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PLANNING FOR LOCAL LANDSCAPE DESIGNATION REVIEW

EAST LOTHIAN LOCAL LANDSCAPE DESIGNATION REVIEW



*Produced for East Lothian Council
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CONTENTS

Executive Summary	p5	Appendix I	Landscape Character Area Boundary Review
1 Introduction	p6	Appendix II	Landscape Character Area Evaluation
2 National Landscape Policy Designations	p7	Appendix III	Public Consultation
3 Development Plan Policy	p11	Appendix IV	Historic Landscape Areas
4 Local and Regional Designations In East Lothian with a landscape Element	p11	Appendix V	Wildness and Soil Maps
5 Landscape Review	p15	Appendix VI	Special Landscape Areas Statements of Importance
Landscape Character Area Boundary Review	p15		
Landscape Character Area Evaluation	p16		
Public Consultation	p18		
6 Identification of Special Landscape Areas	p18		
Purpose of Designation	p18		
7 Methodology	p19		
Base Areas of Search	p19		
Heritage	p20		
Representativeness and Typicality	p22		
Field Study	p23		
Fit with Other Designations	p24		
8 Special Landscape Areas	p38		
Table 3 – List of Special Landscape Areas	p38		
Fig.6 – Map of Special Landscape Areas	p39		
Statements of Importance	p40		
Bibliography	p41		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

East Lothian is a small but perfectly formed area. Its climate and underlying geology, plus the vision and toil of generations of our ancestors have left a landscape in our trust to be enjoyed now and hopefully passed on in good heart for our sons and daughters to discover. The landscape stretches from the outstanding coastline to the north, through the central area of fertile farmland including many fine designed landscapes, to the rolling and occasionally rugged and mysterious areas of the transitional fringe landscape before opening out onto the wide moorlands of the Lammermuirs which frame the county. Wooded river valleys dissect the area, while remnants of past volcanic activity such as North Berwick Law, Traprain Law and the Garleton Hills form highly visible rugged outcrops.

These features combine to give an area of great diversity and interest forming the distinctive East Lothian landscape.

The aim of the Local Landscape Review is to assess all of East Lothian's landscape, classify and describe it in terms of its different character areas and identify areas of particular importance to be designated as Special Landscape Areas.

All landscapes are important, and East Lothian Council will continue to carefully assess proposals for all areas of the countryside, coast and urban natural spaces. The purpose of designating Special Landscape Areas is to recognise the particular value of these landscapes in maintaining the distinctive sense of place in different areas of East Lothian. It is to make sure that these landscapes are not damaged by inappropriate development, and sometimes, to encourage positive landscape management. The purpose is not to prevent development, though some types of development may not be compatible with the aims of designation.

1 INTRODUCTION/OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 East Lothian is an area with much to offer; superb coast, beautiful countryside, volcanic hills, moorland and intimate wooded river valleys. Its location as part of the economically dynamic Edinburgh City Region, along with its natural attributes, make it an attractive place to live, visit and do business, which inevitably also brings development pressures.
- 1.2 As part of the preparation of East Lothian's Local Development Plan, it was considered that a review of East Lothian's landscapes was due. The main designation to protect local landscapes, Areas of Great Landscape Value, was introduced in the 1960s, with further amendment mainly in the 1970s/80s. The identification and description of Landscape Character Areas in SNH's Lothian Landscape Character Assessment¹ was carried out based on research in the mid 1990s. There was clearly the potential for considerable landscape change since then. In addition, SNH/Historic Scotland published new Guidance² in 2006, refreshing the approach to local landscape designation, and moving towards a designation of Special Landscape Areas, broadly replacing the existing Areas of Great Landscape Value.
- 1.3 The aim of the overall project was therefore:
- to review all the landscapes of East Lothian
 - to identify and describe the character of each area; and
 - to identify and designate Special Landscape Areas
- 1.4 The review has taken two main parts; firstly, to review the Landscape Character Areas shown in the Lothians Landscape Character Assessment³ and describe their attributes. This study was published in 1998, with the field work having been undertaken prior to this. Secondly, to identify and describe the special qualities of areas for designation as Special Landscape Areas. These will become the main local landscape designation and broadly replace Areas of Great Landscape Value.
- 1.5 This study gives the opportunity to assess East Lothian's landscape as a whole with the aim of replacing the existing landscape designations with new robustly defined landscape designations and to provide up to date information on the valued qualities of all landscapes.

¹ No 91: The Lothian's Landscape Character Assessment, Ash Consulting Group (published and commissioned by Scottish Natural Heritage) 1998

² Guidance on Local Landscape Designations, SNH/Historic Scotland, available here: <http://www.snh.gov.uk/publications-data-and-research/publications/search-the-catalogue/publication-detail/?id=389>

³ See 1

The review will help identify features of the landscape which are characteristic of place and should be taken into account in design of new development.

2 NATIONAL LANDSCAPE POLICY AND DESIGNATIONS

- 2.1 In 2006 the UK Government adopted the Council of Europe's 'European Landscape Convention'. The Convention is concerned with the protection, management and planning of all landscapes both outstanding and ordinary, regardless of their condition and including natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It includes land, inland water and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes. The Convention aims to encourage public authorities to adopt policies and measures at all levels to protect, manage and plan landscape.
- 2.2 The European Landscape approach is based on a set of five principles:
- **Our landscape** – people, from all cultures and communities, lie at the heart of efforts for the landscape, as we all share an interest in and responsibility for, its well-being
 - **All landscapes** – the landscape is important everywhere, not just in special places, and whether beautiful or degraded
 - **Changing Landscapes** – landscapes will continue to evolve in response to our needs, but this change needs to be managed
 - **Understanding landscapes** – better awareness and understanding of our landscapes and the benefits they provide is required
 - **Tomorrow's Landscapes** – an inclusive, integrated and forward-looking approach to managing the landscapes we have inherited, and in shaping new ones, is required.

'All Landscapes' Principles²

Both town and country: Landscapes do not stop at the edge of settlements, nor do they necessarily change at the boundary of local authority areas. Rather, it is the landscapes and townscapes of the whole of countryside, the coast and the settlements – be they scattered houses, small villages and townships or larger towns and cities – which should be the focus of effort.

Valuing landscapes: Views on what is important in a particular local landscape will vary and reflect personal responses as well as more objective assessments. Some landscapes are recognised to be of national importance but people will also value their local landscapes as the places where they live and work. All these views should be respected and should be used to inform the planning and management of local landscapes.

Guiding landscape change: Landscapes are constantly changing and landscape planning and management at all levels should aim to facilitate positive change – be it the enhancement of existing qualities or the creation of new ones of equal or greater value. Higher standards in the planning and design of new development and management of land-use are essential components of such an approach.

A shared responsibility: Responsibility for local landscapes does not rest with any one organisation or individual. Action for local landscapes should accordingly be broad-based, though local authorities have a particularly important role to play in developing consensus on the direction, nature and extent of landscape change and facilitating a more integrated and collective approach to their planning and management.

- 2.3 Signatories to the Convention undertake to identify and assess their own landscapes throughout their territory, and the characteristics and forces changing them. East Lothian Council recognises the importance of all landscapes through the policies of the East Lothian Local Development Plan, which aim to secure design that fits with quality of place, both in urban areas and the countryside.
- 2.4 The Scottish Government recognises Scotland’s diverse and distinctive landscapes as “a significant part of the country’s natural and cultural heritage, making an important and positive contribution to the economic, cultural and social well-being of the nation⁴”. They are committed to protecting and enhancing these landscapes through a variety of policies and designations.
- 2.5 National Planning Framework 3 notes that “Scotland’s landscapes are spectacular, contributing to our quality of life, our national identity and the visitor economy. Landscape quality is found across Scotland and all landscapes support place-making....Closer to settlements, landscapes have an important role in sustaining local distinctiveness and cultural identity, and in supporting health and well being”. NPF 3 goes on to encourage a planned approach to development, striking the right balance between safeguarding assets which are irreplaceable and facilitating change in a sustainable way.
- 2.6 Protecting, enhancing and promoting access to the landscape is a guiding principle of Scottish Planning Policy⁵ for policies and decisions within the planning system. A further principle is supporting good design and the six qualities of successful places; these include distinctiveness - development should complement local features such as landscapes. It also states the planning system should promote the care and protection of the wider cultural landscape and its contribution to sense of place.
- 2.7 At the national level, there are five main designations with a landscape element; National Parks, National Scenic Areas, Wild Land, Gardens and Designed Landscapes, and Battlefields. Battlefields, while not being identified because of any aesthetic qualities of the landscape, protect the landscape where it is important for understanding and appreciation of the battle. East Lothian does not contain any of the first three designations, but does have a considerable number of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, as well as four Battlefields.
- 2.8 The **National Parks** are areas of the very highest value for their landscapes, wildlife and cultural heritage, and were designated following the passage of the National Parks

⁴ Scottish Government website accessed 16/12/2015:
<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Environment/Countryside/Heritage>

⁵ Scottish Planning Policy at <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2014/06/5823/0>

(Scotland) Act 2000. New residential and commercial activities are restricted. There are two of them in Scotland, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, and Cairngorms. Both of these are managed by a National Park Authority, which manages development and implement the plan for each park.

2.9 There are 40 **National Scenic Areas**, covering 13% of Scotland’s land area. These were given a statutory basis in 2010 through amendment to the Planning Etc (Scotland) Act 2006. They are designated by Scottish Ministers for outstanding scenic value in a national context, where it is appropriate that special attention is paid to safeguarding or enhancing its character.

2.10 **Wild land** has a distinct and special character, and it is increasingly hard to find. SNH recently undertook a mapping exercise looking at four qualities of wildness; remoteness, lack of modern artifacts, apparent naturalness and ruggedness. Although some small parts of East Lothian scored highly on this, no area was large enough to be taken forward to become Wild Land, which is concentrated in the north and west parts of Scotland.

2.11 **Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes** are designated and administered by Historic Scotland; more information on their characteristics and the features to be taken into consideration in planning decisions can be found by searching the online Inventory: <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/gardens.htm> . There are currently 27 in East Lothian, from the extensive Tynninghame, Archerfield and Yester to the small garden at St Mary’s Pleasance in Haddington. Scottish Planning Policy guides planning authorities to protect and where appropriate, enhance areas on the Inventory, and policy on this is included in the East Lothian Local Development Plan.

