East Lothian Council

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East Lothian Council

Tree and Woodland Strategy

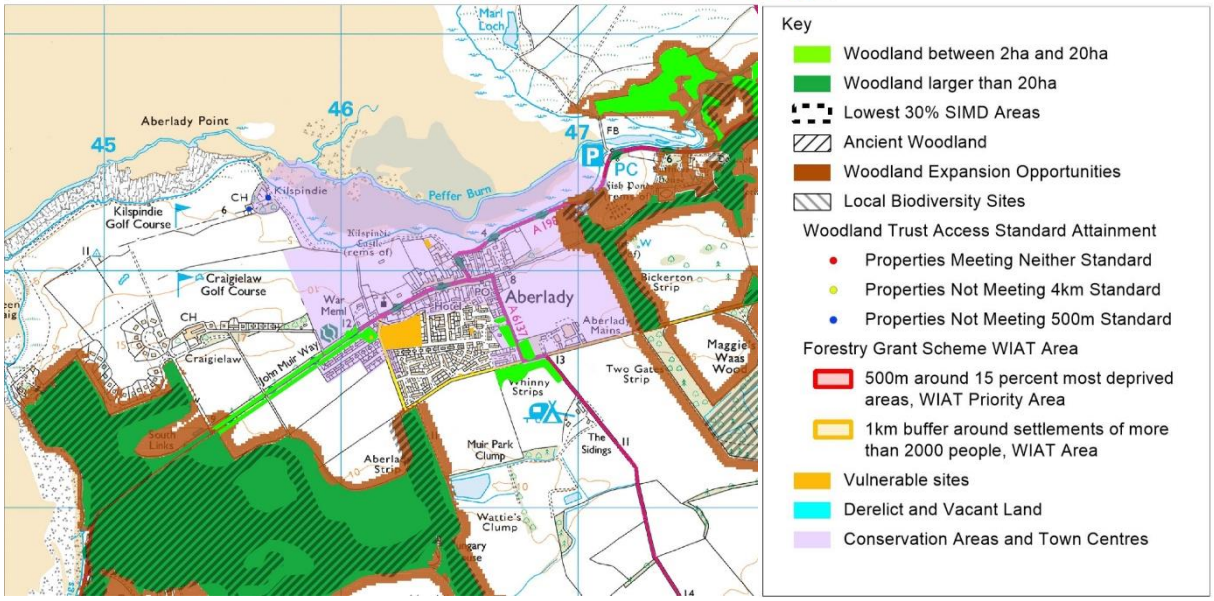
APPENDIX A: Trees and Woodland in Settlements

Trees and Woodland in Settlements

This appendix provides detail information on the character of each of our towns and main villages and their suitability for tree planting. It should be read in conjunction with the information in the Urban Tree and Woodland Planting part (pages 104 – 107) of the Spatial Delivery section of the Tree and Woodland Strategy as well as the advice in the Community section particularly the parts on Improving Access to Woodlands (from page 51), Canopy Coverage and Targets (from page 60) and Vacant and Derelict Land (page 70).

Towns and villages of over 500 properties

Aberlady



Existing trees and woodland

- Aberlady sits between wooded designed landscapes of Gosford and Luffness.
- Small woodlands to the east, south and west of Aberlady, provide a setting to the village.
- Mature trees along Main Street, including the large trees at the church and Glebe House as well as smaller trees soften and punctuate the built form here.
- An avenue of narrow, mainly pine woodlands line the road on the approach to Aberlady from the west.

Canopy Cover 23.33%

- There is a sizable development site at the west of the village; excluding this site which was formerly an arable field, canopy coverage is around 27%. There are fewer trees within the newer residential areas to the south. As the recent development sites mature, canopy cover should increase towards the working target. There has also been some recent planting in the school grounds.

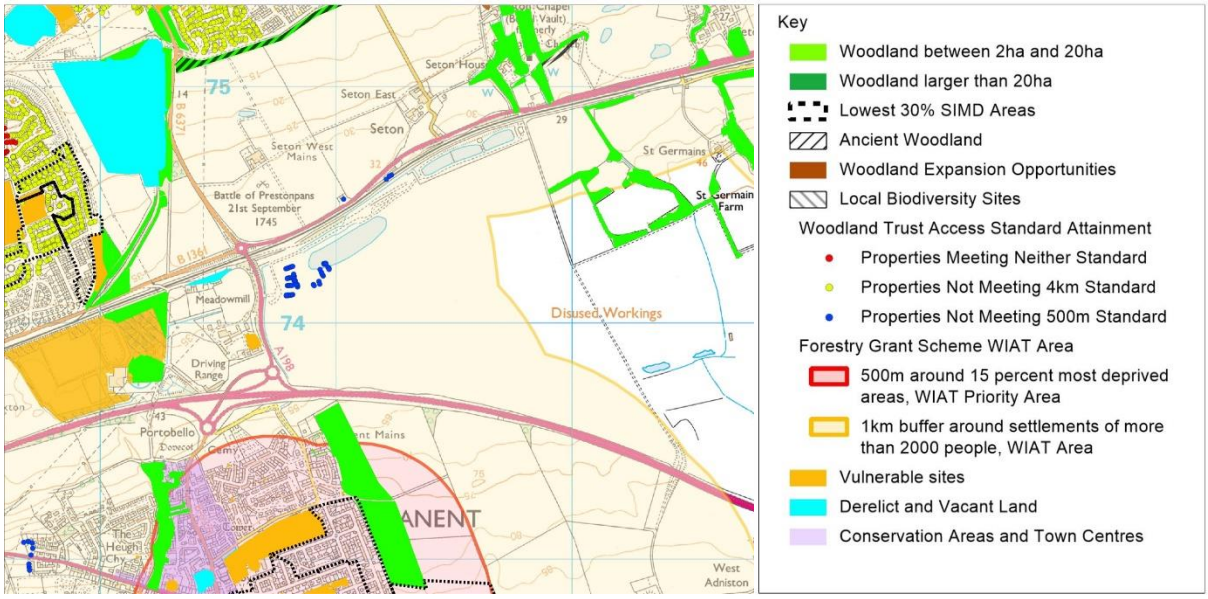
Opportunities/connectivity

- The grasslands habitat and village green to the north should be retained generally free of trees – this area is likely to be important for roosting and foraging birds of the Firth of Forth SPA.
- Connecting the woodlands at Gosford to Luffness and Maggie Waas woods.
- Canopy - there may be a little scope around the recreation ground, however other than this opportunity is mainly within private gardens. Some of these are small in comparison to the footprint of the houses, so trees may cause unwanted shading.

Accessible woodland

- All properties within Aberlady meet both Woodland Trust's woodland access.

Blindwells



Land at Blindwells has been allocated for 1600 homes, as well as employment land, land for a town centre, primary school and open space. A masterplan has been approved for the area (see below), which includes areas of tree planting for structural landscaping. The site and accessibility from the site is heavily constrained on three sides by the A1, A198 and East Coast rail line.

Existing trees and woodland

- Other than the very periphery, this site was cleared by opencast mining before being restored to arable land. A strip of broadleaved trees lines the A198 at the west of the site, and there is a small amount of scrub by the railway line to the north.

Canopy coverage 3%

- Mainly on land near the railway to the north of the area. The Blindwells settlement is a development site

entirely, formerly open cast but restored to agricultural land. Regrading and remediation works has led to removal a bare site other than at the northern perimeter of the site. Tree planting in accordance with the approved masterplan is being carried out in association with new development. Canopy coverage will increase as this landscaping is planted and matures, and with the planting of trees in private gardens.

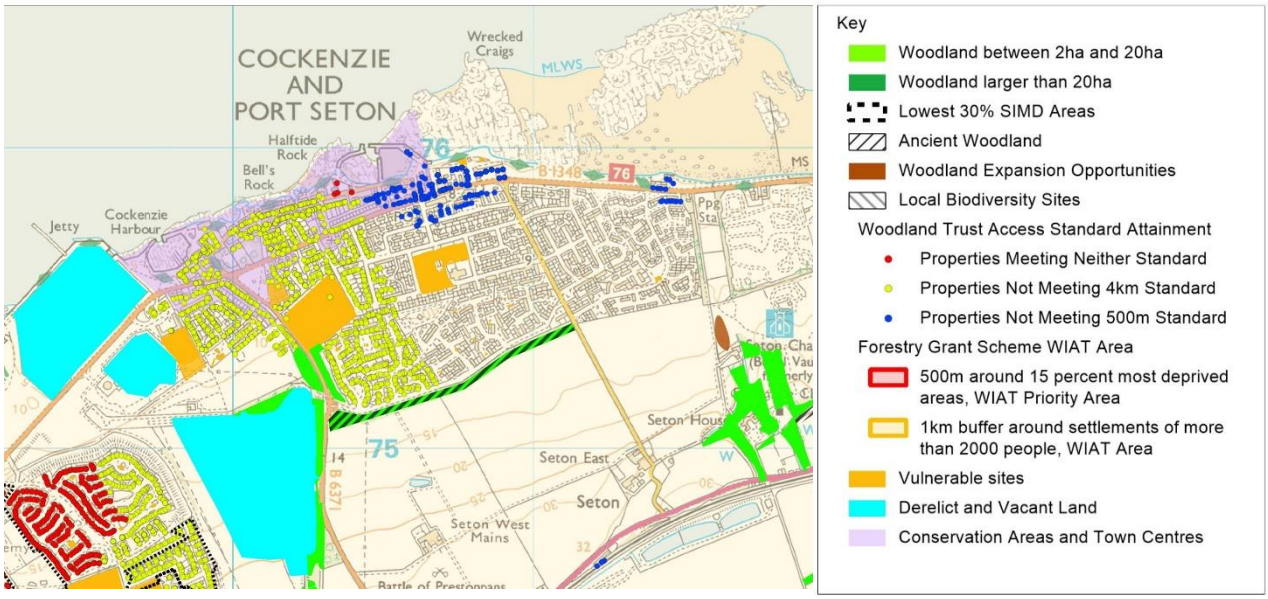
Connectivity/Opportunities

- Blindwells is bounded on three sides by busy transport infrastructure: the East Coast Mainline Railway, the A1 and the A198. This limits potential connectivity as it is undesirable to create woodland that attracts mobile species to cross transport infrastructure where they may be killed and/or become a hazard.
- The A1 landscaping however does have potential for east/west woodland connectivity and the planting around the southern edge of Blindwells could support this.
- Encouragement of planting of suitable tree species within private gardens would be beneficial to increase canopy coverage

Accessible woodland

- It is likely that the majority of properties within the town will not meet the Woodland Trust's 500m of a 2ha woodland standard. Creating woodland in line with the Climate Evolution vision may improve access to woodland for properties at Blindwells.
- The town will meet the 4km to a 20 ha woodland as it is within that distance of Winton Estate woodland. At the moment, however, this is not accessible other than via the A198, either on foot, by bike or by car.

Cockenzie/Port Seton



Existing trees and woodland

- Cockenzie House gardens, contains some significant mature trees which add to the time depth of the area as well as providing greenery.

- Tree belts to the southwest provide village containment and should be retained and strengthened where possible.

Canopy 15.5%.

- Canopy cover is low., Cockenzie/Port Seton are coastal villages with a tight urban form in the original villages, reflecting their exposed position. In some parts this leaves little space for tree growth. There are also two harbours. Areas of open space between the village and the sea should generally be kept open to retain views of the sea. Roads within the housing estate to the southwest have tree names and additional tree planting within their open spaces could add substance to this.

Connectivity/Opportunities

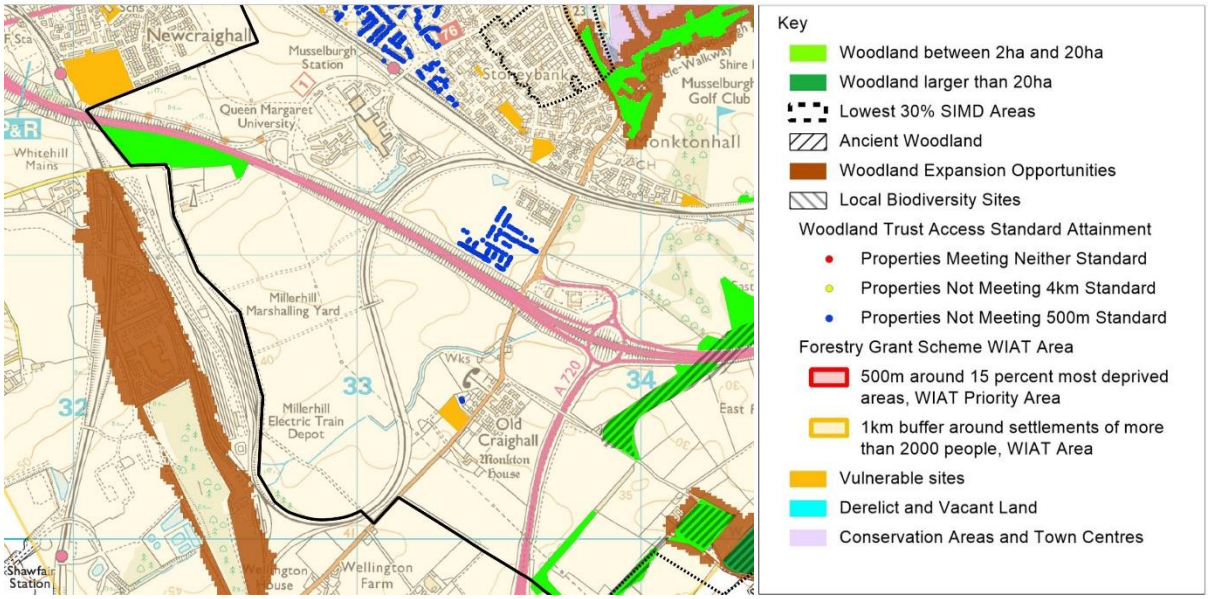
- There is potential to link the woodland to the south of the village to new woodlands at the Cockenzie development sites and those at Seton to the east improving connectivity.

Accessibility

- The west of the town does not meet Woodland Trusts accessibility standard of access within 4km to woodland over 20ha. There are also a number of properties to the north that do not have access to a woodland over 2ha within 500m. A couple of properties at Cockenzie Harbour have no access to woodland at either access standard.

- Opportunities should be sought for woodland to help properties meet these standards. Creating woodland in line with the Climate Evolution vision including at the development areas at Cockenzie to the west may help more properties meet these standards.

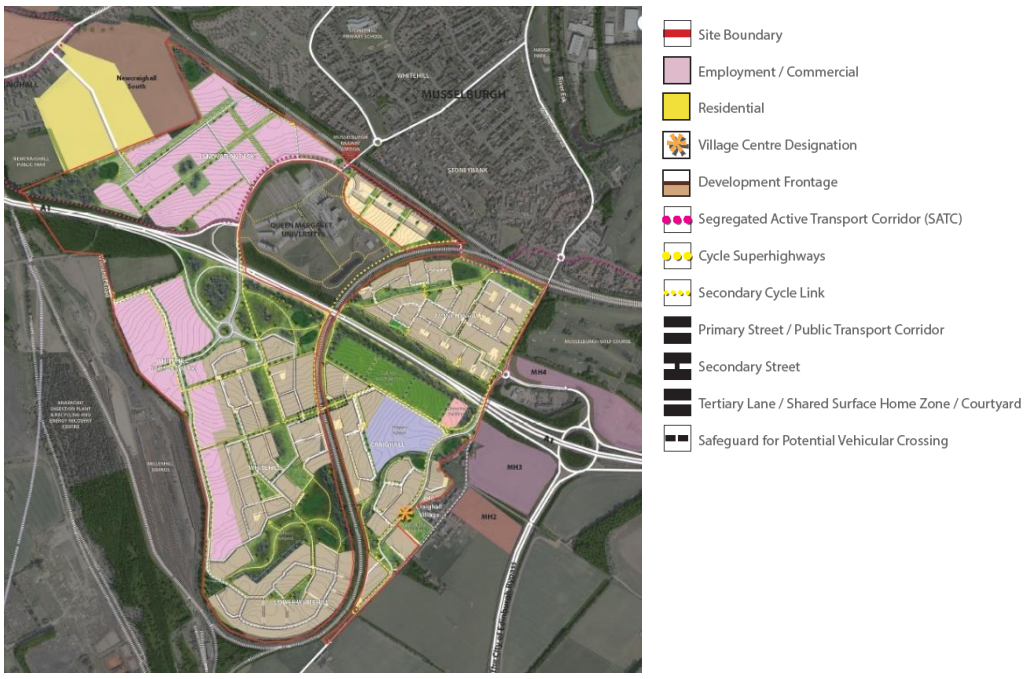
Craighall



Craighall consists of the existing settlement of Old Craighall together with the large mixed use development site to either side of the A1 and around QMU. The proposed development layout is shown below. The site and accessibility from the site is heavily constrained by the A1, A720, and East Coast rail line and freight rail line.

Existing trees and woodland

- Small accessible broadleaved woodland of over 2 ha in the northwest with young silver birch, ash, sycamore and hazel. Partly felled to enable junction construction but replanted with native species.
- Minimal structural planting associated with the A1 and rail line
- Maturing tree, woodland and hedge planting within QMU campus
- A line of mature hybrid poplar trees, some in poor condition, bound the Millerhill goods yard, with a short larch shelterbelt adjacent to the goods railway line; there is some hawthorn hedge and scrub associated with this line.
- Hawthorn scrub in association with the Old Craighall burn



Canopy coverage 11.11%,

- This falls considerable short of the target, as would be expected where the majority of the area is a development site of formerly arable fields. The masterplan indicates some woodland within parkland within the railway loop, which will in time increase the canopy. Tree planting in private gardens is also likely to increase it somewhat. The high voltage power line limits tree planting in the open space through the centre of this site.

Connectivity

- A green corridor incorporating new woodland along the A1 corridor could help make woodland links east-west, and into the City of Edinburgh area. This may have potential to support climate migration.
- The woodland shown along the Old Craighall Burn could potentially link to woodland in Midlothian at Millerhill for species only as the railway will prevent access here
- The recreation ground in the existing village of Old Craighall has few trees and there may be some scope for planting here

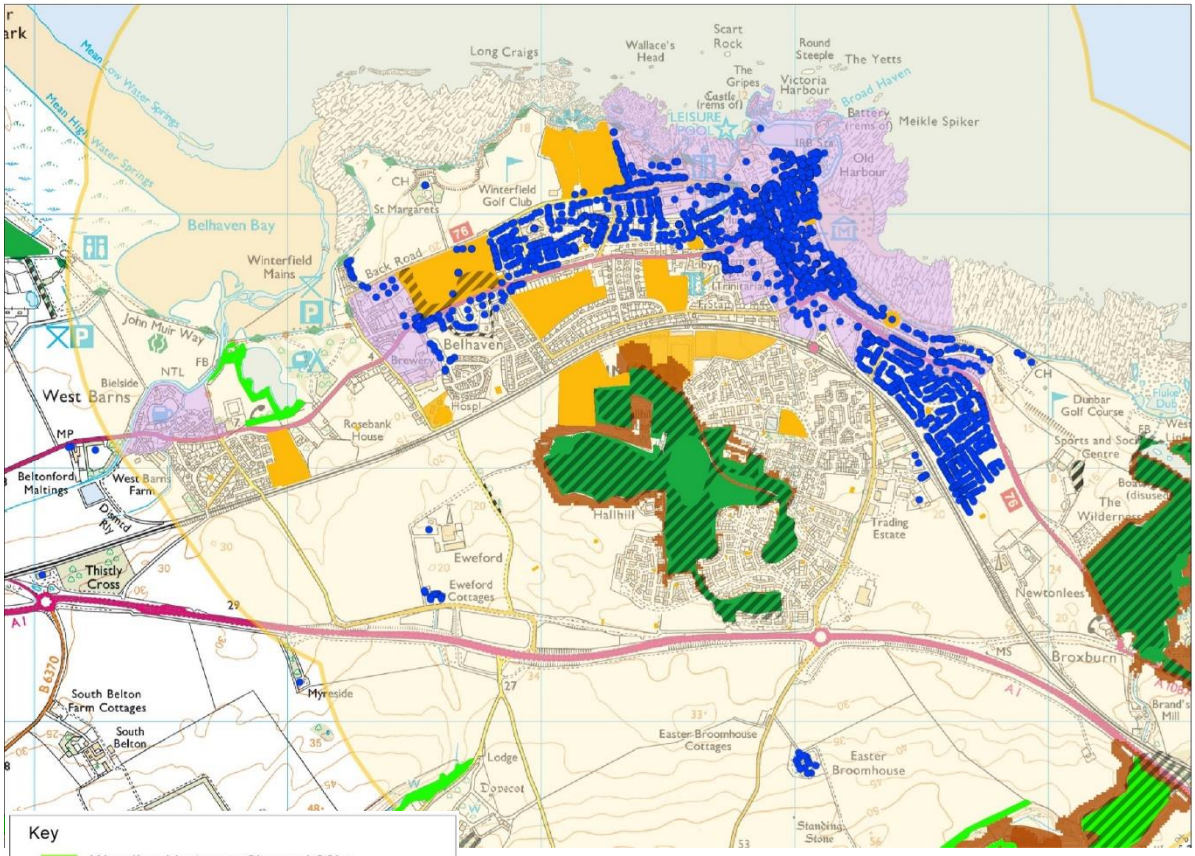
Accessibility

- All but two of the properties in Old Craighall meet the Woodland Trust's 500m from a 2ha woodland to woodland within the Dalkeith Estate. This is accessible via a crossing over the A720 Edinburgh City Bypass. Some of the new properties to the north are likely to be within 500m from the woodland to

the northwest. The remainder of the development area to the west of the A1 may meet this if the woodland shown within the Wetland Parkland area is over 2ha in size. Properties to the east of the A1 do not meet the Woodland Trust's 500m from a 2ha woodland standard. Consideration should be given to expanding smaller areas of woodland and improving connectivity to existing larger woodlands to improve this.

- All properties within this area will meet the 20ha within 4km standard as woodlands at Carberry and the Esk are within the distance, although in reality these woods may be difficult to access from here.

Dunbar/West Barns/Belhaven



Key

- Woodland between 2ha and 20ha
- Woodland larger than 20ha
- Lowest 30% SIMD Areas
- Ancient Woodland
- Woodland Expansion Opportunities
- Local Biodiversity Sites

Woodland Trust Access Standard Attainment

- Properties Meeting Neither Standard
- Properties Not Meeting 4km Standard
- Properties Not Meeting 500m Standard

Forestry Grant Scheme WIAT Area

- 500m around 15 percent most deprived areas, WIAT Priority Area
- 1km buffer around settlements of more than 2000 people, WIAT Area
- Vulnerable sites
- Derelict and Vacant Land
- Conservation Areas and Town Centres

Existing woodland and trees

- Lochend Woods, now a community woodland, is a significant area of woodland within Dunbar, allowing for appreciation of nature within the town and also providing attractive active travel routes.
- Designed landscapes at Belhaven Park House and Belhaven House contain significant trees and areas of woodland. The trees there link to the mature wooded grounds of Belhaven Hill School via the grounds of Manor House, where trees have been retained to provide a setting for new development. Wooded grounds at frame the open space at Pine Street to the south of Summerfield.

- Belhaven caravan park contains areas of mainly willow which provides an important break between West Barns and Belhaven.
- The well wooded raised knoll of Knockenhair creates a distinctive feature to the north of the town. Trees, including some exotic specimens, are contained within Lauderdale Park.
- A network of open spaces and private gardens from Lauderdale Park through Parsonpool and Thorndene to Countess Park to the grounds of the Priory and Ashfield House contain a variety of trees.
- The wooded grounds of Broxmouth House lie to the east of Dunbar.
- There are few trees within the old town around the High Street and the harbour. This is limited by the density of the urban form and proximity to the sea.

Canopy coverage 27.33%

- Assessed for Dunbar only, excluding West Barns/Belhaven. However, around a fifth of this area is development sites which were formerly arable fields, and if this is excluded canopy cover rises to 35%. This high level is partly due to the inclusion of Lochend Woods. The canopy to the north of the railway line is variable. The older part of town east of the High Street and around the Harbours has low canopy cover reflecting the tight urban form which is part of its historic character and allows for appreciation of the built elements of the Conservation Area. Tree planting in this area should avoid obscuring key listed buildings and be mindful of the coastal location in choosing species.

