of the type can lead to the erosion of peatlands, reduces biodiversity, particularly in the ground flora and also can inhibit scrub and woodland regeneration. Encourage moorland management practices which create more diverse flora and increased biodiversity, with the expansion of native woodland onto higher ground and providing greater resilience to climate change

Encourage the retention and management of elements within designed landscapes around Newtyle including trees lines, hedges dykes and woodland. Dykes in particular are an important characteristic on higher ground with hedges and tree lines more common on lower areas. Encourage the maintenance and reinstatement of these features.

Recreation – Recreational access is popular within the Sidlaws, with a number of promoted routes. Creating paths where erosion occurs and well as upgrading and maintain existing paths is likely to be necessary. New paths may become desirable to enable access and improve networks.

Path erosion can be managed through the appropriate creation and management of paths in the uplands. Best practice is published by SNH in Uplands Path Management: Standards for delivering path projects in Scotland’s mountains. With increased rainfall and more freeze thaw events as a result of climate change there is likely to be an increased need for path construction and maintenance in the uplands to limit erosion and unsightly landscape features.

6 The Angus Coast Local Landscape Area



[View map in digital viewer](#)

Overview

Dramatic rugged cliffs combined with magnificent sweeping beaches and the spectacular Montrose Basin. This LLA includes landscape types Coast with Sand (TLCA14a) Coast with Cliffs (TAY14b) and the eastern part of Lowland Basin (TAY15).

Description of Special Qualities

Highly scenic with panoramic views

Sweeping sandy bays at Montrose, Lunan, Arbroath, Carnoustie and Monifieth. The ever changing interactions of the sea with the beaches, creates strong patterns on the inter-tidal areas and rhythmic lines of waves with scenic 'white horses'. These patterns are often emphasised by light and reflections. Between Arbroath and Carnoustie intertidal rock slabs provide shelter to sandy beaches at low tide, offshore breaking waves and an ever-changing pattern of rock and sand. Highly scenic with dramatic cliffs with stacks, arches, shingle beaches, extensive inter-tidal rock slabs and a gloop (collapsed cave) at Gaylet Pot.

The abrupt change in character between cliffs and sandy bays, particularly at Lunan Bay add drama and scenic qualities. Cliffs form the setting to Ethiehaven, Auchmithie and Arbroath. Highly scenic with panoramic views across Montrose Basin and along the coastline with a strong undeveloped character with headlands, bays and



intermittent settlements commonly providing focal points.

Rural undeveloped character with intermittent settlement

Settlement along the coast is concentrated in larger towns, villages and a scatter of farmsteads. This results in strong rural undeveloped character along much of the coastline punctuated by occasional settlements.

Distinctive coastal farmland

A strong rectilinear field pattern in many areas and along cliff-tops is emphasised by a network of drystone dykes defining the boundary between fields and contrasting semi-natural cliff-top.

Extensive unimproved or semi-improved sandy grasslands behind the dunes at Kinnaber, Lunan Bay, Barry Buddon and between Carnoustie and Arbroath.

Traditional urban links land-uses

Coastal links areas within settlements have a strong

traditional resort character with an open unenclosed character allowing views along the coastline with recreational grasslands, golf courses, play parks and paddling pools with limited built development typically coastal tourism and open recreation.

Rich in cultural heritage

The Angus coast is rich in cultural heritage with the landscape itself sometimes being part of this heritage and also being an important part of the landscape setting of sites.

The indented coastline has provided natural harbours for fishing villages at Auchmithie, Fishtown of Usan and Ethiehaven on the cliff coastlines with channels through intertidal rock slabs providing access to the beach at East Haven and West Haven. Strong culture of inshore fisheries and existing and historical salmon netting.

There are a number of highly visible promontory forts on the cliffs including six between Arbroath and the southern end of Lunan Bay, often with pronounced defensive ditches and embankments. The medieval Red Castle, a Scheduled Monument, is a focal feature at the mouth of the Lunan Water at Lunan Bay as well as being an important viewpoint. Stone built lime kilns dating from the 18th Century

at Boddin Point which are Category B Listed structures occupy a low promontory and are a prominent landmark on this stretch of coastline. Historical military remains most notably at Montrose airfield the oldest military airfield in Scotland where parts of the runways, aprons and associated features including pillboxes remain visible. Further military remains are to be found at Barry Links which date from the 19th Century and at Lunan Bay.

Designed landscapes at House of Dun and Craig, north and south of Montrose Basin respectively are important nationally and add features of interest.

Listed Stevenson lighthouses at Bell Rock, Scurdie Ness and Barry Buddon and the Signal Tower in Arbroath linked to the Bell Rock lighthouse are well known landmarks.

The South Esk and Ferryden railway viaducts, both Category B Listed and built in the 19th Century, are prominent features on the south side of Montrose, visible from the across the Montrose Basin.

Rich in nature

Strong sense of nature with the twice daily tidal movement and dynamic ever-changing beaches and dunes.

There is a strip of semi-natural habitat along the coastline, which forms a continuous green corridor along the Angus coast. The coast, including Montrose Basin, is of ecological and geological interest, much of it being designated for its national and international importance. The cliffs support a range of important nesting seabirds and overwintering waders, along with rare grassland and rock-ledge communities. Perched saltmarsh and species-rich grassland also occur along the northern, igneous coastline. Extensive unimproved or semi-improved sandy grasslands behind the dunes at Kinnaber, Lunan Bay, Barry Buddon and between Carnoustie and Arbroath. These grasslands are commonly adapted to form golf courses at Carnoustie and Montrose.

Barry Links is an extensive triangular foreland with extensive dune systems and associated habitats designated as SSSI. The site contains impressive parabolic dunes, unique in the UK. The coast between Arbroath and Auchmithie is designated as a local geodiversity site for which there is a promoted trail.

The Montrose Basin also has a rich natural heritage with its mudflats and associated habitats provide important areas for feeding and roosting, supporting internationally important numbers of birds and consequently designated as Special Protection Area.

A place for enjoyment

The beaches at Montrose, Lunan Bay, Arbroath, Carnoustie and Monifieth are popular both for local recreation and for tourism. There is a links golf course beside each coastal town with Carnoustie in particular is of international importance.

The promoted Angus Coastal Path between Monifieth and Auchmithie, with the cliff top section north of Arbroath towards Auchmithie. The route continues north of Auchmithie to Lunan Bay but follows a combination of farm tracks and another cliff top path at Redhead and Ethiehaven. There is also a well-used path from Ferryden to Scurdie Ness and beyond to Mains of Usan. National Cycle Route 1 and the North Sea Cycle route form part of a national network. Sailing is a popular pastime based in coastal towns, harbours and marinas.

Montrose Basin is popular for wildlife watching with a visitor centre on the southern shore, hides and paths close to the shore with a small car park at Old Montrose Pier.

The historic Caledonian Railway runs between Brechin and Dun, with the landscape through which it passes an important element of the experience.

Boundaries

The seaward boundary is shown as a line 50m seaward of inter-tidal areas. This includes areas where the influence of the seabed morphology can influence wave patterns and therefore should perhaps be considered as an area of transition rather than a precise boundary.

The inter-tidal rocks at Bell Rock with their landmark lighthouse are also included in this LLA. The designation includes the coastal frontages of settlements.

On the landward side, the western boundary of coastal landscape character types 14a & b represents the area where the character is strongly influenced by the coast and sea.

TAY15 (Lowland Basin) has been divided in two with Montrose Basin being within The Angus Coast LLA and the remainder being within the River South Esk LLA. The contiguous boundary between the two is the minor road between Bridge of Dun and Maryton. To the east of this road, the landscape is more coastal in character. The rising ground to the north and south of the Basin with their designed landscapes are an important part of the special qualities and these boundaries are approximately at the crest of the slope.

All boundaries follow visible features such as roads, railway, field boundaries and water-courses where they exist.

Forces for Change & Landscape Guidance

Forces of change can often significantly enhance, erode or change special qualities.

Climate Change & Shoreline Management – The coast is a dynamic environment with the soft coastline being subject to cyclical periods of erosion and deposition. Changes in the coastal environment will result from direct impacts resulting from predicted sea level rise and the increased risk of flooding from surge events, together with the impacts of adaptation responses such as coastal defence. These will result in changes in the nature and distribution of coastal habitats, erosion and deposition, changing morphology, loss of land, increased flood defences (hard and soft), increased risk of flooding and implications for land use. Natural coastlines are important part of the natural and scenic qualities but man-made coastal defences often reduce special qualities notably at Lunan Bay and Montrose Basin. Manmade coastal defences erode special qualities and should be avoided where possible in favour of solutions which embrace the dynamism of natural processes. Coastal management and development should accord with the Angus Shoreline Management Plan 2.

Development – Settlement along the coast is concentrated in larger towns, villages and a scatter of farmsteads. This results in strong rural undeveloped character along much of the coastline. However, ribbon development along the shores of Montrose Basin often erodes the scenic qualities locally. It is important to retain the clear distinction between town and country to avoid a perception of urban sprawl and retain quality landscapes close to towns both to provide a setting for the town and an attractive recreational landscape close to where people live. Therefore development which would weaken the distinction between town and country including ribbon development would not be acceptable.

Significant development should be located within existing settlements and ribbon developments along the shores of Montrose Basin would not be supported. Guidance on settlement expansion at Montrose, Arbroath, Carnoustie and Monifieth is contained within the Angus Settlements Landscape Capacity Study. Discourage development that would create a more developed character to the coast and any form of development that would lead to manmade coastal defences.

The LDP Design & Placemaking Supplementary Guidance provides guidance on how development can contribute towards a sense of place taking account of the landscape within which it is located. It is expected that an assessment as detailed in section 3 of the guidance be undertaken.

The following principles can assist development integrate into the landscape without eroding special qualities:



- Within Montrose, Arbroath, Carnoustie and Monifieth maintain an open character to links areas with limited built development specifically related to coastal tourism and recreation taking care not to obstruct views along the coastal strip.
- Outside the towns, small scale new development should reinforce the existing development pattern within villages, hamlets and groupings of farm buildings.
- Rural development is often lower density than within urban areas with larger gardens, trees, woodland, paddocks and other non-developed areas. This is common in many hamlets and farm groupings, but most distinctly at Easthaven. Increasing density can create a more urban character and in such circumstances should be avoided. Trees in particular often help integrate existing development into the landscape and their loss is often undesirable.
- In other settlements, notably Auchmithie and Ethiehaven, there is strong linear patterns of cottages at a relatively high density. They are distinctively positioned above and below cliffs respectively. New development should reflect the existing pattern and massing.
- Whilst traditional design and materials would be supported, modern designs which reflect traditional building proportions and respond well to their landscape context would also be suitable.
- Where they exist, trees and woodland can soften impacts by partially screening new development. Development viewed against a backdrop of existing trees can effectively integrate it into the landscape.
- With trees and woodlands being less common on the coast, it can be particularly important that development works with existing landform to integrate development into the landscape. Avoid development which appears as skyline from the Angus Coastal Path and local roads. Landform can soften views of development and can

provide backdrop. Where development is necessary close to sand coastlines, new landforms can sometimes mimic sand dunes to effectively mitigate impacts as done at the wastewater treatment plants at Hatton and Montrose.

- landscaping can including new trees, woodland, hedges and dykes can help soften and integrate new development into the landscape.
- New farm buildings in these open landscapes should not be in isolation but be grouped with existing buildings, work sensitively with landforms, positioning buildings where they are less likely to be viewed as skyline and landform reduces prominence by partially screening or providing a backdrop to development with underbuilding being minimised with careful choice of site and building size. The use of recessive colours is important in reducing prominence in views.

Caravan sites are part of the traditional links character along urban frontages. They can however be visually intrusive and reduce the openness of links areas. Chalets and caravans at Lunan Bay whilst historical, nevertheless erode scenic and natural qualities and has resulted in inappropriate and unsightly coastal defences. Areas of caravans on farms for seasonal workers is also becoming more common. Further caravans or chalets for holidays or seasonal workers close to the coast can erode scenic qualities. Caravan and chalet development should be located sufficiently back from the coast to not erode scenic qualities; avoid prominent areas and be located to take advantage of existing screening from existing trees and landform. New landscaping, including trees and hedges can sometimes help to mitigate impacts.

The Angus Shoreline Management Plan 2 is the Council's policy position in relation to coastal management. In general, the policy position for the undeveloped coastal areas is "no active intervention," but in other areas can be for "hold the line" or "managed realignment." At Montrose Links, where the policy is managed retreat, the plan defines a "no development zone" and at Corbie Knowe, where the policy position is no active intervention, there is an intention to develop an adaptation strategy.

Renewable Energy & Tall Structures – The Council has published landscape capacity studies for wind and solar energy. Whilst the open and windswept character is suitable for wind energy, larger scale turbines would be highly intrusive, being highly visible against the sea and sky and out of scale with the landform, low buildings and wind pruned trees. Turbines should be no larger than 30m and associated with built development.

There is considered to be no capacity for solar PV development on the coast without significantly adversely affecting the scenic qualities of the type; the setting of the coastal paths; and panoramic views along the coastline.

The capacity for other tall structures would similarly be very limited for the same reasons as those for wind turbines.

The Montrose skyline with its church spire is an important feature of the landscape. The setting of other coastal settlements is also important. The historic Arbroath Abbey is sometimes visible above the town, but its limited height makes it particularly sensitive to being affected by tall structures, including masts. In terms of other tall structures, discourage development that would adversely affect the sensitive skylines of Montrose and Arbroath.

Land Management – Grassland and dune systems are fragile and sensitive to over grazing. There are potential issues of damage by livestock grazing at Lunan Bay and by rabbit numbers particularly between Carnoustie and Easthaven. Encourage sensitive management of coastal grasslands to avoid erosion due to over grazing by livestock and rabbits

In open coastal landscapes, field boundary features particularly dykes, are important to providing structure and pattern in the landscape. Dykes along cliff edges often emphasise the sinuous and undulating edge of the arable landscape. These features are sometimes falling into disrepair. Encourage the maintenance of field boundary features such as dry-stone dykes and the reinstatement of such boundaries and features where they have been lost.

In recent years there has been a notable increase in the area of poly-tunnels close to some parts of the coast to expand the soft fruit growing season. The poly-tunnels, together with associated working areas create a more developed character and often erode scenic qualities. Poly-tunnels should only be located where they are not prominent in views along the coast and set back from the coastal edges and incorporate tree and shrub planting to soften their prominence in views as required. Fields adjacent to the coast are unlikely to be suitable for poly-tunnels without significantly eroding scenic qualities. Poly-tunnels and solar farms can have cumulative effects when both types of development are nearby creating a more developed character to the coast.

Give careful consideration to the location and design of new farm buildings in these open landscapes, to appropriately group buildings, work sensitively with landforms and the use of recessive colours.

There is little expected landscape change in respect of forestry on the coast. However wooded dens which often open to the coast typically add interest locally and should be retained and managed often providing access links to the coast.

Recreation – The coast is an important recreational area, with beaches in particular being popular during good weather. Similarly golf courses are a feature of coastal links landscapes. Increased recreation can sometimes damage fragile coastal dune and grasslands and coastal defences to protect golf courses from cyclical erosion would substantially erode special qualities. Encourage golf courses to build in adaptation options where they are at risk from coastal erosion to allow courses to migrate inland in response to coastal erosion.

The aspiration remains that the Angus Coastal Path will be completed to form a continuous coastal route. Encourage recreational management in ways which do not adversely affect scenic or natural qualities, with sensitive routing of paths to minimise intervention and the use of rural path specifications.

Glossary

Ancient woodland Interpreted as semi-natural woodland from Roy's Military Maps of c1750 or the first edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1860 and continuously wooded to the present day

Ancient Woods are important because:

- They include all remnants of Scotland's original woodland; their flora and fauna may preserve elements of the natural composition of the original Atlantic forests
- They usually have much richer wildlife than that of more recent woods.
- They preserve the integrity of soil ecological processes and associated biodiversity.
- Some have been managed by traditional methods for centuries and demonstrate an enduring relationship between people and nature.
- Woods and veteran trees are ancient monuments whose value to the local community and historians may be as great as the older buildings in a parish.
- Once destroyed they cannot be recreated.

Fluvioglacial landforms

A variety of landforms are associated with meltwater from glaciers, including Outwash plains or Sandur, Varves, Braided Streams, Eskers, Kames and Kame terraces, Kettle holes and drumlins

Gestalt

Where the whole is greater (other) than the sum of the parts. Often referred to as pragnanz. There are 8 laws of gestalt.

Historic landuse assessment

The process of mapping the extent of past and present land use areas, categorised according to their form, function and period of origin.

Landscape

An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors. (Article 1, European Landscape Convention. Council of Europe, 2002).

Landscape character/ Landscape character assessment

The distinct and recognisable pattern of landscape elements that occurs consistently in a particular area, and how these are perceived by people, that makes one landscape different from another. Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is the process of systematic description, classification and analysis of landscape, in order to identify, describe and understand its character. The scale and detail

of the assessment will depend upon the purpose for which it is being undertaken.

Landscape sensitivity

The degree to which the character and qualities of the landscape would be affected by specific types of development and land-use change. Sensitivity depends upon the type, nature and magnitude of the change. High sensitivity indicates landscapes are vulnerable to the change; low sensitivity that they are more robust to the change and that the key characteristics of that landscape will essentially remain unaltered.

Landscape topology

Where lines and shapes in the landscape are distorted by landform.

Landscape qualities

Less tangible and experiential aspects of a landscape, such as the appreciation of its beauty or history, its sense of wildness or its challenge for recreation. While these qualities are dependent on individual perception, they are commonly recognised and valued by people.

Long-established woodland

Long-established woodlands of plantation origin (LEPO) (1b and 2b) Interpreted as plantation from maps of 1750 (1b1) or 1860 (2b) and continuously wooded since. Many of these sites have developed semi-natural characteristics, especially the oldest ones, which may be as rich as Ancient Woodland. Woods shown on Roy's Military Map of Scotland c1750 as plantation or present on the first edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1860. These woods are likely to be less old compared with ancient woodland, but retain intrinsic biodiversity value. Many may actually be ancient woodland but are not shown on older maps.

