

East Ayrshire Council

**Strategic
Development Areas**

Phase 3

August 2006

Entec UK Limited

Report for

John Lilley
Principal Planner
East Ayrshire Council
6 Croft Street
Kilmarnock
KA1 1JB

Main Contributors

Gary Stodart

Issued by

.....
Rebecca Rylott

Approved by

.....
James Hall

Entec UK Limited

6/7 Newton Terrace
Glasgow
G3 7PJ
Scotland
Tel: +44 (0) 141 222 1200
Fax: +44 (0) 141 222 1210

h:\common\environmental current projects\17965 - east ayrshire
phase 3 landscape assessment\d040\written assessment\17965 final
report august 2006 stodg.doc

East Ayrshire Council

Strategic Development Areas

Phase 3

August 2006

Entec UK Limited



Certificate No. EMS 69090



Certificate No. FS 13881

In accordance with an environmentally responsible approach,
this document is printed on recycled paper produced from 100%
post-consumer waste, or on ECF (elemental chlorine free) paper

Executive Summary

This report has been prepared as a follow up to the previous report by Entec for East Ayrshire Long Term Development Strategy and documents the Landscape Assessment of Potential Development Areas within the Urban Fringes and rural landscapes close to the existing settlements of Damellington, Patna, New Cumnock, Ochiltree, Muirkirk, Sorn, Dunlop, Newmilns, Darvel and Priestland.

The report builds on the *Ayrshire Landscape Assessment* (Land Use Consultants 1998), which identified broad regional areas of landscape character, development constraints and broad management and planning guidelines for future development. This assessment has included a landscape character survey, which has identified more detailed areas of local landscape/townscape character within the Urban Fringe together with the overall rural setting and identity of local settlements within the study area. Each of these areas has been considered in terms of its sensitivity and capacity for housing development by considering potential landscape effects and constraints against possible types of housing development (density, scale, and layout) and the landscape opportunities of particular areas. Each area has been documented on a Landscape Character Survey Form, included in Appendix A at the back of this report. Landscape capacity for development has been divided into five categories as follows:

- Landscape Strategy: Areas Not Suitable for Development;
- Landscape Strategy: Indicative Landscape Areas;
- Areas with Limited Potential for Development;
- Areas with Development Potential, and
- Areas Most Suitable for Development.

By its nature development can cause adverse landscape and visual effects, including settlement coalescence and ribbon development. Poor integration of the urban edge with the surrounding landscape has been identified as a particular issue within the Ayrshire Landscape Character Assessment in some areas. This landscape assessment has identified solutions to these effects and areas worthy of protection due to their strategic landscape importance in preventing settlement coalescence. However, the creation of well integrated townscape and associated spaces can enhance the landscape setting of local communities and provide valuable spaces and urban landscapes in their own right. The expansion of settlements can also assist with regeneration and in some locations, can be seen as a positive effect on the identity of settlements and the wider landscape and Urban Fringe areas.

Contents

1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Project Brief	1
2.	Methodology	3
2.1	Landscape Capacity Assessment	3
3.	Landscape Character Assessment	11
3.1	Regional Landscape Context	11
3.2	Landscape Character Areas	11
3.3	Local Landscape Character	30
3.4	Landscape Designations	32
4.	Settlements and Landscape Capacity	37
4.1	Dalmellington	37
4.2	Patna	41
4.3	New Cumnock	44
4.4	Ochiltree	48
4.5	Muirkirk	50
4.6	Dunlop	55
4.7	Newmilns	58
4.8	Darvel and Priestland	62
4.9	Sorn	67
5.	Summary and Conclusions	71
5.1	Summary	71
5.2	Assessment Conclusions	75
Table 4.1	Dalmellington: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	38
Table 4.2	Sites for Class 4 Industrial, Residential, Special Needs Housing, Community Facility of Leisure and Recreation Use	39
Table 4.3	Sites for Special Needs Housing or Appropriate Town Centre Use in Keeping with the Character and Appearance of Dalmellington Conservation Area.	39

Table 4.4	Dalmellington: Landscape Capacity for Development	40
Table 4.5	Dalmellington: Landscape Strategy Areas	40
Table 4.6	Patna: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	42
Table 4.7	Patna: Landscape Capacity for Development	43
Table 4.8	Patna: Landscape Strategy Areas	43
Table 4.9	New Cumnock: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	45
Table 4.10	New Cumnock: Landscape Capacity for Development	46
Table 4.11	New Cumnock: Landscape Strategy Areas	47
Table 4.12	Ochiltree: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	49
Table 4.13	Ochiltree: Landscape Capacity for Development	49
Table 4.14	Ochiltree: Landscape Strategy Areas	50
Table 4.15	Muirkirk: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	52
Table 4.16	Sites for New Industrial Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	52
Table 4.17	Sites for Residential or Appropriate Town Centre Use Proposed in the Current Local Plan	52
Table 4.18	Sites for Residential or Industrial Use Proposed in the Current Local Plan	52
Table 4.19	Sites for Appropriate Tourism, Community or Residential Use Proposed in the Current Local Plan	53
Table 4.20	Muirkirk: Landscape Capacity for Development	54
Table 4.21	Muirkirk: Landscape Strategy Areas	55
Table 4.22	Dunlop: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	56
Table 4.23	Dunlop: Landscape Capacity for Development	57
Table 4.24	Dunlop: Landscape Strategy Areas	57
Table 4.25	Newmilns: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	58
Table 4.26	Sites for tourism, recreation or leisure proposed in the Current Local Plan	59
Table 4.27	Sites for appropriate town centre uses proposed in the Current Local Plan	59
Table 4.28	Newmilns: Landscape Capacity for Development	60
Table 4.29	Newmilns: Landscape Strategy Areas	62
Table 4.30	Darvel: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	64
Table 4.31	Darvel and Priestland : Landscape Capacity for Development	66
Table 4.32	Darvel and Priestland: Landscape Strategy Areas	67
Table 4.34	Sorn: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan	68
Table 4.31	Sorn: Landscape Capacity for Development	68
Table 4.32	Sorn: Landscape Strategy Areas	69
Table 5.1	Summary of Landscape Capacity Assessment	72
Figure 1a	Study Area: Patna and Dalmellington	After Page 76
Figure 1b	Study Area: New Cumnock and Muirkirk	After Page 76
Figure 1c	Study Area: Ochiltree and Sorn	After Page 76
Figure 1d	Study Area: Dunlop, Newmilns, Darvel and Priestland	After Page 76
Figure 2a	Regional Landscape Character: Patna and Dalmellington	After Page 76
Figure 2b	Regional Landscape Character: New Cumnock and Muirkirk	After Page 76
Figure 2c	Regional Landscape Character: Ochiltree and Sorn	After Page 76
Figure 2d	Regional Landscape Character: Dunlop, Newmilns, Darvel and Priestland	After Page 76
Figure 3a	Landscape Designations: Patna and Dalmellington	After Page 76
Figure 3b	Landscape Designations: New Cumnock and Muirkirk	After Page 76
Figure 3c	Landscape Designations: Ochiltree and Sorn	After Page 76
Figure 3d	Landscape Designations: Dunlop, Newmilns, Darvel and Priestland	After Page 76
Figure 4a & 5a	Site Survey and Local Landscape Character: Dalmellington	After Page 76
Figure 4b & 5b	Site Survey Area and Local Landscape Character: Patna	After Page 76
Figure 4c & 5c	Site Survey Area and Local Landscape Character: New Cumnock	After Page 76
Figure 4d & 5d	Site Study Area and Local Landscape Character: Ochiltree	After Page 76
Figure 4e & 5e	Site Study Area and Local Landscape Character Muirkirk	After Page 76
Figure 4f & 5f	Site Survey Area and Local Landscape Character: Newmilns and Darvel	After Page 76
Figure 4g & 5g	Site Study Area and Local Landscape Character: Sorn	After Page 76
Figure 4h & 5h	Site Study Area and Local Landscape Character: Dunlop	After Page 76
Figure 6a & 6b	Landscape Capacity: Dalmellington and Patna	After Page 76
Figure 6c & 6d	Landscape Capacity: Ochiltree and New Cumnock	After Page 76
Figure 6e	Landscape Capacity: Dunlop and Muirkirk	After Page 76
Figure 6f & 6g	Landscape Capacity: Newmilns and Darvel, and Sorn	After Page 76

Appendix A Character Assessment Survey Forms

Appendix B References

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Brief

East Ayrshire Council commissioned Entec UK Ltd. to undertake Phase 3 of 'Landscape Assessment of Potential Development Areas' as part of the wider East Ayrshire Long Term Development Strategy. The project brief required a detailed landscape assessment that took account of a range of environmental criteria and local landscape character for the Urban Fringe areas and settlement boundaries of Dalmellington, Patna, New Cumnock, Ochiltree, Muirkirk, Sorn, Darvel and Priestland, Newmilns and Dunlop. The extent of the required study area is illustrated in Figures 1a to 1d.

The Landscape Assessment has assessed the local landscape capacity within these areas to accommodate housing development without unacceptable adverse landscape and visual effects on landscape character, landscape designations, and the appearance and landscape setting of settlements within the study area. In particular, the assessment has identified areas of landscape capacity as follows:

- Those landscape features and elements considered worthy of protection and safeguarding from inappropriate future development.
- Those areas, which should be, protected from future development in order to prevent coalescence of settlements and to preserve the rural setting of the settlements themselves.
- Those areas which, with proper management, should be retained as green corridors or future areas of open space serving communities.
- Those areas which should be protected from future development because of their visual prominence. This may include areas of elevated land where new development would be visually intrusive, e.g. set against the skyline or lying directly adjacent to existing roads.
- Those areas which should be specifically reserved for screening purposes or as buffer zones in order to minimise the impact of any development on its surroundings.
- Those areas which are not capable of future development because of adverse topography.
- Those areas of land which, because of their topography, should be reserved for specific purposes other than housing e.g. flat areas reserved for playing field use, etc.

This report will assist the local authority in preparing the Long Term Development Strategy for East Ayrshire, which will be incorporated in the review of the Local Plan.

1.1.1 Structure of Report

The structure of this report is divided into five sections including 'Introduction', 'Methodology', 'Landscape Character Assessment', 'Settlements and Landscape Capacity' and 'Summary and Conclusions'.

2. Methodology

2.1 Landscape Capacity Assessment

2.1.1 Landscape Capacity Assessment Methodology

The landscape capacity assessment of potential development areas draws from the *Guidelines on Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Second Edition* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Assessment, 2002) and in particular the *Ayrshire Landscape Assessment* (Land Use Consultants, Scottish Natural Heritage Review No.111, 1998). Further reference has been made to the following key publications:

- *Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland, (University of Sheffield and Land Use Consultants, 2002);*
- *Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan 2000;*
- *SPP3 - Planning for Housing;*
- *PAN 44 – Fitting New Housing Development into the Landscape;*
- *PAN 52 – Planning for Small Towns;*
- *PAN 65 – Planning and Open Space;*
- *PAN 60- Planning for Natural Heritage.*

The assessment process has been divided into four stages, as follows:

- A Description of the Existing Landscape Resource.
- A report on the assessment of Local Landscape and Townscape Character surveyed within the Urban Fringe and peripheral landscape areas of the study area.
- An Assessment of the Sensitivity of Local Landscape Character to potential housing development.
- An Assessment of Landscape Capacity of the study area for future housing development, taking account of development areas proposed in the adopted East Ayrshire Local Plan 2003.

It should be noted that the areas identified on each of the Landscape Character and Landscape Capacity Plans are indicative of broad strategic locations and should not be regarded as detailed or exact boundaries. These areas may be subject to change as the landscape and adjacent areas evolve. It should also be recognised that identification of areas as having potential for development do not exclude the need for detailed site assessment and quality of design that responds to the existing landscape and townscape character and site constraints and opportunities. Equally, areas not identified or identified as of limited potential may prove acceptable, subject to a suitable or 'non-standard' design solution that specifically protects and

enhances landscape/townscape character and qualities and responds to the existing landscape constraints and opportunities.

This assessment excludes small-scale development and individual housing plots.

Definition of the Study Area

The study area, illustrated in Figure 1 extends from the settlement boundary as defined in the adopted East Ayrshire Council Local Plan, dated April 2003, to include the landscape setting of settlements and views from the main approach roads and closest hill tops and skylines enclosing the settlements. A red dashed line shown on the Figures indicates the initial outer boundary of the study area. However, this boundary has been treated as flexible and the landscape survey has extended this area to include landscape contributing to the immediate visual setting for each settlement.

2.1.2 Description of the Existing (Baseline) Landscape Resource

A description of the existing (baseline) landscape resource and visual amenity forms a cornerstone of the assessment process and establishes the landscape context and sensitivity of the study area.

This section refers to broad regional landscape character areas and landscape character types, identified in the Ayrshire Landscape Assessment (Land Use Consultants Scottish Natural Heritage Review No.111, 1998) and illustrated in Figure 2. The description of the existing landscape resource also documents landscape designations, illustrated in Figure 3, and other landscape features, elements and landmarks contributing to the value and sensitivity of the landscape. Features considered as part of this assessment are listed below:

- Topography – areas of high and or steep ground;
- Landscape designations;
- Water courses and main areas of woodland;
- Existing landscape character areas;
- Tourist destinations and local landscape features or landmarks;
- Areas of existing built development;
- Main transport routes (into and out of the settlements), and
- Existing (above ground) industry and utilities, including electrical transmission lines.

The assessment has examined the historical and urban development of the settlements in terms of how they are approached and accessed as well as their form, scale, character and identity.

2.1.3 Assessment of Local Landscape Character

Local Landscape Character Site Survey

The character assessment of local landscapes within the study area has included areas of landscape, Urban Fringe/adjoining urban edge and townscape character to provide a complete picture of the local landscape characteristics and sensitivity of the study area.

The survey has been conducted on site from roads, footpaths, and public open space, in fair weather, with site photographs recorded by use of a digital SLR camera.

The survey approach has divided the study area into individual units or areas of land that may be reasonably viewed from one location or road circuit and or grouped together as similar areas of local landscape character. Each of the areas and representative photograph locations has been illustrated in Figures 6a to 6g. A Character Assessment Survey Form has been prepared in the field for each area and reproduced in Appendix A at the back of this report.

The Character Assessment Survey Forms document the following information for each area and have been compiled together with a 1:25,000 OS base map to produce a map of the local landscape character areas. The Character Assessment Survey Forms are divided into three areas as follows:

- i) **Landscape Characteristics** – the first section of the survey form documents the characteristics of the area with reference to the following components.
 - *Essential Character*: A brief description of the areas essential characteristics and key features is provided.
 - *Landscape Elements*: A description of the main component parts of the landscape that contribute to local character.
 - *Landform Natural Features*: A description of the landform features and hydrology.
 - *Land Use Land Cover*: A description including any man-made features and elements as well as vegetation type and pattern.
 - *Landscape Pattern/Field Boundaries*: A description of landscape patterns usually field boundary types, condition, and size of fields.
 - *Heritage Features*: A description of any visible landscape or cultural features, landmarks, and or landscape related tourist attractions.
 - *Building Materials*: A note of the colours and materials commonly used in the area.
 - *Aesthetic Factors*: These refer to the relative scale, sense of enclosure or openness, diversity, texture, colour, balance, movement, form, remoteness, and sense of security present in the landscape.
 - *Views and Visual Focus/Landmarks*: A description of these man-made or natural features, including description of the main views.
 - *Adjoining Urban Edge*: Description of the building character/housing type, views and urban edge characteristics of the area.

- *Landscape Quality*: A judgement on the state of repair or condition of the elements of a particular landscape, its integrity and intactness and the extent to which it's distinctive character is apparent.
 - *Landscape Value*: The importance attached to a landscape, often as a basis for designation because of its quality, cultural associations, scenic or aesthetic characteristics. It should be noted that a landscape of high value may not always equate to areas of high landscape quality (particularly if they are designated for other landscape and visual reasons) and that areas of low landscape value may contain areas of higher landscape quality.
- ii) **Landscape and Visual Effects** – this section of the survey form considers the potential landscape and visual effects of housing development in that area – particularly loss of rural landscape, vegetation and visual prominence on the skyline:
- *Landscape 'Fit'*: Consideration of how the proposed development would fit or be located in the landscape in broad terms.
 - *Visual effects (skyline)*: Consideration of the visual effects and skyline visibility.
 - *Loss of vegetation/features*: Consideration of landscape features that would be lost or threatened by development.
 - *Degree of Urban Integration*: Consideration of how proposed development would relate to the existing urban edge.
- iii) **Landscape Capacity and Sensitivity** – the final section of the survey form considers the capacity of the landscape to accommodate development. Landscape capacity is closely related to landscape sensitivity and this is determined by consideration of landscape value, quality and capacity for development. Areas of higher landscape sensitivity generally have a lower capacity or no capacity (unsuitable) for development whilst areas of lower sensitivity generally tend to have some capacity for development, which may be subject to particular conditions or landscape constraints such as the preservation of an existing tree belt. Areas not suitable for development may also be identified as suitable for inclusion in a landscape strategy to preserve areas of particular landscape value or green space preventing the coalescence of settlements, for example:
- *Landscape capacity*: The capacity of a particular type of landscape character to accommodate change brought about by development without unacceptable adverse effects on its character. Development has been referred to in broad design terms of scale, height, density, and setting of development within a particular landscape area.
 - *Design constraints and opportunities*: identified for each area and considered by reference to the landscape characteristics observed on site.
 - *Management Strategy*: Each area is considered in terms of the overall landscape management recommended, which may be either Conserve/Restore/Enhance and or Create New landscape.

The observations and professional judgements made for each area were documented on the survey forms and the identified broad areas of local landscape were mapped onto a 1:25,000

scale OS base map as illustrated in Figures 4a to 4g with photographic images of typical or representative areas of local landscape character.

2.1.4 Housing Development and Potential Landscape Effects

In considering the landscape sensitivity to housing development it is important to consider the likely and typical landscape and visual effects brought about by this form of development as these will have a bearing on the sensitivity of one landscape type compared to another.

The Landscape Institute defines landscape effects as '*changes to landscape elements, characteristics, character, and qualities of the landscape as a result of development*' and these may be negative or positive. Visual effects are recognised by the Landscape Institute as a '*subset of landscape effects and are concerned wholly with the affect of development on views, and the general visual amenity*'. In addition to these there will be further townscape or urban design effects of development on the urban character and quality as a result of development. Poor integration of the urban edge with the surrounding landscape has been identified, as a particular issue within the Ayrshire Landscape Character Assessment that future development and landscape management along the Urban Fringe will need to address.

The potential effects considered as part of this assessment and associated with potential housing development, may therefore include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- *Changes to landscape character* - erosion of landscape character, elements and patterns, particularly those, which form characteristic elements of landscape character along the boundaries of new development, adversely affecting landscape character and the rural setting of settlements.
- Loss of rare or unique areas of local landscape character and elements.
- *Skyline Effects* – Development located in visually prominent locations across hilltops or alongside roads that would lead to a visual prominence of urban development adversely affecting the apparent scale, character, and landscape setting of settlements.
- *Poor integration of Urban Fringe and urban edge areas* – The establishment of a new urban edge, through new development that extends the settlement boundaries requires sensitive integration with the surrounding landscape to reduce adverse visual impact.
- *Visual effects from key viewpoints* - a change in the appearance of the landscape as a result of development may be heightened if the viewpoint location is associated with a valued landscape or frequented view such as from a main access road or bridge.
- *Visual coalescence* – The increased inter-visibility of the two or more urban areas within a landscape such that the separate identities and setting of each are affected.
- *Ribbon development* – Extended development along main transport routes at increased distance for the town/village centre adversely affecting the cohesion and legibility of the settlement and adversely affecting the apparent scale, character and setting of settlements.

- *Effects on setting* – Changes to the visual appearance of a particular landscape or townscape character or the ‘sense of place’¹ of a settlement or valued landscape/landmark that is significantly changed in views from the location as well as towards the location from nearby surrounding viewpoints or visual receptors.

Housing Development Type

In broad terms the scale, height, density, layout design and urban edge of proposed development may assist the mitigation of potential adverse landscape and visual effects, for example single storey development may be more appropriate in some areas to visual effects on the skyline. Where appropriate the identification of potential housing sites and associated landscape capacity, may be accompanied by recommendations of scale, height and density of development as follows:

- i) *Scale* – The extent of development is indicated in terms of approximate area on Figures 7a to 7g.
- ii) *Height of Development* – may be defined as single storey, two storey, or two storey with some three storey (town-house or ‘feature’ building) development. This recommendation is most likely to be appropriate in areas of higher ground and adjacent to settlements where the height of development is an important characteristic.
- iii) *Density* – Generally the density of development in Urban Fringe areas tends to be lower than development densities closer to the centre of settlements. Housing density along the existing settlement boundaries is very low as most properties have large gardens. Typical densities range from approximately 20 to 30 units per hectare, although lower densities of approximately 20 to 5 also occur particularly in connection with local authority housing and large gardens and older houses. Higher density housing along the urban edge is typical of more recent private housing development with smaller gardens. Density is also affected by design and higher density development may be appropriate through the use of traditional terraced house forms or other alternative design arrangements that may be proposed as part of a detailed design. Density has been defined for each areas as follows:
 - Low – 5 - 20 units per hectare;
 - Medium – 15 - 30 units per hectare; and
 - High – 25 - 40 units per hectare.
- iv) *Layout* – The layout and design of new development should incorporate quality urban design and landscape features to allow for footpaths and cycle ways with integrated links and routes through to the main settlement. The design should also incorporate appropriate levels of open space (courtyards, squares, landscape spaces and landscaping and trees and woodland) that can be linked to the wider settlement or Urban Fringe landscape and existing areas of woodland. The aim should be to avoid the development of ‘whole fields’ with a uniform housing density with exposed urban

¹ ‘Sense of Place’ Is defined by the Landscape Institute as the essential character and spirit of and area also known as ‘Genus loci’.

edges that are poorly integrated with the existing settlement surrounding landscape and townscape areas.

- v) *Urban Edge* - The edges of new development should ensure appropriate boundary treatment to new gardens and built development and integrate new open space and new woodland with the existing landscape character, and patterns of woodland and hedgerows. Some examples of the existing urban edge are provided in Figure 7. Timber fencing for example, may not be an appropriate boundary treatment to integrate the leading edge of new development into an area of countryside where the boundaries are characteristically marked by hedgerows and woodland shelterbelts, although it may be appropriate to define garden boundaries internal to the development. New public spaces, landscaped areas and access routes should also link to existing patterns of space and access/footpaths.

Alternative Development

Where alternative development uses are more appropriate these have been defined as industry/business and or recreational and community use.

2.1.5 Landscape Capacity

Based on the results of the landscape character survey, the assessment has evaluated the sensitivity of local landscape character along the boundaries of each settlement, and has identified suitable areas for development in terms of their landscape capacity based on the following categories:

- i) Landscape Strategy: Areas Not Suitable for Development;
- ii) Landscape Strategy: Indicative Landscape Provision Areas;
- iii) Areas with Limited Potential for Development;
- iv) Areas with Development Potential; and
- v) Areas Most Suitable for Development.

This assessment excludes small scale development and individual housing plots. Each of the categories of landscape capacity has been described in more detail as follows:

Landscape Strategy: Areas Not Suitable for Development

This includes valued landscapes, elements, and features considered worthy of protection from future development and areas, which make a substantial and valued contribution to the setting and identity of the settlements. This would also include areas of high sensitivity and land that would not be suitable for development for reasons such as visual prominence, settlement coalescence adverse topography, or proximity to existing or proposed road development as follows:

- Valued landscapes and areas considered worthy of protection and safeguarding from inappropriate development.
- Strategic landscapes that should be protected to prevent the coalescence of settlements and preserve the rural setting of particular settlements.

- Areas excluded due to steep or adverse topography.
- Areas to be protected from development due to their visual prominence and would result in visually intrusive development set against the skyline or directly adjacent the M77 extension route.

Landscape Strategy: Indicative Landscape Provision Areas

This includes areas of land that could make a contribution with further landscaping and areas of vegetation that already make an existing contribution to the landscape setting of the settlements that may not otherwise be particularly valued in their own right. This would include vistas or visual corridors (lines of sight between visual receptors and valued landscapes or land marks) and buffer zones (physical space or 'comfort' distance between development that may be accompanied by screening, landscaping or structure planting) and new or existing woodland and landscape planting. The conservation, management, and creation of these features will be important to establishing a well-integrated urban edge with the surrounding landscape. Also included are areas, which should be protected to preserve the rural setting of settlements and areas suitable to be retained as green corridors or future areas of open space (with appropriate management). Collectively these areas could be part of a shared landscape resource and could contribute to a Landscape Strategy either as:

- Strategic landscapes that should be protected to preserve the rural setting and landscape character of particular settlements.
- Landscapes to be retained and managed as green corridors and open space (including areas of flat land for recreation) to serve new and existing communities.
- Landscape that should be preserved as screening/buffering to minimise the effects of development on adjacent landscape areas.

Areas with Limited Potential for Development

This would include areas of steep topography that may contain smaller pockets of developable land and those areas that could, through the application of appropriate design mitigation, such as landscape restoration or woodland planting be considered as suitable for limited development.

Areas with Development Potential

This would include areas of medium to low sensitivity, which have potential for development (compliant with good design standards and associated landscape provision) that could be accommodated within the existing landscape setting of settlements.

Areas Most Suitable for Development

This would include areas of land of lower sensitivity, where development (compliant with good design standards and associated landscape provision) could be seen as a positive contribution to the settlement in terms of regeneration (repair of urban landscapes and townscape character), strengthening of settlement identity and sense of place.

3. Landscape Character Assessment

3.1 Regional Landscape Context

The study areas cover a wide range of regional landscapes including the Ayrshire Basin, Ayrshire Rim, Carrick Hills and Valleys and Galloway Uplands Regional Landscape Character Areas.

3.2 Landscape Character Areas

Reference has been made to the Ayrshire Landscape Assessment (Land Use Consultants, Scottish Natural Heritage Review No.111, 1998). The landscape character is mapped in Figures 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d and includes the Ayrshire Lowlands, Lowland River Valleys (River Ayr and River Doon), Foothills with Forestry, Upland River Valley (River Irvine, River Doon, River Ayr), Plateau Moorland and Southern Uplands.

The assessment makes reference to the existing settlement pattern and identifies the urban edge as a particular issue. Some broad management and planning guidelines are also provided. An extract from the Ayrshire Landscape Assessment, describing the two areas of regional landscape character, within the study area has been provided as follows.

3.2.1 Ayrshire Lowlands (Extract from the Ayrshire Landscape Assessment)

This landscape type forms an extensive area of agricultural lowland, which occupies much of the Ayrshire basin. Lying between about 10 metres and 150 metres, the area's geology is dominated by coal measures, though basalt, sandstones, limestones, millstone grit, and volcanic intrusions are also present.

The landform is surprisingly complex, dissected by many burns and streams draining to incised main river valleys to create an undulating lowland landscape. There is a gentle increase in height from the coastal fringe to the more abrupt transition to upland. Landcover is predominantly pastoral, though with some arable on lower and better soils. Cattle, sheep and ley grassland are common. North of Kilmarnock, a number of place names include the term 'moss', reflecting the presence of peat bogs and mires. While many of these have been drained and reclaimed for agriculture, some areas of peatland remain.

Fields within this landscape type, probably dating back to the 18th or 19th century are often regular in shape and enclosed by beech or hawthorn hedges. For the most part, the hedges are in good condition, a significant asset at a time when hedgerows in many parts of the country are suffering gradual decline. Many field boundaries are also marked by mature hedgerow trees. Again, beech trees predominate. These trees give the landscape a surprisingly wooded character, often forming avenues along minor roads. In places this structure has begun to decline as trees have been felled and not replaced. More extensive woodland is limited, concentrated in river valleys and formed into shelterbelts in some of the more exposed areas, or around large estates.

The area's settlement pattern is historic in origin. Unlike Highland areas where a system of joint-tenancy land holding prevailed, resulting in the creation of villages and hamlets, the typical lowland settlement system was based upon larger, more self contained farmsteads with a hinterland of fields. Many existing farms are on historic sites, though buildings are invariably newer and old-field systems lost beneath more recent enclosures. Farms are often sited on low hilltops, typically comprising a courtyard with the farmhouse at the centre. Buildings are often limewashed with slate roofs and black painted woodwork. More modern farm buildings, including sheds and barns are rarely intrusive, often dark red or green in colour.

A number of towns and villages are found throughout the lowlands, again many with medieval or earlier origins. Examples include Tarbolton and Kilmarnock. Invariably, the historic cores of such settlements are surrounded with more modern development. This often comprises standard municipal or suburban designs (white render and orange pantiles) that reflect neither the character of the historic core or the surrounding landscape.

The character of this landscape type shows subtle and gradual differences across the area as a whole. Variations mainly reflect topographic and geological differences, with rich pastures, enclosed by dense, well treed boundaries in the lowest parts of the basin, very slowly giving way to wetter, rushier pastures with lower hedges, fewer trees and a stronger moorland influence. At the scale of this assessment, it has not been possible to define the extremes of character as separate landscape types.

Forces of Change

In this section we describe the principal types of change that have affected this landscape type in the recent past or which are likely to affect it in the future. Change may be positive or negative in terms of their effect on the landscape. The aim of this section is to gain a clear understanding of the nature and direction of change and its likely impact on the essential character and quality of the landscape. This analysis provides the basis for management guidelines to assist other organisations develop more detailed policies for agriculture, forestry and development.

Agriculture: *for the most part, this is a stable and prosperous farming landscape with a remarkably intact pattern of fields and hedges. In some instances the deterioration of hedges or the loss of hedgerow trees is evident, possibly signalling the process of decline which has affected many similar areas throughout the UK. It is important to prevent such change if the local character is to be maintained. As noted above, to date, most modern farm buildings have been of a scale and design, which integrates, well with more traditional groupings of farmhouses, barns and stables.*

Development: *many historic settlements, often located at bridging points in the lowland river valleys, have expanded into this landscape type. Often such growth has been incremental and apparently related more to infrastructure provision than to landscape fit. Of even greater concern is the poor integration of the urban edge with the surrounding countryside. Again, often stark suburban designs have predominated and rarely, is any form of screening provided. Under such circumstances, these expanded settlements often have quite an extensive impact on the surrounding landscape.*

Transport: *several major road corridors cross this landscape type, principally the A77 between Glasgow and Ayr, but also the A735, A736 and the A76. The A77 in particular has been upgraded over time and it now comprises a dual carriageway route for much of its length. There is inevitably a degree of conflict between the pastoral character of this landscape type*

and the presence of a major road carrying heavy traffic. There have been few successful attempts to tie the improved roads into the structure of the landscape.

This landscape type also contains a dense network of minor roads, many of which are very rural in character. Where recent improvements have taken place, modern kerbing has sometimes been introduced at the road edge, introducing an urban feature into the rural landscape. Signage can have a similar effect. On the other hand, Ayrshire retains a large number of milestones, which should be retained.

Management and Planning Guidelines

The following guidelines reflect the sensitivities of the landscape and the pressures for change acting upon it. They are intended to provide a broad basis for the development of more detailed management strategies. The overall aim of such strategies should be to conserve the high quality, pastoral landscape of the Ayrshire lowlands. Retaining the area's legacy of hedges and hedgerow trees is central to this aim.

Agriculture

- *Maintain pastoral landscape;*
- *Maintain and reinstate hedgerows and hedgerow trees;*
- *Maintain and enhance avenues/hedgerow trees;*
- *Discourage improvements which result in loss of field boundaries or field boundary trees;*
- *Encourage farmers and landowners to replant trees along field boundaries, initially along roads, but also between fields;*
- *Investigate the potential for establishing herb rich meadows to enhance the area's wildlife interest;*
- *Encourage the conservation and sensitive conversion of redundant dairy buildings;*
- *Encourage the placement of new farm buildings in locations which do not compromise the symmetry of traditional farmstead courtyard complexes or detract from their hilltop compositions;*
- *Use the agricultural development notification scheme to influence the design, colour, materials, screening and location of new farm buildings. Explore the use of planning conditions attached to new buildings to provide screening where appropriate.*

Forestry and Woodland

- *Encourage a phased programme of replanting, managing and, where necessary, felling hedgerow trees, so as to maintain and restore the historic legacy of trees;*
- *Conserve riparian woodland and wetland corridors;*
- *Encourage the planting of new tree lines;*

- *Examine the potential to create an integrated pattern of new small woodlands and woodland belts in the most open areas;*
- *Encourage the establishment of new riparian woodlands along the minor watercourses (which are otherwise unobtrusive);*
- *Encourage policy woodland management that can maintain the character of designed landscapes where they occur. This may include small scale woodland planting.*

There may be opportunities for the creation of new woodlands in the area of transition between the more productive parts of the lowland and the surrounding uplands. Where appropriate, therefore, adopt a planting strategy that emphasises the transitional character of the landscape and includes:

- *Expansion/regeneration of native woodlands;*
- *Mixture of broadleaf and conifer species;*
- *Small to medium sized coupes to reflect the scale of the landscape;*
- *Concentration of new woodland on steeper slopes, scarps, in gullies and around the lower slopes;*
- *Retention of key views and open space links to higher ground;*
- *Consider opportunities for new woodland planting in terms of:*
- *The overall balance of woodland and open space;*
- *The importance of preserving less productive land which has high nature conservation values e.g. mosses or herb rich grasslands;*
- *The importance of key views and features within the landscape;*
- *Opportunities to provide screening of urban expansion areas;*
- *Opportunities to link isolated areas of woodland.*

Development

- *Adopt design requirements for new building, possibly incorporating shelterbelt planting around isolated buildings;*
- *Identify potential housing sites and prepare preliminary design/development guidance;*
- *Consider positive ways of addressing the interface between settlements and the surrounding countryside. These could include:*
- *Defining urban gateways, i.e. preventing sprawl and indeterminable urban edges;*
- *The preservation or creation of green wedges to break up the urban edge;*
- *New buildings which address surrounding areas and provide a high quality 'edge' to the settlements;*

- *Screening and controlling views of the towns by strategic planting schemes;*
- *Discourage the simplistic grafting of housing estates onto the edge of settlements within field plots. Encourage more imaginative housing schemes, which respond to the existing patterns of layout, structure, massing, and scale while allowing for modern interpretations of traditional styles. This should include terraced and semi-detached houses laid out to define open spaces and roads avoiding suburban solutions;*
- *Where development is permitted, encourage construction to consolidate existing villages, hamlets or groups of farm buildings, and favour sheltered locations;*
- *Consider the preparation of design guides as supplementary planning guidance;*
- *Discourage development in the open countryside;*
- *Encourage the appropriate conversion of redundant buildings in the countryside. Guidance should be provided on the way buildings should be converted (including the provision of drives, gardens etc) to prevent the suburbanisation of the countryside;*
- *General presumption against large scale built developments;*
- *Provide soft landscape frameworks in advance of building developments to accommodate urban expansion.*

3.2.2 Lowland River Valleys (Extract from the Ayrshire Landscape Assessment)

The post glacial changes in sea level which created the raised beaches that are characteristic feature of much of the Ayrshire coast, also caused rivers to enter a phase of down-cutting, creating a series of incised river valleys which cross the Ayrshire lowlands. The Garnock, Annick Water, Irvine, Ayr and Doon (together with a large number of smaller rivers and streams) all enter narrow, entrenched valleys as they leave the bold landscapes of the uplands and flow towards the coast. The underlying geology is varied. Most common are boulder clays and coal measures, but near Mauchline, the Ayr cuts through an area of sandstone, creating a dramatic gorge-like valley.

The river valleys are generally narrow, often just a few hundred metres wide, but bounded by steep slopes between 10 and 30 metres high. These valley slopes are frequently wooded with stands of beech and semi-natural woodland. Within the valleys, the river flow in tight meanders, often cutting into side slopes and enclosing semi-circles of rich pasture. Field boundaries, where they occur, tend to be hedges.

Settlement within the valleys tends to be comparatively limited, though a number of mills are sited alongside rivers, often at bridging points. The village of Sorn occupies a position at the point where the River Ayr leaves the uplands and enters its lowland valley, Kilmarnock is located on the Irvine. The rich woodland of the river valleys has, in a number of examples, been incorporated into the designed landscapes associated with historic houses and large estates.

These are small scale landscapes, which, for much of the time, lie hidden within the wider landscape of the undulating Ayrshire lowlands. They often come as a surprise, signalled by a steep twist in the road, and the presence of linear woodlands along the steep valley slopes.

Forces for Change

In this section we describe the principal types of change that have affected this landscape type in the recent past or which are likely to affect it in the future. Changes may be positive or negative in terms of their effect on the landscape. The aim of this section is to gain a clear understanding of the nature and direction of change and its likely impact on the essential character and quality of the landscape. This analysis provides the basis for management guidelines to assist other organisations develop more detailed policies for agriculture, forestry and development.

Agriculture: *like much of the Ayrshire lowlands, these sections of the river valleys are characterised by stable and relatively prosperous pastoral farming, creating few significant pressures on the landscape.*

Woodland: *in the otherwise predominantly un-wooded landscapes of the Ayrshire lowlands, the woodlands found along the steep valley slopes represent an important landscape resource. While many are semi-natural in origin, management should seek to ensure their continued health and survival. Coniferous woodland should generally be avoided in this landscape type.*

Development: *settlement in the lowland river valleys is generally of a small scale, often comprising a handful of buildings concentrated at a bridging point, or near a mill. While such locations mean that settlements have a limited impact on the wider landscape (eg Sorn), significant additional development in these locations could undermine both the historic nature of many of these settlements and the small scale nature of the valley landscapes.*

Recreation: *the valleys represent a potential recreation resource of some importance, and could provide attractive pedestrian and cycle routes through the Ayrshire landscape, linking many sites of interest. It is important that the creation of such routes should be designed to minimise any landscape impacts.*

Management and Planning Guidelines

The following guidelines reflect the sensitivities of the landscape and the pressures for change acting upon it. They are intended to provide a broad basis for the development of more detailed management strategies. The overall aim of such strategies should be to conserve the distinctive and small-scale pastoral and woodland landscapes of the river valleys.

Forestry and Woodland

- *Encourage a phased programme of replanting, managing and, where necessary, felling hedgerow trees, so as to maintain and restore the historic legacy of trees;*
- *Conserve riparian woodland and wetland corridors;*
- *Encourage the planting of new tree lines;*
- *Encourage small scale woodland planting on steep valley slopes;*
- *Use new planting to create a framework to absorb earlier development in the open countryside and other visually intrusive features;*

- *Encourage policy woodland management that can maintain the character of the designed landscapes;*
- *Enhance parkland feel through small scale woodland planting;*
- *Consider opportunities for new woodland planting in terms of:*
 - *The overall balance of woodland and open space;*
 - *The relative importance of different areas of existing woodland (e.g. commercial plantation versus policy woodland) and how this would be influenced by an increase in woodland cover;*
 - *The importance of key views and features within the landscape;*
 - *Opportunities for provide screening;*
 - *Opportunities to link isolated areas of woodland.*

Development

- *Adopt design requirements for new building, possibly incorporating shelterbelt planting around isolated buildings;*
- *Encourage new development to re-inforce the existing settlement;*
- *Discourage the simplistic grafting of housing estates onto the edge of settlements. Encourage more imaginative schemes which respond to the existing patterns of layout, structure, massing and scale;*
- *Encourage developers to use local building materials and to adopt local vernacular in respect of density, massing, design, colour and location while allowing for modern interpretations of traditional styles. Avoid standard designs and layouts;*
- *Consider the preparation of design guides as supplementary planning guidance;*
- *Discourage development in the open countryside;*
- *Encourage the appropriate conversion of redundant buildings in the countryside. Guidance should be provided on the way buildings should be converted (including the provision of drives, gardens etc) to prevent the suburbanisation of the countryside;*
- *General presumption against large scale built developments; and*
- *Produce combined development strategies and design guidance for settlements of particular architectural merit and sensitivity.*

3.2.3 Plateau Moorlands

Plateau Moorlands occur in two parts of Ayrshire – along its eastern and southern boundaries. Underlain by basalts, they form the extensive ridge, which separates the Ayrshire Basin from the Clyde Basin, extending from near the Garnock Valley to Upper Nithsdale. Underlain by grey wackes, they form another large area of upland in southwest Ayrshire, providing a

transition between the foothills and the uplands to the south. Plateau Moorland with Forest represents a sub-type of this landscape (see para. 5. 197).

The Plateau Moorlands consist of blanket bog, heather and grass moorland, the topography is comparatively level with extensive plateau basins rising to soft contoured ridges. The landscape is of an open, exposed and rather wild character despite occasional isolated hill farms, sheep (and cattle grazing). The landscape type is perhaps exemplified in areas to the north and south of the upper Ayr valley. Mosses, comprising areas of extensive peatland form an important component of this landscape type, occurring for example at Fenwick Moss.

The expansive nature of this landscape would make any development within it highly visible. The Plateau Moorlands are generally free from masts and other tall structures, but where they do occur (even outside study area) they can have quite a wide impact.

A subset of the Plateau Moorland landscape type (R), the Plateau Moorland with Forest landscape type occurs where significant deforestation has taken place. This sub-type is found in southern Ayrshire and at Whitelee Forest to the north of the Irvine valley. This landscape has ideal physical characteristics for forestry and has been subject to the incremental spread of commercial (Sitka) forest mostly of a 'blanket' nature, as yet little modified by redesign at rotation. This has significantly modified the original character in terms of colour, textures and the length of views possible. The landscape is typified by extensive plantations of uniform age, colour and texture. There is a general lack of elevation which allows the forests to create dark horizons. New plantations appear as dark speckled landscapes from a distance. The open ground and surrounding moorland contrasts in its mosaics of brown and ochre colours. The landscape has an exposed and remote character, although enclosure within forests can be well defined.

In this section we describe the principal types of change that have affected these landscape types in the recent past or which are likely to affect them future. Changes may be positive or negative in terms of their effect on the landscape. The aim of this section is to gain a clear understanding of the nature and direction of change and its likely impact on the essential character and quality of the landscape. The analysis provides the basis for management guidelines to assist other organisations develop more detailed policies for agriculture, forestry and development.

Woodland: *in the southern part of Ayrshire, the establishment of extensive coniferous plantations has had a very significant effect on the nature of this landscape type. Well over half the area of Plateau Moorlands in this area is now under conifers. Future rotations and the implementation of the Forestry Commission's forestry design guidelines should result in an improvement in the visual quality of these forests. There is, however, a need to review the overall balance of open land to woodland, particularly in the light of the area's description as a 'potential area' in the Strathclyde Indicative Forestry Strategy.*

Development: *as noted above, views over this landscape type tend to be open and extensive meaning that any development is visible over a considerable distance. To date, development has been limited, largely confined to a small number of communications masts.*

Management and Planning Guidelines

The following guidelines reflect the sensitivities of the landscape and the pressures for change acting upon it. They are intended to provide a broad basis for the development of more detailed management strategies. The overall aim of such strategies should be to conserve the open and

largely undeveloped character of these moorland hills and to reduce adverse effects associated with past patterns of forestry.

