

GLASGOW AND THE CLYDE VALLEY 2006 STRUCTURE PLAN ALTERATION

THE TWENTY YEAR DEVELOPMENT VISION

TECHNICAL REPORT

TR 9/06

Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Green Network

April 2006

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Green Network diagram in the Structure Plan highlights particular areas that are strategic priorities for greening and which will provide the key parts of a metropolitan green structure. These strategic components of the Green Network need to be identified throughout the plan to 'enable the Green Network to be recognised as an integral requirement in the redevelopment of key locations'.
- 1.2 The issue of greening is too often over looked and is treated as an after thought, particularly with regard to regeneration and new development proposals. Currently there is a huge amount of development planned, especially in the Flagship areas, and involving the creation of new communities which will require areas of greenspace for recreational purposes and to generally enhance their quality of life. The Green Network aims to create closer linkages between the issue of greening and the large scale redevelopment plans that are currently being promoted in the metropolitan area.
- 1.3 There are also parts of the metropolitan area that suffer from poor quality environment and whose residents have a lack of locally available greenspace. Greening needs to be targeted to these areas to reverse this trend. There is also a need to improve the perception of stakeholders and developers about how the greening of different locations and an overall Green Network structure fits in with development proposals.
- 1.4 The Green Network concept has been undertaken to raise the profile of the greening agenda and ensure that action is taken at the strategic scale to tackle these issues. This will increase the profile of greening in the conurbation and provide a context for other greening strategies such as the Woodland and Forestry Framework and other ventures like the greening of some derelict land.

2.0 The Concept of the Green Network

- 2.1 The principle of the Green Network is one of the three Key Themes of the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Structure Plan. It is developed as part of the Structure Plan Vision and aims to stretch through the urban areas of Glasgow and reach out to the other communities in the Metropolitan area. The purpose of this Network is threefold:
- to improve the competitive environment of the Metropolitan area as place to work and invest in;
 - to promote the Government's Environmental Justice agenda, improve access to open space for the local population and tackle issues like health, quality of life and social inclusion;
 - to provide a framework of green corridors and spaces that will enhance and reinforce the biodiversity of the area by creating a network of linked habitats.
- 2.2 The Green Network will be made up of all types of greenspace including formal parks, unmanaged and managed open space, recreational areas, footpaths and areas of woodland. Forestry has a major role in helping to develop this strategy both through larger areas of planting or smaller pockets along streets or transport corridors and as part of residential development. It will also be based on the ability for areas of derelict land and the Green Belt to be enhanced to provide an enhanced green resource. This is reflected in the production of a Forestry and Woodland Framework for the Glasgow and Clyde Valley (GCV) area.
- 2.3 It is reinforced by the concept of developing a Community Forest which is another agreed priority in the Structure Plan (see Schedule 1f).
- 2.4 The Green Network identifies those areas where action is essential to ensure the implementation of the Structure Plan vision through the provision of an improved quality of urban environment. Although the Green Network is being developed at a strategic level it will be embraced and developed further by the individual local plans and other greening initiatives. Often the most appropriate level for the promotion of the actions will be through Local Plans or other local greening initiatives. These are however strengthened by having a wider strategic context.
- 2.5 The Structure Plan therefore places a key role in identifying the overall Green Network structure. This will set the context for these smaller local schemes and also help draw out any gaps in the network and identify areas where change is happening on such a scale that the need for greening takes on a strategic significance. These will often be areas that already have a recognised strategic role, ie urban renewal areas or strategic environmental resources.

3.0 Identification of the Existing Green Resource

- 3.1 A review has been undertaken building on inherited strategies, current and past projects and emerging statements on biodiversity access, etc. Regard has also been had to the Central Scotland Forest Strategy and Landscape Action in the Greenbelt.¹ It has also been important that any new work on taking forward this concept builds on existing information and projects and does not revisit old ground.
- 3.2 The information gathering was also guided by the typologies that are set out on page 10 of Planning Advice Note 65: Planning and Open Space. This categorises the different types of urban greenspace. This guidance was utilised and further developed through a project which identified individual areas of greenspace in the metropolitan area and categorises them according to the list of Greenspace types set out in PAN 65.
- 3.3 A review of all the Local Biodiversity Action Plans and Access Strategies was carried out and areas identified that had a current or aspirational greenspace role. This was supplemented by information about areas of land which were being used in an informal recreational capacity or where there is a possibility for landscape or habitat creation.
- 3.4 Linkages were added between the existing areas to define a network of corridors linking the main international, national and strategic resources that within the metropolitan area. These again drew upon the Access Strategies.
- 3.5 The resulting framework of the Green Network has been discussed with key partners (SNH and Forestry Commission) for initial guidance on the potential for identifying shared priorities. The results of these discussions formed the basis for the Green Network diagram and the subsequent identification of priorities.

4.0 Identification of Priorities

- 4.1 The priorities for the implementation of the Green Network are set out in the accompanying schedules in this report. There are two overall priorities that the Green Network must achieve. The first is the protection and, where possible, enhancement of the existing green resources of the metropolitan area. These protective priorities exist across the whole of the network. The western part of the metropolitan area has a greater inheritance of better quality and provision of Greenspace and, therefore, management of the existing resources has a greater prominence in the schedules of priorities.
- 4.2 The second priority is that of creating and extending the Green Network, particularly into the heart of the urban area and in support of the most disadvantaged communities. This addresses the gaps in the network, taking advantage of new opportunities where they arise (often associated with urban renewal or expansion) or where there is a need to improve the quality of existing areas of greenspace. The areas that require this type of action are concentrated to the east of Glasgow City and along the Clyde, through the centre of the city.
- 4.3 The priorities identified as part of the Green Network also have been defined in terms of the wider priorities for regeneration in the Structure Plan and which reinforce the main strategic corridors and spaces that underpin the Green Network.
- 4.4 To reflect this, headings in the schedules reflect the main areas where action could take place to help implement the Green Network. The relevant section of the Structure Plan that relates to each of these headings is also identified. The priorities identified on the Green Network diagram are limited to those identified in these Structure Plan Policies,

¹ Report out of print. For further information contact Glasgow & Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee.

thus keeping the document at a strategic level. In doing so the policy approach recognises that there is a matrix of small scale local opportunities which are being promoted through local planning action and greenspace projects. In practice the strategic priorities underpin local projects and will often need to be delivered through local action.