Natural beauty and amenity

A composite term that refers to those qualities of the landscape that appeal to all our senses, but particularly the visual. The use of the word natural does not exclude landscapes or features which result from, or are changed by, human activity - a canal for instance may have considerable natural beauty and amenity.

Picturesque

Landscapes which combine beautiful with the sublime.

Scenery

A popular term for landscape, which emphasises people's visual perception of their surroundings and the landscape's composition in views.

Scenic quality

An area, as perceived by people, in which the character is a composite of maritime and terrestrial elements where they meet at the coast.

Seascape

An area, as perceived by people, in which the character is a composite of maritime and terrestrial elements where they meet at the coast.

Semi-natural woodland

Woodland which has developed through natural regeneration.

Special landscape area

Another name for local landscape area

Wildness

Wildness depends on the presence of four physical attributes, each of which can be measured and mapped: perceived naturalness of the land cover ruggedness of terrain remoteness from public roads, ferries or railway stations visible lack of buildings, roads, pylons and other modern artefacts SNH have mapped Scotland for each of these attributes.

Wild Land Areas

Wild Land Areas describe the most extensive areas of high wildness. It is not a statutory designation, but wild land areas are considered nationally important. SNH have identified 42 Wild Land Areas in Scotland.

Local Landscape Areas in Angus

Appendices

September 2023

Appendices

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Appendix 1: Methodology

1.1 Project Governance & Specialist Involvement

The undertaking of the project is overseen by a steering group which includes staff from been included to ensure that we have full understanding of the factors which contribute towards the special qualities of the Angus landscape. both Angus Council and Scottish Natural Heritage. The input of other specialist interests including archaeology and geology has been included to ensure that we have a full understanding of the factors which contribute towards the special qualities of the Angus landscape.

The identification of areas of search is a broad exercise and it is anticipated that more detailed specialist input will again be required at later stages when boundaries are being defined and the descriptions of special qualities are being prepared.

1.2 Desk Study

The desk study has reviewed existing sources of information on aspects of landscape which may have an influence on the special qualities of the landscape of Angus. This information is often contained in surveys and studies and is commonly available in publications or online. Angus Council has data share agreements with a range of organisations and therefore data is often available on Council GIS systems. Information can range from survey data to designations. There are also instances where data sets are created or digitised to support the project.

The desk study reviews available information and in broad terms describes their relevance to the identification of landscapes with special qualities. This information has been referred to in each assessment stage of the project.

1.3 Identification of Areas of Search

The landscape character of Angus has been assessed as part of the Tayside Landscape Character Assessment (1997) (TLCA). The TLCA subsequently became part of a suite of landscape character assessments covering Scotland. The Strategic Landscape Capacity Study for Wind Energy in Angus (2014) additionally divided some of the larger character types into sub-areas. These included Broad Valley Lowland and Dipslope Farmland. As result, there are 17 landscape types or sub-types in Angus (see map 1).

The identification of areas of search will involve a survey and assessment undertaken by landscape character types and sub-types as described above in order to identify areas of search. Where reference to areas by landscape units helps clarity then these will also be referred to in the assessment. The field survey will be supported by background research where appropriate which will, for example, include SNH wild land mapping, historic land use maps, and woodland & habitat surveys.

Each landscape character type or sub-area will be assessed against five Landscape Qualities Assessment Criteria (see table 1). The assessment will provide a rating and written analysis against each of the criteria, together with an overall assessment. Whilst there is no arithmetic weighting applied to the criteria, it is often the case that one of the criteria is locally more important. This will vary between landscape types but could for example, be wild land characteristics; the presence of historic remains or simply a scenic combination of landscape features. Again, this will be discussed within the assessment.

The Identification of Areas of Search report will propose character types or parts of types which are likely to contain areas which merit designation as Local Landscape Areas. This report will form the basis for public engagement.

Map 1: Landscape Character Types

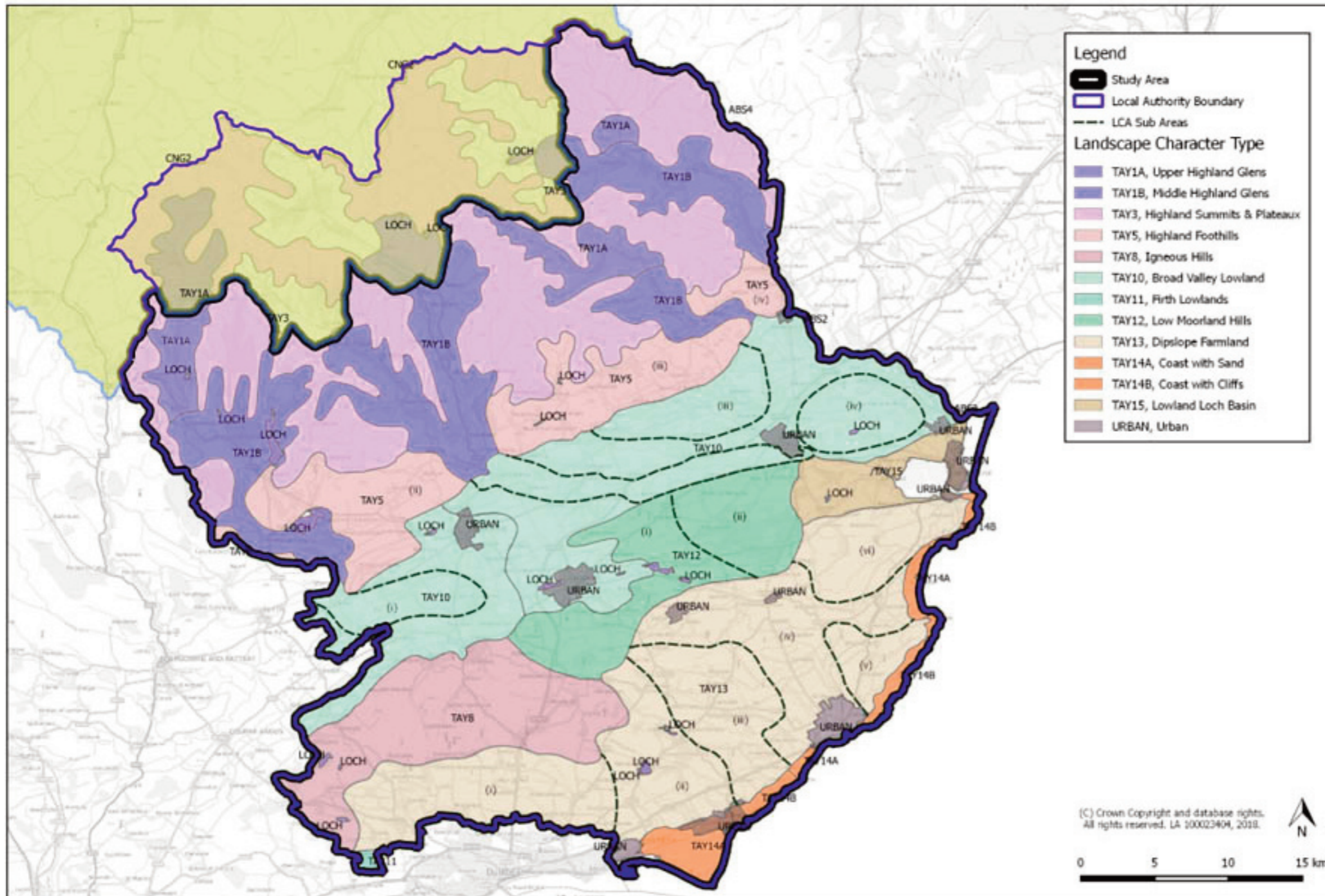


Table 1: Landscape Qualities Assessment Criteria

Landscape Qualities	Description	Factors Considered	Rating	Rating Guidance
Scenic	Combination of landscape features which contribute to scenic quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic views • Unity • Pattern • Dramatic elements • Attractive combinations of elements • Visual contrasts • Gestalt – where the whole is greater (other) than the sum of the parts. • Topology – where lines and shapes are distorted by landform. • Picturesque - landscapes which combine beautiful with the sublime • Viewpoints • Where landscape types combine to increase scenic qualities. Eg glen and mountain. 	High	A landscape with high levels of scenic qualities, where scenic factors have often having strong influence on views.
			Medium	A landscape with moderate levels of scenic qualities, where scenic factors are occasionally present in views or less strongly characterise views.
			Low	A landscape with low levels of scenic qualities, where scenic factors are uncommonly present in views.
Cultural	Landscape with features of archaeological, historical, cultural interest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeological areas • Historic land use • Scheduled Monuments • Listed buildings • Historic Gardens & Designed Landscapes • Literary or artistic connections • Scene of historic events • Landscapes where cultural heritage is important to the experience of the landscape. 	High	A landscape where cultural factors have strong influence on the experience of the landscape.
			Medium	A landscape where cultural factors have occasional or lower levels of influence on the experience of the landscape.
			Low	A landscape where cultural factors uncommonly influence the experience of the landscape.
Natural	Landscape of strong natural or semi-natural character and wild land characteristics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNH Wild Land Areas • SNH wild land maps • FCS Native Woodland Inventory • Habitat surveys • Geodiversity features • Blue/ Green Networks • Where natural patterns and processes are prominent. 	High	A landscape where natural factors have a strong influence on the experience of the landscape.
			Medium	A landscape where natural factors have occasional or lower levels of influence on the experience of the landscape.
			Low	A landscape where natural factors uncommonly influence the experience of the landscape.

Table 1: Landscape Qualities Assessment Criteria

Landscape Qualities	Description	Factors Considered	Rating	Rating Guidance
Enjoyment	The use and enjoyment of the landscape for recreational activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor car parks • Viewpoints • Core paths • Public rights of way • Promoted recreational routes • Visitor recreational destinations such landmarks, mountains, coasts, woodlands and promoted sites in the landscape 	High	A landscape which is highly valued for enjoyment, which is often promoted for recreation and often contains recreational destinations and associated access infrastructure.
			Medium	A landscape which is moderately valued for enjoyment with occasional destinations, promoted routes and associated access infrastructure.
			Low	A landscape little valued for enjoyment, with few recreational destinations and little promotion.
Rarity or Typicality	The presence of rare elements or features in the landscape or a rare landscape character type. Or a good example of a landscape type commonly found within Angus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rarity within Angus or Scotland • Distinctiveness • Sense of place • Includes distinctive landscapes which provide the setting for a settlement • Typicality • Intactness • Condition. 	High	A landscape which has a distinctive sense of place and is rare or is intact and in good condition
			Medium	A landscape which may have a limited sense of place and/ or is likely to be in variable condition.
			Low	A landscape which is commonplace and/or lacks distinctiveness and may be in poor condition.

1.4 Public Engagement on Areas of Search

The Areas of Search report will be the basis for the first round of public involvement. The public engagement exercise will seek to refine the knowledge base upon which the assessment has been undertaken; seek opinion on proposed areas of search; and help inform the description of special qualities.

The consultation will be web based with the public engagement website Social Pinpoint and will include an online interactive map where members of the public can click on an area and provide their opinions or upload photographs. It will be advertised through @LandscapeAngus twitter account and the Council's range of social media accounts.

1.5 Identification of Local Landscape Areas & Special Qualities Descriptions

The identification of LLAs will involve a further survey and assessment of the Areas of Search identified through the Areas of Search Report and the public engagement process. The landscape qualities assessment criteria remain unchanged from the first survey, but this time, particular attention will be directed to further clarifying those areas which exhibit the special qualities identified in the Areas of Search report.

This process will identify boundaries for proposed Local Landscape Areas and will be carried out on Ordnance Survey 1:25k base plans. For each Local Landscape Area a description of the special qualities will be produced which will include an assessment of factors which may enhance, change or erode these qualities.

1.6 Angus Local Development Plan

The Local Landscape Areas identified by this study, taking account of stakeholder engagement and public participation, will inform the preparation of the Angus Local Development Plan 2021. The Local Landscape Areas will be designated through the Angus LDP 2021 and will:

- inform the policy approach for the protection and enhancement of the diverse and quality landscape in Angus; and
- be a material consideration in the assessment planning applications where relevant.

The Angus Development Plan Scheme 2018 indicates that the Proposed Angus LDP 2021 is due to be published in late spring 2020 and will be subject to a period for representation. In line with statutory requirement the Plan should be adopted by September 2021 and will provide the land use framework for Angus over the 10 year period to 2031.

Appendix 2: Desk Study

The desk study reviews existing sources of information about factors which may have an influence on the special qualities of the landscape of Angus.

Angus Council has access to a large number of digital spatially mapped datasets relevant to this study, many of which are available as a result of data sharing agreements with other public bodies including Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, Forestry Commission Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland and British Geological Survey. In addition other information and datasets are available online and some remain in paper form.

Datasets include protected areas and also survey information which identifies features and patterns, assisting in the understanding of the visible landscape and its qualities.

Information identified as part of the desk study, when combined with local knowledge and field visits will substantially inform the assessment by highlighting features and sometimes explaining landscapes following site visits through an iterative process. This information will not only be useful during the process in identifying areas of search but will be revisited in more detail when the Description of Special Qualities for each LLA is being prepared.

2.1 Landscape Character

The landscape character of Angus has been assessed as part of the Tayside Landscape Character Assessment (1997) (TLCA). The TLCA subsequently became part of a suite of landscape character assessments covering Scotland. This classified some 8 landscape character types within Angus. The coast and the glens were further sub-divided in the assessment. Within the types and sub-types, specific areas were further identified as Landscape Units.

The Strategic Landscape Capacity Study for Wind Energy in Angus (2014) additionally divided some of the larger character types into sub-areas. These included Broad Valley Lowland and Dipslope Farmland. The TLCA (as modified) forms the natural baseline for starting to assess areas of landscape with special qualities. It contains basic descriptions of many of the factors explored below which need further investigation as part of this study. As it concentrates on landscape character types, it does not fully capture the bigger patterns in the landscape and in particular relationships between landscape character types. For example, wild land, the course of rivers; the inter-

relationship between glen and mountain; and historic land use can all contribute to special qualities not fully captured by the TLCA.

Seascape is defined as the inter-visible areas of sea and land. It therefore overlaps with landscape character. There is a national scale assessment of seascape published by SNH. Similarly, there is a Coastal Character Assessment also produced by SNH.

Many of the factors being considered already have designations associated with that particular interest. For example, there is a system of international, national and local designations for the protection of habitats and species (biodiversity). This study aims to tease out those aspects which may contribute to the special qualities of landscapes; describe what these may be; and indicate where they may occur. It is intended that this provides an indicative summary which will inform and be assessed as part of the landscape survey.

2.2 Natural Environment

Designated Natural Environment Assets

Across Angus (excluding the Cairngorms National Park) there are 37 nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) which include much of the Angus coast; and a number of lochs, dens and bogs for a combination of biodiversity and geodiversity interests.

Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under the European Birds and Habitats and Directives respectively, and are collectively known as Natura 2000 sites. There are 5 SPAs (which are also SSSIs) at Cairngorms Massif; Firth of Tay & Eden Estuary; Loch of Kinnordy; Loch of Lintrathen and Montrose Basin. There are also 4 SACs (sometimes outwith SSSIs) at Barry Links; Firth of Tay & Eden Estuaries; River South Esk and River Tay. Four of these are also protected as Ramsar Sites for their international importance for wetland birds.

There is a single Wild Land Area which in part is within Angus. Wild Land Area 16: Lochnagar – Mount Keen includes much of the upland areas in the northern part of the Braes of Angus.

Geology and Geomorphology

The British Geological Survey has published a range of maps showing bedrock and drift geology, with an explanation of

landscape types in the Landscape Fashioned by Geology booklet on Fife and Tayside. The landscape of Angus has four contrasting geological elements.

- The Highland Boundary Fault line creates a dramatic transition from lowland to upland landscapes. The fault which follows the line of TAY5 Highland Foothills creates the dramatic northern edge to TAY10 Broad Valley Lowland. The fault is responsible for the pronounced SW – NE ridge and valley landform within the TAY5 landscape type. The fault also crosses TAY1b Mid Highland Glens where it has led to dramatic wooded gorges and waterfalls most notably on the River Isla, River South Esk and River North Esk.
- Mountain and moorland to the west and north of the Highland Boundary fault underlain by metamorphic and intrusive rocks generally support thin or peaty acid soils, but there are localised pockets more fertile lime rich soils that have developed on the calcareous schists e.g. parts of Glen Clova.
- To the south and east of the fault extensive areas are underlain by sedimentary sandstones and conglomerates and fossil bearing rocks. These provide local colour and character to building stone across Angus, the red soils supporting arable farming, and outcropping as spectacularly colourful cliffs along the coast near Arbroath.
- The third geological feature of Angus are the igneous intrusive rocks often forming prominent hills like Dundee Law and the Sidlaw hills, and extrusive volcanic lavas that also underlie hills and headlands like Scurdie Ness.

Glaciation has significantly influenced landform across Angus, perhaps most visibly within the Angus Glens. This has resulted in classic glaciation features such as corries, U-shaped valleys, glacial moraines, eskers and kame terraces. It is common that these features explain a pattern of glaciation which crosses landscape types extending from erosion landform features within TAY3, TAY1a and TAY1b to deposition and fluvioglacial landforms within TAY1b and TAY10.

On the coast, successive periods of glaciation have led to up to four raised beach terraces which vary in prominence along the Angus coast. The Angus Settlements Landscape Capacity Study 2015 identified these terraces around the coastal settlements as significantly contributing towards the landscape character locally and particularly influencing the evolution of settlement form.

Water Environment

There are many specialist datasets produced by Angus Council and SEPA relating to the water environment.

The larger Angus rivers (River Isla, River South Esk and River North Esk) form blue/ green corridors and are particularly a feature within The Glens where along with landform, they reinforce the connectivity across the landscape often providing a linear focal feature along which pasture, roads woodland and built development are arranged in patterns. As the rivers cross the Highland Boundary Fault, there are dramatic gorges and dens with rapids and waterfalls – most notably at Reekie Linn on the River Isla and the Rocks of Solitude on the River North Esk.