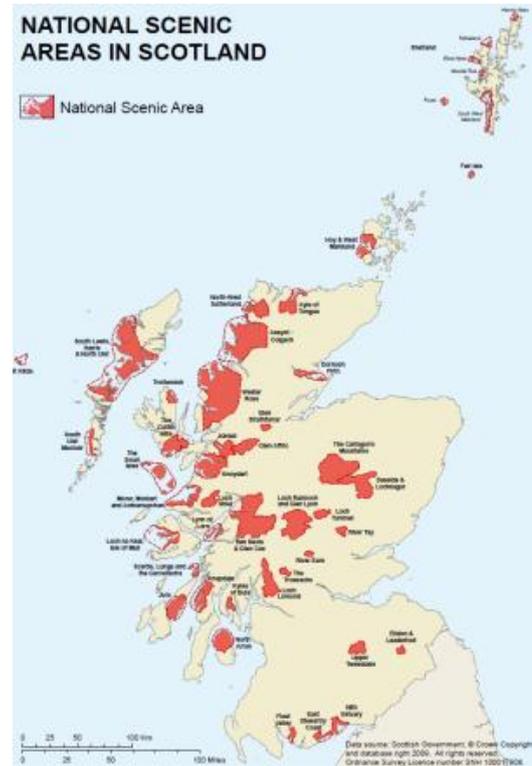
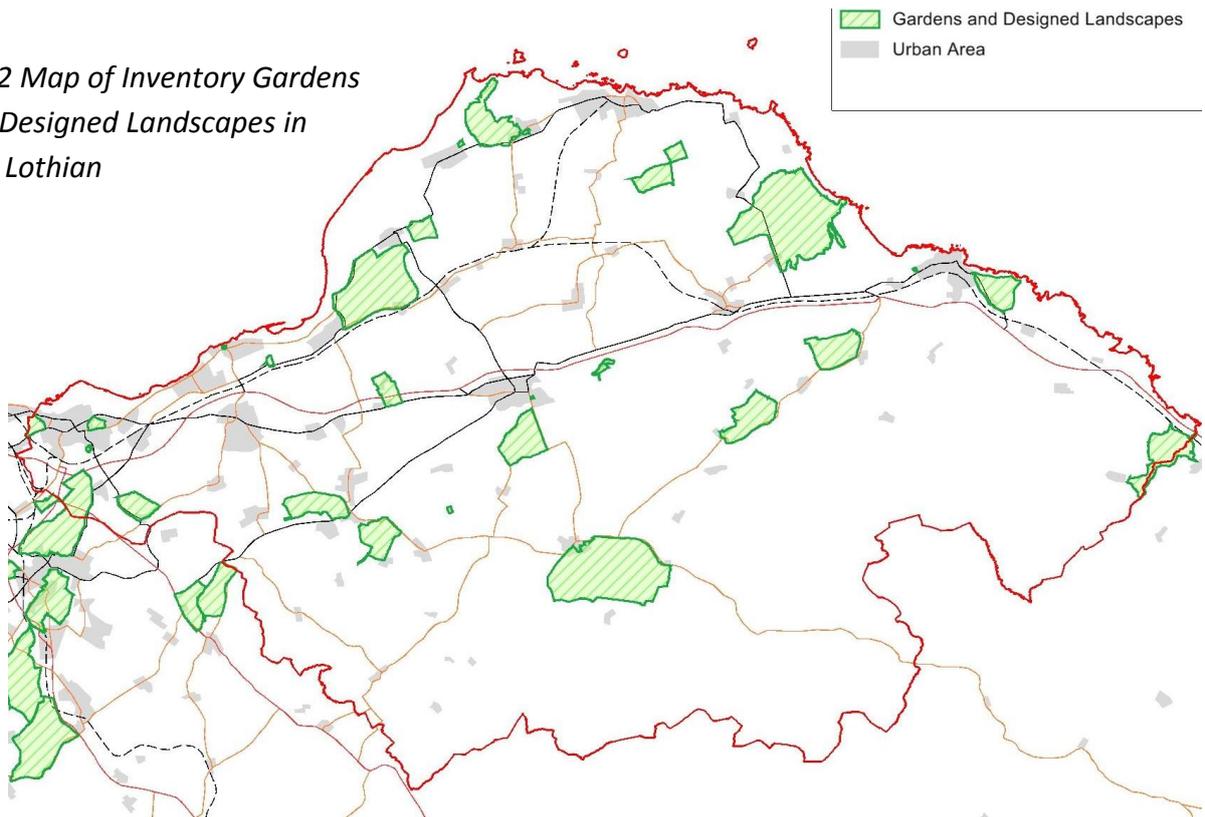


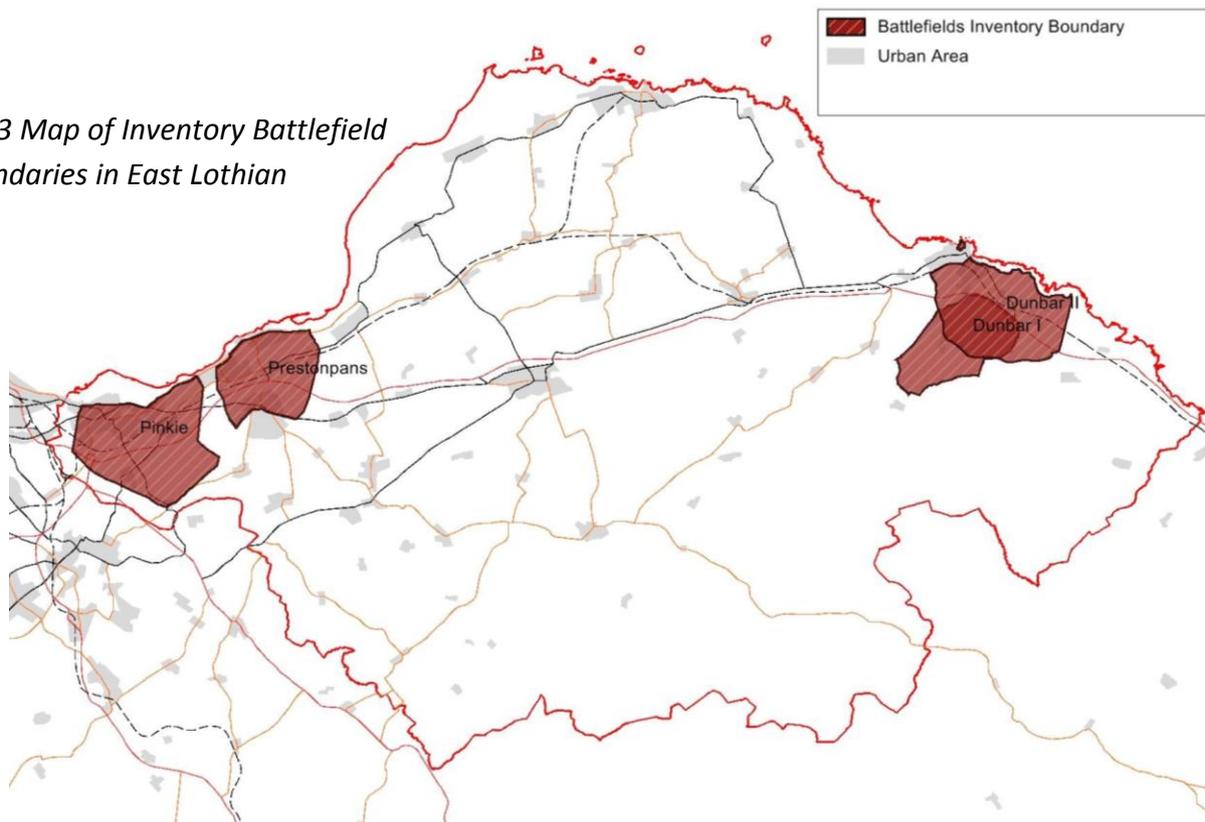
Fig. 1 Map of National Scenic Areas in Scotland

Fig. 2 Map of Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes in East Lothian



2.12 **Battlefields** are designated by Historic Scotland, and their key landscape characteristics and special qualities of the site are described in the Inventory of Historic Battlefields and protected by planning policy. There are four in East Lothian, Pinkie, Prestonpans, Dunbar 1 and Dunbar 2

Fig. 3 Map of Inventory Battlefield Boundaries in East Lothian



3 DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY

- 3.1 SESPLAN is the regional plan for the area. This plan recognises the high quality built and natural environment of the area as underpinning its desirability as a place to live, work, do business and visit. It sees maintaining and enhancing these qualities in the context of further growth as vital to ensuring the future prosperity of the area, and directs Local Development Plans to conserve and enhance the built and natural environment to create more healthy and attractive places to live. It also directs Local Plans to define and maintain a Green Belt around Edinburgh.
- 3.2 The East Lothian Local Development Plan has as an objective to protect and enhance the area's high quality environment and special identity, in line with our Single Outcome Agreement. It aims to ensure that new development respects the character, appearance and amenity of the area, including settlements and their settings. It also aims to "ensure a strategic approach to managing landscape change when accommodating new development...by avoiding inappropriate development in locations where this is important to protect the character, setting and identity of the local area".
- 3.3 The East Lothian Local Development Plan states that the Council will have regard to the Landscape Character Review in assessing planning applications. The LDP aims to support development that accords with the character and qualities of the Special Landscape Area:

Policy DC9: Special Landscape Areas

Areas are designated as Special Landscape Areas as identified within supplementary planning guidance on Special Landscape Areas. Development within or affecting Special Landscape Areas will only be permitted where:

1. it accords with the Statement of Importance and does not harm the special character of the area; or
2. the public benefits of the development clearly outweigh any adverse impact and the development is designed, sited and landscaped to minimise such adverse impacts.