Connectivity

- Lochend Woods is now isolated from the surrounding countryside and the remaining links (such as a narrow strip between Hallhill and the A1) are poor, though should be retained. There may be some possibility of using hedgerows to connect this woodland outwards. Management of the woodlands are important to retain a vibrant and healthy resource.
- Landscape planting along the A1 could provide an opportunity to support climate migration north/south

Accessibility

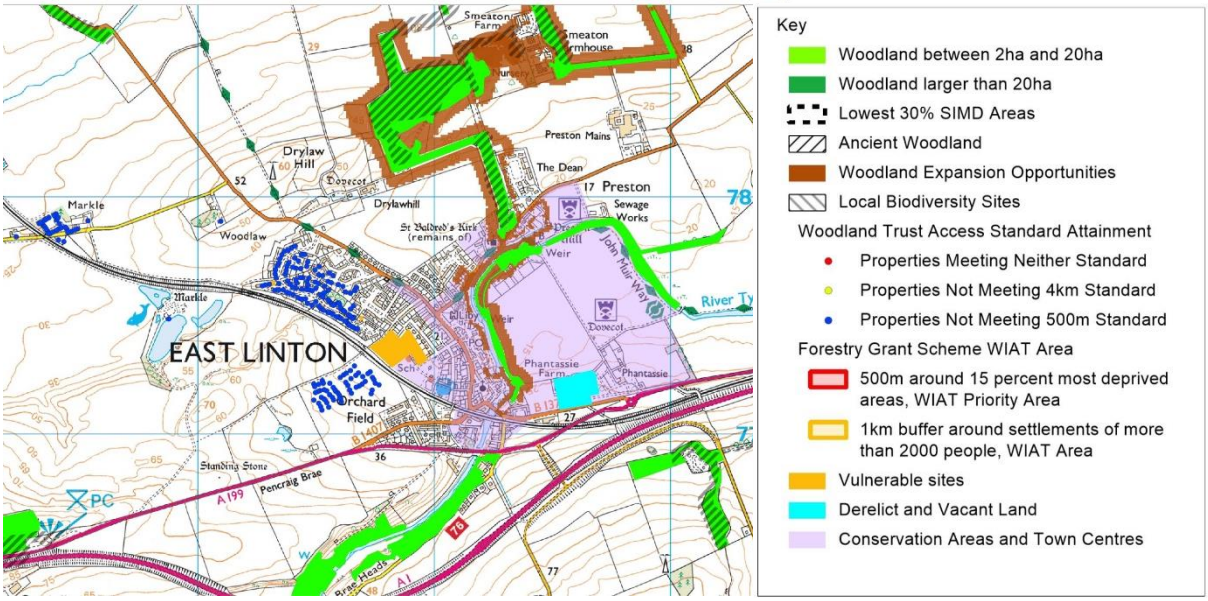
- In much of Dunbar both the Woodland Trusts standards are met, as Lochend Woods is within the town. However much of northern and eastern Dunbar do not meet the 2ha within 500m standard. More than one area of woodland would be required to fulfil this for all properties currently lacking this woodland. The sea, urban form and current land use make finding suitable sites more difficult. Opportunities on the two golf courses should be sought.

East Linton

Existing trees and woodland

- The riparian corridor of the Tyne gives ecological and recreational connection
- Trees in gardens and open space give a generally wooded appearance in views from outside the village with many trees located within back gardens and throughout the village away from the High Street

- Preston to the east has many mature trees within the church and manse grounds visually linking with the wooded bank of the Tyne to its south and the ancient woodland within the grounds of Smeaton to the north
- Mature trees in Memorial Park including an avenue and trees alongside the railway line, providing links f through and beyond the village
- Structural planting to the rear of Rennie Place



Canopy 29.9%

- Canopy coverage is just below the working target, although this is not even across the village.
- 10.6% of the area is development site.
- The area included in the canopy coverage mapping also includes some (though by no means all) woods associated with the Tyne, however it does not include Preston village. (Some of the aerial photography was not very clear and taken in winter, which may have made the result more prone to error in either direction.)
- More recent housing at Rennie Place to the west of the village is separated from the railway with a belt of trees that continues round to the west. There may be opportunities to expand this. New housing on the slopes of Pencraig to the west would benefit from tree planting to help integrate it into its setting and reduce the massing of the built form.

Connectivity/Opportunities

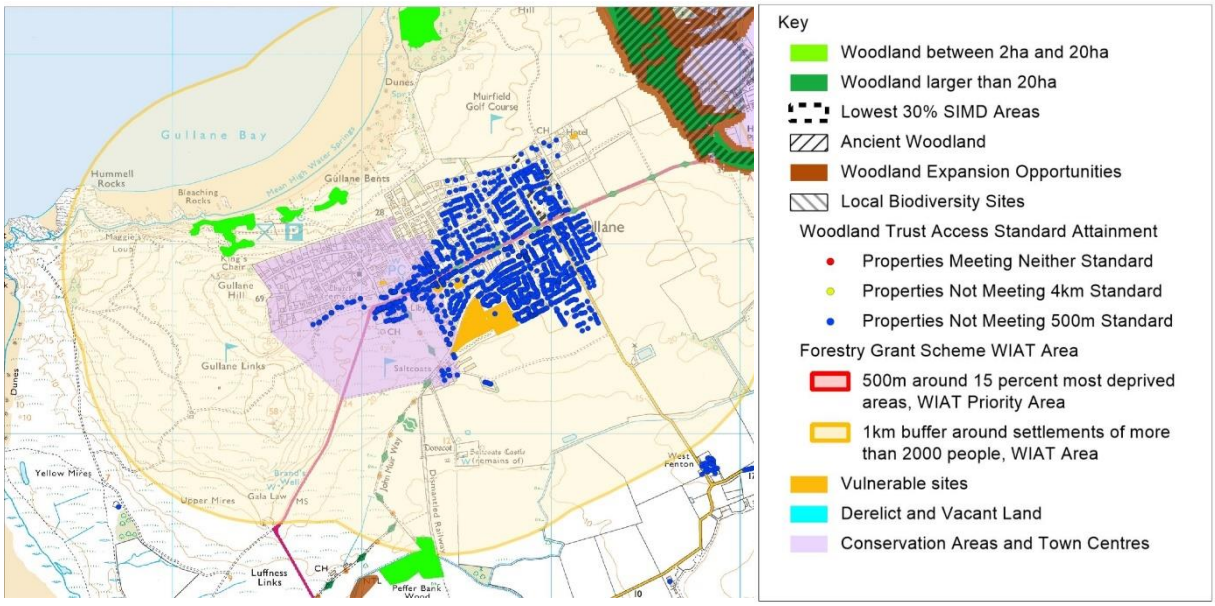
- Enhance the woodland habitat surrounding the Tyne (ELC Green Network Priority)
- Structural planting at Rennie Place may have potential for expansion
- Succession planting of the avenue of trees in the approach from the east could be considered
- Woodland to the west of the rail line along the informal access route here would help connectivity to woodlands at Markle.

Accessibility

- All parts of East Linton are within 4km of a 20ha woodland, being close to Binning Wood to the north.
- Most properties have access to a 2ha woodland within 500m with woodland at Smeaton and along the River Tyne. There is lack of access to a woodland over 2ha for properties at Rennie Place and

to the south of the railway. Smaller woodland belts wrap around Rennie Place to the west and north and opportunities for expanding these to provide a larger area of woodland to meet the Woodland Trust standard should be explored. Woodland creation to the west of the rail line could improve accessibility to woodland for the new housing.

Gullane



Existing trees and woodland

- There are a large number of mature trees within private garden ground, especially in the west of the settlement, including some champion trees
- Large mature trees punctuating open space including at Goose Green
- Community woodland at the Millennium wood south of the recreation park at Saltcoats
- Conifers and coastal scrub at Gullane Bents; the invasive sea buckthorn is subject to management, however, not all is removed here
- Wooded walkway parallel to Broadgait
- Mature trees at Muirfield House and Muirfield Wood
- Designed Landscape at Greywalls

Canopy coverage 28.57% -

- Canopy coverage is just below the working target, however this is due to the lack of trees within development sites, which overall make up almost a fifth of the settlement area; canopy for the village outwith these sites is around 35%. In time structural planting and planting in private gardens will mature to increase canopy on those sites, so increasing overall canopy coverage to the working target level. The canopy is distributed across the village within private gardens and open spaces, though it appears higher in the west of the village where there are some large private gardens. Gullane has some areas notable for their open character including Goose Green and the children's golf course, which it is desirable to maintain as open. The grassland habitat at Gullane Hill is also not suitable for woodland creation.

Connectivity/Opportunities

- Retain wooded character of conservation area
- New woodland approved through development to the south of the village will increase woodland and help connectivity to the south
- Increasing tree planting or hedgerow creation along the core paths to the south of the village will help to link to the woodlands further south
- There may be opportunities through the WIAT funding to create small accessible farm woodland to the south and east of the village.
- Restructuring of the conifer plantations to the north

Accessibility

- All properties meet the Woodland Trust's standard for access to a woodland over 20ha in size within 4km given the proximity to the Archerfield estate.

- Many properties to the south and east of the village do not have access to a woodland greater than 2ha within 500m. The Millenium Wood in the playing fields to the west of the school is around 1ha and may provide opportunity for expansion as part of the planning permission 16/00594/PPM for the Saltcoats site. This would increase access to woodland for some properties to the south. However, there would still be some properties to the east and northeast of the village where the standard is not met.

Haddington

Haddington is set to the south of the Garleton Hills in the Tyne valley with the elegant Town House spire and Bermaline Mill chimneys rising out above a sea of green from some approaches.

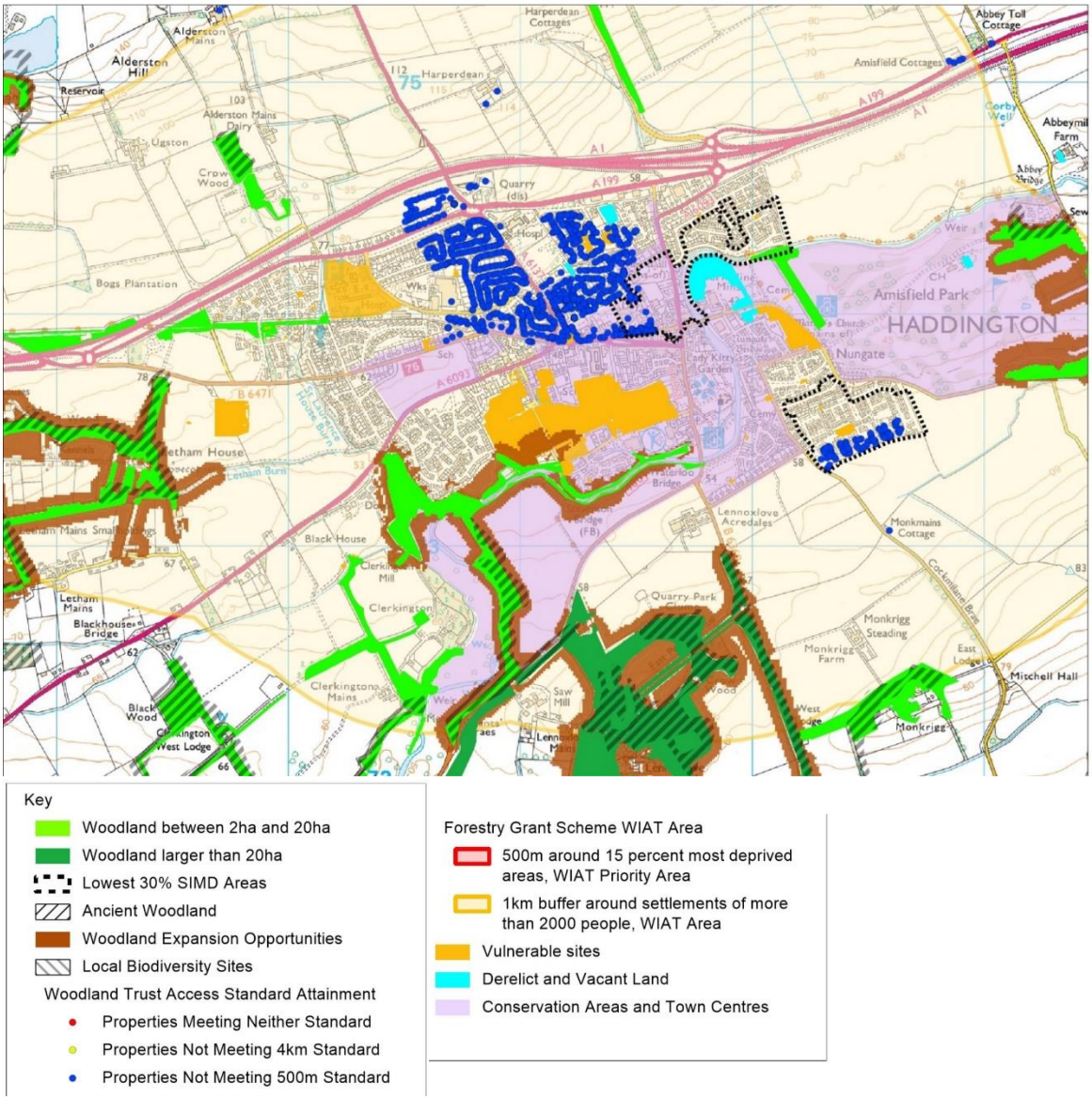
Existing trees and woodland

- Large woodland areas to the west at Letham and Clerkington, and Amisfield to the east, frame the town, linked by riparian woodland
- Woodland walkway and riparian woodland along the Tyne and Letham Burns linking with the riparian woodland along the River Tyne to the south of the town.
- Parks and open spaces within the town contain significant mature trees including Neilson Park, Monument Park at Knox Place with its large Wellingtonia, the grounds of the former Herdmanflat Hospital, Station Road, and Tenterfield House and Old Bank House on Hardgate.
- Rows of trees which line the main roads into the town including mature oaks and limes at Dunbar Road, limes, beech, sycamore and others at Station Road, limes at Hope Park and sycamores at Whittingehame Drive.
- Mature limes and more recent rowan trees lining Court Street in the town centre. Many of these trees date from Victorian times.
- Roger Kirby's book 'Trees of Haddington and District' gives detailed information on many of the trees within Haddington.

Canopy 22%

- Canopy cover is low, however almost a quarter of the settlement area is development sites that were formerly arable fields so with little existing canopy. Excluding these, canopy coverage is 29%.

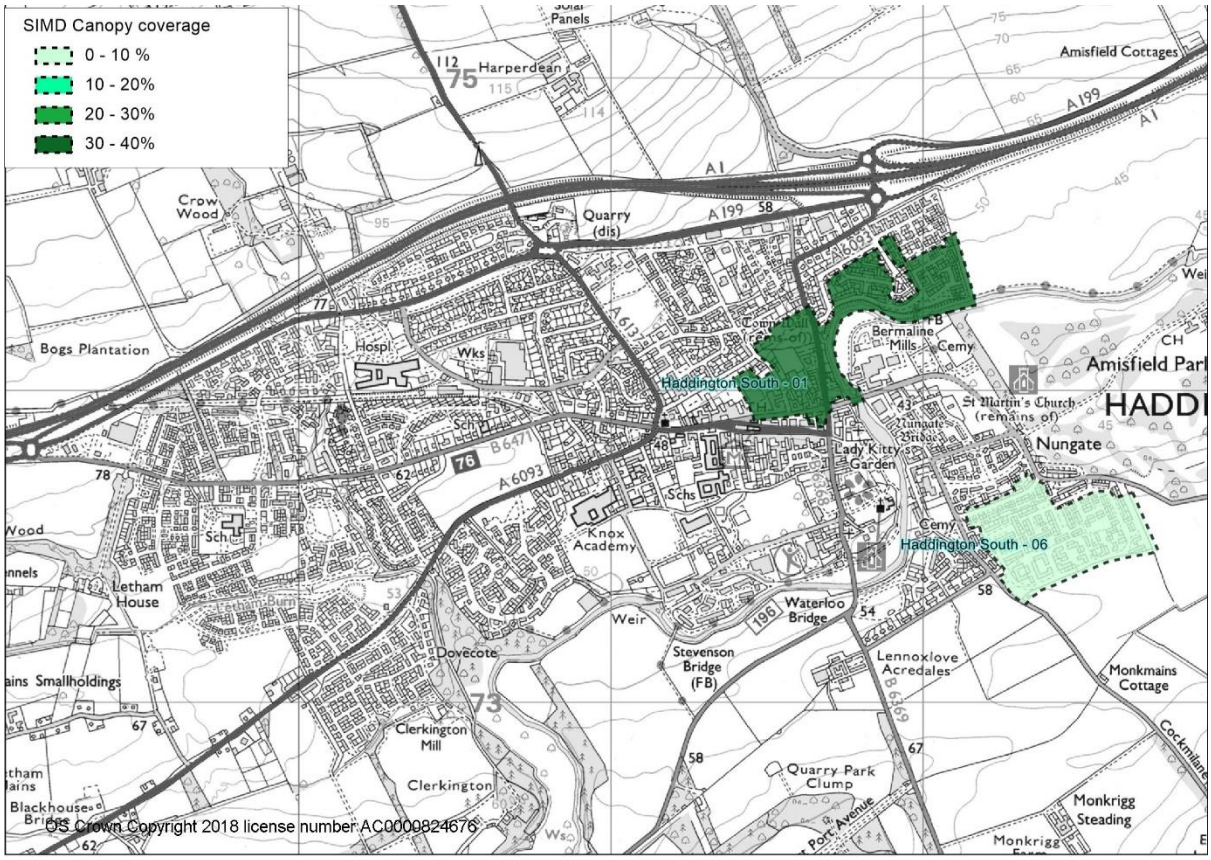
Canopy is reduced as the West Road field, which is in agricultural use, is included in the area and is sizable; there is also a rugby field and football pitches within the settlement.



Connectivity/Opportunity

- Enhance the woodland habitat surrounding the Tyne (ELC Green Network action)
- Strengthen woodland links between the Tyne and the Haddington/Longniddry Railway Walk (ELC Green Network action)
- Wooded character of the town arising from the large number of mature trees should be retained and strengthened where possible
- Opportunities should be sought to integrate Haddington into its landscape to the northeast with strengthened tree planting along the field boundary edge at Abbotsview.
- Additional tree planting should be sought around the new retail park to the northwest entrance to create a landscape setting for the town from this direction
- There is opportunity to increase tree planting along the A199 to continue the woodland strip to the north of Herdmanflatt eastwards
- Riverside, Abbotsview and Nungate areas could benefit from increased tree planting within open spaces to improve amenity.

- Succession planting should be considered to mitigate the loss of feature trees. Succession planting is being undertaken within Court Street, Neilson Park and along the river within the Conservation Area where the council manage trees. It could be considered for the oaks at Briery Bank to the southern edge of the Conservation Area, as well as along West Road and to the south side of Seggarsdean Crescent and for the mature lime trees surrounding Neilson Park including the recreation ground. Limes are heavily used in Haddington, and should a lime disease on the scale of ash die back appear, this would significantly affect Haddington's greenery. Less reliance should be placed on one species in the future and alternatives should be considered when replacing limes.
- The medieval historic core around the High Street has a different character with no trees, which should be retained.

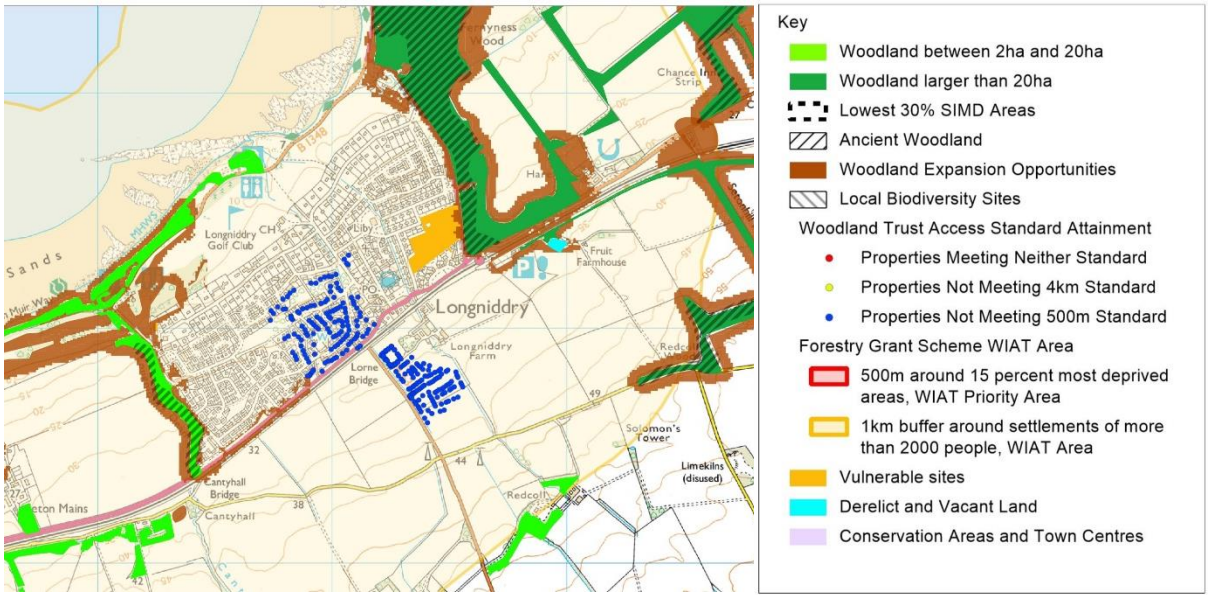


Accessibility

- All parts of Haddington meet the access to woods over 20ha within 4km provided by the woods of Lennoxlove to the south of the town.
- Much of the town has access to woodlands over 2ha within 500m with the woodlands along the Tyne and at Clerkington to the southwest, Letham and the railway walk to the west, and a small area of woodland between the all-weather pitches and the golf course at Whittingehame Drive to the east.
- A few properties' woodland within 500m is beyond the A1 at Alderston Woods and The Long Plantation on the minor road to Skid Hill over the Garleton Hills. This meets the standard but is in practice likely to be further than 500m to reach due to the barrier created by the A1. In addition the requirement to cross the busy bypass road and A1 junctions may deter people with young children or mobility issues from visiting a woodland on the far side of them.

- There is a large group of properties to the central north area of Haddington that do not have access to a woodland of over 2ha within 500m. Woodland exists at Herdmanflat hospital site as well as at Peppercraig that may offer opportunity for expansion and connection to provide larger woodland here.
- There is a small group of properties on the southeastern edge of Haddington in a predominantly social housing areas and area of lower deprivation with no access to woodland larger than 2ha within 500m. There are limited opportunites for new woodland within this area, although expansion of woodland to the southeastern edge of the golf course may present one opportunity.

Longniddry



Existing tree cover. Important areas of trees include:

- Providing a setting to the village, the ancient woodland of Longniddry Dean and within Gosford Estate
- Mature trees along main road entering and through the village (B1377 and A198) including those at Kitchener Crescent provide a leafy entrance to the village
- Coastal mosaic at Longniddry Golf club, merging into coastal scrub habitat at Longniddry bents
- The fruit trees of Glassel Park
- Mature trees of open space at [xx big one in the middle] and at Links Road have amenity value, providing shade and interest
- Trees in association with the Scout Hut/Community centre have play and amenity value
- Trees lining Haddington/Longniddry Railway walk provide and attractive setting for this recreational and active travel route as well as habitat connectivity to ancient woodland at Setonhill and Redhouse Dean

Canopy cover is 37.35%,

- The highest of any East Lothian settlement over 500 homes. This despite the Longnidddry South development site, a former arable field, comprising nearly a quarter of the settlement. Excluding this site, canopy coverage is very nearly at 50%. Longniddry was expanded in the post-war period

with the intention of attracting executive talent to East Lothian. Much of the housing in the original village expansion therefore has large, mature gardens, which now contain much of the canopy. There is no real woodland in the village itself and even few groups of trees, though the larger open spaces do have some mature trees around the periphery. Maintaining the canopy is therefore largely in the hands of private owners and occupiers.

- There are no lower SIMD areas in Longniddry. The social housing here, in the SE of the village, is mostly single storey with fairly generous garden ground. There may be some scope to increase canopy in this area either at the primary school or at the playing fields. Due to the nature of the social housing here and the generally good canopy cover, the need for expansion is not as obvious as in areas which mainly have flats. There is likely to be some natural increase of canopy through maturing landscaping and planting within garden ground within the PS1 Longniddry South development.

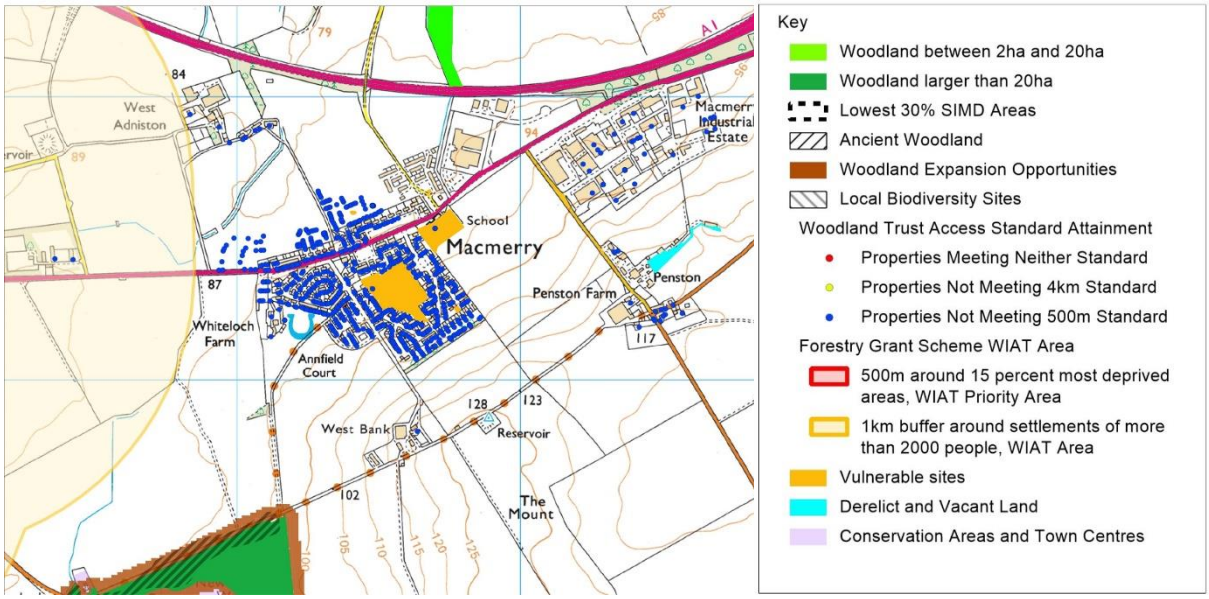
Accessibility

- All parts of Longniddry meet the access to woods over 20ha within 4km provided by the woods of Gosford to the east and Butterdean to the south
- Many of the properties to the east and west of the village also have access to woodland over 2ha within 500m provided by Gosford to the east and Longniddry Dean to the west.
- The 500m to a 2 ha woodland is not met for property within a central and southern section of the village. This is likely to be difficult to achieve, due to prime agricultural land surrounding the village, as well as Longniddry Bents and golf course to the north. There may be opportunity to increase woodland along the burn and within the open spaces through the new development at Longniddry Farm.