4.5 The strategic priorities are as follows:

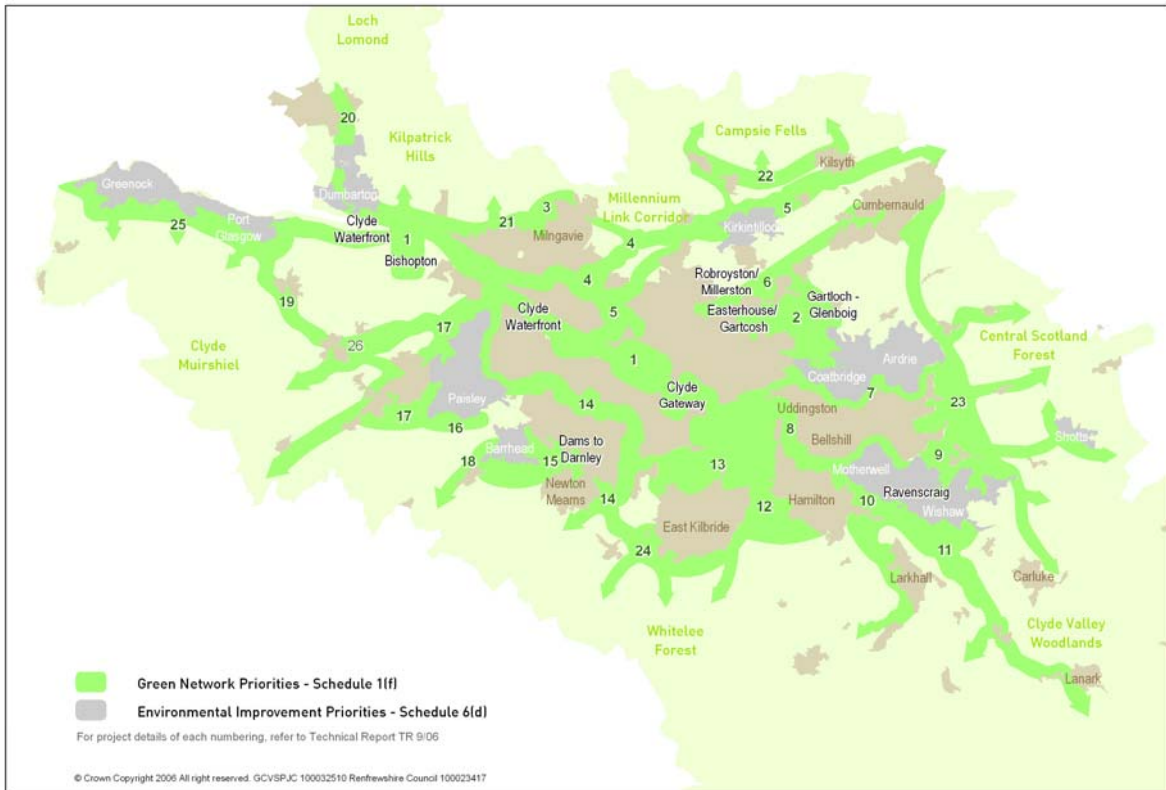
- **Urban Renewal** - see Schedule 1(b) in Structure Plan – New Neighbourhood Initiatives.
- **Strategic Access Network** – Clyde Walkway, Forth and Clyde Canal Millennium Link, Dams to Darnley Countryside Project.
- **Strategic Flagship Priorities** - See Joint Policy Commitment 1 in Structure Plan - Ravenscraig (including Green Link), Clyde Waterfront, Clyde Gateway, with potential for a National Urban Park.
- **Community Growth Areas** - See Schedule 1(c) in 2006 Structure Plan Alteration and the main greenfield housing release sites from the local plans arising from the requirements of the 2000 Plan - these include Gartcosh/Glenboig, Gartloch/Easterhouse/Milleston, Bishopton Community Forest Park, and Robroyston.
- **Riparian Access Routes** - White and Black Cart, North and South Calder Waters, River Avon, River Leven, Kelvin Valley Walkway.
- **Strategic Environmental Resources** – see schedule 7 in 2006 Structure Plan, Loch Lomond and Scotland Forest, Proposed Campsie Regional Park, Clyde Valley Woodlands, Millennium Link (Forth Clyde Canal), Clyde Valley Community Forest; Central Scotland Forest.

4.6 This list represents the major sites and areas where the integration and delivery of the Green Network can be significantly aided by including greening as a key part of their development. Some areas will be prioritised under more than one heading and these places will require a more concerted course of action due to their importance.

4.7 Reference is also made to information, where available, on the emerging issue of improving water quality and managing flood capacity through river basin management. Opportunities to restore vacant and derelict land to form both temporary and long term components of the Green Network are also identified where appropriate.