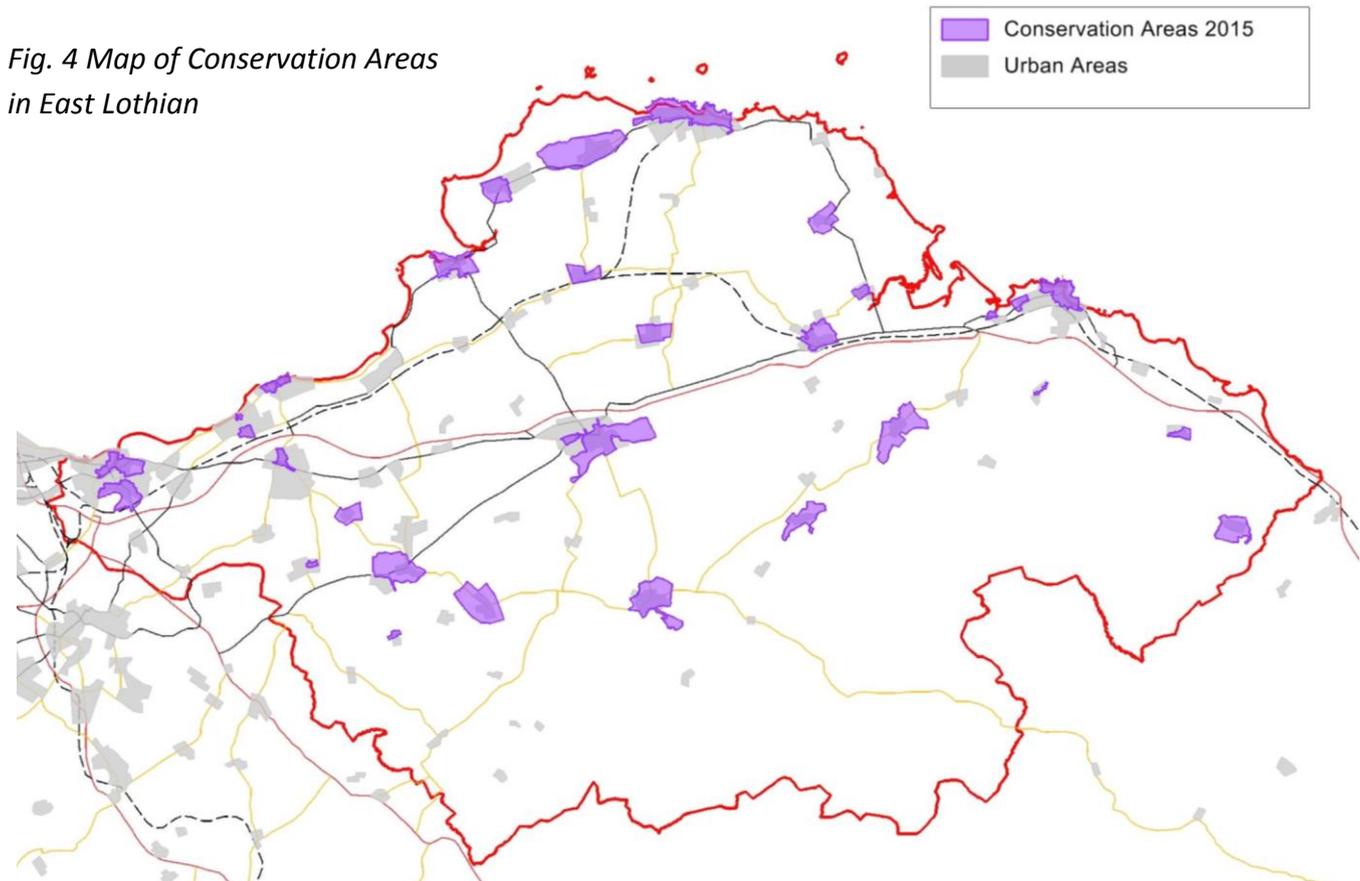
The Council will refer to the Statement of Importance of the relevant site in assessing planning applications.

4 LOCAL AND REGIONAL DESIGNATIONS IN EAST Lothian WITH A LANDSCAPE ELEMENT

- 4.1 Within East Lothian, there are several interacting designations which have a landscape element, in addition to Special Landscape Areas. National designations represented in our

area are Historic Gardens and Designed landscapes, and Battlefields. Locally, Green Belt, Conservation Areas, Local Designed Landscapes and John Muir Country Park all have a landscape element.

- 4.2 The **Edinburgh Green Belt** is required through SESPlan, the Strategic Development Plan for Edinburgh and South East Scotland. One of its purposes is to protect the character, landscape setting and identity of Edinburgh, and its neighbouring towns, including Musselburgh, Wallyford and Whitecraig. Proposals should be of a size, scale and nature that do not harm green belt objectives or the character or appearance of the local area.
- 4.3 **Conservation Areas** are designated by East Lothian Council, and there are currently 30 of these in the area. Planning decisions must ensure that the character or appearance of a Conservation Area is preserved or enhanced. Many of East Lothian’s Conservation Areas, especially in the villages, include an area of landscape setting.



- 4.4 **John Muir Country Park** was designated in 1976 by East Lothian Council, and is an area of coastline, woods, and sandy estuary located at the mouth of the Tyne. It takes its name from the famous naturalist and founder of the National Park movement. The landscape and

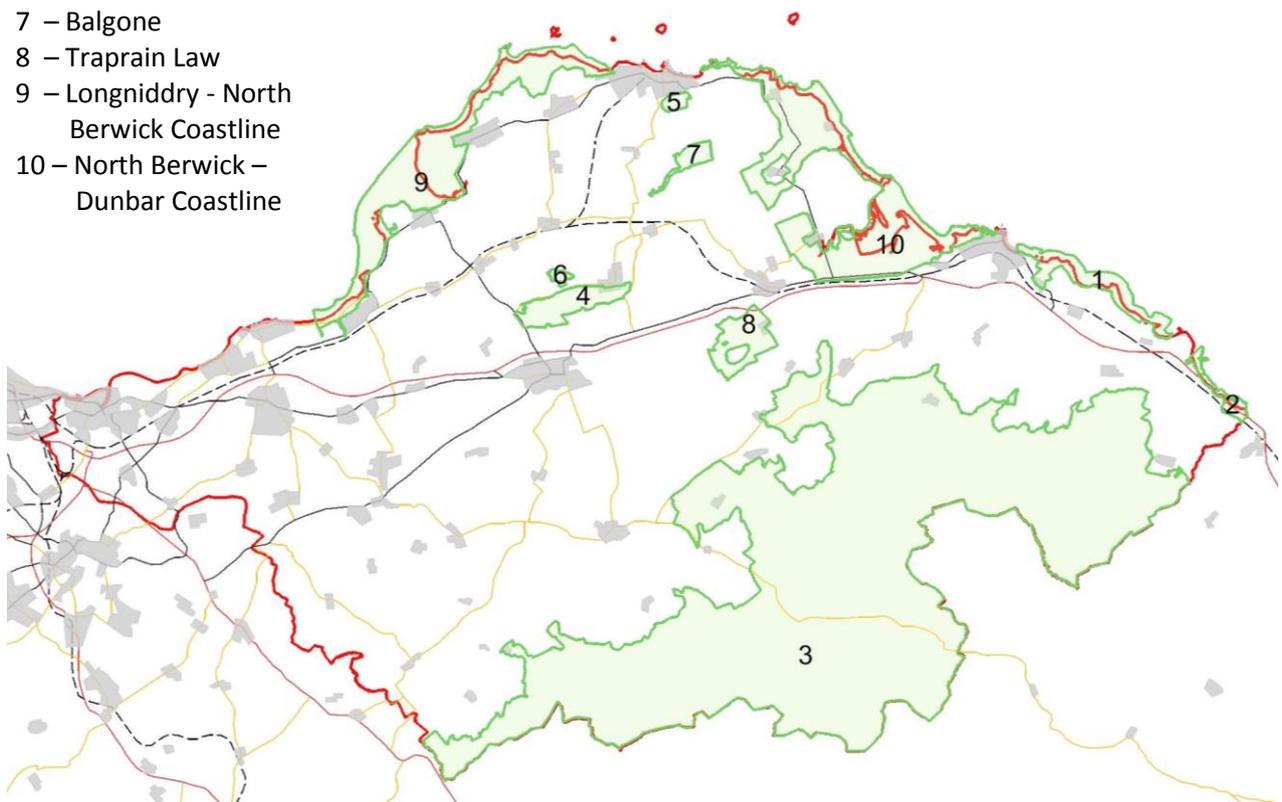
recreational value of the Country Park is protected through the policies of the East Lothian Local Development Plan.

- 4.5 **Local Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes.** A list of locally identified designed landscapes is included in the East Lothian Local Development Plan. Some of these have a Statement on their interest, and it is the intention to include a statement for each.
- 4.6 Special Landscape Areas replace **Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLVs)**. AGLVs were proposed under Scottish Development Department Circular 2/1962 which advised planning authorities to consider designating areas of outstanding scenic interest to safeguard their future. Appendix 1 to the circular gave guidance on selecting AGLVs but did not set out any standards on how the boundaries of these areas should be drawn up. The objective was to give the planning authorities greater planning control over landscape protection in these areas. The Circular guided planning authorities to “concentrate in the first instance on those areas of great landscape value which can be described as vulnerable in the sense that there are or may be pressures from development that may affect them in one way or another”. The areas chosen could include coastal reaches or islands, mountains or woodland, moors or rivers, as well as smaller beauty spots. Planning policy at the time aimed to make special efforts to protect these areas from overhead electricity lines and secure the use of traditional materials in built development, as well as pursuing a general policy of conservation.
- 4.7 The first AGLVs were identified in East Lothian’s County Development Plan, which zoned 3 AGLVs centred on the main geological features. Amendment 21 to this plan subsequently zoned a large area of rich farmland of the Lower Tyne Valley, which included the fine Georgian policy of Tynninghame and its coastal lands. The four areas were:
- Garleton Hills (760 acres)
 - Hopes Valley (5170 acres)
 - The Tyne at Haddington between the Waterloo and Victoria Bridges (64 acres) (The Tyne area was subsequently absorbed into the Haddington Conservation Area).
 - Whitekirk/Tynninghame, including the area south from Seacliff to West Barns Links which was noted as a ‘little frequented wild area, much of it SSSI’ (6280 acres)
- 4.8 Since then, there have been numerous amendments and extensions to the AGLVs in the area plans of the 1970s and early 1980s. By the time of the Local Plan 2000 there were ten AGLV designations covering:
- Parts of the Lammermuir Hills, comprising mainly rough pasture and heather moorland
 - The dominating igneous outcrops of the Garleton Hills, Traprain Law and North Berwick Law
 - Parts of the coast comprising beaches, bents, dunes, cliffs and rocky foreshore
 - Deciduous and coniferous woodlands

4.9 By then designed landscapes had achieved recognition through Historic Environment Scotland’s Inventory of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes, and so generally these were removed from AGLV designation. AGLVs continued to be the main local landscape designation until the publication in 2006 of the SNH/Historic Scotland’s “Guidance on Local Landscape Designations”. Special Landscape Areas have protection under planning policy however it is also hoped that their designation will also encourage a greater appreciation and enjoyment of the diverse landscapes that East Lothian has to offer.

- AGLVs
- 1 – Barns Ness Coastline
 - 2 – Thorntonloch Coastline
 - 3 – Lammermuir Hills
 - 4 – Garleton Hills
 - 5 – North Berwick Law
 - 6 – Kilduff Hill
 - 7 – Balgone
 - 8 – Traprain Law
 - 9 – Longniddry - North Berwick Coastline
 - 10 – North Berwick – Dunbar Coastline

Fig. 5 Map of Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) in East Lothian



- 5.1 East Lothian Council undertook a systematic review of all of East Lothian’s landscapes in 2014/5. This review followed the Guidance by SNH/Historic Scotland “Guidance on designating local landscapes”⁶ to identify and justify areas which warrant such local designation. It is divided into two main sections, the Landscape Character Area Boundary Review and the designation of Special Landscape Areas.
- 5.2 In carrying out the Review, landscapes and landscape designations bordering the local authority boundary were taken account of through the study. The islands off the coast within East Lothian are naturally included in the assessment; however the sea itself below the low watermark lies outwith local authority planning control and so these areas are not included. Nonetheless, the interrelationship between land and sea is clearly very important for the character of parts of the area, and changes in the seascape certainly have the potential to affect appreciation of many of the favourite landscapes and views of East Lothian.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA BOUNDARY REVIEW

- 5.3 The first stage of the review was a comprehensive Boundary Review of the Landscape Character Areas set out in SNH 1998 Ash Study “The Lothians Landscape Character Assessment” (Ash Study), with reference also to work by Carol Anderson and Alison Grant⁷. The Ash study recognised the importance of both physical and manmade influences in understanding landscape character. It looked at natural elements of landscape character generally subject to no (or at least very slow) change such as geology, landform and climate, along with elements subject to human influence which may change more rapidly, such as vegetation cover, industry, infrastructure and settlement. These elements are linked in ways which change over time.
- 5.4 The results of the Boundary Review are in Appendix I, which describes and explains alterations to the original Ash Study Landscape Character Areas. Changes were kept to a minimum to try and retain consistency with national character types. The main changes were the addition of ‘Lammermuir with windfarm’ character area to reflect extensive and

⁶ See 2

⁷ “Landscape Capacity Study for Wind Turbine Development in East Lothian” by Carol Anderson and Alison Grant, commissioned by SNH and East Lothian Council.

dominating windfarm development in parts of the Lammermuirs; identification of the Whiteadder valley as a separate Landscape Character Area; and division of the coastal area into Coastal Plain and Coastal Margins following the Carol Anderson study, to reflect locally important differences in character between these areas. The urban areas of Musselburgh and Prestonpans were also included as the review was intended to cover the whole of East Lothian.