Agriculture

- *Discourage improvement of pastures and rough grazing;*
- *Encourage the conservation of dry stone dykes in local stone with an emphasis on roadside walls and others in highly visible areas;*
- *Hill farming should be maintained as an essential feature of the landscape with the continuation of moorland grazing particularly within the broad enclosures;*
- *Maintain present 'untamed' nature of landscape;*
- *Support heather management (muirburn) schemes where appropriate;*
- *Use the agricultural development notification scheme to influence the design, colour, materials, screening and location of any new farm buildings. Explore the use of planning conditions attached to new buildings to provide screening where appropriate.*

Forestry and Woodland

- *Cultural features, particularly mining relics, should not be obscured by forestry;*
- *Implement a phased programme of felling, design and replanting of existing plantations to reduce the adverse impact on the environment;*
- *Forest design should seek to introduce diversity into currently afforested areas in the form of open space patterns, age and species mixes and coupes patterns;*
- *Forest restructuring should also seek to 'expose' and preserve cultural features such as walls and archaeological ruins;*
- *General presumption against large scale extension of existing forest blocks;*
- *Maintain present 'untamed' nature of unforested parts of this landscape';*
- *New forestry proposals should, if possible, be targeted to areas of more bland topography of lesser scenic and geomorphological interest;*
- *New planting should conform to the Forestry Authority's design guidelines. In particular, it should respond to the large scale nature of the landscape, the importance of views within and out of the hills, and historic and ecological values;*
- *Consider opportunities for new woodland planting in terms of:*
 - *The overall balance of woodland and open space;*
 - *The relative importance of different areas of existing woodland (e.g. commercial plantation versus semi-natural woodland) and how this would be influenced by an increase in woodland cover;*
 - *The importance of key views and features within the landscape;*

- *Opportunities to provide screening and shelter;*
- *Opportunities to link isolated areas of woodland.*
- *Take proactive steps to extend woodlands around future open cast and quarry sites.*

Recreation

- *Focus recreation activities and the provision of new facilities at existing centres;*
- *General presumption against large scale built developments;*
- *Maintain low-key level of provision;*
- *Monitor erosion and other effects in areas subject to highest pressure, implementing management measures as necessary;*
- *Support small scale, low-key tourism or recreational development.*

Development

- *Discourage development in the upland landscape;*
- *General presumption against large scale built developments;*
- *Where development is permitted, ensure that buildings are located in order to minimise their impact on the landscape (utilising any natural screening provided by the landform) and that they adopt vernacular styles, building materials and colours.*

3.2.4 Upland River Valley

The rim of hills, which surrounds the Ayrshire lowlands, is cut by a series of medium sized river valleys – the Doon, Nith, Glenmuir, Ayr and Irvine. Although each has its own distinctive character, they share a number of common characteristics, largely as a result of their scale and the sense of enclosure provided by surrounding uplands.

The Upper Doon Valley runs from south east to north west through an area of coal measures, limestone grit. The valley is comparatively broad in this upper section near Dalmellington, but narrow as the river flows north to Patna. The river itself meanders back and forth across a narrowing floodplain which is wet in its upper reaches and pastoral lower down. Pastures on the lower valley slopes quickly give way to rougher Moorland on the upper slopes. Extensive areas of commercial forestry lie to the west and extend into the valley around Patna. The occurrence of coal, limestone and ironstone deposits has had a significant influence on the landscape. Early exploitation led to the development of coalmines, iron works, spoil tips, mineral railway, and the industrial settlements of Dalmellington, Waterside and Patna. The remains of 19th and 20th century industrial activity form a layer in the valley's landscape representing one phase of settlement and land use. Modern coal extraction, however, concentrated on the hills above Dalmellington, takes the form of open-cast mining. This is of a very different scale to that in the past, and changes the landscape over a significant area.

Forces of Change

In this section we describe the principal types of changes that have affected this landscape type in the recent past or which are likely to affect it in the future. Changes may be positive or negative in terms of their effect on the landscape. The aim of this section is to gain a clear understanding of the nature and direction of change and its likely impact on the essential character and quality of the landscape. This analysis provides the basis for management guidelines to assist other organisations develop more detailed policies for agriculture, forestry and development.

Agriculture

Many of these upland valleys are characterised by Moorland vegetation where farming activity is confined to sheep grazing. On better lower slopes, and valley floors, there are some fields of improved pasture, enclosed by hawthorn hedges with occasional hedgerow trees. Areas such as the Upper Ayr valley are characterised by many outgrown beech hedges. In places the structure of field boundaries is deteriorating and post and wire fences are used to supplement or even replace gappy hedges. Over time, this will result in the weakening of the contrast between the enclosed lower slopes and the open Moorland slopes above.

Woodland

The extent of deciduous woodland varies between the valleys. While the upper Doon and much of the upper Ayr valleys have little broadleaf woodland, the Irvine valley in particular is characterised by extensive woodlands associated with designed landscapes. Maintenance of these woodlands is important for the conservation of landscape character. Semi-natural woodland also makes a significant contribution where it occurs to any extent. The principal examples of such woodlands are along the middle section of the Ayr valley where broadleaf woodland clothes the steep slopes enclosing the river. In places, this woodland appears to be in decline, suggesting that grazing pressures may be preventing natural regeneration. Again, these woodlands make an important contribution to the valley's landscape character.

Coniferous Woodlands

Are also a feature of several of these valleys, particularly where more extensive plantations on surrounding uplands extend into the valley. Elsewhere, the plantations are much more limited in extent into the valley. Elsewhere, the plantations are much more limited in extent, often forming shelter belts or geometric areas of woodland. Furthermore, these valleys were identified in the Strathclyde Indicative Forestry Strategy (Strathclyde Regional Council, 1988) as falling into the 'preferred' (the Ayre, Glenmuir and Doon Valleys) and 'potential' (the Nith and Irvine Valleys) areas for additional forestry. There may be opportunities to use new planting to assist in the enhancement of land that has been damaged in the past, or which is subject to open-cast working. Equally, there will be opportunities to improve the nature of existing plantations as the Forestry Authority's design guidelines are applied to the planting phase of the next rotation. New planting should take into account the character of the landscape and the occurrence of areas of known or unknown archaeological importance.

Development

With the exception of the Upper Nith, the history of industrial development means that these river valleys are relatively settled and developed. Two issues relate to this. The first is the effect of the decline of the area's industrial base, reflected to a degree in the appearance of a number of industrial settlements. The second is the nature of the development that has occurred

in these areas during the present century. Towns such as Muirkirk, for example, have expanded by the addition of suburban housing estates and with no visual integration with the surrounding upland landscape.

Minerals

The upland river valleys, and the moorlands immediately fringing them, provide the focus for current open-cast mining activity. This activity is greatest in the Doon Valley, near Dalmellington, and the Glenmuir and upper Ayr Valleys. There are pressures for additional open-cast sites in these areas. The nature of open-cast workings means that there could be significant short and longer term implications for the landscape of these areas.

Management and Planning Guidelines

The following guidelines reflect the sensitivities of the landscape and the pressures for change acting upon it. They are intended to provide a broad basis for the development of more detailed management strategies. The overall aim of such strategies should be to maintain the contrast between the valleys and surrounding uplands, to address issues associated with industrial decline and mineral working, and to maintain each of the valleys' distinctive character.

Agriculture

- *Maintain and enhance avenues/hedgerow trees;*
- *Maintain and reinstate hedgerows and hedgerow trees;*
- *Maintain pastoral landscape;*
- *Discourage improvements which result in loss of field boundaries or field boundary trees;*
- *Encourage farmers and landowners to replant trees along field boundaries;*
- *Encourage the conservation of dry stone dykes in local stone with an emphasis on roadside walls and others in highly visible areas;*
- *Explore the opportunities to increase woodland cover by creating new woodland belts, particularly where there is a need to screen existing and possible future development;*
- *Use the agricultural development notification scheme to influence the design, colour, materials, screening and location of new farm buildings. Explore the use of planning conditions attached to new buildings to provide screening where appropriate.*

Forestry and Woodland

- *Encourage a phased programme of replanting, managing and where necessary, felling hedgerow trees, so as to maintain and restore the historic legacy of trees;*
- *Conserve riparian woodland and wetland corridors;*
- *Encourage the planting of new tree lines and small scale woodlands;*

- *Examine the potential to create an integrated pattern of new small woodlands and woodland belts in the most open areas;*
- *Consider opportunities for new woodland planting in terms of:*
 - *The overall balance of woodland and open space;*
 - *The relative importance of different areas of existing woodland (e.g. commercial plantation versus policy woodland) and how this would be influenced by and increase in woodland cover;*
 - *The importance of key views and features within the landscape;*
 - *Opportunities to provide screening;*
 - *Opportunities to link isolated areas of woodland;*
- *Use new planting to create a framework to absorb earlier development in the open countryside and other visually intrusive features;*
- *Encourage policy woodland management that can maintain the character of the designed landscapes;*
- *Cultural features, particularly mining relics, should not be obscured by forestry;*
- *Discourage the creation of extensive areas of coniferous forestry within the upland valleys; concentrate planting in topographic bowls, up gullies and along scarp slopes leaving an interlinked pattern of open space;*
- *Encourage the remodelling of small, geometric plantations, to create more naturalistic woods;*
- *Forestry restructuring for spatial, age, species and wildlife diversity should be progressed;*
- *Forest restructuring should seek to 'expose' and preserve cultural features such as walls and archaeological ruins; new planting should conform to the Forestry Authority's design guidelines. In particular, it should respond to the small to medium scale nature of the landscape, the importance of views, and historic and ecological values.*

Recreation

- *Develop a signing strategy for private businesses;*
- *Encourage in the sympathetic restoration and re-use of redundant farm and industrial buildings in the countryside;*
- *Focus recreation activities and the provision of new facilities at existing centres;*
- *General presumption against large scale built developments;*
- *Site caravan parks or other facilities to avoid disrupting key views;*

- *Tourism development and facilities should be sited to avoid unchecked linear development or development which sits uncomfortably in the landscape.*

Development

- *Support and promote economic regeneration and high quality building and environmental developments to halt perceived air of abandonment in former industrial areas;*
- *Produce combined development strategies and design guidance for settlements of particular architectural merit and sensitivity;*
- *Adopt design requirements for new building, possibly incorporating shelterbelt planting around isolated buildings;*
- *Apply strict development control to ensure approach road corridors are framed by only high quality, sympathetic developments which adopt an appropriate building line;*
- *Consider positive ways of addressing the interface between settlements and the surrounding countryside. These could include:*
 - *The definition of 'gateways' to settlements;*
 - *The refurbishment/remodelling of urban edge buildings;*
 - *The development of green corridors and finger, where possible, to integrate the urban edges and provide links to the countryside.*

Screening planting around unsightly developments:

- *Discourage the simplistic grafting of housing estates onto the edge of settlements. Encourage more imaginative schemes which respond to the existing patterns of layout, structure, massing and scale.*
- *Provide soft landscape frameworks in advance of building developments to accommodate urban expansion.*
- *Encourage developers to use local building materials and to adopt local vernacular in respect of density, massing, design, colour and location while allowing for modern interpretations of traditional styles.*
- *Consider the preparation of design guides as supplementary planning guidance.*

Encourage the appropriate conversion of redundant buildings in the countryside. Guidance should be provided on the way buildings should be converted to prevent the suburbanisation of the countryside and the loss of vernacular features; avoid the emasculation of important industrial buildings through conversion to new on.

3.2.5 Southern Uplands with Forest

In topographic respects, the Southern Uplands with Forest Landscape type is the same as the Southern Uplands type (T). Its character is, however, considerably different due to the dominant forestry landcover. Indeed, the visual influence of these forests extends over

considerably larger areas than those plotted on the above plan. The forestry is predominantly Sitka spruce, the main variations being in mixes with larch which provides colour contrasts between the dark green of spruce and the light greens to browns of the larch. The forests generally extend over the summits of are concentrated on the side slopes leaving the domed peaks exposed. The rotational nature of forest management provides long term textual and colour changes related to the felling and replanting coupes.

3.2.6 Foothills with Forestry

Foothills with Forest landscape type is closely related to the Foothills landscape type, but has predominantly forest land cover which creates its forest-dominated character. The Ayrshire Foothills comprise a series of hills which form a transition between the higher Pateau Moorland, Southern Uplands and the more sheltered and settled Ayrshire Lowlands

Dark swathes of almost uniform dark green cover many of the rounded peaks and descend on to the lower slopes. The different stages of forest rotation can typically be experienced within short distances where mature conifers contrast with the raw appearance of young planting on the hillside. The aftermath of clearfell often appears chaotic. Deep ploughed slopes prepared for plating create a 'scarred' effect. Design improvements are evident in many areas, e.g. deciduous fringes, informal edges, feathering on high slopes. Open ground is mostly rough or semi-improved pasture with patterns of dry stone dykes. In higher areas the underlying pastures are rougher and often unenclosed. The latter are obscured by forest in areas as are some archaeological remains. Occasionally, breaks in the tree cover reveal old stone enclosures and forts. 'Recreational' forests are also found in this landscape type, with tourism facilities and waymarked trails now integrated into the forests.

Management and Planning Guidelines

The following guidelines reflect the sensitivities of the landscape and the pressures for change acting upon it. They are intended to provide a broad basis for the development of more detailed management strategies. The overall aim of such strategies should be to retain the foothills' transitional character which is a product of variations in landcover, and the contrast with neighbouring lowlands, valleys and higher uplands.

Agriculture

- *Discourage further improvement of pastures, or their conversion to arable;*
- *Maintain the distinction between lowland cereals and highland grazing areas;*
- *Encourage the conservation of dry stone dykes in local stone with an emphasis on roadside walls and other in highly visible areas;*
- *Hill farming should be maintained as an essential feature of the landscape;*
- *Maintain present 'untamed' nature of highest parts of the landscape;*
- *Support continuation of Moorland grazing, particularly within broad enclosures;*
- *Support creation of semi-natural regeneration areas where grazing no longer continues;*

- *Use the agricultural development notification scheme to influence the design, colour, materials, screening and location of new farm buildings. Explore the use of planning conditions attached to new buildings to provide screening where appropriate.*

Forestry and Woodland

- *Adopt a planting strategy that emphasises the transitional character of the landscape and includes:*
 - *Expansion/regeneration of native woodlands;*
 - *Mixture of broadleaf and conifer species;*
 - *Medium sized couples to reflect the scale of the landscape;*
 - *Concentrations of new woodland on steeper slopes, and around the lower slopes;*
 - *Retention of key views;*
- *Encourage small to medium scale woodland planting with appropriate regard to contours.*
- *Encourage the integration of broadleaves and conifers on a small to medium scale, and in a way that links existing woodlands at different altitudes.*
- *Examine the potential to create an integrated pattern of new small woodlands and woodland belts on lower slopes, but which retains the dominant pastoral character of the landscape.*
- *Support semi-natural and broadleaf woodland management and new broadleaf planting schemes in gullies, on scarp slopes and steep valley slopes.*
- *Forest restructuring for spatial, age, species and wildlife diversity should be progressed in the forestry dominated areas.*
- *Forest restructuring should seek to 'expose' and preserve cultural features such as walls, archaeological ruins and field patterns.*
- *In the higher areas of the foothills a predominance of open ground should be preserved with generally large scale patterns of forest and open ground.*
- *General presumption against large scale forestry on lower slopes.*
- *Link new woodlands to lowland shelterbelts, glen woods and farm woodlands, providing broadleaf lower margins.*
- *New forestry proposals should, if possible, be targeted in areas already dominated by forest and with more bland topography of lesser scenic and geomorphological interest.*
- *New planting should conform to the Forestry Authority's design guidelines. In particular, it should respond to the medium to large scale nature of the landscape,*

the importance of views within and out of the hills, and historic and ecological values.

- *Take proactive steps to extend woodlands around future quarry and mineral sites.*

Recreation

- *Maintain low-key level of provision;*
- *Support small scale, low-key tourism or recreational development;*
- *Encourage the sympathetic restoration and re-use of redundant buildings in the countryside;*
- *Focus recreation activities and the provision of new facilities at existing centres;*
- *General presumption against large scale built developments.*

Development

- *Develop strategies for incongruous residential developments of industrial origins which consider remodelling unsympathetic buildings; incremental removal of properties to improve landscape fit; and screen planting.*
- *Consolidate and improve the centres of historic settlements, avoiding linear development along roads.*
- *Produce combined development strategies and design guidance for settlements of particular architectural merit and sensitivity.*
- *Target edge of settlement expansion only where it can be integrated within a woodland framework or landforms.*
- *Encourage the appropriate conversion of redundant building in the countryside. Guidance should be provided on the way buildings should be converted (including the provision of drives, gardens etc) to prevent the suburbanisation of the countryside.*
- *General presumption against large scale built developments.*
- *Where rural development is permitted, encourage construction to consolidate existing hamlets or groups of farm buildings, and favour sheltered locations.*

3.2.7 Upland Basin

To the north and west of New Cumnock, the headwaters of the River Nith have created an open basin at the foot of the Southern Uplands and partially enclosed by foothills and moorland plateau to the North West and north east respectively. Underlain by a mixture of millstone grit, limestone and coal measures, and immediately to the north of the main Southern Uplands Fault, the landform is shallow and subdued, comprising a series of low, smooth ridges and troughs. Small lochs fill some of the shallow troughs. Viewed from the north, the Southern Uplands rise as a steep wall behind the basin.

At about 200 metres AOD, the basin is comparatively elevated and exposed, qualities that are reflected in the generally unwooded character of the landscape, and in the wind-trimmed canopies of those hedgerow trees that do grow. Most field boundaries are marked by drystone dykes (often constructed from glacially rounded boulders) or gappy hawthorn hedges.

Within this exposed upland landscape, development is often very visible. New Cumnock, for example, has experienced considerable growth during the 20th century, stimulated by the growth of the coal industry. Many of the houses are modern and suburban in design (white rendered walls with orange pantiles) and are located in comparatively prominent locations, with little or no screening. The result is that the settlement is a very visible feature within the wider landscape. Older buildings, by contrast, are often built of grey stone with slate roofs, and tend to retreat into the landscape.

Mineral extraction, particularly coal mining, has had an important influence on the landscape of the upland basin. Areas of derelict or damaged land, old railway lines, and the pattern of development all comprise the legacy of the area's industrial past. Open-cast coal workings to the west of New Cumnock provide a continuing industrial influence and will result in significant changes in the area's landscape.

Development: 20th century settlement growth in this landscape type has had a significant effect as a consequence of the openness of the landscape (and the resulting prominence of buildings within it) and the location and building materials selected for new development. Other issues arise where localised industrial development created a dispersed settlement pattern. With the decline of industry, many of these settlements (often no more than a row of semi-detached houses, or a schoolhouse) have lost their raison d'être and are suffering a physical decline. Alternative land uses, for example the reintroduction of crafting, could provide the means of sustaining the rural economy in such places. These issues also affect the Upland River Valley (J) and Foothills (Q) landscape types where they occur in areas adjacent to the basin.

3.2.8 Plateau Moorland

Plateau Moorlands occur in two parts of Ayrshire – along its eastern and southern boundaries. Underlain by basalts, they form the extensive ridge, which separates the Ayrshire Basin from the Clyde Basin, extending from near the Garnock Valley to Upper Nithsdale. Underlain by greywackes, they form another large area of upland in southwest Ayrshire, providing a transition between the foothills and the uplands to the south. Plateau Moorland with Forest represents a sub-type of this landscape (see para. 5.197).

The Plateau Moorlands consist of blanket bog, heather and grass Moorland, the topography is comparatively level with extensive plateau basins rising to soft contoured ridges. The landscape is of an open, exposed and rather wild character despite occasional isolated hill farms, sheep (and cattle grazing). The landscape type is perhaps exemplified in areas to the north and south of the upper Ayr valley. Mosses, comprising areas of extensive peatland form an important component of this landscape type, occurring for example at Fenwick Moss.

The expansive nature of this landscape would make any development within it highly visible. The Plateau Moorlands are generally free from masts and other tall structures, but where they do occur (even outside study area) they can have quite a wide impact.

A subset of the Plateau Moorland landscape type (R), the Plateau Moorland with Forest landscape type occurs where significant forestation has taken place. This sub-type is found in southern Ayrshire and at Whitelee Forest to the north of the Irvine Valley. This landscape has

ideal physical characteristics for forestry and has been subject to the incremental spread of commercial (Sitka) forest mostly of a 'blanket' nature, as yet little modified by redesign at rotation. This has significantly modified the original character in terms of colours, textures and the length of views possible. Extensive plantations of uniform age, colour and texture typify the landscape. There is a general lack of elevation, which allows the forests to create dark horizons. New plantations appear as dark speckled landscapes from a distance. The open ground and surrounding Moorland contrasts in its mosaics of brown and ochre colours. The landscape has an exposed and remote character, although enclosure within the forests can be well defined.

3.2.9 South Uplands

Immediately south of the Southern Upland Fault lie a number of bold upland areas which have a character very different to the lower moorlands and hills to the north and west. This character is derived from the hills' height (up to 575 metres AOD), their geology (Ordovician rocks, predominantly more resistant greywackes) and the influence of glacial erosion. Southern Uplands with Forest (T(b), see para. 5.225.) comprises a subset of this landscape type.

The hills are characterised by steep, smooth slopes rising to rounded summits. Cut into the uplands are a series of distinctive glacial valleys, with U-shaped cross sections, precipitous side slopes, hanging valleys, waterfalls, crags and screes. The combination of these features, and the contrast with lower moorlands and the lowlands to the north, gives an impression of uplands, which are more extensive, remote and higher than is actually the case. Most parts of the uplands are accessible on foot only, though a minor road climbs up to the Nick of Balloch (on fine days providing spectacular views) and another runs along the valley of the Afton Water, south of New Cumnock.

Landcover in the Southern Uplands is typically coarse grassland, though the highest areas often comprise heather Moorland. Areas of rough grazing generally lack walled enclosures. Semi-natural woodland is scarce, limited to a few more sheltered glens, gullies and clefts. There are also extensive areas of coniferous plantations, particularly around the fringes of the higher hills.

Modern settlement is absent from these exposed uplands, being concentrated in river valleys and the larger glens. It is likely that settlement was more extensive during milder periods in the past. There has been little investigation to confirm this, however.

3.2.10 Southern Uplands with Forest

In topographic respects, the Southern Uplands with Forest Landscape type is the same as the Southern Uplands type (T). Its character is, however, considerably different due to the dominant forestry landcover. Indeed, the visual influence of these forests extends over considerably larger areas than those plotted on the above plan. The forestry is predominantly Sitka spruce, the main variations being in mixes with larch which provides colour contrasts between the dark green of spruce and the light greens to browns of the larch. The forests generally extend over the summits of are concentrated on the side slopes leaving the domed peaks exposed. The rotational nature of forest management provides long term textual and colour changes related to the felling and replanting coupes.

3.3 Local Landscape Character

The study area for the settlements in the report covers a wide area from the edge of the Southern Uplands. As a result of the site survey, ten local landscape character areas have been identified close to and around the Urban Fringes of settlements and each of these are illustrated on Figures 5a to 5g.

3.3.1 Southern Uplands with Forestry

Carsphairn Forest extends to the south east from the edge of Dalmellington covering a vast area of uplands forming Dumfries and Galloway Forest Park and a natural boundary between Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway.

3.3.2 Foothills with Forestry: Upland Farmland

This landscape is concentrated around the towns of Dalmellington and Patna. Open ground is mostly rough or semi-improved pasture with patterns of dry stone dykes. In higher areas the underlying pastures are rougher and often unenclosed. Much of this landscape has been affected by mining and open cast workings with Chalmerston site near Dalmellington still being operational.

3.3.3 Upland Pasture Land

This landscape is centred on the Irvine Valley at Darvel and Newmilns and consists of steep rising farmland to north and south of Irvine valley settlements. The landscape is characterised by pasture fields bounded by hedgerows with shelterbelts and pockets of mature woodland.

3.3.4 Foothills with Forestry: Upland Forestry

Plantation forestry is adjacent to the Doon Valley and general forms a broad swathe of landscape between the Ayrshire Lowlands and Southern Uplands. Areas of forestry include Keirs Hill and Carskeoch Hill to the south west of Patna.

3.3.5 Foothills with Forestry: Urban Fringe

This landscape consists of former mining and industrial sites in upland areas predominantly around Dalmellington, New Cumnock and Muirkirk.

3.3.6 Plateau Moorland: Upland Farmland

This landscape extends from the urban edges of New Cumnock, Muirkirk and Darvel and characterised by open, exposed and rather perceived 'wild' character despite occasional isolated hill farms, sheep (and cattle grazing). Parts of the landscape have been affected by opencast workings including areas north of New Cumnock.

3.3.7 Upland River Valley

Upland River Valleys are common throughout the Ayrshire Rim Regional Landscape and are characterised by pastures on the lower valley slopes with rougher moorland on the upper slopes. Examples are provided as follows:

- River Ayr;
- River Nith;
- River Irvine;
- River Doon.

3.3.8 Ayrshire Lowlands: Lowland Hills

Lowland Hills are a common feature of the Ayrshire Lowlands landscape character. These areas form the highest ground in the lowlands ranging from 50m to 150m AOD. These areas are generally characterised by gently rounded landform of predominantly pasture and grazing land divided by low hedgerows with post and wire fencing and few trees. A noticeable characteristic is the occurrence of 'hilltop farmsteads' that are often traditional stone built or whitewashed farmhouses and associated buildings often with some woodland shelter, located on the crest of hilltop and overlooking the surrounding and lower farmland.

3.3.9 Ayrshire Lowlands/River/Stream Valleys

Stream valleys coincide with the local burns and rivers in the area and individual local landscape types have been identified through reference to the particular river or burn. Generally however, these areas are characterised by low-lying meandering valleys and gulleys. The landcover is often heavily grazed grassland with rougher grass and scrub on the steep slopes that provide small scale and intimate spaces of limited interest. Alternatively the valleys may include larger spaces, viaducts and bridges, trees, and woodland creating more interesting and attractive spaces. Examples are provided as follows:

- Lugar Water;
- River Ayr.

The River Ayr and Lugar Water are the main areas of Lowland River Valley within the study area. The River Ayr runs through Ochiltree, the River Ayr runs east to west adjacent to Sorn.

These areas are *generally more sensitive to housing development* due to their intimate scale and complex, meandering landform that would be unsuitable for development without hydro engineering. These areas do however provide a sense of identity and potentially attractive visual focus that may be complementary to new adjacent development and associated green spaces. These areas also have some potential in terms of recreation and amenity.

3.3.10 Ayrshire Lowlands: Pasture Lands

This is the most common, local landscape character area, within the Ayrshire Lowlands and extends to the urban edges of all settlements within the study area. The landscape character is typical of the Ayrshire Lowlands regional landscape area and is characterised by pasture fields with some improved pasture, rough pasture and arable crops with fields bounded by hedgerows/post and wire fencing and occasional trees, shelterbelts and woodland. This landscape is generally *less sensitive to housing development* due to its lower elevation, widespread occurrence and general lack of sensitive or vulnerable landscape features.

3.3.11 Ayrshire Lowlands: Estate Landscape

There are several areas of Estate Landscape within the Ayrshire Lowlands and they are usually the remnants of a former estates and historic gardens and designed landscapes. Loudoun Castle east of Newmilns and Dumfries House south west of Ochiltree. Other examples include the following estates or areas, some of which have been abandoned or sub-divided, but may included listed buildings, historic features and protected woodland and trees.

- Lanfine near Darvel;
- Ballochmyle;
- Sorn Castle.

Common features include mature estate and policy woodland forming shelterbelts, estate boundaries, serpentine and curved areas, and roundels or copses, avenues and parkland. Generally the estates are not open to the public and the listed buildings are not widely visible from outwith the estate. However, the landscape character and quality of these areas often provides an enhanced setting for adjacent settlements and recreational areas such as riverside footpaths and in the case of River Ayr and Lugar Water. These landscapes are generally of a higher quality and *generally more sensitive to housing development* due to their uniqueness and historical, architectural, scenic and horticultural value.

3.3.12 Ayrshire Lowlands: Transport Corridor

This local landscape character designation relates to the main road and rail corridors in particular the A76, A71, and A70.

3.4 Landscape Designations

The Local Plan Policies that relate particularly to landscape related designations in the study area are illustrated in Figure 3a, 3b, 3c and 3d and are listed as follows.

3.4.1 Landscape Character

East Ayrshire contains a wide variety of landscapes, parts of which are considered to be of high landscape value though there are no statutory landscape designations within the area. Local Plan Policies ENV11, 12, and 13 all relate to Sensitive Landscape Character Areas within the region, and these designations are mainly located to the south of the study area. Policy ENV14 relates to development proposals within rural areas not identified within the local plan maps. In these cases development is required to have a minimum impact on the rural environment and the protection of agricultural lands, built heritage, the setting of historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes, scheduled monuments, nature conservation areas, water quality and areas of peat are specifically listed.

3.4.2 Gardens and Designed Landscapes

Loudoun Castle and Dumfries House are listed in the inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes. The Local Plan Policy for this area is listed below:

‘Policy ENV5 - The Council will seek to protect, preserve, and enhance Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes. In instances where the proposed

development affects an Historic Garden or Designed Landscape which is included in the 'Inventory of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscape in Scotland' a landscape management plan will require to be submitted as an integral part of any application submitted to the Council for consideration.'

Other landscapes not on the inventory at present but are recognised locally are Sorn House and Lanfine.

3.4.3 Trees and Native Woodland

Policy ENV15 states that the Council will actively seek to preserve and supplement existing broadleaf and native tree species throughout East Ayrshire. In particular, the Council will:

- Strongly encourages the protection and positive management of ancient and semi-natural woodland, existing hedgerows and new hedgerow planting;
- Protect those individual, groups and areas of trees which contribute significantly to the landscape quality through the serving of Tree Preservation Orders;
- Encourage the development of Community Woodlands within, in close proximity to, and forming linkages between settlements;
- Encourage tree hedgerow planting or broadleaf or native species.

3.4.4 Conservation Areas

Conservation areas within the study area include Sorn, Newmilns, Dunlop, Ochiltree, and where the designated area is contained in the centre of the development and not visible from outwith the settlement boundary. Policy ENV 4 is listed as follows:

'Policy ENV 4 - The Council will seek to ensure that all development within or affecting the setting of a Conservation Area or affecting the appearance or setting of a listed building, is sympathetic to the area or building concerned in terms of layout, size, scale, design, siting, materials and colour of finish. Wherever possible, all proposals should seek to preserve, enhance or incorporate features, which contribute positively to the character or appearance of the area and have due regard to the architectural and historic qualities of the area or building concerned.'

3.4.5 Landscape and Rural Development Policies and Sensitive Landscape Character Areas

- Policy ENV11

Within the Sensitive Landscape Character Areas identified on the local plan maps, the Council will give priority and prime consideration to the protection and enhancement of the landscape and consideration of rural development proposals. The Council will not be supportive of development which would create unacceptable visual intrusion or irreparable damage within these areas and will be supportive if development proposals only where these positively enhance or protect natural landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area or promote the social and economic well-being of communities.

- Policy ENV12

Throughout the rural area and especially within the Sensitive Landscape Character Areas identified on the Local Plan maps, the Council will ensure that all development proposals respect, in terms of their design, the local landscape characteristics of the particular area within which they are proposed. Developers will be expected to conserve and enhance, and reinstate or replace where appropriate those features that contribute to the intrinsic landscape value and quality of the area concerned, including:

- i. Existing settings of settlements and building within the landscape;*
- ii. Existing woodlands, shelter belts, hedgerows, and trees;*
- iii. Existing burns, rivers, locks, and other water features;*
- iv. Existing field patterns and means of enclosure including dry stone dykes, hedging and fencing;*
- v. Existing Public Rights of Way, footpaths and bridleways;*
- vi. Existing skylines, landform, and contours.*

Development that results in the permanent loss of landscape features which are not readily renewable and the Council will, not support whose loss would be unacceptable in landscape terms.

- Policy ENV13

Within the rural area, and especially within the Sensitive Landscape Character areas identified on the Local Plan maps, the Council will ensure, through the development process, that:

- i. Any authorised development is in keeping with, has minimal visual impact and reflects the nature of the rural area in which it is located, in terms of layout, materials used, design, size, scale, finish, and colour. The design and material finish of any ancillary features will also required to be sympathetic to the character and appearance of the area;*
- ii. Any authorised development is sensitively sited, landscaped and screened so as to blend into, respect and complement the landscape characteristics of the particular area in which it is to be located; and*
- iii. The landscape setting of a particular area affected by a proposed development is safeguarded from adverse or irreversible change by the use of appropriate planning conditions, management agreements, preparation, and promotion of environmental improvement schemes, development and design briefs etc.*

3.4.6 Other Environmental Policies

Further reference has been made of the Local Plan Policies relating to built heritage and the environment as follows:

- Built Heritage Policies:
 - Policy ENV1: Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas;

- Policy ENV6, 7, 8, and 9: Townscape and Design Policies.

4. Settlements and Landscape Capacity

4.1 Dalmellington

4.1.1 Townscape and Historical Context

The town of Dalmellington stands 600 feet above sea level at the upper end of the Doon Valley. It is in effect, the gateway to the hill country and a settlement has existed here from very early times. The geographic location of the town represents a transitional area between the Ayrshire Rim Regional area and Dumfries and Galloway. The overall landscape setting of Dalmellington is a juxtaposition of hills and uplands with an industrialized landscape with much of the housing expansion in the last 100 years servicing the coal mining industry. Existing opencast works are still a prominent feature to the north west. The Cumnock Burn comes from the east. The Muick Water comes through the town from the south-east. The Doon itself comes down from Loch Doon through the Ness Glen, and the river widens temporarily into the Bogton Loch just west of the town. Dalmellington is built partly on the end slopes of the spurs separating these valleys, and partly on the flat ground below.

The town has expanded around the historic core adjacent to the A713 with miner's cottages, cottage tenements and 60's council housing. Bellsbank is located on the southern edge of the town with predominantly 60's council houses and Burnton is a group of miner's cottages to the north. The character and setting of the village are strongly influenced by the uplands to the south east, previous mine workings features (Pennyvennie) and existing open cast workings to the north.

Local Landscape character: Southern Uplands with Forestry

The edge of the Southern Uplands are located to the south east of Dalmellington and form a distinctive upland backdrop to the town, the hill summit Cairnsmore of Carsphain one of the highest peaks. Much of this upland landscape consists of moorland and forestry and forms part of the Galloway Forest Park and the overall landscape quality is medium.

Local Landscape Character: Upland River Valley (River Doon and Muck Water)

The River Doon runs from Loch Doon in Carrick Hills to the northwest past the edge of Bellsbank and Dalmellington to an open wetland area at Bogton Loch. Semi mature broad-leaved woodland forms an edge to the River Doon at Bellsbank. The Muck Water is centred on the A713 road to the south east of the town with steep sided hills to the east and west of the river. The Muck Water passes through the town forming steep banks at the southeast edge of the town. The A713 is the main approach road and tourist route with hills provide a visual focal focus and landmark when entering the town

Local Landscape Character: Wetlands

The River Doon forms a flood plain and wetland area to the south west of the town around Bogton Loch and the Muck Water merges into the River Doon beyond the Loch. This is a flat and open landscape with sparse tree cover and vegetation. There are number of paths within this landscape and it is a valuable habitat for birds.

Local Landscape Character: Foothills Farmland

Areas of non-distinct farmland often merge into pocket urban fringe areas and moorland on the edge of the town. The landscape is made up of rough grassland, moorland with broken hedgerows and overall the landscape quality is medium to low.

Local Landscape Character: Stream Valley

The Cumnock Burn runs from the east into the town parallel to the B741 uplands to the south and forms a steep sided valley with farmland and scattered mature trees.

Local Landscape Character: Urban Fringe (Coal Mining)

Much of landscape around Dalmellington has been affected by mining activities over the years and the Pinnivey spoil heap to north east forms a distinctive conical hill feature in many of the views in and around the town. The Minnivey Bing to the north of Burnton has been recently restored and Chalmerston exists as an operational opencast in the area.

4.1.2 Existing Urban Edge Character

The existing urban edge is predominantly sparse with limited vegetation there are some scattered hedgerows, low level vegetation and fencelines. Existing housing at Bellsbank abuts upland forestry and semi mature woodland with newly planted areas to the east of the settlement.

4.1.3 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There are four new areas of new housing development (50 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Dalmellington: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
074H*	The Glebe (PDC)	11 houses	0.62
076H*	Ayr Road (PDC)	13 houses	1.00
202H*	Melling Terrace (PDC)	5 houses	0.30
224H*	Sawmill Site (PDC)	21houses	1.30

(PDC indicates a possible drainage constraint) ; (* indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007)

There are other development areas listed in the Local Plan and listed in Table 4.19 and 4.20.

Table 4.2 Sites for Class 4 Industrial, Residential, Special Needs Housing, Community Facility of Leisure and Recreation Use

Site Ref	Location	Area (ha)
077M	Croft Street	1.01

Table 4.3 Sites for Special Needs Housing or Appropriate Town Centre Use in Keeping with the Character and Appearance of Dalmellington Conservation Area.

Site Ref	Location	Area (ha)
078M	High Street	0.09

Other relevant proposals within the local plan include:

PROP24

- *The Council will, in association with Enterprise Ayrshire and subject to the necessary finance being available, carry out a comprehensive landscaping and environmental improvement programme at the Path, in order to form a recreational parkland area as an asset to the town centre.*

4.1.4 Landscape Capacity

In landscape terms the topography and landscape to the south and east limits further expansion of the settlement as this landscape contributes to the overall setting of the town and provides containment to the town generally. Greater capacity exists within urban fringe and farmland areas to the west and north of the town.

North and West Dalmellington: Higher Capacity

Greater landscape capacity for development is present along the north and north western fringes of the town where the local landscape is less sensitive (medium to low) due to the presence of urban fringe character and low lying topography.

In urban design terms these sites would reinforce the nuclear form of the settlement and, coupled with new landscape features enhance the setting of the urban edge. Existing urban edge has some scattered hedgerow and scrub features. New development would incorporate a cohesive landscape strategy incorporating stream and loch features and footpaths to wider countryside.

South and East Dalmellington and Bellsbank: Lower Capacity

Lower capacity for expansion exists at the southern and eastern edges of Dalmellington due to the steep topography and overall potential infringement into the distinctive upland landscape of the Southern Uplands and Foothills Landscape type.

Table 4.4 Dalmellington: Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development			
Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
6/1	166	8.3	Mixed 1 and 2 storey development is recommended incorporating new landscape features and boundary planting. Development would enhance existing urban edge.
Areas with Potential for Development			
5/1	108	7.2	Existing loch would be a constraint to development but also integral within a new landscape strategy. Medium to low-density housing would be suitable with new woodland planting and open space design. Development would enhance and improve rural setting of town.
3/1	29	2.9	Site is limited by Muck Water and marshland to south, low density housing with new landscape boundary strategy would be appropriate.
Total	303	19	

4.1.5 Landscape Strategy: Setting Preservation and Enhancement

The uplands to the south and west are important to the overall setting of the town and should be remain undeveloped. The wetlands to the west and south west of the town provide attractive natural features and juxtapose with the upland landscape and the farmland and urban fringe areas on the north and northwestern edge require enhancement to improve the rural setting.

Development capacity is recommended within open areas of farmland and urban fringe that would require a strong landscape strategy to include new woodland planting, footpath and access improvements and open space creation.

Table 4.5 Dalmellington: Landscape Strategy Areas

Location	Outline management Recommendations
1.	Creation of new forestry and woodland areas to northwest at Burnton, landscape and rural setting requires enhancement. New woodland boundary planting to contain recent development and new areas at Gillies Knowe.
2.	New woodland boundary planting and landscape treatment of loch side including new footpaths.
3.	New woodland boundary planting adjacent to road and Muck Water.
4.	Retention of Bogton loch and marshland
5.	Retention of River Doon valley and associated woodland
6.	New woodland boundary planting adjacent to road and to form new urban edge.
7.	Retention of upland hill summit at 'Town's Common'.

-
8. New forestry planting Retention of Upland Farmland and forestry landscape to the south and west to retain upland landscape backdrop to town.
-

4.2 Patna

4.2.1 Townscape and Historical Context

Patna is a small settlement Patna (population 2298) has been historically linked to the Parish of Straiton but has more in common through its mining origins to Dalmellington. It is centred around the River Doon with a combination of older stone properties and post war council housing.

The form of the older town is linear adjacent to the A713 with more nucleated post war council housing to the west of the River Doon on higher ground. The character of the town is strongly influenced by uplands to the west including Patna Hill and the River Doon including the open space associated with the river.

4.2.2 Local Landscape Setting

Local Landscape Character: Plantation Forestry

The high ground to the west and north west of Patna form an undulating forested backdrop to the town, Patna Hill is the most pronounced of the hill features on the northwest edge of the town. Forestry extends from the settlement boundary to the southwest towards Chapel Hill and Keirs Hill.

Local Landscape Character: Upland Farmland

Upland Farmland provides the overriding character of the local landscape setting on the eastern, northern southeastern edges of the town. This landscape is indicative of the Foothills with Forestry LCA which encloses the Doon Valley. The farmland rises from the existing railway line in the east towards Lethamhill and consists of open rough pasture and moorland with scattered hedgerows and dry stone dykes.

Local Landscape Character: Upland River Valley

The River Doon passes through the town with two bridge crossing points into the housing areas from the A713. The river and open space are attractive natural features in the town with scattered scrub and semi mature trees located at the edge.

Local Landscape Character: Urban Fringe

There are some small linear strips of ground at the western edge of the town near the ruin at Carskeoch that exist as rough grassland with some mature woodland features. Much of this area is a transitional buffer between the settlement and the forestry with preference paths and trails.

4.2.3 Existing Urban Edge Character

The existing urban edge is predominantly farmland and forestry with fringe areas to the west. Existing housing density is medium. The urban edges to the west abut existing plantation

forestry with small areas of undefined brown field land with several informal paths leading to surrounding countryside

4.2.4 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There are four new areas of new housing development (31 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Patna: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
088H	Main Street	4 houses	0.22
090H*	Carnshalloch Avenue. 1(SN)	7 houses	0.71
091H	Carnshalloch Avenue 2 (A)	12 houses	0.25
201H*	Meikleholm Drive	8 houses	0.38

(A indicates site will be safeguarded for Affordable Housing) ; (* indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007) ; (SN indicates site will be safeguarded for Special Needs Housing)

There are no other development areas or proposals listed in the Local Plan.

4.2.5 Landscape Capacity

The location of Patna within the Doon Valley with the upland topography to west and east limits large-scale expansion, development would impinge on the overall rural upland setting.

South East and North Patna: Lower Capacity

The preservation of the open space and rural character of River Doon to the south east edge of the town would limit overall expansion of the town in this area. There is capacity for expansion on the north edge adjacent to Downieston Farm and River Doon although rising topography to north

South West Patna: Higher Capacity

Overall the potential for large-scale expansion is limited due to topography and the River Doon. The western edge of the town within the urban fringe land at Carskeoch offers some capacity for development on the low-lying land. There are existing woodland features that would soften and integrate housing with rural and forestry backdrop.

Table 4.7 Patna: Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development			
Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas with Potential for Development			
11/1	80	0.8	Scope to expand settlement boundary to south east, retaining existing open space at River Doon. Low density development would be suitable.
13/1	52	2.6	Medium to low density housing subject to, localised higher ground west of Carskeoch. New urban edge would partially visible from A713 and would require integration with established trees and woodland.
13/2	132	6.6	Medium to low density housing subject to, localised higher ground west of Carskeoch. New urban edge would partially visible from A713 and would require integration with established trees and woodland.
16/1	44	2.2	Scope for medium to low density housing subject to rising topography near Downieston Farm, development to include landscape strategy for River Doon corridor.
Areas with Limited Potential			
15/1	18	0.9	Area of farmland at foot of Patna Hill provides some limited capacity, site constraints include topography to north west and cemetery.
Total	326	13	

4.2.6 Landscape Strategy: Setting Preservation and Enhancement

The River Doon, Patna Hill and associated forested areas to the west are of high importance to the overall setting of Patna. The recommended settlement expansion would include new landscape features including links along the River Doon.

To the east landscape is of lower quality farmland and moorland with various reclaimed industrial sites and disused railways.

Table 4.8 Patna: Landscape Strategy Areas

Location	Outline management Recommendations
9.	Retention of Upland/Forestry to west and north west including Patna Hill. Steep topography contains settlement and provides forested backdrop to town.
10.	New boundary planting linking to River Doon corridor.
11.	Retention eastern landscape as undeveloped uplands-

-
- | | |
|-----|---|
| 12. | Retention of open space at River Doon corridor as it creates an attractive amenity area with views to Southern Uplands from the settlement. |
| 13. | New boundary planting and management of existing woodland at western edge of town. |
| 14. | New woodland planting linking into River Doon corridor. |
-

4.3 New Cumnock

4.3.1 Townscape and Historical Context

Historically New Cumnock was a small settlement with an ironworks was built in 1847 which saw an influx of workers from County Durham and the housing built for them was called the Furnace Rows. Other minerals proved more successful with clay from the area being used in both Cumnock Pottery and brick production.