Connection/Opportunities

- Riparian - new blue-green infrastructure in association with the burns in this area in line with the Climate Evolution vision. The Canty Burn south of Longniddry Dean has a line of woodland which could be linked to existing woodland at Longniddry Dean and structural planting associated with Blindwells. Both the Redcoll Burn (to the west of Elcho Road) and Southfield Burn (west of Links Road) are either contained within a small channel between back gardens or run through them, limiting opportunities within the village, however there could be opportunities associated with these burns both north and south of the village
- Haddington/Longniddry railway walk is a good linear connection between these towns for people and biodiversity, and strengthening woodland connections along would be beneficial. The value of the agricultural land here may preclude significant widening however network expansion in the form of hedgerows or connecting farm woodland to this route may be possible. There are some isolated areas of ancient woodland near this route which would benefit from such connection. This is a key woodland connection identified in the East Lothian Green Network Strategy.
- Woodland creation and management within and around Longniddry Dean

Macmerry



Existing trees

- The cherry trees which form the landscaping around the main street are attractive
- Semi-mature planting within open space at St Germains Terrace are beginning to provide a feature

Canopy coverage 10.33%.

- Around a quarter of the settlement consists of a housing development site to the north, which was formerly an agricultural field, and an arable field allocated for employment use to the east of the village. Excluding these sites, canopy coverage is around 14%, so still low. This is partly accounted for by the settlement boundary including Macmerry Industrial Estate (a WW2 RAF base), and business park, though there is some canopy at both. There is also a large area of open space in the centre of the village which consists of pitches and amenity grassland. The original village of Macmerry has a relatively high proportion of social housing, being a former mining village, and there seem to be few large trees within garden ground as well as little landscaping around the edge of the village.

- Although tree cover is low, well designed landscaping on either side of the main road giving the impression of the village being more treed than it is.

Connectivity/Opportunities

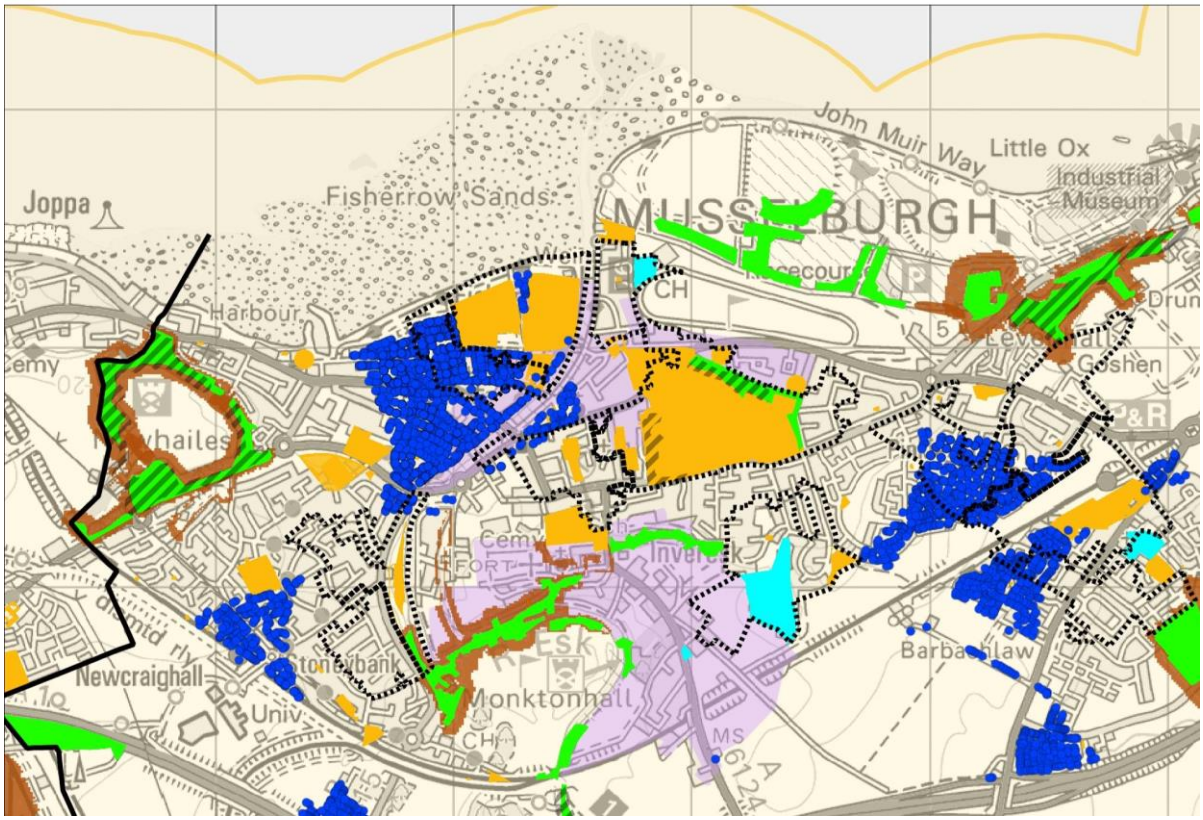
- Core Path 129 and 130 connect to the main Winton Estate woodland. These are hedge-lined and there may be potential for further woodland or trees along these routes
- The area north of Macmerry was included in Climate Evolution and there may be potential to link into the blue-green infrastructure that is part of the Vision for example along Core Path 455 to Blindwells
- Potential opportunities to increase woodland landscaping around the A1

Accessibility

- The Woodland Trusts accessibility standard for woodland of 20 ha within 4km is met for Macmerry by Butterdean Wood to the southeast and Winton Estate woodlands to the southwest.

- The 500m to a 2 ha woodland is not met in any part of the village. There is a landscaping strip to the south of the village which is around 0.4 ha, and some small woods at Adniston and it may be possible to expand these. A suitable site should be sought to help meet this standard for more properties. Opportunities should be sought for a woodland over 2 ha close to the village. This is important in Macmerry as the canopy cover is low.

Musselburgh



Key
- Woodland between 2ha and 20ha
- Woodland larger than 20ha
- Lowest 30% SIMD Areas
- Ancient Woodland
- Woodland Expansion Opportunities
- Local Biodiversity Sites

Woodland Trust Access Standard Attainment
- Properties Meeting Neither Standard
- Properties Not Meeting 4km Standard
- Properties Not Meeting 500m Standard

Forestry Grant Scheme WIAT Area
- 500m around 15 percent most deprived areas, WIAT Priority Area
- 1km buffer around settlements of more than 2000 people, WIAT Area
- Vulnerable sites
- Derelict and Vacant Land
- Conservation Areas and Town Centres

Existing trees and woodland

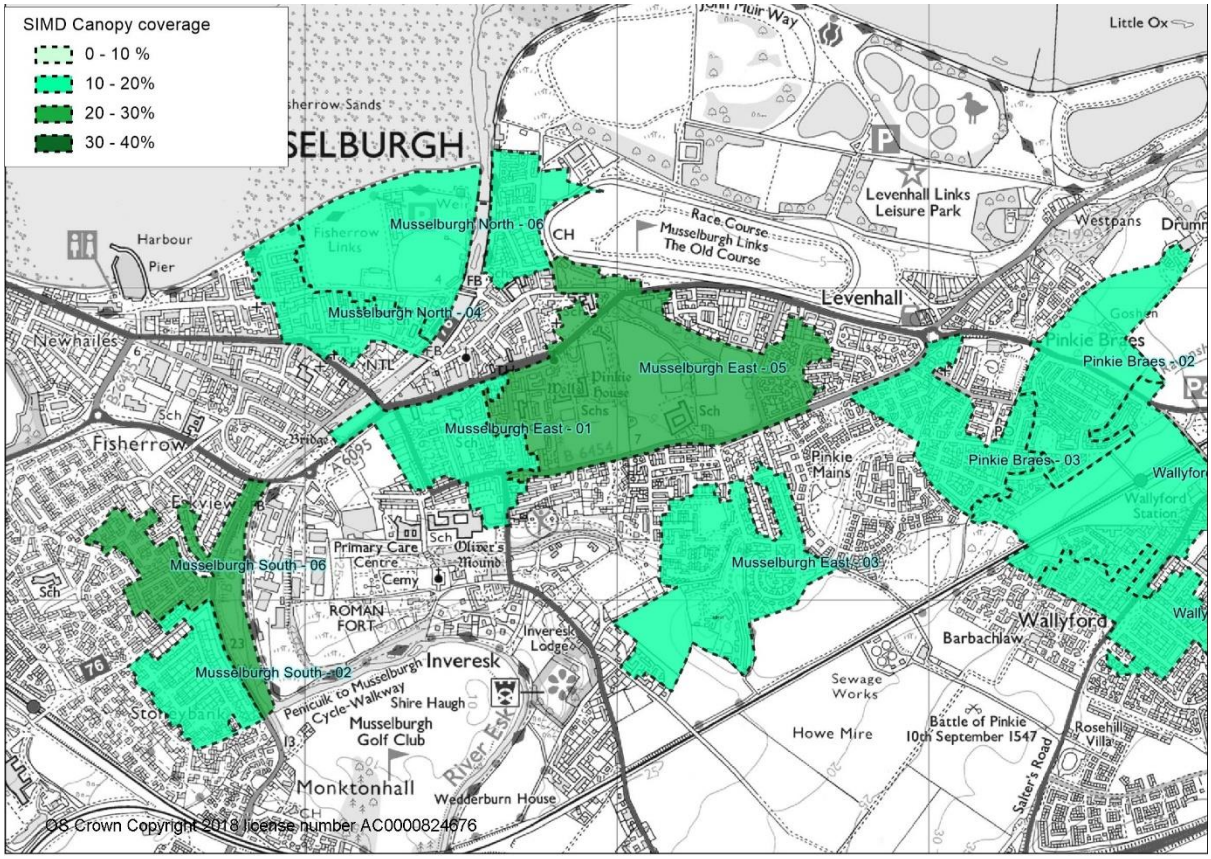
- Newhailes House, designed landscape and landscaping at Newhailes industrial estate and Clayknowes road, and mature trees in private gardens to the north
- Pinkie House/Loretto school grounds
- River Esk and Inveresk/ Lewisvale Park.
- Feature street trees at the east end of Musselburgh High Street
- Edenhall House designed landscape
- Woodland copses and strips at Musselburgh Golf Course, Levenhall Links and Ravensheugh
- Queens Margaret University and A1 landscaping
- The A199 road; mature sycamore and limes
- Habitat mosaic at Levenhall Links

These trees enhance the historic character, setting and amenity of Musselburgh and in some parts may support air quality objectives.

Canopy 21%

- Musselburgh does not meet the working target of 30% of canopy coverage. Only 5.2% of the settlement consists of development sites, where mature trees would not yet have established; excluding these sites increases overall canopy coverage by one percentage point only. Therefore, new development needing time to mature is not the only reason for low canopy coverage here. The settlement area includes the ash lagoons at Levenhall Links. Although this are contains trees there is also a fairly sizable area of open space and water, reducing canopy coverage. Areas at Stoneybank, Stoneyhill and Pinkie Braes, are low in tree cover as are parts of Fisherrow and Goose Green.

SIMD Areas



- The Stoneybank area (Musselburgh South 02) is fairly homogenous with no parkland or landscaping trees. The housing here is fairly dense so there are perhaps fewer opportunities for street trees. The SIMD area immediately to the north (Musselburgh South 06) has higher canopy coverage. This mainly due to the inclusion of part of the Esk valley – this will benefit residents by providing treed open space - though there are also some street trees here. Further opportunities for street tree planting area likely to be few, however this would benefit the legibility of this area, as well as providing shade on hot summer days, which is needed here.

- Musselburgh North 04 (Fisherrow) includes the beach where trees are unlikely to grow, but this is a small part of the overall area. The buildings here are close together, probably to withstand sea breezes and therefore reflecting the coastal character of the area. To the north and east,

Musselburgh North 06 has greater canopy coverage as it includes the Esk and trees around Lorretto Playing Fields. There are further playing fields at Fisherrow links, as well as the open area at Goose Green. These areas are valued for their openness, and are unlikely to be suitable for significant planting, though some trees at the perimeter might be possible.

- Musselburgh East 03 contains the wooded land of the Designed Landscape of Edenhall. Previously a hospital site this is now vacant and awaiting development. The mature trees here, particularly to the eastern side, offer significant amenity value to the neighbouring properties and provide wooded open space for recreation and canopy coverage. The overall canopy coverage is just 11% in this overall area. These trees are therefore important to retain within any development proposals that come forward. The open space to the southeast of Pinkiehill Crescent also contains wooded areas that increase the canopy coverage within this area and provide recreational value. In addition the open space to the west of Edenhall Road has recently had new tree planting undertaken that will in time increase the canopy coverage within this area. The area also has a number of other open spaces where tree planting could be undertaken. The whole area is within 500m of wooded Lewisvale Park to its west.

- Building form is dense at Musselburgh East 03 and it might be difficult to find spaces for further planting.

- Musselburgh East 05, to the east of this area has mature trees associated with the former Pinkie Estate. These trees by virtue of their height make the canopy cover perhaps appear greater than it in fact is. There are some large areas of open space which, along with low tree cover in the housing areas, reduce the overall canopy cover. There are some areas of open space here where tree planting could be carried out.

- Pinkie Braes 03 and 04 both have low canopy coverage. The estate was laid out with amenity grassland, however some recent tree planting has been carried out here and this will improve canopy coverage. There are many open spaces which may offer opportunity for additional tree planting.

Connection and opportunities.

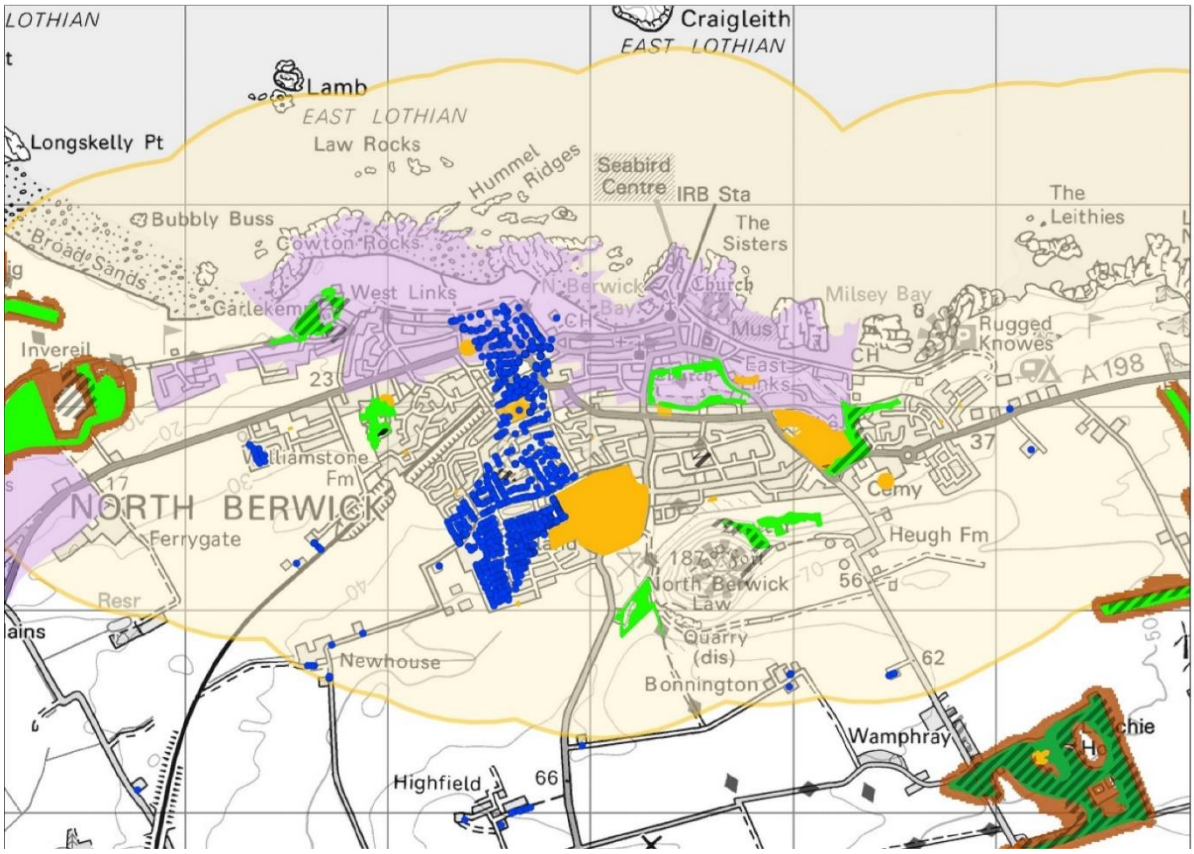
- Musselburgh and its surrounds is a key location for connecting woodland corridors from East Lothian into the City of Edinburgh. Woodland of the Esk connects upriver to significant areas of woodland in Midlothian. Strengthened and new connections should be sought:
  - Between Newhailes – Esk – Whitecraig (mature trees at Olive Bank Road and/or the Orchard could be important here) as well as
  - Newhailes – Esk - westwards to Levenhall/Ravensheugh or via Loretto/Pinkie
  - Around the southern edge of Musselburgh and A1 corridor
  - Opportunities should be identified for increasing canopy cover throughout the town particularly where canopy coverage is below the 30% target, where this is welcomed by residents.
  - Musselburgh High Street could benefit from a continuation of the line of new street trees provided at its east end.
  - Tree planting and green infrastructure opportunities through the proposed Musselburgh Active Travel project and Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme.

Accessibility

- The woodland Trusts 20ha within 4km is met for all of Musselburgh as it is close to woodland at the Esk and Carberry.

- Access to a woodland over 2ha within 500m is not met for a number of properties at Pinkie Braes, Fisherrow or parts Whitehill.

North Berwick



Key

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- Vulnerable sites
- Derelict and Vacant Land
- Conservation Areas and Town Centres

Existing trees and woodland

- The main road from the west into North Berwick is lined with mature trees that link with areas of ancient woodland set within the western edge of the town at Carlekemp, Cotgreen and Smileyknowes and trees within the local designed landscapes at Westerdunes House and Bunkershill.
- Victorian villas of the western part of town have large gardens with mature trees giving a wooded feel to this part of town. This character should be retained and sub-division or development in garden ground avoided.
- To the east of the town, younger bands of trees frame the housing and link with the ancient woodland of the Glen.
- Mature sycamore trees form a feature within Quality Street to the centre of the town.

- Parks and open space within the town are well wooded including at the Lodge Grounds, Nungate Road and Couper Avenue, The Grange and Glebe House.
- As the town has expanded to the south established areas of woodlands and tree planting have been used to create structure for new housing areas including at Marly Knowe and Windygates, Netherlaw, Stairpark, Trainers Brae and Priory Wynd.
- New development to the south includes for the development of a 'country park' on the south boundary of the settlement including significant areas of tree planting.

Canopy – 28.46%

- Just over a fifth of the settlement is development site – excluding this, canopy cover in the remainder of the settlement is at 37%, so comfortably above the working target. Canopy cover in the development sites will increase as their landscaping matures and trees are planted in private gardens. Parkland has been created to the south of the town in association with the Mains Farm development site, and this will also increase canopy cover.

- Although positioned on the coast, North Berwick is generally well wooded. However the older centre – the narrow High Street and closely packed streets around the harbour have few trees nor space to add trees. There are no lower SIMD areas in North Berwick however there is an area of predominantly social housing, around the foot of the Law, where some increase in canopy cover could be considered. However this area is in the shadow of the Law so further shade may not be desired by residents.

- Succession planting should be considered to avoid the loss of feature trees.

Connection/opportunities

- The landmark North Berwick Law although not in the town is a feature of it. It is an important geological feature and SSSI. Tree planting at any scale on its steep slopes would change its character and appearance and would not be acceptable. Limited tree planting that respects fen marsh swamp habitat may be possible around the base of the Law, connecting the Whisky Bottle reservoir area to The Glen.
- There is a treed link from the base of North Berwick Law north along the route of the John Muir Way including the ancient woodland at Couper Avenue, the tree lined street of Lady Jane Road to the Lodge Grounds which potentially could be reinforced as a green active travel route
- reinforcing the trees along roadside edges where appropriate including succession planning; the trees lining Dirleton Avenue, many dating back to Victorian times when the houses were built, would benefit from renewal.

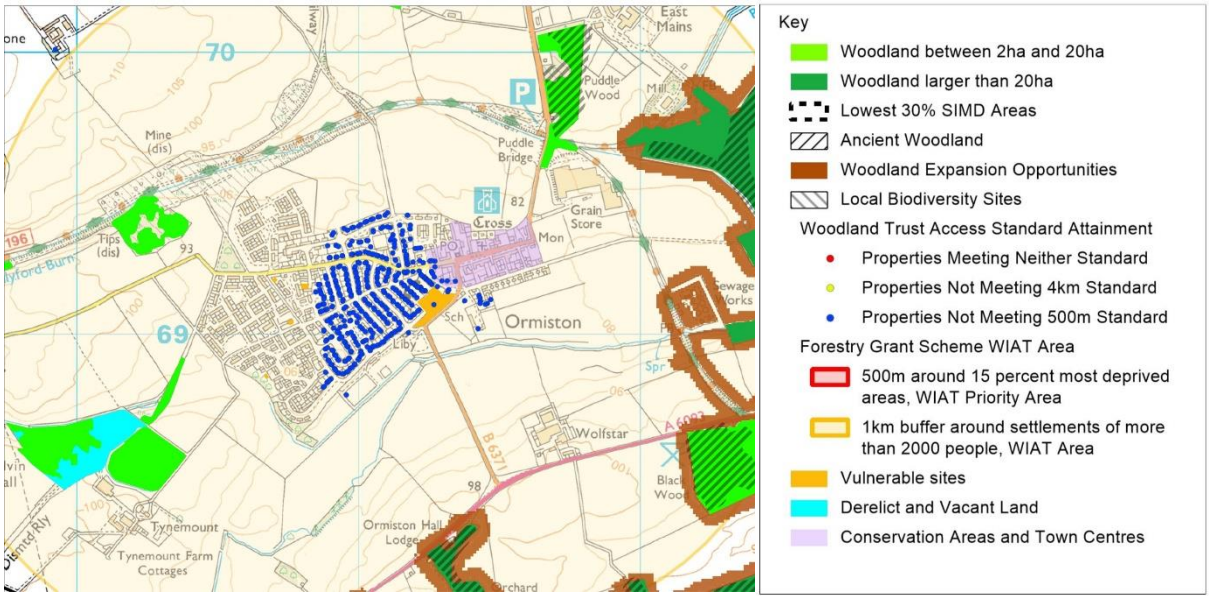
Accessibility

- The woodland Trusts 20ha within 4km is met for all of North Berwick.

- Access to a woodland over 2ha within 500m is not met for a large number of properties in a central section of North Berwick. Access may be improved by the development of the woodlands within the recreation land to the south of the new development beside Law primary School. Together these create a larger area that will develop into a woodland area in time.

- There are a few properties on the western boundary at Ferrygate that do not meet the 2ha within 500m standard. There may be opportunity to expand the woodland strip to the west of Ferrygate development to address this.

Ormiston



Existing trees and woodland

- Distinctive tree-lined avenue part of the original design of the village
- Local Biodiversity Site Puddle Wood to the north
- Mature trees in private gardens help provide the setting for the village
- Tree lined lane leading to Tynemount Bing is an attractive route

Canopy – 26.92%.

• Ormiston is close to achieving the working canopy target, despite almost a quarter of its area being development sites formerly arable fields. Although there is a considerable amount of social housing in the expansion of the original planned village, much of this is semi-detached housing with relatively generous garden ground.

• The tree-lined avenue along the main street is now in need of succession planting.