- 5.5 The lines between different character areas are considered to be ‘fuzzy’ as landscapes generally do not stop and start at a hard edge. Some of the defining characteristics of adjoining Landscape Character Areas are likely to be seen on both sides of a boundary. Some areas blend gradually into each other, with wide areas sharing the characteristics of each area, while others have a sharper divide – though rarely following a clear, absolute line on the ground.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA EVALUATION

- 5.6 Once the boundaries of the Landscape Character Areas had been confirmed, each of these areas was then assessed with regard to elements of their character and qualities based on SNH/Historic Scotland Guidance⁸. Aspects of landscape character given in the guidance were typicality, rarity and condition. The landscape qualities given in the guidance were: scenic, enjoyment, cultural and naturalness. These were adapted slightly for the purposes of the East Lothian review. Scenic value was divided into two elements. Firstly the sensory value of being in the place including its visual quality as well as other sensory value such as sound and smell. Secondly the views of the area and its importance in key views. Value to the economy (for example in attracting tourists or marketing) was added to the ‘enjoyment’ category. Cultural association includes both built heritage and the appreciation that writers, artists or songwriters bring to a place. Finally, wildness replaced naturalness as a category as a particular and increasingly rare quality of landscape: through a trial of the methodology naturalness was felt to be one of the elements that made up scenic attraction rather than a separate and distinct quality. The criteria and their definitions can be seen in table 1 below:

Table 1 Landscape Character Area Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Definition
Typicality	Elements of landscape character which are particularly common within East Lothian as a whole and/or containing landscape features or a combination of features that are typical of the landscape of East Lothian or the wider regional area.

⁸ See 2

Rarity	Particular aspects of landscape character, landscape type or elements or features in the landscape that are rare or unique within East Lothian or the wider regional area.
Condition	The degree to which individual landscape elements are in a good state of repair.
Scenic and Sensory Value	The extent to which the landscape prompts strong visual, sensory and perceptual impacts and experiential appeal or contains a pleasing combination of features, visual contrasts or dramatic elements. Scenic value comprising: naturalness, contrast, complexity, openness, ruggedness, mystery and/or presence of a water body.
Enjoyment and Economy	The importance of the landscape and its accessibility for enjoyment and recreation (availability of access routes, key viewpoints, landmarks and/or other recreational facilities and attractions) and the extent to which perception of the landscape contributes in supporting economic activity.
Views	The extent and importance of the landscape in views from key locations and whether it contains key landmarks or landforms.
Cultural Heritage	The extent to which the landscape is rich in archaeology or built heritage, including designed landscapes, literary, artistic (including music), spiritual or other cultural associations and local history.
Wildness	The extent to which the landscape has perceived qualities of wildness including naturalness, remoteness and lack of artificial elements including the degree of darkness at night (Using SNH wildness mapping as well as light pollution maps ⁹ maps supported by professional judgement and local knowledge to identify the wildest and most natural areas).

5.7 The purpose of the assessment was to identify the characteristics and qualities of each area which were particularly valued. In addition to the value judgment, text provides commentary to bring out the particular features of each aspect of the area. The descriptions of the areas are detailed in Appendix II: Landscape Character Evaluation. This should be used to inform judgment on how a particular development could contribute to or detract from the important character and qualities of the landscape.

5.8 The Landscape Character Area Evaluation helped identify elements of the landscape in East Lothian which are particularly valued. Following on from this, Special Landscape Areas were identified.

⁹ Google Night-lights imagery by NASA's Earth Observatory at <http://www.blue-marble.de/nightlights/2012> and Light pollution maps from [Earth Observation Group, NOAA National Geophysical Data Center](http://www.lightpollutionmap.info/#zoom=4&lat=5759860&lon=1619364&layers=B0TFFFFFTT). At <http://www.lightpollutionmap.info/#zoom=4&lat=5759860&lon=1619364&layers=B0TFFFFFTT>

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- 5.9 A six week public consultation exercise in early 2015 asked for comments on the public's favourite natural areas and views within East Lothian. This was advertised on East Lothian Council's website as well as within local facilities including libraries, housing offices and leisure centres. The Community Councils, Area Partnerships and local amenity groups and organisations were all contacted directly by email for comments. The responses to the community consultation are included in Appendix III.
- 5.10 Areas that were identified as being of particular value or importance to the public were included within the SLA identification process. Where specific areas have not been included within the SLAs these have been detailed within Appendix III.

6 IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AREAS

- 6.1 Following the Landscape Character Area Review and Evaluation, and Public Consultation, Special Landscape Areas were identified.

PURPOSE OF DESIGNATION

- 6.2 As outlined in the SNH/HS Guidance the role of the SLAs can be: As accolades
- As a means to identify policy priorities and objectives
 - As tools for management
- 6.3 Designation of the suite of SLAs has an element of recognising and therefore promoting understanding of areas which are seen as special: there is policy focus in the LDP on helping safeguard these important landscapes and landscape features.
- 6.4 The purpose of the Special Landscape Area designations is part of East Lothian's all landscapes approach and aims:
- to safeguard and, where relevant, improve important landscapes and landscape features which are particularly valued;

- to protect some of the most important landscape settings for recreation and tourism within East Lothian;
- to promote understanding and awareness of the distinctive character and special qualities of the landscapes of a local authority area;

Accordingly the suite of East Lothian's Special Landscape Areas is intended to:

- Ensure that each of main landscape types which characterise East Lothian are represented – Uplands, Upland Fringes, Lowland River Valleys, Lowland Hills and Ridges, Lowland Plains and Coastal Margins;
- Include all significant rare features or representative part of an extensive feature;
- Include those places with the strongest scenic and sensory qualities;
- Include the areas where perception of the landscape is most important for recreation, tourism and economy;
- Include areas with important viewpoints or landmarks or areas that are important in views.
- Include those areas with strong historic or archaeological character (historic landscapes);
- Include areas with strong cultural association;
- Protect some areas of wilder land including darker areas.

7 METHODOLOGY

BASE AREAS OF SEARCH

7.1 The first stage of identifying Special Landscape Areas was with reference to the information in the Landscape Character Area Evaluation (see Appendix II). We marked up a map with the following elements deriving from the review:

- Rare Features: All features noted in the Landscape Character Area Evaluation
- Scenic Areas: defined with reference to the public consultation, the existing Areas of Great Landscape Values and the Landscape Character Area Evaluation including the naturalness element of the SNH wildness mapping and further refined by our local knowledge
- Recreation: defined by recreation related to the landscape identified through the Landscape Character Area Evaluation, the public consultation, core path plan and refined by local knowledge
- Economy: all areas identified through the Landscape Character Area Evaluation as being landscapes important to the local economy (tourism, marketing)

- Viewpoints: defined by those identified in the public consultation and Landscape Character Area evaluation
- Landmarks: as identified in the Landscape Character Area evaluation
- Cultural Association: identified through local knowledge and the public consultation
- Wildness: the wildest areas of East Lothian informed by the SNH wildness mapping and light pollution maps (see appendix V)

7.2 From this rough areas for further field study investigation were identified. Areas where several elements overlapped were of particular focus.

HERITAGE

7.3 These rough areas were then overlaid with the Historic Landscapes. These were identified by the heritage officers using the Council's Historic Environment Record (HER) and officers' knowledge of the local landscape. See Appendix IV (map and description).

Historic Landscape definition

Historic landscapes encompass the remains of the past and evidence of human activity over thousands of years. This 'time-depth' in the landscape often enhances our appreciation and understanding of the present day landscape.

7.4 The intention was to include all these Historic Landscape areas within the SLAs. However adjustments were made in some areas through discussion with the heritage officers.

7.5 At **Inveresk** historic landscape some smaller areas of the built environment which do not have extensive garden grounds were omitted. The extent of the area to the west was reduced by removing the area at Old Craighall as this is separated from the main part of the area by the A720 Edinburgh City Bypass and the A1. The boundary to the east at Whitecraig and Edenhall was adjusted by removing the areas proposed to be allocated for development in the East Lothian Local Development Plan. Some areas of less scenic farmland, not essential for the coherence of the historic landscape were omitted. The remaining boundary follows easily identifiable edges of roads and fields, where possible, whilst still enclosing all the scheduled monuments.

- 7.6 At the **Elphinstone Ridge** historic landscape the areas of the built environment were again omitted and the eastern end reduced in area to follow an established boundary and enclose the most scenic yet still historic area of the ridge.
- 7.7 The **Aberlady Bay** historic landscape area is mainly contained within the wider Port Seton to North Berwick coastal SLA forming a small coherent area of prehistoric remains within the estuary area. A small area of built environment was removed.
- 7.8 The historic landscape area for the **Garleton Hills** was reduced slightly at the west end to include the highest, rockiest and most scenic areas of the hills, whilst still provide a setting and enclosure for the many scheduled monuments within the hills. Minor adjustments were made along the edges to follow coherent boundaries of fields and roads and the built environment of Athelstaneford was omitted from the area.
- 7.9 **North Berwick Law Environs** historic landscape was defined by the heritage officers as a large area centred on the Law providing a setting for North Berwick Law Hillfort. It included the town and the coast to show the historic relationship between them and the Law. Although recognising these relationships, the built environment, consented development sites and areas proposed to be allocated for development in the East Lothian Local Development Plan were removed from the heritage landscape, as including the town within the area was not felt to be appropriate for SLA designation due to its size and mainly built nature. This left a 'doughnut' shape around North Berwick. The area to the north, mainly coast, was partly included in the Port Seton to North Berwick SLA and Tantallon Coast SLA, other than the sea which is outwith planning control. This then left a horseshoe shape generally south of North Berwick. North Berwick Law itself was already proposed for inclusion due to its scenic attraction, recreational value and views. The size of the historic landscape initially identified risked diluting the main interests of the SLA. Through consultation with Heritage Officers it was reduced in area, as the influence of North Berwick Law reduces with distance and the flat topography of the plain. This creates a more compact area that focuses on the Law and its immediate environment and setting that in terms of the SLA was identified by more criteria than just the historic. The remaining area is where the influence of North Berwick Law is particularly dominant, though in fact its influence does extend over a wider area than that included in the SLAs.
- 7.10 **Gin Head to Scoughall** historic landscape was included in the Tantallon Coast SLA other than the areas of sea which are outwith planning control.
- 7.11 **Belhaven Bay** historic landscape is included in the Belhaven Bay SLA other than a section to the north which is set to the north of the trees within the Tynninghame Designed Landscape. This small section was not included in the SLA as it is separated from the main area of the

SLA by tree planting and its interest is generally due to its design, and this is protected under other policies of the local development plan.