On lowland areas the larger rivers sometimes have large sweeping meanders which, when viewed from higher ground can contrast with otherwise rectilinear field patterns often reinforced by bankside trees. In other areas rivers are often less visible although trees associated with their route are often prominent. As the River South Esk reaches the coast the bay bar upon which Montrose is located has formed the dramatic tidal Montrose Basin. The Angus coastline has dramatic cliffs with stacks, arches and a gloop (collapsed cave), most notably between Arbroath and Lunan Bay. There are also majestic sand bays particularly at Lunan Bay and Montrose Bay. Barry Links is an extensive triangular foreland with extensive dune systems and associated habitats. The site contains impressive parabolic dunes, unique in the UK.

Lochs are often focal features most notably at Loch of Lintrathen and Backwater Reservoir. Elsewhere they are less prominent but often woodland and other semi-natural vegetation associated with them combine to add special qualities locally – most notably at Loch of Kinnordy and the series of Lochs along the Lunan Water overall adding to the overall blue/ green network in often intensive arable landscapes.

Land Cover

SNH have published the EUNIS Land Cover Scotland Map under The European Nature Information System (EUNIS). The EUNIS habitat map is under preparation. The land cover map shows the distribution of land cover types and in particular shows the broad zonation between arable, pasture and heath. There is often strong correlation with landscape character. In addition, Angus Council has (paper) copy of a phase 1 habitat survey for lowland Angus undertaken in partnership with The Nature Conservancy Council Scotland (now part of SNH) during 1992 and 1993. This often usefully maps dykes, hedges and tree lines, but is sometimes inconsistent in coverage. This information is also often visible on aerial photographs. Again, there is often a strong correlation with landscape character with dykes being more common in hill areas and the coast often being an important landscape element within Moorland Hills,

Igneous Hills, and tree lines often associated with designed landscapes. In some areas such as parts of Glen Isla, roundels (groups of trees within the central area of fields) are often associated with dyke field enclosures.

Woodland

The Native Woodland Survey of Scotland (2014) (NWSS) was undertaken by the Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) to identify and map the location, extent, type and condition of all Scotland’s native woodland. As well as the interactive map, a summary report for each local authority has been published. Native woodland comprises 21.7% of the woodland area in Angus which equates to 2.3% of the land area of Angus. However native woodland is not evenly distributed across Angus. The NWSS shows substantially greater concentrations of native woodland within many of the Angus Glens. This is consistent with 34% of Angus native woodland being comprised of the Upland Birch woodland type. This is most notable in Glen Prosen and Glen Esk where scattered often irregular shaped woodlands form a strong recurring pattern often just above and demarcating the break of slope between the flat glen floor and the glen sides. They both emphasise the linear nature of the glens and the elevation zonation up their sides, typically giving way to heather moorland above the woodland.

There are a number of different digital datasets produced by FCS and SNH (and their predecessors) which can provide useful mapping of different aspects of woodland, some of which map field boundary trees and roundels. Some of these datasets are becoming old, but nevertheless can provide useful information. The Inventory of Ancient, Long-Established and Semi-Natural Woodland was published by the Nature Conservancy Council in Scotland (NCCS) in 1980. Whilst some of the information within the Inventory has been updated by the NWSS, information particularly relating to Ancient and Long-Established woodlands remains a useful resource and provides information on the historic natural environment. Woodland within the Inventory often correlates with native woodland within NWSS.

Native woodland often forms broken linear features in the landscape particularly within the Angus Glens and foothills. These have been mapped within both a study undertaken by Tayside Native Woodlands in 1998 “Angus Glens Birchwoods” and the first Cairngorms Forest & Woodland Framework produced by the Cairngorms Partnership (predecessor to Cairngorms National Park Authority) in 1999. These green networks sometimes relate to the blue networks formed by watercourses. Woodland along their banks is relatively uncommon, both within The Glens and as they cross lower ground. However there are often riparian trees (often the scattered remnants of woodland) along the banks which can visually reinforce the corridor feature in otherwise sometimes open landscapes. Perhaps the most notable exception is along the Lunan Water where riparian woodland combines with lochs, and wetlands to create a diverse blue/ green corridor,

where the linear semi-natural habitats are collectively more of a linear visual feature within the shallow valley than the watercourse itself. Similarly, as the major rivers cross the Highland Boundary Fault woodland is commonly present within dens and gorges.

Wild Land and Wildness

Wildness can significantly contribute towards special qualities. SNH has carried out a detailed survey of Scotland evaluating the levels of wildness according to four attributes

- Perceived naturalness
- Rugged and challenging terrain
- Remoteness from public mechanised access
- Lack of built modern artefacts

These datasets are available individually and have also been combined. This was used to inform the identification of Wild Land Areas in Scotland. However, the four attribute surveys are useful to assess special qualities locally.

As one would expect, upland areas within Angus often have higher levels of relative wildness, particularly within the higher parts of the Braes of Angus. However the surveys also show much of the Angus coastline and selected dens and gorges as having higher wildness in respect of perceived naturalness and rugged and challenging terrain.

2.3 Historic Environment

Angus Council have a Shared level Agreement with Aberdeenshire Council for provision of archaeological services. Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS) have provided guidance on the historic environment for this assessment, which is represented within the study area by a broad range of periods and site type.

Historic Land Use Assessment

The Historic Land-use Assessment (HLA) is digitally recording landuse across Scotland. It maps both current and historical land-use. It is a partnership between Historic Scotland and Royal Commission for Ancient Monuments in Scotland which merged to form Historic Environment Scotland in 2015. Whilst the project is on-going, there is currently limited mapped information for Angus within HLA. The archaeology section of Aberdeenshire Council has been providing guidance.

Designated and Undesignated Heritage Assets

Angus has a rich and diverse cultural heritage. Across the region there are 370 Scheduled Monuments and over 2,100 Listed Buildings, designated and protected for their importance locally and nationally, for their archaeological,

cultural and architectural merits. There are also over 4,500 standing undesignated (non-statutory) heritage assets, that is to say historic sites without the protection of designated status. Although without protected status, these undesignated sites have a significant role in recording and presenting Angus's story.

Heritage assets range in date from the Mesolithic period to the Modern period, with notable peaks in the Bronze and Iron Ages; the Pictish and Medieval periods; and the 18th – 19th Centuries. The greatest concentrations of sites are found within the Angus Glens, the foothills and along the coast. Post-medieval settlement remains in the form of abandoned farms and their associated dykes, grassy pastures and drainage systems are often under-stated features on the floors of glens, alongside earlier, prehistoric field systems and settlement remains. Cairns, dating from the Bronze Age, and hillforts, associated with the Iron Age and Pictish periods, are found on the higher ground, while promontory forts, also dating from the Iron Age and Pictish periods, can be found along the coastal clifftops with a particular focus between Arbroath and Lunan Bay.

Historic Gardens & Designed Landscapes

There are 13 designated historic gardens and designed landscapes within the statutory inventory of Historic Gardens & Designed Landscapes. They are invariably surrounding a large house or castle, forming the settings of the buildings which are the focal point of the design, with some dating back to the 17th Century.

They add a richness of character in areas where landform and river corridors already contribute to special qualities particularly around the highland boundary fault at Airlie Castle and Cortachy Castle.

In more open landscapes, particularly Dipslope Farmland LCT, statutory designed landscapes typically provide a prominent but typically localised feature.

Within Broad Valley Lowland LCT, there are extensive designed landscapes around Glamis and Kinraddie Castles which often reinforce the many aspects of traditional lowland landscapes including hedges and tree lines, as well as adding locally abundant policy woodland belts and parkland trees.

There are many designed landscapes within Angus which are not included within the statutory inventory. In 1993, SNH as part of an extension to the national inventory carried out consultation in relation to 35 sites within Angus (and a further 3 sites previously within the City of Dundee District Council area, now within Angus). This led to the inventory for Angus being extended from 11 to 13 sites in 2006.

There is currently no list of Local Historic Gardens and

Designed Landscapes within Angus. The Garden History Society in 2009 produced a preliminary and indicative list of designed landscapes in Angus. The list of 102 sites also included the sites within the statutory inventory and the 1993 SNH list. It is however noted that the statutory designations typically only protect the most important part a designed landscape. Designed landscapes beyond the designated site may be a locally important designed landscape and be likely to contribute towards special qualities within the landscape.

The Angus Settlements Landscape Capacity Study (2015) was undertaken in-house within Angus Council. The study noted that non-designated designed landscapes around settlements often contributed to the landscape setting of a number of settlements. This was the case around Carnoustie, Kirriemuir, Letham and Brechin. In Brechin, the statutory designed landscape around Brechin Castle relates to the core area of the designed landscape, but the non-designated area is significantly more extensive.

Similarly, the Strategic Landscape Capacity for Solar Energy in Angus (2016), also undertaken in-house, noted that the extensive non-designated designed landscape around the former Panmure House (north of Carnoustie) significantly contributed to that part of Dipslope Farmland LCT having a more wooded character. This would be likely to contribute towards special qualities within that part of Dipslope Farmland.

2.4 Recreation & Access

The Angus Core Paths Plan adopted 2010 is available on the Council's website. The plan identifies a basic framework of paths throughout Angus.

There are path networks around all seven Angus towns and some of the larger villages. Many of these paths are also core paths. Some information on public rights of way is also held within the planning service.

The Angus coastline is some 55 kilometres in length. There is a path from Arbroath to Carnoustie and Monifieth is a purpose built cycle path, and part of National Cycle Route 1. From Arbroath to Auchmithie the path follows dramatic sea cliffs, and is only suitable for walkers. North of Auchmithie several core paths link together to take you to Lunan Bay and Inverkeillor. Further north parts of the coast are in the Montrose path network.

Around one third of Angus is unenclosed hill and mountain. Whilst the largest areas occur in the Angus Glens, other smaller areas exist across Angus, notably in the Sidlaws. Whilst there is sometimes core paths and public rights of way, there are other routes, often promoted in guidebooks, leading to hilltops and viewpoints. These can be on

informal paths or sometimes simply routes across hills, ridges or open land. There are also walking guides available online. In addition, many of these areas are also popular for grouse and deer shooting.

The Cateran Trail is a 103km circular walking route promoted by the Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust. The trail which starts and finishes in Blairgowrie passes through Angus between Kilry and Blacklunans.

2.5 Climate Change & Sea Level Rise

The SNH Commissioned Report 488: An assessment of the impacts of climate change on Scottish landscapes and their contribution to quality of life: Final report provides helpful information in relation to the impacts of climate change upon landscape and includes case studies relating to Tayside.

The Angus Shoreline Management Plan 2 includes sets out the risks from flooding and erosion to people and the developed, historic and natural environment and identifies opportunities to maintain and improve the environment by managing the risks from floods and coastal erosion as well as identifying the preferred policies for managing risks from floods and erosion.

Appendix 3: Identification of Search Area

The identification of Areas of Search has been carried as described within section 3.3 of the Methodology. The identification of the areas of search has been split by landscape character type or sub-type, which provides a useful way of summarising the assessment of special qualities (see Map 1). However it is often the case that special qualities spill over landscape type boundaries or are sometimes intrinsically linked to other landscape types, most obviously glen and the hills which define them. These relationships are summarised within the assessments below.

Each assessment rates the landscape type according to the five criteria described within table 1 of the methodology (section 3). Where there is variation, this is explained and the discussion proposes whether any part of the type merits inclusion within the areas of search.

At this stage, the assessment has been broad with a view to identifying those parts of Angus which may contain areas which are locally special. The boundaries are deliberately sweeping and fade out. The next stage will look at the landscape in more detail.

The assessments by landscape character type and sub-type are below, but the process has identified 5 areas of search (see Map 2).

The Angus Glens

Wild upland plateau incised by glaciated glens, with moorland and birch woods. The Highland Boundary Fault creates an abrupt change from upland to lowland with gorges and waterfalls.

Airlie to Ruthven

Profoundly undulating glacial moraine (drumlin swarm) emphasised by the straight lines arable farming. With tree lines and designed landscape to the south adjacent to the meandering River Isla.

The River South Esk & Aberlemno

The sinuous River South Esk linking together a chain of designed landscapes from the edge of the Angus Glens to Brechin Castle and including the historic landscapes around Aberlemno.

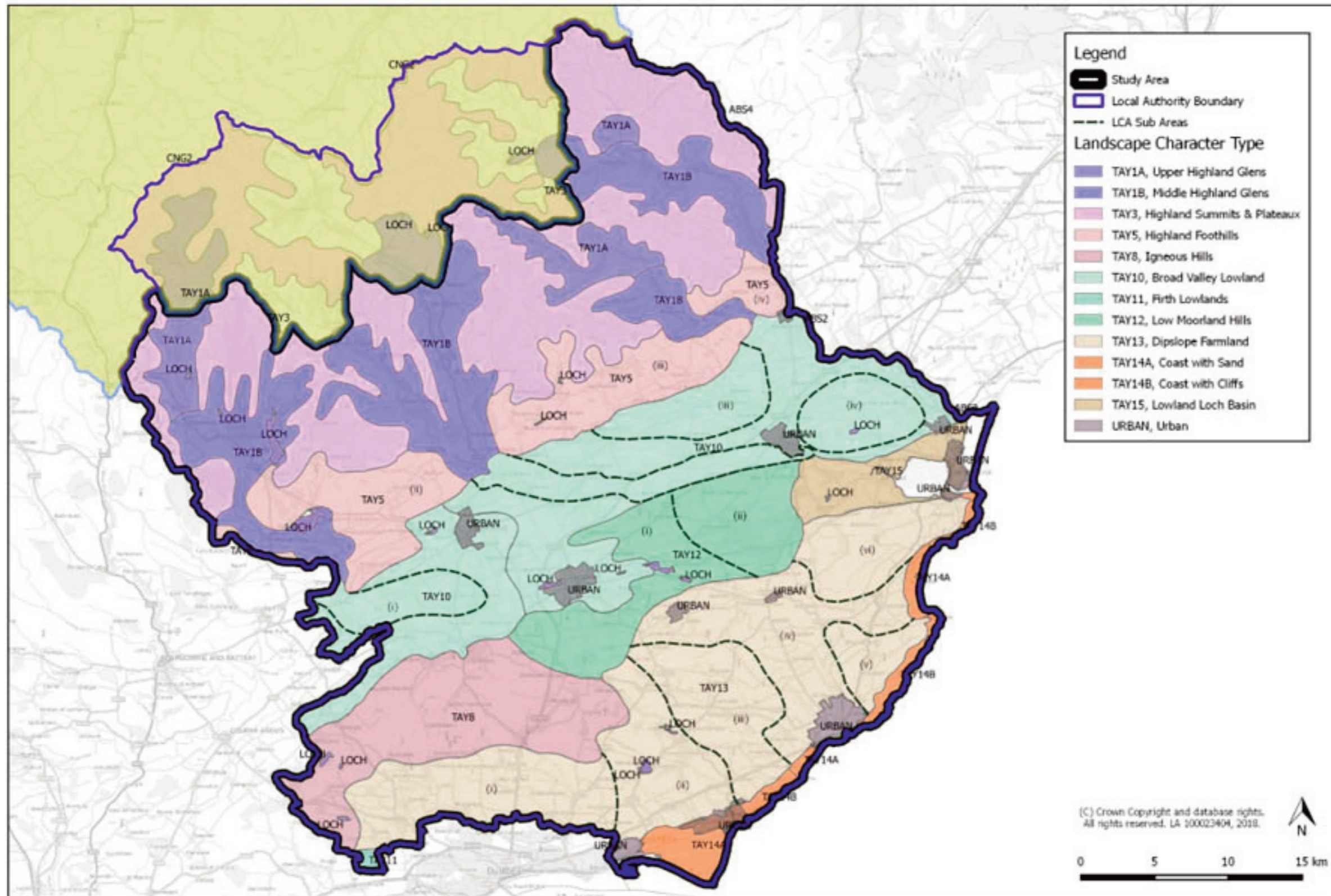
Lundie Craggs to Auchterhouse Hill

The picturesque Lundie Craggs together the scenic Kinpurney observatory and the iron age hillforts on both Kinpurney Hill and Auchterhouse Hill.

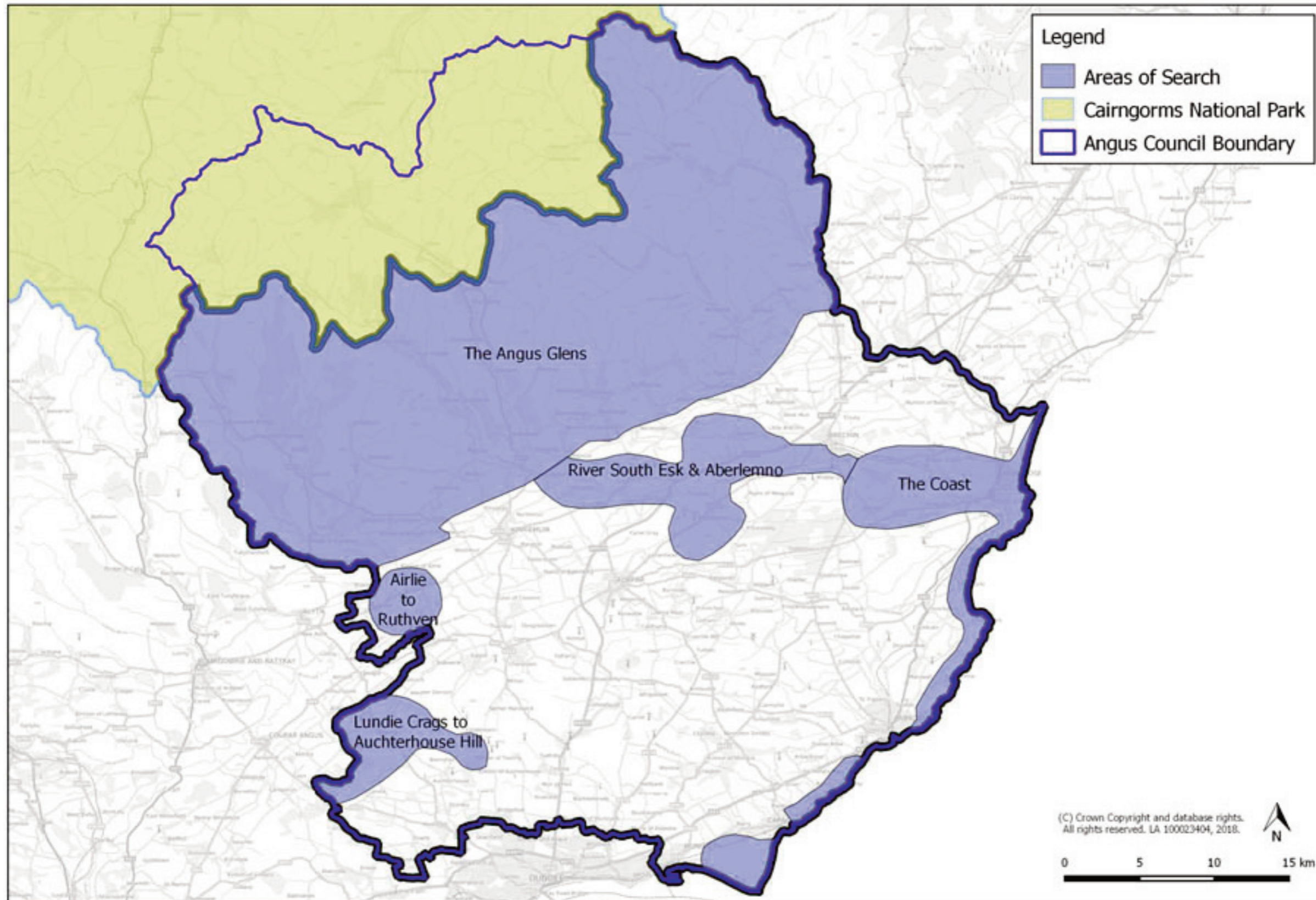
The Angus Coast

Dramatic rugged cliffs with promontory forts combined magnificent sweeping beaches.