Accessibility

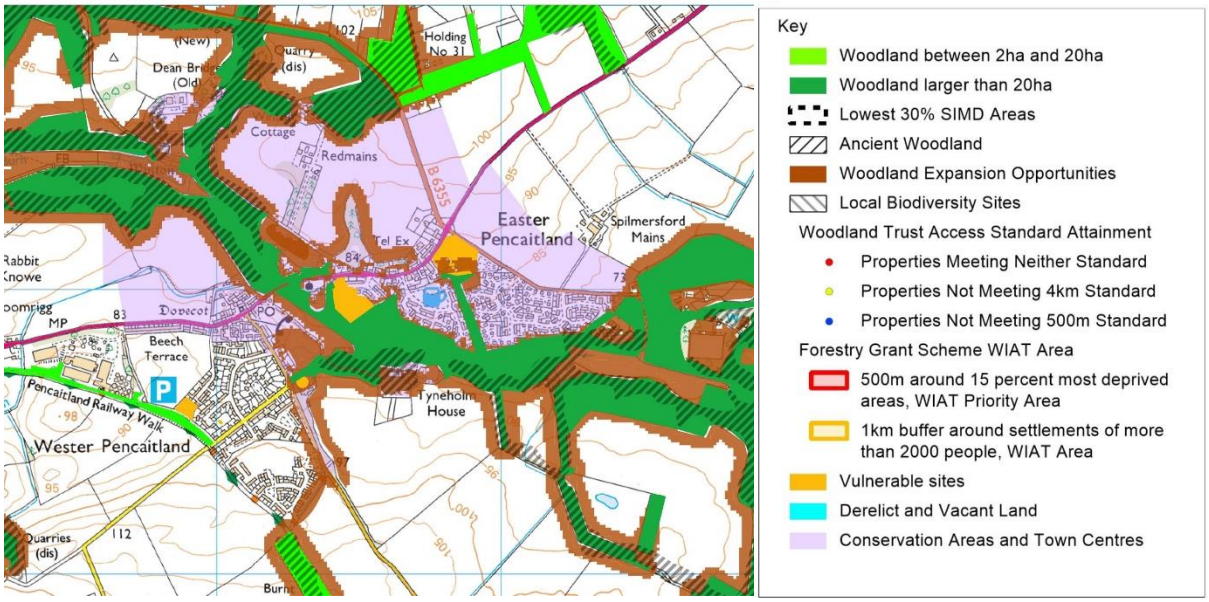
• All parts of Ormiston meet the 20 ha within 4km standard, being within reach of woodland at Winton Estate and Big Wood, Fountainhall.

• The east and west of Ormiston also meet the 2ha woodland within 500m standard. A large number of properties in the centre of the village do not. There may be opportunity to expand and connect the existing smaller woodland areas along the railway walk to the north and along the Tyne to the south and east of the recreation ground to address this.

Connection/Opportunity

- Enhance the woodland habitat surrounding the Tyne (ELC Green Network action)
- Potential to strengthen woodland around the active travel link of the railway walk (Core Path 72) corridor both east to Pencaitland/Winton Estate and west to Carberry
- Potential to strengthen connections to hedgerow/active travel network of the Tranent ridge
- Expanding or improvement to woods around the west of the village

Pencaitland



Existing Trees

- Wooded Tyne corridor and other mature trees of the Winton Estate
- mature trees especially on the entrance to the east provides a leafy, natural entry to the village. Some of these trees are older and succession planting should be considered.
- Yew trees within the Parish Church yard are distinctive

Canopy cover: 30.36% canopy.

• This settlement meets the target canopy cover, despite almost a fifth of its area consisting of a development site formerly mainly an arable field. The canopy is largely within the older part of the village, though housing south of Huntlaw Road also have a fairly good canopy. Much of the canopy elsewhere is in wooded strip or the trees associated with the Tyne which runs through the village. There are no lower SIMD areas here. There is an area of council housing in Wester Pencaitland however much of this is semi-detached housing with relatively generous private gardens.

• There is an opportunity to further strengthen and expand the planting at the eastern entrance to the village including softening of appearance of village from the eastern approach. The cherry trees subject to Tree Preservation Order xx are aging and would benefit from replacement with longer lived species.

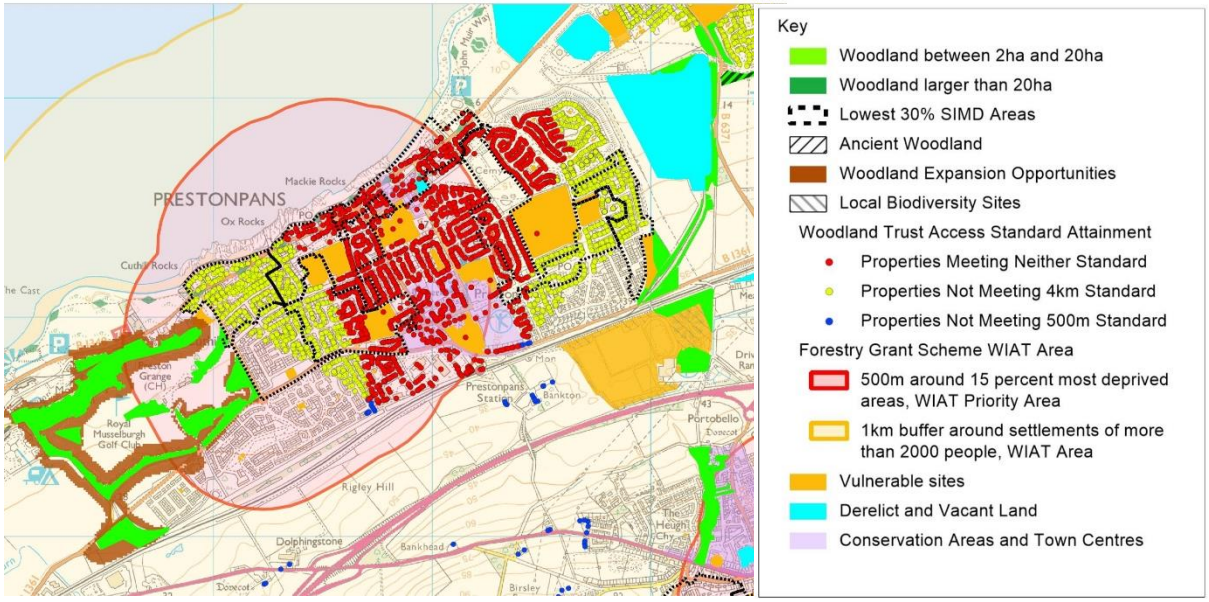
Connectivity/Opportunities

- Enhance the woodland habitat surrounding the Tyne (ELC Green Network action)
- Retain and if possible enhance woodland connections to the wider Winton Estate
- Enhance woodland along the railway walk (Core path 72)
- Strengthen connections from Winton Estate woodland to Fountainhall woodland, potentially along Right of Way from Fountainhall to Huntlaw Road
- Seek connection between ancient woodland at Fountainhall and Black Wood (wood south of Landour)

Accessibility

- All properties within Pencaitland meet both accessibility standards, being set within the Winton Estate, with its extensive woodland walks.

Prestonpans



Existing woodland and trees:

- The wooded grounds of Prestongrange and Royal Musselburgh Golf Club lie to the west of Prestonpans help avoid visual coalescence with Musselburgh
- Mature trees around Bankton House to the south provide a setting for this historic building in views from the A1 and East Coast rail line.
- Younger woodland at Meadowmill provides shelter to the pitches whilst also providing a recreation resource.
- Hawthorn trees to the east of the town that are historically important due to their links to the Battle of Prestonpans
- Mature trees in Harlawhill Conservation Area – from the wooded grounds of Northfield House, to the street trees along East Loan and Kirk Street, and the wooded areas at Winfields, Harlawhill House and the Parish Church- are important to its historic character.

Canopy – 13 %

- Prestonpans tree canopy cover is low. Only a small proportion of the settlement consists of current development sites (3%) though there has been significant recent development at around a further tenth of the town. Tight built form in the traditional centre is a further reason for low coverage. Prestonpans however is generally much less wooded than many other towns and also has some of East Lothian's highest concentrations of multiple deprivation. There is also a high proportion of social housing here.

- This area is considered within the plans for Climate Evolution, which envisages further planting in Council owned private spaces, as well as blue green infrastructure between Prestonpans and Cockenzie and to the south at Meadowmill. There are significant issues with both underground and

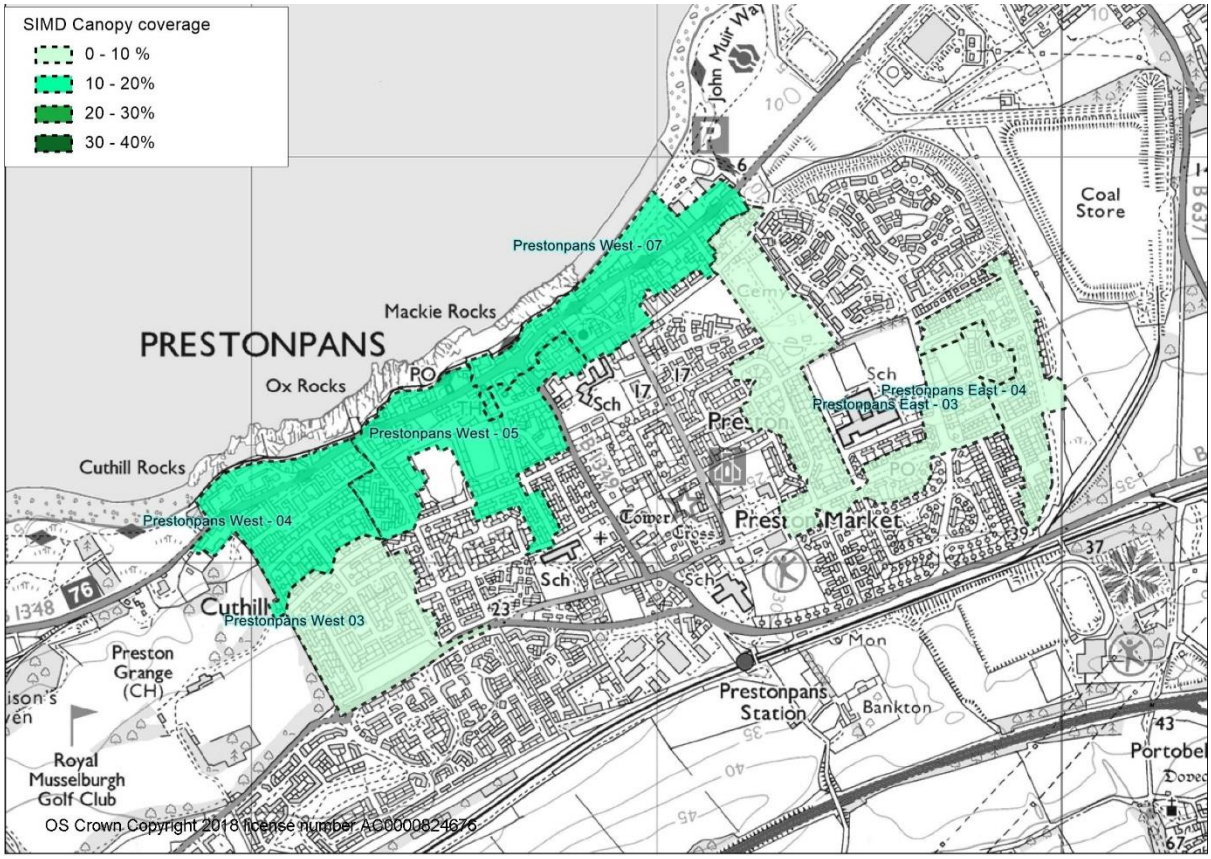
overhead cables there however which may preclude extensive woodland planting. The area of the Greenhills is valued for its openness and extensive planting there is unlikely to be welcomed.

- Opportunities should be sought for new tree planting within residential areas, and in particular in the more deprived areas, to improve amenity. Views from the High Street to the sea should be retained.

Connectivity

- There may be opportunities for a connected blue green infrastructure at the Meadowmill burn in line with the Climate Evolution Vision between Meadowmill and the former Cockenzie Power Station site; this could potentially connect up through the Heugh in Tranent

SIMD Areas



All the lower SIMD areas here have low canopy cover. To the west, there are some mature trees at Musselburgh golf club, outside the area, which do have amenity benefit to this area. There are few large trees within garden ground, and amenity landscaping is lacking in trees and shrubs. This is in part in response to residents requests due to issues of dog fouling and litter.

Housing layouts makes tree planting difficult in some areas. The 4th statistical account notes "Unlike housing built before the war, there was a degree of concern that use of space should be maximised: the most striking example of this is the housing complex at Cuthill at the western end of the High Street within Prestonpans West 04. These properties, officially opened in October 1962, quickly earned the nickname 'Ponderosa', since its narrow walkways, low level buildings and communal garden space with wooden divisions reminded tenants of the ranch house in 'Bonanza', a popular TV

series of the time. Their innovative design was developed by the Housing Research Unit at Edinburgh University and was intended to provide 'community with privacy'. However, although the award winning development was the subject of national interest and was much admired, the layout did not prove popular with residents and its original layout has since been modified." The housing does remain low rise, high density however and large trees here could cause issues of overshadowing. Housing at the High Street is in a tight layout in response to the coastal location.

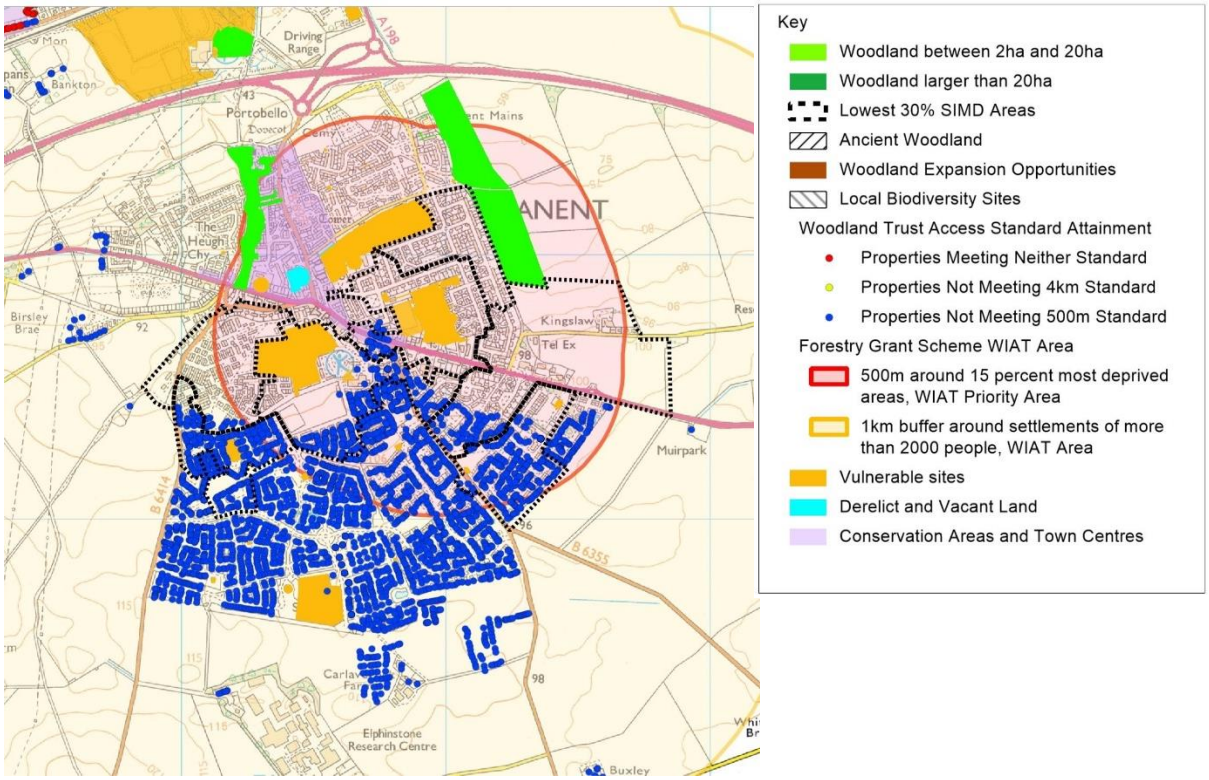
An issue for tree planting here is retention of sea views, from both public and private areas. These are a positive quality of this area, and tree planting should avoid blocking these. Prestonpans is known for its murals, and these should not be obscured by planting.

A scheme to provide tenants with trees for their front gardens was undertaken by East Lothian Council in the late 1990s / early 2000s. This proved popular at the time, however many of the trees have since been removed. The were many corner sites and smaller open spaces throughout areas Prestonpans East 03 and 04. Many of the trees from these spaces have been turned into hard surfacing to remove residents perceived issues with vandalism and dog fouling. The larger open spaces at Hawthorn Crescent have been developed with tree planting and remain as attractive treed open spaces. The council is carrying out a programme of street tree planting along the roads within areas 8 and 9 which will improve canopy coverage in time.

Accessibility

- Prestonpans is lacking in accessibility to woodland. The majority of properties do not have access to a woodland of over 20ha within 4km. In addition many of the properties in the central section of Prestonpans do not have access to a 2ha woodland within 500m. Opportunities should be sought for woodland to help meet this.

Tranent

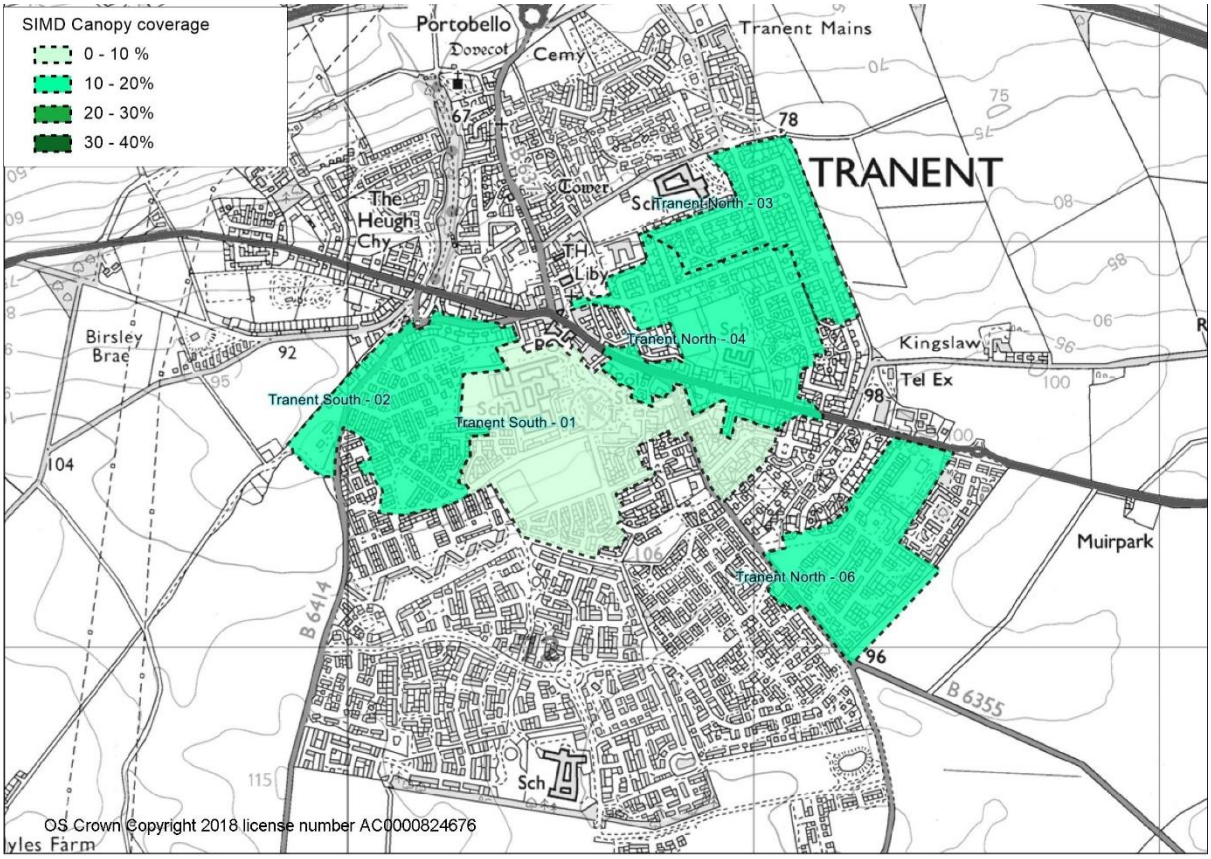


Existing trees and woodland:

- Polson Park, Bankpark House and Bankpark Crescent constitute established treed areas to the west side of Tranent
- The Heugh runs northwards from Edinburgh Road to the edge of Tranent, connecting with mature trees within Tranent Parish Church grounds and hedgerows and hedgerow trees at Core Path 151, the right of way from Church Street to Johnny Cope's Road. Many of the mature trees at the Heugh are ash, at risk of loss to ash dieback disease
- An area of scrub to the east of Coalgate is regenerating into woodland providing biodiversity and amenity value; there is also some evidence of anti-social behaviour there including fly tipping.
- New development to the south of Tranent is to include structural tree planting to the southern boundary. This will take many years to mature to provide recreational woodland.

Canopy cover: 17%.

- Tranent has low canopy cover; development sites make up almost a fifth of the settlement, but even if these are excluded canopy is still low at around 20%. The reasons for this include that there are some recently built estates where the gardens have not yet had time to mature; and there being some areas of tight urban form particularly around the High Street and Coalgate.
- Tranent contains some of East Lothian's highest levels of deprivation. There are significant areas of social housing here.



Opportunities/Challenges

- Encourage planting of appropriate trees in private gardens
- Seek opportunities on Council owned open space, which is low in tree cover
- The Heugh woodlands include large numbers of ash and consideration should be given to restructuring these if they become impacted by ash dieback.
- The south and east parts of Tranent do not meet the Woodland Trusts accessibility standard of 500m to a 2 ha woodland; there does not appear to be any woodland of 2ha within or near that part of town. A suitable site for this should be sought.

Connections/Opportunity

- There may be some potential to link the Heugh Woodland through the town via the school to the pathway through Windygoul, creating north/south link, though issues such as safety would have to be carefully considered; another possibility is to link to Core Path 268 via the development site TT4 Lammermuir Terrace
- Link to woodland at Winton Estate: this could strengthen landscape character and biodiversity connectivity
- Climate evolution proposes blue green infrastructure linking Tranent to the coast via Meadowmill
- Strengthen the hedgerow network around Tranent

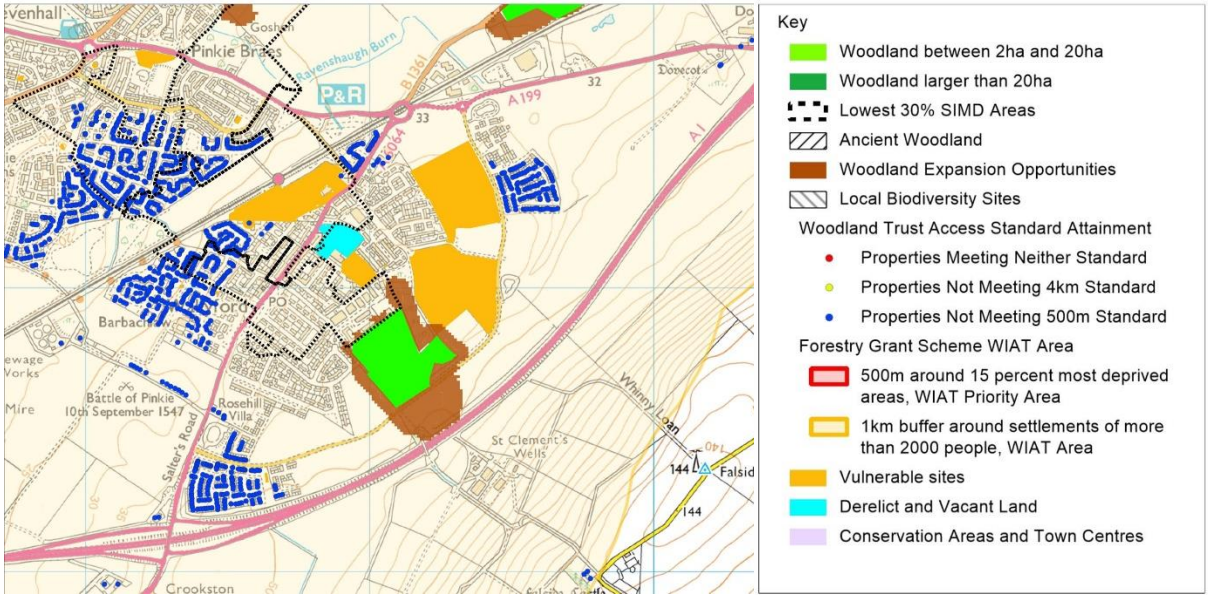
Accessibility

- Tranent meets the standard of 4km to a woodland of over 20 ha as it is close to the Winton Estate woods, and some parts are also within that distance of Butterdean Wood.

- The northern part of the town has access to woodland over 2ha within 500m from the Heugh and also from the regenerating woodland along the eastern edge of the town. This regenerating area is important to encourage as woodland to ensure access to this standard is retained.

- Properties within the southern part of Tranent to do have access to woodland larger than 2ha within 500m. This may improve for properties to the south with the maturing of the woodland belts within the new developments at Windygoul and the structural woodlands planned for the development at South Windygoul. Further opportunities should be sought to expand and connect these woodlands.

Wallyford



Wallyford is a former mining village undergoing considerable change and expansion.

Existing woodland and trees include:

- Woodland at Wallyford Bing, a Local Biodiversity Site which has biodiversity and amenity benefits
- Maturing landscaping trees at Salters Road

Canopy cover 6.53%

- Wallyford has very low canopy coverage. A very significant proportion of the settlement consists of development sites (nearly 70%), while further areas have been only recently been developed. These sites were formerly arable fields and there has not yet been time for trees planted in association with development or in private gardens to grow to full size. If it is assumed that the development sites have no canopy cover, coverage is 21.2% for the existing village. Much of this at Wallyford Bing, which is a valuable but concentrated area of woodland. An increase in the canopy within the remainder of the village could therefore be even more beneficial than the figures suggest. A relatively high proportion of the existing original housing is Council stock, some of which are flats, although many have their own private garden, and there are some lower SIMD areas here also.