- 7.12 **Traprain Environs** historic landscape was reduced in area but is mainly contained within the Traprain and Tyne SLA. It is recognized that Traprain is one of the most important heritage landscapes in East Lothian, if not nationally, being the site of a strategically important Traprain Law Hillfort as well as a large amount of pre-historic remains, as well as a relict landscape of 19th century farms and steadings. However, the size of the historic landscape initially identified risked diluting the main interest of the SLA and through consultation with Heritage Officers was reduced in area, mainly to the south and west, as the influence of Traprain reduces with distance. A small section was removed to the east, to follow a logical boundary of the minor road from East Linton to Stenton. The remaining boundary still includes significant parts of both the relict landscape and the setting of Traprain.
- 7.13 The remaining area is where the influence of Traprain is particularly dominant, though in fact its influence does extend over a wider area than that included in the SLA. The area included is contained by the Pencraig Ridge, the road and adjacent shelterbelts from East Linton to Stenton, and the road from Morham to Whittingehame West Lodge to the south. To the west, the boundary is harder to define as this is flatter land and influence of Traprain does extend for a considerable distance.
- 7.14 **Hillfoots Hillforts** historic landscape is included mainly within the Lammer Law to Nunraw SLA as well as crossing marginally into the northern edge of the Lammermuir Moorland SLA.
- 7.15 **Chesters and Thurston Ridge** historic landscape is included wholly within the Doon Hill to Chesters SLA and was one of the main reasons for including this section within the SLA.
- 7.16 **White Sands** historic landscape is included wholly within the Dunbar to Barns Ness SLA and is one of the main reasons for identifying this area as an SLA.

REPRESENTATIVENESS AND TYPICALITY

- 7.17 Next we checked that all of the main landscape types within East Lothian would be represented by an SLA. These are Uplands, Upland Fringes, Lowland River Valleys, Lowland Hills and Ridges, Lowland Plains and Coastal Margins.
- 7.18 Our first preference was for areas identified within the Landscape Character Area evaluation as being highly typical. These are the Lammermuir Plateau (for uplands), Eastern Lammermuir Fringe (for upland fringes), Whittingehame Water (for lowland river valleys),

Garleton Hills (for lowland hills and ridges), Lower Tyne Valley, Mid Tyne Valley and Coastal Plain (for Lowland Plains), and Northern Coastal Margin (for coastal margins). The typical landscape of these areas is included in at least one SLA.

7.19 The Lower Tyne Valley, Mid Tyne Valley and Coastal Plain are all examples of Lowland Plains and therefore the features that make them typical to East Lothian (fertile arable land, policy woodlands, vernacular buildings and grand estate houses) are common to them all. We therefore would not require an example from each plain.

7.20 We then considered the individual landscape features that are most typical of East Lothian; fertile arable land, designed landscapes and policy woodlands, red sandstone soil and buildings, steading development, hill foot settlement, castles, fortified towers and hillforts, heather moorland, incised cleughs, links golf courses, sandy beaches, sand dunes, rocky shoreline, rocky islands, volcanic outcrops, salt marsh estuaries, the Lothian Edge and estuarine bird life. Having arrived at this list, we checked that each would be represented in at least one SLA (once the SLAs were identified, this list was checked again to make sure all elements were still in).

FIELD STUDY

7.21 Once rough areas were identified, as above, these were checked in the field. This led to confirmation of some areas, removal of others, and some new areas being considered.

7.22 Boundaries were then refined with reference to identity and coherence of the area; fit with other planning policies and designations; landscape designations in neighbouring Council areas; and physical boundary features to aid orientation on the ground. Some larger areas were split to aid coherence, while others were amalgamated.

7.23 As a final check we ensured that each of the Key Landscape Attributes as identified by the ASH study that are present in East Lothian were included in at least one of the SLAs. There is no lowland peatland within East Lothian and towns and villages were omitted as they are urban. Although there are many designed landscapes within East Lothian the best of these are protected by separate designation and were therefore not specifically considered for inclusion within the SLAs. The following list details these attributes and examples of SLAs that include them:

Key Landscape Attribute	Special Landscape Area
Farmland	Traprain and Tyne SLA Garden County Farmland SLA

Woodland	Pressmennan Wood in Whittingehame to Deuchrie SLA, Woodhall in Halls to Bransly Hill SLA
Upland Heath and Bog	Lammermuir Moorland SLA, Lammer Law, Hopes to Yester SLA, Monynut to Blackcastle SLA
Coastline	Port Seton to North Berwick Coast SLA, Tantallon Coast SLA, Dunbar to Barns Ness Coast SLA, Belhaven Bay SLA,
Lochs, Reservoirs and Rivers	Hopes Reservoir in Lammer Law, Hopes to Yester SLA
Geological and Geomorphological Features	Traprain and Tyne SLA North Berwick Law SLA Lammer Law, Hopes to Yester SLA, Halls to Bransly Hill SLA
Archaeological Remains	Traprain and Tyne SLA River Esk SLA Lammer Law, Hopes to Yester SLA
Castles and Mansions	Tantallon Coast SLA
Industrial Heritage	Prestongrange in Prestonpans Coast SLA, Lime kilns in Dunbar to Barns Ness Coast SLA

FIT WITH OTHER DESIGNATIONS

7.24 Other designations with a landscape element were taken into account. Fit with other policy boundaries are important to avoid confusion arising from different planning policies protecting essentially similar interests. This does not mean that the SLAs do not overlap with other policy designations with a landscape component.

7.25 We considered each Garden and Designed Landscape both Inventory and Local on their individual merits. We have included designed landscapes where they are necessary for the coherence of the overall SLA, for example where the designed landscape is one small part of a larger SLA, and parts of areas where their exclusion would have affected the integrity and coherence of the SLA. We have also included designed landscapes where their scenic value derives as much from the underlying landform and natural landcover as from the design. We have excluded those where their value comes mainly from the design and generally those located in urban areas. The tables below provide details for each Inventory and Local Designed Landscape.

Table 2 Inventory and Local Gardens and Designed Landscapes

INVENTORY GARDEN AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES	
ARCHERFIELD	The north section of the Inventory Archerfield designed landscape is included in the Port Seton to North Berwick SLA as highly scenic and related to the coast. The rest of the designed landscape is not immediately adjacent to the coast, has flat landform and its interest and scenic value comes mainly from the design. The designed landscape designation refers only to the importance of the policy woodlands.
BALGONE HOUSE	This designed landscape forms part of the larger Balgone and Whitekirk Outcrops SLA. It is included as a major part of the rocky Heugh landform feature and is therefore integral to the coherence of the overall SLA – it would be incongruous to exclude this area. Its scenic value comes from the landform, natural landcover and relationship to other parts of the area as well as from the design.
BELHAVEN HOUSE	This designed landscape is garden ground in the urban area with less scenic value outwith the grounds although the raised ground and trees do make a contribution to the Dunbar skyline from Belhaven Bay. A large part of its interest comes from its horticultural value.
BIEL	This designed landscape is included in its entirety within the Biel and Belton SLA, with the addition of Belton Local Designed Landscape, Pitcox and other small surrounding areas. The area immediately to either side of the river including the steep banks and woodlands are important to include within the SLA as the scenic value of this area derives from the landform and natural landcover. The rolling fields and woodland enclosure are also intrinsic to this area.
BROXMOUTH PARK	The area of this designed landscape which extends to the coastline beyond the estate boundary wall has been included within the Dunbar to Barns Ness Coast SLA as it is integral to the coherence of the SLA. The woodlands of the designed landscape are not typical of this coastline and the outstanding scenic value afforded to this designed landscape comes mainly from the design of the policy woodlands, which is protected by the designed landscape designation. The southern boundary of the designed landscape no longer appears logical due to changes in this area from quarrying, including re-alignment of the road. The SLA boundary follows the road, which creates an overlap with the designed landscape to the southeast.
CARBERRY TOWER	This is completely included in the Elphinstone Ridge SLA. The designed landscape is located on the north-western end of this lowland ridge landform and strongly contributes to its character. The scenic value of the designed landscape comes from its landform and landcover as well as the design. The landcover gives it complexity adding to the scenic value of the ridge. From Edinburgh, this appears the end of the ridge and to exclude it would be incongruous. It also includes part of the

	defined Historic Landscape.
COCKENZIE HOUSE	This designed landscape is completely within the urban area, and its scenic value comes from the design rather than the underlying landform.
DALKEITH HOUSE (PALACE)	The northern end of this designed landscape extends into East Lothian and is included in River Esk SLA. The designed landscape has been designed around natural landform and landcover which would have been included for its scenic value with or without the design.
DIRLETON CASTLE	The scenic value of this designed landscape is high but the garden itself is mainly screened by high stonewalls and the scenic value of the garden comes mainly from the design. The crag has scenic value increased by the castle which is a Scheduled Monument and Listed Building. The built environment (the castle and walls) provide a large part of its scenic attraction and this is covered by Conservation Area status. The setting is affected by modern development detracting from its wider scenic value.
DUNGLASS	A small part of this designed landscape is in the Thorntonloch to Dunglass Coast SLA, where the Dunglass Burn links to the coast, as it has high scenic value which comes from the landform and natural land cover rather than the design. Further into the designed landscape the landscape does not link to the coast and although scenic much of this comes from the design and is covered by the designed landscape designation.
ELVINGSTON	Although this area was identified as having some scenic value, and it was desirable to include some of the coastal estate type farmland, following site visits the areas included in the Garden County Farmland were thought, when taken together, to better represent this landscape type. Much of the designed landscape's scenic value comes from the design.
GOSFORD HOUSE	The windshorn woodland at the northern edge of the estate has been included in the Port Seton to North Berwick SLA as this directly relates to the appearance of this coastal SLA. As identified in the Inventory it is this feature that makes this site of outstanding scenic value. Gosford designed landscape itself is beautiful but on a grander scale than the small estates of the Garden County Farmland and so is not included in this SLA. Much of the interest is from the design. Although some parts are close to the coast and might have been included had the design not been there, the trees form a boundary between the coast and the remainder of this area.
GREY WALLS (HIGH WALLS)	The interest is in the design and there is little scenic value of the designed landscape to the surrounding area due to the high walls which enclose it.
INVERESK LODGE GARDEN	This designed landscape is included in the River Esk SLA as its landform, natural landcover, scenic attraction are important in views from the river walk and form a setting for the river. Its designed landscape designation does not cover its scenic attraction.
LENNOXLOVE	The western section of the designed landscape has been included