5.0 Production of Draft Green Network Diagram and Supporting Text

- 5.1 The information mapped in the previous two sections forms the basis and the priorities for the Green Network. It has been aggregated in a manner that is more clearly understandable and usable. The Network diagram and schedules are therefore necessarily synoptic and simplified in its form in order to express particular actions that were relevant in each of these areas, be it biodiversity related, riparian, reclamation of derelict land or provision of community greenspace. The Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Landscape Character Assessment has also had regard to this analysis.
- 5.2 This has resulted in 26 broadly homogeneous areas being identified which display similarities in terms of their type of resource or issues and actions. Map 1 shows the result of this approach.
- 5.3 Although action will be promoted, and is equally vital, in all parts of the Green Network some priorities are crucial to the achievement of the Structure Plan vision through Green Network implementation that they merited identification on the Green Network diagram.



Map 1 – Metropolitan Green Network - 2006 Structure Plan Alteration
 Details of actions for each numbered area can be seen in Appendix 1 to this report.

6.0 Output

6.1 The Schedule of Actions that supports the Green Network diagram is attached as Appendix 1 to this technical report. It describes each of 26 Green Network components shown in Map 1 which vary in character from:

- (a) providing a vital framework for relatively small scale and heavily used urban green spaces
- (b) important wedges and corridors which maintain the identity of communities
- (c) linkages to the wider countryside Green Network assets

6.2 The Schedule of Actions also briefly reviews inherited strategies and available data to ensure continuity both between past and future actions and consistency between proposals for landscape improvement, development, access and biodiversity.

6.3 The output of the work is expressed in terms of strategic priorities for action for each of the 26 areas. The priorities are expressed both in terms of:

- (a) intervention
- (b) protection

6.4 Also key metropolitan greenspace priorities have been identified that require action at the Strategic Level, due to the scale of intervention they require. These are shown in Schedule 1(f) in the 2006 Structure Plan Alteration and are encapsulated in the text of paragraph 4.5 above.

7.0 Mechanisms for Implementation

7.1 The priorities set out in the Green Network diagram form a basis for a fresh approach to transforming the environment of the metropolitan area. This will require it to be embedded into the approaches that are adopted for economic regeneration and development projects, particularly those on a large scale. It is therefore vital that delivery agencies, in both the public and private sector, reflect the importance and principle of having a Green Network and also accept the role that their policies and programmes can play in achieving this goal. The main opportunities that have been identified are as follows:

- (i) Flagship Projects and Major Urban Expansion Areas: There are particular opportunities especially along the Waterfront and the Clyde Gateway where master planning is continuing at pace and there is a need to ensure that opportunities to extend the network into these areas are not lost.
- (ii) Vacant and Derelict Land Programmes: The Community Planning Partnership is considering the scope for a rolling 5 year programme of action (refer TR 3/06). Linked to this there is a need to assess the land use 'allocations' given to derelict and vacant land (and areas emerging from the urban capacity work) and potentially identify more opportunities for greening in both the short and long term.
- (iii) Greenspace Area Projects: There are existing Local Authority projects and area teams central to the delivery for this programme of action.
- (iv) Clyde Valley Community Forest: The Forestry and Woodland Framework for the Metropolitan area is key to the Green Network's delivery. One of the main

aims of these documents is to help deliver the woodland and forestry aspects of the Green Network.

- (v) Central Scotland Forest Trust: The Green Network and the Forestry and Woodland Framework have been drawn up in the context of the established strategy for the Central Scotland Forest. This Project represents a key agency for implementing the priorities in the eastern part of the Structure Plan area.
- (vi) Health Action Plans – Plans and initiatives are being prepared at both the strategic and local level that will help to promote the health benefits of providing and making use of greenspace.

7.2 The management of some of the Strategic Environmental Resources is already being handled by each of the responsible bodies. It will be important to keep in touch with policy development and action plans in these areas to ensure that linkages are improved from them to the wider Green Network.

7.3 Most of the major greening initiatives in the UK have an individual strategic co-ordinating body that has been overseeing their implementation. It is recognised that in the GCV area there is still a need for such a co-ordinating body to be set up to help manage the Green Network delivery and help to ensure that it gathers the maximum possible resources and its profile is kept at a high level. Such a body would be small and complement the existing activities of the stakeholders involved in the greening process. The exact make up and structure of such a body is still to be decided. Currently discussions are on going with other environmental partners as to the final make up of this partnership approach.

APPENDIX 1

GLASGOW AND CLYDE VALLEY GREEN NETWORK
(DRAFT UPDATED DECEMBER 2004)

	STRATEGIC NETWORK COMPONENTS	INHERITED STRATEGIES AND DATA INPUTS	STRATEGIC ACTION PRIORITIES
A	Metropolitan Renewal Priorities		
1.	<p><u>River Clyde Greenplace</u></p> <p>The heart of the conurbation's green network stretching from the estuary mudflats in Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire through the restructured waterfront to the gateway area of east Glasgow and South Lanarkshire.</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Green corridors and broad urban valley requiring active management of woodland and new planting to define corridors and create linkages and enhance biodiversity. Potential importance for pedestrian, cyclist, equestrian routes. Corridor design guidance advised. Tracts of despoiled land requiring to be addressed through tree planting and management particularly to screen urban areas and emphasis of gateway functions</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community woodland creation.</p> <p><u>Green Network Information (LBAP, projects, access strategies etc).</u></p> <p>Established green corridor, strategic access route, riparian issues and wildlife corridor. Flagship renewal priority for waterfront and gateway sections.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>The key to delivering renewal of this part of the conurbation is recreating a continuous and high quality green link which builds on the biodiversity and recreational potential of the River Clyde. This should enhance both biodiversity and the recreational potential of the river corridor. Even in high density development, opportunities for greenspace, access and landscaping using native species. This work needs to be informed by the environmental designations in Local Plans and the habitat and species action plans contained in LBAPs</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Redevelopment of vacant land in which would form linkages between established greenspace needs to retain network links</p>
2.	<p><u>Gartloch / Gartcosh</u></p> <p>An area surrounded by and accessible to the communities of Easterhouse, Gartloch, Gartcosh and Coatbridge with a mosaic of young community woodlands, parks, vacant and underused land and struggling farms. The area may be subject to significant future planned housing</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Fragmented farmlands characterised by the undulating landforms and complex hydrology extensive tracts of underfarmed land, small urban communities and derelict buildings, tips, quarries, railways etc. Lack of cohesive character or identity needs to be addressed by significant woodland planting to provide screening, improve biodiversity and sustain agriculture</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Major landscape restructuring to create the showpiece landscape of the "Clyde Valley Community Forest" involving significant woodland planting and management, wetland habitat restoration and creation of an extensive access network with restructured farms.</p>