The current population of the town is 3749. The town is set against a backdrop of upland landscape and hill summits with long expansive views to Lowther Hills from some areas. Settlement expansion in the last fifty years has encroached the upland landscape and in some areas housing appears as prominent feature with no screening. There is a railway line which runs parallel to the River Nith within the town and the A76 is the main transport corridor through the town. The wetlands and new woodland areas on the western edge of the town are the former coal mine is a local nature reserve with footpath links to the town.

Local landmarks are the uplands to the south east and the existing wind farm at Harehill.

4.3.2 Local Landscape Setting

Local Landscape Character: Upland Farmland

Upland Farmland surrounds much of the town ranging from rough pasture and moorland within the Plateau Moorland LCA to pastureland with hedgerows within the Upland Basin and Upland River Valley LCAs. Field boundaries vary from larger grassland areas with drystone walls to smaller field patterns with broken hedgerows. There are also pockets of fringe quality land within this landscape with remnants of former industry and mineral extraction.

Local Landscape Character: Upland River Valley

There are two upland river valleys that intersect within New Cumnock, the Afton Water is a steep sided valley that runs from the Southern Uplands and the River Nith is a meandering river within the flatter topography.

Local Landscape Character: Urban Fringe (Reclamation Areas)

There are several former mining and industrial sites around New Cumnock the largest of these is the Knockshinnoch site on the western edge of the town. This area has been reclaimed as lagoons and wildlife reserve with new woodland planting and wetland areas. The area has a high recreational value and is used by walkers.

4.3.3 Existing Urban Edge Character

The existing urban edge is generally sparse with little vegetation, the southern edge of the settlement abutting with the Upland Farmland landscape with houses appearing as prominent features within the wider landscape. The eastern edge of town abuts the Afton Water where there is some vegetation and woodland features including mature trees at Castle Mains. The western edge of town is made up of older buildings including a cemetery with scattered trees and scrub making up a mixture of farmland and urban fringe.

4.3.4 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There are four new areas of new housing development (33 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9 New Cumnock: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
053H*	Muirfoot Farm	15 houses	1.05
054H*	Castle (PDC)	4 houses	0.06
055H*	Afton Bridgend	7 houses	0.31
56H*	Lime Road	7 houses	0.42

(PDC indicates a possible drainage constraint) ; (* indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007)

There are other development areas listed in the Local Plan and listed in Table 4.2

Other relevant proposals within the local plan include:

PROP39

- *The Council will, with the full involvement of the local community, prepare an Environmental Improvement Action Plan for New Cumnock, focusing on those areas identified by the community as being most in need of priority treatment.*

Relevant recommendations within the local plan include:

REC 14

- *The Scottish Executive is recommended to provide, as a matter of priority, a new by-pass for New Cumnock.*

4.3.5 Landscape Capacity

Spatial Development Options Paper

New Cumnock is within the M74 Link Investment Corridor. New Cumnock is identified by the Structure Plan as a local community with significant development opportunities. With regards to the 'Suggested distribution of Greenfield Housing Demand by Settlement' table, New

Cumnock would take up 12% of the total demand for the M74 Link Investment Corridor Settlements. This amounts to 115 housing units within New Cumnock between 2005.

Eastern and Northern Edge: Higher Capacity

Landscape capacity for development exists on the eastern edge of town within low-lying farmland. There are existing woodland features at Afton Water and Castle Mains which would develop a landscape interface with new development and the proximity to the centre of the town would offer good connectivity. New footpath and landscape enhancements adjacent to Afton Water are recommended.

Further capacity for smaller scale settlements expansion exists at the north western and northeastern corners of the town, adjacent to the railway. The landscape quality of these areas is generally low and exists as urban fringe/farmland. Development in these areas would be coupled with landscape boundary planting to improve the urban edge in relation to rural setting.

South Western Edge: Lower Capacity

The southwestern edge of New Cumnock abuts onto farmland/urban fringe ground with the Knockshinnoch nature reserve and lagoons extending to the west. There would be some limited capacity for expansion within farmland and urban fringe land, a landscape buffer would have to integrate with wetlands and new woodland areas.

Table 4.10 New Cumnock: Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development			
Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
24/1	346	17.3	Low lying area at Castle Mains offers capacity for medium to low density housing with a landscape strategy incorporating new woodland areas at new urban edge and Afton Water. New traffic/pedestrian links across river may be necessary. Development should relate to river, flooding issues examined.
Areas with Potential for Development			
19/1	72	3.6	Potential height constraints and sloping ground to north would mean that single story medium to low density housing would be suitable. Woodland edge to integrate with upland rural setting.
21/1	26	1.3	Scope for small-scale expansion between railway and existing urban edge.
31/1	48	2.4	Scope for small-scale expansion between railway and existing urban edge adjacent to A76.
29/1	98	4.9	Site constraints include proximity to wetlands and nature reserve, although development is in close proximity to town centre. Medium to low density housing is recommended with establishment of new mature woodland edge to integrate with planting at nature reserve.
Areas with Limited Potential			

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development

Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
29/2	30	3.0	Rising topography is main site constraint, low density housing would be recommended.
28/1	40	4.0	Topography rises to south west to create a minor hillock, development of low density housing in lower ground subject to setting issues on western edge of town.
Total	660	33	

4.3.6 Landscape Strategy: Setting Preservation and Enhancement

The uplands to south of the town should remain undeveloped, existing housing has already impinged the rural backdrop. New woodland and wetland areas to the west provide potential setting and are a valuable local recreation area.

The farmland and moorland to north offers potential for forestry planting to screen existing opencast workings and give some landscape containment to the town.

Table 4.11 New Cumnock: Landscape Strategy Areas

Location	Outline management Recommendations
16.	Forestry/mixed woodland planting recommended to screen open cast and improve rural backdrop New woodland planting at existing urban edge to improve rural interface
17.	New woodland boundary to existing northern settlement edge.
18.	New woodland boundary at new urban edge.
19.	New woodland boundary at new urban edge
20.	New woodland planting and open space adjacent to railway and River Nith.
21.	New landscape planting at new western edge to integrate with nature reserve. New woodland and landscape in conjunction with potential development, providing links to nature reserve
22.	New woodland structure planting and internal spaces, including development of landscape strategy at Afton Water.
23.	Retention of Upland Farmland as transition area with Southern Uplands
24.	Retain Afton Valley river corridor as contributes to rural/upland setting.
25.	Retain developing woodland, lagoons and footpaths at nature reserve.

4.4 Ochiltree

4.4.1 Townscape and Historical Context

Ochiltree is a small town to the west of Cumnock and as with many other Ayrshire villages are associated with coal mining, the Barony being the last. The current population of the town is 693 and is centred around the River Lugar. The historical part of the settlement is linear and centred around the A70 road and is designated as a conservation area. Post war and modern housing has extended to the west within Lowland Hills. The River Lugar, Burnock Water and estate woodland of Auchinleck House are attractive natural features at the edge of town.

4.4.2 Local Landscape Setting

Local Landscape Character: Lowland Hills

The town is located within the Lowland Hills, which extend west from the River Ayr and Burnock Water. The western edge of the settlement appearing elevated, when viewing from the southeast. This landscape contributes to the overall rural setting of the town.

Local Landscape Character: Lowland River Valley/Stream Valleys (Lugar Water and Burnock Water)

The main river valley is the River Ayr, which runs to the north west of Ochiltree and abuts the estate landscape of Auchinleck House. The landscape consists of mature woodland and scrub enclosed by Lowland Hill and Pasture Lands and contributes to the overall setting of the town.

Local Landscape Character: Pasture Land

Pasture Land extend east from Ochiltree enclosing the Lugar Water, the landscape generally is of medium quality with mature woodland, hedgerows and scattered trees.

Local Landscape Character: Estate Landscape

The mature shelterbelts and woodland of Auchinleck House extend south to adjoin the River Lugar creating landscape character of a medium to high quality.

4.4.3 Existing Urban Edge Character

On the whole the existing urban edge is varied with mature trees, hedgerows and fence lines. The Lugar Water provides a natural barrier to the east where there are recreation grounds, open space, mature woodland and lower density housing. To the west new development is underway with the existing settlement boundary being extended towards Watson Farm.

4.4.4 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There are three new areas of new housing development (50 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.12.

Table 4.12 Ochiltree: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
084H	Cairnhall	10 houses	1.15
233H*	1-5 Main Street	10 houses	0.08
018H*	Watson Farm (NGR)	30 houses	2.45

(NGR indicates a new Greenfield release) ; (* indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007)

Other relevant proposals within the local plan include:

PROP37

The Council will pursue all available means to ensure that a by-pass for Ochiltree is provided as a matter of priority. The assistance of the Scottish Executive and other interested bodies and organisations will be actively sought in this regard.

4.4.5 Landscape Capacity

Spatial Development Options Paper

Ochiltree is within the M74 Link Investment Corridor. Ochiltree is identified by the Structure Plan as a local community with small-scale development opportunities. With regards to the 'Suggested distribution of Greenfield Housing Demand by Settlement' table, Ochiltree would take up 3% of the total demand for the M74 Link Investment Corridor Settlements.

North and East Ochiltree: Capacity

There would be some capacity for development on the northwest edge of town adjacent to minor road, although the topography which rises to Hill of Ochiltree Farm and further development would be highly visible from the north east. In terms of urban design development should be planned and designed as an overall village master plan and there would be easy access to the centre of town.

There would also be potential for development within low-lying farmland adjacent to B7306, there are some existing trees that would provide containment.

Table 4.13 Ochiltree: Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development			
Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
33/1	87	3.5	Mixed 1 – 2 storey housing would be suitable, built on to a village master plan for village extension. Medium to low density housing is

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development

Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
recommended with a integrate edge to preserve the rural setting.			
Areas with Potential for Development			
34/1	12	1.2	One storey housing with low density as part of a village master plan with establishment of a mature urban edge to preserve rural setting
35/1	14	1.4	One storey housing with low density as part of a village master plan with establishment of a mature urban edge to preserve rural setting
35/2	13	1.3	Constraint will be proximity to River Lugar. One storey housing with low density as part of a village master plan with establishment of a mature urban edge to preserve rural setting
Areas with Limited Potential			
37/1	100	5	Sloping topography and A70 road corridor are the main constraints to development.
	226	12.4	

4.4.6 Landscape Strategy: Preservation of Setting

Preservation of the rural setting of Ochiltree is the main principle requirement for a landscape strategy in this area. The Lowland Hill areas to the west of town would be more sensitive to further expansion, development would appear on skyline in views from minor to north west. The Lugar Water and provides a natural edge with mature woodland and footpaths at the western edge of the settlement.

Table 4.14 Ochiltree: Landscape Strategy Areas

Location	Outline management Recommendations
26.	Retention of Lowland Hill landscape to west as the contribute to rural setting of settlement
27.	Retention of Lugar Water and associated mature woodland at north east edge of settlement to preserve setting of town.
28.	Conserve landscape quality of Burnock Water at southern and south eastern edge, landscape provides an attractive landscape setting

4.5 Muirkirk

4.5.1 Townscape and Historical Context

Sitting on the edge of the Southern Uplands, Muirkirk lies to the south-east of the authority and has a population of 1865. Housing has expanded to the north of the older historic centre in last fifty years with ad hoc industrial units, caravan sites and urban fringe land to south adjacent to Kames. Muirkirk home to many of the covenanters of Ayrshire, was at one time a hive of industry. Kames was the sole surviving pit by the mid 1920's. Its gates closed for the last time

in 1968. The evidence of the industrial past can be found on many of Muirkirk's sign posted walks in the surrounding countryside. Cairn Table and Wardlaw Hill are prominent landmarks to the south.

The town has developed around the A70 and B743 in a generally linear form with a mixture of older historic properties, post war council housing and modern bungalows. There has been some industrial development at the southern edge near the hamlet of Kames.

4.5.2 Local Landscape Setting

Local Landscape Character: Upland Farmland

The upland farmland forms a patchwork with moorland and urban fringe areas around the town. The land use is predominantly rough pasture and sheep grazing with non-distinct field boundaries. Overall the landscape quality of the landscape is low to medium.

Local Landscape Character: Urban Fringe

The predominant local landscape on the southern edge including the hamlet of Kames is urban fringe. There were are large concentrating of collieries, disused railways and other industrial features located in this area and now exist as brown field land with numerous preference paths and tracks leading to countryside. There are several ad-hoc developments near Kames including haulage yard and go-kart track.

Kames area is a popular area for walking with paths leading to Cairn Table and to Sanquar and Southern Upland Way. There is also a golf course located to the southwest.

Local Landscape Character: Moorland

Extensive areas of moorland surround the town, which consist of rough grassland, marshland and moorland with some areas to the north merging into plantation forestry.

Local Landscape Character: River valley and Stream Valley

The River Ayr is the main watercourse and runs east to west on the southern edge of the town, both the Kirk Burn and Auldhouse Burn are tributaries. The Kirk Burn abuts the eastern urban edge within a wooded valley.

Local Landscape Character: Upland Forestry

Extensive areas of upland forestry extend to the northwest from Muirkirk and abut to urban edge at the Smallburn area.

4.5.3 Existing Urban Edge Character

The existing urban edges are varied with large areas of brown field or urban fringe land to the south being sparse devoid of any vegetation, semi mature forestry to northwest and areas of scattered broad-leaved trees at the eastern and southeastern edges.

4.5.4 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There are two new areas of new housing development (27 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.15.

Table 4.15 Muirkirk: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
044H*	Wellwood Street (PDC)	7 houses	1.03
047H*	Main Street (SN) (PDC)	20 houses	0.50

(PDC indicates a possible drainage constraint) ; (* indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007) ; (SN indicates Special Needs Housing)

There are other development areas listed in the Local Plan and listed in Tables 4.16 to 4.19.

Table 4.16 Sites for New Industrial Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Area (ha)
049B	Furnace Road Industrial Estate	1.36

Table 4.17 Sites for Residential or Appropriate Town Centre Use Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Area (ha)
050M	Junction of Main Street/ Glasgow Road	0.18

Table 4.18 Sites for Residential or Industrial Use Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Area (ha)
051M	Muirkirk Bing	12.76

Table 4.19 Sites for Appropriate Tourism, Community or Residential Use Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Area (ha)
196M	Main Street	0.23

Other relevant proposals within the local plan include:

PROP37

The Council will pursue all available means to ensure that a by-pass for Muirkirk is provided as a matter of priority. The assistance of the Scottish Executive and other interested bodies and organisations will be actively sought in this regard.

PROP38

The Council will, with the full involvement of the local community, prepare an Environmental Improvement Action Plan for Muirkirk, focussing on those areas identified by the community as being most in need of priority treatment.

4.5.5 Landscape Capacity

Spatial Development Options Paper

Muirkirk is within the M74 Link Investment Corridor. Muirkirk is identified by the Structure Plan as a local community with small-scale development opportunities. With regards to the 'Suggested distribution of Greenfield Housing Demand by Settlement' table, Muirkirk would take up 6% of the total demand for the M74 Link Investment Corridor Settlements. This amounts to 58 housing units within Muirkirk between 2005-2017.

South East Muirkirk and Kames: Higher Capacity

Greater landscape capacity for development exists around Kames and on the south eastern edge at River Ayr. There is a significant amount of urban fringe and low quality farmland between Kames and Muirkirk and development coupled with a landscape strategy would improve the urban edge and overall interface with the rural environment. The landscape strategy would incorporate and develop existing footpaths and other recreational features.

There is also capacity for low and medium density expansion at the southeastern edge at River Ayr on low lying farmland. There are some mature woodland features to south, which would augment development and a new landscape strategy incorporating the River Ayr corridor.

North Muirkirk: Lower Capacity

Areas of lower capacity exist on the northern edges of the town within moorland, development would be on elevated ground creating development on the skyline from some area. There is some scope on lower slopes for low-density expansion

Table 4.20 Muirkirk: Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development			
Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
40/1	160	8.0	Mixed 1 and 2 storey housing of medium to low density would be suitable, built on to a masterplan for Kames and Muirkirk town extension. New landscape features including open space and integration of existing footpath network is recommended.
41/1	25	4.6	Mixed 1 and 2 storey housing of medium to low density would be suitable, built on to a master plan for Kames and Muirkirk town extension
43/2	60	3.0	Mixed 1 and 2 storey housing of medium to low density would be suitable, built on to a master plan for town extension, incorporating the River Ayr corridor in a new landscape strategy.
Areas with Potential for Development			
40/2	88	4.4	Medium to low density housing with new woodland edge would improve rural setting of Muirkirk and include a landscape strategy addressing existing footpaths and woodland
43/1	19	1.6	Mixed low density housing would be suitable with new boundary planting at A76 road
Areas with Limited Potential			
46/1	48	3.2	Steep moorland topography rising to North Muir would limit further expansion in this area. Low-density housing would be appropriate with new woodland planting.
47/1	79	5.3	Topography rises to north, new woodland planting has been undertaken, the area may be better suited to recreational / amenity development
Total	479	30	

4.5.6 Landscape Strategy: Preservation Setting Enhancement

Although there setting preservation issues at the eastern edge the predominant landscape strategy for Muirkirk would be setting enhancement. Much of the southern urban edge including the hamlet of Kames would require landscape enhancements associated to the new expansion areas, which would be part of a master plan for Kames and Muirkirk extension.

Management and enhancements including access and footpaths at the River Ayr corridor would improve setting and recreational value of the southern urban edge.

Table 4.21 Muirkirk: Landscape Strategy Areas

Location	Outline management Recommendations
29.	Retention of upland forestry / moorland to north west, maintain upland setting.
30.	Retention of Kirk Burn and undulating farmland to maintain rural setting at edge of town.
31.	Development of planting and access strategy for River Ayr corridor including links with new urban edge at south east corner.
32.	New woodland / forest edge at Kames to regenerate urban fringe land and improve setting of Kames and Muirkirk.
33.	Development of planting and access strategy for River Ayr corridor including improvements to existing path network.
34.	Management of existing mature shelterbelts and new woodland edges at south west corner.
35.	The landscape strategy would incorporate and develop existing footpaths and other recreational features at Kames Hill

4.6 Dunlop

4.6.1 Townscape and Historical Context

Dunlop is a small settlement to the north of Stewarton with a population of 879 and is centred around the A735. The settlement dates back to 1700's and farming is still a mainstay of the locals, but most of it is used to feed the cattle. Dunlop is mainly a dairy farming area the most notable improvements are those connected with milking of the cows and milk production. The Kilmarnock to Glasgow railway line runs through the village.

The overall setting of Dunlop is of a rural town located within undulating pasture and lowland hills with local features such as the mature woodland, stream valleys and hill summits (Dunlop Hill) worthy of retention and conservation as part of the assessment.

4.6.2 Local Landscape Setting

Local Landscape Character: Lowland Hills

The Lowland Hills landscape character surrounds the town to the north, west and northeast. Dunlop Hill is the most pronounced hill feature on the southwest edge of the town but overall this landscape is generally undulating merging into incised Stream Valleys at Black Burn, Gills Burn and Glazet Burn. Farm steadings including Brandleside and Hapland provide focal points within the undulating landform and the landscape provides an attractive rural backdrop to the town from many locations.

Local Landscape Character: Stream Valleys

There are two main Stream Valleys near the town, which form incised valley features within the local landscape around Dunlop. The Black Burn runs to the south west of the town forming an incised valley within the Lowland Hills. The Glazet Burn is a smaller valley feature with mature woodland in places and runs into the town from the northeast and forms a boundary at the south western edge of the settlement.

Local Landscape Character: Pasture Land

Undulating Pasture Land provide the local landscape setting to the south east, overall this landscape is of medium quality

4.6.3 Existing Urban Edge Character

The edges of the town are varied and include hedgerows, fence lines, mature woodland and stone walls and garden vegetation. The Glazet Burn forms a wooded valley on the southern edge of town and the conservation area extends from the western edge of town beyond the settlement boundary.

4.6.4 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There are three new areas of new housing development (38 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.8.

Table 4.22 Dunlop: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
171H*+	Newmill Road (HA) (NGR)	12 houses	1.28
172H*	Station Road	4 houses	0.25
018H*	Allanvale (A) (PDC)	22 houses	1.14

(NGR indicates a new Greenfield estate) ; (PDC indicates a possible drainage constraint) ; (A indicates an affordable housing site) ; (*) indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007) ; (+indicates a Section 75 Agreement will be requested) ; (HA indicates High Amenity Housing Site)

Other relevant proposals within the local plan include:

PROP27

The Council will prepare a comprehensive Town Scheme for the Main Street Outstanding Conservation Area.

4.6.5 Landscape Capacity

Spatial Development Options Paper

Dunlop is within the Glasgow Link Investment Corridor. Dunlop is identified in the structure plan as a local community with small-scale development opportunities. With regards to the 'Suggested distribution of Greenfield Housing Demand by Settlement' table, Dunlop would take up 8% of the total demand for the Glasgow Link Investment Corridor Settlements.

South and South Eastern Dunlop: Higher Capacity

In landscape terms, the town has the greatest capacity to grow within Pasture Land areas in the lower lying land to the south. There are mature trees at existing railway corridor, Glazet Burn and parts of existing urban edge and new boundary planting would also be part of new

expansion proposal. Further capacity exists to north near Haplads Farm although development size may be limited by topography to north.

Table 4.23 Dunlop: Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development			
Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
50/1	132	6.6	This is the flat area of land contained by higher ground to the south, there is some mature planting at railway line, a new landscape strategy is recommended to create a new urban edge. Development recommendation to be medium to low density.
Areas with Potential for Development			
52/1	64	3.2	Medium to low density housing 1-2 storey housing is recommended retention and development of existing mature woodland and hedgerows.
54/1	66	3.3	Potential for settlement expansion to the northeast near Hapland Farm. Topography limits large scale expansion to north of Hapland, development would be on skyline when viewing from A735 road.
Total	262	13	

4.6.6 Landscape Strategy: Setting Preservation

The Lowland Hill and Stream Valley areas are important natural features that contribute to the overall rural setting of Dunlop. The preservation and enhanced landscape management of these areas is recommended to conserve the landscape qualities and visual setting of these areas.

Proposed settlement expansion would retain mature woodland features as well as creating new boundary and landscape features.

Table 4.24 Dunlop: Landscape Strategy Areas

Location	Outline Management Recommendations
36	Retention of undeveloped Lowland Hill, including Black Burn Stream Valley and North of Hapland to preserve rural setting of Dunlop.
37.	Retention of Lowland Hill landscape to south west including Dunlop Hill, Dunlop Nature Park to preserve rural setting of Dunlop.
38.	New urban edge at Smallburn to enhance and create interface with rural setting.
39.	Retention of mature trees adjacent to A736 road and at Glazet Burn. Creation of new boundary planting at new urban edge.

4.7 Newmilns

4.7.1 Townscape and Historical Context

Newmilns (population 3322) nestles in the narrowest part of the Irvine Valley. Despite its name, it is actually the oldest burgh of the area, having received its charter a century before Kilmarnock. The people took a leading role in the wars of the Covenant. The handloom-weaving of figured muslin or leno in the 18th century gave way to machine-made textiles in the 1870's. The Oldest building in Newmilns is the fortified tower house in Castle Street (formerly New Road) known as the Keep. It was built in the 16th century when it was in the possession of John Campbell of Newmilns.

The urban form of Newmilns is elongated and linear centred on the River Irvine and has a historic town centre surrounded by Victorian housing and industrial buildings. Post war housing has expanded the town north of the river and intersperses with older housing.

4.7.2 Local Landscape Setting

Local Landscape Character: Upland Pasture Land

Upland Pasture Land is the most common landscape in the Irvine Valley the landform rising steeply to the north and south of Newmilns and Darvel. Characteristic of this landscape include mature shelterbelts, hedgerows, scattered woodland and farmsteads with incised Stream Valleys running into the River Irvine.

Local Landscape Character: River/Stream Valley

The River Irvine is the main river within the area and runs east to west passing through the centre of Newmilns. The river has a predominantly wooded character with several footpaths running adjacent from the town connecting Newmilns with Darvel and the wider countryside. The estate landscape of Lanfine provides an attractive backdrop when viewing from the north across the Irvine Valley.

4.7.3 Existing Urban Edge Character

Generally the urban edges of Newmilns vary from sparse vegetation backing onto farmland to mature woodland adjacent to the River Irvine. The location of the town within steep valley sides disguises many of the views to the existing urban edge from roads.

4.7.4 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There are six new areas of new housing development (76 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.25.

Table 4.25 Newmilns: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
120H	High Street (PDC)	15 houses	0.54

121H*	Co-op Building, Main Street (PDC)	17 houses	0.11
124H	Covenanters Hotel (PDC)	12 houses	0.15
125H*	126 Main Street (PDC)	8 houses	0.06
126H*	Union Street (PDC)	20 houses	0.15
209H*	Browns Institute (PDC)	4 houses	0.09

(PDC) indicates a possible drainage constraint) ; (* indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007)

There are other development areas listed in the Local Plan and listed in Tables 4.2 and 4.3.

Table 4.26 Sites for tourism, recreation or leisure proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Area (ha)
198M	High Street	0.43

Table 4.27 Sites for appropriate town centre uses proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Area (ha)
123M	Rex Cinema	0.13

Other relevant proposals within the local plan include:

PROP40

The Council will pursue all available means to ensure that a by-pass for Newmilns is provided as a matter of priority. The assistance of the Scottish Executive and other interested bodies and organisations will be actively sought in this regard.

4.7.5 Strategic Development Options

The main constraints to development at Newmilns is the steep topography to north and south which are attractive and add to the rural setting of the town, the River Irvine at southern boundary which contains mature woodland and is an important recreation and landscape buffer. The greatest opportunities for expansion exist at west and east of the town to north of River Irvine. The east would form limit of growth in this area to prevent coalescence with Darvel and the west would be part of a new gateway feature at the A71 has a number of constraints to further development.

4.7.6 Landscape Capacity

Spatial Development Options Paper

Newmilns is within the Irvine Valley Link Investment Corridor. Newmilns is identified in the Structure Plan as a Local Community with significant development opportunities. With regards to the 'Suggested distribution of Greenfield Housing Demand by Settlement' table, Newmilns would take up 27% of the total demand for the Irvine Valley Link Investment Corridor Settlements.

4.7.7 Landscape Capacity

In landscape terms, the town has limited capacity to expand without having significant landscape and visual effects within the area. There are examples of Victorian housing on the skyline, which overlook the town, but any expansion to north and south within steep topography would have to carefully consider design and density.

There are some fundamental requirements necessary to improve the perception and appearance of the town that could be achieved in tandem with settlement expansion. New gateway features at entry and exit points on the A71 road coupled with other townscape improvements in the centre of the town would help in creating a new identity.

West Newmilns Capacity

In landscape terms, the town has some capacity to expand to the west adjacent to the A71 and River Irvine. Development would incorporate new gateway features and would form the western limit to further development. Existing mature woodland is located at the edge of Loudon Estate and River Irvine, which would contain development.

East Newmilns Capacity

There is some capacity for the town to expand on flatter farmland adjacent to The River Irvine, there are areas of mature woodland at river, which would provide containment, and the location provides views to the east towards Loudon Hill.

Further limited capacity exists on the north east edge near Foulpapple road the landform flattens out before rising again to the north, there some mature trees and hedgerows which along with new woodland boundary planting would integrate development with rural setting.

Table 4.28 Newmilns: Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development: Newmilns

Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
57/1	74	3.7	Low density 1 – 2 storey housing incorporating new landscape gateway feature. Estate landscape of Loudon Castle would contain new development.

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development: Newmilns

Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
Potential for Development			
64/1	60	3.0	Mixed 1 and 2 storey housing would be suitable with establishment of mature woodland edge. This area would present eastern limits of expansion to minimise coalescence between Darvel. Flooding issues may be a constraint.
61/2	31	2.1	Site constraints include the River Irvine and steep topography at disused railway. Development would be partially screened by mature vegetation at river. Single storey low-density housing would be appropriate. Pending any flooding issues
61/1	31	2.1	Site constraints include the River Irvine, development would be partially screened by mature vegetation at river. Single storey low-density housing would be appropriate. Pending any flooding issues
Areas with Limited Potential			
60/1	55	3.7	Site constraints include steep topography and Isles Burn to the north. There is scope for low-density development within flat ground adjacent to existing greenhouses. Creation of new woodland edge to soften impact on rural setting.
65/1	15	1.0	Scope for low density development with new landscape edge
65/2	12	0.8	Potential as skyline development when from viewing from within the Irvine Valley.
Total	278	16	

4.7.8 Landscape Strategy: Preservation of Setting.

Preservation of the rural setting of Newmilns is the main principle requirement for a landscape strategy in this area and minimising coalescences with Darvel. The Upland Farmland and Estate landscapes form distinctive steep landform to the north and south of the town and directly relate to the overall setting of the Irvine Valley townscape. There are also incised Stream Valleys that run through farmland areas into the town which create unusual landform features at the existing urban edge.

Table 4.29 Newmilns: Landscape Strategy Areas

Areas not Suitable for Housing Development and Indicative Landscape Provision Areas	
Location	Outline Management Recommendations
40	Retention of Upland Pasture Land to the north of town.
41.	New gateway feature and buffer planting adjacent to new development at A71. New paths to link into existing paths adjacent to Fire Station.
42.	Retention of Upland Pasture Land and Estate landscape to the south of town.
43.	Retention and development of green wedge between Newmiln and Darvel
44.	New boundary planting at new urban edge.

4.8 Darvel and Priestland

4.8.1 Townscape and Historical Context

The most easterly of the textile towns, has a population of 3522. Locally grown flax was the basis of the linen industry. It was replaced at the end of the 18th century by cotton handloom weaving, which was revolutionised in 1876 when Alexander Morton introduced power looms and the manufacture of lace. In recent years it has been replaced by the manufacture of warp-knitted fabrics. In 1896 the Newmilns branch of the Glasgow and South Western railway was extended to Darvel, and in 1905 linked eastwards to the Caledonian system and Strathaven.

The railway closed to passengers in 1964 and Darvel later lost its secondary school and cinemas.

The urban form of Darvel is similar to Newmilns, a linear elongated settlement within the Irvine Valley. A mixture of Victorian housing and industry and post war council housing surrounds the older historic town centre. The undulating hills to the north and south are important in the setting of the town.

Darvel & Priestland with a population of 3,483 has a strong industrial heritage based on the handloom weaving and lace industries. Strategically located in the Irvine Valley Gateway corridor, the town is recognised as having tourism potential based on its industrial heritage. Darvel is an attractive settlement and it is proposed that a formal Conservation Area be designated within the town, centred on Hastings Square.

The town is considered to have potential for further industrial expansion and a new general industrial site has been identified at the eastern end of the settlement. There is also a steady demand for new housing within the town and a number of sites have been identified as being suitable for future residential development.

The amenity of residents seriously adversely affected by the large volumes of traffic passing through the town on the A71 and a by-pass would be of great benefit both to local residents and the travelling public.

Priestland, with a population of 89, is still a small residential settlement, which, like its neighbours of Darvel and Newmilns, suffers the adverse effects of heavy traffic passing through the village on the A71. A by-pass for the village would greatly improve the amenity of the area for local residents. A site for 5 high amenity houses has been identified within the settlement to meet local needs.

4.8.2 Local Landscape Setting

Local Landscape Character: Upland Pasture Land

Upland Pasture Land is the most common landscape in the Irvine Valley the landform rising steeply to the north and south of Darvel. Characteristic of this landscape include mature shelterbelts, hedgerows, scattered woodland and farmsteads with incised Stream Valleys running into the River Irvine.

Local Landscape Character: River/Stream Valley

The River Irvine is the main river within the area and runs east to west passing through the centre of Darvel. The river has a predominantly wooded character with several footpaths running adjacent from the town connecting Newmilns with Darvel and the wider countryside. The estate landscape of Lanfine provides an attractive backdrop when viewing from the north across the Irvine Valley.

4.8.3 Existing Urban Edge Character

Generally the urban edges of Darvel vary from sparse vegetation backing onto farmland to mature woodland adjacent to the River Irvine. Mature woodland at the river corridor forms the southern edge with footpaths to surrounding countryside. The northern edge is bound by steeply rising farmland.

4.8.4 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There are six new areas of housing development (139 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.30.

Table 4.30 Darvel: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
097H*-	Greenbank (HA) (NGR)	31 Houses	2.80
098H	Kirkland Park	15 Houses	1.14
099*H	West Donington Street (PDC)	12 Houses	0.18
101H*	West Edith Street	60 Houses	4.27
203H*	East Main Street/Ranoldcoup Road	6 Houses	0.03
204H*	Lochore Terrace (A) (PDC)	15 Houses	0.64
02B	Esco Mill	1.39	
103M	Former Station Site	2.18	
238H*	Priestland (HA) (NGR)	5 Houses	0.98

(PDC) indicates a possible drainage constraint) ; (* indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007)

There are other development areas listed in the Local Plan and listed below

- (i) Site 097H will be safeguarded for High Amenity Housing and a Section 75 Agreement will be requested in this regard.
- (ii) Site 098H will require special care as regards the conversion of the house and the area to the front of the house will require to be kept free of development in order to preserve its setting.
- (iii) Site 204H will be safeguarded for Affordable Housing.

(*indicates site is effective for development prior to 2007)

(-indicates a Section 75 Agreement will be requested)

(HA indicates High Amenity Housing Site)

(A indicates Affordable Housing Site)

(PDC indicates a possible drainage constraint)

(NGR indicates a new Greenfield release)

Darvel & Priestland Proposals

PROP25

The Council will pursue all available means to ensure that a by-pass for Darvel and Priestland is provided as a matter of priority. The assistance of the Scottish Executive and other interested bodies and organisations will be actively sought in this regard.

PROP26

The Council will designate the following areas a Conservation Areas:

- (i) the central area of Darvel based on East Main Street, West Main Street and

- Hastings Square; and
- (ii) the Morton Park, Ranoldcupp Road and Mairs Road area.

4.8.5 Landscape Capacity

Spatial Development Options Paper

Darvel is within the Irvine Valley Link Investment Corridor. Darvel is identified in the Structure Plan as a Local Community with significant development opportunities. With regards to the 'Suggested distribution of Greenfield Housing Demand by Settlement' table, Darvel would take up 29% of the total demand for the Irvine Valley Link Investment Corridor Settlements. This amounts to 87 housing units within Darvel between 2005-2017.

4.8.6 Landscape Capacity

In landscape terms, the town has limited capacity to expand without having significant landscape and visual effects within the area. The same constraints exist as with Newmilns and any expansion to north and south within steep topography would have to carefully consider design and density.

Additional requirements necessary to improve the perception and appearance of the town as with Newmilns should be considered with new gateway features at entry and exit points on the A71 road coupled with other townscape improvements in the centre of the town.

North West and South West Priestland: Higher Capacity

The location of the village within lower lying farmland with steep topography to south and north coupled with existing mature woodland at Gower Water offers potential for settlement growth without adverse landscape and visual impacts. New settlement expansion to the east would offer potential for a new landscape gateway feature as recommended in Darvel and Newmilns.

The sense of enclosure offered by existing landform and landscape elements gives potential for large-scale village growth and in urban design terms would require a village master plan to fulfil identified landscape capacity.

Table 4.31 Darvel and Priestland : Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development: Darvel			
Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
71/1	164	8.2	The Gower Water flood plain is a possible constraint to development. Medium to low-density 1- 2 storey housing is recommended subject to a village master plan. Provision of pedestrian links at Gower Water.
70/1	100	4.0	Higher ground to north and north east would be a design constraint to extent of development. Mixed single and two storey development is recommended as part of a village master plan integrating new gateway features at A71.
66/1	12	0.8	Scope for small scale development between River Irvine and redundant industrial units on edge of town. Mature woodland would screen development. Potential flooding issues.
Areas with Potential			
64/2	28	1.4	Mixed 1 – 2 storey housing would be suitable with new landscape strategy and management plan for River Irvine including new woodland buffer plating to contain western limits of expansion
68/1	12	0.6	Scope for small scale development between River Irvine and A71 expansion would represent eastern limits of town growth.
Areas with Limited Potential			
68/2	15	0.3	Capacity for small plot of low density housing, site constraints include proximity to river.
70/2	16	0.8	Regeneration of waste ground plot would improve appearance of this edge, topography to north to limit ant large expansion.
Total	347	16	

4.8.7 Landscape Strategy: Preservation of Setting.

Preservation of the rural setting of Darvel is the main principle requirement for a landscape strategy in this area and minimising coalescences with Newmilns. The Upland Farmland and Estate landscapes form distinctive steep landform to the north and south of the town and directly relate to the overall setting of the Irvine Valley townscape.

Table 4.32 Darvel and Priestland: Landscape Strategy Areas

Areas not Suitable for Housing Development and Indicative Landscape Provision Areas	
Location	Outline Management Recommendations
45.	Retention of Upland Pasture Land to the north of town.
46.	New gateway feature and buffer planting adjacent to new development at A71. New paths to link into existing paths adjacent to Fire Station.
47.	Retention of Upland Pasture Land and Estate landscape to the south of town.
48.	Upland pasture land to south west of Gower Water provide an attractive backdrop to town.
49.	New landscape gateway feature at A71 alongside new woodland and boundary planting to new development areas.
50.	Development of footpath and woodland management at Gower Water.

4.9 Sorn

4.9.1 Townscape and Historical Context

Sorn village is comparatively unchanged over the last 200 years. It was originally part of the Parish of Mauchline – but became a Parish in its own right when it was officially separated from Mauchline in the 1690s. The Parish of Sorn was created from the villages of Sorn and Catrine. The village was originally called Dalgain after the Squire of Dalgain, a local noble – but the name Sorn was slowly adopted because of the nearby Sorn castle, which dates from the 14th Century. Sorn Castle was the ancient seat of the Loudoun Family. By the 1790s the population numbered about 300 – and has roughly the same number of residents today. Former industry consisted of mining - coal, iron ore and limestone - but now farming and forestry dominate.

Present population is 289 and contains two conservation areas, one comprising of the main village area, and a rural conservation area at Sorn Castle.

4.9.2 Local Landscape Setting

Local Landscape Character: Estate Landscape

The Estate Landscape character is centred on the River Ayr and forms a mature woodland setting to the west and east of the town. The woodland at Sorn Castle extends south east into the village provide an attractive setting and backdrop to settlement. Other areas of mature woodland are located on the eastern edge of Sorn.

Local Landscape Character: River/Stream Valley

The River Ayr is the main river running through Sorn and is characterised by mature woodland with the Estate Landscape and open pasture and paddock areas. The Estate landscape tends to overlap this landscape creating a wooded river corridor.

Local Landscape Character: Lowland Hill

The Lowland Hill to the north east and south of the village creates a strong sense of containment to the settlement. Views open out across the landscape to surrounding hills with mature woodland and shelterbelts at periphery of settlement.

4.9.3 Existing Urban Edge Character

The urban edge is a combination of mature woodland and steep embankments with

4.9.4 Urban Development: East Ayrshire Council Local Plan Adopted 2003

There is one new area of housing development (10 houses) proposed within the current Local Plan, listed in Table 4.34.

Table 4.34 Sorn: Residential Development Proposed in the Current Local Plan

Site Ref	Location	Capacity	Area (hectares)
239H	New Mill	10 Houses	1.28

4.9.5 Landscape Capacity

In landscape terms, the town could expand by approx. three quarters of its size pending a village master plan, the existing mature woodland would provide containment and screening features to new development to the east and overall the capacity is estimated at 12 hectares.

Table 4.31 Sorn: Landscape Capacity for Development

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development: Sorn

Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
73/1	55	3.7	Scope for low density housing within flat farmland, existing mature woodland at River Ayr would contain development. Flooding issues may affect development within this area.
Areas with Potential			
77/1	72	3.6	Mixed 1 and 2 storey housing with farmland, existing mature shelterbelts would contain development and mitigate effects on rural

Landscape Capacity for Future Housing Development: Sorn

Development Area	Capacity (units)	Area ha.	Outline Development Recommendations
Areas Most Suitable for Development			
			setting. Expansion part of a village master plan.
77/2	106	5.3	Mixed 1 and 2 storey housing with farmland, existing mature shelterbelts would contain development and mitigate effects on rural setting. Expansion part of a village master plan.
Total	233	12	

4.9.6 Landscape Strategy: Preservation of Setting.

Preservation of the rural setting of Sorn is the main principle requirement for a landscape strategy in this area, the River Ayr, Lowland Hill and woodland/parkland adjacent to Sorn Castle all contribute to an attractive rural setting.

Table 4.32 Sorn: Landscape Strategy Areas

Areas not Suitable for Housing Development and Indicative Landscape Provision Areas

Location	Outline Management Recommendations
50	Retention Lowland Hill to north to preserve setting of town.
51.	Retention of Estate landscape at Sorn Castle and woodland adjacent to River Ayr to preserve setting of town.
52.	Conservation of Lowland Hill to preserve setting of town.
53.	Conservation and management of woodland within River Ayr corridor

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1 Summary

East Ayrshire Council commissioned Entec UK Ltd. to undertake a 'Landscape Assessment of Potential Development Areas' as part of the wider East Ayrshire Long Term Development Strategy. The project brief required a detailed landscape assessment that took account of a range of environmental criteria and local landscape character within the Urban Fringe areas and settlement boundaries of Dalmellington, Patna, New Cumnock, Ochiltree, Muirkirk, Sorn, Darvel and Priestland, Newmilns and Dunlop.

5.1.1 Methodology and Landscape Assessment

The landscape capacity assessment of potential development areas draws from the *Guidelines on Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Second Edition* (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Assessment, 2002) and builds on the *Ayrshire Landscape Assessment* (Land Use Consultants 1998). The Ayrshire Landscape Assessment identified broad regional areas of landscape character, development constraints and broad management and planning guidelines for future development. This assessment has included a landscape character survey, which has identified more detailed areas of local landscape/townscape character within the urban fringe together with the overall rural setting and identity of local settlements within the study area. Each of these areas has been considered in terms of its sensitivity and capacity for housing development by considering potential landscape effects and constraints against possible types of housing development (density, scale, and layout) and the landscape opportunities of particular areas.

The potential effects considered as part of this assessment and associated with potential housing development, may therefore include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- Changes to landscape character;
- Loss of rare or unique areas of local landscape character and elements;
- Skyline effects;
- Poor integration of urban fringe and urban edge areas;
- Visual effects from key viewpoints and approach roads;
- Visual coalescence;
- Ribbon development, and
- Effects on setting.

Each area has been documented on a Landscape Character Survey Form, included in Appendix A at the back of this report. Landscape capacity for development has been divided into five categories as follows:

- Landscape Strategy: Areas Not Suitable for Development;
- Landscape Strategy: Indicative Landscape Areas;
- Areas with Limited Potential for Development;
- Areas with Development Potential, and
- Areas Most Suitable for Development.

The landscape assessment predominantly identifies areas of local Urban Fringe, Upland Farmland landscape characters as having capacity for development. Pasture Lands, Lowland Hills, Estate Landscapes and River/Stream Valleys had a lower capacity for development.

5.1.2 Summary of Landscape Capacity Assessment Results

Approximately 163 hectares of land has been identified as suitable for development that is anticipated to be able to accommodate approximately 3114 units. The largest areas are located at New Cumnock and Muirkirk although areas with capacity for development have been identified at each of the settlements within the study area. A summary of the Landscape Capacity Assessment for each settlement is provided below and in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1 Summary of Landscape Capacity Assessment

Settlement	Capacity (units)	~Area ha.	Capacity for Development	Landscape Strategy
Dalmellington	303	18	North and west Dalmellington higher capacity.	Setting preservation and enhancements.
Patna	326	13	Higher capacity at south west edge although potential constraint is topography to west.	Setting preservation and enhancements.
New Cumnock	660	33	Higher capacity at western edge.	Setting enhancements.
Ochiltree	226	12	Capacity at north west edge and south east edge	Setting preservation
Muirkirk	479	30	Higher capacity at southern edge.	Setting enhancements
Dunlop	262	13	Higher capacity at southern edge.	Setting preservation
Newmilns	278	16	Higher capacity at eastern edge.	Setting preservation
Darvel and Priestland	347	16	Higher capacity at Priestland	Setting preservation
Sorn	233	12	Higher capacity at south eastern edge	Setting preservation
Total	3114	163		

Dalmellington

The Southern Uplands edge provides an attractive backdrop to the town should remain undeveloped. The Greater landscape capacity for development is present along the north and north western fringes of the town where the local landscape is less sensitive (medium to low) due to the presence of urban fringe character and low lying topography.