Map 1: Landscape Character Types



Map 2: Areas of Search



TAY1A Upper Highland Glens (outwith National Park)

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	Much of this sub-type within Angus is within CNPA with the exception of the upper part of Glen Isla and Glen Lethnot. Dramatic U-shaped Glen Isla, less pronounced in and generally there is often with strong contrast between green pasture of glen floor and the forestry, heath and unimproved grassland on the hillsides. Regular lines of rugged crags above the Glen Isla add drama and contrast with more tamed glen floor adding picturesque qualities.	High
Cultural	Primary feature types in this sub-type are prehistoric and post-medieval settlement and cultivation remains, visible as earthworks, the footings of buildings and walls. The 17th Century Forter Castle (Category B Listed Building) is also a prominent focal feature in Glen Isla.	Medium
Natural	Rivers are a strong focal point in the glens often more visible within the northern parts of the glens where land cover becomes semi-natural and remote in character. Often a strong linear network of native woodland along the West Water in Glen Lethnot. There is an overall higher sense of perceived wildness within the sub-type.	High
Enjoyment	The Catevan Trail crosses the centre of the type within Glen Isla and in Glen Lethnot there are Core Paths towards Glen Ogil and Glen Esk. Across the sub-type, paths lead to nearby hilltops and up the glens.	High
Rarity and Typicality	This sub-type (along with types TAY1B & 3) is the iconic 'Angus Glens' or 'Braes of Angus' which is an important part of the identity of Angus as a place. Condition is however variable often with poorly maintained field boundary dykes and native woodland.	Medium/High

Discussion

The sub-type has overall high levels of special qualities. Special qualities are inherently inter-related to its relationship with other types and the National Park. It is proposed that this type be included within the areas of search as part of a larger LLA including TAY 1B, 3 and 5.

TAY1B Mid Highland Glens (outwith National Park)

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>There are differences of character between different glens and between those parts within the National Park and outwith. All however have high scenic qualities, but there are notable differences with varying combinations of glacial landforms; rivers with gorges, rapids and waterfalls; dykes enclosed and unenclosed pasture; birch woodland and heather moorland.</p> <p>Glens Prosen and Esk in particular contain significant areas of native Birch woodland which often form a strong linear pattern as the ground steepens between the glen floor and the heather moorland above. In both glens, their respective rivers gently meander through the flat pasture dominated glen floors. In Glens Lethnot native woodland follows the route of the river creating an attractive organic pattern, emphasising the route of the river and transitioning into heath and occasionally pasture as the landform rises up the sides of the glen. In all glens, there is strong pattern and unity adding special qualities.</p> <p>Glen Isla is broader, with a more rolling valley floor and a less pronounced U shape (within sub-type 1B). In the lower part of the sub-type (Lintrathen and Kilry) it is more inhabited and less wild, but with higher levels of special qualities resulting from the extensive policy woodland and field boundary trees around Airlie Castle and the Den of Airlie. There is also more arable farming. In the upper part of this sub-type (Kirkton of Glenisla and Backwater) the landscape is more characterised by commercial forestry and pasture.</p> <p>More generally, the mosaic of pasture, native woodland and heath combine in views to form patterns and scenic views with strong gestalt properties.</p>	High
Cultural	<p>There is a high concentration of prehistoric and post-medieval settlement and cultivation remains in these areas, visible on the glen floors as earthworks and the footings of buildings, dykes, drainage systems, field systems and differences in vegetation cover. Whilst often subtle, they can contribute significantly to the special qualities of the landscape and act as tangible evidence of the region's societal and historical development. Many areas of prehistoric settlement remains are designated as Scheduled Monuments.</p>	High
Natural	<p>The type is strongly characterised by the consequences of glaciation with pronounced U-shaped valleys with corries above and extensive areas of distinctive hummocky glacial moraine landforms. The glacial landscape is particularly prominent in Glen Clova.</p> <p>As the type cuts through the Highland Foothills, it crosses the Highland Boundary Fault where there are dramatic gorges, waterfalls and rapids along the route of all of the larger Angus rivers. Overall, there are significant areas of native woodland within the sub-type as well as semi-improved pasture and heath.</p>	High
Enjoyment	<p>There are regular parking areas in the larger glens and they are known for scenic drives particularly during summer and autumn for the heather flowering and autumn colour.</p> <p>The Catevan Trail is routed through this sub-type within Gen Isla, where Backwater Reservoir is a popular walking area; Lintrathen Loch is an RSPB reserve with bird hides and Reekie Linn is a popular tourist attraction. There are also some core paths, most notably along the length of Glen Esk. Whilst this sub-type is often the starting point for walks on higher ground, this is more common within the National Park.</p>	Medium/High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>This sub-type (along with types TAY1A & 3) is the iconic 'Angus Glens' or 'Braes of Angus' which is an important part of the identity of Angus as a place. Condition is however variable often with poorly maintained field boundary dykes and native woodland.</p>	Medium/High
Discussion	<p>The sub-type has overall high levels of special qualities, but many of the qualities and the nature of these qualities can vary significantly between different glens. Special qualities are inherently inter-related to its relationship with other types. It is proposed that this type be included within the areas of search as part of a larger LLA including TAY 1A, 3 and 5.</p>	

TAY3 Highland Summits and Plateau (outwith National Park)

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>An extensive elevated plateau and rounded hill tops which has strong unity despite being regularly incised by the Angus Glens. Extensive areas are managed as grouse moor with the distinctive patchwork muirburn mosaic.</p> <p>The rounded heather clad hills of TAY5 are often viewed alongside the birch woods of the Angus Glens and together contribute towards scenic qualities, particularly during autumn.</p> <p>The edges of the type are often fringed by dramatic cliffs and crags where it abuts types TAY1A & 1B particularly within the National Park, but these features are also present outwith the National Park, where the edge of type becomes more strongly defined by abrupt change in gradient from upland plateau towards glens and foothills (TAY5). Overall a highly scenic landscape type.</p>	High
Cultural	<p>The high elevation contains limited evidence of historic human activity within this type but a number of historic paths and drove roads cross the hills connecting communities. These include the Minister's Path between Glen Prosen and Glen Clova and Jock's Road between Glen Clova and Braemar. Scant settlement post-medieval settlement remains, and occasional stone cairns on high ground are testament to the inhospitable nature of this terrain.</p>	Low
Natural	<p>Almost entirely comprised of semi-natural upland heath, grassland and bog. Despite extensive muirburn, it has strong natural characteristics to many observers. The north-western part of the type is within Wild Land Area 16. The other parts of the type also have wildness of moderate or high relative levels. This has however in part been eroded by new and upgraded hill tracks in many parts of the type.</p>	High
Enjoyment	<p>A popular hillwalking landscape, with a number of hilltop destinations and nationally promoted routes. Also increasingly popular for mountain biking and wildlife watching. Much of this landscape is managed for the shooting of grouse and deer.</p>	High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>Rounded heather clad hills are a particularly feature of the eastern Cairngorms and is a character which is often associated with the Braes of Angus (along with the birch woods of the Angus Glens (TAY1a, 1b & 5)).</p> <p>Intensive muirburn in parts of the type can lead to the erosion of peatlands, reduces biodiversity, particularly in the ground flora and also can inhibit scrub and woodland regeneration. Condition is therefore variable.</p>	Medium
Discussion	<p>A landscape type with an overall high level of special qualities. Often experienced in association with the parts of the type within the National Park. From some areas within the type there is also a strong association with types 1A, 1B & 5 from where the majority of recreational visitors are likely to travel from. From outwith the type to the south-east, the type forms the skyline which highlights the dramatic change from lowland to highland landscapes.</p> <p>This landscape type extends outwith the study area to the east, north-east and to the north. Towards the east Perth & Kinross Council have not designated the abutting part of the type as a local landscape area but Aberdeenshire Council have done so to the north. There is a need to assess both the extent to which the special qualities within Aberdeenshire extend into Angus and whether special qualities extend to the Perth & Kinross boundary. A local landscape area contiguous with the National Park boundary to the north-east presents no consistency issues.</p> <p>It is proposed that this type be included within the areas of search as part of a larger LLA including TAY 1A, 1B and 5.</p>	

TAY5 Highland Foothills

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>Strongly characterised by SW-NE valley and ridge landforms, associated with the Highland Boundary Fault (HBF) which generally follows this type. This has created a number of hidden valleys at right angle to the Glens and with highly scenic ridge top minor roads between glens.</p> <p>Often pasture with a strong pattern of enclosure by dykes which creates scenic landscape topology where lines in the landscape are distorted by landform and emphasise the often pronounced undulating landform.</p> <p>National grid electricity pylons follow some of these hidden valleys through the entire SW-NE length of this type detracting from their scenic qualities locally.</p>	Medium
Cultural	<p>The hill forts at the White and Brown Caterthuns, occupied in the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Pictish/Early Medieval periods, are highly visible in the wider landscape and provide views over landscapes peppered with the visible remains of contemporary, and later, settlement and cultivation remains. Both hillforts are designated as Scheduled Monuments.</p>	High
Natural	<p>This type is strongly associated with the HBF where the descending of the Midland Valley of Scotland and subsequent planes of over thrust created complex geology with the scenic landforms referred to above. The fault has also created dramatic gorges, rapids and waterfalls where type TAY1B passes through (outwith) this type.</p> <p>Much of this type is pasture, a proportion of which is semi-improved grassland. Fragments of native, birch dominated woodland persist despite heavy grazing pressure and together could form a green network connecting the Angus Glens.</p>	High
Enjoyment	<p>Much of this type is little visited by the public, but The Caterthuns near Edzell are popular tourist and recreational attractions in the care of HES, with associated parking and interpretation.</p>	Medium
Rarity and Typicality	<p>Landscapes associated with the HBF extend across Scotland between Kintyre and Stonehaven. The geology has created a complex and unusual landscape with special qualities.</p> <p>Native woodland, tree lines and dykes are being progressively lost due to lack of active management and therefore condition is typically low to medium.</p>	Medium/High
Discussion	<p>A landscape type with overall medium/ high levels of special qualities in its own right. However, more so than other landscape types its qualities are strengthened by the strong relationship with other types, particularly enabling a fuller appreciation of the features associated with the HBF and the dramatic transition between highland and lowland across Angus.</p> <p>The special qualities of this type closely relate to the HBF (which the type follows) and it would seem necessary that much of the type should be included within an area of search as a whole to create a coherent description of the qualities. This may also include parts of Mid Highland Glens (TAY1B) where features associated with the HBF exist.</p> <p>In addition, there is a need to consider the special qualities which result from the strong association between mountain (TAY3), foothills and strath (TAY10). It is proposed that this type be included within the areas of search as part of a larger LLA including TAY 1A, 1B and 3.</p>	

TAY8 Igneous Hills

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>The dramatic cliffs at Lundie Crag add picturesque qualities towards the eastern edge of Angus, whilst the ruined observatory on Kinpurney Hill forms a scenic landmark.</p> <p>Often pasture with a strong pattern of enclosure by dykes which creates scenic landscape topology where lines in the landscape are distorted by landform and emphasise the often pronounced undulating landform.</p> <p>However, in the central part of this type, masts and wind turbines at Craigowl and Ark Hill detract from scenic qualities.</p>	Low to High
Cultural	<p>The key sites in this area are the hillforts at Kinpurney Hill, Denoon Law (both Scheduled Monuments) and Auchterhouse Hill, thought to have been occupied during the Iron Age and/or Pictish periods. Kinpurney hillfort, the largest in Angus, is topped by a now ruined observatory built in the 18th Century (designated as a Scheduled Monument). It is a prominent feature on the hilltop from both within the Sidlaws and also from Strathmore and The Braes of Angus to the north.</p>	High
Natural	<p>Often arable and improved pasture on lower slopes but with semi-natural pasture and areas of heath on higher ground.</p>	Medium
Enjoyment	<p>The Sidlaws are a popular recreational area for those who live in south Angus and Dundee, with Lundie Crag, Kinpurney Hill, Auchterhouse Hill and Carrot Hill and Balkello community woodland being the most visited areas. There is also an extensive network of paths used locally and by visitors.</p>	High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>Often visible from the northern part of Dundee and in particular from Dundee Law but separated by TAY13 Dipslope Farmland. The Sidlaws are important in framing Strathmore. Dykes are common feature in this type but are often poorly maintained.</p>	Medium
<p>Discussion</p> <p>The eastern part of this type within Angus has a concentration of scenic qualities and highly visible cultural heritage features. These areas are also popular for recreation with a network of paths. Accordingly it is proposed that an area of search includes Lundie Crag; Kinpurney Hill; Auchterhouse Hill and Balkello Hill. This area of search extends into TAY10 around Newtyle. Highlighting the dramatic transition from upland to lowland landscapes.</p> <p>PKC have a local landscape area within this type which abuts the Angus boundary. The area adjacent to this designation within Angus includes Lundie Crag which has high levels of scenic qualities.</p>		

TAY10 Broad Valley Lowland

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>The historic field pattern and field boundary features such as dykes hedges and treelines have often been lost, and fields often amalgamated with the cropping patterns often being the dominant element which creates landscape pattern. Therefore much of the type has low relative scenic qualities but there are some areas which are the exception.</p> <p>The area east of the River Isla between Airlie and the Dean Water has smaller scale complex landform resulting from glacial moraine. This has led to sinuous tree-lined water-courses contrasting with smaller fields with a strong rectilinear pattern of field boundary trees and dykes. South of Airlie, the complex landforms mixed with the strong field pattern create some of the most scenic landscape topology within Angus, where lines in the landscape are distorted by landform.</p> <p>To the east and west of the statutory designed landscape at Glamis are extensive non-designated designed landscapes with a strong rectilinear pattern of hedges and tree lines which contribute</p> <p>Around Careston and west of the Brechin Castle statutory designed landscape there is a strong rectilinear larger scale pattern of woodland strips; field boundary tree lines and road avenues. Between both areas the River South Esk has large sweeping meanders lined with trees and narrow woodland strips which visually connect both designed landscapes. Views across these areas from higher ground to the south towards the Braes of Angus are highly scenic.</p> <p>There is a non-statutory designed landscape at Kinnordy, Kirriemuir. Similarly, the non-statutory designed landscape to the north of Newtyle with its hedges, tree lines and woodland is important to the setting add a strong pattern and special qualities locally.</p>	Low to High
Cultural	<p>There are a number of non-statutory designed landscapes within the type, but those at Ruthven House, Kinnordy, Careston and adjacent to the statutory designation at Brechin Castle contribute most to special qualities of landscape more widely. There are also several standing castles in this area, variously designated as Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings and the medieval Restenneth Priory (a Scheduled Monument).</p>	Low to High
Natural	<p>The river corridors associated with rivers Isla, South Esk and North Esk and to lesser extent the Dean Water form blue/ green networks which are often focal features in views. Locally hedges, trees and woodland add qualities, but much of the landscape is intensive arable.</p>	Low to Medium
Enjoyment	<p>Over much of this large type, recreational use of paths and tracks is typically restricted to local usage, with few visitors from outwith the area. However locally around Forfar, Kirriemuir and Brechin levels of public usage are relatively high, with well-developed path networks. Glamis Castle and its grounds is a major national attraction. The rivers are popular for salmon and trout angling, particularly South Esk and North Esk. Both these rivers also have some use for kayakers and conaeists.</p>	Low to High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>An extensive landscape type with some similarities to TAY13 Dipslope Farmland which is also intensive arable. Landscapes of these types with higher levels of special qualities are uncommon. Field boundary features including hedges, trees and dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.</p> <p>The areas south of Brechin at Burghill; south of Forfar at Balmashanner Hill and to the north of Kirriemuir at Kinnordy, provide a setting for each town.</p> <p>The complex fluvioglacial landforms south of Airlie create an unusual landscape.</p>	Low to High
Discussion	<p>A landscape type with highly variable levels of special qualities. It is proposed that selected areas of this large type be included within the areas of search. Often different special qualities combine to create areas with particularly high special qualities.</p> <p>These include a corridor along the River South Esk, with its large sweeping meanders lined with trees and narrow woodland strips which visually connect the designed landscapes at Careston and Brechin Castle. This area of search abuts other areas within landscape types 1B, 5, 12 & 15.</p> <p>The area east of the River Isla between Airlie and the Dean Water characterised by small-scale complex fluvioglacial landforms also contains the non-statutory designed landscape associated with Ruthven House, which together create an unusual landscape with special qualities.</p> <p>The non-statutory designed landscape north of Newtyle is included within the same area of search within the TAY 8 landscape type. Lastly, the area east of the River Isla between Airlie and the Dean Water, including the non-statutory designed landscape at Ruthven is also included.</p>	

TAY12(i) Low Moorland Hills (Forfar Hills)