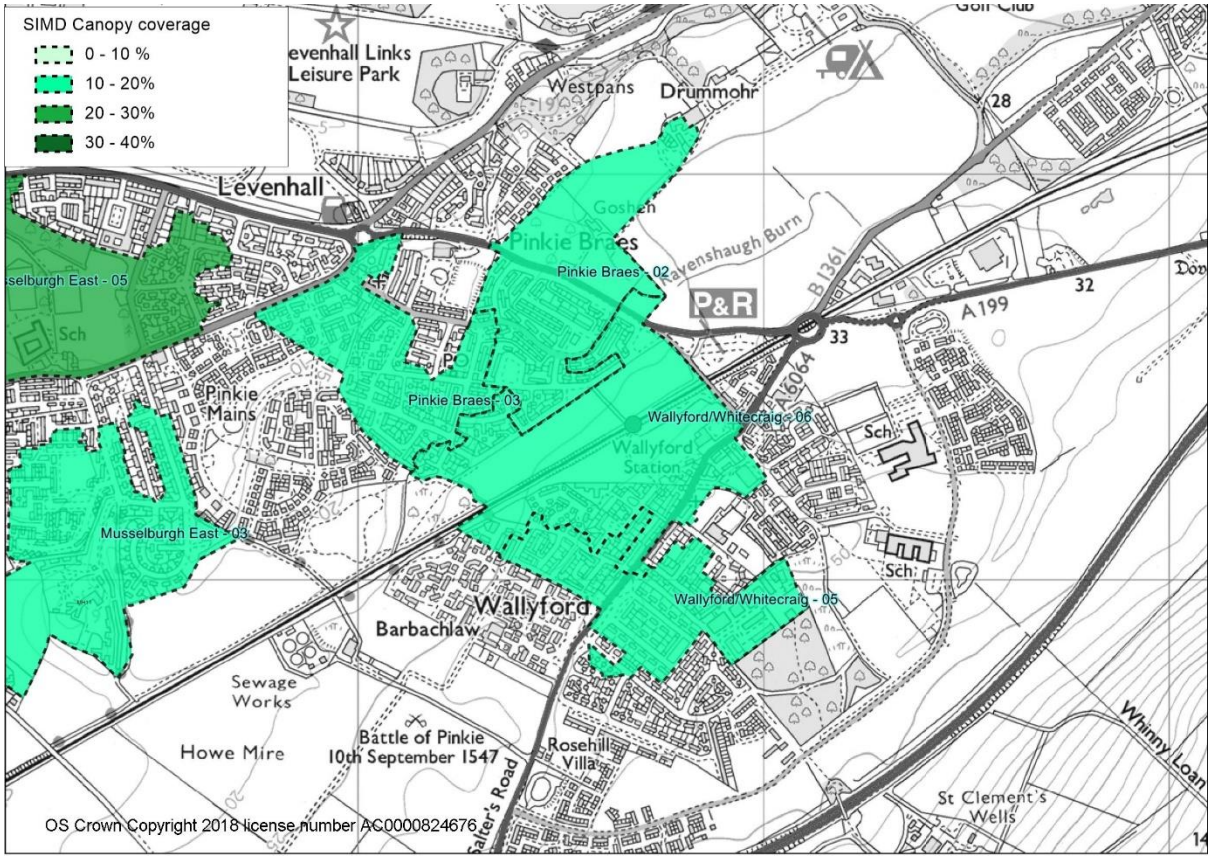
- As sites are developed and mature there is likely to be some natural increase in canopy due to maturing landscaping and trees in open space and private gardens. Opportunities should be sought to increase canopy, including:

- Encouraging growing of appropriate trees in private gardens
- Increasing tree cover in existing open space

Connectivity.

- The A1 is a barrier to connectivity to the south, though Core Path 168 and Right of way to Crookston Road cross the A1. Aspirations include:
  - Connect woodland at Wallyford Bing with the network of hedgerows and Carberry woodland on the Tranent/Mayfield Ridge, using hedgerows if woodland is not suitable
  - Core Path 170-171 and right of way from Rosehill Cottages to Salters Road/Pinkie – increase in woodland/hedges would have to be carefully considered here as this path is an active travel route to the station, where there is evidence of anti-social behaviour

SIMD areas



The SIMD area between Wallyford and Pinkie includes an arable field, which reduces the canopy coverage, as well as some playing fields within Wallyford. All the same, the tree cover within the built areas is not high. Some of the housing here benefits from open views and residents may not wish trees. Hedging may be a better option – there could be opportunities for hedging and possibly some hedgerow trees at Galt Road. Some new trees have been planted on the amenity grassland there and at Delta Crescent. Some of the houses here have gardens, as do some of the flats, and planting of small trees could be encouraged here. It looks like the original layout may have had privet hedging, much of which has been replaced. Privet does have considerable maintenance requirements and replacing fencing with privet may not be a suitable option.

There might be opportunities for further planting around the playing fields, though there are some fine views towards Edinburgh from here which should be retained. There is some tree planting along

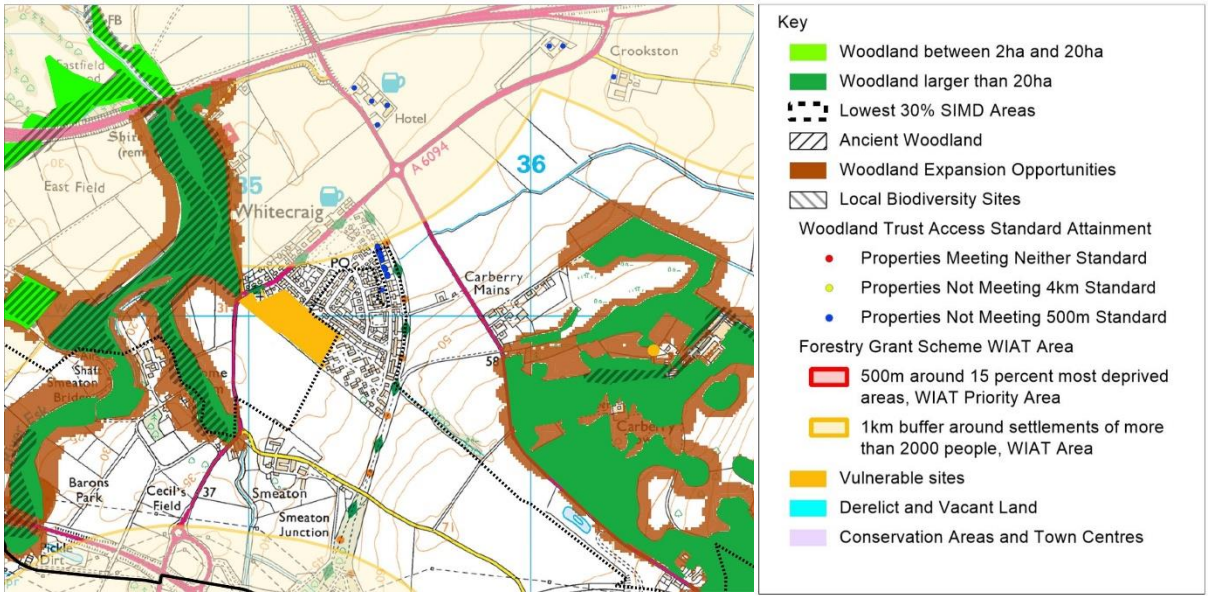
the railway; the operators do not like trees which drop leaves on the line, so this will limit tree planting here. The path there may be better kept open for reasons of perceived (and possibly actual) safety.

Accessibility

- All Wallyford has access to a woodland larger than 20ha within 4km at Carberry and the Esk.

- Central Wallyford also has access to a woodland over 2ha within 500m at Wallyford Bing, which is also a Local Biodiversity Site. There is a lack of local woodland access for properties at the new developments at Barbachlaw, to the south edge of Salters Road and within the new housing development east of Masons Way. Opportunities for woodland areas larger than 2ha should be sought through the plans for these developments.

Whitecraig



Existing trees and woodland:

- Publicly accessible treed area at the railway walk to the east of the village
- Ancient woodland within the Dalkeith House designed landscape adds visual amenity but is inaccessible from the Whitecraig side due to the boundary wall
- Trees within the large central open space are maturing improving visual amenity and bringing shade

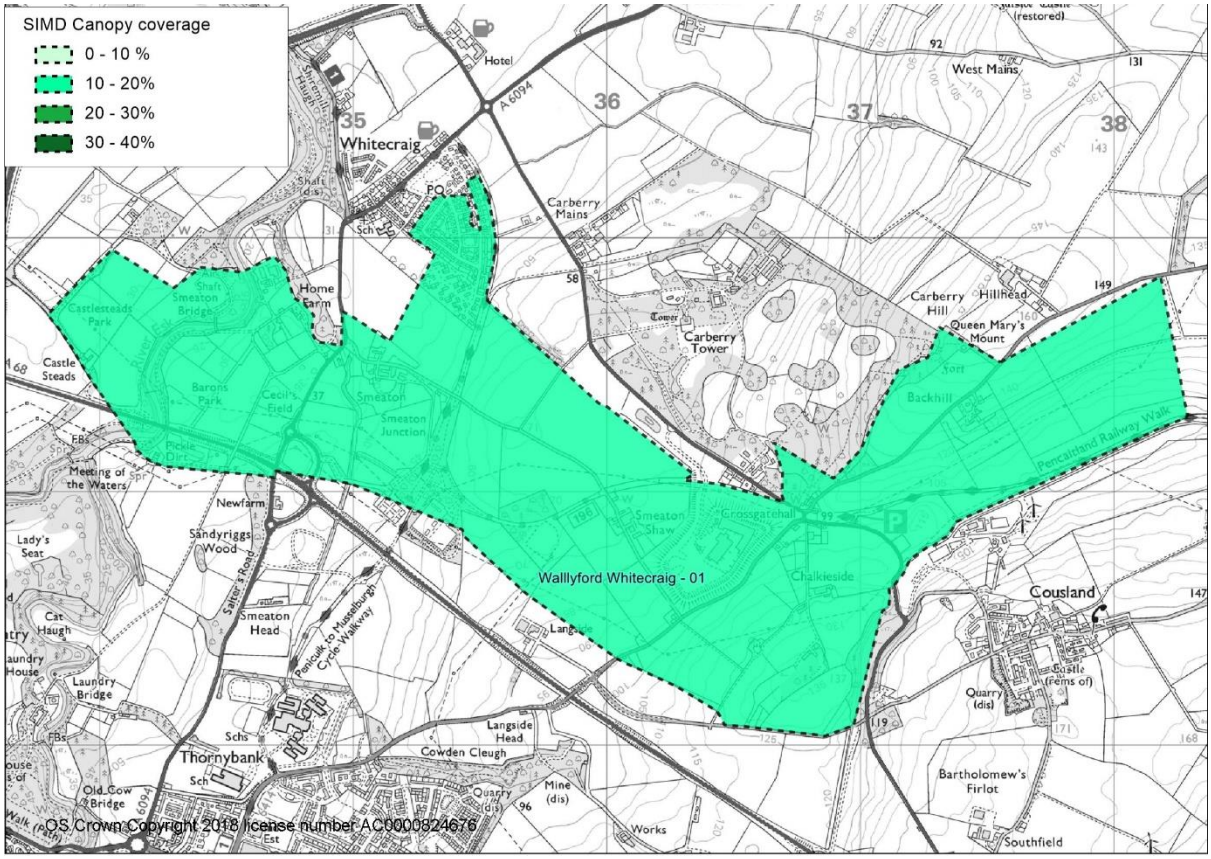
Canopy 14.12%

- Canopy coverage in Whitecraig is low. However, development sites to the north and south make up nearly 50% of the area of the settlement. As former arable fields there was little existing tree cover there. Excluding these sites, canopy coverage is around 27%, almost at the working target. However, much of the canopy consists of trees along the railway walk to the east, though those in the central open space also contribute. There could be benefit therefore to some increase in canopy through the village, including in private gardens which appear not to have many trees in general. As the

development sites come forward and mature there is likely to be some natural increase in canopy there due to maturing landscaping and trees in open space and private gardens.

Connectivity/opportunity

- Consider open space in council ownership: there could be opportunities around the periphery of larger open spaces or potential for street trees
- Encouraging growing of appropriate trees in private gardens
- Esk – Carberry: Whitecraig is set between two significant areas of ancient woodland areas at the Esk and at Carberry. There may be potential to link these areas via the existing tree belts around the village with woodland or hedgerow creation.
- Riparian planting at the Dean burn, Carberry ridge drain and Smeaton Dean burn, connecting to the woodland by the railway walk and/or to woodland at the Esk and Carberry
- Expanding woodland in association with the railway walk/Cycle path (Core Path 72/73/348) between Whitecraig and Ormiston, and to the Travellers site at Smeaton



Accessibility

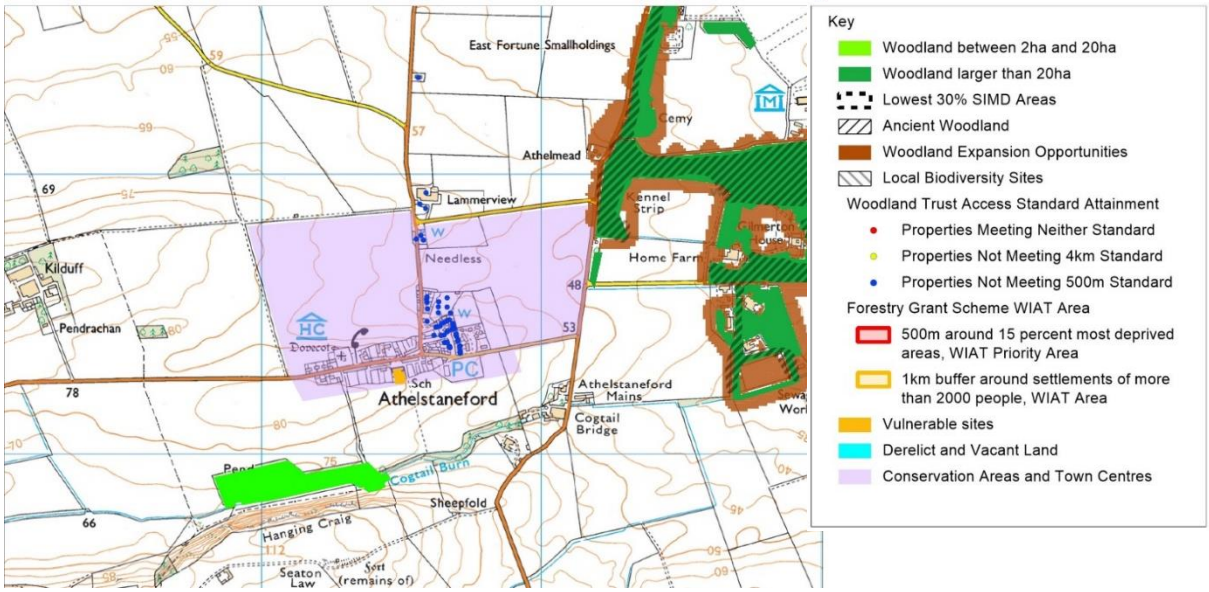
- Most of Whitecraig theoretically meets both targets, due to proximity to the woodland and the Esk and at Carberry. However, the Esk woodland is not in practice accessible within 500m from most property within Whitecraig, due to a high stone wall around the woodland. This woodland does however add visual amenity.

Villages

- Many of East Lothian's villages are within or contain Conservation Areas. As noted above, the Council is looking to produce further guidance on Conservation Areas, including trees within them. This

guidance is likely to be more detailed than the information below and should be referred to as it becomes available for those areas.

Athelstaneford

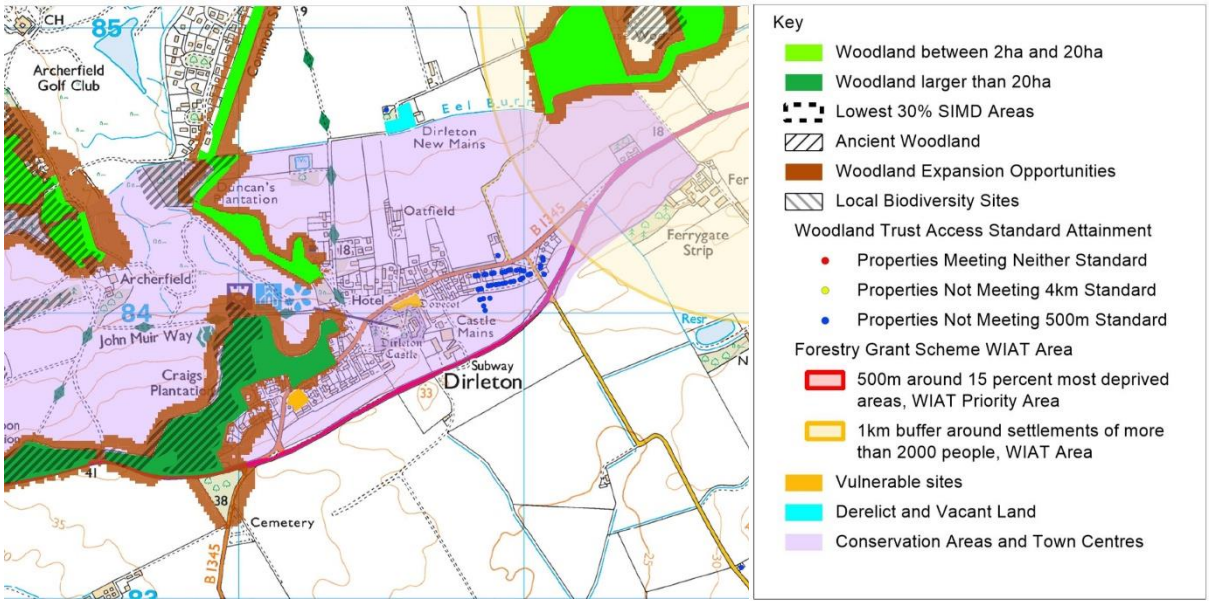


• Athelstaneford is a designed village of generally single storey traditional cottages built on ground rising to the south. The attractive built elements are visible against a backdrop of mature trees, and with some mature trees interspersed. There are good views of the village from the north and new tree planting should not entirely obscure the village. The central area of the village is mainly open, which is a valued part of its historic character.

• Athelstaneford lies at the meeting of four main landholdings, and the village may benefit from a coordinated approach to tree planting in the immediate surroundings, connecting woodland around the town – such as at Pendragon Gilmerton or Kilduff - to treed areas within the village. This is especially the case as many of the trees are ash, including a large specimen at the Maltings, which are likely to be lost to disease.

• All of the village is within 4km of woods over 20ha with the Gilmerton Estate to the east. Some properties within the centre do not have access to woodland of over 2ha within 500m, though southern parts do, as they are close to Pendrachin.

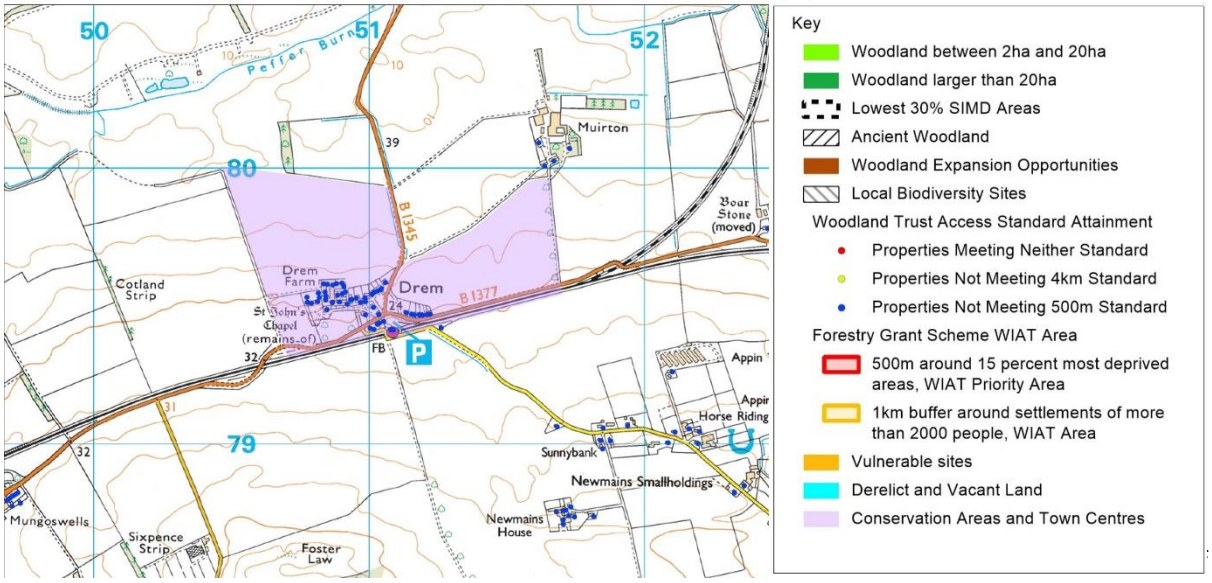
Dirleton



• Dirleton is centred on its castle set on a rocky knoll. Much of the original designed village is set within mature trees, around a large, open green. The openness of the green is an essential part of the village's character and it is not suitable for mass tree planting. Newer housing at Gyler's Road is prominent and could be screened by tree planting to its south without detriment to the setting of the village. Views to the castle from the south should be retained and enhanced where possible. There are 'fingers' of development extending to the north of the village that may be strengthened by additional tree planting.

• Most property in Dirleton meets the Woodland Trusts accessibility standards, being close to woodland within Archerfield and at Gullane Bents. Craigs Plantation is also nearby and may be used for recreation.

Drem

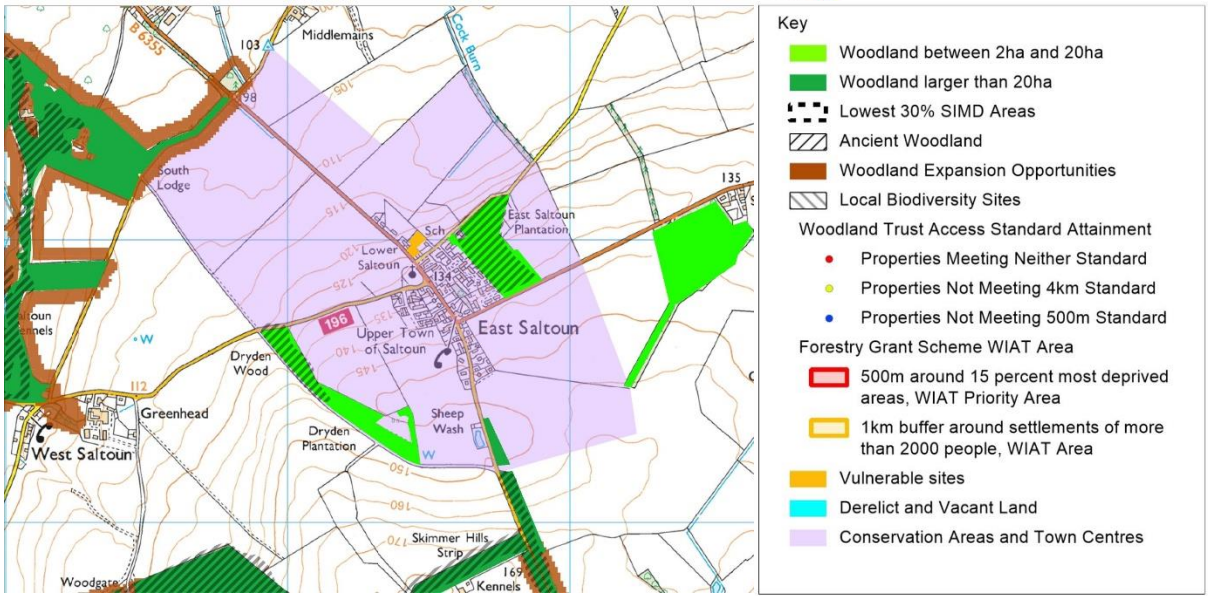


Drem is set within trees. However, as with Dirleton, its village green is open and should be retained this way. The traditional cottages and farm steading, together with the newer houses to the northwest

are set within a mature woodland setting, often hiding the buildings from outside views. Trees and hedgerows are important to the character of Drem, breaking up the development massing. The balance between the vegetation and the built form should be retained. Arable farmland extends to the boundaries of the settlement with little surrounding woodland to link to.

• No property in Drem has access to woodland over 2ha within 500m. There is little woodland in the area and the land around the village is prime agricultural land and one the main foraging areas for pink footed geese. These constraints may make woodland creation or expansion difficult here.