Approx. 18 hectares of land has been identified with the main focus of landscape strategy being new landscape and woodland areas to the west and northwest and preservation of uplands to south east and Bogton Loch area

Patna

The western edge of the town within the urban fringe land at Carskeoch offers capacity for development on the low-lying land, there are existing woodland features that would soften and integrate housing with rural and forestry backdrop. Further capacity for expansion on the north edge adjacent to Downieston Farm and River Doon.

The preservation of the open space and rural character of River Doon to the south east edge of the town would limit overall expansion of the town in this area. Patna Hill and forested upland areas to the west create an attractive backdrop to town and should remain undeveloped.

New Cumnock

Highest landscape capacity for development exists on the eastern edge of town within low-lying farmland, there are existing woodland features at Afton Water and Castle Mains which would develop a landscape interface with new development and the proximity to the centre of the town would offer good connectivity. Further capacity for smaller scale settlements expansion exists at the north western and northeastern corners of the town, adjacent to the railway.

The landscape strategy for New Cumnock would be a combination of setting preservation and enhancements with retention of uplands to south and potential forestry / woodland planting to north. Retention of Knockshinnoch nature reserve to west is recommended.

Ochiltree

There would be some capacity for development on the northwest edge of town adjacent to minor road. In terms of urban design development should be planned and designed as an overall village master plan and there would be easy access to the centre of town. There would also be potential for development within low-lying farmland adjacent to B7306, there are some existing trees that would provide containment.

The principle landscape strategy would preservation of setting of Ochiltree with retention of Lowland Hill areas, Lugar Water and Burnock Water

Dunlop

In landscape terms, the town has the greatest capacity to grow within Pasture Land areas in the lower lying land to the south. There are mature trees at existing railway corridor, Glazet Burn and parts of existing urban edge and new boundary planting would also be part of new expansion proposal.

The principle landscape strategy would preservation of setting of Dunlop with retention of Lowland Hill areas, including Dunlop Hill and Black Burn.

Muirkirk

Greater landscape capacity for development exists around Kames and on the south eastern edge at River Ayr. Development potential near Kames and southern edge of Muirkirk should be part of an overall village master plan. There is a significant amount of urban fringe and low quality farmland between Kames and Muirkirk and development coupled with a landscape strategy

would improve the urban edge and overall interface with the rural environment. There is also capacity for low and medium density expansion at the southeastern edge at River Ayr on low lying farmland. There are some mature woodland features to south, which would augment development and a new landscape strategy incorporating the River Ayr corridor.

Newmilns

In landscape terms, the town has limited capacity to expand without having significant landscape and visual effects within the area. There are some fundamental requirements necessary to improve the perception and appearance of the town that could be achieved in tandem with settlement expansion. New gateway features at entry and exit points on the A71 road coupled with other townscape improvements in the centre of the town would help in creating a new identity.

In landscape terms, the town has some capacity to expand to the west adjacent to the A71 and River Irvine. Development would incorporate new gateway features and would form the western limit to further development. Existing mature woodland is located at the edge of Loudon Estate and River Irvine, which would contain development. There is some capacity for the town to expand on flatter farmland adjacent to The River Irvine, there are areas of mature woodland at river, which would provide containment, and the location provides views to the east towards Loudon Hill.

Preservation of the rural setting of Newmilns is the main principle requirement for a landscape strategy in this area. The surrounding local landscape character areas are important part of views to and from the town. The River Irvine and associated woodland forms a strong natural and visual barrier and has important local recreational value.

Darvel and Priestland

In landscape terms, Darvel has limited capacity to expand without having significant landscape and visual effects within the area. The same constraints exist as with Newmilns and any expansion to north and south within steep topography would have to carefully consider design and density. Additional requirements necessary to improve the perception and appearance of the town as with Newmilns should be considered with new gateway features at entry and exit points on the A71 road coupled with other townscape improvements in the centre of the town.

The location of the Priestland within lower lying farmland with steep topography to south and north coupled with existing mature woodland at Gower Water offers potential for settlement growth without adverse landscape and visual impacts. The sense of enclosure offered by existing landform and landscape elements gives potential for large-scale village growth and in urban design terms would require a village master plan to fulfil identified landscape capacity.

Preservation of the rural setting of Darvel is the main principle requirement for a landscape strategy in this area. The surrounding local landscape character areas are important part of views to and from the town. The River Irvine and associated woodland forms a strong natural and visual barrier and has important local recreational value.

5.2 Assessment Conclusions

In conclusion, the assessment has identified both broad areas suitable for development and areas, which are not suitable for development in landscape terms. However, the issues uncovered by the assessment raise some important questions about the evolution of settlements, the form, and design of future development and the preservation of urban landscape settings. Three questions have been examined covering design control of future development, setting and urban edge enhancement and landscape conservation.

Design Control of Future Development

The first question deals with how future development and development control may be managed and achieved as follows.

- *Potential areas of development at each settlement are such that existing settlements may double in size how can the design of this be controlled to prevent loss of urban or townscape quality?*

Proposed development at many of the villages and smaller settlements, if taken forward will require the creation of a co-ordinated settlement masterplan that addresses both issues of urban design (integrating new development with the existing townscape) and landscape design (integrating new development with the landscape setting). Development guidelines or planning strategies may be developed or referred to as follows:

- Landscape treatment of new urban edges;
- Townscape and urban integration;
- Creation of new settlement boundaries and community woodland strategies; and
- Potential for gateway features and enhancement of the approaches to settlements.

Setting Enhancement

The second of these questions returns the strategic consideration of development to improve the setting and urban edge of a settlement. For example Muirkirk and Dalmellington would benefit from development expansion with new green spaces and woodland areas to regenerate and improve urban fringes areas.

No community consultation has been undertaken as part of this assessment and it may be that this question needs further examination as to how each scenario could be managed and achieved and both of these solutions would require a strong landscape/planning strategy.

Landscape Protection

The final question deals with how landscapes identified as not suitable for development, may be protected and managed to achieve the objectives of preserving the rural setting and character of settlements and preventing the coalescence of settlements with each other. There is also the issue of valuable new landscapes such as Knockshinnoch reclamation area at New Cumnock which have high recreational value and have potential to develop into mature woodland landscape.

Each of these areas, if taken forwards will require development of a more detailed landscape strategy and policy development. The control and management of these landscapes should not

only be viewed as strategies to promote urban ideals, but also as strategies that promote the continuity of healthy agrarian landscapes within the urban fringe and encourage responsible community access.

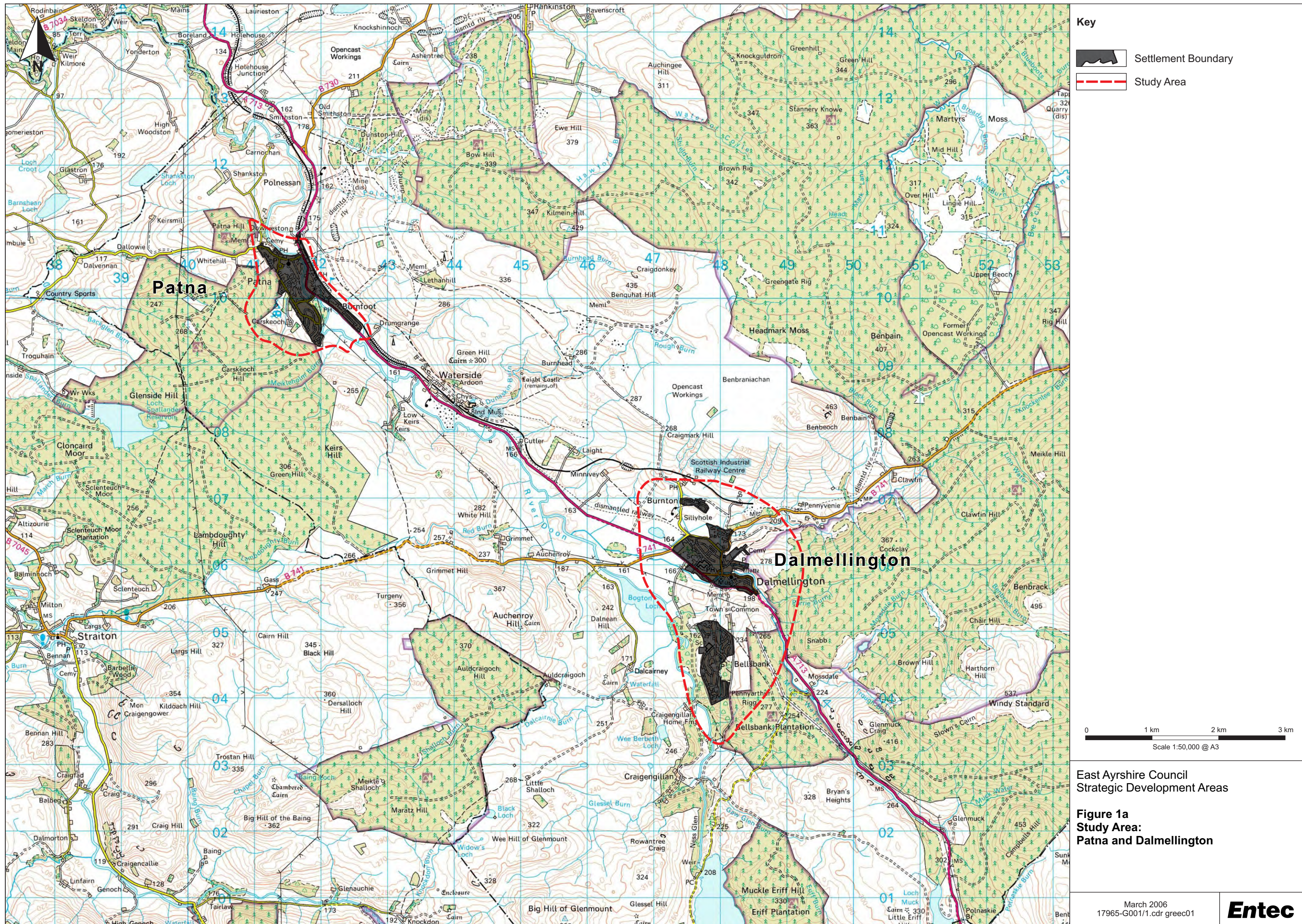
The areas identified form broad swaths of landscape linked by rivers and streams and can be identified overall as follows:

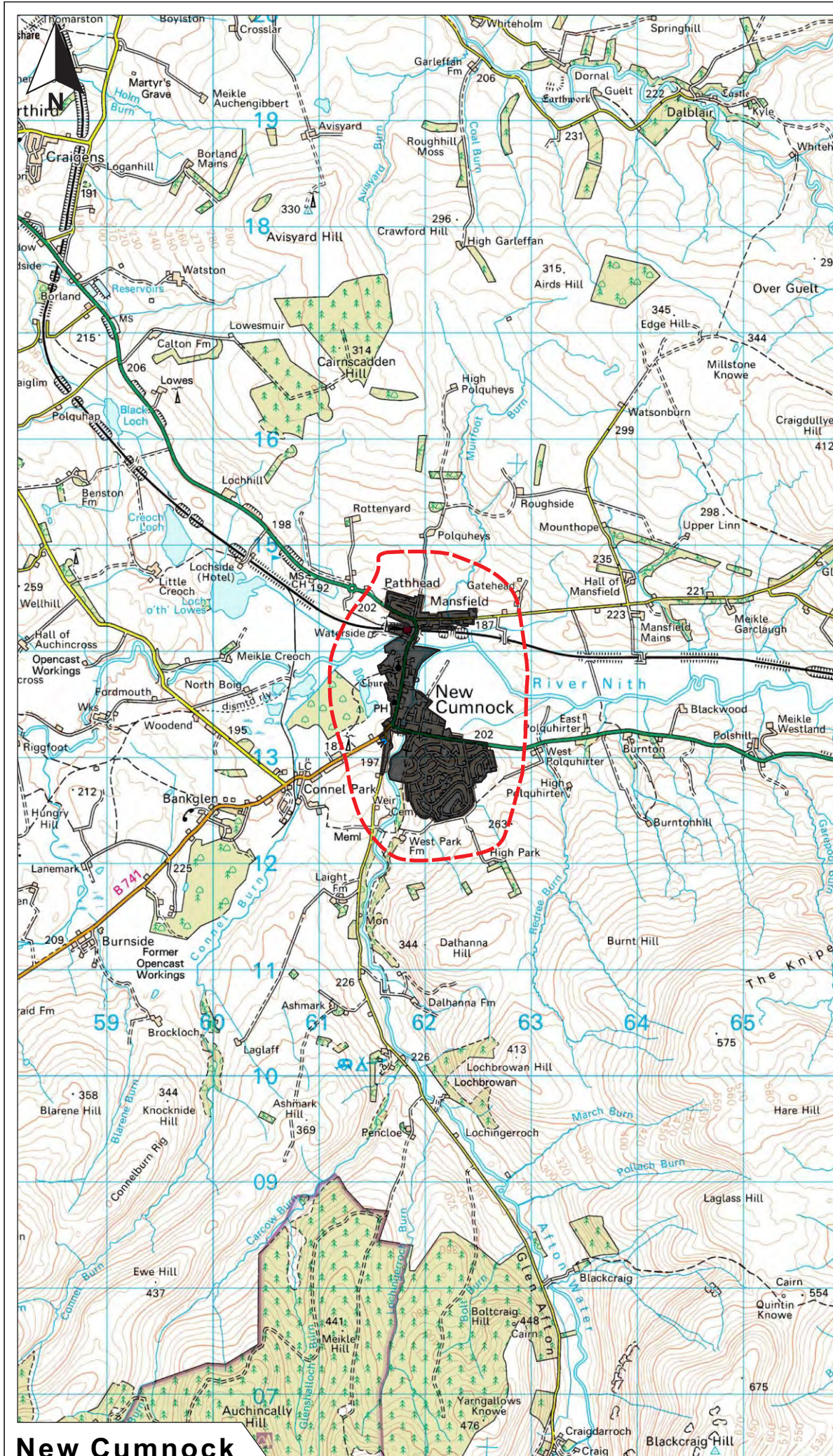
- River Doon;
- Southern Uplands edge at New Cumnock and Dalmellington;
- Bogton Loch;
- Lugar Water;
- Patna Hill;
- Upland pasture at Darvel and Newmilns;
- Sorn Castle;
- River Irvine.

Broad areas of Lowland Hills have also been identified as areas of protection due to their local importance and the potential effect of development on the skyline



None of these areas would qualify for national or regional landscape designations such as National scenic Areas, Areas of Great Landscape Value or Sensitive Landscape character Areas, and protecting these landscapes for their quality (medium to low) as a local designation is likely to be open to challenge. However existing policies (ENV14) that aim to protect the setting of historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes and listed buildings will still have an important role to play.

It is likely that a new Local Plan Policy would need to be developed, concentrating on achieving the specific objectives of that landscape area. For example, preservation of the rural landscape character type to preserve settlement setting and or prevent settlement coalescence. This might lead to the creation of 'Greenbelt' or 'Strategic Gap' type policies backed up by Community Woodland, TPO legislation and or designated recreational/open-space and access proposals to manage and enhance the existing landscape. The development of managed Community Woodland or indeed community landscapes that may encompass a wider variety of landscape types, may be one approach to provide physical reinforcement of policy. Bio-diverse landscapes, managed to promote wildlife habitat may also in the longer term come under the added protection of wildlife legislation.





Key

-  Settlement Boundary
-  Study Area

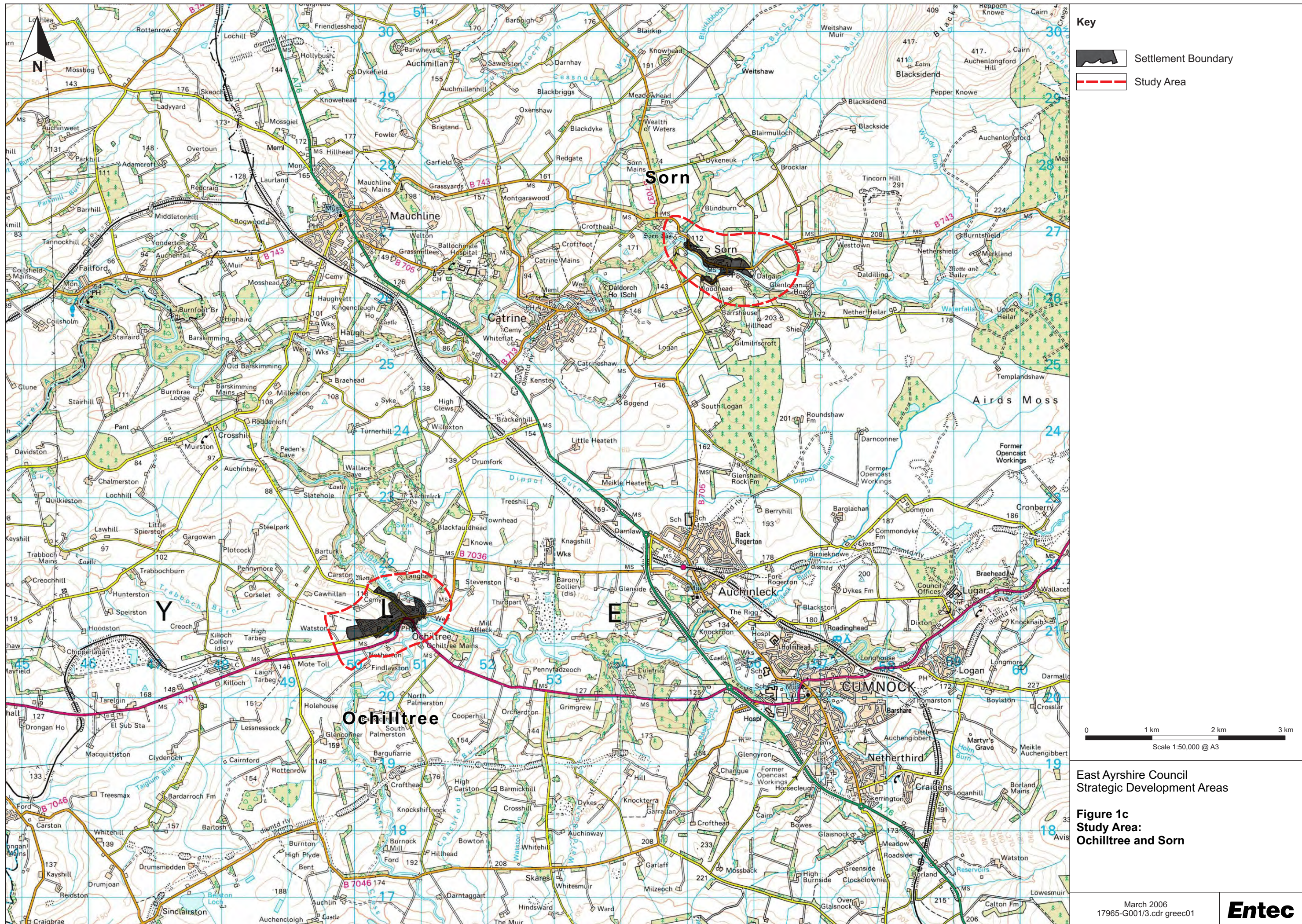
0 1 km 2 km 3 km
Scale 1:50,000 @ A3

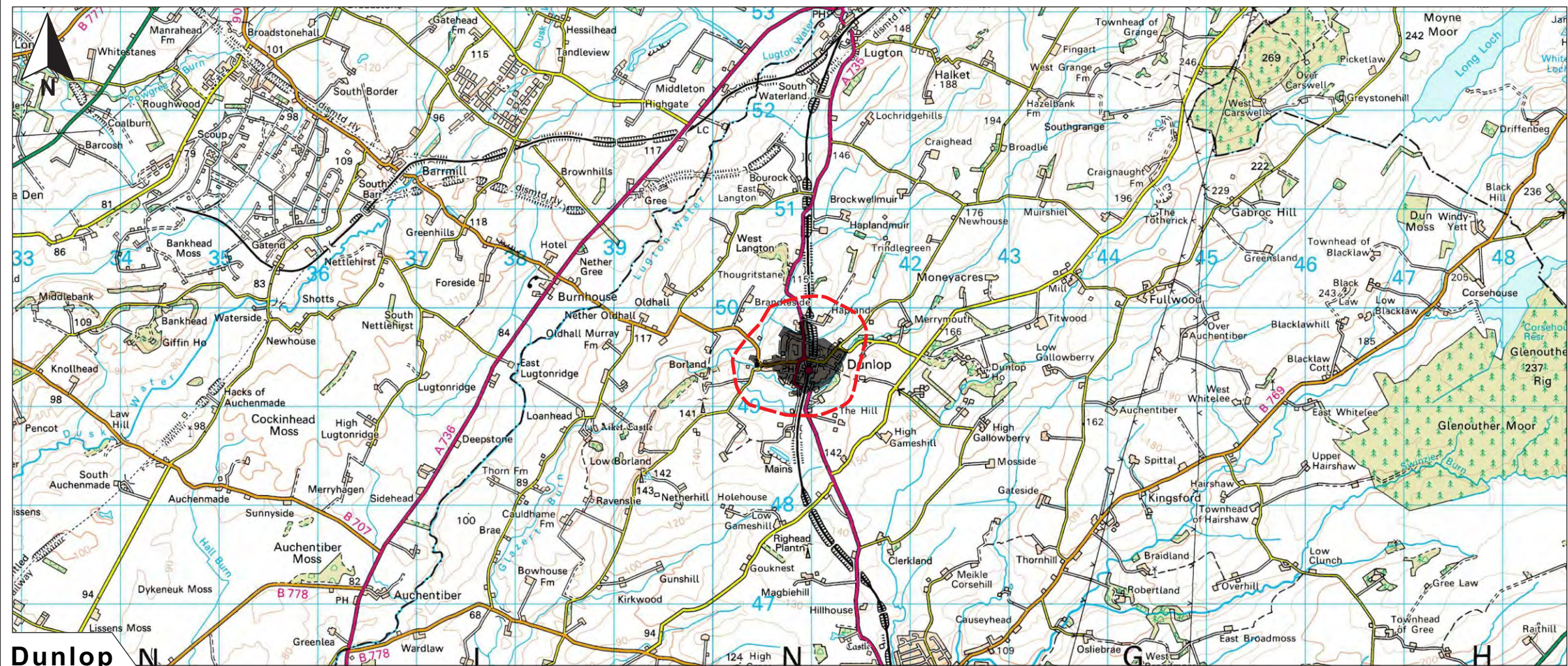
East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 1b
Study Area:
New Cumnock and Muirkirk

March 2006
17965-G001/2.cdr grec01

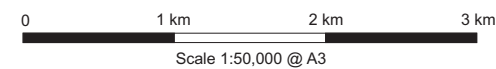
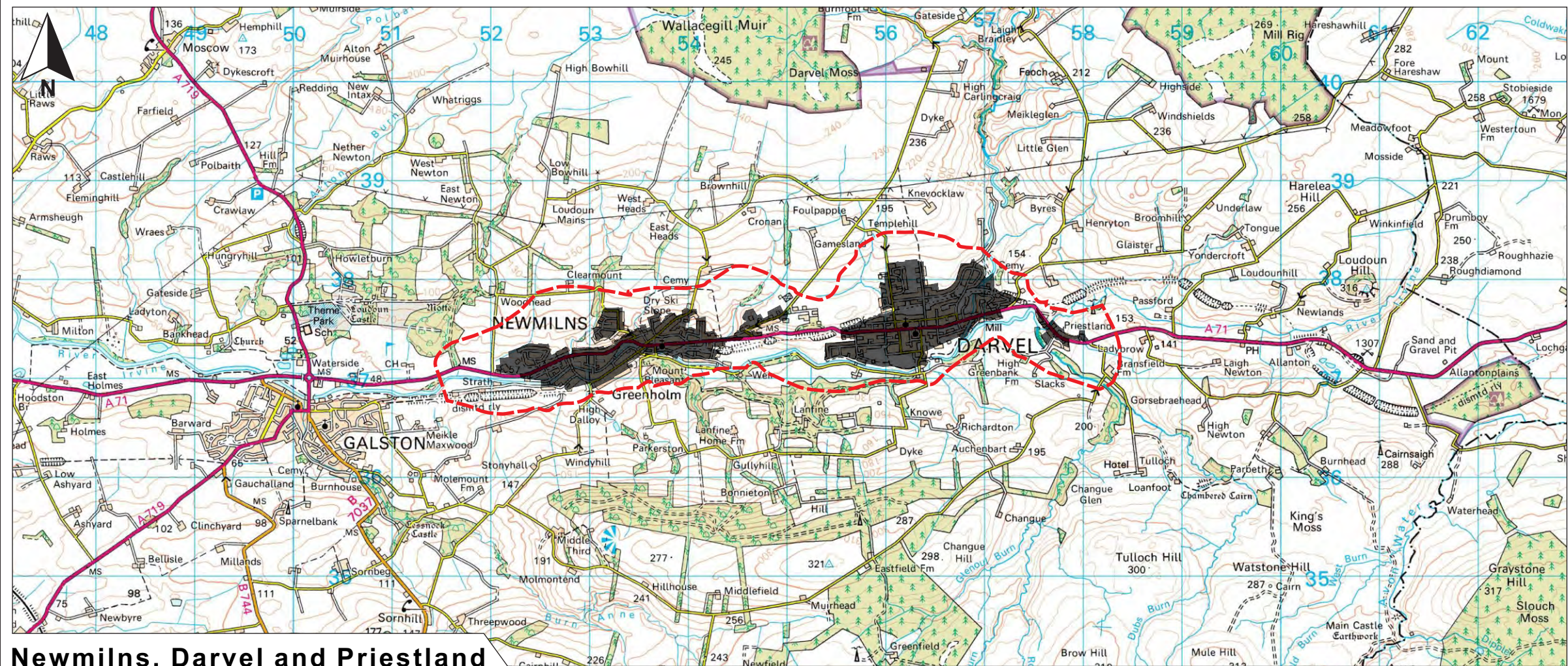
Entec





Key

- Settlement Boundary
- Study Area



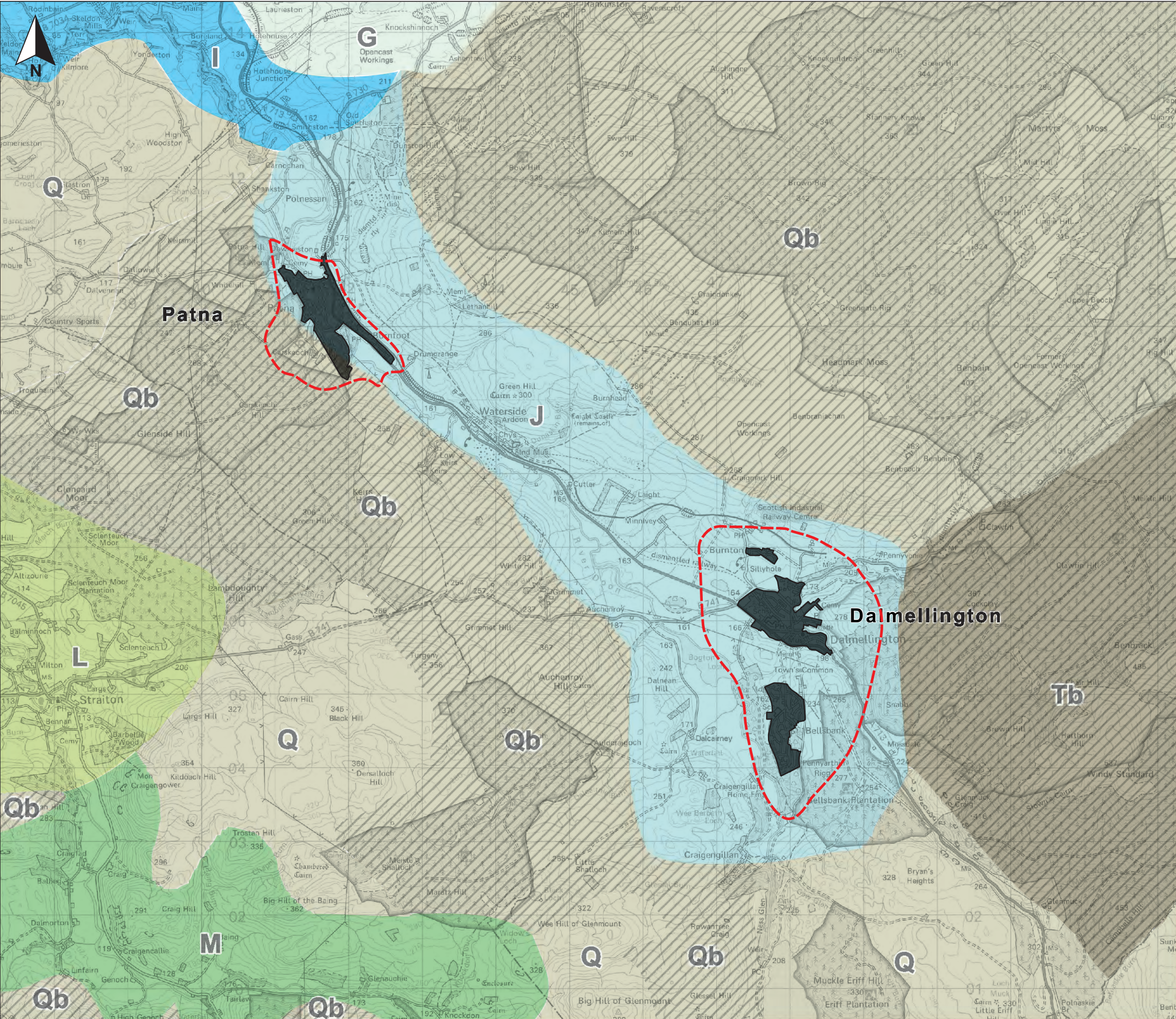
East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 1d
Study Area
Dunlop, Newmilns, Darvel
and Priestland

March 2006
17965-G001/4.cdr grec01

Entec

Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Entec UK Ltd. AL100001776.



Key

Settlement Boundary

Study Area

Ayrshire Landscape Assessment

Ayrshire Lowlands (G)

Broad Valley Lowland (H)

Lowland River Valley (I)

Upland River Valley (J)

Middle Dale (L)

Intimate Pastoral Valley (M)

Upland Glen (N)

Upland basin (O)

Lowland Hills (P)

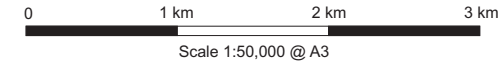
Foothills (Q)

Plateau Moorland (R)

Southern Uplands (T)

With Forestry (+b)

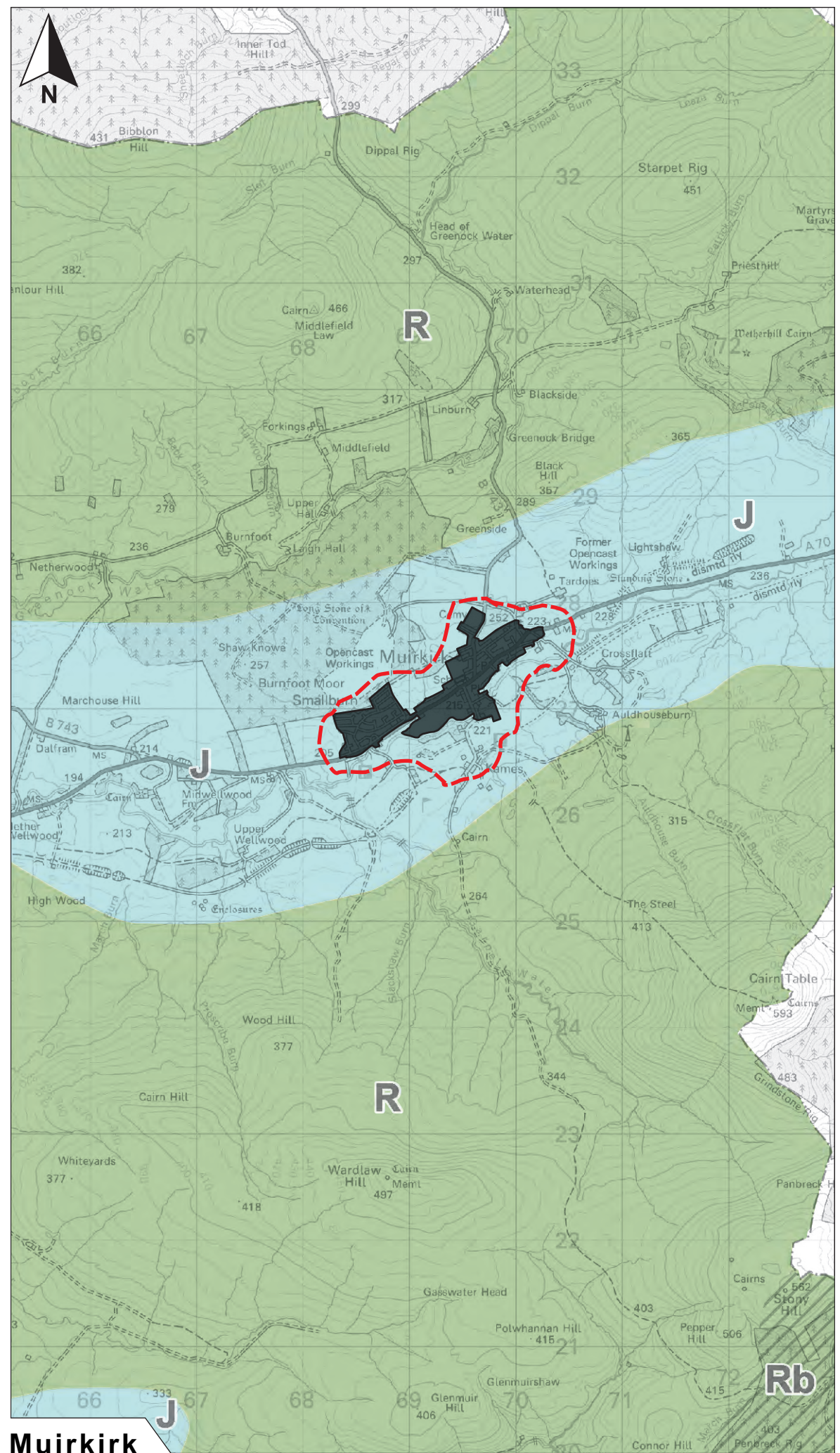
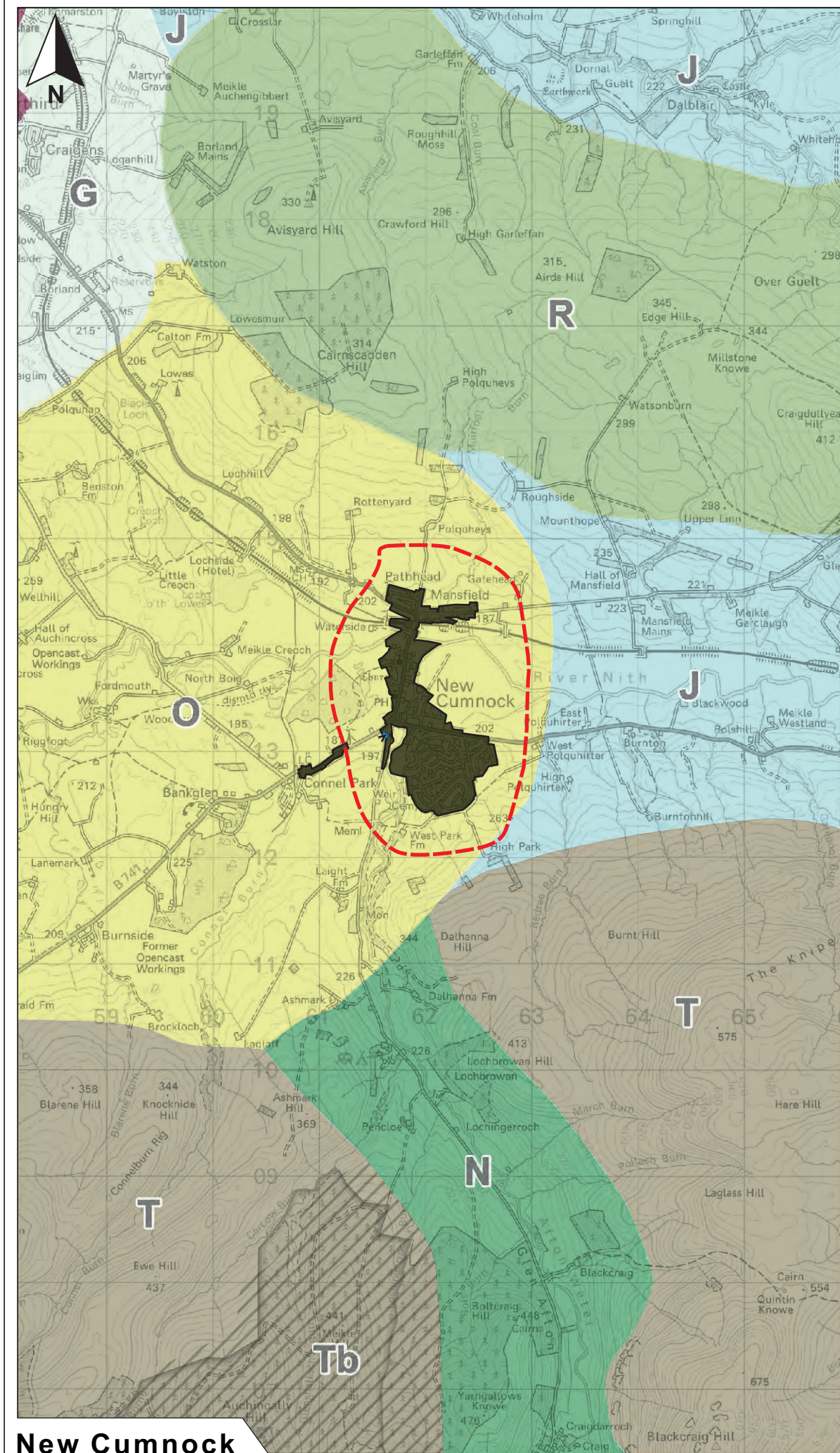
Large Towns



East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 2a
Regional Landscape Charcter:
Patna and Dalmellington

Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Entec UK Ltd. AL100001776.



Key

Settlement Boundary

Study Area

Ayrshire Landscape Assessment

Ayrshire Lowlands (G)

Broad Valley Lowland (H)

Lowland River Valley (I)

Upland River Valley (J)

Middle Dale (L)

Intimate Pastoral Valley (M)

Upland Glen (N)

Upland basin (O)

Lowland Hills (P)

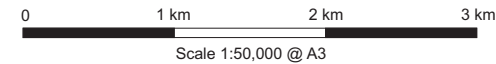
Foothills (Q)

Plateau Moorland (R)

Southern Uplands (T)

With Forestry (+b)

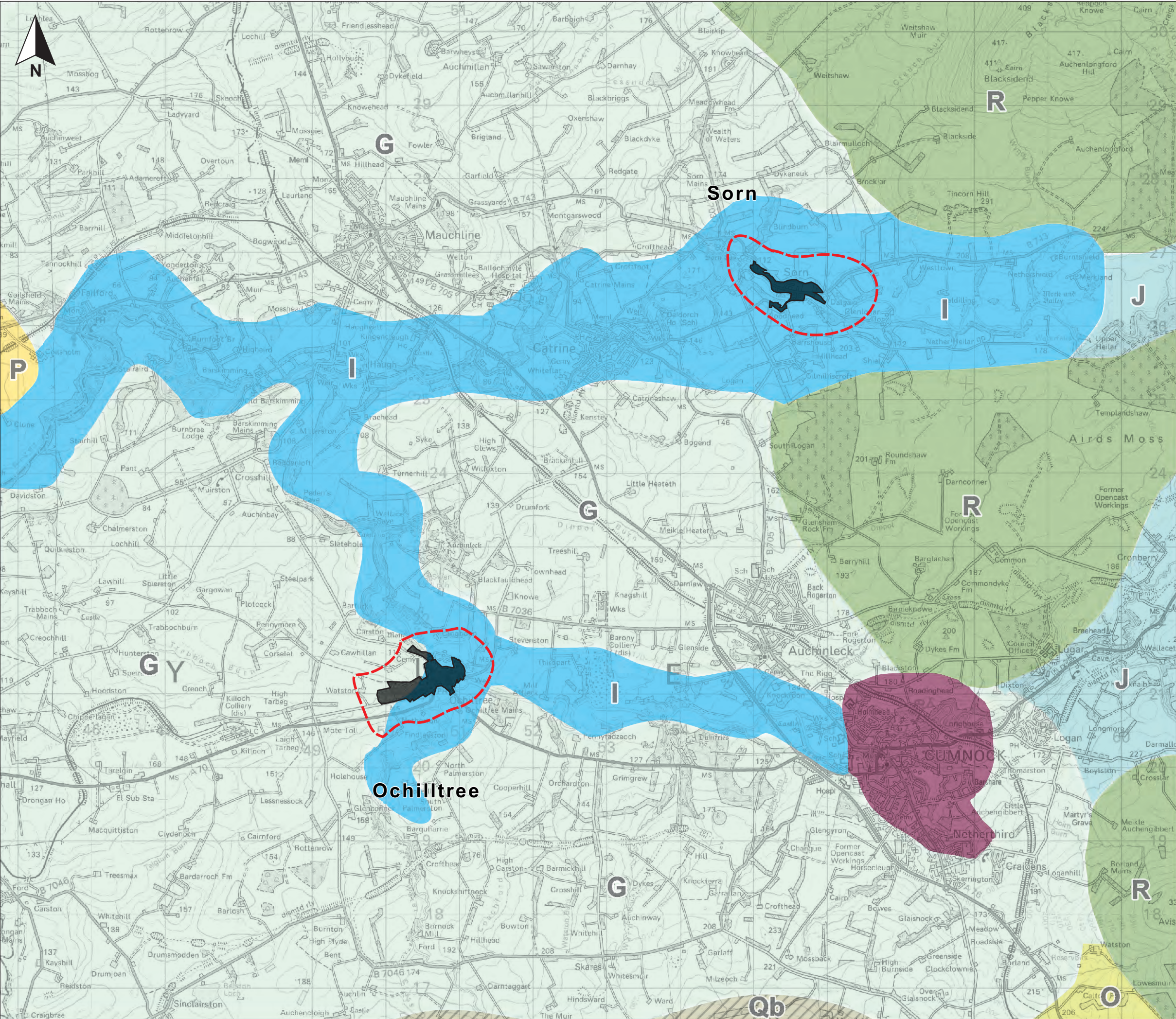
Large Towns



East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 2b
Regional Landscape Charcter:
New Cumnock and Muirkirk

Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Entec UK Ltd. AL100001776.