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>A mixture of arable on the lower ground and pasture with a strong pattern of enclosure by dykes which creates scenic landscape topology where lines in the landscape are distorted by landform and emphasise the often pronounced undulating landform particularly around Aberlemno. There is a repeating pattern of hilltop woodland across the type which adds a richness due to their prominence in views.</p> <p>Scenic minor road between Aberlemno and Finavon with complex landforms, steep twisting road, woodlands, hillfort and views across Strathmore. Dramatic cliffs add interest to the south of Pitscandly and Turin Hills.</p> <p>Balmashanner Hill is an important viewpoint over-looking Forfar and Strathmore towards the Angus Glens.</p> <p>Electricity pylons in the northern part and wind turbines south of Forfar reduce special qualities.</p>	Medium to High
Cultural	<p>The area around Aberlemno is a rich historic landscape with Pictish carved standing stones by the roadside and at the church. There are Iron Age / Pictish period hillforts at Hill of Finavon and Turin Hill and a small number of castles with associated landscapes. The Balmashanner war memorial (Category C Listed) is a prominent historic feature in the landscape.</p> <p>There is a small non statutory designed landscape around Lour which locally has a strong pattern of tree lines and hedges.</p>	Medium
Natural	<p>The complex smaller scale landforms around Aberlemno add interest locally. Higher ground in the northern part of the sub-type is typically semi-improved pasture with a mosaic of broadleaved woodland including</p>	Medium
Enjoyment	<p>The area south of Balmashanner Hill is part of the Forfar Path Network and well visited for recreational walking. The standing stones and hillforts are visitor attractions. Enjoyment qualities are therefore locally high.</p>	High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>The northern part is particularly distinctive with strong historic features and a ridge top village. Balmashanner Hill is an important part of the setting of Forfar. Dykes are an important characteristic of this landscape and they are often poorly maintained.</p>	Medium
<p>Discussion</p> <p>A landscape type with variable levels of special qualities, with the most distinctive area with strong cultural heritage qualities being around Aberlemno. Other areas are considered to have insufficient levels of special qualities to merit inclusion.</p> <p>It is proposed that the areas around Aberlemno and Turin Hill be included within the areas of search as part of the area of search associated with the River South Esk within TAY10.</p>		

TAY12(ii) Low Moorland Hills (Montreathmont Moor)

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>The largest part of this sub-type is relatively flat domed landform with large areas of forestry and arable farming. The historic field pattern and field boundary features such as dykes hedges and treelines have often been lost, with fields often amalgamated with the cropping patterns often being the most apparent element which creates landscape pattern. This part has relatively low scenic value.</p> <p>The western part of the sub-type is more elevated and open in character with a character closer to sub-type 12(i)</p>	Low to Medium
Cultural	The area around Aberlemno is a rich historic landscape and whilst most of this is within 12(i), it includes the western part of this sub-type.	Low to High
Natural	The land use is a mixture of arable and plantation forestry, but large parts of the type are relatively flat with poor drainage leading to some small and localised areas of wetlands and semi-natural woodland.	Low
Enjoyment	There are some recreational visitors to Montreathmont Forest for walking and mountain biking. Otherwise, recreational use of paths and tracks within this sub-type is typically restricted to local usage, with few visitors from outwith the area.	Low to Medium
Rarity and Typicality	This is a sub-area of a much larger landscape type. There has been an extensive loss of field boundaries and overall there is poor maintenance of the remaining field boundary trees hedges and dykes.	Low
Discussion	A sub-type with overall lower levels of special qualities, not considered suitable for inclusion within the areas of search. However, the western part is proposed as an area of search relating to 12(i).	

TAY13(i) Dipslope Farmland - Tealing Farmland

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>This sub-area is gently rolling and tilted towards the south. With the exception of the extreme south western part of the type around Fowlis, intervening landform typically prevents views towards the Tay estuary to the south, but to the north the Sidlaw Hills commonly forms a backdrop to views.</p> <p>The historic field pattern and field boundary features such as dykes hedges and treelines have often been lost, but fields have not been amalgamated to the same extent as in other parts of Dipslope Farmland type. The limited field boundaries however mean that the cropping patterns often being the most apparent element which creates landscape pattern.</p> <p>Parts of the type are dominated by electricity pylons, wind turbines with some areas of polytunnels, eroding special qualities.</p>	Low
Cultural	<p>There are non-statutory designed landscapes around the former Baldovan House, Balmuir and the former Strathmartine Hospital on the southern edge of the type. These are however small and located on the edge of the type limiting their contribution towards special qualities overall.</p> <p>Craighill hillfort and broch, likely dating from the Iron Age, occupies a promontory over the Fithie Burn in the east of this sub-area, while at the west end is the broch and fort site of Hurly Hawkin, again thought to date to the Iron Age period possibly with later, medieval, occupation. Both are designated as Scheduled Monuments.</p>	Low-Medium
Natural	<p>The intensive arable farming has led to only a few fragments of semi-natural character within this sub-type, but at the south west of the type there are several wooded dens.</p>	Low
Enjoyment	<p>Recreational use of paths and tracks within this sub-type is typically restricted to local usage, with few visitors from outwith the area.</p>	Low
Rarity and Typicality	<p>This is a sub-area of a much larger landscape type.</p> <p>Unfortunately this is one of the least intact sub-areas of the landscape type with the traditional character elements of a lowland arable landscape having been lost through agricultural intensification.</p>	Low
Discussion	<p>A sub-type with overall low levels of special qualities, not considered suitable for inclusion within the areas of search.</p>	

TAY13(ii) Dipslope Farmland – Crombie/Monikie Farmland

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>The extensive typically rectilinear woodland blocks associated with designed landscape of the former Panmure House and to a lesser extent Crombie Country Park and other commercial forestry provides a strong landscape pattern. Mortared stone walls line both sides of the B9128 as it passes through the designed landscape at Panmure. Field tree lines and hedges particularly around Mains of Panmure further add scenic value locally.</p> <p>Elsewhere within the sub-type the historic field pattern and field boundary features such as dykes, hedges and treelines have often been lost, with fields often amalgamated, with the cropping patterns often being the most apparent element which creates landscape pattern.</p>	Medium
Cultural	<p>The extensive designed landscape around the former Panbride House substantially adds to the special qualities of this sub-type. Whilst the house is no longer present, the policy woodland, parkland trees, dykes, Panmure Memorial, gatehouses and entrance features remain an important in adding special qualities.</p> <p>The remains of a hillfort and broch at Laws Hill, Monifeith, thought to date to the Iron Age and designated as a Scheduled Monument, is located on a low summit in the south west of this sub-area, one of three such sites in Angus.</p>	Medium
Natural	<p>Much of the woodland and forest area is of Long-established origin giving intrinsic biodiversity value within the soils and ground flora irrespective of tree cover composition. Guildy, Corrieara, Boath and Pitlivia Dens twist their way through the central part of the sub-type within the designed landscape adding to the richness of the landscape experience.</p>	Medium
Enjoyment	<p>The country parks at Monikie and Crombie are busy recreational attractions and there is a path network around Carnoustie. Away from these attractions, recreational use of paths and tracks within this sub-type is typically restricted to local usage, with few visitors from outwith the area.</p>	Medium/High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>This landscape sub-type is unusual in that it is an intensive arable landscape with strong larger scale structure provided by rectilinear woodland. Field boundary features including hedges, trees and dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.</p>	Low
Discussion	<p>A sub-type with overall medium levels of special qualities, higher than other TAY13 sub-types it is considered to have insufficient levels of special qualities to merit inclusion.</p>	

TAY13(iii) Dipslope Farmland – Redford Farmland

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>The slightly raised elevation of most of this sub-area relative to the Strathmore and the coast, together with its open character, allows for frequent panoramic views towards the coast and the Braes of Angus.</p> <p>The historic field pattern and field boundary features such as dykes hedges and treelines have often been lost, with fields often amalgamated with the cropping patterns often being the most apparent element which creates landscape pattern. This can sometimes create interesting topology where lines in the landscape emphasise the undulations in topography.</p> <p>Scenic qualities principally relates to views to other landscape types rather than intrinsic scenic qualities.</p>	Low
Cultural	<p>With the exception of the statutory designed landscape at The Guynd, there are few cultural features which contribute to the landscape quality of the sub-area. The designed landscape appears as wooded area within an overall open landscape. The Guynd House does not form a focal feature within the wider landscape. The Camyllie Quarries, which previously produced roofing slate and paving slabs, is disused and partially colonised by woodland and scrub and also provides some visual interest in the landscape.</p>	Low/ Medium
Natural	<p>The intensive arable farming has led to only a few fragments of semi-natural character within this sub-type.</p>	Low
Enjoyment	<p>Recreational use of paths and tracks within this sub-type is typically restricted to local usage, with few visitors from outwith the area.</p>	Low
Rarity and Typicality	<p>Unfortunately this is one of the least intact sub-areas of the landscape type with the traditional character elements of a lowland arable landscape having been lost through agricultural intensification.</p> <p>Where they persist, field boundary features including hedges, trees and dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.</p>	Low
<p>Discussion A sub-type with overall low levels of special qualities, not considered suitable for inclusion within the areas of search.</p>		

TAY13(iv) Dipslope Farmland – Letham, Lunan Water & Arbroath Valleys

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	Over much of this sub-type, historic field pattern and field boundary features such as dykes hedges and treelines have often been lost, with fields often amalgamated with the cropping patterns often being the most apparent element which creates landscape pattern. The landscape is often smaller in scale than elsewhere within the type and where designed landscapes exist there are often tree lines, woodlands and sometimes mortared boundary walls, typically leading to higher scenic qualities locally.	Medium
Cultural	Statutory designed landscapes at Guthrie and Pitmuies. In addition there are non-statutory designed landscape at Idvies, Gardyne, Middleton, Douglasmuir, Letham Grange and Anniston. Kelly Castle, a 15th Century Category B Listed castle, stands on the shoulder of a wooded valley at the south end of the Elliot Water.	Medium
Natural	Water courses, most notably the Lunan Water together with associated semi-natural vegetation and the route of disused railway.	Low
Enjoyment	Recreational use of paths and tracks within this sub-type is typically restricted to local usage, with few visitors from outwith the area, but are well used around Letham and Friockheim.	Low to Medium
Rarity and Typicality	Whilst this is a sub-area of a much larger landscape type, it is notably different in character, with river valleys and regular small designed landscapes. Field boundary features including hedges, trees and dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.	Medium
<p>Discussion A sub-type with medium levels of special qualities. Whilst it not proposed that this sub-type overall be included within the areas of search the eastern edge of the sub-type adjacent to Lunan Bay has been included within the broad coastal area of search.</p>		

TAY13(v) Dipslope Farmland – Ethie Farmland

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>A sub-type often with scenic views towards other landscape types, but with lower levels of scenic qualities due to relatively featureless open arable landscape. The southern and eastern parts of this sub-type have a smaller scale rectilinear field pattern defined by drystone dykes; and woodland and tree lines around the designed landscapes add some visual interest typically missing in other parts of the sub-type.</p> <p>Areas of poly-tunnels at Kinblethmont and Seaton locally erode special qualities.</p>	Low to Medium
Cultural	<p>Non-statutory designed landscapes at Park Hill, Kinblethmont, West Newton and Ethie Castle.</p> <p>In the southern part of this sub-area, a Bronze Age cairn (Scheduled Monument) stands on the summit of Dickmount Law, within a small clump of trees. The view from the summit is one reputedly one of the most extensive in this part of area.</p>	Low-Medium
Natural	<p>The West Woods of Ethie is large long-established woodland within the centre of the sub-type and along with smaller woodland associated with designed landscapes adds some natural heritage interest.</p>	Low to Medium
Enjoyment	<p>The West Wood of Ethie is well used locally and contains core paths which link more widely. The type often a route to access the coast with some links to the coastal path starting within the sub-type.</p>	Medium
Rarity and Typicality	<p>Field boundary features including hedges, trees and dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.</p>	Low
Discussion	<p>A sub-type with low to medium levels of special qualities. Whilst it is not proposed that this sub-type be included within the area of search the part closest to the coast has been included within the broad coastal area of search.</p>	

TAY13(vi) Dipslope Farmland – Rossie Moor

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>The historic field pattern and field boundary features such as dykes hedges and treelines have often been lost, with fields often amalgamated with the cropping patterns often being the most apparent element which creates landscape pattern. There is however there are some areas, detailed below, where landform, woodland, tree lines and semi-natural vegetation combine to enhance special qualities.</p> <p>There are however widespread scenic views in most directions due the elevated domed landform. There are however to other landscape types, most notably over Montrose Basin to the north and seaward from the eastern part of the sub-type.</p>	Low to Medium
Cultural	<p>There are small statutory designed landscapes at Craig House and Dunninald Castle as well as non-statutory designed landscapes at Usan House and Rossie Castle. With their woodland and tree lines they locally enhance special qualities. In the north of this sub-area are the remains of a burial mound (a Scheduled Monument) probably dating to the Bronze Age which occupies the summit of Maryton Law. Now enclosed by trees, but formerly with extensive views across the area.</p>	Medium
Natural	<p>The steep scarp slope which forms the northern edge of this sub-type provides a striking landform change to the relatively flat low-lying Lowland Basin type to the north. Woodland on the northern scarp slope and around Rossie School together with semi-natural landcover on parts of Rossie Moor enhances special qualities.</p>	Medium
Enjoyment	<p>Core paths around Rossie Moor link minor roads, but are likely to mostly be used by nearby residents rather than as a recreational destination.</p>	Medium
Rarity and Typicality	<p>This is a sub-area of a much larger landscape type. It is however one of the more distinctive sub-types, with a stronger sense of place. Field boundary features including hedges, trees and dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.</p>	Medium
Discussion	<p>A sub-type with overall medium levels of special qualities. It is proposed that the eastern and northern edges be included within the areas of search on the coast and Montrose Basin respectively.</p>	

TAY14a Coast with Sand

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>Dramatic sandy bays at Montrose, Lunan Bay, Arbroath, Carnoustie and Monifieth. The urban frontages with coastal defences are typically less scenic. Barry Buddon contains scenic dune landforms.</p> <p>The abrupt change in character between 14a and 14b particularly at Lunan Bay add drama and scenic qualities. The ever changing interactions of the sea with the beaches, creates strong patterns on the inter-tidal areas and rhythmic lines of waves with scenic 'white horses'. These patterns are often emphasised by light and reflections.</p>	Medium to High
Cultural	<p>The medieval Red Castle, a Scheduled Monument, is a focal feature at the mouth of the Lunan Water at Lunan Bay as well as being an important viewpoint. On the fringe between TAY14a and TAY 14b, at the north end of Lunan Bay is a promontory fort, designated as a Scheduled Monument, thought to have been occupied in the Iron Age.</p> <p>In the furthest north area of TAY14a, the remains of Montrose airfield are an important cultural and landscape feature on the coastal plain. The airfield is the oldest military airfield in Scotland. Parts of the runways, aprons and other associated features (including pillboxes) can still be seen.</p> <p>Further military remains are to be found in the southernmost part of TAY14a at Barry Buddon links, a military training area in active use since the 19th Century. Practice trenches and defensive features are visible. There are also two 19th Century lighthouses, the High and Low lighthouses. Prominent features in the landscape both are Category B Listed and built by the Stevenson Engineers.</p>	Medium
Natural	<p>Strong sense of nature with the twice daily tidal movement and dynamic ever-changing beaches and dunes. There is a strip of semi-natural habitat along the coastline, which combines with a similar feature within 14b to form a continuous green corridor along the Angus coast.</p> <p>Barry Links is an extensive triangular foreland with extensive dune systems and associated habitats designated as SSSI. The site contains impressive parabolic dunes, unique in the UK.</p>	High
Enjoyment	<p>The Angus Coastal Path is within this sub-type between Carnoustie and Arbroath. The beaches at Montrose, Lunan Bay, Arbroath, Carnoustie and Monifieth are popular both for local recreation and for tourism. There are links golf courses beside each town and Carnoustie in particular is of international importance. Overall, this sub-type is a particularly important recreational area within Angus.</p>	High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>By area, this sub-type covers a small part Angus, but is important to the overall identity of Angus, with 4 of the 7 Angus towns within this sub-type and Lunan Bay having won awards in the past. Field boundary features including hedges, trees and dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.</p>	Medium/High
Discussion	<p>A landscape sub-type with overall high levels of special qualities. The urban frontages are often less scenic than other parts of the sub-type, but typically have much greater levels of public use. It is proposed that this type be included within the areas of search potentially excluding urban frontages.</p>	