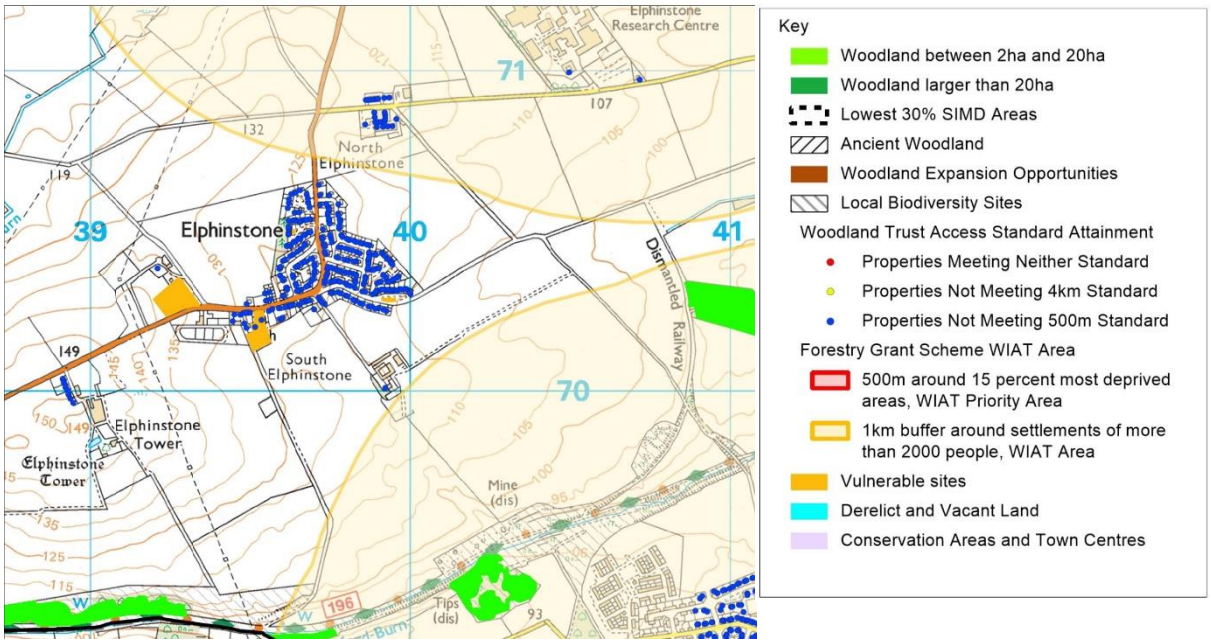
East Saltoun



• The east side of Main Street has a number of larger properties set back from the road with lines of mature trees fronting the road. These read together in views along the street from the Fletcher Hall to the north, to the primary school, East Saltoun Farmhouse and Saltoun Hill. They are complemented by the mature trees within the grounds of the Parish Church to the west. The other original smaller buildings are close to the road, with little room for tree planting to the front. . The Church grounds also hosts a number of formally trimmed yew trees. These mature trees add significantly to the treed feel of the village. In addition, mature trees, in particular those of Strawberry Wood appear over the rooftops, attractively enclosing the built elements. The balance between the vegetation and the built form should be retained.

• Both Woodland Trust accessibility standards are met at East Saltoun. The 5ha East Saltoun Plantation (Strawberry Wood) lies immediately to the east of the village, while Saltoun Big Wood is just to the south.

Elphinstone



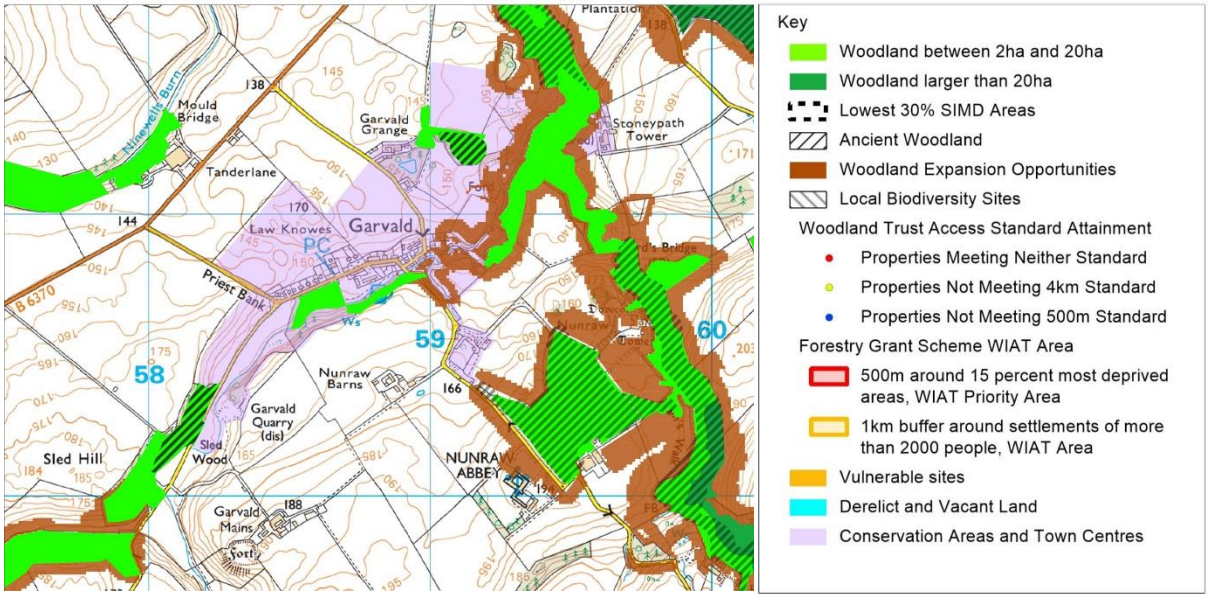
Elphinstone is a windy, exposed village on top of the ridge. Tree planting including a coniferous shelter belt to the west wrapping round to coniferous woodland at the north, and a row of trees to the south of Buxley Road recreation area provides some protection for the existing houses. New development proposed to the west includes for a new woodland to its west which will perform this function for new housing, as well as providing some biodiversity and landscape value. There are other small areas of trees within the village. There is a good network of Core Paths around the village, man of which are lined with low trees and/or substantial hedges.

• . Opportunities in Elphinstone may include:

- Potential additional tree planting in some of the open spaces
- cluster planting might be possible around the east and north side of the village to soften the transition to arable land; the fine open views from this village across surrounding farmland and to the hills beyond should not be completely obscured however
- expansion of the hedge and trees along Core Path routes
- reinforcing and reinstating field boundaries with hedges and specimen trees could also improve the approaches to the village.

• The woodland Trusts 4km to a 20 ha woodland is met for all properties in Elphinstone, however, the smaller woodland standard is not. The Development Brief for the TT11 Elphinstone West housing site seeks a landscaped edge to the north as well as some further planting alongside the existing woodland. This will provide some further woodland however it is unlikely to reach 2 ha. The surrounding area of the Tranent/Mayfield ridge is not very treed, and finding a site for a 2 ha woodland nearby would have landscape and biodiversity benefits as well as recreational ones.

Garvald

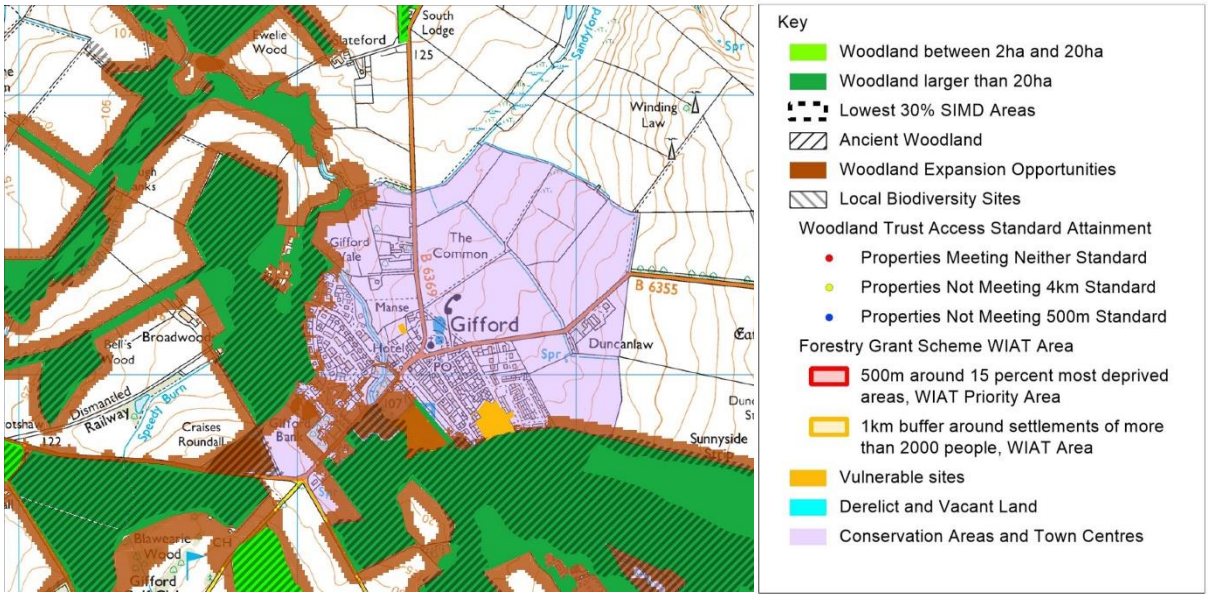


• Garvald is a hillfoot village nestled at the bottom of a steep sided valley. There is a considerable amount of woodland to the south associated with the Papana Water and its tributaries. The village itself is to the north of this stream. Most of the traditional housing is close, and sometimes almost hard onto the street, however there are some small, pretty trees in the centre. The rear gardens of many of the houses here now contain mature trees, as does the Church grounds, adding to the overall leafy feel and attractiveness of this village.

• Both the Woodland Trust's accessible woodland standards are met for all properties within the village.

• There is a significant woodland at the Thorters Burn, which rises steeply up the face of the Lammermuirs. Woodland here connects through riparian woodland at the Papana Water to that around the Whittingehame Water. This is a useful connection for woodland species migrating uphill and should be retained and strengthened. The section between the Lint Mill to the north and woodland at Biel should be considered.

Gifford

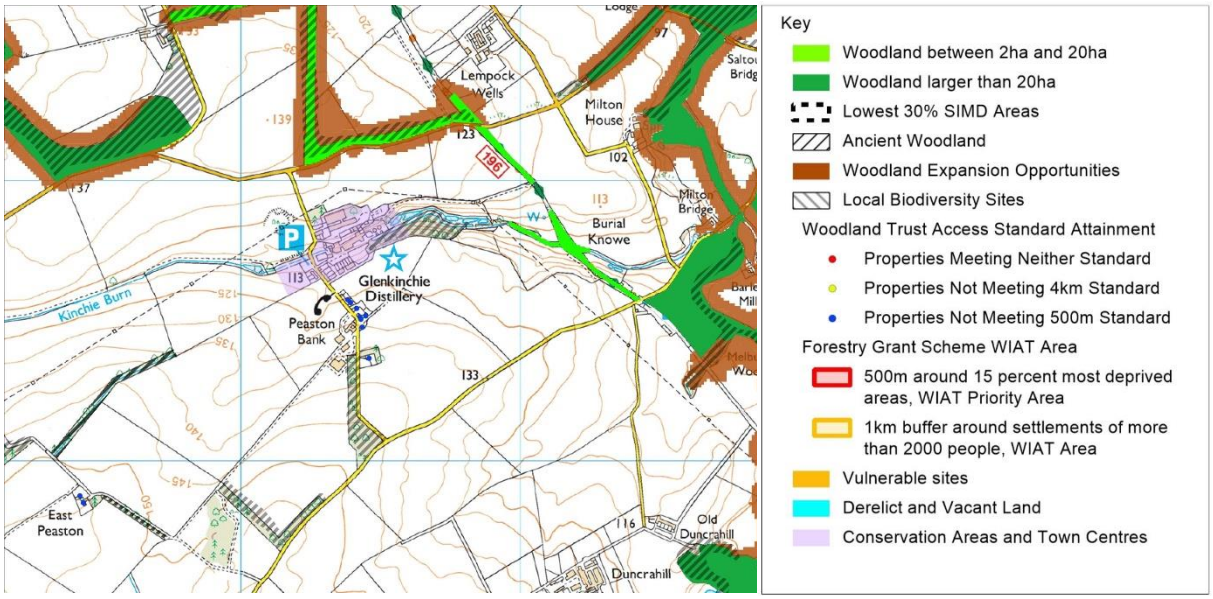


• Gifford is a designed village set in the well wooded surroundings of Yester Estate and the Gifford river valley more generally. Much of the surrounding woodland is ancient. Views from its approaches are of a foothill village nestling within woodland, all entries to the town being lined by mature trees. Gifford's Lime Avenue is a notable feature of the village; there are also some attractive blossom trees associated with the Yester Kirk. The community woodlands of Speedy and Fawn wood lie to the west.

• Connections between the sections of ancient woodland would benefit from being strengthened; in places there are connections but these are limited to a hedge or a single line of trees, while in other there is a small gap only. There is some scrubby tree lines around watercourses to the north of the village,, and consideration could also be given to expanding these. There are some limited areas of open space within the village, including with the grounds of the primary school, where tree planting could be considered.

• All properties within the village meet both Woodland Trust's accessible woodland standards. Woodlands at Yester Estate and the community woodland at Speedy and Fawn woods mean access to woodland here is very good.

Glenkinchie

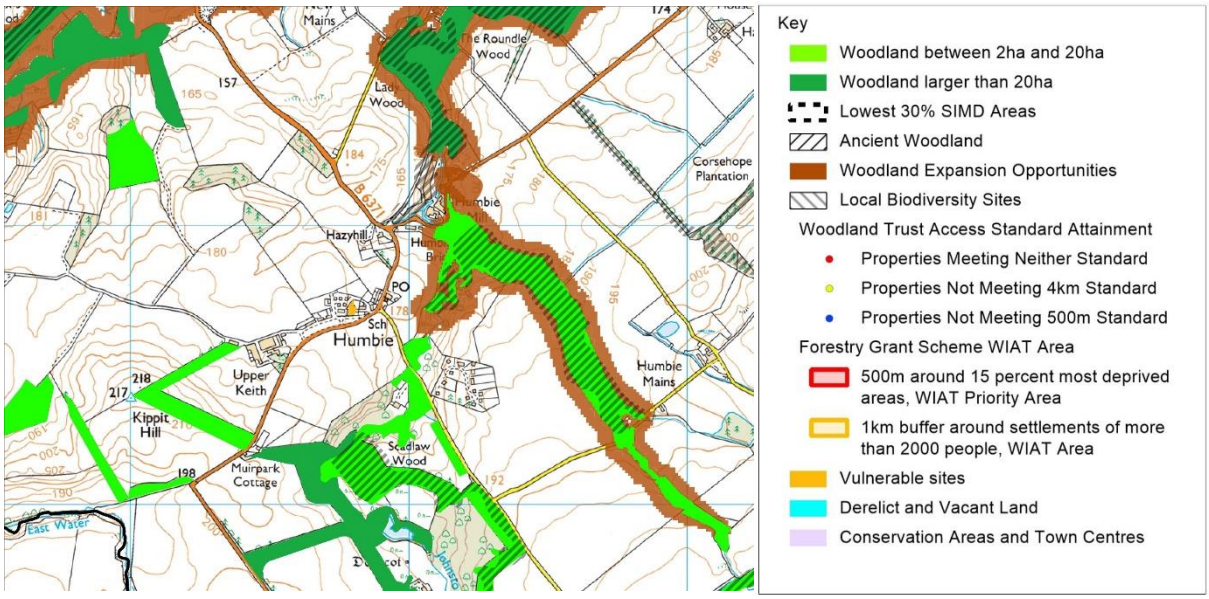


• Glenkinchie is formed around the Glenkinchie Distillery, located on the Kinchie Burn. It includes Peaston Bank to its south. All properties within Glenkinchie meet both Woodland Trust's accessible woodland standards. However the properties at Peaston Bank do not have access to a woodland over 2ha within 500m.

• There is some riparian woodland along the Kinchie Burn and woodland along the road edge to the south of Peaston Bank. Both areas are ancient woodland, but neither is quite 2ha in size. The Distillery has recently added tree planting within its grounds. This may in time increase the size of the riparian woodland such that it provides a large enough woodland for the properties in Peaston Bank to meet both Woodland Trust's accessible woodland standards.

• There may be scope to further strengthen riparian planting along the valley and right of way to the west, and also to link the ancient woodland to the north and south of the village.

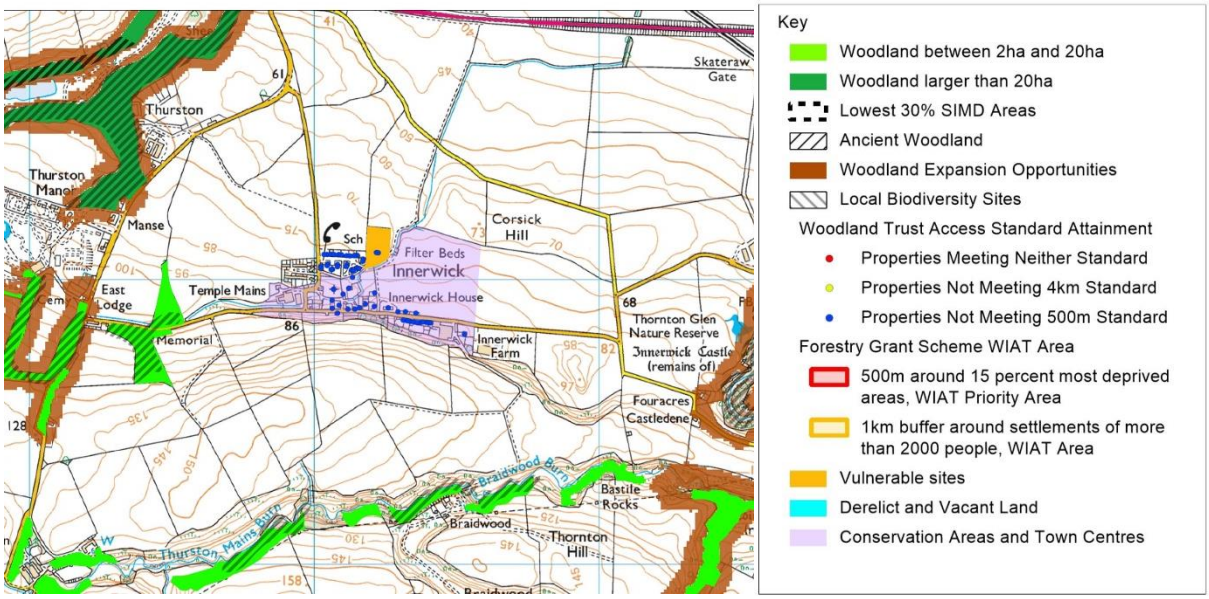
Humbie



• Humbie is a small village overlooking the Humbie Water river valley. There are some mature trees in rear gardens and around the recreation area, however connections to the extensive woodland in the wider area would benefit from improvement. The greens to the south of the village form part of its character however, as well as affording attractive views towards the Lammermuirs, and should remain open in character.

• Both Woodland Trusts woodland access standards are met for all properties in the village.

Innerwick

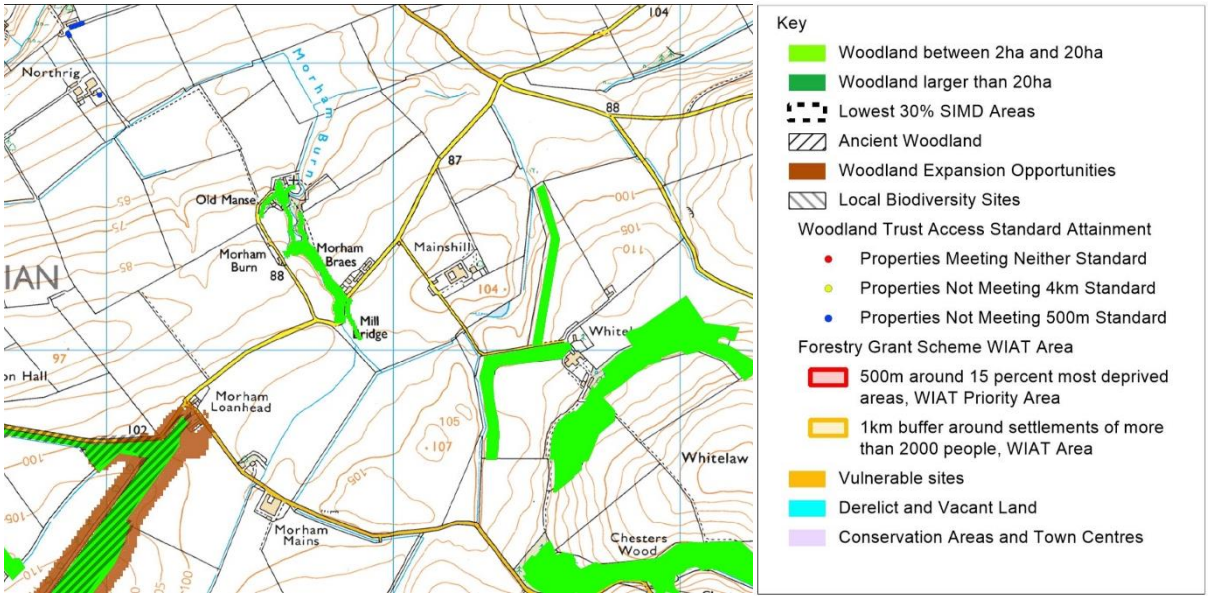


• Innerwick is located at the foot of Blackcastle Hill, on either side of the Innerwick Burn. This hill, and the gorse scrub and tree planting immediately to the south of the village, form its backdrop in views from the north. There are also areas of woodland associated with the burn running through the village, and the original village contains mature trees within garden ground, in particular at Mansewood. These trees form a connection with this woodland. There is less canopy coverage in areas of newer housing. Trees at Innerwick Farm mark the entry to the village; these should be retained. There is an attractive area of ancient woodland to the west of the village either side of the road where the Victorian drinking fountain is located.

• Tree planting on the steeply rising ground to the south could overshadow the village and give it a gloomy appearance. Planting along the Innerwick Burn could be strengthened. The village does have fine views across arable land to the coast, and this should not be lost.

• The Woodland Trust Standard of access for larger woodlands is met with woodland at Woodhall being just within 4km. The woodland to the west means that properties to the west of the village have access to a woodland over 2ha within 500m. However most of the properties within the village do not currently have access to a woodland over 2ha within 500m. There may be opportunity for expansion and connection of the woodland to the south and east of the village to help meet the Woodland Trust accessible woodland standard for all properties. Small scale woodland creation around the Innerwick Burn could also be explored.

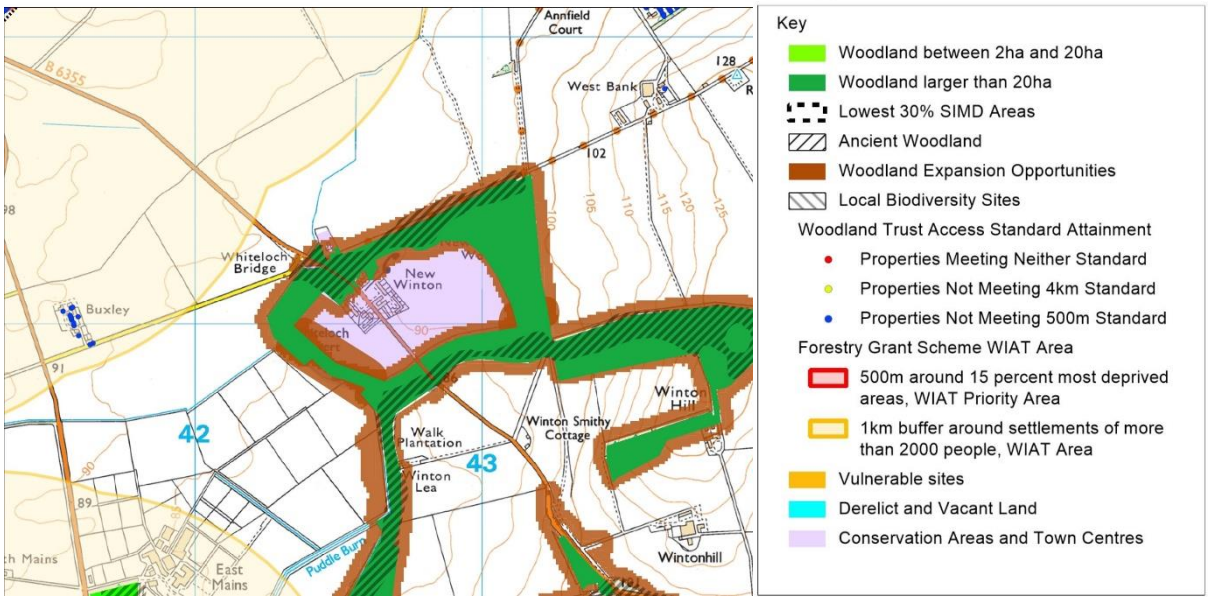
Morham



• Morham is what remains of what was once a much larger settlement. A small church lies in the valley of the Morham Burn, and there is a significant amount of sizable, varied, mature trees here. These form an attractive backdrop to the Church, Manse (both listed buildings) and the Schoolhouse; this is a very attractive view from the road and core paths approaching Morham. There may be scope for reinforcing the planting around Morham burn and restoring and reinstating hedgerows.

• Both Woodland Trusts woodland access standards are met for all properties here.