	development to meet identified strategic needs.	<p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community forest and agricultural restructuring</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Significant established greenspace, sensitive greenbelt corridors and wedges, urban renewal priority.</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>LF2 – Farm woodland creation</p> <p>Emphasis on expanding farm woodlands, establishing commercial forestry on poorer land and creating new urban fringe woodlands.</p>	<p>Advantage should be taken of development of the Gartcosh Strategic Investment Site and any planned housing land release to realise the green network as a priority and in particular structural planting of native woodlands.</p>
3.	<p><u>Cochno Wedges</u></p> <p>This area of rolling farm land is a vital part of the green network creating the setting for Milngavie, Bearsden, Drumchapel and Faifley</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Drumlin Foothills predominantly agricultural but significant areas of golf and other recreational uses and derelict policy landscapes. The area requires sensitively sited small scale woodland planting active management of anti-social activities and restoration of additional countryside features such as dykes and hedges to preserve the rural character.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Agricultural restructuring and community woodland around Drumchapel, woodland management around Milngavie.</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Established green network areas, sensitive greenbelt wedges, local access network and wildlife corridors.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Investment in extending the local access network and associated small woodlands, hedges and dykes to increase the extent to which the community values the sensitive wedges</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid encroachment by inappropriate development into these narrow wedges</p>
B	Strategic corridors		
4.	<p><u>Forth and Clyde Canal Corridor</u></p> <p>A key flagship project to reopen the canal has enormously increased its green network value. The</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Old Valley Lowland creating an important landscape feature with wetland based biodiversity issues and unmanaged farm woodlands requiring sensitive woodland</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Inclusion of green elements in all canal related development priority must be given to identifying and realising</p>

	<p>canal corridor is a unique green network component which provides the widest range of landscape and environmental settings</p>	<p>planting and management giving native species approved biodiversity of water courses and screen visual intrusion. Considerable sensitivity to transportation improvements and intrusive urban developments.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Farm forestry with community woodlands planting towards Bishopbriggs and Springburn</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Major green network component, sensitive greenbelt corridor, strategic access route, riparian issues associated with wildlife corridor and flagship project. Kelvin Valley Action Plan seeks to secure social and environmental benefits in association with appropriate redevelopment of the canal</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>CSFS Strategy for this area advocates</p> <p>LF 1 – Green access links and associated woodland creation and screen planting.</p> <p><u>Forth and Clyde Canal Local Plan</u></p>	<p>opportunities for greenspace, access and landscaping using native species. This work needs to be informed by the environmental designations in Local Plan and the habitat and species action plans contained in LBAPs</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoidance of inappropriate canal side development focusing on proposals sympathetic to the canal's status as a scheduled ancient monument and protection of the area's unique characters</p> <p>Careful design of transport improvements. Protection of wetlands and other LBAP flood plain habitats</p>
5.	<p><u>Kelvin rivers access routes</u></p> <p>The broad stratus of the Kelvin, Allander and Glazert valleys have been developed to create riverside and railway walkways (Allander walkway, Kelvin Valley walkway and Strathkelvin railway walkway)</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Old Valley Lowland creating an important landscape feature with wetland based biodiversity issues and unmanaged farm woodlands requiring sensitive woodland planting and management giving native species approved biodiversity of water courses and screen visual intrusion. Considerable sensitivity to transportation improvements and intrusive urban developments.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Floodplain, native woodlands, farm, forestry and community woodlands towards Kilsyth.</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Continued development of the important strategic access routs and linkages to the wider countryside are priorities for action together with biodiversity improvements to the river corridors and associated landscape benefits derived from increased native woodland planting. New planting should be sensitive to identified LBAP objectives (eg floodplain habitats)</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid development which would preclude completion of strategic access routes</p>