Key

Settlement Boundary

Study Area

Ayrshire Landscape Assessment

Ayrshire Lowlands (G)

Broad Valley Lowland (H)

Lowland River Valley (I)

Upland River Valley (J)

Middle Dale (L)

Intimate Pastoral Valley (M)

Upland Glen (N)

Upland basin (O)

Lowland Hills (P)

Foothills (Q)

Plateau Moorland (R)

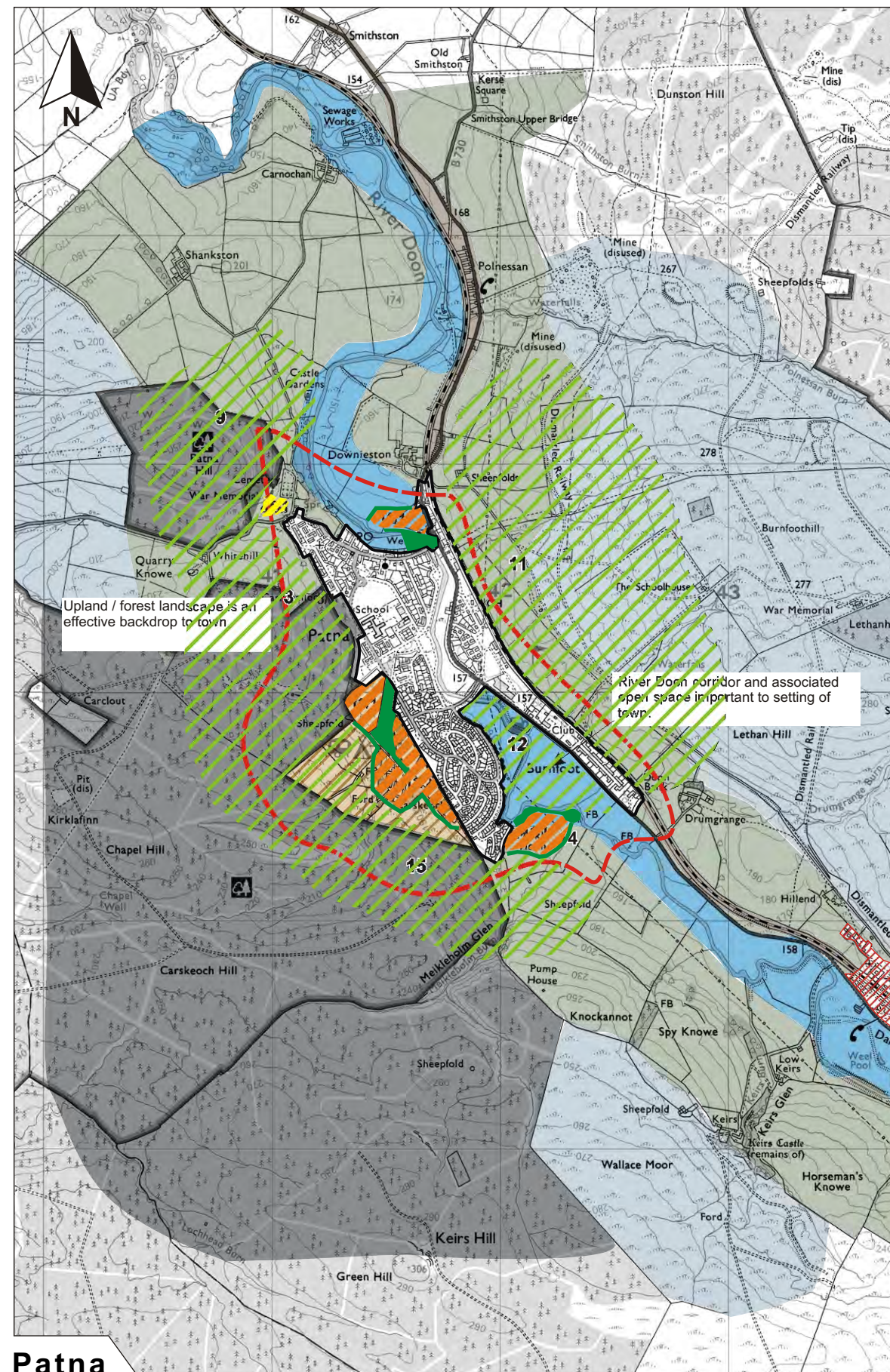
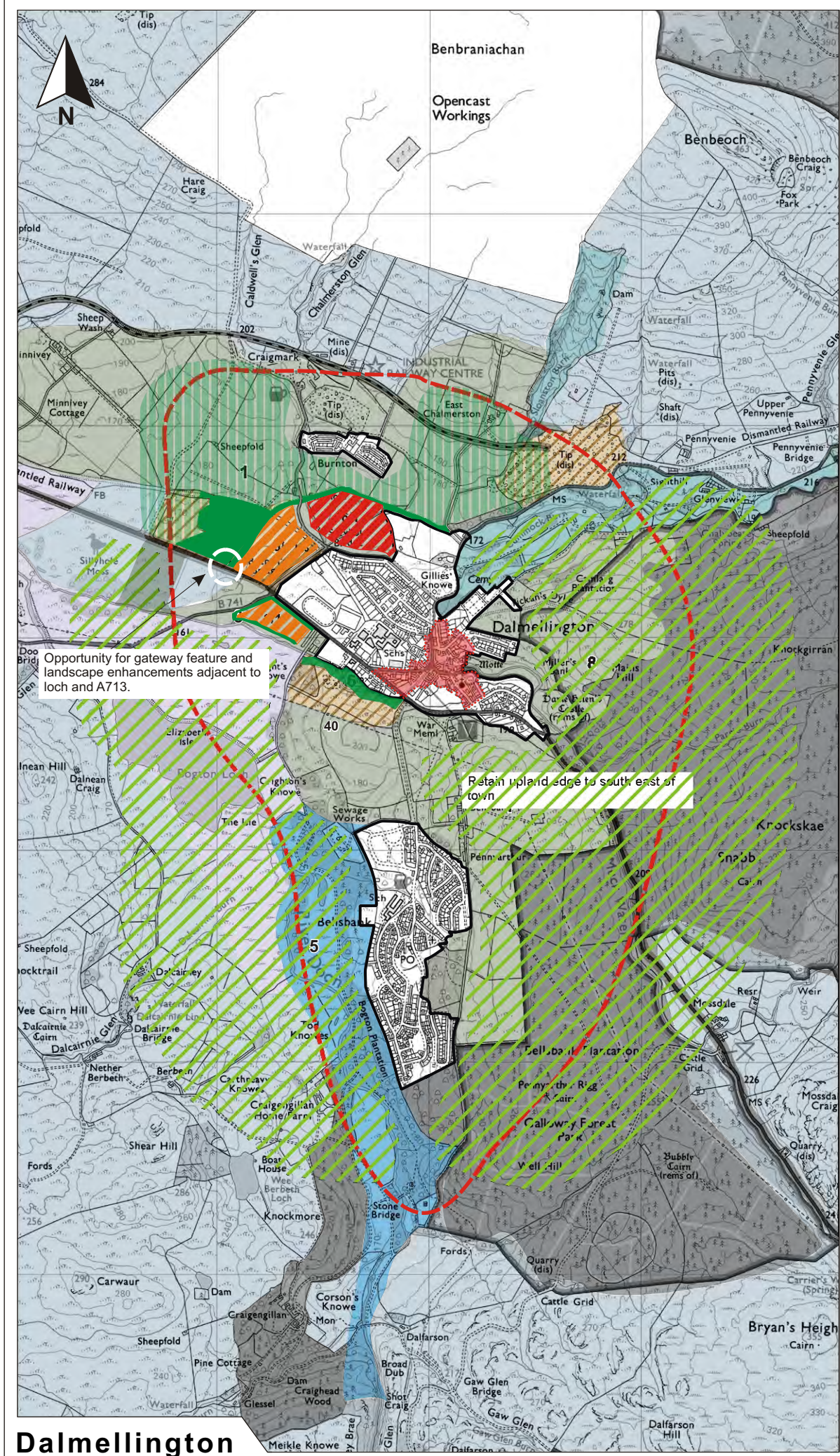
Southern Uplands (T)

With Forestry (+b)


Large Towns

01 km2 km3 km














Scale 1:50,000 @ A3









Key

- 
- Settlement Boundary
- Study Area
- Conservation Area

Landscape Character Areas

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
|  | Upland Farmland |
|  | Upland Forestry |
|  | River Valley |
|  | Stream Valley |
|  | Urban Fringe |
|  | Wetland/Marsh |
|  | Moorland |
|  | Transport Corridor |
|  | Upland Pastureland |
|  | Estate Landscape |
|  | River Valley |
|  | Stream Valley |
|  | Lowland Hill |

Landscape Capacity

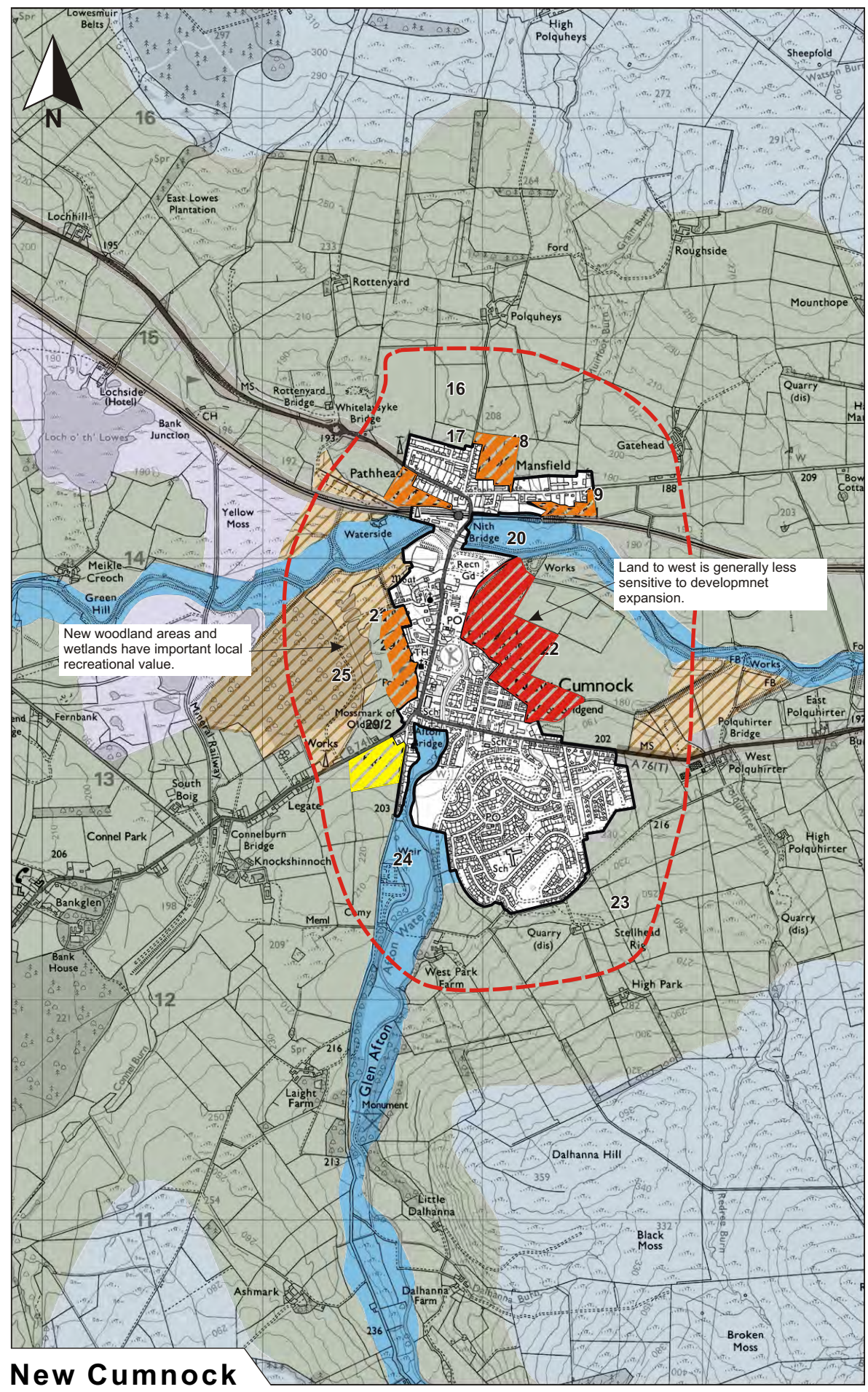
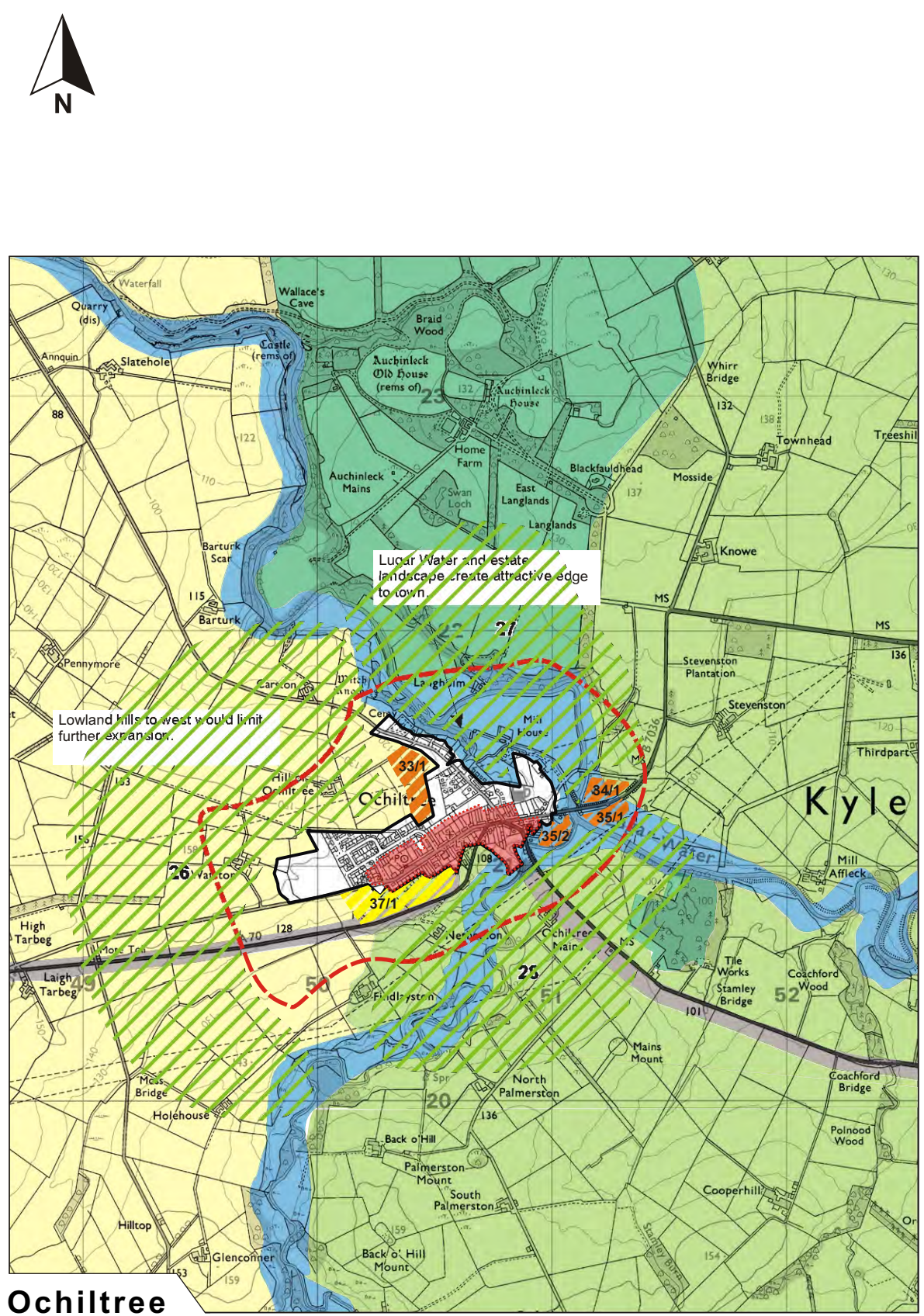
- | | |
|---|---|
|  | Areas most suitable for development
Areas of lower landscape sensitivity the development of which may be beneficial to the wider settlement and urban fabric, subject to detail design plans. |
|  | Areas with potential
Areas of medium to low landscape sensitivity to development, subject to detail design plans. |
|  | Indicative Areas with Limited Potential
Areas of higher landscape sensitivity to development that may also be further constrained by size and topography. |
|  | Indicative Landscape Strategy
Areas not suitable for development that may be required to preserve the setting of settlements and prevent coalescence. |
|  | Indicative Landscape Area
Areas of new or existing landscape/planting to accompany development as buffer zones and or screening. |
|  | New Forestry/Woodland Area |

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 6a & 6b
Landscape Capacity:
Dalmellington and Patna

April 2006
17965-G006/1.cdr fostt

Entec



Key

- Settlement Boundary
- Study Area
- Conservation Area

Landscape Character Areas

- Upland Farmland
- Upland Forestry
- River Valley
- Stream Valley
- Urban Fringe
- Wetland/Marsh
- Moorland
- Transport Corridor
- Upland Pastureland
- Estate Landscape
- River Valley
- Stream Valley
- Lowland Hill

Landscape Capacity

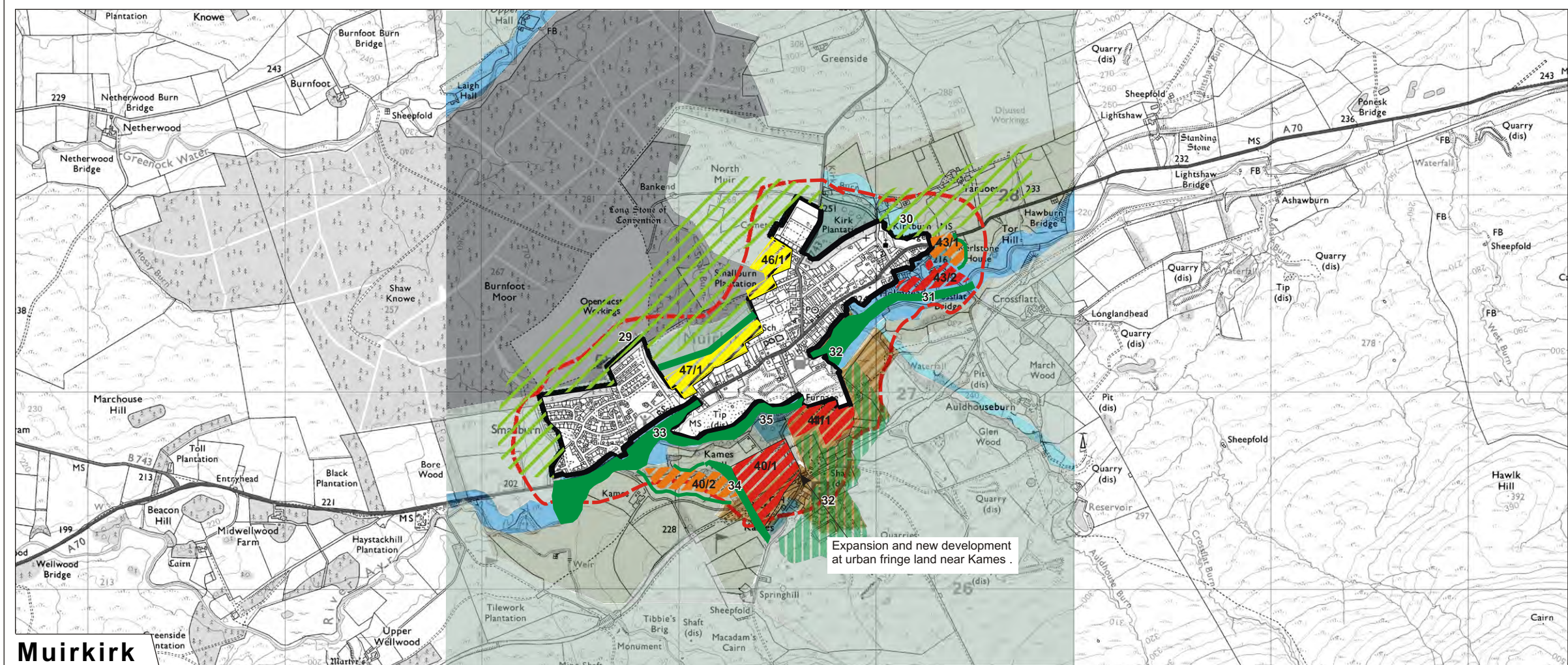
- Areas most suitable for development**
Areas of lower landscape sensitivity the development of which may be beneficial to the wider settlement and urban fabric, subject to detail design plans.
- Areas with potential**
Areas of medium to low landscape sensitivity to development, subject to detail design plans.
- Indicative Areas with Limited Potential**
Areas of higher landscape sensitivity to development that may also be further constrained by size and topography.
- Indicative Landscape Strategy**
Areas not suitable for development that may be required to preserve the setting of settlements and prevent coalescence.
- Indicative Landscape Area**
Areas of new or existing landscape/planting to accompany development as buffer zones and or screening.
- New Forestry/woodland Area**

0m 500m 1 km 1.5 km
Scale 1:25,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 6c & 6d
Landscape Capacity:
Ochiltree and New Cumnock

Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Entec UK Ltd. AL100001776.



Key

- Settlement Boundary
- Study Area
- Conservation Area

Landscape Character Areas

- Upland Farmland
- Upland Forestry
- River Valley
- Stream Valley
- Urban Fringe
- Wetland/Marsh
- Moorland
- Transport Corridor
- Upland Pastureland
- Estate Landscape
- River Valley
- Stream Valley
- Lowland Hill

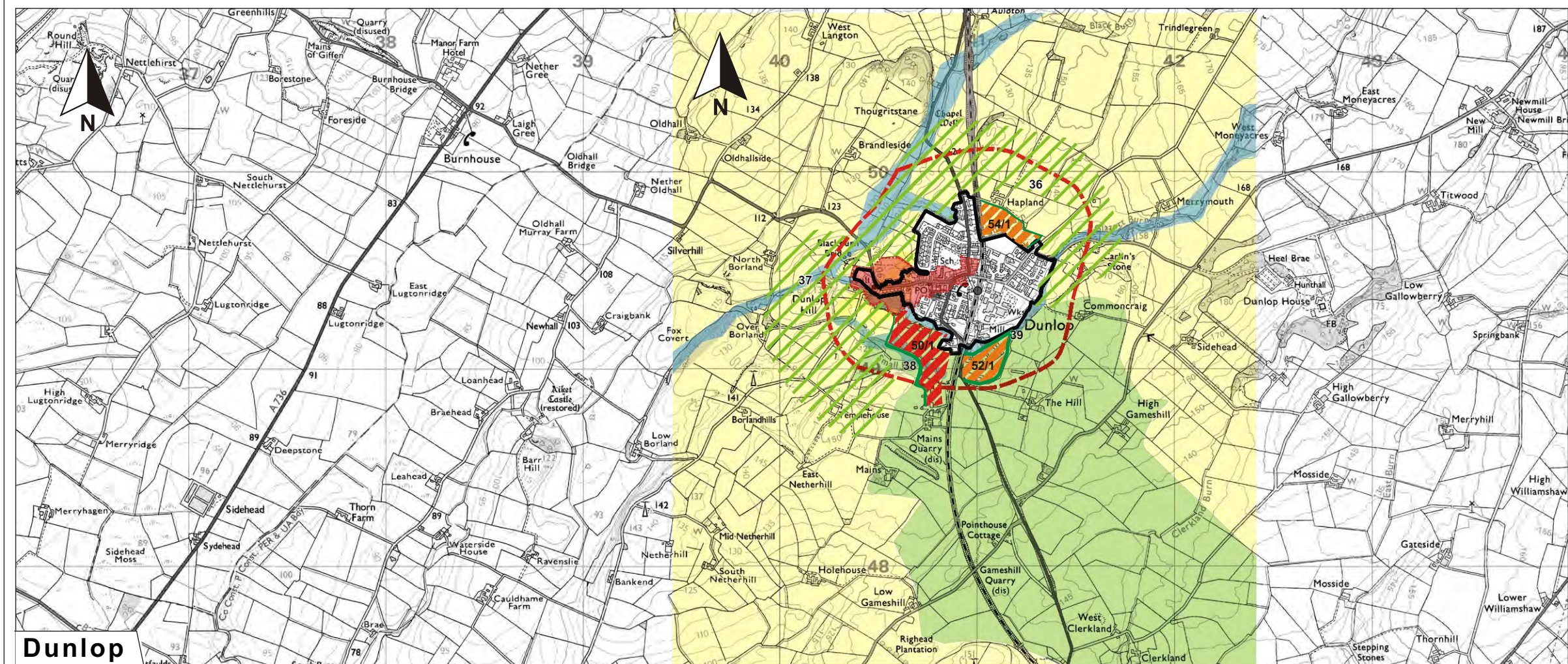
Landscape Capacity

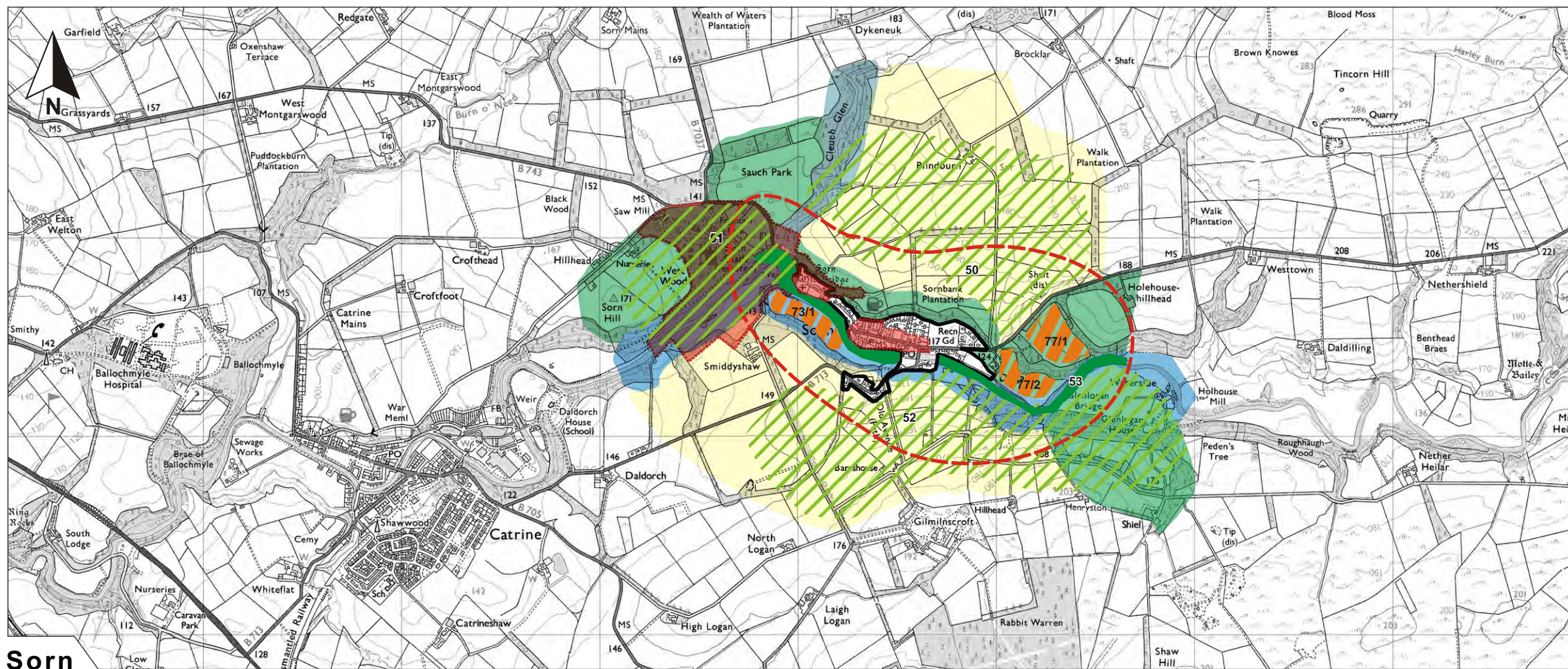
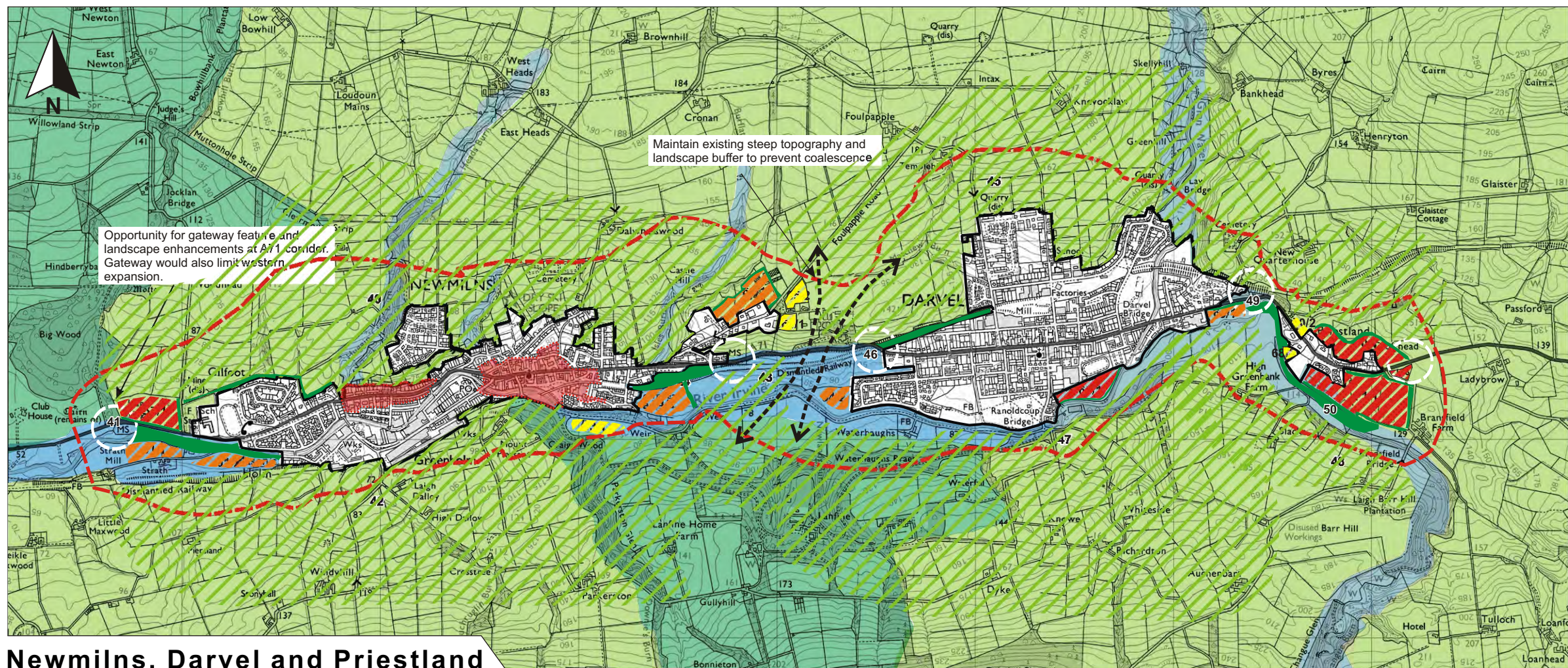
- Areas most suitable for development**
Areas of lower landscape sensitivity to development which may be beneficial to the wider settlement and urban fabric, subject to detail design plans.
- Areas with potential**
Areas of medium to low landscape sensitivity to development, subject to detail design plans.
- Indicative Areas with Limited Potential**
Areas of higher landscape sensitivity to development that may also be further constrained by size and topography.
- Indicative Landscape Strategy**
Areas not suitable for development that may be required to preserve the setting of settlements and prevent coalescence.
- Indicative Landscape Area**
Areas of new or existing landscape/planting to accompany development as buffer zones and or screening.
- New Forestry/woodland Area**

0m 500m 1 km 1.5 km
Scale 1:25,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 6e
Landscape Capacity:
Dunlop and Muirkirk





Appendix A

Character Assessment Survey Forms

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	1 : Bellsbank
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Upland River Valley	Upland Farmland / Upland Forestry – Bellsbank
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland River Valley - Upland Farmland / Upland Forestry



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from existing urban edge viewing south east.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough pasture and plantation forestry.

Landform: Undulating landform

Land use / Landcover: Forestry, broadleaved edge, rough grassland and informal tracks

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 1 : Bellsbank
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to south including Carrick Hills and Carsphairn in Southern Uplands. Dalmellington and Doon Valley.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> 60s council houses with garden fences and minimal vegetation. Forestry and broadleaved edge in some areas.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development would encroach on rural setting and overlook Dalmellington and Bellsbank	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Not applicable	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Not applicable	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:					
Design Constraints:	Steep topography				

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK
-----------------------	------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	2 : River Doon
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Upland River Valley	Upland River Valley – River Doon
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the existing urban edge viewing towards the wooded valley of the River Doon

Landscape elements / patterns: Mixed mature woodland scrub and marshland.

Landform: Steep embankments and wetlands.

Land use / Land cover: Mature woodland and pasture

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 2 : River Doon
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills and Doon Valley	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) 60's council housing
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not applicable
Visual effects (skyline):	Not applicable
Loss of vegetation/features:	Not applicable
Degree of Urban Integration:	Not applicable

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>					
<i>Design Constraints:</i>					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	3 : Bogton
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Upland River Valley	Upland River Valley – Bogton
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from urban edge on the A713 road viewing north west to farmland

Landscape elements / patterns: Scrub, marshland and rough grassland.

Landform: Flat

Land use / Land cover: Sheep grazing and rough grassland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No:	3 : Bogton
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to south west and south east.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Mature woodland at Wight's Knowe and urban fringe land adjacent to Muck Water.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to low	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development could be accommodated within low lying farmland between A713 road and Muck Water. Landscape enhancements at roadside and Muck Water to contain nw development.	
Visual effects (skyline):	None	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would establish a new urban edge	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:				✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Improvement of urban edge and rural setting				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Flood plain.				



This photograph was taken from minor road near Doon Bridge viewing north east.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	4 : Town's Common
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Town's Common Upland River Valley - Urban Fringe and Upland Farmland
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the War memorial on the south edge of the town.

Landscape elements / patterns: Scattered trees, scrub and broken hedgerows.

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Sheep grazing, rough grassland and brown field.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Non distinct

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 4 : Town's Common
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to south west and south east. Bogton Loch, Doon Valley and Dalmellington.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Sparse vegetation, cottage tenements, reclaimed ground and war memorial.
Landscape Quality:	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable – development would overlook town and occupy the skyline
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would establish a new urban edge

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>					
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography				



This photograph was taken from the junction of minor road and access track to war memorial.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	5 : Buchan's Bridge
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Buchan's Bridge Upland River Valley - Urban Fringe and Upland Farmland
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the burn which runs parallel to road on the north western edge of town.

Landscape elements / patterns: Scattered trees and scrub. Disused railway and loch

Landform: Flat

Land use / Land cover: Rough grassland and brown field

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Non distinct

Heritage Features: Coal spoil heap to north east.

Building Materials: White and pastel shades.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
-------------------------	----------------------------------	-------------------	--

Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 5 : Buchan's Bridge
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to south west and south east.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Minor road, stream, miner's cottages.
Landscape Quality:	Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Enclosure and landscape boundary enhancements would be needed to contain development and improve new urban edge and setting for the town. Loch would act as natural barrier to further expansion.
Visual effects (skyline):	None
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development might be accessed from minor road via disused railway line.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:				✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Provide landscape strategy aimed to improve urban edge and setting.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	6 : Sillyhole Bridge
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Sillyhole Bridge Upland River Valley - Upland Farmland
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from Sillyhole Bridge viewing north east along existing urban edge..

Landscape elements / patterns: Scattered hedgerows and scrub. Cumnock Burn.

Landform: Flat

Land use / Land cover: Rough grassland and moorland.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fence lines and broken hedgerows features.

Heritage Features: Coal spoil heap to north east.

Building Materials: Stone, white and pastel shades.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By: Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council **Job Title:** Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment

Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 6: Sillyhole Bridge
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Pennyvenie spoil heap to the north east of the town is a prominent local; feature. The Southern Uplands and edge of the Galloway Forest Park is visible to the south east. Existing opencast site at Chalmertston is visible to the north.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Settlement boundary expansion is already underway within brown field land at Gillies's Knowe. Semi detached miner's cottages at perimeter road.
Landscape Quality:	Low	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Potential suitability Landscape strategy to enclose and create new green space.	
Visual effects (skyline):	None	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Buffer planting required at existing urban edge.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:				✓	
Design Opportunities:	Improve rural setting and develop woodland edge.				
Design Constraints:	Watercourses				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from Burnton viewing south west towards Gillies' Knowe and edge of Dalmellington.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	7 : East Chalmerston
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley / Plateau Moorland – East Chalmerston Upland River Valley / Plateau Moorland - Upland Farmland
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from existing urban edge near Gillies' Knowe viewing north east to Pennyvenie spoil heap..

Landscape elements / patterns: Scrub and broken hedgerows

Landform: Undulating and flat.

Land use / Land cover: Rough grassland and brown field. Sheep grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fence lines and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features: Coal spoil heap to north east.

Building Materials: Stone, white and brick.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 7 : East Chalmerston
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Pennyvenie spoil heap to the north east of the town is a prominent local; feature.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Settlement boundary expansion is already underway within brown field land at Gillies's Knowe.
Landscape Quality:	Medium/ Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Land elevation rising towards disused railway
Visual effects (skyline):	None
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would encroach rural setting.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Create new landscape and woodland edge and improve rural setting.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography to north east.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from Burnton viewing south west towards Gillies' Knowe and edge of Dalmellington.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	8 : Cumnock Burn
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley / Plateau Moorland – Cumnock Burn Upland River Valley / Plateau Moorland – Stream Valley
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from B741 viewing south west to Dalmellington.

Landscape elements / patterns: Medium fields, scattered trees and stream valley.

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Rough grassland and brown field. Sheep grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fence lines and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features: Coal spoil heap to north east.

Building Materials: Stone, white and brick.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 8 : Cumnock Burn
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Pennyvenie spoil heap to the north east of the town is a prominent local; feature.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Modern bungalows and farm houses.
Landscape Quality:	Medium / Low	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Land elevation rising towards disused railway	
Visual effects (skyline):	None	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would encroach rural setting.	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>					
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography and stream valley				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

This photograph was taken

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	9 : Millers Bank
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland River Valley / Southern Uplands with Forestry – Miller's Bank
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland River Valley / Southern Uplands with Forestry – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from northern edge of town viewing east towards uplands.

Landscape elements / patterns: Redundant rough grassland, moorland and plantation forestry.

Landform: Steep and undulating

Land use / Land cover: Rough grassland and forestry.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Open grassland.

Heritage Features: Coal spoil heap to north.

Building Materials: Grey roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 9: Millers Bank
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Forested edge of Southern Uplands	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Sparse urban edge.
Landscape Quality:	Medium / Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable – Hills form edge of the Southern Uplands and Galloway Forest Park
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be dominant on skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would encroach rural setting.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>					
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from existing urban edge viewing south east to uplands -

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	10: Drumgrange
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland River Valley– Drumgrange
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from south eastern tip of town near Doon's Bank viewing south east.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough grassland and moorland.

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Rough grassland and forestry.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Mature and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 10: Drumgrange
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Views to River Doon and edge of Patna	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Cottage tenement.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	N/a.
Visual effects (skyline):	N/a.
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/a.
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/a.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	N/a.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography and railway line				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	11: Meikle Holm
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Meikle Holm
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Farmland and River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the A713 near Doon's Bank viewing north west towards the town.

Landscape elements / patterns: River Doon, open fields and green space.

Landform: Flat

Land use / Land cover: Rough grassland.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Drystone walls and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features: Stone bridge

Building Materials: White roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 11: Meikle Holm
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Views along River Doon to Southern Uplands. Patna Hill is prominent to north west of town.		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Cottage tenements, 60's council houses, River Doon, A713 and scattered woodland.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Retention of open space at River Doon as area contributes to rural setting.	
Visual effects (skyline):	N/A.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/A.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/A.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓			
Design Opportunities:	N/A.				
Design Constraints:	Power line				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken distributor road off the A713 viewing south east along River Doon.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	12: Meikle Holm
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Meikle Holm
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Forestry



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the A713 near Doon's Bank viewing west towards Carskeoch Hill and the edge of the town.

Landscape elements / patterns: Meikleholm Burn, moorland and rough grassland

Landform: Undulating with steep valley at Meikleholm Burn

Land use / Land cover: Forestry and Rough grassland.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 12: Meikle Holm
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Views along River Doon to Southern Uplands.		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) 60's council houses, rough grassland and forestry.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a.				
Design Constraints:	Topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken the existing urban edge viewing southeast along Doon Valley to Southern Uplands.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	13: Carskeoch
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Foothills with Forestry – Carskeoch
Landscape Character Type:		Foothills with Forestry – Upland Forestry and Urban Fringe



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from existing urban edge viewing north west to Patna Hill.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough grassland, moorland, mixed mature woodland and plantation forestry.

Landform: Flat rising towards forest edge.

Land use / Land cover: Urban fringe land with informal access paths to forestry.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a.

Heritage Features: Derelict house at Carskeoch.

Building Materials: Grey roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No:	13: Carskeoch

Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:
-----------------------------------	----------------

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Forest edge. Patna Hill and surrounding hills.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (<i>housing type, settlement boundary, views</i>) 60's council houses, rough grassland and forestry.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	There is some potential for low density development in flatter areas between existing urban edge and Carskeoch ruin. Utilise existing access track from minor road.
Visual effects (skyline):	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Some scrub and semi mature vegetation.
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would be in close proximity to town and improve the existing urban edge.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Existing mature woodland				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>					
Management Strategy:	Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New				



This photograph was taken the existing urban edge viewing west to ruin at Carskeoch.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	14: Carshalloch
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim	Foothills with Forestry – Carshalloch
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Foothills with Forestry – Upland Forestry



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from high ground to the north east of the town viewing south west to the town.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough grassland, moorland, mixed mature woodland and plantation forestry.

Landform: Steep to undulating land.

Land use / Land cover: Forestry and rough grassland.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 14: Carshalloch
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Forest edge. Patna Hill and surrounding hills.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) 60's council houses, rough grassland and forestry.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable, development would impinge rural forest setting.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a.				
Design Constraints:	Steep topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the existing urban edge viewing south east along the forest edge.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	15: Patna Hill
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Foothills with Forestry – Patna Hill
Landscape Character Type:		Foothills with Forestry – Upland Forestry and Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from high ground to the north east of the town viewing west to the town and Patna Hill.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough grassland and plantation forestry.

Landform: Hill summit.

Land use / Land cover: Forestry and sheep grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: small paddock

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No:	15: Patna Hill
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Doon valley and Southern Uplands to south east. Uplands to east of town. River Doon and north western edge of town.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Cemetery and 60's council houses.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable, development would impinge rural forest setting.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a.				
Design Constraints:	Steep topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from road adjacent to cemetery viewing west to farmland.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	16: Downieston
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Downieston
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River Valley / Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the cemetery viewing south east to River Doon and north western edge of the town.

Landscape elements / patterns: Scrub, hedgerows and fields. Mature woodland enclosing Downieston Farm.

Landform: Flat with higher ground towards Downieston Farm and A713 road.

Land use / Land cover: Sheep garzing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and white.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 16: Downieston
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Patna Hill, Rover Doon and uplands to the east of town.		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) River Doon, scrub and A713 corridor.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development would be enclosed by surrounding landform	
Visual effects (skyline):	minimal	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Scrub and hedgerows.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Integration with existing housing may require river side walkway which could be coupled with landscape strategy for River Doon.	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Possible opportunities to enhance river corridor.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Steep topography towards farm and A713 road				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from cemetery viewing east to Downieston Farm

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	17: Burnfoot Hill
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley / Foothills with Forestry – Burnfoot Hill
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley / Foothills with Forestry – River Valley / Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from south western edge of town viewing across River Doon with Burnfoothill in the background. .

Landscape elements / patterns: Large fields and rough grassland

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Sheep grazing, moorland and plantation forestry.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey and white

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 17: Burnfoot Hill
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Patna Hill, town within Doon Valley and forest backdrop to town.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Railway and A713 corridor.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a				
Design Constraints:	Topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	18: Rottenyard
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland Basin – Rottenyard
Landscape Character Type:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the farm track to Polquheys viewing south to existing edge.

Landscape elements / patterns: Open fields with dry stone walls.

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Rough grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Drystone walls.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey and white rough cast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 18: Rottenyard
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills including Nith Valley and Southern Uplands		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Drystone walls with sparse vegetation
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable. Develop woodland edge to improve rural setting	
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal	
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/a.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓			
Design Opportunities:	Develop woodland edge				
Design Constraints:	N/a.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from from existing urban edge viewing north to Polquheys Farm.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	19: Mansfield
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland Basin – Mansfield
Landscape Character Type:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the existing urban edge viewing south west to Pathead area.

Landscape elements / patterns: Open fields with dry stone walls.