TAY14b Coast with Cliffs

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>Highly scenic with dramatic cliffs, panoramic views along the coastline with stacks arches, shingle beaches, extensive inter-tidal rock slabs and a gloop (collapsed cave). Fields close to the cliffs are often small in size often with a strong enclosure pattern of dykes, which significantly add to unity and the rugged qualities. The ever changing interactions of the sea with this rugged coastline, together with changes in light add interest.</p> <p>The abrupt change in character between 14a and 14b particularly at Lunan Bay add drama and scenic qualities. The cliffs of this sub-type form the setting to Ethiehaven, Auchmithie and Arbroath (outwith the sub-type).</p> <p>Between Arbroath and Carlingheugh Bay there are extensive areas of poly-tunnels, which can detract from scenic qualities in some views.</p>	High
Cultural	<p>There are 6 highly visible promontory forts between Arbroath and southern end of Lunan Bay with often pronounced defensive ditches and embankments. All are designated as Scheduled Monuments, and are thought to have been occupied during the Iron Age – some with later reuse as strategic defensive positions during World War II.</p> <p>Auchmithie Conservation Area is located on the edge of the cliffs and a key feature of interest along this coast. The stone for Arbroath Abbey was quarried from Seaton Cliffs.</p> <p>At Boddin Point, north of Lunan Bay, are lime kilns dating from the 18th Century which are Category B Listed. These stone-built structures occupy a low promontory and are a prominent landmark on this stretch of coastline. Another promontory fort can also be found at Boddin, west of the kilns, traditionally said to be the first castle of Dunninald. It is situated on a precipitous promontory, isolated by a ditch crossed by a causeway. Evidence from this site indicates medieval occupation, though it is possible the site was occupied prior to this.</p> <p>In the northernmost area of TAY14b, the Category B Listed Scurdie Ness lighthouse, built in the 19th Century by D & T Stevenson Engineers, is a prominent coastal landmark.</p> <p>The Category A Listed Bell Rock lighthouse, the UK's oldest functioning lighthouse, is within Angus and located 11 miles from Arbroath. It is an important part of the cultural identity of Arbroath and is intrinsically linked with the Category A Listed Signal Tower, itself a prominent landmark on the Arbroath coastline.</p>	High
Natural	<p>There is strong sense of nature, with the combination of the rugged cliffs and the sea. On SNH maps, this type has high relative wildness in relation to ruggedness. Wildness is heightened by a high sense of exposure and vulnerability. There is also a strip of semi-natural vegetation between the agricultural fields and the coast, much of which is SSSI, which combines with a similar feature within 14a to form a continuous green corridor along the Angus coast.</p>	High
Enjoyment	<p>The promoted Angus Coastal Path includes the cliff top path between Arbroath and Auchmithie. The section north of Arbroath is particularly busy. The route continues northwards to Lunan Bay but follows a combination of farm tracks and another cliff top path at Redhead and Ethiehaven. There is also a well-used path from Ferryden to Scurdie Ness and beyond to Mains of Usan. Overall, this sub-type is an important recreational area within Angus.</p>	High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>By area, this sub-type covers a small part Angus, but is important to the overall identity of Angus. Field boundary features particularly dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.</p>	Medium/High
<p>Discussion A landscape sub-type with overall high levels of special qualities and therefore it is proposed that it be included within the areas of search. This will include inter-tidal rocks along the coastline and at Bell Rock. The sub-type has a strong inter-relationship with sub-type TAY 14b where they abut particularly north and south of Lunan Bay.</p>		

TAY15 Lowland Basin

Criteria	Assessment	Rating
Scenic	<p>The western part of the type is strongly characterised by the extensive network of woodland, parkland and avenue associated with the Kinnaird designed landscape. This provides richness to the landscape with high scenic qualities and with designed elements such as field boundary tree lines and avenues extending beyond the designated area.</p> <p>Field and roadside tree lines and hedges west of the Basin create a strong land cover pattern. The eastern part of the type is dominated by the dramatic tidal Basin. There is a strong contrast in character within the landscape type. Ribbon development along parts of the northern and southern shores of the Basin erodes special qualities locally.</p> <p>Scenic qualities are increased by the strong relationship of this type with adjacent landscapes. To both the north and south abrupt escarpments mark the change from lowland Basin to Dipslope Farmland types. The higher ground not only frames views of the Basin but commonly provides opportunities for elevated views across it, which makes the landscape pattern more prominent further increasing scenic properties. Montrose is located within the Coast with Sand landscape type (TAY14a) which demarcates the eastern edge of the Basin. The skyline of Montrose is an important feature strongly associated with this landscape type. Similarly, views across Kinnaird from the higher ground to the south at Wuddy Law and Rossie Moor are of high scenic value.</p>	High
Cultural	<p>The western part of the type is characterised by the Kinnaird Historic Garden & Designed Landscape with its extensive woodlands, parkland and avenue. The House of Dun, located on the northern edge of the landscape type as the ground rises forms a strong focal point in views, particularly from the western part of the Basin. The associated statutory designed landscape further adds a strong, but localised historic context to the landscape.</p> <p>The church spire within the town is commonly a focal point in views within the eastern part of the Lowland Basin landscape type. The scenic view from Old Montrose pier across the Basin towards the church spire has regularly featured in paintings by artists.</p> <p>The South Esk and Ferryden railway viaducts, both Category B Listed and built in the 19th Century, are prominent features on the south side of Montrose, visible from the across the Montrose Basin. Along with the harbour, they serve to illustrate the industrial growth and development of Angus in the 18th and 19th Century.</p>	High
Natural	<p>Montrose Basin has a number of internationally important biodiversity designations particularly for birds. Whilst there are no statutory Wild Land Areas within the landscape type, the Montrose Basin has high relative wildness within the SNH survey of wildness, particularly in relation to "naturalness". The dramatic tidal basin is formed by a basin bar, upon which Montrose is located. There is a strong sequential link between river, basin and sea. The twice daily tidal movement together with the spectacle of the large geese populations over winter further create a strong sense of naturalness. Overall, there is a strong perception of naturalness in the eastern part of the type.</p> <p>The large numbers of geese which use the Basin is an important part of the culture of Montrose.</p>	High
Enjoyment	<p>Montrose Basin is popular for wildlife watching with a visitor centre on the southern shore, hides and paths close to the shore. The core path at The Lurgies to the west of the Basin is scenic with a small car park at Old Montrose Pier. Paths in the area and on slightly higher ground to both the north and south have particularly scenic views across the Basin. The historic Caledonian Railway runs through the type between Brechin and Dun, with the landscape through which it passes an important element of the experience.</p>	High
Rarity and Typicality	<p>Within Angus, there is only one area of this landscape type of limited size between Brechin and Montrose. There is only one other within Tayside (at Loch Leven). .</p> <p>Field boundary features including hedges, trees and dykes are often poorly maintained and in poor condition.</p>	Medium/ High
Discussion	<p>There is a distinct contrast between the eastern and western parts of this type. Both have special qualities which are often higher than other parts of Angus. There is a strong relationship with the higher ground to the north and south which significantly increases the appreciation of scenic qualities. Accordingly, it is proposed that this landscape type be included within the area of search.</p>	

Appendix 4: Statement of Participation

Approach to Consultation

The Methodology as set out in appendix 2 includes public engagement after the areas of search have been identified. The period for public engagement was between 12 October and 3 November 2018. Public engagement was carried via a webpage created through the SocialPinpoint engagement platform. The webpage provided background to the study; included a project timeline with the Areas of Search Report available for download. Feedback was encouraged via an interactive map which showed the proposed areas of search. The map enabled structured feedback by using a pop-up questionnaire for each area of search as well as a "my special landscape" option to allow respondents to drop a pin to identify other parts of Angus special to them. Extracts from the webpage and interactive map and the response forms are below:



Local Landscape Areas in Angus

Local Landscape Areas will protect and celebrate those landscapes within Angus which are special

The Angus Glens

Wild upland plateau incised by glaciated glens, with moorland and birch woods.

The Highland Boundary Fault creates an abrupt change from upland to lowland with gorges and waterfalls.

The Angus Glens

Q1. Do you think that this landscape should be an area of search? ^(required)

- Yes No

Q2 This Landscape has strong scenic qualities ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q3 This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q4 This landscape has a strong historic character ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q5 This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q6 This landscape has important natural features and habitats ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q7 This landscape feels wild or remote ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q8 This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q9 I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q10 This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns

^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Q12 This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland ^(required)

- Agree Strongly
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Disagree Strongly
 Don't Know

Do you have any comments on the special qualities of the landscape?

Please feel free to upload a photograph relating to your response.



SELECT

Supports png, jpg/jpeg and gif

Can you please provide the first part of your postcode eg. DD8 ^(required)

Do you ^(required)

- Live in Angus
 Work in Angus
 Visit Angus
 Own or manage land in Angus

Email ^(required)

I agree to the [terms and conditions](#)

Submit

The public engagement exercise was promoted by:

● **Direct Mailing:**

All those on the Development Plan Mailing List were notified directly of the public engagement exercise by e-mail.

● **Angus Council Website:**

The public engagement exercise was advertised on the Council's "have your say" webpage.

● **Social Media:**

Invitation to participate in the public engagement was promoted by the Council's various social media channels. This was carried multiple times during the engagement period.

.....
Social Media Reach

Twitter

Tweeted by @LandscapeAngus (360 followers), @AngusPlan (45 followers), @AngusCouncil (14k followers), @SouthEskCatchment (480 followers) and @SNHnortheast (1k followers). Tweets were re-tweeted multiple times most notably by @RamblersScotland (4.7k followers), @MikeWeir (8.8k followers), @Alljsmith (1k followers), @Mixedbredie (792 followers) and @MarineLifeAngus (735 followers)

Facebook

Posted by @AngusCouncil (12k friends) and was shared 13 times.

Overall, it is considered that there was a high level of success at raising awareness of the project within Angus and particularly among those who may have an interest in local landscape areas.

Whilst there has not been public consultation undertaken on the Final Report, the study will inform the preparation of the Angus Local Development Plan 2021. The Local Landscape Areas will be designated through the Angus LDP 2021 and will inform the policy approach for the protection and enhancement of the diverse and quality landscape in Angus; and be a material consideration in the assessment planning applications where relevant.

The Angus Development Plan Scheme 2018 indicates that the Proposed Angus LDP 2021 is due to be published in late spring 2020 and will be subject to a period for representation.

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The Angus Development Plan Scheme 2018 indicates that the Proposed Angus LDP 2021 is due to be published in late spring 2020 and will be subject to a period for representation.

Results of Public Engagement

A total of 38 responses were received through the public engagement exercise. Of these, 35 response forms related to the Areas of Search. Whilst all five Areas of Search received responses, the majority related to The Coast and The Angus Glens.

Area of Search	Responses
The Angus Glens	14
River South Esk & Aberlemno	3
Ruthven to Airlie	1
Lundie Crags to Auchterhouse Hill	2
The Coast	15
All areas of search	35

All 33 responses answered that they considered that the area (relating to their response) should be an Area of Search. The questions were designed to specifically relate to the five special qualities assessment criteria. This enabled an indirect comparison between the criteria and the consultation responses. Whilst the boundaries of the landscape character types do not match the areas of search consulted on, there was generally a good level of correlation between the Council's assessment of special qualities and the answers in the questionnaires. The tables at the end of this appendix summarise the responses by area of search. It is notable that respondents were able to provide opinion almost always, rarely selecting the "don't know" category. The results demonstrate high levels of support for Local Landscape Areas in both The Angus Glens and The Angus Coast areas of search. The number of responses in relation to the other three areas of search was relatively low, but never the less strongly positive in relation to both The River South Esk & Aberlemno and Lundie Crags to Auchterhouse Hill.

Following more detailed assessment and having regard to the limited response it is considered that there are insufficient special qualities to merit a local landscape area designation within the Ruthven to Airlie area of search. For the remaining four areas of search, there were also a number of comments which are also listed within the tables together with an Angus Council response.

There were 5 responses to "my special landscapes" drop pin option and these are also summarised at the end of this appendix, along with an email submission from Woodland Trust Scotland, together with the Angus Council responses.

Following the public participation exercise, it has been decided to proceed to prepare statements of Importance for four Local Landscape Areas at:

- The Angus Glens;
- River South Esk & Aberlemno;
- Lundie Crags to Auchterhouse Hill; and
- The Angus Coast.

The Angus Glens

Criteria	Question	Agree Strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree Strongly	Don't Know
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	14	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	14	0	0	0	0	0
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	6	7	1	0	0	0
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	6	5	2	0	0	1
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	12	2	0	0	0	0
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	8	5	0	0	1	0
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	11	3	0	0	0	0
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	12	2	0	0	0	0
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	7	6	0	9	0	0
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	1	5	5	2	1	0
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	3	9	1	0	0	1

Do You?	Live in Angus	13/14	Work in Angus	7/14	Visit Angus	2/14	Own or Manage Land in Angus	0
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Comments

"Upper reaches of Glenisla and Tarfside are favourites. Real mountains and glens less than an hour from home. Feeling of remoteness is great as well as the fact that you can have your walk to yourself almost all the time. Our children love the area too".

"This landscape is beautiful with wonderful rewilded woodland. It is unfortunate to see raptor persecution prevalent here and I would like to see more protection and action taken here. It is an area that is of high importance to many tourists and visitors for its beauty and wildlife".

"Responding on behalf of River South Esk Catchment Partnership. Q11 we have answered neutral as our new catchment management plan will focus on woodland expansion and NFM measures - these elements once enhanced will contribute to the improvement of the condition of the area".

"Under threat from wind turbines".

"It's a unique part of Britain and I'm proud to call it home".

"Crucial that the iconic horizon of The Angus Hills and Highland Fault line is not broken by wind turbines also the magnificent view from Angus Hill".

"Glens ruined by intensive grouse moor management, a local and national disgrace. Compare natural Scottish highland forest to this ecological desert created to provide habitat for one species, red grouse".

"As a landscape photographer the Angus glens are an area of unspoiled land and this is something that should be preserved now and for future generations".

"Need more control of 4x4 tracks and the use of electric fences".

Angus Council Response

Comments noted. Much of the matters raised are addressed within the Statement of Importance.

The River South Esk & Aberlemno

Criteria	Question	Agree Strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree Strongly	Don't Know
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	3	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	3	0	0	0	0	0
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	2	1	0	0	0	0
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	3	0	0	0	0	1
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	3	0	0	0	0	0
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	0	1	0	2	0	0
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	2	1	0	0	0	0
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	1	1	1	0	0	0
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	1	1	1	0	0	0
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	0	1	2	0	0	0
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	2	0	1	0	0	0

Do You?	Live in Angus	3/3	Work in Angus	2/3	Visit Angus	0	Own or Manage Land in Angus	0
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Comments

"The Landscape is marred in some areas by agricultural waste being dumped in full view. This detracts from the visitor experience".

"I am commenting on behalf of the River South Esk Catchment Partnership. I am interested in how this area of search joins the coastal and angus glens areas of search which would include almost the entire South Esk Catchment. Is it perhaps its setting alongside the others that makes it special."

Angus Council Response

Comments noted

Ruthven to Airlie

Criteria	Question	Agree Strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree Strongly	Don't Know
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	1	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	1	0	0	0	0	0
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	0	0	0	0	0	1
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	0	1	0	0	0	0
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	0	0	1	0	0	0
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	0	0	0	0	0	1
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.		1	0	0	0	0
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	0	1	0	0	0	0
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	0	0	0	0	0	1
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	0	0	0	0	0	1

Do You?	Live in Angus	1/1	Work in Angus	1/1	Visit Angus	0	Own or Manage Land in Angus	0
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Comments

"I enjoy canoeing the river on the western edge of the area".

Angus Council Response

Comment noted

Lundie Crags to Auchterhouse Hill

Criteria	Question	Agree Strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree Strongly	Don't Know
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	1	1	0	0	0	0
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	2	0	0	0	0	0
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	0	1	1	0	0	0
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	0	0	0	0	0	2
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	0	2	0	0	0	0
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	0	2	0	0	0	0
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	1	1	0	0	0	0
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	0	2	0	0	0	0
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	0	1	0	0	0	1
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	0	2	0	0	0	0
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	0	0	0	0	0	2

Do You?	Live in Angus	1/2	Work in Angus	1/2	Visit Angus	1/2	Own or Manage Land in Angus	0
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Comments

"Our local patch. Lundie crags and the Sidlaws are walkable from home and a perfect training ground for the children. Walking, cycling, scrambling and sledging when there is snow. Fishing too, if that's your bag. And we almost always have the walks to ourselves".

Angus Council Response

Comments noted

The Angus Coast

Criteria	Question	Agree Strongly	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree Strongly	Don't Know
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	14	1	0	0	0	0
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	14	1	0	0	0	0
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	10	4	1	0	0	0
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	9	4	1	0	0	0
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	13	2	0	0	0	0
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	9	4	2	0	0	0
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	12	2	1	0	0	0
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	12	3	0	0	0	0
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	12	3	0	0	0	0
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	3	7	1	2	1	1
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	10	5	0	0	0	0

Do You?	Live in Angus	9/15	Work in Angus	7/15	Visit Angus	6/15	Own or Manage Land in Angus	0
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Comments

"the coast has shaped the history of Angus, and is fantastic scenic area, with geological interest and high wildlife habitat importance. It would be even better if we could extend an area of protection to the sea for 1 mile offshore to protect the marine environment and allow fish stocks to re-grow".

"Lunan Bay is our favourite "local" beach. The coastal path is good too although could do with maintenance in parts".

"Just a beautiful place to walk and relax. I got engaged on the beach at Lunan Bay so it is a special place for me".

"Answering on behalf of RSECP - the coastal area that includes the estuary of the River South Esk and Montrose Bay incl. Montrose Basin forms an important link from the rivers source to sea. We would welcome a new level of protection that covers the entire river. We would also welcome the restoration of natural coastal process where ever possible".

"Montrose basin and the coast from St Cyrus to Arbroath is an amazing asset. The Basin is an important wildlife site and is nationally unique. The area around Usan and Craig is a critical backdrop to the basin".

"The extension of the coastal path from Auchmithie to Montrose would allow for greater access to this area of coast line. A path/cycle path would allow this access without spoiling the landscape or making it too busy".

"Area is important to nesting Sea birds during summer months and coastal erosion is the problem".

"Auchmithie is a fabulous part of our heritage and is being allowed to disappear! Especially the harbour".

"Montrose Beach and other Angus Coastal areas are open for all to enjoy. Although very popular with Tourists and Visitors these areas are part of the fabric of local communities appreciated and enjoyed by generations. Even in Winter months these natural areas are enjoyed dally by community residents for daily walks, family visits etc".

"The ongoing environmental disaster at Montrose beach continues apace, with the Council, Councillors, MPA, and port Stakeholders ignoring the recommendations of survey after survey, costing many hundreds of thousands of pounds. This urgently needs addressing, and a good start would be to object to any future dredging licence applied for by the MPA. This is what it used to be like".

"The Coastal areas around Montrose including the Montrose Beach & Montrose Basin Nature reserve are extremely important features that should be taken care of by the Local & National Authorities to protect their condition for both current & future generations. Possibilities for improvement for access to nature reserves and sports and leisure for abled & non abled bodied persons. Walking, Cycling, golfing, Nature observation, watersports including Sailing, Paddle-boarding, fresh water swimming".