		<p>Major green network resources, sensitive greenbelt corridor, strategic access route and riparian issues associated with wildlife resources.</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>CSFS Strategy for this area advocates</p> <p>LF 1 – Green access links with the Forth and Clyde Canal associated woodland creation and screen planting.</p>	<p>or adversely impact on floodplain biodiversity.</p>
6.	<p><u>Robroyston / Cumbernauld Corridor</u></p> <p>An important corridor of open land which provides the setting of Lenzie, Stepps, Muirhead, Moodiesburn and Cumbernauld and Robroyston despite significant urban extensions in recent years.</p> <p>The area has been subject to significant Urban expansion in recent years and is dominated by the A80 road corridor.</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Rolling farmland predominantly in agricultural use, historic shelter belts and farm fragmentation as a result of pressure for urban extension and industrial activity requiring investment in landscape management, hedgerow replacement etc and positive management of historic landscapes. Woodland planting should be small in scale and reflect orientation of shelter belts as well as acting to define urban extension areas.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Farm forestry and community woodland planting along urban edges and transport routes.</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Limited established green network resources, local access network and sensitive greenbelt corridor.</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>LF2 – Transport corridor landscape improvement through tree planting and regeneration of farm woodlands.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Significant opportunities for woodland planting to improve the landscape quality of this fairly unremarkable landscape</p> <p>New planting should focus on use of nature species. Any work to extend the M80 should maximise the opportunities for landscape restructuring.</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Inclusion of significant urban edge landscaping in any future urban extensions or transportation improvements</p>
7.	<p><u>North Calder Corridor</u></p> <p>A narrow but extremely sensitive corridor dominated by the A8 but providing the setting for southern Coatbridge and Airdrie as well as Northern parts of</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Incised river valley comprising fairly small agricultural units with diverse woodlands on steeper slopes and subject to intense urban fringe pressure. An important corridor of undeveloped</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Continued management of established woodlands and planting of new areas to sustain the green aspects of the corridor together with continued</p>

	<p>Tannochside, Bellshill, Mossend and Holytown. The area contains significant residual farm land and high quality policy woodlands</p>	<p>land with recreational and heritage potential. Woodland requires to be managed to prolong the life of older specimens and maintain biodiversity whilst retaining the character of open areas and resisting further urban expansion into this very sensitive corridor.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community Forest and woodland management.</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Major green network resources, sensitive greenbelt wedge, strategic access routes and riparian issues related to wildlife corridors.</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>LF5 – Transport corridor landscape improvements and green link creation associated with new development and recreational nodes. Creation of new green links along recreational corridors and river valleys.</p>	<p>improvements to access and heritage interpretation opportunities</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid further loss of greenspace to urban development</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><u>Uddingston Clyde/Rotten Calder corridor</u></p> <p>A narrow corridor which performs an important function separating the communities of Uddingston, Blantyre and Cambuslang and contains established strategic recreation routes Sensitive greenbelt wedge</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Northern extension of the main Clyde Valley woodlands incised valley landscape character type. Contains significant woodland remnants including SSSI's on the steeper slopes and a limited amount of increasingly fragmented agricultural activity. Subject to urban fringe pressures</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>?</p> <p><u>Green Network</u></p> <p>Established green corridor containing significant recreational and heritage resources (Clyde Walkway, national cycle route, Bothwell Castle, David Livingston Centre</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Woodland Management Local Nature reserve - Backmuir Woods Development of core path networks linking to surrounding communities</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid further urban encroachment into this sensitive corridor</p>

<p>9.</p>	<p><u>South Calder and Ravenscraig Corridor</u></p> <p>This corridor follows the course of the South Calder Water and at its western extremity, provides an important green buffer between Bellshill and Motherwell. It also encompasses the strategically important Ravenscraig site, which is one of the key Flagship projects for the Metropolitan area. The area includes a large green area surrounding Cleland with a relatively unrealised green network potential</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Fragmented farmland with an incised river valley. A previously high quality landscape now much damaged by industrial and mineral activity resulting in fragmented farm units and development of semi natural woodland on vacant areas and substantial tracts of unfarmed land. Incised river valley contains high quality but unmanaged broad leaved woodland with significant biodiversity value. Overall there is a major opportunity to create a new landscape setting by restructuring farm units, managing woodland and increasing recreational access.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community woodlands and woodland management.</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Strong green network resources, sensitive greenbelt wedge, strategic access network and riparian issues associated with wildlife corridor. Strategic flagship and urban renewal priorities.</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>E2 – Woodland and access links with the South Calder Water using policy woodlands and linkages with the Ravenscraig site for expansion of river valley woodlands, use of derelict land and links to urban settlements.</p>	<p><u>South Calder and Ravenscraig Corridor</u></p> <p>This corridor follows the course of the South Calder Water and at its western extremity, provides an important green buffer between Bellshill and Motherwell. It also encompasses the strategically important Ravenscraig site, which is one of the key Flagship projects for the Metropolitan area. The area includes a large green area surrounding Cleland with a relatively unrealised green network potential</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p><u>Middle Clyde corridor</u></p> <p>A broad flat valley area providing the setting for Motherwell, Hamilton, Bothwell and Bellshill and dominated by the M8 and parkland at Hamilton Low Park and Strathclyde Country Park.</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Broad urban valley serving as a gateway to the Eastern Conurbation. The landscape is strongly influenced by visual intrusion of the urban areas on the neighbouring hillsides. Transport, infrastructure both parallel to and crossing the valley and the loss of original landscape character features as a consequence of past patterns of land use have combined to degrade the landscape integrity of the corridor. Significant potential to create new</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>New woodland planting to integrate urban and rural landscapes. Development of core path networks, flood plain management and flood water attenuation possibilities</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid further urban encroachment to this already busy green network link</p>