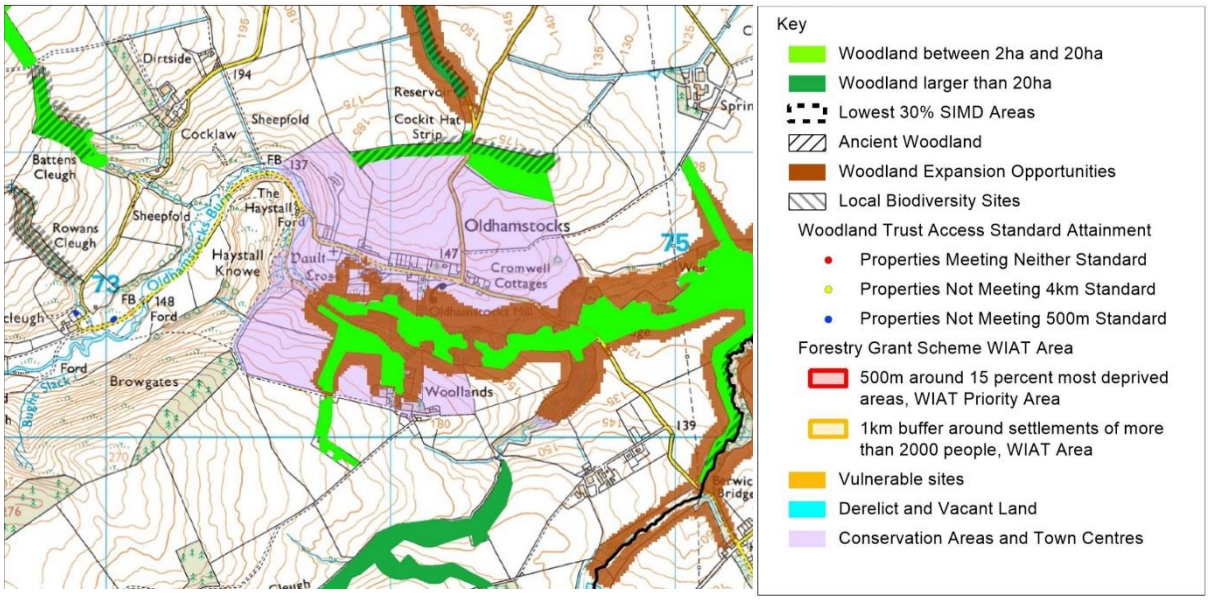
New Winton



• New Winton is a designed village set within the designed landscape of the Winton Estate. The village is centred on a green, either side of the central road. There are some individual trees here as well as a small clumps of trees. There is little scope for further planting; the housing here is attractive and views of this should remain largely open.

• The settlement is surrounded by thick woodland tree belts, some of which have recently been expanded, and consequently both Woodland Trust accessibility standards are met at all properties here. There may be scope for further expansion of these tree belts. Expansion to the northwest may help the properties at Buxley have access to a woodland over 2ha within 500m.

Oldhamstocks



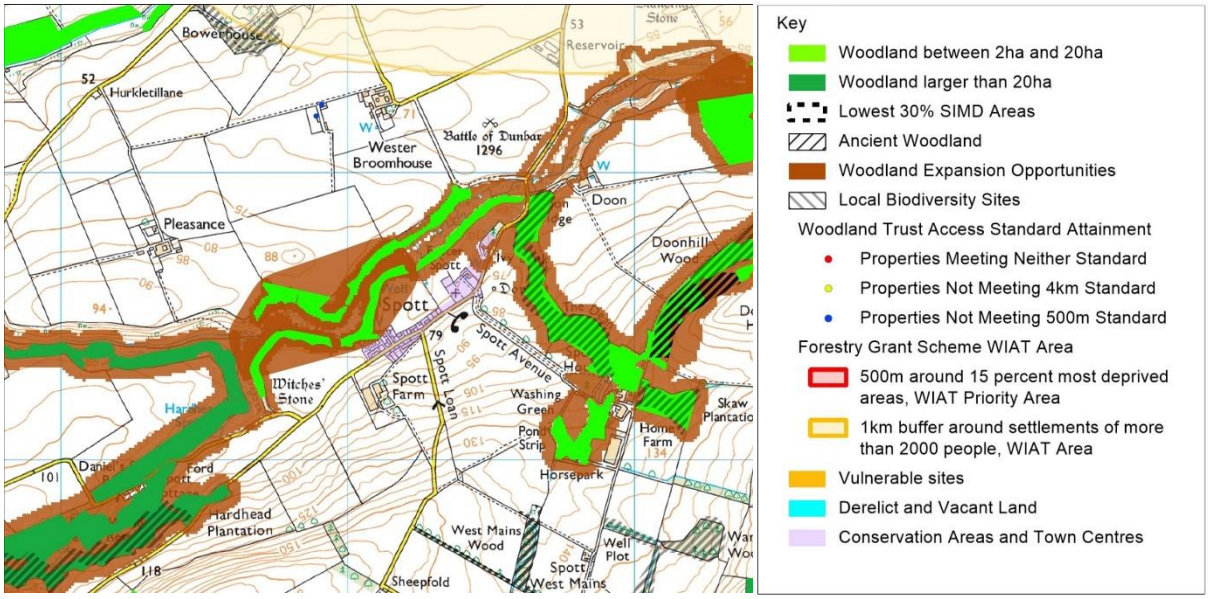
• Oldhamstocks is a Conservation Area village within a wide valley. There is woodland and scrub associated with the burn below the village, which connects through to that at Dunglass, and also shelter belts at the Cockit Hat strip to the north and Woollands to the south. Some of these plantations would now benefit from restructuring.

• The greens and verges of the village are characteristically open and should remain so. There has been some tree planting along the main road which punctuates the view, however continuous tree planting here would detract from the bright, airy feel of the village.

• The Oldhamstocks area could have potential for woodland creation (along with retention of existing woodland) to form a network to support species moving uphill and northwards in response to climate change, and such connections should be sought.

• Both Woodland Trust standards are met here as the village is close to woodland in the Oldhamstocks Burn valley and extensive woodland at Dunglass.

Spott



• Spott is a small, linear rural village set at some distance from its associated Church. The church is a pretty building with a backdrop of mature trees within the manse grounds; both buildings have a number of significant mature trees in their grounds. At the Church some larger trees have unfortunately recently been lost; replacement planting will take time have the same impact. Views towards this scene from the village should not be obscured by planting.

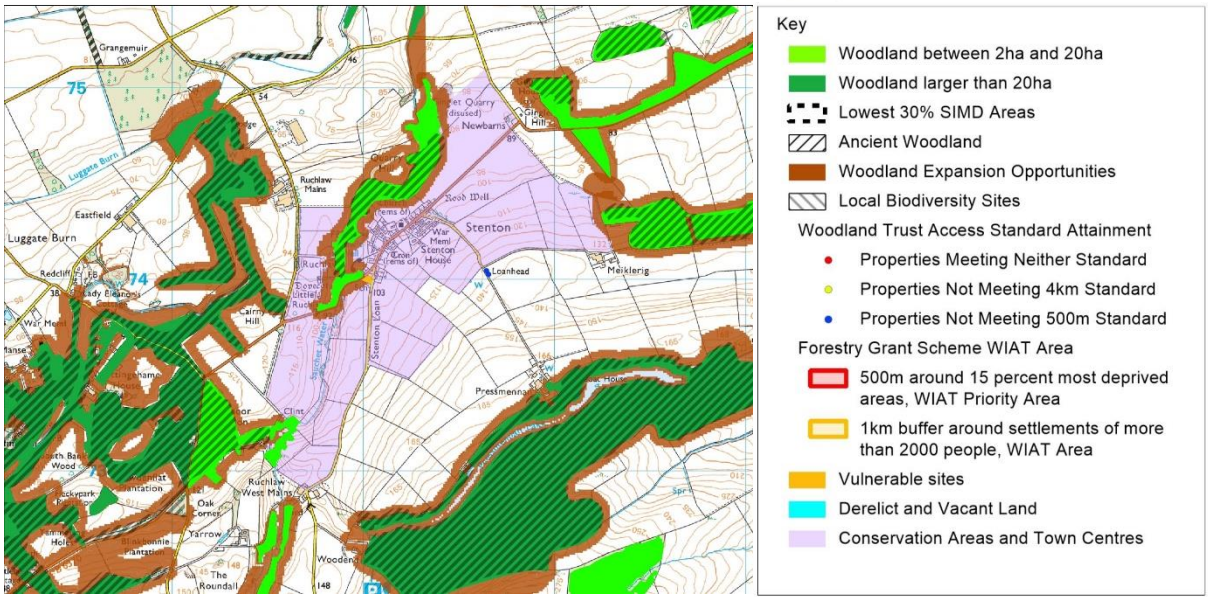
• A row of limes in the centre appears incongruous, disproportionate with the small cottages to the north, and bringing a more formal, urban feel to what is a rural village. Although the greenery is welcome should these trees require to be felled then their replacement with smaller species should be considered here.

• Mature trees line the approaches to Spott from Spott House and the road to the south. A former tree belt in the field to the south has been lost, and replanting this would accord with the setting of the village. There may also be some opportunity to create further woodland within the Spott Burn valley. Any woodland creation within the area should consider the requirements of the understanding of the Dunbar I and II battlefields and priority habitat.

• Most of the properties within Spott meet both the Woodland Trusts accessibility standards. Those in the west do not meet the smaller, close woodland standard, according to the mapping criteria. However, to the north of the village is a right of way which gives access to a small woodland block in the Spott Valley, where there is some other further woodland.

• Both Woodland Trusts woodland access standards are met for all properties here.

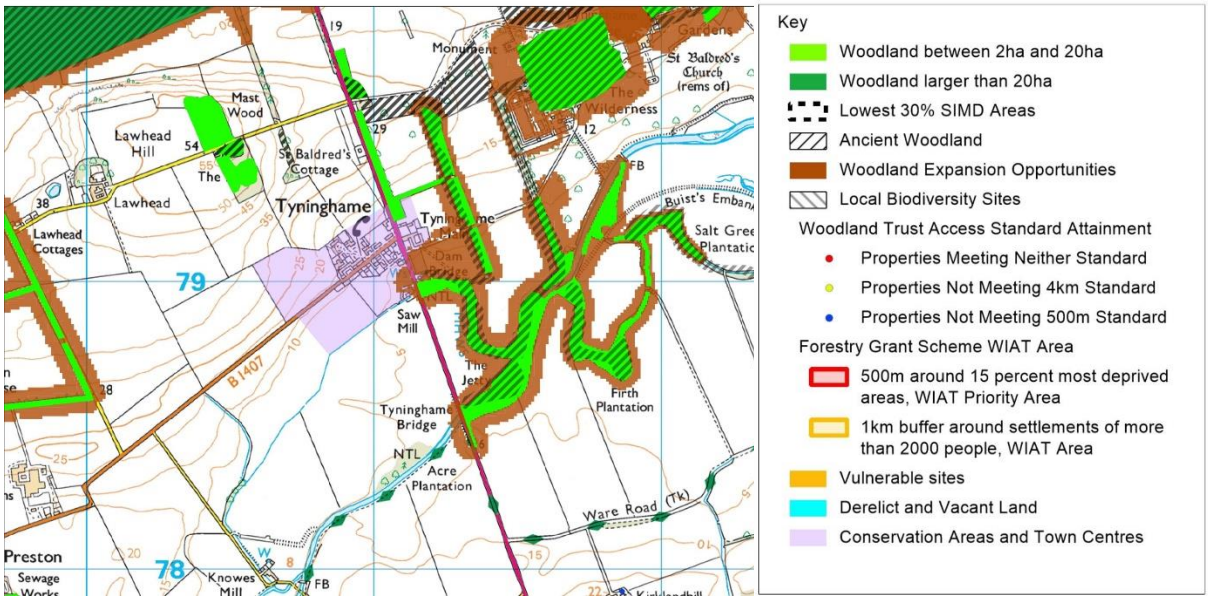
Stenton



• Stenton is a village in the foothills with an attractive built environment and small open greens. The surrounding arable fields are an important part of its setting, and this open aspect should not be lost. There may be potential for woodland creation around the burn, especially the connection to Biel. There is some striking topiary in garden ground in the centre here and further such efforts would strengthen the character of the village.

• Both Woodland Trust standards are met at all properties within Stenton village with woodland along the burn running along the northwest of the village, while the larger woodland of Pressmennan is close by to the south.

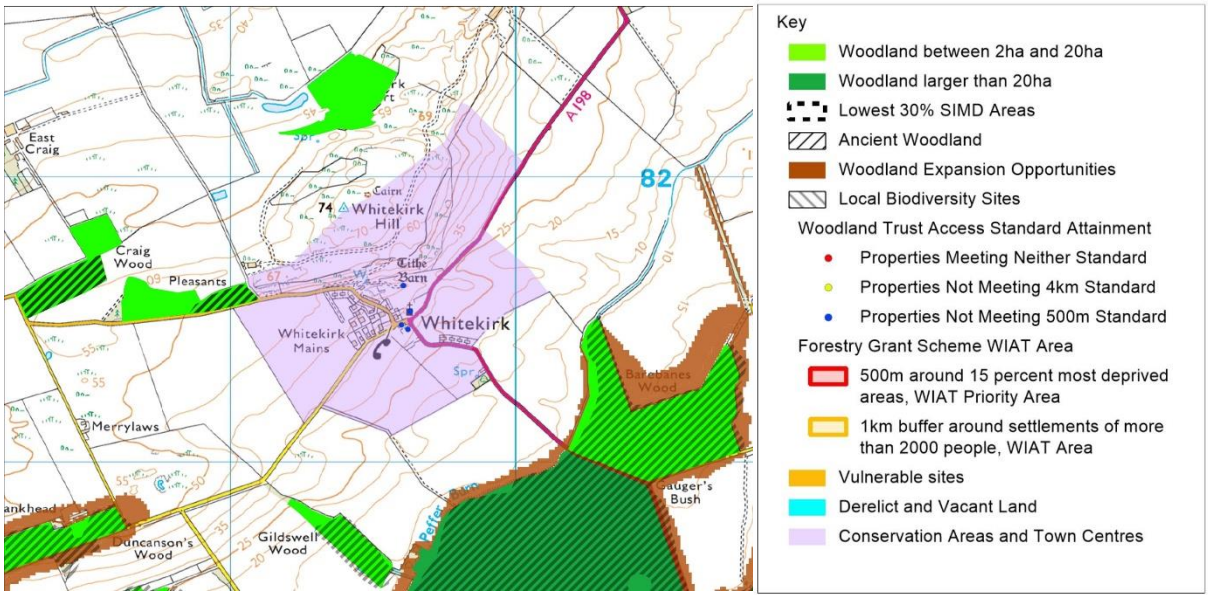
Tyninghame



• Tyninghame is a designed village. The main street contains mature trees which give the village a pleasant, leafy ambience, in a loose pattern with more open areas. This harmonious balance should be retained. At the entrances to the village, the orange roofs of both traditional and newer housing contrast with the green of the mature trees to the rear and surrounding, and continuous tree planting to the east or south of the village could be detrimental to these attractive views.

• The Woodland Trust's larger woodland standard is met as the village is close to Binning Wood. There is also closer woodland within Tyninghame designed landscape on the east site of the A198. This means all properties have access to woodland over 2ha in size within 500m.

Whitekirk



• Whitekirk is a small village with a striking church and related Tithe barn, built on rocky ground. It appears as an island rising out of the arable land backed by a small rocky cliff to Whitekirk Hill. The mature trees of the village accentuate the difference between the built and the arable, though sometimes obscuring attractive built elements. The centre of the village has a treed ambience due to the significant presence of mature trees, mainly limes. Succession planting should be considered here.

• Both the Church and Tithe Barn are listed and tree planting and woodland creation should consider their setting; the Tithe Barn was intended to have an open setting to discourage rodents and allow for observation against theft while views of the attractive Parish Church are important. The arable setting of the village especially to the east and south should be retained.

• Both Woodland Trust standards are met for the majority of properties within the village with the extensive Binning Wood to the south and a smaller area of woodland along the road to the west of the village. This small woodland is on steep ground and is scrubby in nature and is therefore likely to have little recreational value. The church and Tithe Barn and two properties to their south have no woodland access within 500m. Expansion and improvement of the western woodland to its east could improve woodland access. There may be the possibility of creating linkages to Binning Wood through restoration of hedgerows or even a narrow woodland strip.

East Lothian Council

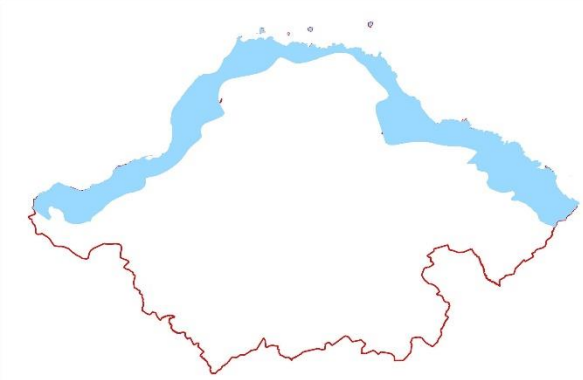
Tree and Woodland Strategy

APPENDIX B: Landscape Character and Woodland Creation Opportunities

Landscape Character and Woodland Creation Opportunities

The most relevant elements for woodland and tree planting for each landscape character type are summarised below. Key opportunities for woodland creation including locations and types of woodland or tree planting are identified for each landscape character type. This section should be referred to in combination with the mapping in the Spatial Guidance section when planning woodland creation or tree planting. This will ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places.

Coastal Margins



This is a diverse area of land this giving a variety of opportunities for tree planting and woodland creation. Urban uses predominate from the outskirts of Edinburgh to Port Seton, with sporadic settlement further east. In these urban areas, especially in the west, we are looking at improving canopy coverage, providing a setting for settlement and preventing visual coalescence

Outwith settlement, where the land is generally agricultural or used for recreation, we are looking to create a coastal mosaic habitat incorporating farmland, woodland and scrub, coastal dune and grassland habitats. Policy woodlands of designed landscapes are a significant feature, and there is potential for strengthening this with further planting or natural regeneration. Woods in association with farmland are also characteristic of parts of this area. Some existing shelter belts would benefit from management.

The area is fringed by coastal grassland, dune systems, beaches, and estuaries. These are valued for their openness. The Strategy does not support tree planting that is incompatible with maintaining this open character, although some small-scale woodland expansion could be accommodated.

The Council owns or has management agreements along most of the coast and removes some areas of invasive scrub and successional tree growth (see Invasive species above) to encourage coastal grassland. There are some areas of non-native plantation woodland (for example at Yellowcraig plantation or at John Muir Country Park) which would naturally be dune land or coastal grassland. Replacement of these woodland areas with grassland or other coastal habitat may be preferable for biodiversity however they do also have recreational value and public engagement on the future of any such sites is desirable.

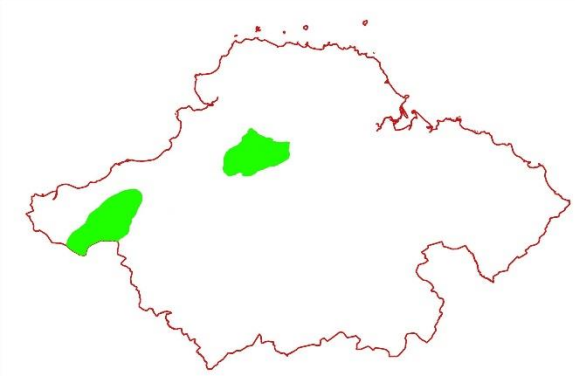
KEY OPPORTUNITIES:

- Creation of coastal mosaic habitat incorporating woodland and coastal dune and grassland habitats, and strengthening connections between areas of woodland at the coast
- Hedgerows with hedgerow trees along existing or new field boundaries

- Woodland creation in deans (for example Seton and Longniddry deans, Dunglass, Dry Burn) where this does not conflict with retaining other valued habitat
- Structural planting in association with new development and regeneration; important areas are around Cockenzie/Blindwells and Innerwick
- Further shelter belt and small-scale farm woodland planting: care is need to avoid blocking key views to the coast
- Musselburgh Ash Lagoons/Levenhall/Preston Links: the Council will manage this area for recreation and bird life. Further tree planting is being carried out here.
- Retain or bring settlement fringe woodlands into management for improved accessibility
- Reinforce the character of Gardens and Designed Landscapes through appropriate tree planting and woodland creation
- Tree planting to enhance green networks and green infrastructure in association with the Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme and Musselburgh Active Travel Project

Lowland Hills and Ridges

East Lothian has two distinct areas that fall into this landscape character type. The Garleton Hills are widely visible, rising above the arable plain. The rugged terrain and generally poorer soil quality of their higher parts mean this land is suitable only for grazing or even unsuitable for agriculture at all. Areas of woodland here are mainly limited to patches of ancient woodland on rocky knolls – though there is a larger area at Kilduff as well as some plantation there, at Cogtail Burn and on the slopes of Byres Hill.



The second area of lowland hills and ridge is at Tranent/Elphinstone, where the northern end of the Mayfield / Tranent ridge extends into East Lothian. There is a general lack of tree cover here, with Carberry designed landscape containing the only woodlands of note, though there has been some more recent planting at the adjacent Smeaton Bing. At the eastern end of the ridge there is a lack of landscape detail: the altered field pattern and scarcity of mature trees is mainly due to former opencast mining.

The rugged aesthetic of the Garletons should be maintained, and outward views, especially from the top of Byres Hill, Skid Hill and from Fa'side towards Edinburgh should be retained.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Link areas of ancient and native woodland via hedgerow and hedgerow tree planting [Target 3C]
- Expand and restructure mixed species woodland at the Cogtail burn linked to landscape structure around Athelstaneford
- Potential opportunity in the west of the area around Bangley Hill
- Mixed shelter belts at Barnes and Alderston (which appear on the Roy maps) could be replicated in other parts of the area. [Target 5]

- Hedgerow, shelterbelt and small scale farm planting as well as areas of native woodland to increase landscape diversity at the eastern end of the Tranent/Mayfield ridge [Target 5 and 3A]
- May be potential in the lower parts of the Garletons and southern side of the Mayfield/Tranent ridge for more significant tree planting; [Target 1]
- Create or reinforce hedgerow boundaries, though where stone boundaries exist these should not be replaced with hedges. [Target 3C]
- Planting on the Tranent/Mayfield ridge in line with the Climate Evolution Vision [Target 7A]

Lowland Plain

The Lowland Plain is gently undulating land between the coastal margins and the uplands to the south. Arable use is at the core of the character of this area. An abundance of mixed small-scale shelterbelts strengthen its chequerboard field pattern, with clipped hedgerows and occasional stone walls and fences marking field boundaries. Many of the larger woodlands here are managed at least in part for timber production though recreational use is also important, such as at Butterdean and Binning Wood.

Policy woodlands of designed landscapes are significant portion of woodland here – at Tyninghame, Gosford, Balgone, Winton, Lennoxlove, Fountainhall and others. Mature trees and woodland are also a defining feature of local designed landscapes such as Newbyth House, Setonhill, Elvingston or St Germains. Outwith the designed landscapes, woodland north of the Tyne is generally confined to small farm woods, shelterbelts, and areas of riparian woodland. South of the Tyne, there are some other larger areas of woodland areas at Butterdean/Cuddie Wood, Bolton Muir and Saltoun Big Wood. There are few areas of ancient woodland; this is more frequent in the north though there is some at Colston Wood, Glen Wood and Big Wood in the south also.

The River Tyne is a major feature running through the area. Riparian planting here and along the A1 corridor (as identified in East Lothian's Green Network Strategy) would allow connection of the more wooded river valleys which contain its tributaries.

Within the lowlands of East Lothian, new productive broadleaf and mixed species woodlands may be more suited to the landscape character than mainly coniferous planting. Existing broadleaf and mixed species woodlands could also be brought into positive management to increase the supply of quality hardwoods.

Field trees, hedgerow trees, shelter belts and small-scale broadleaved woodlands are also important features of the landscape character of the lowlands. Where these exist, they may have the potential to be brought into productive use. New plantings of these features provides not only a future source of quality hardwoods, but also helps to strengthen landscape character.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Expanding native woodland planting along the Tyne to connect woodland in the river valleys is an ambition of the East Lothian Green Network Strategy. [Target 2B]
- Improving connectivity and landscape structure through a reintroduction of hedgerows, hedgerow tree planting and small farm woodlands and shelterbelts [Target 3C, 5]
- Strengthen an overall sense of place through using hedges and hedgerow trees
- Respect landmark feature of Traprain Law
- Reinforce the character of Gardens and Designed Landscapes through appropriate tree planting and woodland creation, including restructuring of policy woodlands particularly where these are PAWS [Target 3E]
- Retain or bring settlement fringe woodlands into management for improved accessibility and recreation [Target 4B]

Lowland River Valleys

The river valleys are the most wooded of the landscape character types, much being ancient or semi-natural in origin. These areas offer

The policy woodlands of designed landscapes can be significant, for example at Saltoun Hall, Keith Marischal and Johnstounburn in the Humbie valley and Yester, Colstoun and Lennoxlove in the Gifford valley. The designed landscapes of Whittingehame and Biel contribute extensive areas of productive mixed and broadleaf estate woodlands to the Whittingehame valley. These dense, generally well managed mixed and broadleaf estate woodlands dominate the valleys. The Humbie Water contains one of East Lothian's largest sections of ancient woodland of semi-natural origin, connecting to ancient woodland of plantation origin at Saltoun Forest and Petersmuir.

The upper valley slopes are generally less wooded with fields defined by mixed hedgerows and oak and ash hedgerow trees. In addition to policy woodland some of the designed landscapes have areas of wood pasture and parkland generally on the higher land.

The Esk has somewhat different character and pressures to the more rural river valleys due to its location close to an urban area. There are also significant historic environment considerations for tree planting around the Esk. The Esk has an attractive cycling and walking route through Musselburgh and towards Whitecraig. The woodland link along the River Esk into Midlothian should be retained.

Woodland management is ongoing within the majority of the designed landscape and farm estates within the river valleys. Woodland creation should respect and enhance the historic setting and characters of the designed landscapes and the surrounding parkland and countryside. Woodland creation and expansion along paths in river valleys should take care to avoid creating dark, unsafe or unwelcoming areas. Woodland management also must consider invasive species which can be a particular issue along rivers.