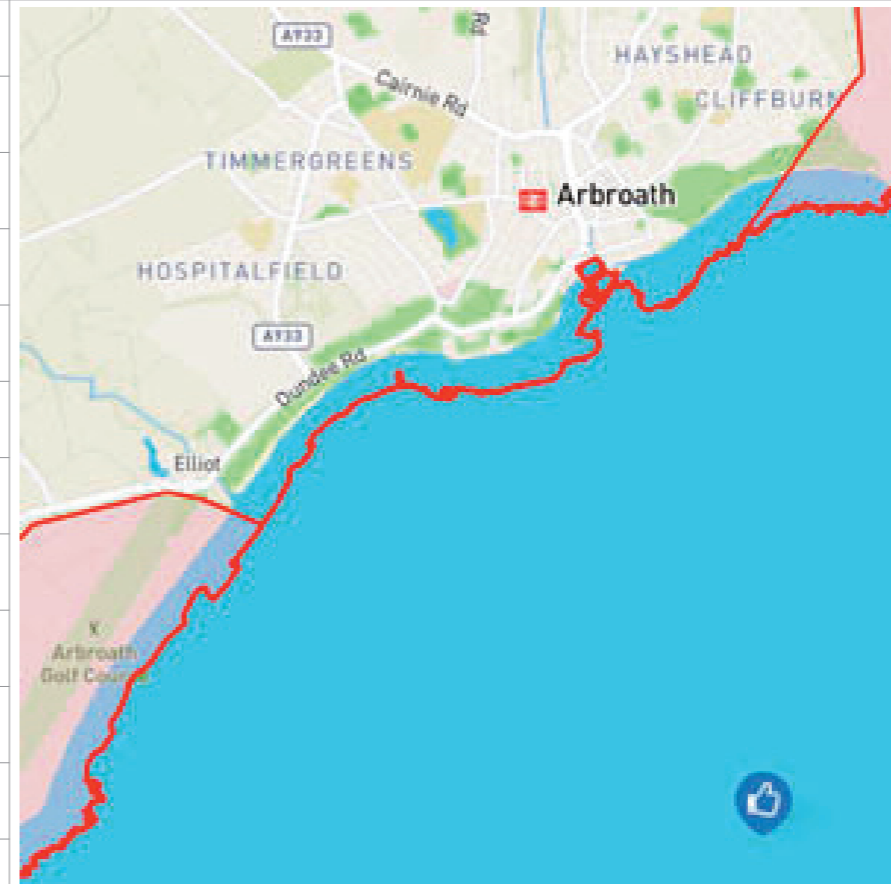
"Agates at Scurdie Ness, Usan"

Angus Council Response

Comments noted. Much of the matters raised are addressed within the Statement of Importance.

My Special Landscape #1: Arbroath

	Question	Response
Scenic	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search? Agree	Neutral
	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	Neutral
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	Disagree
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	Neutral
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	Agree
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	Neutral
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	Agree
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	Neutral
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	Agree Strongly
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	Disagree
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	Disagree



Do You?	Live in Angus	1	Work in Angus	1	Visit Angus	0	Own or Manage Land in Angus	0
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Comments

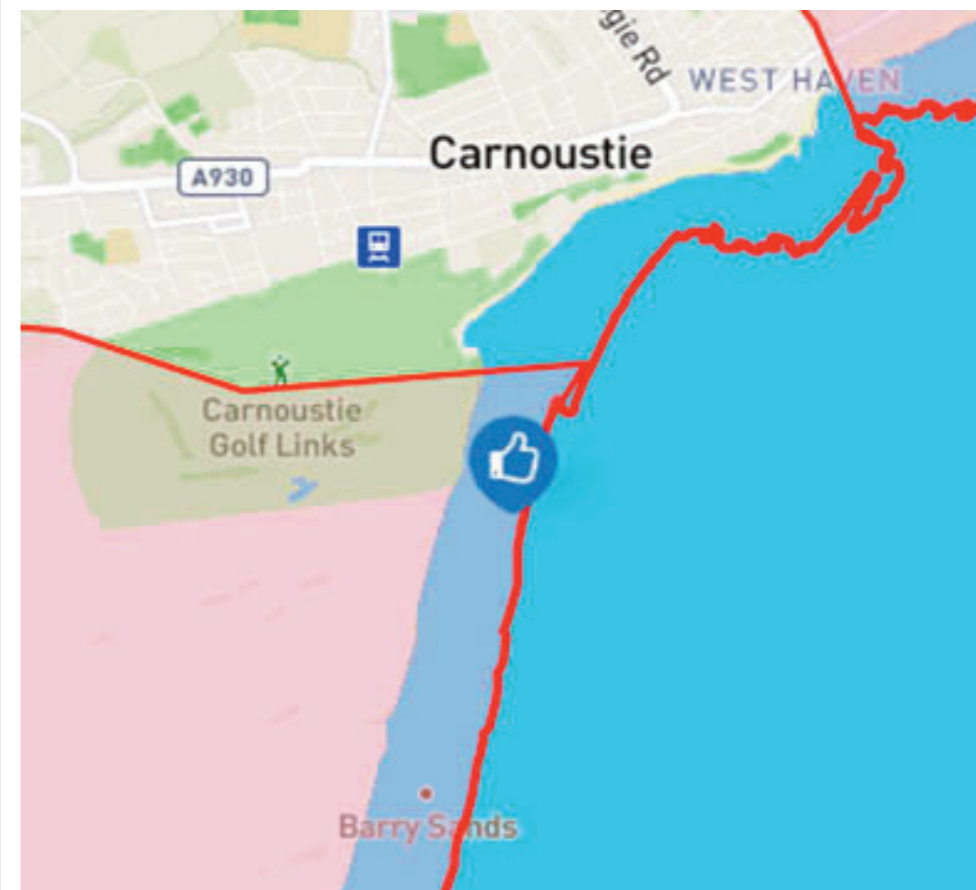
I am not sure I fully understood the first question but answered 'yes' regardless. The landscape that I have highlighted is not one entity, it is different areas near where I live and walk to, from my home in Arbroath. I was also making a general point in my previous comment about the eradication of open and green space in Arbroath, for the sake of urban developments (in their many guises), which is not necessary progress or a good thing in my view. There are so few of these places left remaining that I feel that I can walk from my house and avoid being near busy and dangerous roads. It's so ironic that on one breath, the authorities, and those that claim to know what is best for us, are forever harping on about 'giving up the car and exercise more', but on the same breath are not funding the maintenance and extension of path networks, or preserving the little green space that is left in urban communities. For example, I contacted Angus Council Planning Department many years ago to complain about a grassed area in a cul-de-sac near my house, where I would walk my dog most evenings, that had literally reduced significantly overnight by 50%, as a bordering house had erected a new fence. When the Planning Officer made some internal enquiries, he discovered that the Estates/Property Department of Angus Council, had sold off the land in question to a local resident that wished to extend his private garden, without any consultation or notification to neighbouring properties, or householders nearby like myself. This was a much used grassed area that was lost in a flash!

Angus Council Response

After further assessment, the proposed local landscape area now includes frontages of settlements on the coast. Other points raised are outwith the scope of this project but have been noted.

My Special Landscape #2: Carnoustie Beach

	Question	Response
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	Agree Strongly
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	Agree Strongly
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	Agree Strongly
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	Agree Strongly
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	Agree Strongly
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	Neutral
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	Agree Strongly
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	Agree Strongly
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	Agree Strongly
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	Agree Strongly
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	Agree Strongly



Do You?	Live in Angus	1	Work in Angus	1	Visit Angus	1	Own or Manage Land in Angus	0
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Comments

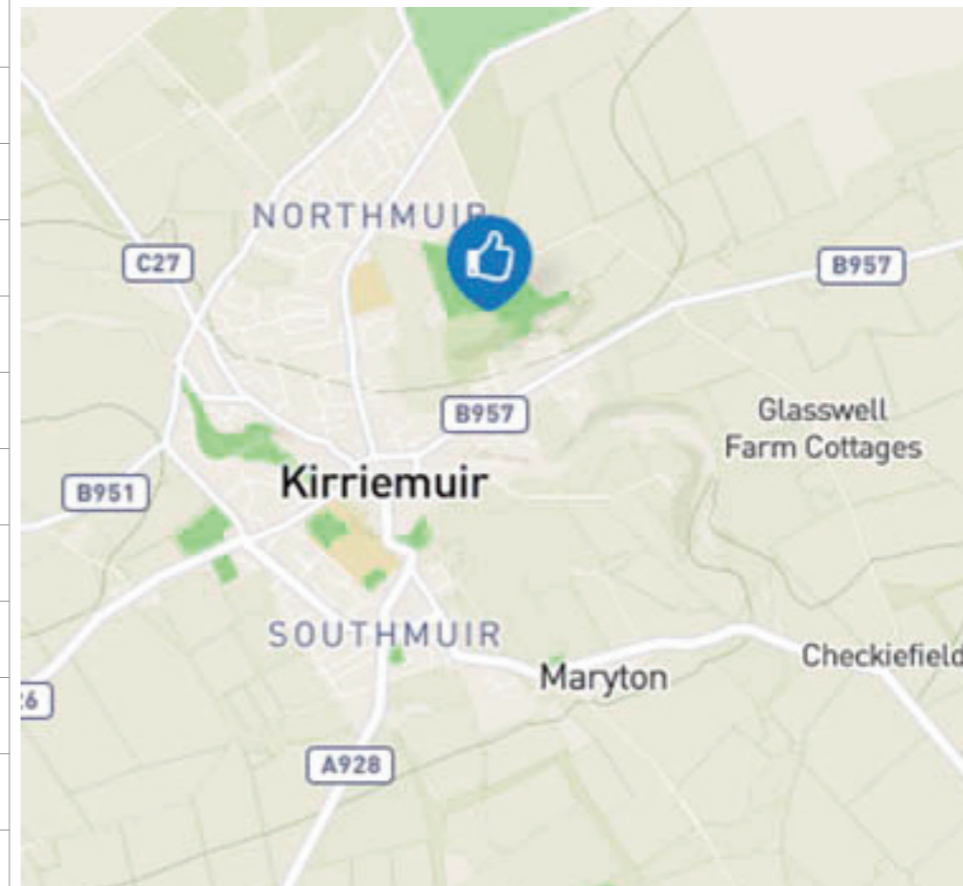
I feel privileged and blessed to have brought my children up in such a safe and warm community and to have had Carnoustie Beach on our doorstep. Carnoustie Beach has been the place of memories. Family picnics, dog walks, the place where I taught my children to ride their bikes, new year dooks, basking in the sun and feeling as if you were on the coast of Capri, romantic wanderings under the moonlight watching the silver of the moon on a still ocean. Yes Carnoustie Beach, best place in the world.

Angus Council Response

After further assessment, the proposed local landscape area now includes frontages of settlements on the coast.

My Special Landscape #3: Hill of Kirriemuir

	Question	Response
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	Agree Strongly
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	Agree Strongly
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	Agree Strongly
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	Agree Strongly
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	Agree Strongly
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	Disagree
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	Agree Strongly
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	Agree Strongly
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	Agree Strongly
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	Agree Strongly
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	Agree Strongly



Do You?	Live in Angus	1	Work in Angus	1	Visit Angus	1	Own or Manage Land in Angus	0
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Comments

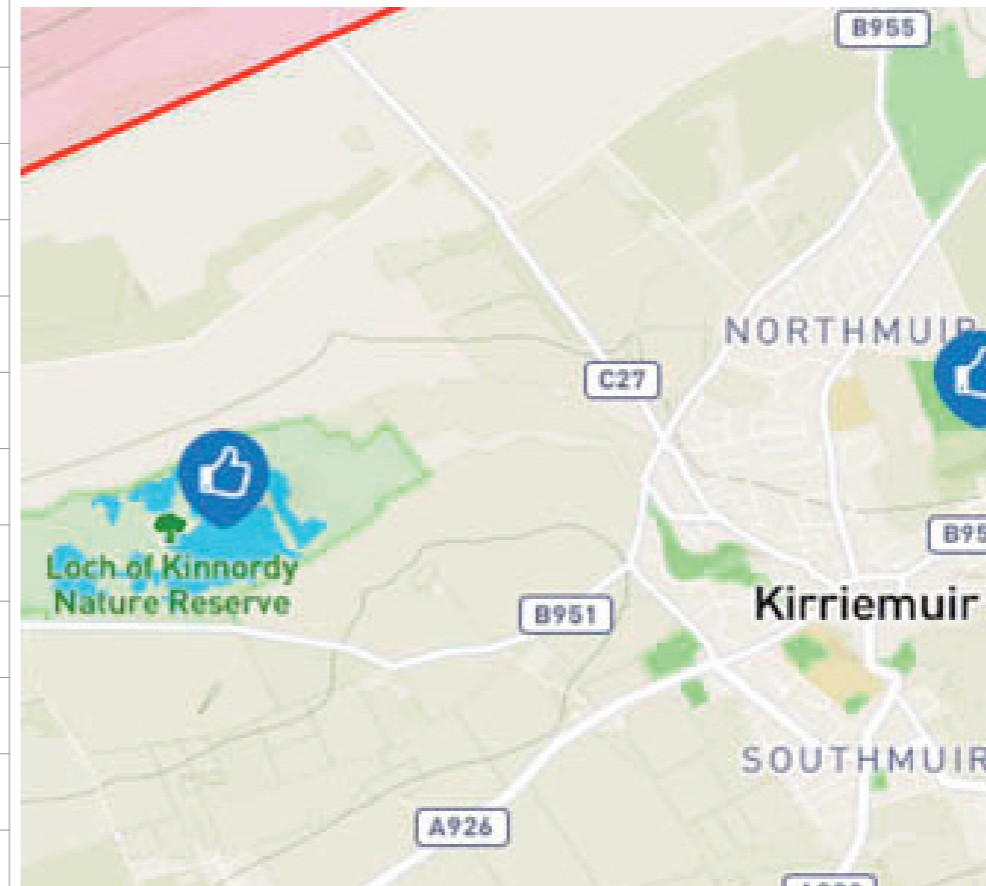
"The 360 degree views offered by Kirrie Hill, with the Sidlaws in the south, the glens in the north, the coast eastwards and Perthshire to the west is my special landscape. The hill is easy to access but, for me, familiarity doesn't lead to contempt: the beauty of the ever-changing scenery never fails to take my breath away. Walking through the historic and peaceful cemetery only adds to the anticipation of opening the gate at the top and letting nature reveal its masterpiece".

Angus Council Response

Kirriemuir Hill and the historic cemetery are special places as you have eloquently described. The importance of views from the hill and cemetery were highlighted in Kirriemuir section of the Angus Settlements Landscape Capacity Study. Much of the qualities relate to views to other landscapes and therefore this together with its limited size meant that it was not considered appropriate for designation.

My Special Landscape #4: Kinnordy Loch

	Question	Response
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	No data
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	No data
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	No data
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	No data
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	No data
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	No data
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	No data
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	No data
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	No data
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	No data
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	No data



Do You?	Live in Angus	No data	Work in Angus	No data	Visit Angus	No data	Own or Manage Land in Angus	No data
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Comments

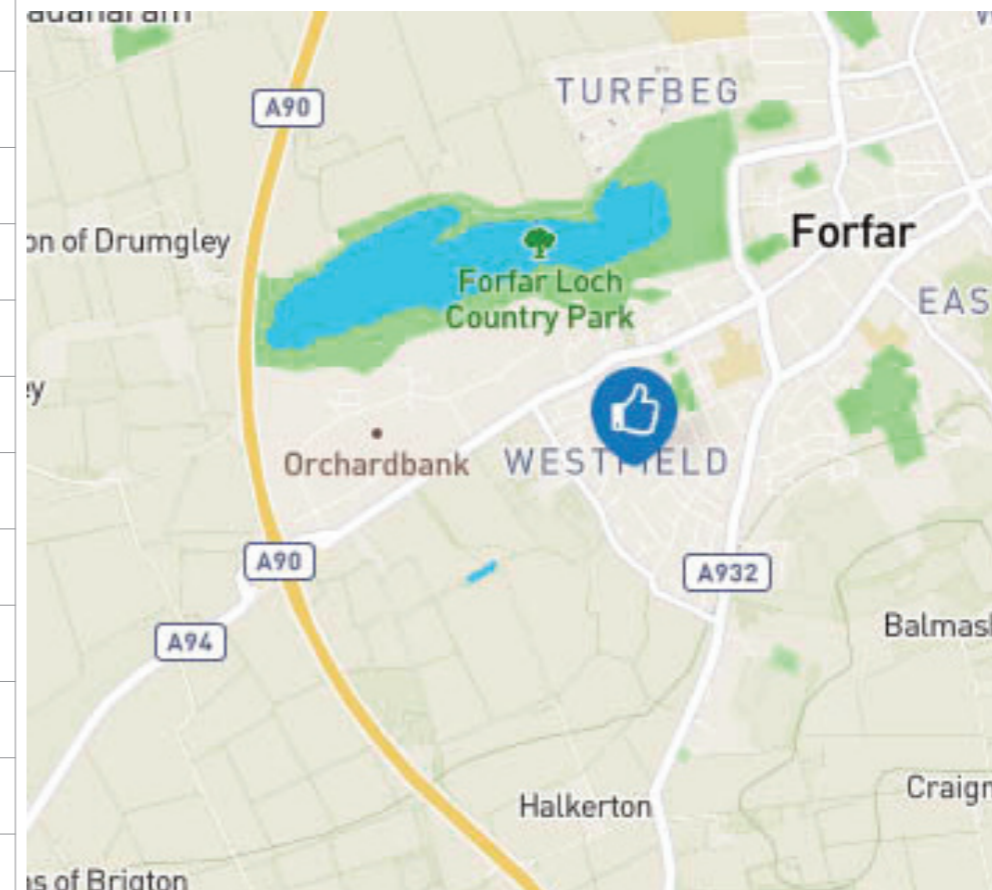
"The 360 degree views offered by Kirrie Hill, with the Sidlaws in the south, the glens in the north, the coast eastwards and Perthshire to the west is my special landscape. The hill is easy to access but, for me, familiarity doesn't lead to contempt: the beauty of the ever-changing scenery never fails to take my breath away. Walking through the historic and peaceful cemetery only adds to the anticipation of opening the gate at the top and letting nature reveal its masterpiece".

Angus Council Response

Kirriemuir Hill and the historic cemetery are special places as you have eloquently described. The importance of views from the hill and cemetery were highlighted in Kirriemuir section of the Angus Settlements Landscape Capacity Study. Much of the qualities relate to views to other landscapes and therefore this together with its limited size meant that it was not considered appropriate for designation.