		<p>woodlands to screen and integrate urban and rural landscapes.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community woodlands, agricultural restructuring and woodland management</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Major green network components, sensitive greenbelt wedge, strategic access routes and major riparian/wildlife related issues</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>LF6 – Expand greenspace woodland with links to Strathclyde Park, SIP communities together with links to South Calder Valley.</p>	
11.	<p><u>Clyde Valley Woodlands</u></p> <p>A very extensive green network component including the Avon Valley past Larkhall to Stonehouse, the Clyde Valley to Crossford Garrion Valley to Overton and a large number of fairly steep sided burns linking law Carluke, Ashgill, Wishall, Hamilton and other communities into the main valley. The Clyde Valley Woodlands continue to Lanark and New Lanark</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Incised river valleys dominated by mature largely broad leaved woodlands with enormous biodiversity value but requiring very significant investment in management. Conifer plantations require to be restructured to improve integration into the landscape and increase the proportion of broad leaves. Improved screening of recent incremental residential on valley sides and resist further such damaging development.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Woodland management</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Major green network components, an Area of Great Landscape Value, sensitive greenbelt corridor, strategic and local access routes and wildlife issues.</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>LF7 – Expand semi natural and policy woodlands for biodiversity and recreation and improve the M72 transport corridor landscape. Completion of the Clyde Valley Walkway.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Continuation and extension of the Clyde valley woodlands approach to returning mature woodlands to management to the benefit of landscape, biodiversity and recreational access. Encourage woodland expansion through natural regeneration and planting, to improve connectivity of existing woodlands following the principles outlined in the Clyde Valley Forest Habitat Network (Peterkin) Report Completion of the Clyde Walkway and network of local links. Floodplain management and flood water attention possibilities at Carbarns / Marrayton / Baron's Haugh.</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid further development on valley sides.</p>

<p>12.</p>	<p><u>Calder Glen and Hamilton West</u></p> <p>A very varied area of green network landscape separating East Kilbride and Hamilton ranging from deep valley woodlands on the urban edge through farm land to moorland and open cast mine operations</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Plateau farmland with incised river valley along South Calder. Predominantly open and sloping dominated by sheep farming and large areas of raised Peat Moss. Hedgerows and lines of Beech Trees increasingly being replaced by post and wire fence. Distant views of Wind Turbines and Open Cast Coal extraction. Creation of extensive new shelter belts could create a more intimate landscape whilst respecting it's heritage, screen longer views and improve agricultural activity. Significant opportunities to increase tree cover around the edges of settlements to provide screening. Maintenance of the characters of the incised valley requires continued management of Calder Glen Woodlands and improvement of recreational access potential.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Farm forestry, community woodlands around Hamilton, woodland management around East Kilbride and commercial forest restructuring upland areas</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Strategic green network components, strategic access and riparian issues limited to Calder Glen. Sensitive greenbelt corridor.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Extension of the access network particularly from the valley woodlands into the wider countryside and moorlands (including white lee forest) beyond. Opportunities should be taken to maximise the contribution to this objective from open cast coal restoration and windfarm community benefit funding.</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoidance of further major urban intrusion from Hamilton into this green network element.</p> <p>The area contains important raised bogs which should be preserved and managed. Inappropriate development.</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p><u>Cathkin / Detchmount Corridor</u></p> <p>A broad corridor separating East Kilbride from Castlemilk and Cambuslang and surrounding villages of Carmunnock and Thorntonhall</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Plateau farmlands fairly open landscape broken by small areas of woodland, and hedges subject to urban incursion in recent years and requiring significant amount of internal restructuring together with large areas of new woodland planting along the urban edge to define and sustain the corridor. Management of the Cathkin Braes requires continued extension of recreational access.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community woodlands around urban edges and farm forestry in</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Continued development of recreational opportunities and the access network together with significant urban edge planting and woodland management to help sustain this corridor protection. Opportunities arise for long term landscape restructuring and recreational provision when landfill site restoration takes place from 2012 onwards</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p>

		<p>the wider countryside</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Extensive green network, strategic access and renewal priorities from the urban fringe of Cambuslang/Rutherglen and East Kilbride. The area includes recreational “honeypots” at Stewartfield Loch and Kitchside museum of country life. The area contains numerous small wetlands which act as a chain of “stepping stones” for wildlife. Sensitive greenbelt corridor throughout</p>	<p>Avoid any further significant urban expansion into this green network corridor which provides the setting for major communities.</p>
14.	<p><u>Cart Corridor</u></p> <p>A narrow and predominantly urban corridor with as yet unrealised potential to form a link between the significant areas of parkland (Pollok Park, Queens Park, etc.) on the south side of Glasgow with pockets of greenspace downstream through Paisley and Renfrew and upstream to the wider countryside south of Busby.</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Green Corridor narrow river valley meandering through the urban area from Busby through Lynn Park, Cathcart, Langside and Shawlands to Paisley and Renfrew. It links the ancient woodlands of the White Cart Water Woods at Busby and Stamperland with the policy woodlands of Pollok Park through Hurler and ultimately the mill landscape of Paisley Town Centre. Vital green lung for a large part of the city, linking larger greenspaces and maintaining a wildlife and access corridor with significant heritage interpretation potential. Intense management required to sustain the quiet green quality of the corridor whilst increasing the recreational and sustainable commuting potential. Substantial flood prevention measures are proposed, including upstream flood storage areas and walls and embankments in the urban area.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Woodland management and community woodland planting</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Very extensive but tightly constrained green network resources, with linking roll to urban parkland and other greenspace. Strategic access environment and riparian/wildlife corridor related issues.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Creation of links to dispersed and fragmented area of greenspace</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid development on any remaining areas of land which have the potential to assist creating links between greenspace</p>