Landform: Flat to undulating

Land use / Land cover: Rough grazing and rough fringe grassland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Drystone walls and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey and white rough cast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 19: Mansfield
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills including Nith Valley and Southern Uplands	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Drystone walls with sparse vegetation
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	There is potential for development at existing urban edge at Mansfield although this must be limited by the need to avoid skyline development that would be visual prominent within the rural setting.
Visual effects (skyline):	To north development would be encroaching rural setting.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal.
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would be combined with landscape strategy.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓		✓	
Design Opportunities:	Enhance rural setting and develop woodland edge.				
Design Constraints:	Rising topography to north.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the existing urban edge viewing south east .

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	20: Gatehead
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – Gatehead
Landscape Character Type:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the minor road to north east of town viewing west to Mansfield area.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough pasture and grassland.

Landform: Gently sloping to Gatehead Farm.

Land use / Land cover: Sheep farming

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fencelines and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: .

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 20: Gatehead
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Southern Uplands to south and south west. Harehill wind farm. North eastern edge of town.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Mixture of stone and 70's bungalows.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable as development would be prominent within rural setting.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would impinge on skyline.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	n/a.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the minor road to north east of town viewing west to Mansfield area.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	21: East Mansfield
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – East Mansfield
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the minor road to north east of town viewing west to railway line and Mansfield area.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough pasture and redundant grassland.

Landform: Flat to gently undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Sheep farming and urban fringe

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fencelines and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and roughcast. .

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 21: East Mansfield
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Southern Uplands to south and south west. Harehill windfarm. North eastern edge of town.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Mixture of stone and 70's bungalows. Railway line.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to low.	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Scope for small scale development between existing urban edge and railway line. Further limited potential to east although layout and density issues would have to be sympathetic to rural setting.	
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would attach onto existing urban edge, but should incorporate higher levels of trees and landscaping along edge of the developed / interface with rural areas.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
Design Opportunities:	Improve rural interface with low density development and associated landscape strategy.				
Design Constraints:	Railway line				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the minor road to north east of town viewing south across town to Southern Uplands.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	22: East Nith
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – East Nith
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the existing railway bridge viewing west to New Cumnock

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough pasture and redundant grassland.

Landform: Flat and gently sloping.

Land use / Land cover: Sheep farming and urban fringe

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and roughcast. .

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 22: East Nith
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Southern Uplands to south and south west. Harehill windfarm. .		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Mixture of stone and 70's bungalows. Railway line. River Nith
Landscape Quality:	Medium to low.	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Detached from settlement by river and railway line	
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓			
Design Opportunities:	Improve rural interface with new woodland and ovderall landscape strategy.				
Design Constraints:	Railway line and River Nith				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	24: Castle Mains
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – Castle Mains
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from Castle Mains farm viewing east along Nith valley to Southern Uplands with Lowther Hills in the background.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough pasture and redundant grassland.

Landform: Flat.

Land use / Land cover: Sheep farming and urban fringe.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fence lines and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 24: Castle Mains
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Southern Uplands, with Lowther Hills to east. Harehill windfarm.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Afton Water, River Nith, 60's bungalows, modern housing and mature woodland at Castle Mains.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development along eastern edge would be relatively enclosed by surrounding hills of New Cumnock. Landscape strategy to reinforce existing plating at Afton Water and develop new boundary and structure planting.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Some scattered hedgerows.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Integration of existing housing may require through links over Afton Water to town centre and possible buffer zones / landscape planting along existing urban edge.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓				✓
Design Opportunities:	Landscape enhancement along existing urban edge and boundary of new development..				
Design Constraints:	Flood plain.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from A76 viewing north west to Castle Mains.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	25: Afton Bridgend
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – Afton Bridge
Landscape Character Type:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the A76 road viewing west to existing urban edge.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough pasture and redundant grassland.

Landform: Undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Sheep farming and urban fringe.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fence lines and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: White roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 25: Afton Bridgend
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to north. Existing opencast bund to north.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> A76 road, 60's council housing.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to low.	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline from some views.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a	
Degree of Urban Integration	n/a	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Improve rural setting with new woodland planting				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from A76 viewing north to Gatehead Farm.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	26: Stellhead Rig
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – Stellhead Rig
Landscape Character Type:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from southern edge of town viewing south east to Harehill windfarm.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough pasture.

Landform: Steep and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Sheep farming and urban fringe.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fence lines and broken hedgerows.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 26: Stellhead Rig
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to west and north. Existing opencast bund to north. Harehill windfarm.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views)
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a				
Design Constraints:	Topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from A76 viewing north to Gatehead Farm.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	27: Afton Water
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Glen – Afton Water
Landscape Character Type:		Upland Glen – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the minor road south of New Cumnock viewing north east across Afton Water to existing urban edge.

Landscape elements / patterns: Green space.

Landform: Flat area at Afton Bridge.

Steep and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Recreation and urban fringe.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 27: Afton Water
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to west and north.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone, scrub planting, steep embankment.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Some potential in flat urban fringe area at Afton Bridge. Other areas not suitable.
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal scrub species.
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development at Afton Bridge would be close to town centre.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	n/a.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography and river.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from existing urban edge viewing south west over Afton Water.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	28: Legate
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – Legate
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the minor road south of New Cumnock viewing north to existing urban edge.

Landscape elements / patterns: Drystone walls.

Landform: Flat to undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Sheep farming.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: fence lines and drystone walls.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast and stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 28: Legate
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to north and Knockshinnoch wetlands.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Traditional stone dwellings and drystone walls.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Scope for small scale low density expansion adjacent to B741 and minor road
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would impinge on skyline in area to south.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal.
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close to town centre with access from B741 minor road.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓	✓		
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	New woodland planting to improve rural setting.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	High ground to south.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from existing urban edge viewing south west towards Knockshinnoch.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	29: Knockshinnoch
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – Knockshinnoch
Landscape Character Type:		Upland Basin – Urban Fringe / Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the cemetery at existing urban edge viewing west to urban fringe and wetland areas.

Landscape elements / patterns: New woodland planting, moorland, rough pasture and wetlands.

Landform: Flat.

Land use / Land cover: Knockshinnoch Lagoons Wildlife Reserve.

Recreation including walking.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Fence lines and drystone walls.

Heritage Features: Cemetery.

Building Materials: Stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 29: Knockshinnoch
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to north and south east.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Traditional stone. Wetland areas.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to low.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Some limited potential adjacent to western settlement boundary
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on a hill at Mossspark of Oldmill.
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would be close to town centre.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Design Opportunities:					
Design Constraints:	High ground at Mosspark of Oldmill. Proximity to wetlands.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from footpath within Knockshinnoch viewing east to New Cumnock. .

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	30: Waterside
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – Waterside
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland Basin – Urban Fringe / River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the Nith Bridge viewing south west along river.

Landscape elements / patterns: New woodland planting and urban fringe.

Landform: Flat.

Land use / Land cover: Amenities and scrub.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a.

Heritage Features: .

Building Materials: Stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 30: Waterside
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills to north and south east. Football ground.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Industrial units, traditional stone and River Nith
Landscape Quality:	Medium to low.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Retain corridor of green space at river. Development of landscape strategy including footpath links to Knockshinnoch.
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓			
Design Opportunities:	Develop landscape corridor.				
Design Constraints:					
Management Strategy: Conserve Restore Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	31: Pathhead
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim / Southern Uplands	Upland Basin – Pathhead
Landscape Character Type:		Upland Basin – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken near the A76 road viewing south east towards existing urban edge.

Landscape elements / patterns: Open fields with broken hedgerows

Landform: Flat.

Land use / Land cover: Rough pasture and redundant grassland..

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a.

Heritage Features: .

Building Materials: Stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 31: Pathhead
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Southern Uplands to south. Loch o' th' Lowes to the west.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Traditional stone and wooden garages. Coal yard and urban fringe land.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to low.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development potential between railway line and existing urban edge.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development to avoid higher ground at A76 road.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Some broken hedgerows.
Degree of Urban Integration:	Railway line creates physical boundary to south. New boundary planting at road and new settlement edge to improve interface with rural setting and contain new development.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Encourage new planting to screen railway line and industrial development.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Railway line and accessibility.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from edge of A76 road viewing north west.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	32: Watson
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley / Ayrshire Lowlands – Watson
Landscape Character Type:		Lowland River Valley / Ayrshire Lowlands – Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from new housing area viewing west to Watson farm.

Landscape elements / patterns: Open fields with broken hedgerows

Landform: Undulating ground

Land use / Land cover: Pasture.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and white roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 32: Watson
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Views to surrounding hills to south. Lugar Water and Burnock Water.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Mixed modern and stone.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Retention of lowland hill to preserve setting	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a				
Design Constraints:	Topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	33: Hill of Ochiltree
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley / Ayrshire Lowlands – Hill of Ochiltree
Landscape Character Type:		Lowland River Valley / Ayrshire Lowlands – Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from existing urban edge viewing north east towards Auchenleck

Landscape elements / patterns: Open fields with hedgerows

Landform: Undulating ground

Land use / Land cover: Pasture.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 33: Hill of Ochiltree
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Panoramic views from to west and south. Southern Uplands visible in distance	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Mixed modern, stone and grey roughcast.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Scope for expansion at low lying areas adjacent to minor road.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline on western edge of plot towards Hill of Ochiltree.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Scope for low density expansion. Close to town centre.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓		✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Create new landscape edge.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography at Hill of Ochiltree farm.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from minor road on northern edge of town viewing south to existing urban edge.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	34: Langholm.
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley– Langholm
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Lowland River Valley – Pasture Lands / River Valley.



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from track adjacent to Lugar Water viewing north west to Langholm.

Landscape elements / patterns: Open fields with hedgerows

Landform: Flat with steep side banks at river.

Land use / Land cover: Arable.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By: Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 34: Langholm.
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Urban edge of Ochiltree.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Mixed modern, stone and grey roughcast.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to High
Potential Landscape Fit:	Retain estate woodland at River Lugar
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a				
Design Constraints:	Flood Plain.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	35: Lugar Water.
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley– Lugar Water`
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Lowland River Valley – Pasture Lands / River Valley.



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the A70 at the existing urban edge viewing east to Lugar Water.

Landscape elements / patterns: Open fields with hedgerows

Landform: Flat with steep side banks at river.

Land use / Land cover: Arable.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 35: Lugar Water.
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks:	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Mixed modern, stone and grey roughcast.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Small scale expansion north of river adjacent to B7036.
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Hedgerows.
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close proximity to centre of town.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓		✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Existing woodland and landscape features would screen development.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Flood Plain				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from B7036 viewing west towards town.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	36: Netherton.
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley – Netherton
Landscape Character Type:		Lowland River Valley – Pasture Lands / Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:
This photograph was taken from farm track to Palmerston Farm viewing north west to Ochiltree.
Landscape elements / patterns: Pasture with hedgerows and scattered trees.
Landform: Undulating.
Land use / Land cover: Grazing pasture land.
Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.
Heritage Features:
Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:				
Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 36: Netherton.
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks:	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Mixed modern, stone and grey roughcast.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.
Potential Landscape Fit:	
Visual effects (skyline):	
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:					
Design Constraints:					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

This photograph was taken from.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	37: A70.
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley – A70
Landscape Character Type:		Lowland River Valley – Pasture Lands / Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:
This photograph was taken from the minor on western edge of town viewing west.
Landscape elements / patterns: Pasture with hedgerows and scattered trees.
Landform: Undulating.
Land use / Land cover: Grazing pasture land.
Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.
Heritage Features:
Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:				
Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 37: A70. .
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Panoramic views to east	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Mixed modern, stone and grey roughcast.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable. Development would impinge on lowland rural setting.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would appear detached from existing settlement.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	n/a.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Burnock Water.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the A70 viewing north towards new housing.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	38: Smallburn
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley / Plateau Moorland – Smallburn
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland River Valley / Plateau Moorland – Moorland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:
This photograph was taken from the A70 road viewing east towards edge of the town.
Landscape elements / patterns: Moorland and rough grassland. .
Landform: Undulating.
Land use / Land cover: Moorland .
Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a.
Heritage Features:
Building Materials: Grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:				
Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 38: Smallburn.
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding hills – Wardlaw Hill and Cairn Table.		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) 60's council houses, open space. Former entrance to redundant opencast.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to Low	
Potential Landscape Fit:		
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would impinge higher ground and rural setting.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	n/a.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	39: South West Muirkirk
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – South West Muirkirk
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Moorland / Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:
This photograph was taken from the A71 viewing east towards town.
Landscape elements / patterns: Moorland and rough grassland.
Landform: flat.
Land use / Land cover: Moorland.
Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a.
Heritage Features:
Building Materials: Grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:				
Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 39: South West Muirkirk
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) A70 road, river Ayr
Landscape Quality:	Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Develop landscape strategy along River Ayr.
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a
Loss of vegetation/features:	Scrub
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

Landscape Capacity:	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
	✓	✓			
Design Opportunities:	New woodland area at River Ayr.				
Design Constraints:					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from adjacent to A70 viewing south west.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	40: Kames
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Kames
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from lay by off the A70 road at River Ayr viewing south east to Kames Hill.

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature woodland at Kames Hill. Moorland and rough grassland.

Landform: Flat with embankments at Kames Hill .

Land use / Land cover: Rough grassland Moorland (urban fringe).

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: n/a.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No:	40: Kames
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south. Views to edge of Muirkirk.		Adjoining Urban Edge: (<i>housing type, settlement boundary, views</i>) Hamlet of Kames, A70 road, river Ayr, golf course and disused railway line (go kart track).
Landscape Quality:	Low	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Screening potential by mature woodland at Kames Hill. Sensitive expansion of Kames would improve rural setting of south portion of Muirkirk.	
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would be close to town centre and improve rural setting of Muirkirk and Kames	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	✓
Design Opportunities:	Regenerate brown field land with new woodland edge with links to town and surrounding countryside				
Design Constraints:					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from minor road to Kames viewing west across farmland.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	41: Furnace Bridge
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Furnace Bridge
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Urban Fringe



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken adjacent to minor road within urban fringe land viewing towards Kames.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough grassland

Landform: Undulating.

Land use / Land cover:

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields and undefined brown field.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Grey roughcast industrial buildings

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 41: Furnace Bridge
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south. Views to edge of Muirkirk.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Caravan Park. Farmland and urban fringe.
Landscape Quality:	Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development in conjunction with landscape strategy would improve rural setting and context with hamlet of Kames
Visual effects (skyline):	Areas adjacent to road avoided
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal.
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close to town centre.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Improve overall setting and regenerate				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Steeper topography adjacent to minor road				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from top of embankment off minor road to Kames, viewing north towards to Muirkirk.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	42: South Muirkirk
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – South Muirkirk
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland River Valley – Urban Fringe



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from.

Landscape elements / patterns: Scattered trees, scrub and River Ayr.

Landform: Steep embankment and disused railway features. Flat moorland.

Land use / Land cover: Moorland, sheep farming and urban fringe.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Overmature hedgerows.

Heritage Features: Industrial features including spoil heaps and railway lines.

Building Materials: Stone, white and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 42: South Muirkirk
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south. Views to edge of Muirkirk.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Modern bungalows, 60's council housing.
Landscape Quality:	Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Develop landscape strategy at River Ayr including boundary treatment at existing urban edge.
Visual effects (skyline):	
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Topography and river create natural boundaries.

Landscape Capacity:	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
	✓	✓			
Design Opportunities:	Enhance urban edge and river corridor				
Design Constraints:	Steep embankment topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from existing urban edge at southern side of Muirkirk viewing west along disused railway line.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	43: Crossflat Bridge
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Crossflat Bridge
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River valley / Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from minor road to Crossflat Farm viewing north to Kerlstone House .

Landscape elements / patterns: Scattered trees, scrub and River Ayr.

Landform: Steep embankment and disused railway features. Flat moorland.

Land use / Land cover: Moorland, sheep farming and urban fringe.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Overmature hedgerows.

Heritage Features: .

Building Materials: Stone, white and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 43: Crossflat Bridge
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south. Views to edge of Muirkirk, River Ayr.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone and white farm buildings, 60's council housing.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Existing woodland features to south would contain development. Develop landscape strategy to incorporate River Ayr corridor.
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal
Loss of vegetation/features:	Hedgerows
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close to town centre possible new footpath at river.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Enhance landscape setting and develop landscape at river corridor.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Steep embankments at existing urban edge				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from minor road to Crossflat Farm viewing north west to edge of Muirkirk.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	44: Kirkburn Bridge
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Kirkburn Bridge
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Stream Valley / Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from church at eastern edge of town viewing north east.

Landscape elements / patterns: Kirk Burn.

Landform: Steep embankments.

Land use / Land cover: Moorland, sheep farming and urban fringe.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Overmature hedgerows.

Heritage Features: Church and graveyard.

Building Materials: Stone, white and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 44: Kirkburn Bridge
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone and white farm buildings, 60's council housing.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable due to topogarchy
Visual effects (skyline):	N/a
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/a
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/a

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	N/a				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Development would encroach on rural setting				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from church at eastern edge of town viewing east along A70.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	45: Kirk Plantation
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Upland River Valley – Kirk Plantation
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Stream Valley / Upland Farmland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the A70 viewing north to Kirk Plantation.

Landscape elements / patterns: Kirk Burn.

Landform:

Land use / Land cover:

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 45: Kirk Plantation
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) New development taking place. B743. Kirk Burn.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable. Emerging broad-leaved woodland retained.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	New woodland.
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a				
Design Constraints:	Woodland features.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

This photograph was taken from church at eastern edge of town viewing east along A70.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	46: North Muir
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Plateau Moorland – North Muir
Landscape Character Type:		Plateau Moorland – Moorland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from existing urban edge on north side of town viewing south to Muirkirk.

Landscape elements / patterns: Rough grassland.

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Moorland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 46: North Muir
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Cottage tenements. Stone houses and forestry.
Landscape Quality:	Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Topography would limit large scale expansion.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline on the northern portion towards cemetery.
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close proximity to town centre.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓	✓		
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Poor quality land.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from existing urban edge on north side of town viewing south west to Smallburn Plantation.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	47: North Edge
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Plateau Moorland – 47 North edge
Landscape Character Type:		Plateau Moorland – Moorland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from existing urban edge viewing south east to Muirkirk.

Landscape elements / patterns:

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Moorland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 47: North Edge
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) 60, council houses. Stone houses and forestry. Retail and A70 road.
Landscape Quality:	Medium to low.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development would be prominent as ground rises sharply towards Smallburn Plantation.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline to north.
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close to town centre.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Extend new woodland.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Rising topography.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the A70 road viewing north west to Smallburn Plantation.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	48: Burnfoot
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Rim	Plateau Moorland – Burnfoot
Landscape Character Type:		Plateau Moorland – Moorland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from existing urban edge viewing south east to Muirkirk.

Landscape elements / patterns:

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Moorland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 48: Burnfoot
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Cairn Table and hills to south	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) 60, council houses. Stone houses and forestry. Retail and A70 road.
Landscape Quality:	Low
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be prominent as ground rises sharply towards Smalburn Plantation
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a.				
Design Constraints:					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	49: Dunlop Hill
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – Burnfoot
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Ayrshire Lowlands – Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from church at the west end of town viewing west to Dunlop Hill.

Landscape elements / patterns:

Landform: Undulating

Land use / Land cover: Woodland and farmland.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features:

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 49: Dunlop Hill
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: North west edge of town. Undulating farmland at Blackburn.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Cemetery, wooded river valley. Sewage works
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	n/a.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development on skyline.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>					
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Steep hill.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the edge of the cemetery viewing south west to Dunlop Hill.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	50: Smallburn
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – Smallburn
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Ayrshire Lowlands – Pasture land



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from private road adjacent to railway line viewing north west to town.

Landscape elements / patterns: Small Burn and Glazzett Burn

Landform: flat with small hill features

Land use / Land cover: Dairy, rough grassland and nature reserve/park.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Hedgerows

Heritage Features:

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 50: Smallburn
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Dunlop Hill, settlement edge	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Glazert Burn and railway line.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Potential for development within low lying topography provided it is well integrated with existing village.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development on skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	hedgerows
Degree of Urban Integration:	Scope for single storey medium to low density housing

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:				✓	✓
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Establish new village edge.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Small burn, hill features and nature reserve.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the Dunlop nature reserve/park viewing north east towards settlement..

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	51: Mains
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – Mains
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Ayrshire Lowlands – Pasture land



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from A735 road viewing south.

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature shelterbelts.

Landform: undulating

Land use / Land cover:

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Hedgerows and shelterbelts

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: White and stone farmhouses

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 51: Mains
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Edge of settlement.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Railway line.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable. Landlocked between railway and main road
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:					
Design Constraints:	Topography and transport corridors				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from A735 road viewing towards railway.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	52: The Hill
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – The Hill
Landscape Character Type:		Ayrshire Lowlands – Pasture land/Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the A735 viewing south east to the Hill farm

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature trees, hedgerows and open fields.

Landform: Undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Large to medium open fields with hedgerows and mature trees.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 52: The Hill
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Edge of town, mature trees at Hill farm.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Glazert burn. Industrial yard and medium density housing.
Landscape Quality:	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline when viewing from A735.
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would impinge on rural setting.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	n/a.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	53: Commoncraig
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – Commoncraig
Landscape Character Type:		Ayrshire Lowlands – Pasture land/Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from minor at north east edge of town viewing south west along existing urban edge at Glazert Burn.

Landscape elements / patterns: Glazert Burn, Mature trees, hedgerows and open fields.

Landform: Undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Large to medium open fields with hedgerows and mature trees.

Heritage Features: Carlin's Stone

Building Materials: Stone and roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 53: Commoncraig
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Mature woodland at urban edge within Glazert Burn		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Low to medium density bungalows and villas.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development would impinge on rural setting	
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>					
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography and landscape features				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	54: Hapland
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – Hapland
Landscape Character Type:		Ayrshire Lowlands –Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from a minor road to the north east of town viewing towards existing urban edge.

Landscape elements / patterns: Glazert Burn, open fields, hedgerows and scattered trees.

Landform: Undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small top medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 54: Hapland
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Mature woodland at Glazert Burn. Existing urban edge.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Detached stone villas, stone walls and mature trees. Hapland Farm.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Settlement expansion capacity at northern edge of town. Topography north of Hapland would constrain further expansion.
Visual effects (skyline):	Size of area limited due to potential skyline development when viewed from the A735.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Hedgerows
Degree of Urban Integration:	Access to town centre via minor road at north east edge.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Enhance urban edge				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography north of Hapland Farm.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was from existing urban edge viewing towards Hap lands Farm.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	55: North Dunlop
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – 55: North Dunlop
Landscape Character Type:		Ayrshire Lowlands –Lowland Hill



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from A735 road viewing north to surrounding landscape.

Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows, scattered trees and open fields.

Landform: Steep slopes and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 55: North Dunlop
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding countryside and North Ayrshire Hills to west.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Medium density council one story housing. Railway line.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable due to steep topography	
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	n/a.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was from A735 road viewing south east towards town.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	56: Blackburn
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – 56 Blackburn
Landscape Character Type:		Ayrshire Lowlands –Lowland Hill / Stream Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from cemetery viewing north along Black Burn with Dunlop visible at extreme right of the photograph..

Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows, scattered trees and open fields.

Landform: Steep slopes and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 56: Blackburn
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding countryside and North Ayrshire Hills to west.		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Medium density 60's council housing.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable due to steep topography and stream valley feature.	
Visual effects (skyline):	n/a.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	n/a.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography of stream valley. Conservation Area.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was existing urban edge viewing north west towards Brandleside Farm

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	57: Hag Bridge
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – 57: Hag Bridge
Landscape Character Type:		Ayrshire Lowlands – Upland Pasture Land



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from the minor road to Woodhead farm viewing south over River Irvine valley.

Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows, scattered trees and open fields.

Landform: Flat and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Small to medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 57: Hag Bridge
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Surrounding countryside to south including estate woodland at Lanfine. Estate woodland of Loudon Castle HGDL.		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Fire Station, school, open space and A71 corridor.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Topography and existing woodland would limit visual impact of development.	
Visual effects (skyline):	None	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would represent the western limits of settlement expansion.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓				✓
Design Opportunities:	Flat ground with existing mature woodland to west to act as buffer. New development would be part of an overall gateway feature to town with new landscape features.				
Design Constraints:	Topography to north and A71 road corridor.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	58: Gilfoot
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Ayrshire Lowlands – 58 Gilfoot
Landscape Character Type:		Ayrshire Lowlands – Upland Pasture Land



Essential Character - Description / Notes:
This photograph was from the minor near Clearmont Farm viewing south towards Newmilns and Irvine Valley.
Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows, scattered trees and open fields.
Landform: Steep and undulating.
Land use / Land cover: Grazing.
Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields.
Heritage Features:
Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:				
Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 58: Gilfoot
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Irvine Valley. Louden Hill, Mast at Darvel and farmland to south	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) 60's council housing and detached bungalows.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable. Development would encroach on setting.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a.
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a.				
Design Constraints:	Topography.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was from existing urban edge near the Fire Station viewing north west to pasture land..

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	59 North Newmilns
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 59 North Newmilns
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Pasture Land



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from the cemetery viewing south towards existing urban edge.

Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows, scattered trees and open fields.

Landform: Steep and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone, white and grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 59 North Newmilns
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Irvine Valley with backdrop of estate woodland at Lanfine. TV Mast at Darvel and Loudon Hill		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone villas, detached bungalows and 60's council housing
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would impinge on rural setting.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	n/a				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topogarphy				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was from north edge of town.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	60: Castlehill
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 60 Castlehill
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Pasture Land



Essential Character - Description / Notes:
This photograph was from the A71 road viewing north along Isles Burn.
Landscape elements / patterns: Scrub, mature trees and small fields. .
Landform: Steep and undulating.
Land use / Land cover: Grazing.
Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields.
Heritage Features:
Building Materials: Red sandstone, white and grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:				
Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 60: Castlehill
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks:	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone bungalows, council housing and scattered trees
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Potential suitability on flatter ground at existing urban edge centred around Foulpapple Road
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline adjacent to Isles Burn
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓		✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Enhancement of existing urban edge at Foulpapple Road.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Isles Burn and associated topography.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from Foulpapple road viewing north to existing greenhouses.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	61: Strath Mill
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 61: Strath Mill
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from a farm track/footpath adjacent to the River Irvine .

Landscape elements / patterns: Scrub, mature trees and small fields. .

Landform: Flat with steep disused railway embankment.

Land use / Land cover: Grazing.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: White and grey roughcast

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By: Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 61: Strath Mill
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: River Irvine. Mature woodland at existing golf club.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Disused railway line and River Irvine Detached bungalows and 60's council housing
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Existing disused railway would create containment and vegetation at river would provide screening from A71.
Visual effects (skyline):	None
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Development would be adjacent to footbridge across River Irvine leading to A71. There are also direct links into the centre of town on south bank of river

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
Design Opportunities:					
Design Constraints:					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was from a farm track/footpath adjacent to the River Irvine viewing east towards existing urban edge.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	62: Greenholm
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 62: Greenholm
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from existing recreation ground at the western edge of town viewing south east .

Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows, open fields and scattered trees.

Landform: Undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Pasture.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium sized fields.

Heritage Features:

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 62: Greenholm
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Louden Hill. River Irvine valley.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Industrial buildings
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a	
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	n/a				
Design Constraints:	landform				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	63: Craigs Wood
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 63: Craigs Wood
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from existing disused railway viewing south to Rover Irvine and Lanfine House .

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature woodland shelterbelts.

Landform: Flat and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Open space, paddock and footpaths.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features: Edge of estate woodland at Lanfine House.

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 63: Craigs Wood
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Mature woodland and Rover Irvine	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Riverside walkway and mature woodland
Landscape Quality:	High to medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable. Retain woodland.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>					
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Valuable recreation corridor.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from riverside footpath viewing south east.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	63: Craigs Wood
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 63: Craigs Wood
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from existing disused railway viewing south to Rover Irvine and Lanfine House .

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature woodland shelterbelts.

Landform: Flat and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Open space, paddock and footpaths.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern:

Heritage Features: Edge of estate woodland at Lanfine House.

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 63: Craigs Wood
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Mature woodland and Rover Irvine	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Riverside walkway and mature woodland
Landscape Quality:	High to medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Not suitable. Retain woodland.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a
Degree of Urban Integration:	n/a

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:					
Design Constraints:	Valuable recreation corridor.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from riverside footpath viewing south east.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	64: Townhead
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 64: Townhead
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was from existing urban edge viewing west towards Darvel.

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature woodland shelterbelts.

Landform: Flat and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Pasture.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials:

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 64: Townhead
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Louden Hill. River Irvine.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone, farm buildings, River Irvine, Disused railway
Landscape Quality:	Higher quality areas at river Irvine.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development adjacent to urban edge
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal
Loss of vegetation/features:	n/a
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close to town centre although development would represent western limits of expansion

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓		✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Re-establish new town edge with through links to River Irvine				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Valuable recreation corridor.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the existing urban edge viewing west towards Loudon Hill.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	65: Foulpapple
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 65: Foulpapple
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Pastureland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from Foulpapple road viewing south west to existing urban edge at Newmilns.

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature woodland shelterbelts.

Landform: Flat, undulating and steep landform

Land use / Land cover: Pasture and rough grassland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 65: Foulpapple
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Louden Hill. Lanfine estate woodland.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone, farm buildings, 60's council housing and disused railway
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Scope for development adjacent to Foulpapple Road
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline at sloping areas adjacent to A71 and areas to east towards Darvel
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Adjoining properties well established vegetation and mature shelterbelts at Foulpapple Road.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓	✓		
Design Opportunities:					
Design Constraints:	Topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This picture was taken from existing urban edge at Darvel viewing north west

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	66: Waterhaugh
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley –
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from southern edge of Darvel near River Irvine viewing south east to surrounding woodland.

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature woodland shelterbelts.

Landform: Undulating and steep landform

Land use / Land cover: Pasture and rough grassland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 66: Waterhaugh
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Lanfine estate woodland.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone, 60's council housing, River Irvine
Landscape Quality:	Medium quality with areas of high within estate woodland.
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development would be generally encroach on rural setting south if River Irvine. There is scope for a small plot between redundant industrial space and River Irvine.
Visual effects (skyline):	Potential skyline effects.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Mature trees.
Degree of Urban Integration:	River Irvine woodland corridor creates strong natural barrier. Topography further south contributes to overall setting of Darvel and Newmilns. Development north of river would be accessible to the centre of town.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			✓
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Retain River Irvine corridor				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This picture was taken from A71 viewing south to east woodland at Lanfine House.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	67: Glen Water
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 67: Glen Water
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Pastureland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from minor north of Darvel viewing south to Irvine Valley .

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature hedgerows and shelterbelts.

Landform: Undulating and steep landform

Land use / Land cover: Pasture and rough grassland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 67: Glen Water
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Lanfine estate woodland. Louden Hill.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Stone, 60's council housing
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development spread would encroach on rural setting
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would interrupt
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/A.
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/A.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			✓
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	N/A.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography and contribution to rural setting.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	68: High Greenbank
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 68: High Greenbank
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland River Valley – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the A71 viewing south east towards Priestland.

Landscape elements / patterns: Mature hedgerows and shelterbelts.

Landform: Flat landform

Land use / Land cover: Pasture and rough grassland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 68: High Greenbank
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Mature woodland	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Industrial buildings, River Irvine, A71 road corridor.
Landscape Quality:	Medium.
Potential Landscape Fit:	There is potential for small expansion at eastern edge of Darvel adjacent to A71 and would represent limits of settlement expansion
Visual effects (skyline):	N/A.
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Mature trees and River Irvine provide natural barrier to limit further expansion. Road corridor planting to be enhanced to contain development.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓		✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	N/A.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Topography and contribution to rural setting.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the A71 adjacent to River Irvine viewing south east towards Priestland.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	69: Quarterhouse
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 69: Quarterhouse
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Upland River Valley – Upland Pastureland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from north eastern edge of town viewing north towards new development .

Landscape elements / patterns: Scrub, hedgerows and shelterbelts.

Landform: Steep sloping ground and undulating.

Land use / Land cover: Pasture and rough grassland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 69: Quarterhouse
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Views to Louden Hill. Irvine Valley.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) New housing development.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	N/A.
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on the skyline.
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/A.
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/A.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	N/A.				
Design Constraints:	Topography.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	70: Priestland
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 70: Priestland.
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – Upland Pastureland



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from edge of Priestland viewing south west along River Irvine valley .

Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows and shelterbelts.

Landform: Flat and undulating ground.

Land use / Land cover: Pasture and rough grassland

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone, white and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 70: Priestland
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Views along Irvine Valley with estate woodland at Lanfine House	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) New housing development. A71 road corridor.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	There is potential for settlement expansion on relatively lower lying areas of land adjoining the north edge of the village.
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Integration would require through links to the village and possible buffer zones and boundary planting.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:					✓
Design Opportunities:	Opportunity for 'gateway' enhancement of the experience of entering and approaching Priestland from the east.				
Design Constraints:					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from same location viewing north west to surrounding countryside.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	71: Gower Water
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Upland River Valley – 71: Gower Water.
Landscape Character Type:		Upland River Valley – River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from junction of minor road and A71 viewing west towards Priestland.

Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows and mature trees. Gower Water.

Landform: Flat ground.

Land use / Land cover: Pasture.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone, white and grey roughcast.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 71: Gower Water
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Woodland at Gower Water. Estate woodland near Lanfine House	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Mature woodland and A71 road corridor.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Potential suitability to expand existing settlement edge, existing woodland at Gower Water and would provide enclosure, screening and landscape setting. Development would need to include appropriate setback from A71 road and river.
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal
Loss of vegetation/features:	Some hedgerows.
Degree of Urban Integration:	Integration with existing housing may require the creation of through links to village centre and possible buffer zones / landscape planting along existing urban edges.

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:					✓
Design Opportunities:	Opportunity for 'gateway' enhancement of the experience of entering and approaching Priestland from the east.				
Design Constraints:	Flood plain at river.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from minor road near Bransfield Farm viewing west towards town..

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	72: Sauch Park
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley – 72: Sauch Park.
Landscape Character Type:		Lowland River Valley – Estate Landscape



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the B743 viewing south to Sorn Castle.

Landscape elements / patterns: Hedgerows and policy woodland.

Landform: Flat ground.

Land use / Land cover: Pasture.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features: Sorn Castle

Building Materials: Stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No:	72: Sauch Park
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Policy Woodland and historic building at Sorn Castle		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Mature woodland.
Landscape Quality:	High	
Potential Landscape Fit:	Location is remote from village.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	Mature trees.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Detached from village.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:					
Design Constraints:					
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from the B743 viewing north west towards estate woodland.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	73: Sorn Castle
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley – 73 Sorn Castle
Landscape Character Type:		Lowland River Valley – Estate Landscape / River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from stone bridge at River Ayr viewing south east towards village..

Landscape elements / patterns: Policy woodland, shelterbelts and hedgerows.

Landform: Flat.

Land use / Land cover: Pasture.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features: Sorn Castle

Building Materials: Stone.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 73: Sorn Castle
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Policy Woodland near Sorn Castle. River Ayr.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Mature woodland.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Scope for small scale development adjacent to River Ayr.
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal
Loss of vegetation/features:	Minimal
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close to village via existing bridge.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓	✓		✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>					
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Flood plain.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from edge of village viewing south east at River Ayr..

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	74: Sornbank
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character Area:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley – 74 Sornbank
Landscape Character Type:		Lowland River Valley – Lowland Hill / River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from the northern urban edge viewing north west to mature shelterbelts.

Landscape elements / patterns: Shelterbelts and hedgerows.

Landform: Steep and undulating land form

Land use / Land cover: Pasture. Rough grassland. New woodland planting

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and white.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 74: Sornbank
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Policy Woodland at Sorn Castle. River Ayr.		Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Single and one storey housing.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	N/A.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/A.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/A.	

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	N/A.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Steep banked topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					



This photograph was taken from B713 viewing north east over Sorn.

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	75 Barrshouse
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley – 75 Barrshouse
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Lowland River Valley – Lowland Hill / River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:
.
Landscape elements / patterns: Shelterbelts and hedgerows.
Landform: Steep and undulating land form
Land use / Land cover: Pasture.
Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields
Heritage Features:
Building Materials: Stone and white.

Aesthetic Factors:				
Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 75 Barrshouse
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Policy Woodland at Sorn Castle. River Ayr.		Adjoining Urban Edge: <i>(housing type, settlement boundary, views)</i> Single and one storey housing.
Landscape Quality:	Medium	
Potential Landscape Fit:	N/A.	
Visual effects (skyline):	Development would be on skyline.	
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/A.	
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/A.	

	Landscape Strategy	Not suitable	Limited Potential	Potential	Most Suitable
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
Design Opportunities:	N/A.				
Design Constraints:	Steep banked topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	76 North East Sorn
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley – 76 North East Sorn
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Lowland River Valley – Lowland Hill / River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:
This photograph was taken from The B743 viewing north to countryside
Landscape elements / patterns: Shelterbelts and hedgerows.
Landform: Steep and undulating land form
Land use / Land cover: Pasture.
Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields
Heritage Features:
Building Materials: Stone and white.

Aesthetic Factors:				
Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March 1 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 76 North East Sorn
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Policy Woodland and Shelterbelts.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Single and one storey housing.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Development would be detached from village
Visual effects (skyline):	
Loss of vegetation/features:	N/A.
Degree of Urban Integration:	N/A.

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:		✓			
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	N/A.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Steep banked topography				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Job No / Client:	17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title:	Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather:	March 1 2005 / Cloudy	Location No:	77 Dalgain
Camera Format:	SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:	

	Regional	Local
Landscape Character <u>Area</u>:	Ayrshire Basin	Lowland River Valley – 77 Dalgain
Landscape Character <u>Type</u>:		Lowland River Valley – Lowland Hill / River Valley



Essential Character - Description / Notes:

This photograph was taken from The B743 viewing south.

Landscape elements / patterns: Shelterbelts and hedgerows.

Landform: Undulating land form

Land use / Land cover: Pasture.

Field boundaries / Field Pattern: Medium fields

Heritage Features:

Building Materials: Stone and white.

Aesthetic Factors:

Scale:	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast
Enclosure:	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed
Diversity:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
Texture:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough
Colour:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
Balance:	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic
Movement:	Still	Calm	Lively	Busy
Form:	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous
Remoteness:	Wild / wilderness	Semi-wild	Farmed	Manicured
Security:	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening

Undertaken By:

Gary Stodart, Entec UK.

Job No / Client: 17965-01 / East Ayrshire Council	Job Title: Strategic Development Areas Landscape Assessment
Date / Weather: March / 2005 / Cloudy / Cloudy	Location No: 77 Dalgain
Camera Format: SLR D100 (Digital)	Film/Photo No:

Views and visual focus / landmarks: Policy Woodland and Shelterbelts.	Adjoining Urban Edge: (housing type, settlement boundary, views) Single and one storey housing.
Landscape Quality:	Medium
Potential Landscape Fit:	Shelterbelts would offer screening and setting qualities
Visual effects (skyline):	Minimal
Loss of vegetation/features:	
Degree of Urban Integration:	Close proximity to village centre

	<i>Landscape Strategy</i>	<i>Not suitable</i>	<i>Limited Potential</i>	<i>Potential</i>	<i>Most Suitable</i>
Landscape Capacity:	✓			✓	
<i>Design Opportunities:</i>	Woodland setting.				
<i>Design Constraints:</i>	Higher ground to south east.				
Management Strategy: Conserve / Restore / Enhance / Create New					

Undertaken By:	Gary Stodart, Entec UK.
-----------------------	-------------------------

Appendix B

References

East Ayrshire Council, *East Ayrshire Local Plan, Volume 1 Written Statement*, Adopted 2003.

East Ayrshire Council, *East Ayrshire Local Plan, Volume 2 Written Statement*, Adopted 2003.

Joint Structure Plan Committee, *Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan*, Approved 2000.

Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Assessment *Guidelines on Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Second Edition*, 2002.

Land Use Consultants, *Ayrshire Landscape Assessment*, Scottish Natural Heritage Review No.111, 1998.

Scottish Executive *SPP3 - Planning for Housing*, 1996.

Scottish Executive PAN 44 – Fitting New Housing Development into the Landscape, 1994
Scottish Executive PAN 52 – Planning for Small Towns, 1997.

Scottish Executive PAN 65 – Planning and Open Space, 2003.

Scottish Executive PAN 60- Planning for Natural Heritage, 2000.

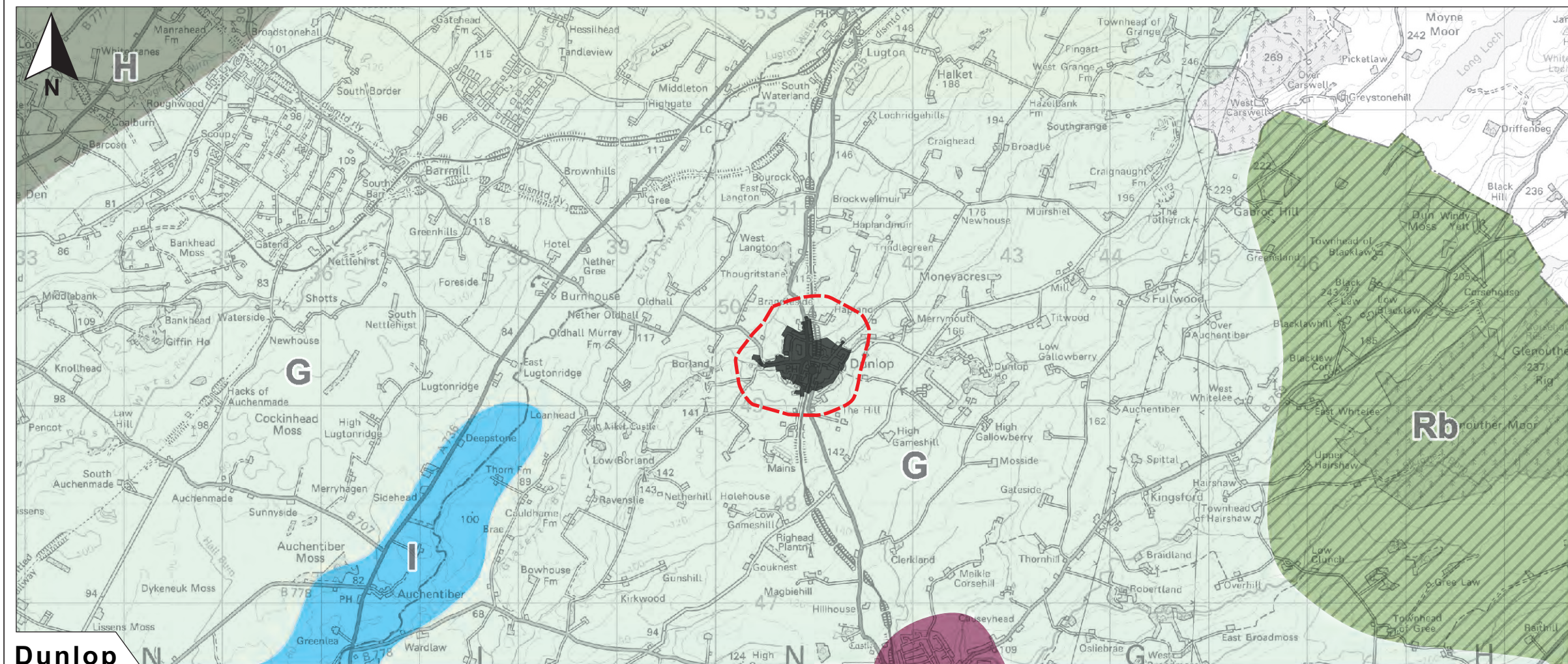
University of Sheffield and Land Use Consultants *Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland*, 2002.

www.geo.ed.ac.uk/scotgaz/towns/townfirst467.html.