(LETHINGTON)	within the Clerkington and Tyne SLA as this forms a highly scenic and integral part of this section of the Tyne river valley. The remaining designed landscape although scenic and with woodland that can be seen from the wider area, does not link to the Tyne valley and its scenic value comes mostly from the design and is appreciated within the area itself.
LEUCHIE	Although the woodland can be seen from the wider area, its scenic value comes mostly from the design and is appreciated within the area itself.
LUFFNESS	This designed landscape is included in the Port Seton to North Berwick SLA as it is coastal in nature, highly scenic and important to the area due to its position in relationship to the Peffer Estuary. It would be included regardless of design due to its position. It is small, which differentiates it from Gosford, some of which is less coastal in nature.
NEWHAILES	Although the trees are visible from outside the designed landscape and provide a natural break in the urban environment, the scenic value comes from the design and is appreciated within the site. It has lost some of its setting in Edinburgh, and is now surrounded by urban development.
PILMUIR	This designed landscape is very small and its interest comes from the design. It is not within an area that was identified for its general scenic value.
PINKIE HOUSE	Similarly to Newhailes, this is a lovely big green space within the urban environment; however it does not link to the wider landscape. Its importance is very much from the design.
SALTOUN HALL	The attractiveness of the Saltoun Hall designed landscape is the river valley setting together with the pattern of alternating woodland and farmland. Although the landform is dramatic in places around the river valley particularly close to the house, in the main, the interest comes from the design.
SETON HOUSE (PALACE)	This was identified as being a scenic area, however on site inspection it was considered that the beauty of the area is in the design providing a setting for the built elements. Therefore the importance and scenic attraction of the site comes from the design. This area is adjacent to the Garden County Farmland SLA bar the railway and dual carriageway. Despite its scenic attraction it was not included due to the intervening transport infrastructure, and that its character is different, being a big house in its grounds, with a wall which separates it from the agricultural landscape, rather than linking to it.
ST MARY'S PLEASANCE (HADDINGTON GARDEN)	This is a pretty garden within an urban area, adjacent to the River Tyne. Although surrounded by high walls it links to the Tyne floodplain and setting of the Tyne through Haddington and has therefore been included within the Clerkington to Tyne SLA.
STEVENSON HOUSE	The Stevenson designed landscape is on the banks of the River Tyne, and is included as part of the surrounding Traprain and Tyne SLA. It has wooded landcover and its landform includes the banks of the Tyne so it would be incongruous to omit it.

TYNINGHAME	Without the design of the Tynninghame Designed Landscape the land would likely consist of gently sloping arable fields with functional tree belts to provide shelter and stabilise the sand. The main interest of this attractive area is therefore in the design rather than its intrinsic landscape qualities, qualities which are already recognised through inclusion on the Inventory. The main part of this designed landscape, although attractive, is therefore not included. However the area to the south of the house and southern edge is included in the Belhaven Bay SLA as the Tyne meanders through this area and the trees add contrast and interest to the view and enclose the bay and echo the trees on the opposite shore at John Muir Country Park. This section also contains the Monastic element as identified by the Historic Landscape. Small sections of edge woodlands and landform are also included in the Tantallon Coast SLA as they frame the coast.
WHITTINGEHAME	This area has high scenic value due to the landform, wooded landcover and water body. The deeply incised valley, with side valley heading south and linking in views of Whittingehame Tower to the hills, together with the wooded parklands and fields around Whittingehame House and to the south are included within the Whittingehame to Deuchrie SLA. The woods are important in views over the area, the 'layered' effect from the alternation of woodland and open fields, sometimes with mist also between layers, is very attractive. The northern area of the designed landscape is not included as its scenic attraction comes from the design rather than the underlying landform.
WINTON HOUSE	The Winton Walks SLA is included for the value of the mature woodland contrasting with arable land on higher ground giving fine views out. The other mature tree belts and arable fields in the wider Winton estate including the designed landscape are similar but lower lying so reducing the views out and their visibility in the wider area. The attractiveness of the Winton House designed landscape is the tree planting around the river valley setting, which comes in part from the design and in part from the land form; the landform is not in general as dramatic as other river valley areas which have been identified as SLAs.
YESTER HOUSE	This designed landscape is set in the upper reaches of the Gifford Water valley. There is scenic value both in the design and the underlying landform, and in parts naturalness of landcover. The Lammer Law to Nunraw SLA takes in the southeastern section of the designed landscape as this contains the incised river valley and more natural woodland. Further to the north the landscape is more designed and set about Yester House, with formal parkland and policy woodlands. Although attractive this is more due to the design than is the case for the area included in the SLA.
LOCAL DESIGNED LANDSCAPES	
AMISFIELD	Set on the banks of the River Tyne, its interest and scenic value comes mainly from its design. It is located in the Haddington Conservation Area which protects its interests.

BEANSTON	Small site with no public access.
BEANSTONMAINS	Small site with no public access
BELHAVEN HILL HOUSE (SCHOOL)/WINTERFIELD HOUSE	Private land in Belhaven Conservation Area, separated from the coast by a high stonewall. Although the trees can be seen from the wider area, its scenic value comes mostly from the design and is appreciated within the area itself.
BELTON	The area immediately to either side of the river including the steep banks and woodlands are important to include within the Biel and Belton SLA as the scenic value of this area derives from the landform and natural landcover.
BUNKERSHILL -	Private land in the North Berwick Conservation Area. Although the trees can be seen from the wider area, its scenic value comes mostly from the design and is appreciated within the area itself.
CLERKINGTON	Located in the Clerkington and Tyne SLA with landcover and landform of the river valley and flood plain providing wider scenic appeal than just the designed landscape. It forms part of a wider area.
CLINT	Located in the Whittingehame to Deuchrie SLA; forming a small part of a much larger area with similar landform.
DREM HOUSE	Located in the Drem Conservation Area; setting of Drem rather than SLA interest.
DRUMMOHR	Located in the Prestonpans Coast SLA due to landform and landcover providing a backdrop and scenic setting and enclosure for the coast.
EAGLSCAIRNIE	Adjacent to the Bolton SLA, but separated by tree planting. Its interest comes from the design.
ESKGROVE	Located in the River Esk SLA – one of a number of old houses in large grounds, in for coherence of the historic and scenic area.
GILMERTON HOUSE	The interest of this designed landscape is in the design. The trees are natural and scenic but protected by TPO.
GRANGE, NORTH BERWICK	Although open with trees, it is urban in character and the interest is in the design.
HEDDERWICK HILL	Located within the Belhaven Bay SLA. Part of the Belhaven Bay landscape, with the design adding some interest and scenic value to the area.
HOPES HOUSE	Forms a small part of much larger Lammer Law to Nunraw SLA and would therefore be incongruous to exclude it.
HUMBIE HOUSE	Located in the Humbie Headwaters SLA: part of the wooded steep valley area; part of the setting of the river.
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE HUMBIE	Located within the Humbie Headwaters SLA. Although its interest is architectural rather than natural the colours contrast with the rural backdrop giving scenic interest.
INVEREIL HOUSE	Located within the Port Seton to North Berwick Coast SLA due to landform and landcover providing a backdrop and scenic setting and enclosure for the coast
INVERESK HOUSE	Located in the River Esk SLA – one of a number of old houses in

	large grounds, in for coherence of the historic and scenic area.
JOHNSTOUNBURN	Located in the Humbie Headwaters SLA on the river, part of the wooded steep valley area; part of the setting of the river.
KEITH MARISCHAL	Located in the Humbie Headwaters SLA on the river, also part of the wooded steep valley area; part of the setting of the river.
LINPLUM	Limplum is the central feature of the Limplum SLA; its wooded features when read with the interlocking landform are what make this area special.
LEWISVALE PARK	Located within the River Esk SLA and formerly part of the Esk Grove Estate. It is included for both its scenic landform and landcover as well as being integral to the heritage of the area.
MONKRIGG HOUSE	Scenic, however the interest comes from the design.
MONKTON HOUSE	Located with the less scenic settled farmland. The interest comes wholly from the design.
MUIRFIELD GATE	Urban and the interest is in the design. The boundary of the adjacent Port Seton to North Berwick SLA follows the urban edge.
NEWBYTH HOUSE	The interest is from the architectural form of the buildings and their relationship to the landscape. Similar to Balgone and Garden County Farmland, but smaller scale and not as scenic.
NORTHFIELD HOUSE	Urban in character behind a high wall and so lacks wider scenic appeal. The interest is in the design.
NUNRAW	A small and important part of the larger Lammer Law to Nunraw SLA. Highly visible on the hill slopes and the wooded nature contributes to the scenic value of the area.
ST GERMAINS	Included with the Garden County Farmland SLA as typical of the wider area.
SEACLIFFE	Within the Tantallon Coast SLA and its wooded nature contributes to the scenic value of the area.
SMEATON	Scenic and sits on a ridge with panoramic views. However the main scenic value comes from the design and we have more dramatic ridges included within other SLAs.
SPOTT	Included within the Doon Hill to Chesters SLA and is an intrinsic part of the area due to its location within the landform; the woods here also add to the scenic value of the area.
STONEHILL HOUSE	Private land with no public access hidden by high stone walls. Urban in character with modern infill housing.
STOBSHIEL HOUSE	Is located at the western end of the Lammer Law to Nunraw SLA and is included due to its scenic value and wooded nature.
THE LODGE NORTH BERWICK	Managed for recreation, urban parkland, although it is open with trees.
TYNEHOLM HOUSE	Other sections of the Tyne provide a larger more varied area. This lies within the Pencaitland Conservation Area and the trees are protected by TPO which protects the interests of the area.
WESTERDUNES	Urban in character with modern infill housing.