<p>15.</p>	<p><u>Darnley Mill Corridor</u></p> <p>A relatively narrow corridor with potential to link from Pollock Park through Darnley Mill Park and Waulkmill Glen into the wider countryside of East Renfrewshire and provide the setting for Barrhead, Newton Mearns and substantial communities of southern Glasgow</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Plateau farmland leading on to rugged upland farming. An urban fringe wooded parkland leading to open pastoral agricultural landscape with little tree cover and declining hedgerows requiring investment in shelter belts and onto a more rugged landscape with reservoirs and increasing biodiversity significance but limited recreational access. An area of predominantly unrealised recreational potential requiring significant investment in access networks and shelter belt planting.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community woodland and farm forestry in wider countryside.</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Extensive green network resources and sensitive greenbelt wedges and corridor with strategic access routes and wildlife resources.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Continued investment in recreational access</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid development encroachment into the more sensitive urban parts of this network</p>
<p>16.</p>	<p><u>Glennifer / Crookston Corridor</u></p> <p>A narrow and in places highly urbanised green wedge separating Crookston, Paisley and Barrhead but with enormous potential for urban linkages to recreational opportunities in the wider countryside</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Urban greenspace leading to rugged upland farmland. The unmanaged policy woodland of the Hurler area requires significant investment to retain its biodiversity, landscape and recreation value and continuing resistance of further urban incursion. The more open countryside of the Gleniffer Braes area is predominantly open and lacking in woodland cover. These two areas of landscape should be tied together with further shelter belt planting and managed access both of which would help sustain marginal agricultural activity. Further hardrock quarrying should be designed to be restored to an interesting landscape of rolling hills and crags.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Farm restructuring, community woodlands around urban edge and commercial forest restructuring on higher ground</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Creation of access linkages between Glennifer Braes, and the more developed stretches of this corridor as well as links to the isolated green lung at Arkleston</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid any further urban encroachment into the more sensitive areas of this wedge in order to avoid coalescence</p>

		<p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Extensive green network resources to the west with sensitive greenbelt wedges to the east and strategic access routes.</p>	
17.	<p><u>Elderslie / Linwood Corridor</u></p> <p>An area of very varied countryside, stretching from the flat landscapes around the airport throughout the increasingly urbanised corridor separating Paisley and Johnstone at Linwood and Elderslie on to open farmland south of Johnstone</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Floodplain around Glasgow Airport separated by a narrow predominantly urban area from rugged upland farmland south of Johnstone. A relatively high quality agricultural alluvial plain with minimal woodland cover and major urban intrusion (built up areas, airport, railway and motorway) requiring significant investment in large areas of woodland screen planting which respects any residual Peat Mosses.</p> <p>Replacement of declining lines of field boundary trees throughout the landscape. Rugged upland farmlands provide the Southern setting for Johnstone and require to be sustained through improved shelter belt planting and recreational access. The value of both of these areas is limited by the failure to maintain a green corridor separating Paisley and Johnstone and the Elderslie area. Opportunities still exist to retain and reinstate green links these should be prioritised in any redevelopment schemes.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Farm forestry and restructuring and community woodland around urban edges</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Limited green network resources but sensitive greenbelt wedges and strategic access routes related to riparian corridors. Urban renewal priority in the North.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Creation of access links from the urban areas out into the wider countryside</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid further narrowing of the urban parts of this corridor</p>
18.	<p><u>Levern Valley</u></p> <p>A narrow valley linking the communities of Barrhead, Neilston and Uplawmoor and incorporating parts of the Lugton Water, Cowden Burn and Levern Water. Former industrial use based on water</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Upland river valley defined on its northern edge by the steep slopes of the Lochliboside Hills and Fereneze Braes. The southern edge of the valley is less defined, comprising a series of low craggy hills. The valley has little or no flood plain with the river dropping about 100 metres in 10 kilometres.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Creation and enhancement of access links from the urban areas into countryside. Potential for management of woodland areas for benefit of landscape and biodiversity.</p>

	powered mills.	<p><u>Strategy for Green Belt Action.</u> Access improvements and formation of new links between the settlements. Completion of the Levern Walkway.</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u> Links from Neilston to the popular community woodland at Neilston Pad. Levern Walkway through the centre of Barrhead with potential to extend to Pollock. Aspirations to create path link from Neilston to Uplawmoor and for Community Woodland in Uplawmoor.</p>	<p><u>Protection</u> Avoid further loss of sensitive Greenbelt land within the valley to urban growth.</p>
19.	<u>Kilmacolm / Port Glasgow / Bridge of Weir Route</u>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Rugged upland farmland consisting of rugged hummocky landscape interspersed with valleys of more gentle farmland requiring the continued maintenance of hedgerows, field boundary trees and woodland clumps in this pastoral landscape. Only limited and small scale woodland planting is required particularly where it screens new large agricultural buildings or urban extensions.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Limited farm forestry</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Limited and scattered green network resources but important strategic access route and riparian/wildlife corridor issues.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Limited woodland creation potential</p>
20.	<u>Leven Valley</u> A very varied corridor ranging from the open floodplain of the River Leven in the south through the urban areas of Renton and Alexandria, containing	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Green corridor characterised by a wide bottomed valley and meandering river through and between Alexandria, Bonhill and Renton and linking Dumbarton to Loch Lomond. A key issue is to</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Renewal of greenspace along the river valley to improve biodiversity and creation of access linkages both along the valley and into the countryside and</p>

	significant areas of vacant and derelict land along the river valley, to the National Park	<p>conserve and enhance the visual recreational and ecological value of this corridor by improving management of woodlands, restoring derelict land and extending the access network. Development should be carefully designed not to disrupt potential green links and to be sensitively screened from the corridor itself.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community woodland planting</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Limited green network resources but sensitive greenbelt wedges, strategic access routes, riparian and wildlife issues throughout.</p>	<p>recreational assets particularly to the east.</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid development on vacant land with green network potential</p>
C	Wider greenspace linkages		
21.	<p><u>Kilpatrick links</u></p> <p>A narrow area of greenspace between the communities of old Kilpatrick and Duntocher to the south and the Kilpatrick hills to the north</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Rugged moorland hills providing the setting for Duntocher, Bowling, Milton and Dumbarton but with relatively limited access into the Kilpatrick Hills themselves. Key issue is to improve access from the urban areas (often across major transport links) into the hills.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Woodland and moorland management</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Limited and scattered green network resources with opportunities to link to the strategic access network.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Significant opportunities to create new access routes from the dense urban communities into the open hill land and forest in the north</p>
22.	<p><u>Campsie and Lennox links</u></p> <p>An area of foothills north of the Lennoxton, Milton of Campsie and Kilsyth communities and their associated hamlets with huge potential for improved access into the Campsie fells</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Rugged moorland hills providing the setting for Lennoxton, Milton of Campsie and Kilsyth as well as much of the northern part of the conurbation. Tourist development opportunities will require to be linked to an extension of the access networks and management or extension of the small scale woodland cover in the foothills</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Creation of access links from this tourism corridor into the Campsie fells potential regional park. Substantial opportunities for farm woodland type planting and woodland management to improve the landscape in accordance with the Campsie touch hills local forestry framework.</p>