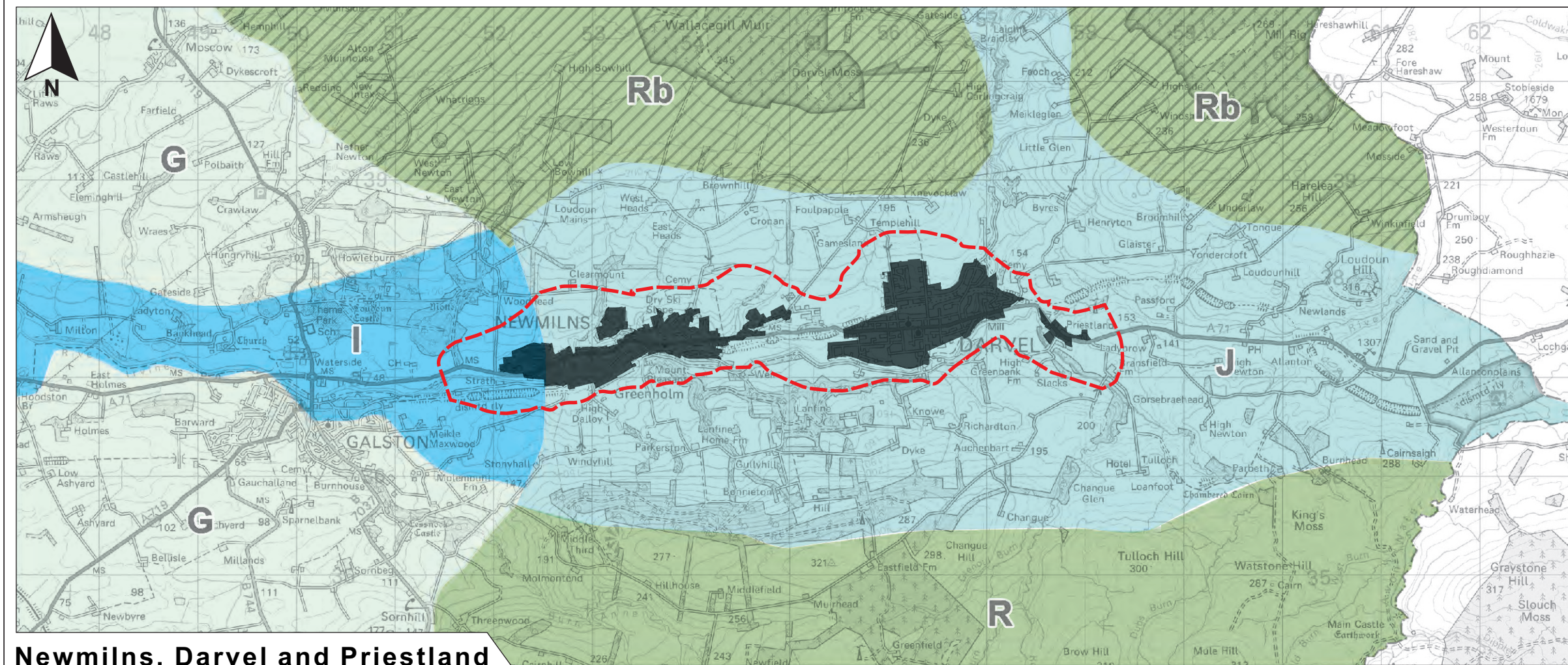
www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/comser/my%20area/crosshouse.asp.

www.ukvillages.co.uk/ukvillages.nsf/villages/Scotland/Kilmaurs-East+Ayrshire.

<http://www.geo.ed.ac.uk/scotgaz/gaztitle.html>.



- Key**
- Settlement Boundary
 - Study Area
- Ayrshire Landscape Assessment**
- Ayrshire Lowlands (G)
 - Broad Valley Lowland (H)
 - Lowland River Valley (I)
 - Upland River Valley (J)
 - Middle Dale (L)
 - Intimate Pastoral Valley (M)
 - Upland Glen (N)
 - Upland basin (O)
 - Lowland Hills (P)
 - Foothills (Q)
 - Plateau Moorland (R)
 - Southern Uplands (T)
- With Forestry (+b)
- Large Towns



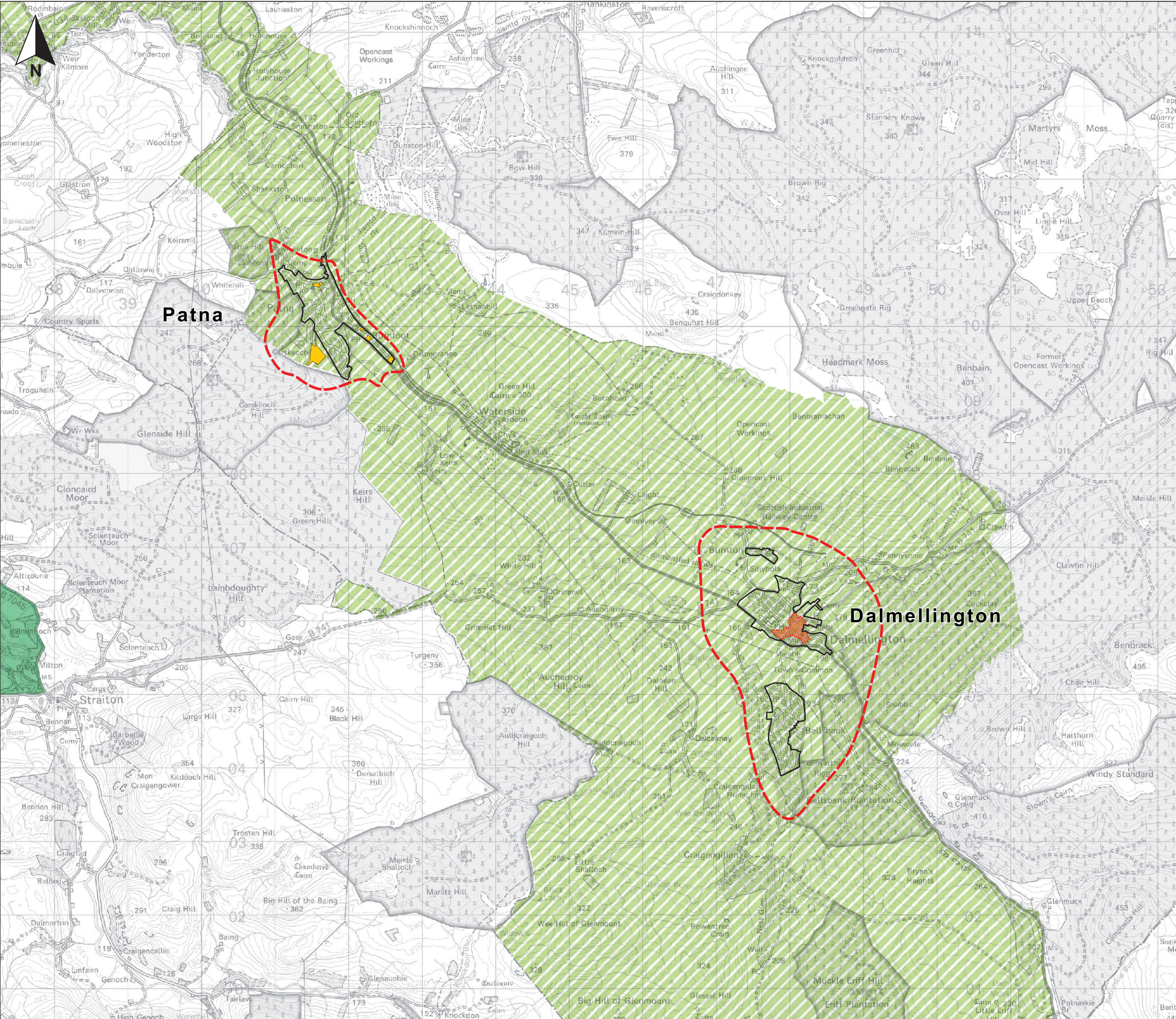
0 1 km 2 km 3 km
Scale 1:50,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 2d
Regional Landscape Charcter:
Dunlop, Newmilns, Darvel
and Priestland

March 2006
17965-G002/4.cdr grec01

Entec



Key

Settlement Boundary

Study Area

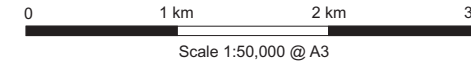
Landscape Designations

Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes

TPO's

Conservation Areas

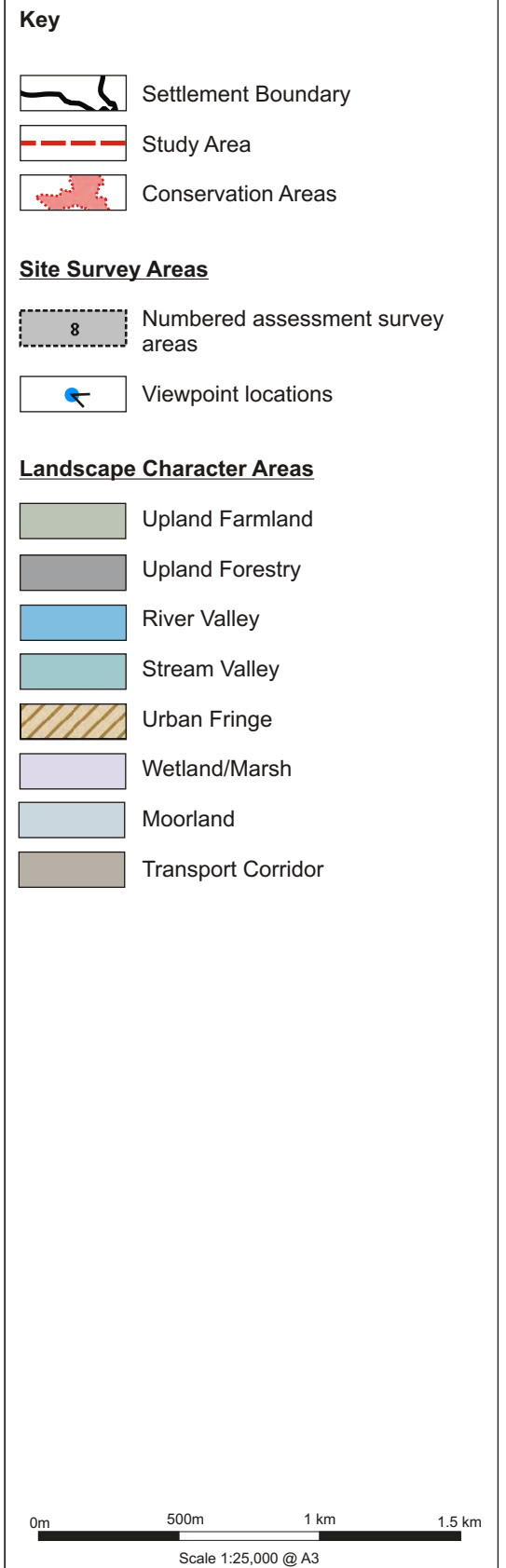
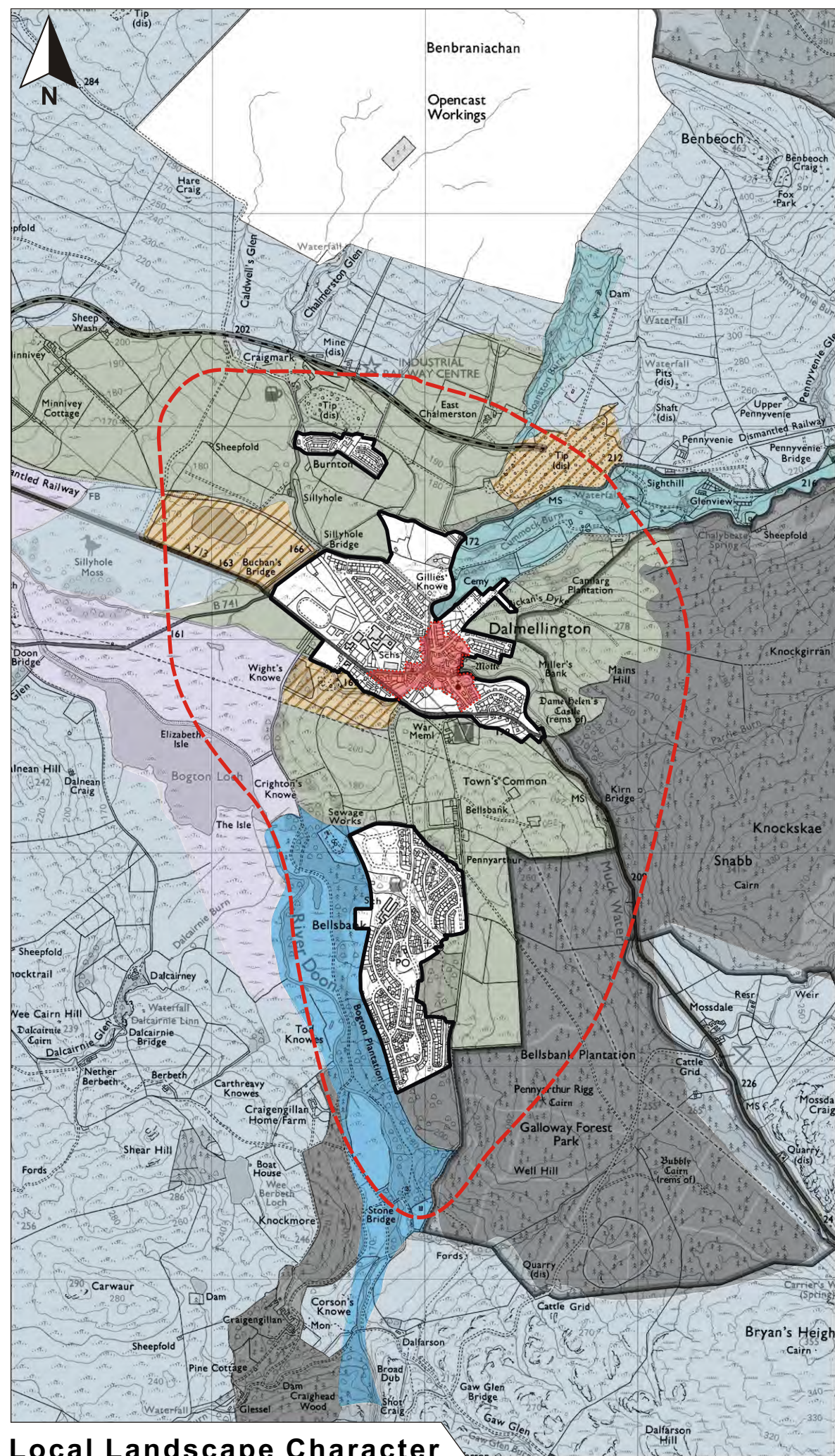
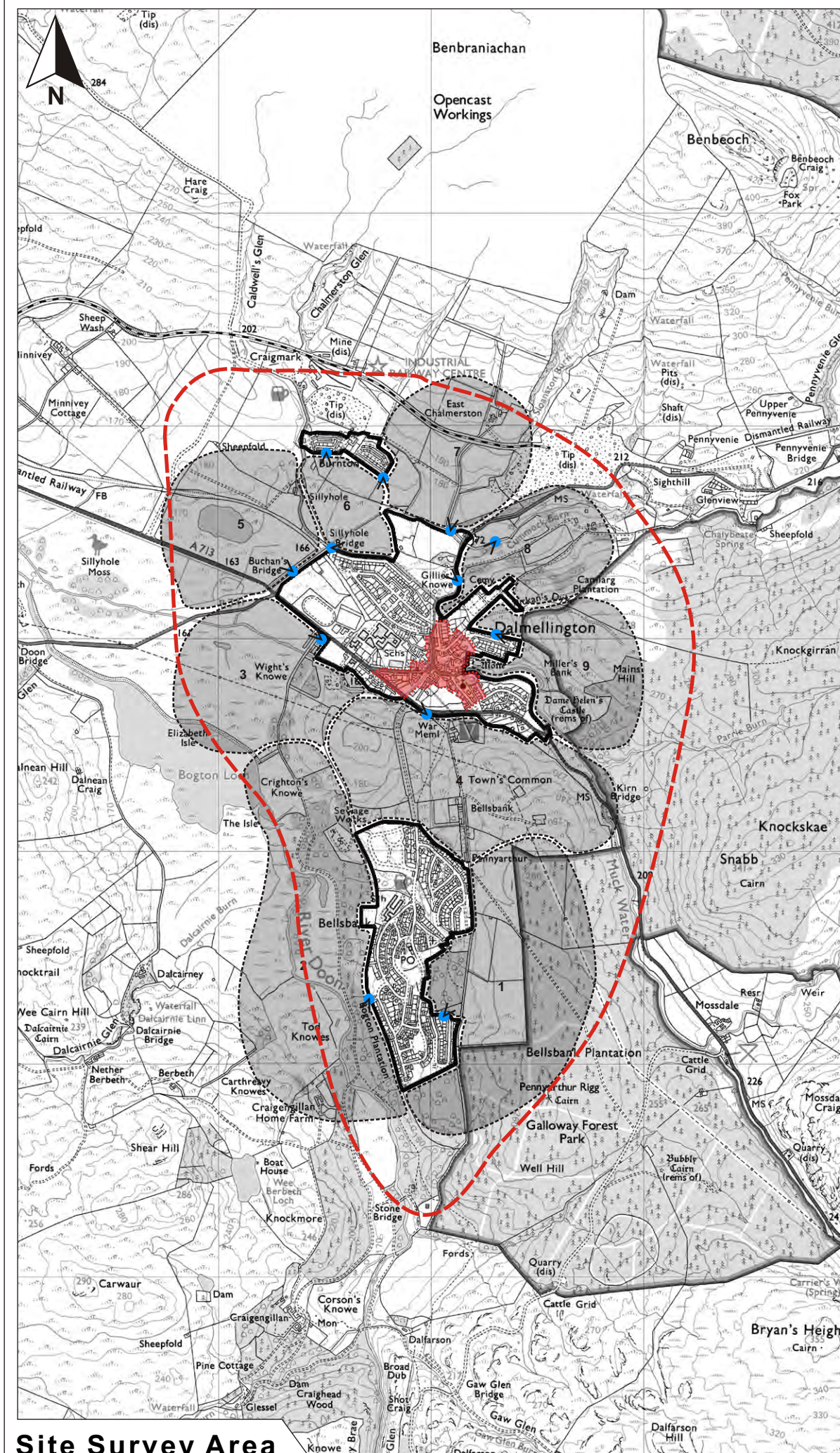
Sensitive Landscape Area



East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

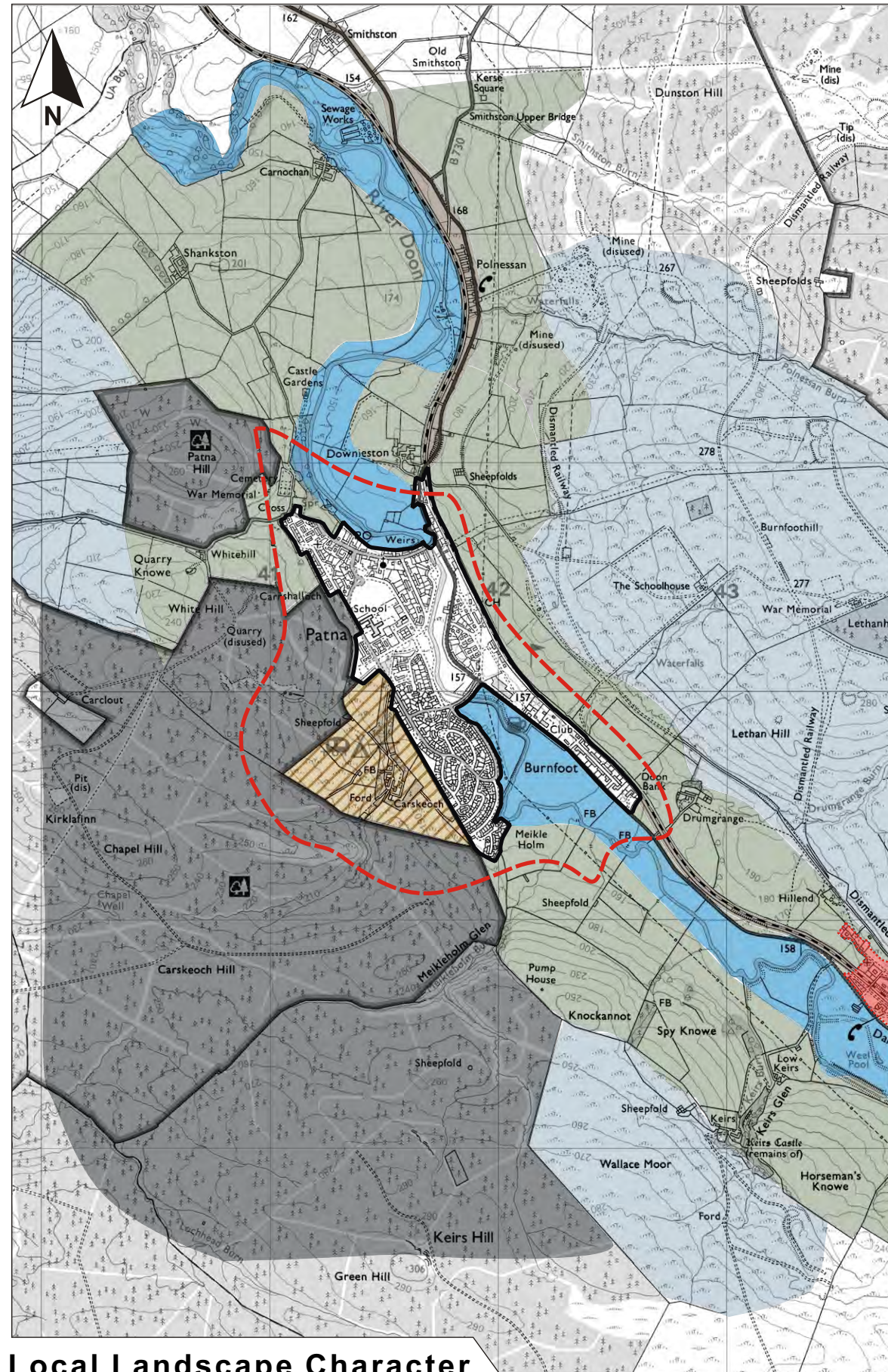
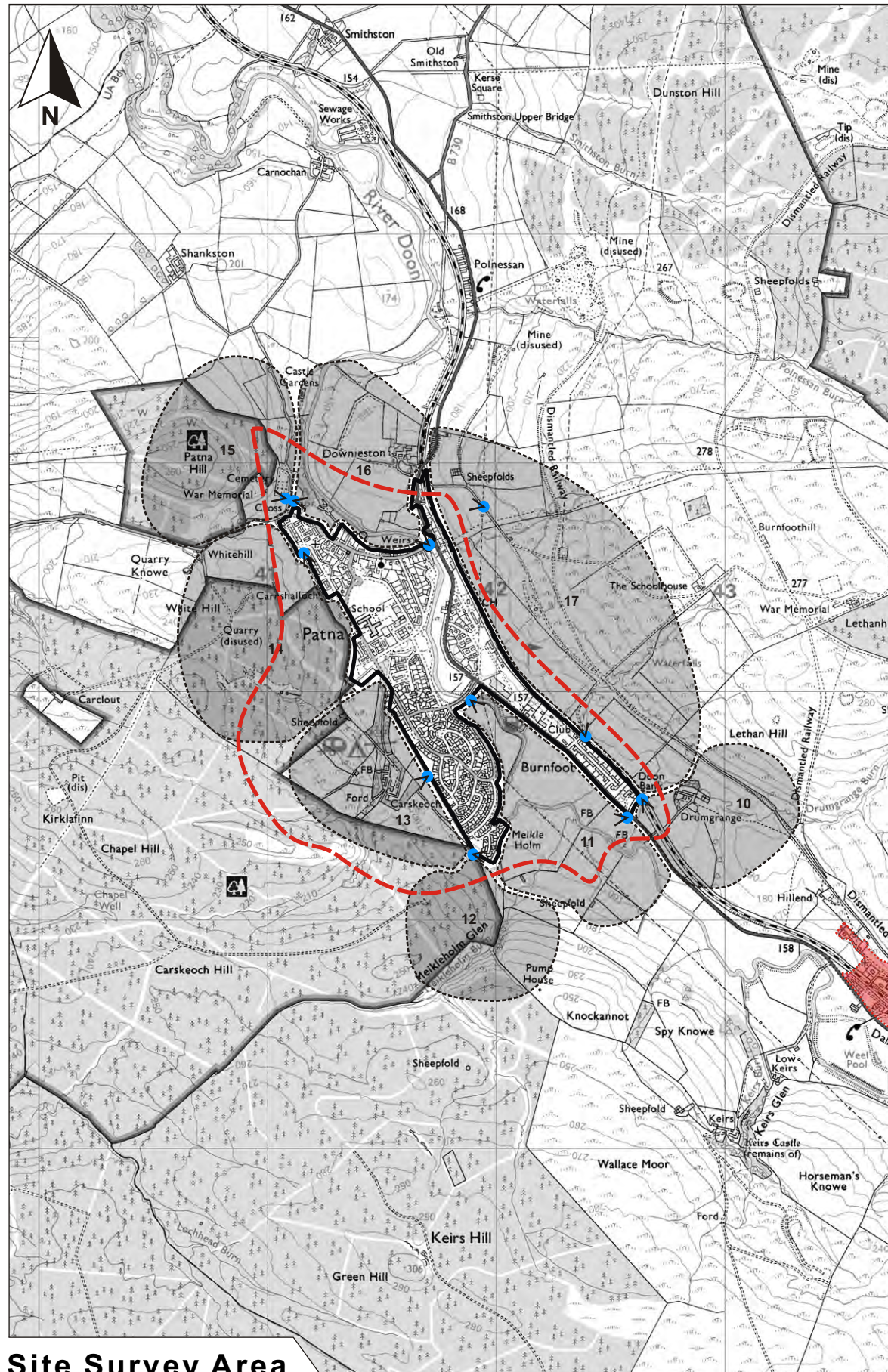
Figure 3a
Landscape Designations:
Patna and Dalmellington

Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Entec UK Ltd. AL100001776.



East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 4a & 5a
Site Survey Area and Local Landscape Character: Dalmellington



Key

- Settlement Boundary
- Study Area
- Conservation Areas

Site Survey Areas

- Numbered assessment survey areas
- Viewpoint locations

Landscape Character Areas

- Upland Farmland
- Upland Forestry
- River Valley
- Urban Fringe
- Transport Corridor

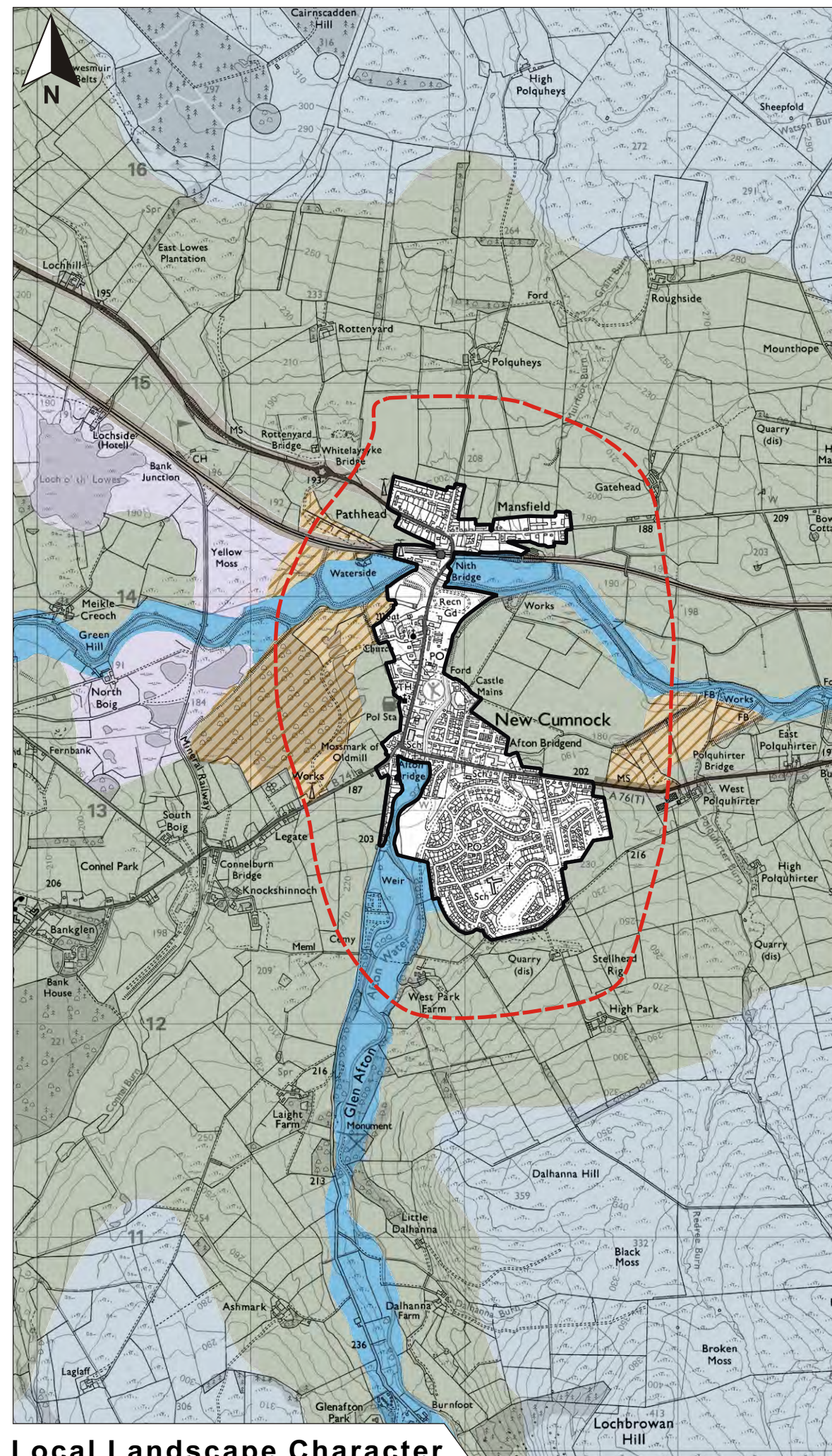
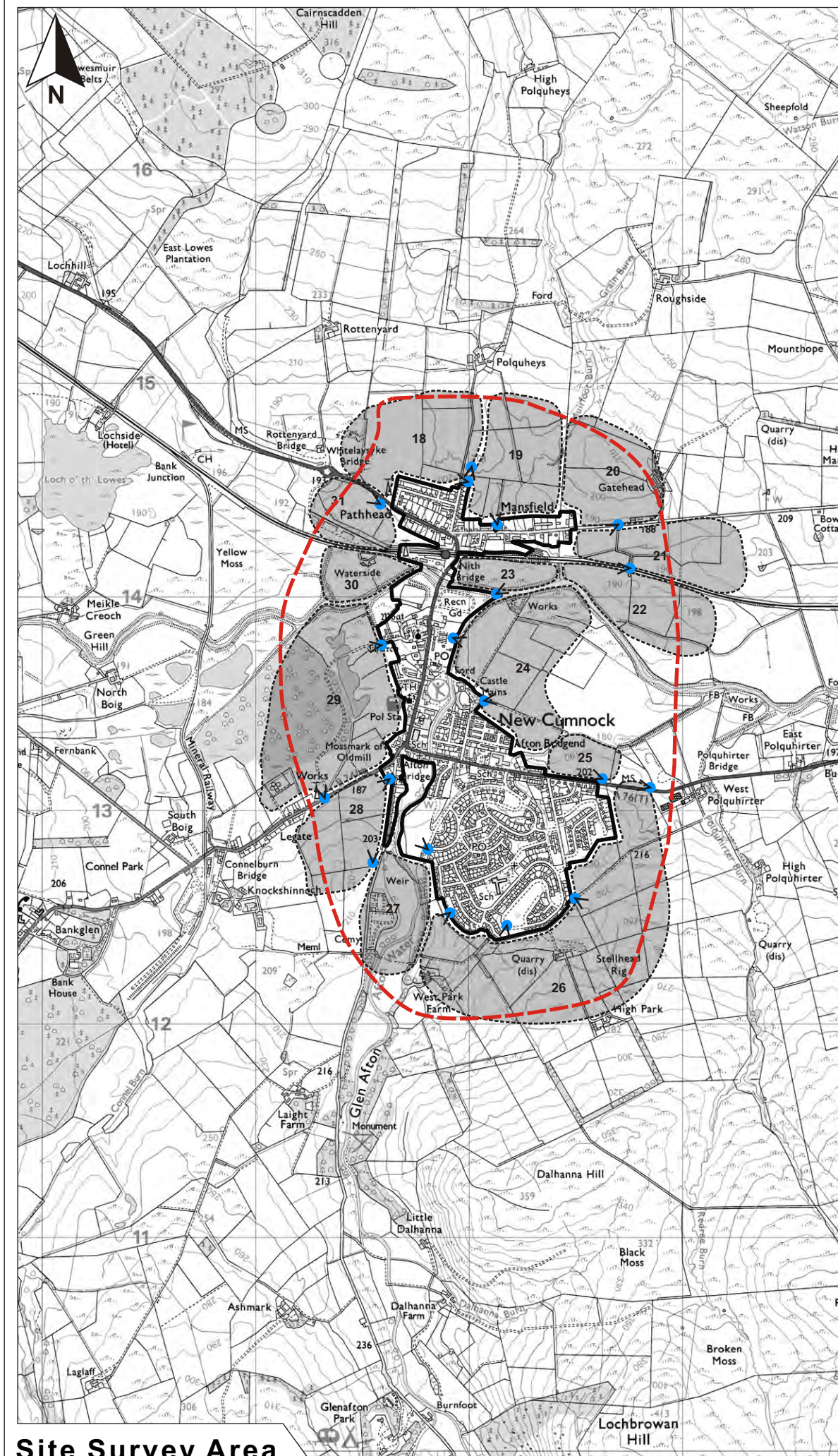
0m 500m 1 km 1.5 km
Scale 1:25,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 4b & 5b
Site Survey Area and Local Landscape
Character: Patna

Site Survey Area

Local Landscape Character



Key

- Settlement Boundary
- Study Area
- Conservation Areas

Site Survey Areas

- Numbered assessment survey areas
- Viewpoint locations

Landscape Character Areas

- Upland Farmland
- River Valley
- Urban Fringe
- Moorland
- Wetland
- Transport Corridor

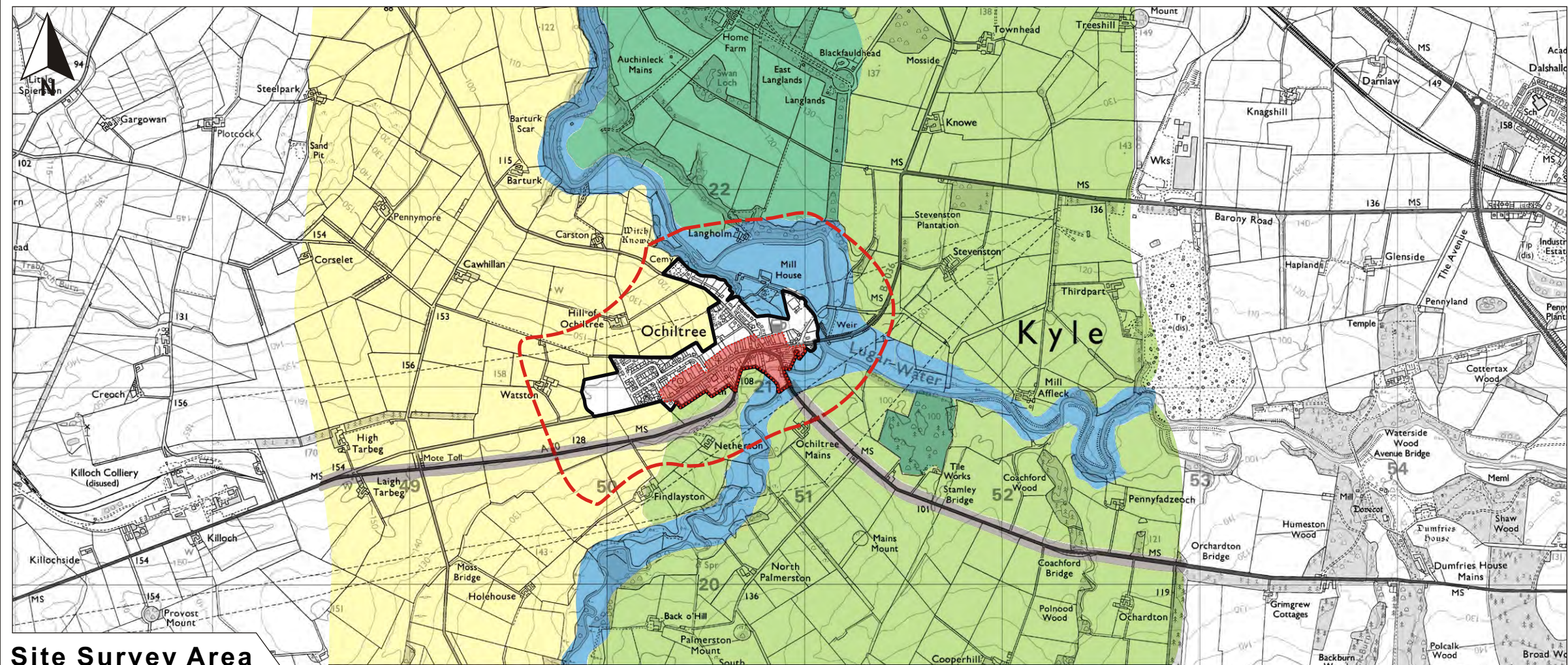
0m 500m 1 km 1.5 km
Scale 1:25,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 4c & 5c
Site Survey Area and Local Landscape
Character: New Cumnock

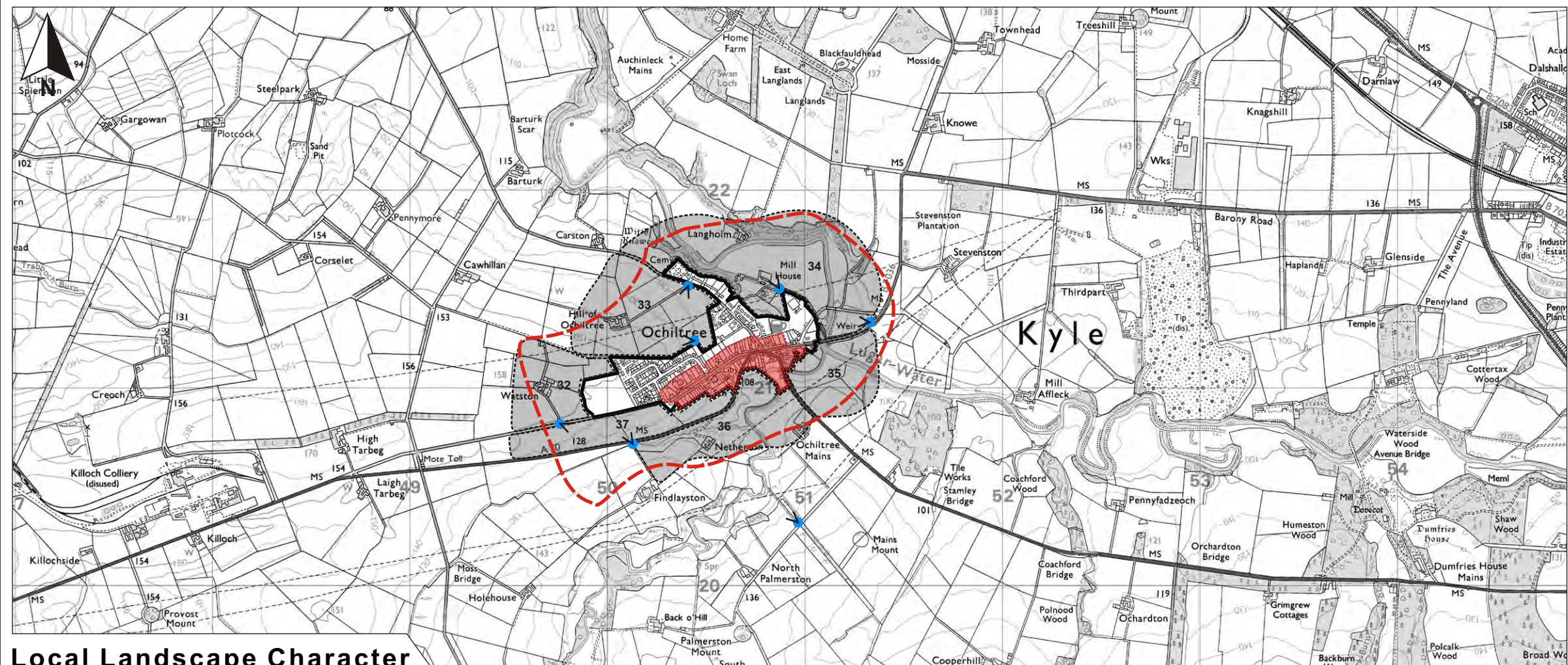
April 2006
17965-G004+05/3.cdr fostt

Entec



Site Survey Area

- Key**
- Settlement Boundary
 - Study Area
 - Conservation Areas
- Site Survey Areas**
- Numbered assessment survey areas
 - Viewpoint locations
- Landscape Character Areas**
- River Valley
 - Pasture Lands
 - Low Land Hill
 - Estate Landscape
 - Transport Corridor



Local Landscape Character

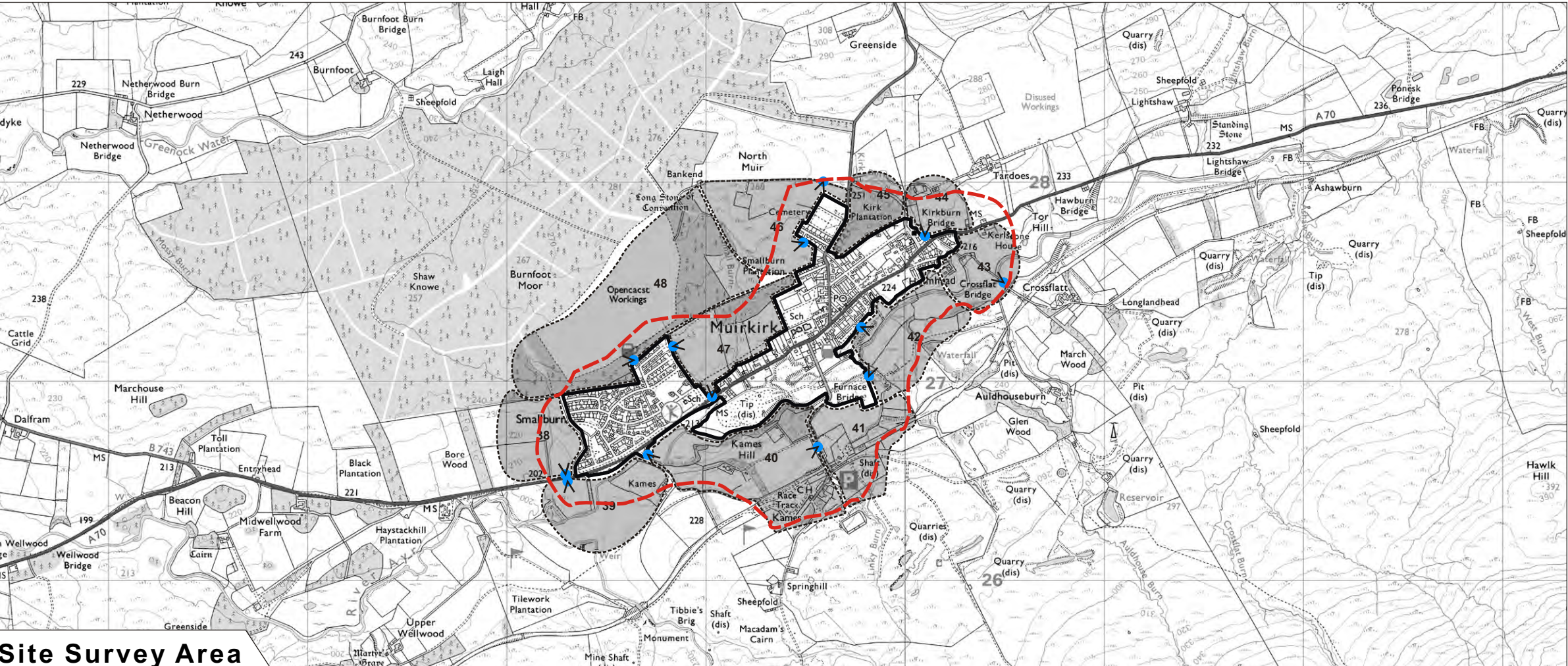
0m 500m 1 km 1.5 km
Scale 1:25,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