- 7.26 Generally, SLAs are intended to protect natural areas of landscape, while Conservation Areas protect aspects of the built environment. However, there are areas of overlap in that Conservation Areas sometimes have a countryside setting which is essential for protecting the interest of the built environment. Conservation Area policy will only protect these areas in terms of the setting of architectural or historic interest of the Conservation Area. SLAs may therefore include parts (or all) of a Conservation Area where this is needed for the coherence of the SLA.
- 7.27 Bolton, Elphinstone Ridge, Garden County Farmland, Humbie Head Waters, Kingston, Linplum, Lammermuir Moorland, North Berwick Law, Prestonpans Coast, Ormiston Yew and Fountainhall, Samuelston, Tantallon Coast, Thorntonloch and Dunglass Coast, Whiteadder, and Winton Walks SLAs do not overlap with Conservation Areas. Where they are adjacent, the Conservation Area either does not form a logical part of the SLA, or the interest that would be protected is overlapping (the setting of the built environment) so there is no need to designate the land twice for essentially the same interest.
- 7.28 **Aberlady Conservation Area** is within Port Seton to North Berwick Coast SLA other than the main area of the built environment. This area is close the coast and important to the integrity of the area. Aberlady Bay is one of the most scenic parts of the coast and its setting should be included in the SLA.
- 7.29 **Athelstaneford Conservation Area** overlaps with the Garleton Hills SLA around the village, other than on the NE side, as the SLA goes to the edge of the built environment (the Conservation Area boundary to the south follows an undefined boundary). The field to the NW corner of the Conservation Area is included to allow views out, an issue raised in the consultation.
- 7.30 **Belhaven Conservation area** overlaps Belhaven Bay SLA. The western edge of the Conservation Area follows the boundary between the built up area and Belhaven Bay, and is excluded as urban. Along the northern edge, the boundary trees are included as these frame the area and help maintain the rural feel by restricting views of built development.
- 7.31 **Cockenzie and Port Seton Conservation Area** overlaps with Port Seton to North Berwick SLA east of Port Seton Harbour. This is to provide a logical boundary for the SLA. The rocky foreshore within the Conservation Area was not included despite its natural and scenic character as it provides a setting for the built environment and thus would be protected through its Conservation Area status. It does not need to be in both.
- 7.32 **Dirleton Conservation Area**: a small section along the western end of the N boundary is included within the Port Seton to North Berwick Coast SLA to follow the wall boundary which separates the policy woodlands from the wider landscape forestry, to include the

forestry only. The Conservation Area does not appear to follow a logical boundary at this point. The included woodlands form the backdrop to the links golf course. The remainder of the Conservation Area has a less strong relationship with the sea and so is not included.

- 7.33 **Drem Conservation Area** is set in a largely flat landscape, and the Conservation Area designation protects the setting of this pretty settlement.
- 7.34 **Dunbar Conservation Area**: there is an overlap with Belhaven Bay around the coast as Dunbar Conservation Area extends to the Low Water Mark, and the SLA to the boundary of the built environment. This was necessary to include the length of the cliffs which define the edge of the Tyne estuary.
- 7.35 **Dunbar Conservation Area** also overlaps the Dunbar to Barns Ness Coast SLA as the SLA takes in the harbour and rocky coastline which is needed for the coherence of the area SLA. This section is part of the scenic and recreational value of the SLA as a whole, as well as being a setting for the built environment of Dunbar, which is the interest protected by the Conservation Area status.
- 7.36 The Traprain and Tyne SLA overlaps the **East Linton Conservation Area** where it extends along the River Tyne to include the scenic waterfall of the Linton Linns, creating a coherent area along the River Tyne from Haddington to East Linton.
- 7.37 **East Saltoun Conservation Area** is set on rising ground, with an attractive focal point of the church spire. The combination of the built and natural environment here makes this an appealing area. Conservation Area designation protects this attractive village and its setting, including the more natural area of Strawberry Wood.
- 7.38 **Garvald Conservation Area**: this area is partly included in the Danskin to Whitecastle SLA. The Lothian Edge descends to the Papan Water, with the fringe landscape extending to the north of Garvald, including the Law Knowes, a distinctive and attractive feature. Garvald and the surrounding valley is highly scenic and worthy of inclusion in an SLA due to both the landform and the relationship of the built environment with this. The SLA therefore includes the Papan Water, with an area to the north essentially to include the meanders of the river and the valley sides and the Law Knowes.
- 7.39 **Gifford Conservation Area** includes the village, parts of the Yester Estate Garden and Designed Landscape and the immediate setting of the village to the northeast and small areas of woodlands to the southwest. The Gifford Water runs through the village. This is an attractive area, mainly for the built environment elements, although in part for the landform and landcover. The area was not included in an SLA as it was considered that Conservation Area status protected the setting of the village, and it is this interaction of the

built and natural/semi-natural environment protected by Conservation Area status that gives this area its landscape value.

- 7.40 **Glenkinchie Conservation Area** shows the close relationship of an industry with its place in the landscape, as well as associated worker housing, and its interest comes from this rather than the underlying landscape itself, though that clearly contributes. This interest is protected by Conservation Area status and designation as an SLA would not add anything.
- 7.41 **Gullane Conservation Area overlaps with Port Seton to North Berwick Coast:** the Conservation area extends to the SW of Gullane into the links landscape. For the SLA to be coherent it follows the built environment boundary and so overlaps with the Conservation Area boundary, the land included being all coastal links golf courses the rest of which are included in the SLA.
- 7.42 **Haddington Conservation Area** overlaps Clerkington and Tyne SLA as the Haddington River Walk and Grants Braes wood are included in both the SLA and the Conservation Area. The meandering nature of the Tyne, with wooded sides, and wide flood plain are included for scenic and recreational value and is essential for the coherence of the area.
- 7.43 A small part of the **Haddington Conservation Area** overlaps with the Traprain and Tyne SLA at the Abbey Bridge and up to the weir across the river at Amisfield. The small section is included in the SLA as it is the start of the more natural section of the walkway, including a picnic spot noted for being a good place to view the night sky and includes the Abbey Bridge, which is a scenic feature of the River Tyne, and small car park a little to the north. It would have been incongruous to exclude this small area. The area further to the west, including the Amisfield designed landscape and golf course is not included as detailed in the table above.
- 7.44 **Harlawhill Conservation Area** is urban in character and not suitable for consideration as an SLA.
- 7.45 **Innerwick Conservation Area** sits between the SLAs of Doon Hill to Chesters to the north and Monynut to Blackcastle to the south, the edges of which are strongly defined by the landform of the burns following the base of the hills. It is an attractive village due to its architectural form set on high ground with good views over the surrounding arable land. These features are protected by its Conservation Area status.
- 7.46 **Inveresk Conservation Area** has considerable overlap with the River Esk SLA. For Historic Landscape reasons, the whole of the Inveresk Conservation Area would have been included. However, those parts of the built environment where the gardens are small were excluded as being urban area. Some of the settlement has however been included as the mature

trees in the larger gardens, and underlying topography, as well as the heritage interest, make this an integral part of the area. The River Walkway has natural elements and is included for scenic, historic, recreational value and is essential for the coherence of the area.

- 7.47 Inveresk Gate was included as although it is modern, denser built environment the mature trees in their gardens do have value to the SLA. St Michaels and surrounding area was included because of landform which makes it important for the coherence of the area; it is also an important part of the historic landscape. It also has some natural landcover and appears semi-natural in part due to mature trees. Lewisvale park and large properties to the south as well as land between Inveresk and Edenhall: included as partly natural landcover (mature trees); and coherence of the area from a historical point of view.
- 7.48 The field to the southeast of Inveresk is included for historic reasons, the boundary extending beyond the Conservation Area to fully encompass the roman field system at Pinkiehill Scheduled Monument.
- 7.49 **Musselburgh Conservation Area:** This area overlaps with Fisherrow Sands SLA along the banks of the River Esk at the mouth of the river. This was needed for the coherence of the area as it is the river and immediately surrounding area which forms this estuary. The trees and stone walls around Loretto New Field are an important part of the scenic attraction of the river mouth.
- 7.50 **Musselburgh Conservation Area** also overlaps with the River Esk SLA as the area immediately around the river banks area included in the SLA to the Electric Bridge as the area is natural in character (due to the wide river, some natural vegetation and wildlife on the river) and is important for the coherence of the area.
- 7.51 **New Winton Conservation Area** comprises the village and its setting defined by tree belts to its north and south which enclose the settlement. A section of the tree belt to the southeast corner of the Conservation Area is included in the Winton Walks SLA to create a coherent area linking to the road and parking area.
- 7.52 **North Berwick Conservation Area:** the Port Seton to North Berwick Coast SLA runs to the edge of the built environment along the northern edge of North Berwick town. The beaches are highly scenic and coastal in nature. The foreshore is important in relation to the SLA with high coastal recreation value. This is one of the most scenic and accessible parts of the coast so it's important to be included in the SLA.
- 7.53 **Oldhamstocks Conservation area** is included in the Monymut to Blackcastle SLA apart from a small section in the south around a tributary of the Oldhamstocks burn (Wallycleugh). This is

because it sits in a key valley of this area, and is highly scenic with or without the built environment element. It is integral to the area.

- 7.54 **Ormiston Conservation Area** is urban in character and therefore not suitable for consideration as an SLA.
- 7.55 **Pencaitland Conservation Area** includes the older part of the village, parts of the Winton Estate Garden and Designed Landscape and the wooded valley of the River Tyne to its south. This is an attractive area, for reasons of landform and landcover as well as built environment elements. The area was not included in a SLA as it was considered that Conservation Area status protected the setting of the village, and it is this interaction of the built and natural/semi-natural environment protected by Conservation Area status that gives this area its landscape value.
- 7.56 **Preston Conservation Area** in Prestonpans is urban in character and therefore not suitable for consideration as an SLA on its own. It contains some attractive urban parkland which might be worthy of inclusion in an SLA if it were adjacent to a larger area and where it would not be considered on its own.
- 7.57 **Spott Conservation Area** is included in Doon Hill to Chesters SLA its entirety as it is integral to the coherence of the area and to exclude it would be incongruous.
- 7.58 **Stenton Conservation Area** is adjacent to Biel and Belton SLA however not included as although the area within the Conservation Area provides a setting for Stenton it does not relate as well to the steep sided Biel valley and surrounding wooded landscape.
- 7.59 **Stenton Conservation Area** also overlaps with Whittingehame to Deuchrie SLA at its southern end where the SLA includes a section of the Sauchet Water and fields to the north of Ruchlaw West Mains and east of Clint to provide a coherent boundary for the SLA.
- 7.60 **Tranent Conservation Area** is predominantly urban in character, important for the historic development of the town. It extends to the west side of the Heugh which forms an effective western boundary to the Conservation Area and although this is treed in nature with mature trees providing a setting for the church to its north end, these features are protected by its Conservation Area status.
- 7.61 **Tynninghame Conservation Area** overlaps Belhaven Bay SLA along its southern edge. This was included within the SLA as the old tree lined mill lade is included in the SLA, as it is considered a better boundary than the Tyne banks themselves as it allows a flat field on either side of the A198 to be included. The field in the southern corner is included as it is

part of the rising landform with no clear visual stop after the River Tyne, which is provided by the edge of the built environment, which the boundary follows.