		<p>Woodland management</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Significant green network resources, accessible from a strategic access network.</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>NW2 – Expand semi natural and farm woodlands particularly along urban corridors and create formal access to improve tourist facilities and build on local access strategies</p> <p><u>Campsie/Touch Hills Local Forestry Framework</u></p> <p>Woodland management and limited farm forestry respecting the scenic quality and biodiversity of the steeper slopes</p>	<p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid large scale urban or forestry development</p>
23.	<p><u>Central Scotland Plateau and Forest Links</u></p> <p>A substantial area of mixed agricultural land, land fill, open cast mining and despoiled land on the eastern edge of North Lanarkshire. It connects to large tracks of land to the south east of Airdrie and northeast of Wishaw / Newmains. A number of rural communities such as caldercruix, Plains, Salsburgh, Shotts and Harthill are connected to this area, which changes from agricultural urban fringe to moorland as the topography rises towards the east.</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Plateau farmland leading into plateau moorland. Rolling farmland fragmented in places by industrial and mineral activity and exhibiting declining helterbelts and field boundary trees leading onto a more open landscape dominated by sheep farming and Peatland. Key issues involve restructuring the urban edge farmland with extensive use of woodland planting to stabilise the urban edge and screen intrusive development particularly along transport corridors. Restructuring should take advantage of the potential to improve recreational access into the plateau area and facilitate interpretation of industrial heritage</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community forest and linkage with Central Scotland Forest strategy</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Extensive but scattered green network resources, strategic access routes, wildlife resources</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Opportunities to extend the significant recent investment in community woodland planting to create more structured access to the open countryside and moorland. Opportunities to exist maximise the woodland and biodiversity benefits from reinstatement of open cast coal working.</p> <p>Further emphasis on planting required along major transport corridors as well as restructuring remnant farm woodland landscapes</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Protection of existing Forest Habitat Network by avoiding inappropriate development and provision of structural planting and through master plans for new development.</p>

		<p>and riparian issues.</p> <p><u>Central Scotland Forest Strategy</u></p> <p>EP1 – Build on Airdrie woodlands initiative successes, in creating and managing urban fringe and community woodlands to improve the visual character of transport corridors and focus on derelict land/open cast mine restoration through forest planting, create links to surrounding access routes.</p>	
24.	<p><u>Whitelee Forest</u></p> <p>An extensive area comprising of hills, moorland and commercial forestry. Preferred area for wind farms under development pressure for this use. Forest roads within the plantation are currently used for mountain biking, riding and walking. The area has the potential to form part of a long distance route between Glasgow and the Southern Upland Way at Wanlockhead</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Plateau moorlands with extensive conifer plantations. Open ground and surrounding moorland provide contrast. Since of apparent remoteness.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Green Belt Action</u></p> <p>Restructure commercial forestry for access and landscape and increase farm forestry near the urban edge</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Improve access opportunities and potential for wider access links, eg to Southern Upland Way.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Significant opportunities for access improvements and farm forestry which could be implemented in connection with large wind farm proposal. Potential for forest restructuring for recreational and biodiversity benefits.</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Protection of blanket bog habitat</p>
25.	<p><u>Renfrew Hills Links</u></p> <p>A narrow strip of steeply sloping land between the densely developed communities of Greenock, Gourock and Port Glasgow and the Renfrewshire Hills including Clyde Muirshiel Park. Extensions of this green network area also link to formal and informal greenspaces within the communities</p>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Rugged moorland hills providing a setting for Port Glasgow, Greenock and Gourock. Key issues involve improving managed access, resisting open fringe intrusion (vandalism and dumping) and linking to greenspace networks within the towns to maximise biodiversity and access.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community woodland planting, woodland management and upland management</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Green network resources linking between urban areas and regional</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Creation of new and extension of existing linkages from the urban communities into the hill and particularly incorporating existing areas of green parkland within the communities</p> <p><u>Protection</u></p> <p>Avoid inappropriate development of areas of vacant land which could otherwise contribute to creating linkages</p>

		park, strategic access network and wildlife issues.	
26.	<u>Lochwinnoch Route</u>	<p><u>Landscape Character Assessment</u></p> <p>Broad valley lowland often wet low lying valley floors with lochs and drainage channels and frequent flooding giving them enormous biodiversity value. This is increased by incidence of relict policy woodlands on the valley sides. Woodland management and replacement planting should avoid use of conifers and aim to enhance biodiversity and extend the already well developed recreational access.</p> <p><u>Strategy for Greenbelt Action</u></p> <p>Community woodlands along transport corridors and farm forestry in wider countryside</p> <p><u>Green Network Information</u></p> <p>Green network resources focused around the lochs to the west with strategic access, riparian and wildlife corridors throughout.</p>	<p><u>Intervention</u></p> <p>Landscape and biodiversity improvement, limited scale access</p>