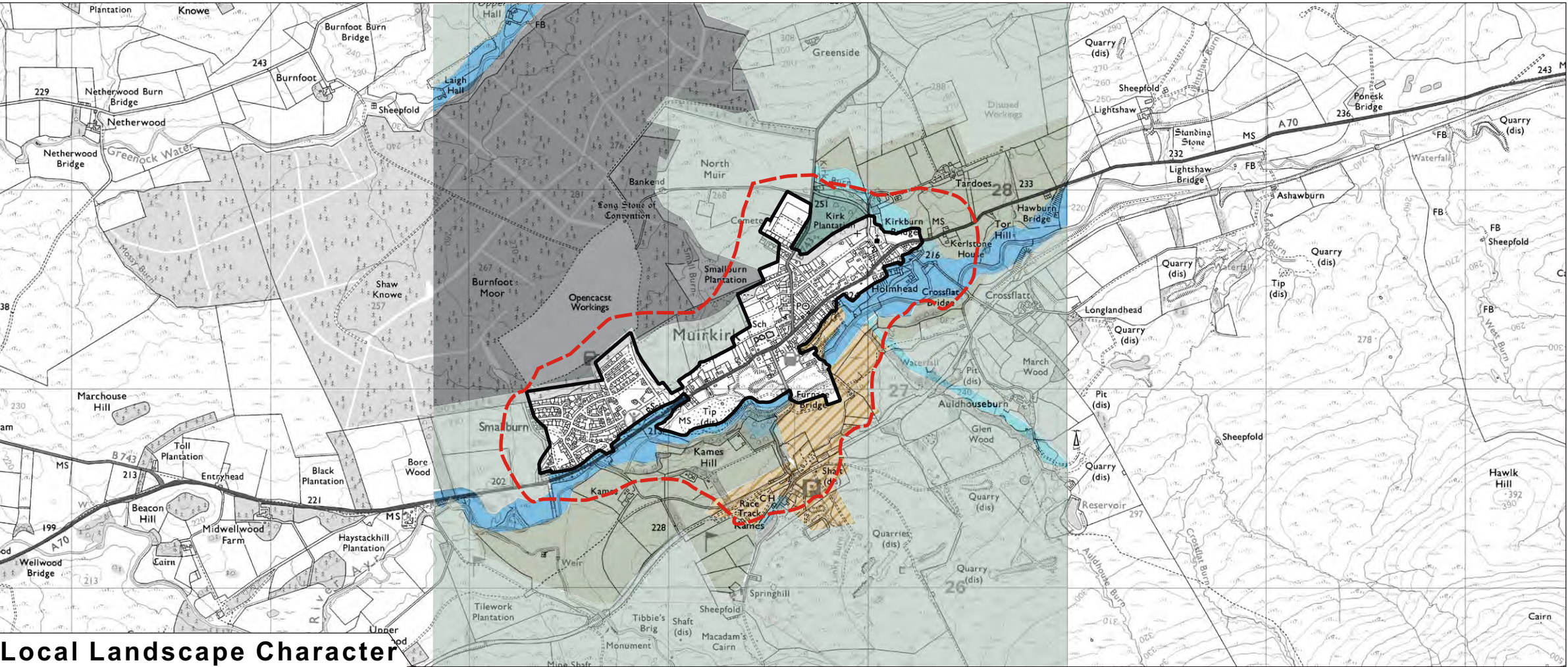
Figure 4d & 5d
Site Study Area
And Local Landscape Character
Ochiltree

April 2006
17965-G004+05/4.cdr fostt

Entec



Site Survey Area



Local Landscape Character

Key

Settlement Boundary

Study Area

Conservation Areas

Site Survey Areas

8

Numbered assessment survey areas

Viewpoint locations

Landscape Character Areas

Moorland

Broadleaved Woodland

Forestry

River Valley

Urban Fringe

Upland Farmland

Stream Valley

Low Land Hill

Transport Corridor

0m500m1 km1.5 km

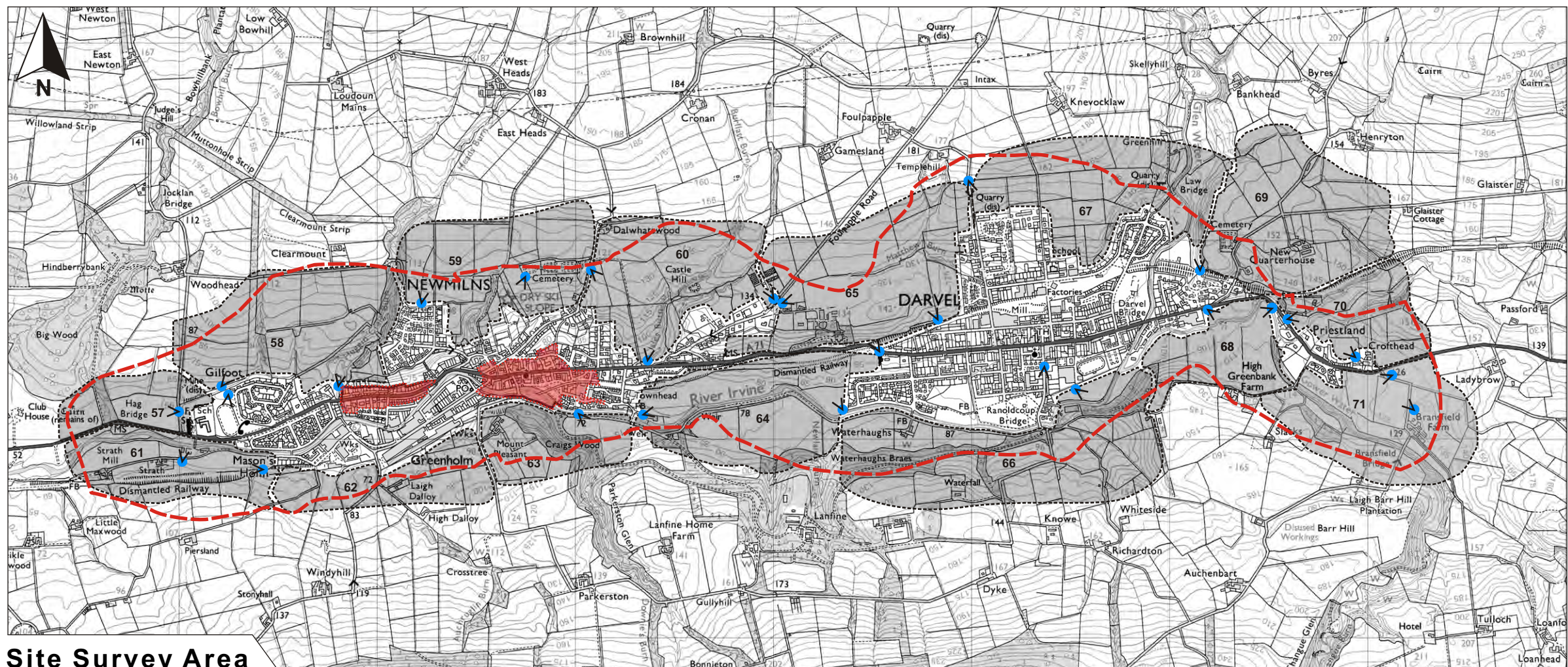
Scale 1:25,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

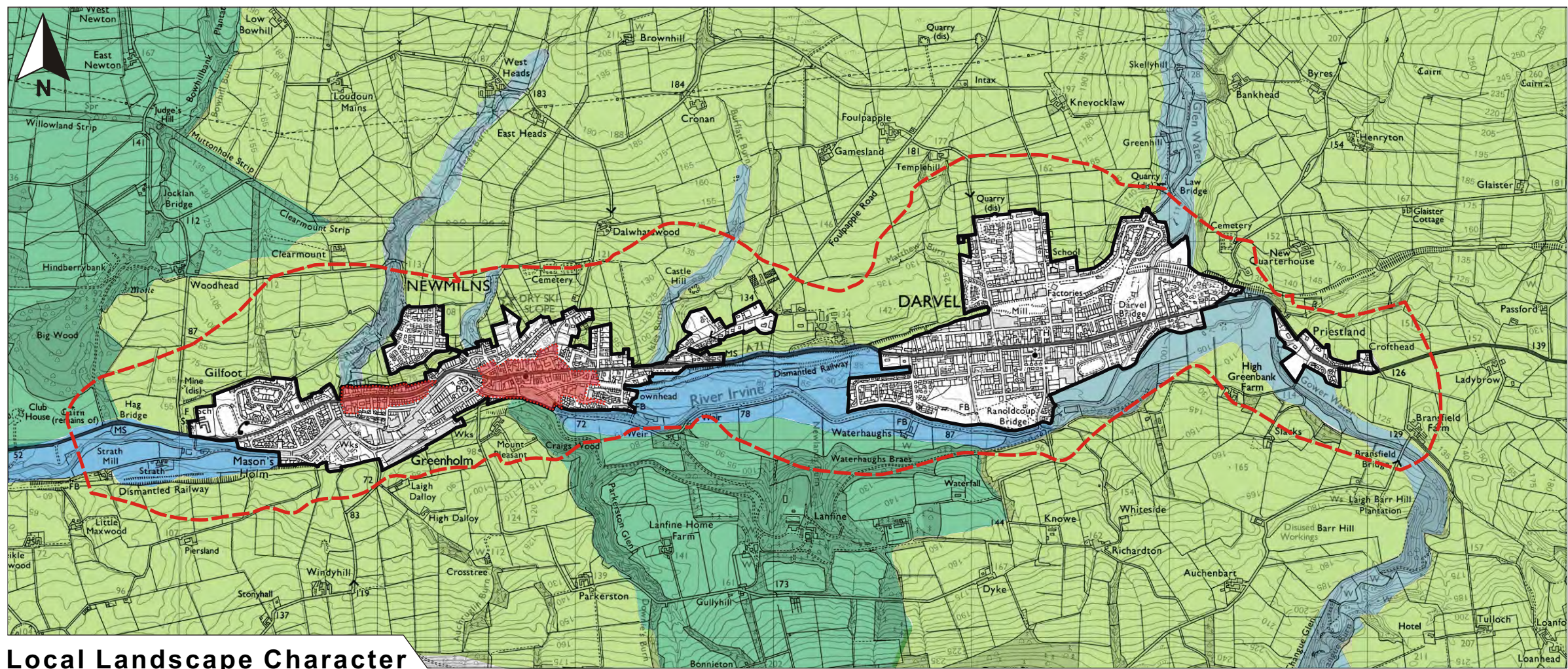
**Figure 4e & 5e
Site Study Area
and Local Landscape Character:
Muirkirk**

April 2006
17965-G004+05/5.cdr fostt

Entec



- Key**
- Settlement Boundary
 - Study Area
 - Conservation Areas
- Site Survey Areas**
- Numbered assessment survey areas
 - Viewpoint locations
- Landscape Character Areas**
- Upland Pastureland
 - Estate Landscape
 - River Valley
 - Stream Valley

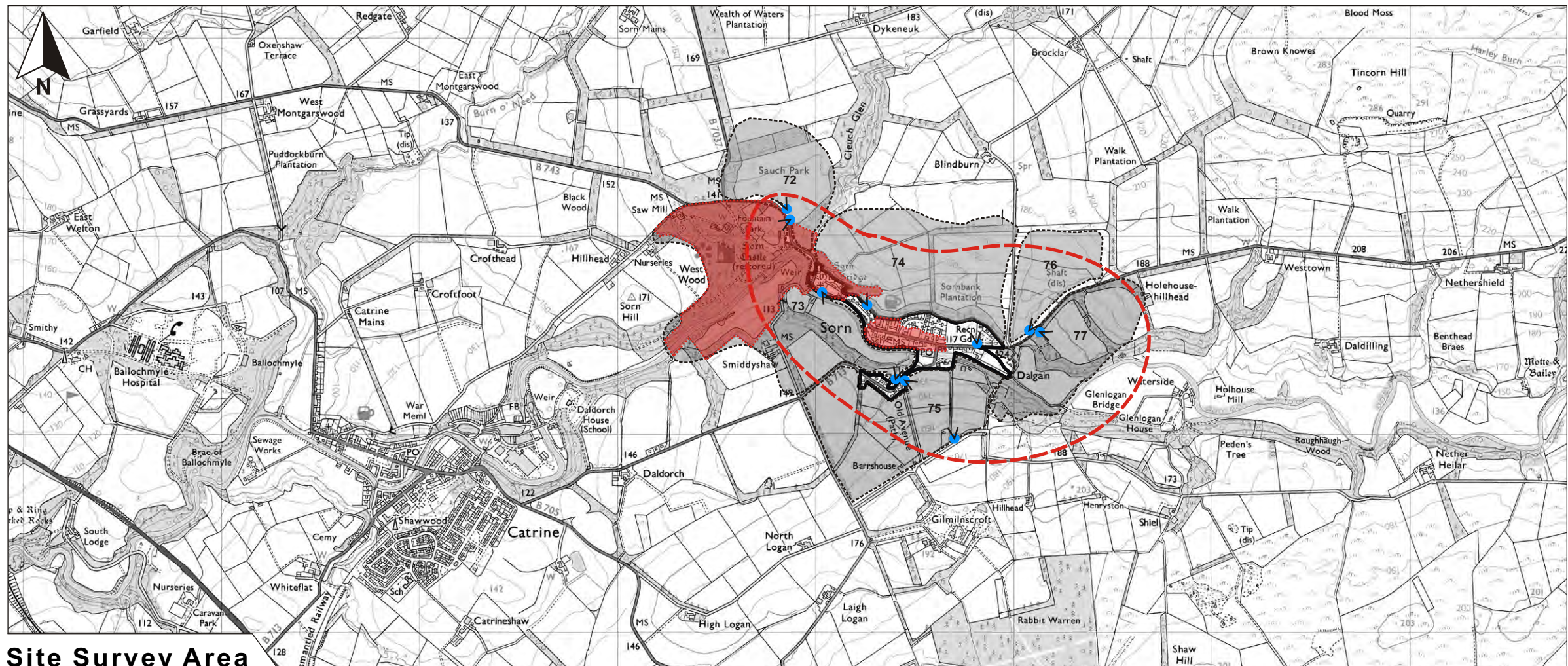


0m 500m 1 km 1.5 km
Scale 1:25,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 4f & 5f
Site Study Area
and Local Landscape Character:
Newmilns and Darvel.

Local Landscape Character



Key

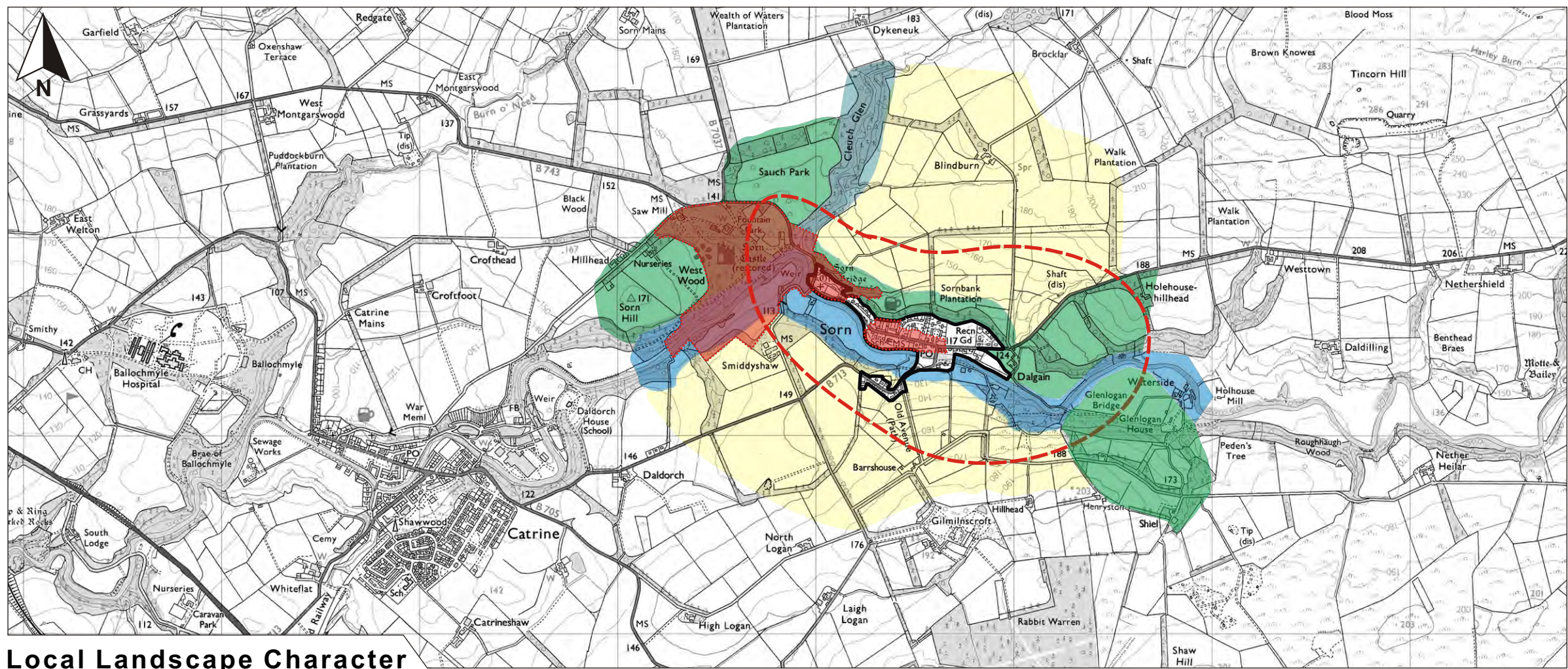
- Settlement Boundary
- Study Area
- Conservation Areas

Site Survey Areas

- Numbered assessment survey areas
- Viewpoint locations

Landscape Character Areas

- Pastureland
- Estate Landscape
- Upland River Valley
- Stream Valley



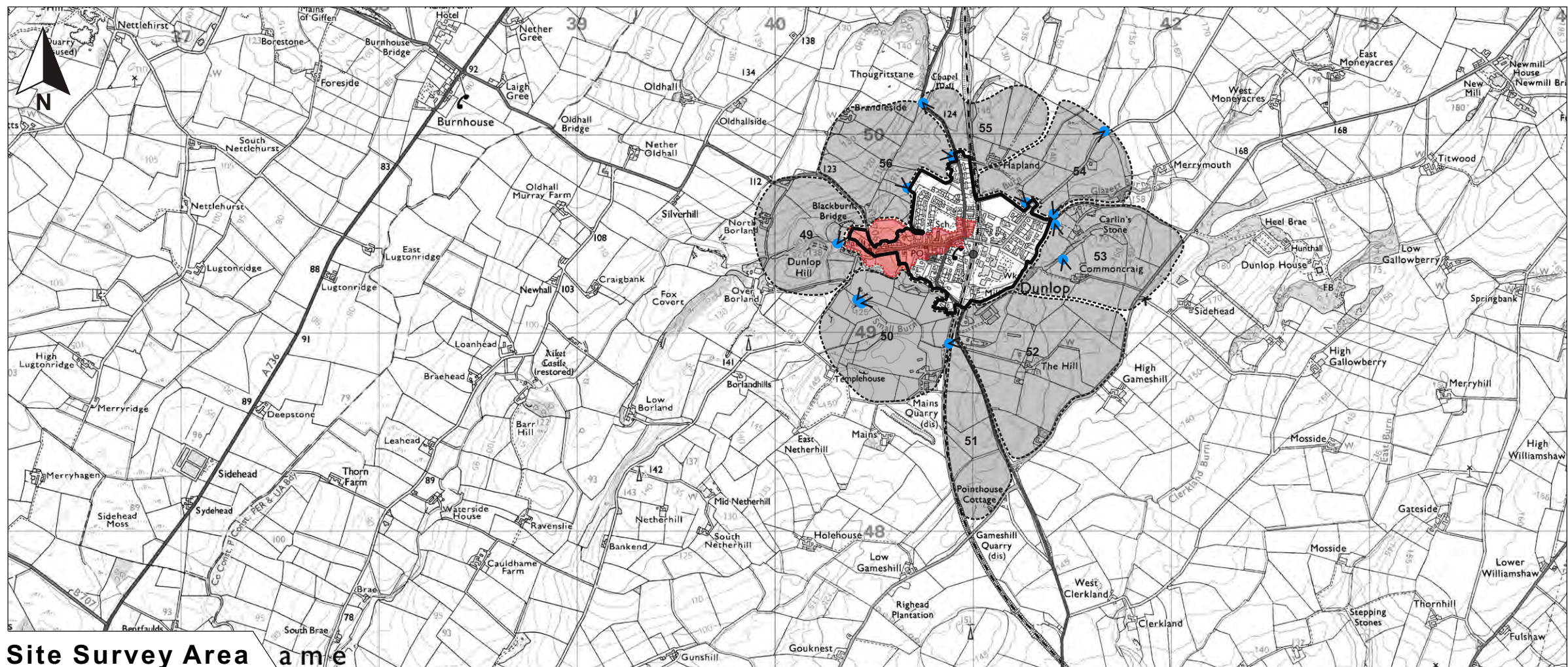
**East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas**

**Figure 4g & 5g
Site Study Area
and Local Landscape Character:
Sorn**

April 2006
17965-G004+05/7.cdr fostt

Entec

Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Entec UK Ltd. AL10001776.



Key

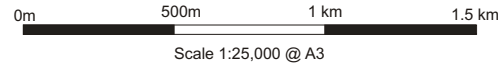
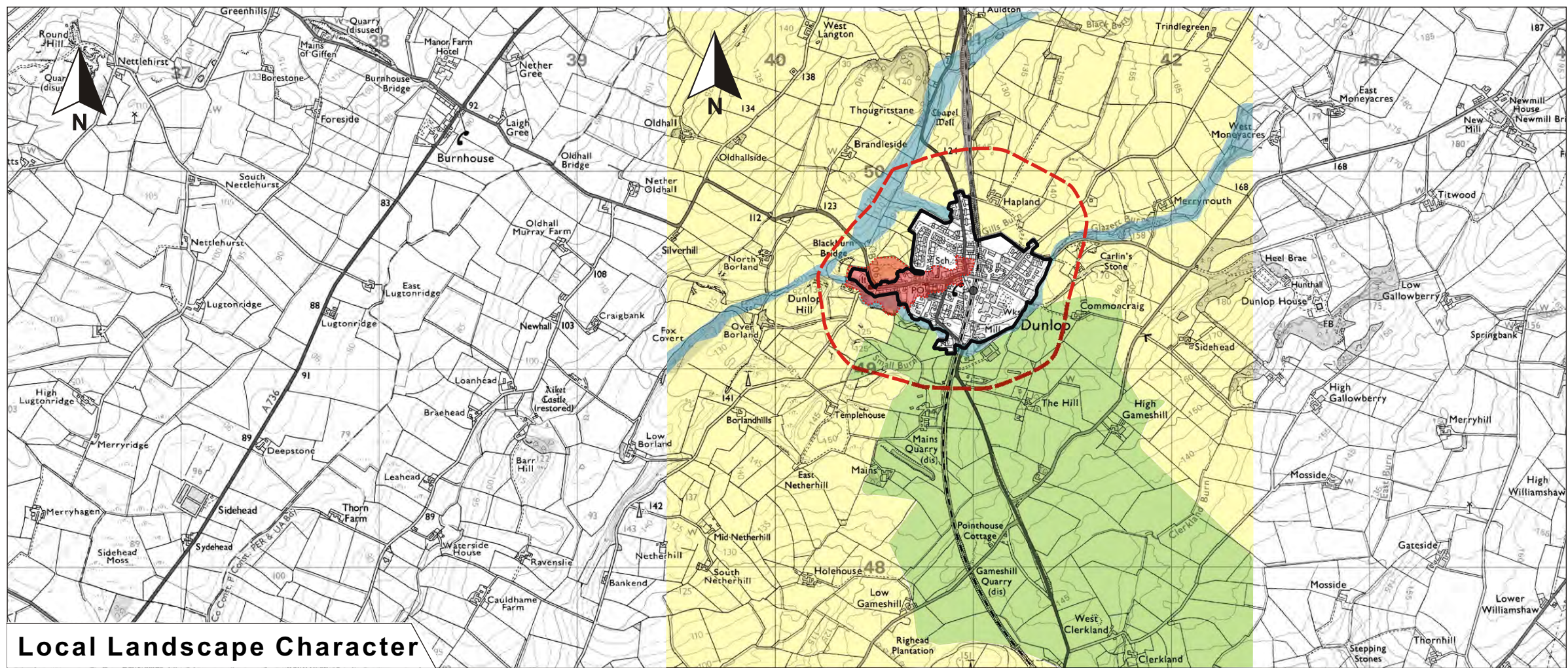
- Settlement Boundary
- Study Area
- Conservation Areas

Site Survey Areas

- Numbered assessment survey areas
- Viewpoint locations

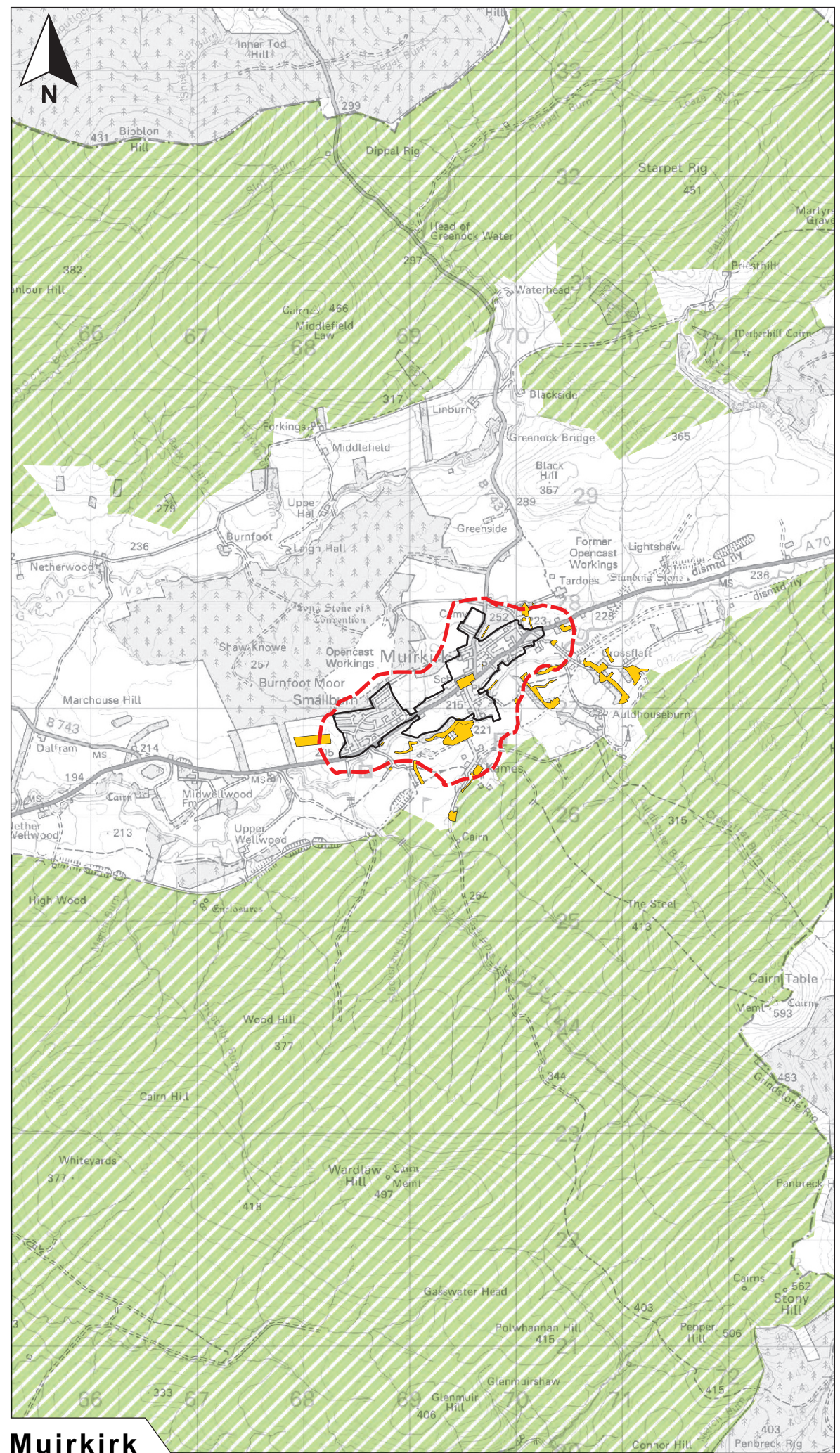
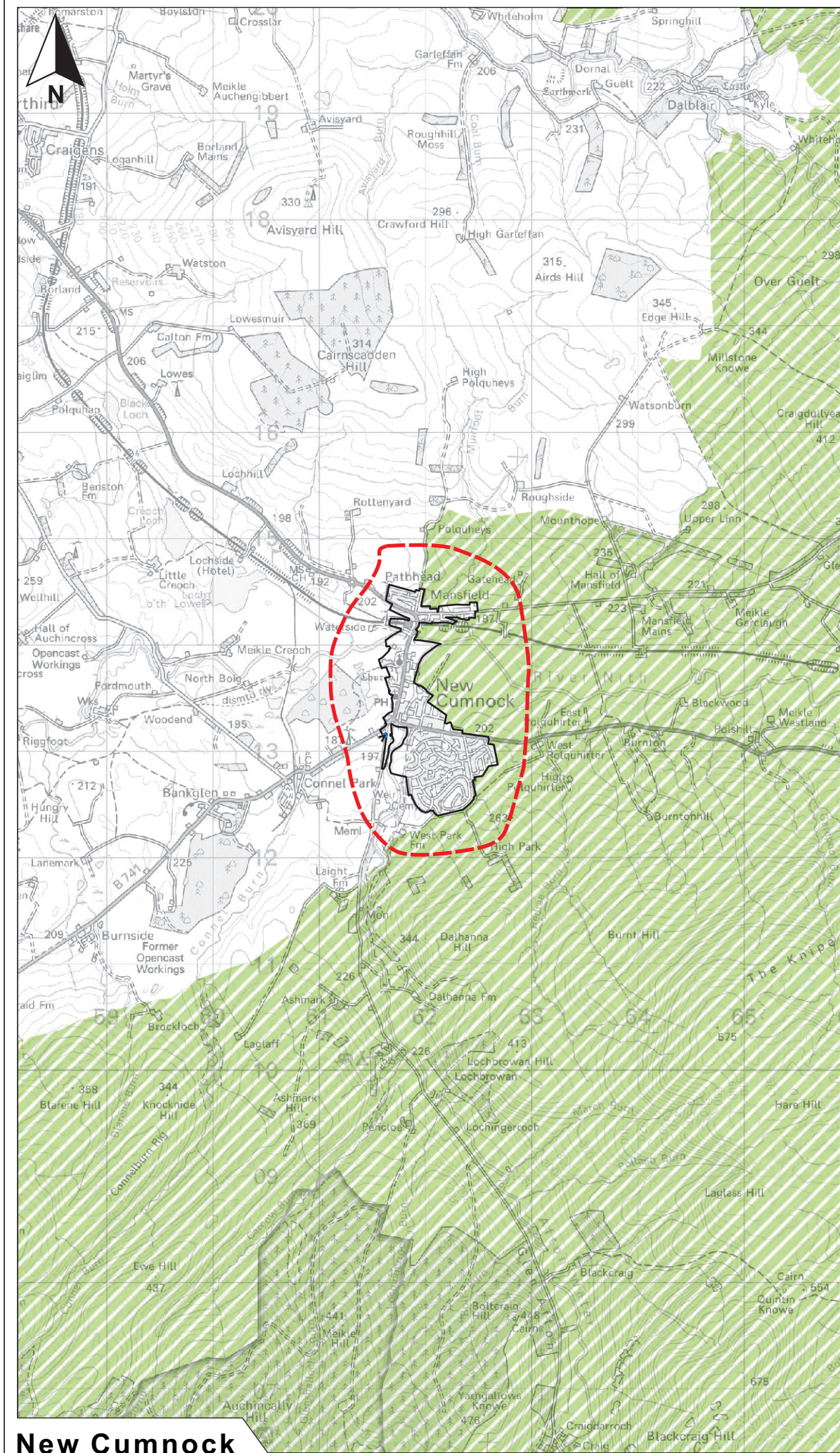
Landscape Character Areas

- Moorland
- Broadleaved Woodland
- Forestry
- River Valley
- Urban Fringe
- Upland Farmland
- Stream Valley
- Low Land Hill
- Transport Corridor



East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

**Figure 4h & 5h
Site Study Area
and Local Landscape Character:
Dunlop**



Key

Settlement Boundary

Study Area

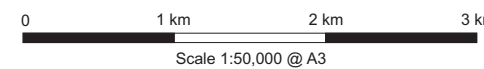
Landscape Designations

Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes

TPO's

Conservation Areas

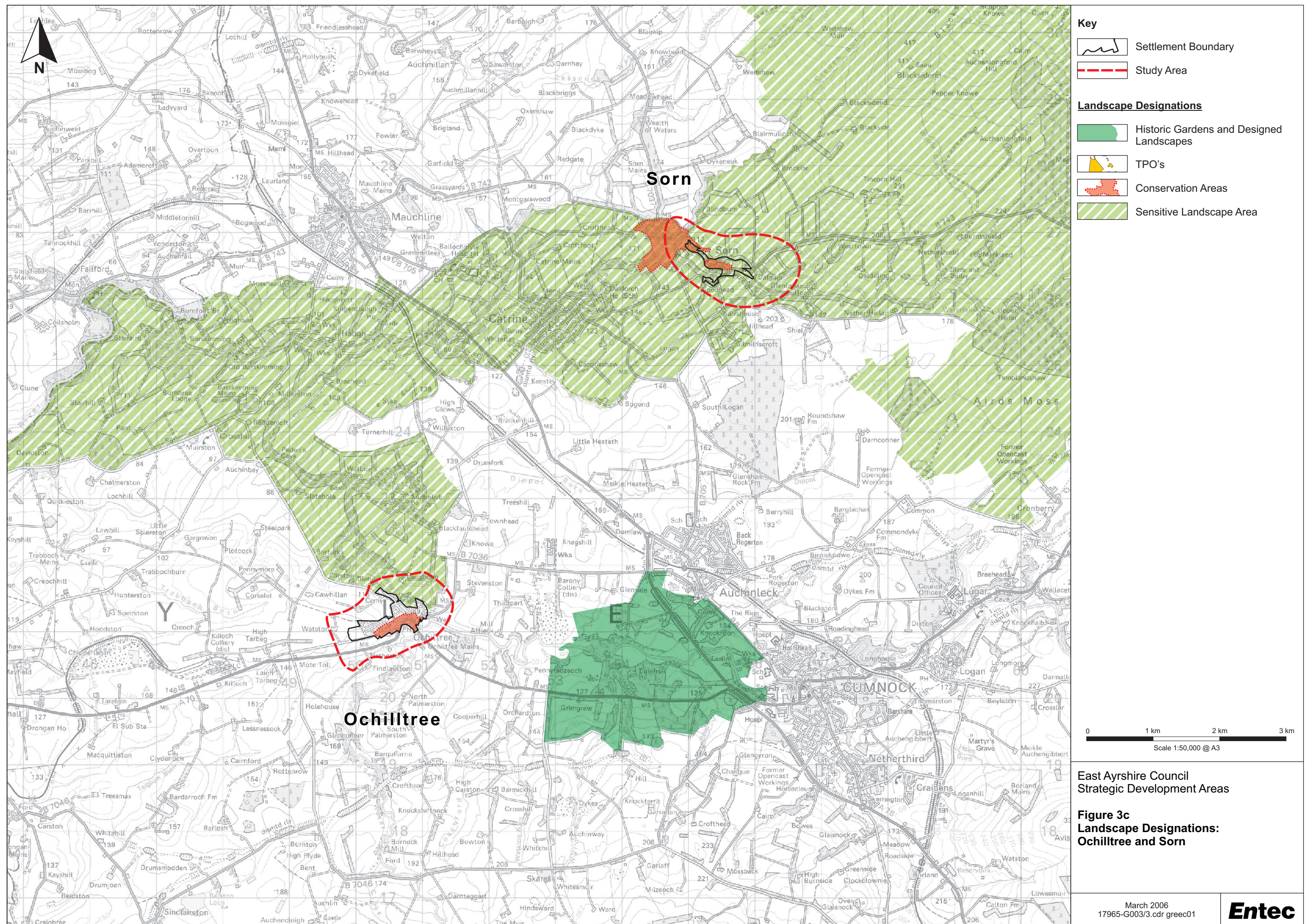
Sensitive Landscape Area

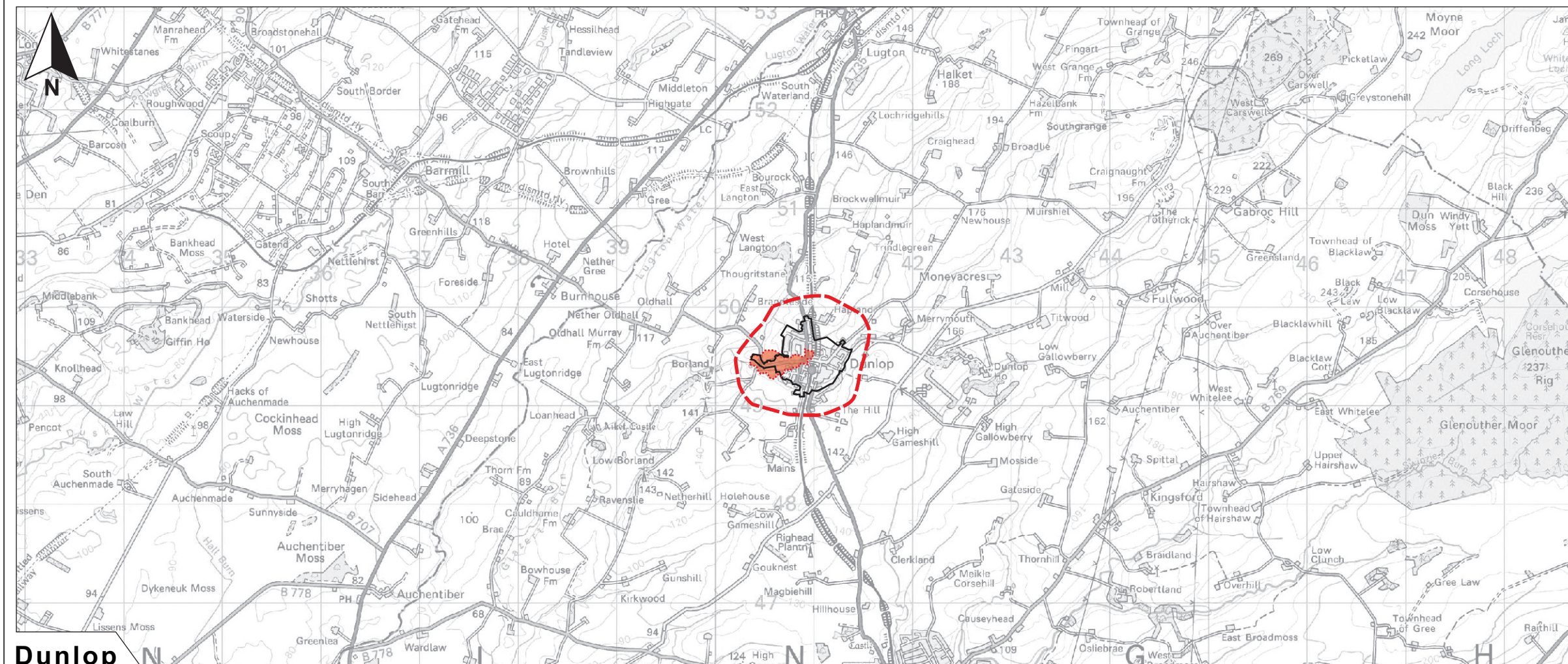


East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas



Figure 3b
Landscape Designations:
New Cumnock and Muirkirk

Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Entec UK Ltd. AL10001776.





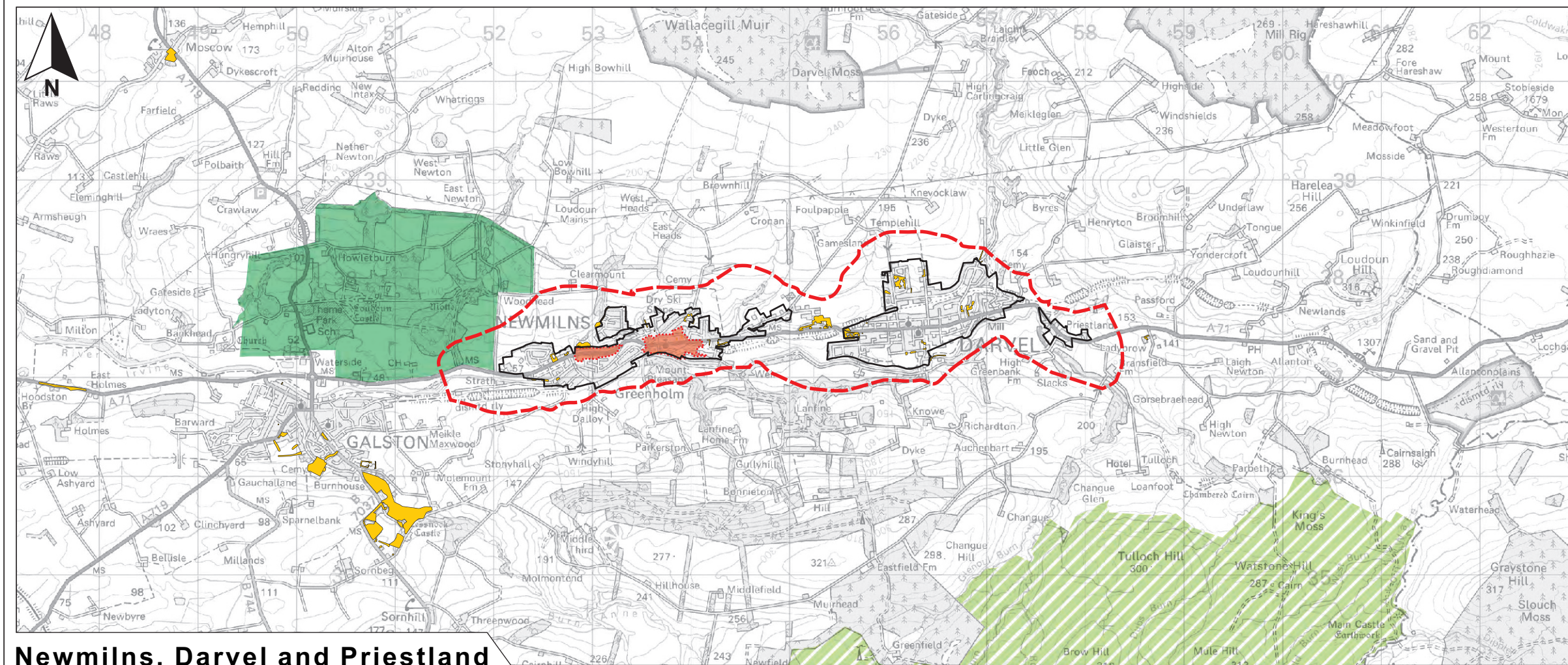


Key

-  Settlement Boundary
-  Study Area

Landscape Designations

-  Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes
-  TPO's
-  Conservation Areas
-  Sensitive Landscape Area



0 1 km 2 km 3 km
Scale 1:50,000 @ A3

East Ayrshire Council
Strategic Development Areas

Figure 3d
Landscape Designations:
Dunlop, Newmilns, Darvel
and Priestland

March 2006
17965-G003/4.cdr grec01

Entec