My Special Landscape #5: Forfar Loch

	Question	Response
	1. Do you think that that this landscape should be an area of search?	No data
Scenic	2. This landscape has strong scenic qualities.	No data
	3. This landscape has important views, viewpoints or landmarks	No data
Cultural	4. This landscape has a strong historic character	No data
	5. This landscape has important cultural or spiritual associations	No data
Natural	6. This landscape has important natural features and habitats.	No data
	7. This landscape feels wild or remote.	No data
Enjoyment	8. This landscape is important for recreation for local people or visitors.	No data
	9. I would visit this landscape even if I do not live near it.	No data
Rarity or Typicality	10. This landscape forms an important part of the setting of villages and towns	No data
	11. This landscape is rare or unique in Angus or Scotland.	No data



Do You?	Live in Angus	No data	Work in Angus	No data	Visit Angus	No data	Own or Manage Land in Angus	No data
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Comments

Forfar Loch and surrounding park.

Angus Council Response

The site is designated as a country park.

Email Response from Woodland Trust Scotland

Woodland Trust Scotland (WTS) welcome the opportunity to give its views on the Angus Local Landscape Areas consultation. We understand that this plan is currently identifying areas of search, and then local landscape areas will be designated within these areas of search.

(Background to WTS not reproduced but available)

WTS is primarily concerned with ancient woodland protection and restoration, as well as opportunities for native woodland creation. Our comments in this consultation will relate to ancient woodland as an important habitat for nature conservation which we feel has been omitted from this discussion. In order to identify areas of ancient woodland we use both the Ancient Woodland

Inventory (AWI), Native Woodland Survey for Scotland (NWSS) and historical OS Six Inch maps available on the National Library of Scotland website:

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=6&lat=57.2056&lon=-2.5489&layers=5&b=1>.

We note that ancient woodland is mentioned in the Glossary within the areas of search document however, it is not mentioned as a feature in the areas of search assessments. Native woodland is mentioned only, but we have also identified ancient woodland present; this will be discussed below.

The definitions of ancient woodland within the Glossary would need amending to reflect the correct ways to refer to this habitat. The statement 'These woodlands are often shown on Roy's Military Map of Scotland from around that date.' is inaccurate because although some of the ancient woodland are indeed shown on the Roy military maps, not all of them are. The correct statement should say: 'These woodlands are often shown on the Ancient Woodland Inventory, on the Native Woodland Survey of Scotland, and also on historical OS maps available at the National Library of Scotland.' According to the interpretation note on the AWI:

'The Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) is a PROVISIONAL guide to the location of Ancient Woodland. It contains three main categories of woodland, all of which are likely to be of value for their biodiversity and cultural value by virtue of their antiquity:

i. Ancient Woodland (1a and 2a) Interpreted as semi-natural woodland from maps of 1750(1a) or 1860 (2a) and continuously wooded to the present day. If planted with non-native species during the 20th century they are referred to as Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS).

ii. Long-established woodlands of plantation origin (LEPO) (1b and 2b) Interpreted as plantation from maps of 1750 (1b1) or 1860 (2b) and continuously wooded since. Many of these sites have developed semi-natural characteristics, especially the oldest ones, which may be as rich

as Ancient Woodland.

iii. Other woodlands on 'Roy' woodland sites (3) Shown as unwooded on the 1st edition maps but as woodland on the Roy maps. Such sites have, at most, had only a short break in continuity of woodland cover and may still retain features of Ancient Woodland.'

This interpretation note is available here: <https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2017-06/C283974.pdf>

The Glossary also makes incorrect reference to ancient woodlands being important because they may still retain features of 'the natural composition of the original Atlantic forests'. Referring to the original woodlands across Scotland as just 'Atlantic' forests is incorrect, and we suggest removing this reference. Atlantic woodlands are typically found on the west coast and some are present to this day. Some of Scotland's original woodlands which covered a large part of the Scottish Highlands were referred to as Caledonian woodlands. Remnants of these woodlands remain to this day, and are referred to as Caledonian Pine Woodlands remnants, but do not comprise all ancient woodland remnants.

We suggest using the above definitions for the woodlands available on the AWI, and in this case there is no need to further define Long established of plantation origin (LEPO) woodland and ancient semi-natural woodlands (ASNW) further in the Glossary section. LEPO woodlands are important because many of these sites have developed semi-natural characteristics, especially the oldest ones, which may be as rich as ancient woodland. LEPO and ASNW are, therefore, defined incorrectly in the Glossary.

WTS would be delighted to meet with staff and councilors at Angus Council to discuss the issues we are raising here further.

Ancient woodland is irreplaceable, and WTS would like to see no further loss of this. Local Landscape Areas provide one opportunity to designate ancient woodland to inform where development can or cannot take place, and where nature conservation efforts should be directed. Development likely to negatively impact ancient woodland should be located away from these areas.

According to the NWSS there are only 681ha of woodland present on ancient woodland sites in Angus. Furthermore, only 5,022ha of native woodland remain in Angus. This is 2.3% of the total land area and is well below the 4% average of native woodland cover across the whole of Scotland. Therefore remaining ancient woodland should be protected and enhanced in Angus. Once it is lost, this habitat cannot be recreated.

The Glens

We agree that this should be an area of search. Woodland present on the AWI should be specifically mentioned in the assessments for the sites to be designated.

Airlie to Ruthven

This area also contains significant area of woodland identified as ASNW and LEPO on the AWI and WTS would like to see these sites designated. The important ASNW present here should be mentioned in the assessments of this area. Currently ancient woodland is not mentioned at all in relation to the Airlie to Ruthven area of search.

The River South Esk and Aberlemno

Here also we identify woodland present on the AWI and identified as LEPO. LEPO here also overlaps with the NWSS, showing that these woodlands within this area are potentially of high value for nature conservation. The assessment for these sites identifies 'hilltop woodlands', 'broadleaved woodlands' and 'strong patterns of tree lines and hedges' but where these are identified on the AWI, this should be mentioned in the assessment.

Lundie Crag to Auchterhouse Hill

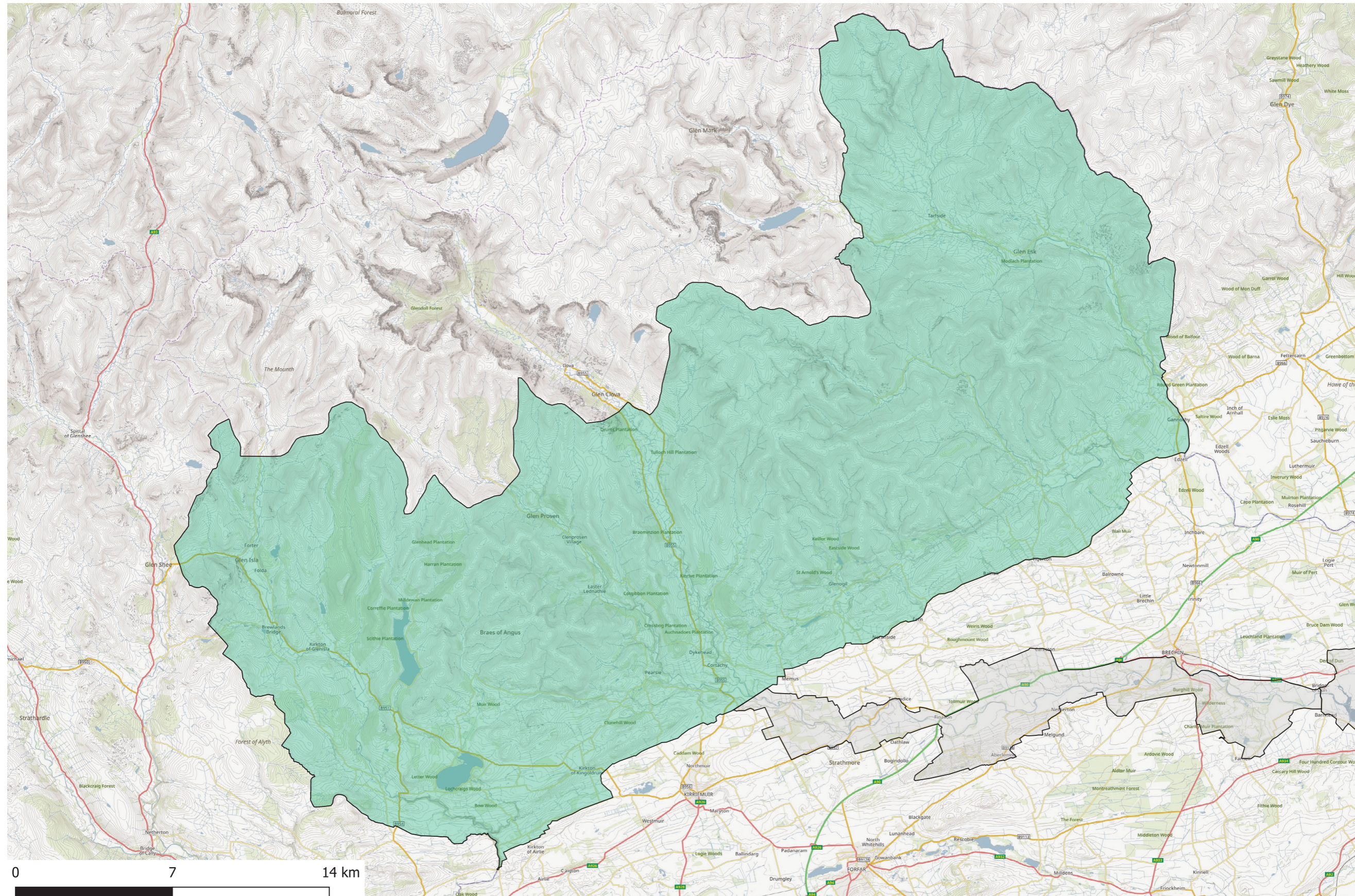
Of particular note here is Palmer Wood, which is one of the woodland fragments in this woodland area which is identified as ASNW on the AWI. There are also other sites identified here as LEPO on the AWI or native on the NWSS. These should be recognised in the assessments.

Angus Council Response

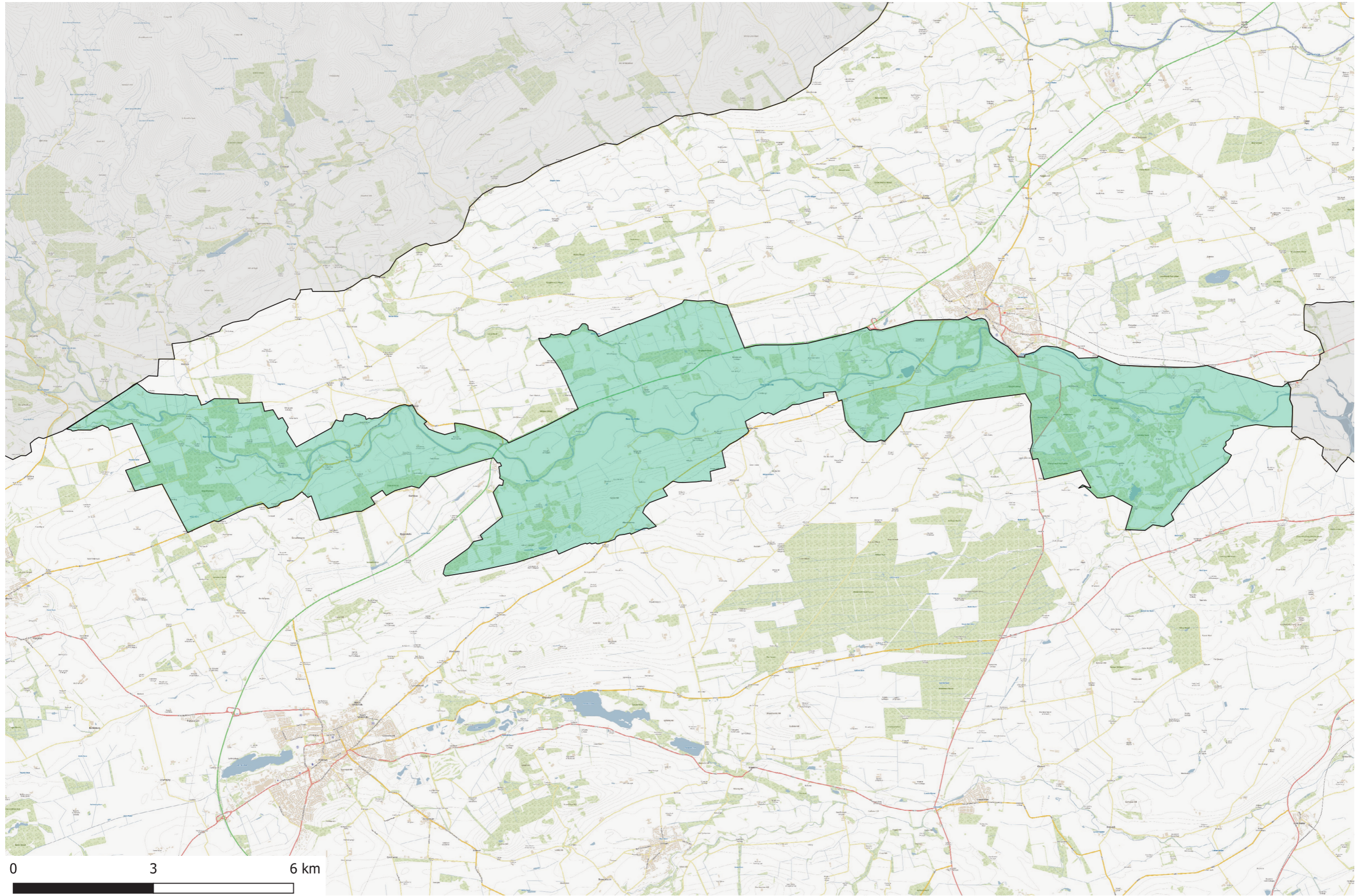
The definitions of Ancient Woodland and Long-Established Woodland whilst not considered incorrect have been amended to more closely match the Ancient Woodland Inventory definitions. Reference to Roy's Military Map has been retained as it is not considered inaccurate and assists understanding. The bullets detailing the reasons for Ancient Woodland being important, which refers to Atlantic Woodland is directly from the Ancient Woodland Inventory and it is therefore retained. Comments in relation to Areas of Search have been noted and are reflected in the Statements of Importance.

Appendix 5: Maps of Local Landscape Areas

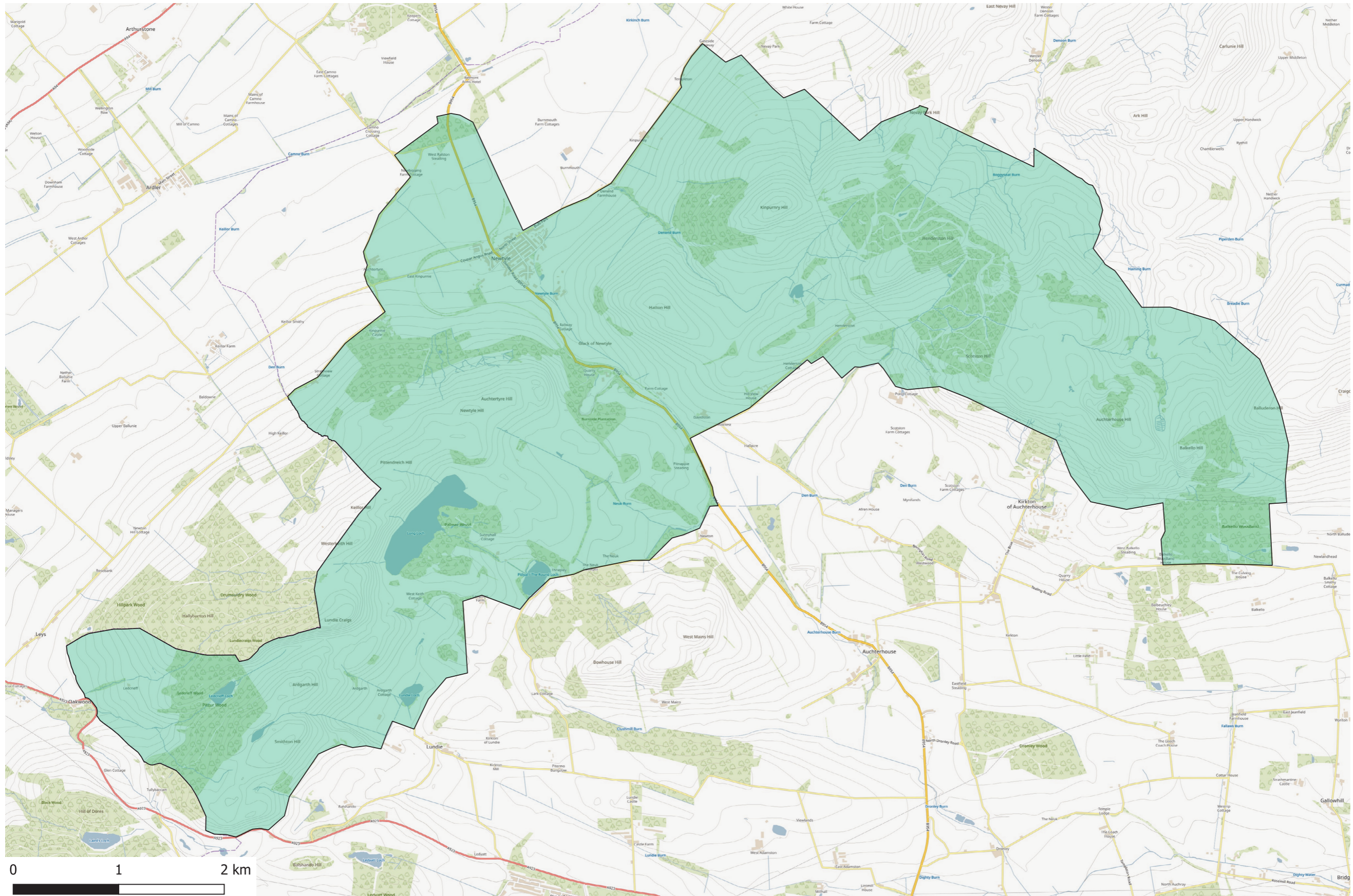
The Angus Glens Local Landscape Area



The River South Esk Local Landscape Area



Sidlaw Local Landscape Area



The Angus Coast Local Landscape Area