- 7.62 **West Barns Conservation area** overlaps Belhaven Bay SLA as the woodland south of the Biel is integral to the enclosure of Belhaven Bay, and reads with the other woodland around Belhaven Bay Caravan Park. The majority of the built environment is not included as it sits behind the woodland and is urban.
- 7.63 **Whitekirk Conservation Area** overlaps the Balgone and Whitekirk outcrops SLA. The SLA boundary skirts to the north of Whitekirk, including the rocky Whitekirk Hill as it is one of the highest and largest of the outcrops and therefore an integral part of the area necessary for its coherence. The areas around Whitekirk to the South, East and West are not included. Whitekirk in its setting is a scenic village and its historic and architectural value, including its setting, are protected by Conservation Area status. If it was not a Conservation Area it would have been included in the SLA. The Tithe barn and adjacent rocky outcrop were considered for inclusion, however, although the inter-relationship between the rocky outcrops and surrounding fertile land is one of the defining features of this SLA these are a small feature not seen as necessary for the coherence of the area that are already protected by the Conservation Area.
- 7.64 Special Landscape Area designations within neighbouring authorities were considered as it is desirable to have coordination across boundaries to avoid a cohesive area being treated very differently across the boundary. This could adversely impact on the landscape on both sides of the boundary.
- 7.65 The **Thorntonloch to Dunglass Coast SLA** adjoins the boundary with Scottish Borders at Dunglass. The Scottish Border's Berwickshire Coast SLA extends to the boundary with East Lothian at this point. These adjoining SLAs provide one coherent area identifying the importance of the landscape character of this whole section of coast.
- 7.66 The Scottish Borders' Lammermuir Hills SLA extends to the East lothian boundary from the Monynut Edge in the east to the A68 to the west. The **Monynut to Blackcastle SLA** adjoins the boundary with the Scottish Borders at the eastern end of their SLA. The **Whiteadder SLA** and **Lammermuir Moorland SLA** adjoin the boundary with the Scottish Borders within the central area of the East lothian Lammermuirs.
- 7.67 There are two areas of the boundary where the SLA is identified within the Borders but not identified within East lothian. East lothian have identified SLAs within areas of the Lammermuirs with different characteristics and important features rather than a blanket designation across the whole hills. However the central section of moorland creates a coherent protected landscape across the council boundaries.

- 7.68 The **Humbie Headwaters SLA** adjoins the boundary of East Lothian with Midlothian up to its southern boundary with Scottish Borders and adjoins Midlothian's Fala Rolling Farmland and Policies SLA along the entire length of this boundary. Extending the special area to both sides of the river valley that forms the boundary thereby providing a coherent landscape area across the boundary.
- 7.69 The **Elphinstone Ridge SLA** extends up to the East Lothian Council boundary along the Bellyford Burn. This is the bottom of the slope and encloses the important recreation route of the Pencaitland Railway Walk. This is a coherent boundary for enclosure of the ridge and does not require to extend into Midlothian, where the adjacent land has not been designated as an SLA.
- 7.70 The **River Esk SLA** extends up to the East Lothian Council boundary with Midlothian at its southwest extent. This boundary is defined by mature trees which provide enclosure to the river valley setting of the SLA and thereby provide a coherent boundary that does not require to extend into Midlothian, where the adjacent land has not been designated as an SLA.
- 7.71 The **Fisherrow Sands SLA** extends up to the East Lothian Council boundary with the City of Edinburgh Council area at its northwestern extent. There is no obvious change in landscape character between the East Lothian and Edinburgh coastlines. The City of Edinburgh Council, however, has not designated its coast at Joppa and Portobello as an SLA.
- 7.72 Large settlements have been excluded from SLAs to avoid complications over householder permissions. Smaller settlements and parts of larger settlements important to the integrity of a SLA have been included.
- 7.73 Use of boundaries which coincide with physical features on the ground makes it clearer which areas are included and which not, aiding orientation on the ground. The physical feature may also mark a change in landscape.

8 SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AREAS

8.1 The table below lists East Lothian's 32 Special Landscape Areas.

Table 3 ELC's SLAs in alphabetical order

SLA Name	Area
Balgone and Whitekirk Outcrops	674 Ha
Belhaven Bay	1,315 Ha
Biel and Belton	257 Ha
Bolton	155 Ha
Clerkington and Tyne	201 Ha
Danskine to Whitecastle	2,236 Ha
Doon Hill to Chesters	1,388 Ha
Dunbar to Barns Ness Coast	454 Ha
Elphinstone Ridge	628 Ha
Fisherrow Sands	195 Ha
Garden County Farmland	405 Ha
Garleton Hills	1,277 Ha
Halls to Bransly Hill	1,608 Ha
Humbie Head Waters	814 Ha
Kingston	30 Ha
Lammer Law, Hopes to Yester	3,812 Ha
Lammermuir Moorland	4,088 Ha
Linplum	239 Ha
Monynut to Blackcastle	2,624 Ha
Morham	15 Ha
North Berwick Law	259 Ha
Ormiston Yew and Fountainhall	303 Ha
Port Seton to North Berwick Coast	2,566 Ha
Prestonpans Coast	118 Ha
River Esk	369 Ha
Samuelston	58 Ha
Tantallon Coast	768 Ha
Thortonloch to Dunglass Coast	231 Ha
Traprain and Tyne	2,067 Ha
Whiteadder	1,402 Ha
Whittingehame to Deuchrie	1,261 Ha
Winton Walks	55 Ha

Draft Special Landscape Areas 2016

-  Balgone and Whitekirk Outcrops
-  Belhaven Bay
-  Biel and Belton
-  Bolton
-  Clerkington and Tyne
-  Danskine to Whitecastle
-  Doon Hill to Chesters
-  Dunbar to Barns Ness coast
-  Elphinstone Ridge
-  Fisherrow Sands
-  Garden County Farmland
-  Garleton Hills
-  Halls to Bransly Hill
-  Humbie Head Waters
-  Kingston
-  Lammer Law Hopes to Yester
-  Lammermuir Moorland
-  Linplum
-  Monymut to Blackcastle
-  Morham
-  North Berwick Law
-  Ormiston Yew and Fountainhall
-  Port Seton to North Berwick Coast
-  Prestonpans Coast
-  River Esk
-  Samuelston
-  Tantallon Coast
-  Thorntonloch to Dunglass Coast
-  Traprain
-  Whiteadder
-  Whittingehame to Deuchrie
-  Winton Walks
- Special Landscape Areas**
-  Midlothian
-  Scottish Borders

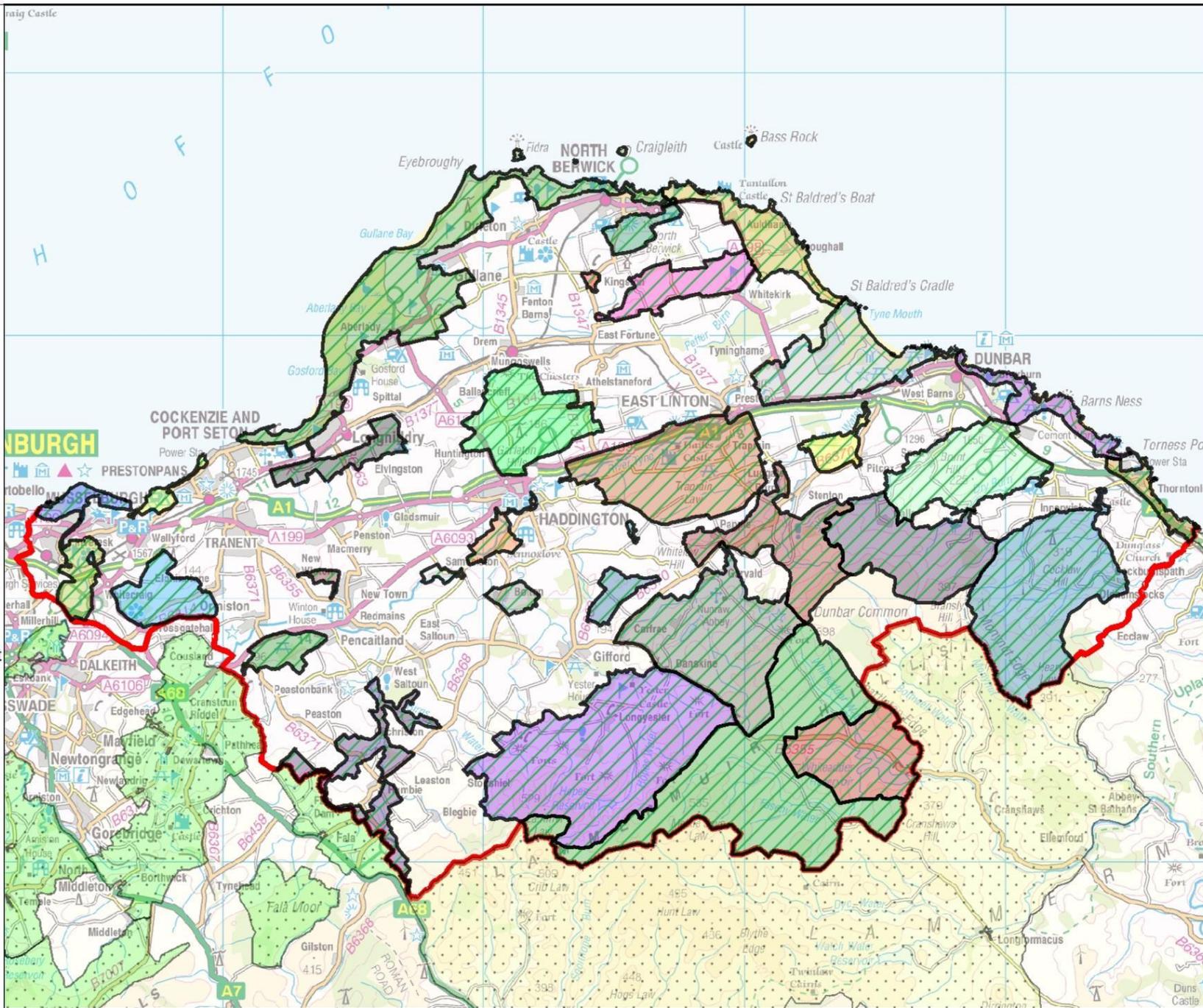


Fig. 6 Map of SLAs



**EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL
SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AREAS 2016**

8.2 Each of the identified Special Landscape Area has a Statement of Importance (Appendix VI). The purpose of the Statement of Importance is to give a summary of why the area was chosen and what its special features and qualities are.

8.3 Each Statement is set out following a template:

Title	The name of the SLA
Map	Map showing the area. The Local Development Plan shows mapping at 1:10000 however the original mapping was done at 1:2048, and should there be a discrepancy it is the 1:2048 mapping that should be relied on. The map will also show adjacent and overlapping landscape designations
Character	The main reason, with reference to the methodology, for why the area was chosen. For most areas, there will also be contributing reasons, and these are shown in 'Special Qualities' below.
Area	The size of the SLA in hectares
Overview	The overview includes a brief description of the location, main features, and other general information about the area.
Special Qualities and Features	The special qualities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elements of the landscape which make the area distinctive, attractive, or representative • main recreational uses • features or areas which are important to the economy • selected important views and viewpoints • landmarks • cultural associations
Guidelines for Development	This identifies where the area is sensitive to landscape change, how the special character of the area might be eroded, with a focus on development issues. Generic issues of siting and design which would apply to any development are not generally mentioned.
Potential for Landscape Enhancement	This section is intended to give suggestions for landscape improvement. The Council does not wish to overstep its remit, and where outwith planning or other Council control, recommendations are absolutely discretionary. General good management is not mentioned here, for example removal of graffiti and fly-tipped items or repair of field boundaries, unless it detracts much more than usual from the area.

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St Baldred's Craule

Tyne Mouth



Versions of this document can be supplied in Braille, large print, on audiotape or in your own language. Please phone Customer Services on 01620 827199.

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