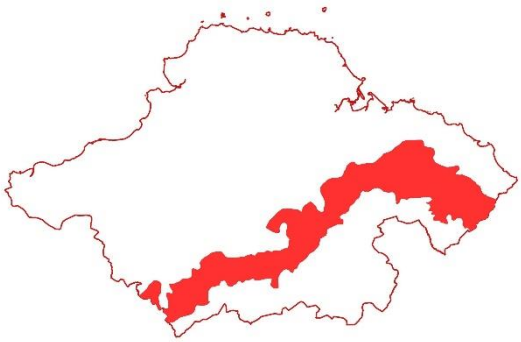
KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Expansion of productive and native woodland within the river valleys: strengthening the broadleaf and yew network of these valleys and linking them to woodland around the River Tyne [Target 3A, 3B,]
- Improve natural flood management including woodland creation in the upper reaches and respecting and reinforcing the role of natural flood plains (ELC Green Network action) especially at the Esk
- Link woodland at the Esk through to the designed landscape at Carberry, via Whitecraig [Target 3B]
- Succession planting in areas of wood pasture and parkland
- Restore and maintain hedgerows at field boundaries and reinstate hedgerow trees to retain the rural character of minor roads and fields at the edges of valleys [Target 3C]

Recent Woodland Planting within the Humbie River valley

Upland Fringe

The upland fringe is an extensive sweep of hill slopes forming an east-west band stretching along the northern edge of the Lammermuir Hills transitioning from enclosed lowland landscape to open upland. It is a landscape modified during glaciation with a complex landform of steep deans and cleughs and dramatic gravelly knolls contrasting with more rolling hill slopes above. Steep valley sides are uncultivated and sometimes clothed by deciduous woodland or areas of gorse, bracken and scrub.



Much of this area is highly visible across the lowland area of East Lothian, with some coniferous shelter belts forming noticeable landmarks on the hillslopes.

This area has the widest mix of woodland cover types. Extensive stretches of ancient native sessile oak woodland occur along several cleughs including at Deuchrie and Rammer Woods, Woodhall, and the Lammermuir Deans (East Lammermuir Deans SSSI). There are further areas of ancient woodland both of semi-natural origin such as at Pressmennan, East Hopes and Pishwanton and of long established plantation origin including around Thurston and High Wood to the east, Snawdon and Blinkbonny to the centre, and Brown Dod to the west. Medium scale coniferous plantations cover many of these ancient woodland areas. Mixed species shelterbelts, tree clumps and areas of mixed woodland are evident across the area, generally related to farm buildings.

Large expanses of arable fields with clipped mixed hedgerow boundaries and hedgerow trees of beech, oak, ash and sycamore are found on the lower ground. However the boundaries of unimproved pasture of good rough grassland on the higher ground bordering the Lammermuir Hills are often stone walls or fences. Consideration could be given to planting hedgerows and hedgerows trees alongside fences in these locations where appropriate.

This area has some of the largest areas of land in the 'Preferred' category, largely along the Lammermuir slopes. There may be opportunity to expand areas of productive and native woodland here. However consideration should be given to the importance of the visibility of glacial geological features and retention of the small-scale topographic diversity provided by glacial features such as kame terraces, and melt-water channels. Tree planting should also not harm the overall open visual character focusing northwards towards the plain and avoid interrupting key views identified in the Special Landscape Area SPG including from West Steel, Blackcastle Hill, Whitecastle Hill Fort, Doon Hill. Woodland creation should also not harm the setting of the traditional village of Oldhamstocks or key views of it from the surrounding hills. Cleugh bottoms, in particular, also have potential for unknown archaeology.

Recent planting in the upland fringe

Arnotts Loan Oak Wood 16FGS12143 is a native broadleaf planting scheme. Located within the Rammer Cleugh SSSI which is partly designated for its native oak woodlands. The objectives of the planting are to restore and diversify the native oak woodland while improving the connectivity of the native woodland habitat.

This woodland is also a woodland carbon code project.

The species mix planted for this scheme is:
Native Broadleaves (100% of the area)

Oak	60%
Birch	20%
Hazel	10%
Rowan	1%
Alder	4%
Aspen	0.5%
Juniper	0.5%
Native Shrubs	4%

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Native woodland and scrub expansion within cleughs, linked to the Upland Plateau and into Scottish Borders Council area, alongside appropriate retention and management of native

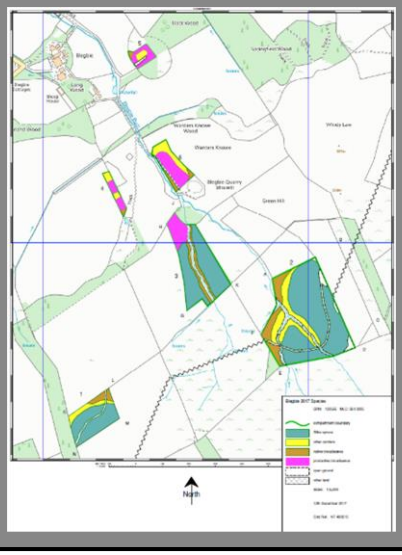
ancient oak woodland and juniper scrub, whilst reinforcing visual and ecological contrasts between open hill slopes and steep valley sides. [Target 2A] (ELC Green Network action)

Upland oakwood clothing the slopes of Woodhall Dean in the upland fringe

- Enhance existing pattern of shelterbelt and field boundary woodland and integrate farm buildings through sensitively designed farm woodland expansion; [Target 5]
- Take opportunities to restructure single species coniferous plantations in line with the UK Forestry Standard whilst recognising the familiarity and land mark function of some of the strips such as the Park Strips and Star Wood; [Target 3A, 3E]
- Conserve and enhance well-developed and maintained beech and thorn hedgerow network on the arable land. Encourage replacement of moribund and lost sections of hedgerows and hedgerow trees. These trees are typically oak and ash and an alternative species for ash should be sought.[Target 3C]

Recent planting in the upland fringe

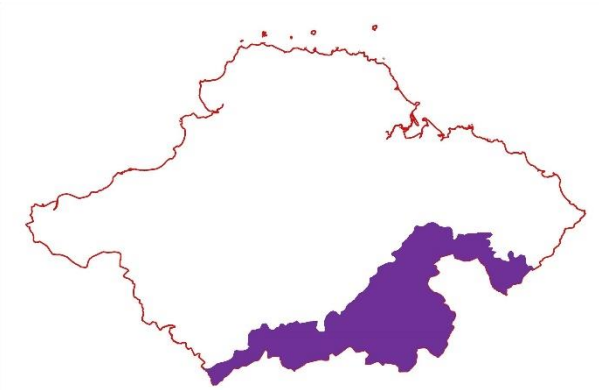
Blegbie 17FGS20877 is a mixture of small farm woodland and productive conifer elements. The objectives of the planting are to create and expand into an alternative farm enterprise for the future which will fit in with the current farm enterprises.



The species mix planted for this scheme is:

Conifer Option (87.5% of the area)	
Sitka spruce	66%
Scots pine, European larch, Douglas fir	11%
Rowan, silver birch & alder (native)	10%
Sycamore & birch	4%
Designated Open Ground	9%
Small or Farm Woodland Option (12.5% of the area)	
Sycamore & silver birch	55%
Scots pine & European larch	30%
Silver birch, rowan and alder (native)	10%
Designated Open Ground	5%

Upland Plateau



The Lammermuirs are formed of a gently undulating upland plateau dissected by narrow incised gullies of minor burns as well as the wider valleys of Hopes and Whiteadder. Parts of this area are highly visible from the plain below. The area has mainly open, moorland character, which is maintained through management for grouse and rough grazing, though there is also considerable windfarm development in places here. Field boundary features are uncommon except in the lower areas around the Whiteadder Reservoir.

Tree cover consists of large areas of coniferous forestry at the western (at Widow's Knowe) and eastern (at Monynut and Dod Hill) ends of the plateau. There are some small coniferous and broadleaved shelterbelts close to farmsteads and reservoir margins, including ancient woodland around Mayshiel, together with areas of scrubby native woodland within some of the cleughs. The Hopes Water Valley is identified as a local biodiversity site for its river valley with woodland habitat, some ancient.

The top of the plateau is a mosaic of heather and grassland, generally absent of trees. This is currently more due to management for grouse moor than lack of potential for tree growth. The plateau tops do however contain our only montane scrub, the birch and juniper at Lammer Law.

The retention of the open moorland character of this area is Council policy as detailed in the Special Landscape Areas SPG. Planting of tree belts, hedges or larger areas of forestry which would adversely affect the open heather moorland character should be avoided, particularly on moorland tops. Tree planting should also avoid interruption of key views in particular from Lammer Law, Dod Law, Spartleton, Meikle Says Law, Harestane Cairn and Clints Dod.

This area contains the only peat soil in East Lothian with a depth greater than 50cm. Where peatland restoration is possible this is generally preferred to woodland creation (see Policy 15). Although peatland with scattered birch/pine/scrub trees is a woodland type compatible with peatland restoration. Woodland creation to provide habitat to support black grouse in parts of this area is encouraged by the ELC Green Network Strategy.

Some parts of the Lammermuir plateau are unsuitable for tree crops due to the soil type and exposure. Wind farm development may also limit the opportunity for new woodland. There is potential for scattered birch, Scots pine and scrub tree growth in association with heather across much of the plateau. The cleughs offer opportunities for native woodland mixes of upland oak, birch and alder woodlands.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Native woodland and scrub expansion within cleughs, with elm and hazel on lower slopes, transitioning to oak on the upper more freely draining slopes and scrubby planting on the plateau tops linked to the Upland Plateau and into Scottish Borders Council area, alongside

appropriate management of native ancient woodland. [Target 2A, 3A] (ELC Green Network action)

- Create and manage habitat in vicinity of Keithhill and Stobshiel, Whiteadder and Hopes reservoirs, to encourage black grouse, including restructuring of coniferous plantations and increasing native trees and woodland (ELC Green Network action)
- Potential for a wooded link to Scottish Borders Council area, perhaps along the Monynut Valley [Target 2A]
- Increase shelterbelts and small farm woodland around farmsteads and other building groups [Target 5]
- Restoration and maintenance of traditional hedge boundaries within the Whiteadder valley is supported [Target 3C]
- Woodland creation in association with water infrastructure [Target 2B]
- Seek opportunities to restructure large coniferous plantations to reduce the impact of single species, straight edged, even aged plantations in line with the UK Forestry Standard [Target 3A]

Hard edged coniferous plantation contrasting with the open moorland and small farm woodland sheltering the farm buildings

East Lothian Council

Tree and Woodland Strategy

APPENDIX C: Mapping Methodology

Woodland Trust Woodland Access Standard Mapping Methodology

To identify how many properties have access to woodlands in line with the Woodland Trust's Woodland Access Standard we first identified woodlands of different sizes:

- Woodlands larger than 20 hectares (large)
- Woodlands between 2 hectares and 20 hectares (small)
- Woodlands smaller than 2 hectares (smaller)

We used the woodlands recorded on the 2021 National Forest Inventory, the Ancient Woodland Inventory, the Central Scotland Green Network Woodlands Network 2021 and the OS Greenspace Woodland layer to map these woodlands. These were then checked against the aerial mapping.

The National Forest Inventory defines woodland areas into small compartments often related to the type and management of the woodland present. However these are often small areas within what would generally be considered a larger wood. We have combined these to show the wood as a whole.

Woodlands smaller than 2 hectares are mapped where there is potential for expansion.

Certain woodlands have been excluded:

- Landscaping strips to the A1, for safety
- Garden ground, as this is not accessible to the public
- Woodlands smaller than 2 hectares where there is no opportunity to expand these
- Golf course fairway woodland strips, as these have different access rights

We then identified properties. We have used the 'addressable properties' GIS layer to identify people's homes. Not all of these properties are homes, but this is the closest GIS layer the Council currently has to capture residences, and most, especially in the rural area, will be homes.

We have mapped properties within 500m of a woodland of over 2 hectares, and within 4km of a woodland over 20 hectares, as well as those which do not meet these standards.

The mapping is likely to over-estimate how many properties have access to woods as it only considers distance. It does not take into account physical barriers, such as the A1, which limit or prevent access.

The mapping is intended as a first sweep of where to focus attention on requirements for woodland creation and expansion.

Spatial Guidance Section Mapping

Existing woodland

Woodland is defined by Forest Research as any treed area of at least 0.5 hectares in area with a minimum width of 20 m, and that have at least 20% tree canopy cover (or the potential to achieve this). These are recorded in the National Forest Inventory (NFI) and have been included in our mapping.

In addition, the Broadleaf and Yew habitat updated by the Woodland Network identified by the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) has been included.

Also included in the mapping are areas identified as woodland on the OS Mastermap Greenspace Layer. This includes publicly accessible, as well as private, green spaces, sports facilities and natural environment features. It includes smaller areas of woodland not picked up by the other layers.

Sensitivities Mapping Methodology

Urban

Urban areas are not expected to have significant potential for continuous new areas of woodland over 0.25 ha, although this is not precluded by the strategy. The nature of tree and woodland expansion here is generally different from rural areas and is likely to involve single or small groups of trees. The mapping uses informal settlement boundaries drawn up taking a view on whether a use is rural or urban, on an OS Mastermap base. This mapping has been produced only for the purposes of this Strategy; the 'settlement boundaries' (at the time of writing) have no other development planning policy purpose or status.

Unsuitable

Some soils are not suitable for tree planting because trees don't grow well there. The James Hutton Institute has classified land by how capable it is for successful tree growth. There are few parts of East Lothian which are unsuitable; this is land which is peat or potential peatland in the Lammermuirs. This is identified as class 7 agricultural land.

Some parts of the upland area are considered to have limited flexibility for forestry, and it is likely that only certain species of tree, mainly conifers, would be successful there. This may change with climate change and therefore only the areas classified as 'unsuitable' have been mapped.

Trees will also not grow in the intertidal or foreshore area. These areas are not mapped as their unsuitability for tree planting is widely known. Waterbodies are mapped using an OS base, so that they don't appear as 'Preferred' areas.

Reason for unsuitability	Mapped
Land classified by the John Hutton Institute as unsuitable for trees	Class 7 agricultural land
Water bodies	Derived from OS Mastermap
Intertidal area and foreshore	Not mapped

Sensitive

Some areas of land are best suited to purposes other than woodland. This includes land that is valued for cultural or natural heritage reasons where tree planting would damage the interest. Some of these areas, such as peat land and salt marsh, also have considerable value for greenhouse gas sequestration.

Recommendation from 'The Right Tree in the Right Place' (Forestry Commission Scotland, 2010) is that:

> "Sensitive areas will be those where a combination of sensitivities means there is limited scope to accommodate further woodland expansion. Limited woodland expansion is only likely to be possible within sensitive areas where it is of a scale and character which can be accommodated without significant negative impacts and/or where it would positively enhance the features of interest locally. In some areas cumulative impact may be a relevant consideration."

We considered that requiring more than one constraint to describe an area as 'sensitive' is misleading. Some designations in our area are sufficiently incompatible with woodland that where the land is covered by them alone, it is unlikely that woodland creation would be possible, and these sites should not be shown as 'Potential'. We do not want to encourage pressure for tree planting in areas where it should not occur, as this wastes effort all round.

There may be some very limited scope for small scale woodland expansion in a few of these areas, in particular those SSSIs designated for their woodland interest. However, these are likely to be under management agreement already, and even where they are not, further woodland creation would be tightly controlled as to type and location; they are not therefore suitable for general woodland expansion. The areas considered sensitive, alone, were:

- Special Protection Areas – the only SPA in East Lothian where trees would grow is Forth Islands, the Firth of Forth and Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex consisting of intertidal areas. SPAs are sensitive as maintenance of appropriate habitat is required for protection of their internationally recognised bird interest.
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Consent is needed from Historic Environment Scotland for any planting on these monuments. Planting is likely to cause damage to the monument and is unlikely to be possible in these areas.
- SSSI's. These sites were designated to represent the best of the UKs biological and geological interest. As such, woodland planting is likely to conflict with the maintenance of other habitat or geological interest. The SSSIs designated wholly or partly for woodland interest have also been included as sensitive as proposals or management would require consent from NatureScot.
- Local Geodiversity Sites. These sites are generally not extensive and are in any case often areas trees would not grow, many having been chosen for the interest and visibility of their geology or geomorphology. They are considered sensitive due to their geological interest, which in some cases is nationally important, and which tree planting is likely to affect.
- CSGN Grassland, Bog Heath and Wetland Habitat. This data is available on Scottish Environment Web by adding layers CSGN IHN – Neutral

- East Lothian Priority Habitat – Non-woodland. This information is from a Phase 1 Habitat Survey carried out in 1997. Although this information is now old, it remains the best data on habitat that the Council holds.

Potential - Designations

'The Right Tree in the Right Place' (Forestry Commission Scotland, 2010) recommendations for land which should be categorised as Potential is:

> "Land … which offers considerable potential to accommodate future expansion of a range of woodland types, but where at least one significant sensitivity exists. The extent to which specific proposals in potential areas will be permissible will depend on how well sensitivities can be addressed within the proposals. The design of schemes in such areas will require careful consideration."

In our area, much of the land is covered by more than one constraint. This is difficult to avoid in East Lothian, a scenic area with large amounts of prime agricultural land and a long history of human habitation. We have therefore tried to follow the methodology in spirit rather than to the letter. If areas with more than one sensitivity were included as 'sensitive' there would be little land shown as 'Potential'. This would not be helpful in trying to guide woodland creation to the best places. We have therefore mapped farmland and other constraints separately. Both constraints are considered to have potential which can be worked with, and this is equally the case where more than one constraint applies.

There is limited 'Preferred' land in East Lothian. It is inevitable that to achieve targets, woodland creation will have to take place on 'Potential' land. It is useful to distinguish between land where the main issue is complimenting agricultural production from those where the constraints may be less flexible.

Areas which are mapped into 'Potential - Designations' are:

- Areas on Historic Environment Scotland's Inventory of Battlefields. There are four battlefield sites within East Lothian Prestonpans, Pinkie and Dunbar 1 and 2. The landscape has changed considerably since the battles took place, especially at Pinkie and Prestonpans. Tree planting may in some cases improve the understanding of the battlefield, in others be acceptable. However in parts it may significantly affect the ability to understand the battlefield landscape and be unacceptable.
- Areas on the Inventory of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes. These areas have historical, horticultural and artistic value. Tree planting is often an integral part of the design. There may opportunities within these areas for restoration of woodland, or planting which accords with their design. However, planting should respect the features for which the areas were designated, and sometimes the addition of further trees may not be possible.
- Geological Conservation Review Sites (outwith SSSIs). The Geological Conservation Review was a substantial piece of work that identified a network of sites sufficient to recognise all of the UKs main geological interest. The intention was that these sites be designated as SSSIs however this has not yet been completed. Although these sites do not have the formal protection that designation as SSSI would bring, it would be undesirable to harm their geological interest, which could occur through poor designed tree planting schemes.

Potential - Farmland

Areas mapped as 'Potential – Farmland (prime)' are prime agricultural land in classes 1 – 3.1. Areas mapped as 'Potential – Farmland (mixed) are agricultural land in classes 3.2 – 4.2. These mixed areas cannot grow such a wide range of crops but may become more productive with climate changes.

Preferred

'The Right Tree in the Right Place' (Forestry Commission Scotland, 2010) guidance advises that Preferred land is that which offers the greatest scope to accommodate future expansion of a range of woodland types, and hence, to deliver on a very wide range of objectives. Within Preferred areas sensitivities are, in general, likely to be limited, and it should be possible to address any particular site specific issues with well-designed proposals that meet the UK Forestry Standard and associated guidelines. Future woodland expansion is therefore likely to be focused on preferred areas. In East Lothian the Preferred Areas are limited.

East Lothian Council

Tree and Woodland Strategy

APPENDIX D: Policies

Policies

POLICY 1 Retention of woodland, trees and hedges

Existing woodland, trees and hedges should be retained except where it is not feasible to do so.

Woodland retention and compensatory woodland creation is required in line with the Scottish Government Control of Woodland Removal Policy.

Where consent is given for removal of trees and / or hedges compensatory planting with native species will be expected except where circumstances do not allow.

Consideration should be given to replacing the function of the woodland being removed such as recreation, canopy, biodiversity connectivity, and flood prevention.

The expectation is that replacement planting should be provided on the site. Where it can be shown that this is not possible sites should be sought in the following order of preference: (1) East Lothian, (2) sites with active travel, biodiversity and / or visual links to East Lothian, (3) Scotland.

Where the carbon sequestration value of new woodland, tree or hedgerow planting does not completely equal that lost the loss of carbon storage should be compensated in other ways.

In addition, where trees are felled the timber shall be retained as a carbon store, where possible, such as by use in wood products.

POLICY 2 Change of Use of woodland to garden ground

Change of use of woodland to garden ground will not normally be supported. Where permission for change of use to garden ground is granted for land that contains tree(s) the Council will seek to protect these by a planning condition or Tree Preservation Order.

POLICY 3 Woodland creation

Tree planting and woodland creation should comply with the Spatial Guidance Section of this Strategy and the UK Forestry Standard.

Land managers creating new woodland should seek to reduce carbon impacts associated with its creation by using methods of tree planting to reduce soil disturbance or by allowing natural regeneration.

Woodland should be designed to achieve multi-functional benefits.

POLICY 4 Reducing climate forcing emissions from tree planting and forestry operations

Forestry operations should aim to reduce climate forcing emissions including from fossil fuel use and soil disturbance.

Use of materials in tree and forestry operations and treatment of waste arisings should follow the waste hierarchy (Scottish Government, 2010) of prevent, reuse, recycle, recover, dispose.

The use of single use plastics should be avoided.

POLICY 5 Wood Products

The Council supports:

• The use and retention of timber and wood products in preference to less sustainable materials where possible;

• The use of Scottish wood and wood products;

• The use of wood products that are from recycled material and/or that can be re-used or recycled after use.

POLICY 6 Water Management and Slope Stability

Use of woodland and trees to improve water quality, reduce flood risk and improve slope stability is encouraged. Planting of new trees and woodland must avoid increasing flood risk.

POLICY 7 Sustainable Woodland Management

Woodlands should be designed and managed so that they are diverse, resilient and sustainable in line with the UK Forestry Standard.

Continuous cover silviculture is encouraged.

Woodland creation and management proposals must design out as far as practicable any potential increase, and consider the potential to decrease, risk of wildfire and spread of pests and disease.

POLICY 8 Protecting the Biodiversity Value of East Lothian's Woodland

Activities that lead to the removal of ancient woodland or damage ancient woodland sites are not supported.

It will not be appropriate to remove woodland of high nature conservation value to replace it with a timber crop.

Appropriate management of native woodland including ancient woodland, orchards, wood pasture and parkland, including habitat enhancement for key native species is encouraged.

POLICY 9 Seed and Tree Stock Sourcing

When planning new or managing existing woodland, source material should be obtained in the following ways, in order of preference:

i. Natural regeneration from seed stock within the soil

ii. Trees grown in the UK from:

- Seeds or cuttings sourced from nearby woodland
- Seeds or cuttings from trees in Zones 203 – 204

iii. Trees grown in the UK from seeds or cuttings from elsewhere

POLICY 10 Addressing fragmentation

Woodland and hedgerow creation that improves native woodland connectivity is encouraged, in particular where it:

- supports the CSGN woodland habitat network;
- is within the riparian area or connects river catchments;
- creates coastal mosaic; or
- supports species migration for climate change as shown on the Native Woodland Expansion Opportunities Map.

Where woodland removal severs existing woodland connections, mitigation should include replacement of any functional connectivity that it provided. Mitigation could include a woodland or hedgerow connecting across or around the site to the remaining woodland.

Land managers and developers are encouraged to work together to form woodland connections.

Avoidance of the potential for introduction or spread of disease or Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) should be considered at project level.

POLICY 11 Invasive Species

Management of Invasive Species in line with National Policies is supported.

POLICY 12 Deer management

Land managers are encouraged to work together and with NatureScot to maintain deer numbers at a level that allows for native woodland and shrub regeneration.

Where deer fencing is used it should:
- minimise landscape and biodiversity impact
- be removed once trees are sufficiently well established

Compensatory deer culls should be carried out when erecting a new fence as fencing alone will not maintain or control deer numbers.

POLICY 13 Protection of European Sites

Proposals that are likely to have a significant effect on a European Site must undergo assessment under The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 ('Habitats Regulations'). Sufficient information must be provided to allow the relevant authority to carry out this assessment, or failing which, provide sufficient funding to enable the authority to obtain this information. Where an adverse impact on the integrity of such a site is found, the proposal can only go ahead where:

a) there are imperative reasons of over-riding public interest and there are no alternative solutions; and

b) compensatory measures are provided to ensure that the overall coherence of the European Site network is protected.

POLICY 14 Protection of the natural environment

Woodland management, expansion, creation, removal or restructuring should:

• enhance and not harm the interest of designated sites including Sites of Special Scientific Interests, Geological Conservation Review sites, Local Biodiversity or Geodiversity Sites, Local Nature Reserves

• avoid harm to protected species including through location of proposals and timing of works

• respect the CSGN wetland, grassland and heathland habitat networks and East Lothian priority habitats.

POLICY 15 Peatland

In areas of existing peat or land suitable for peatland creation or restoration, this is supported over woodland creation.

POLICY 16 Design for all

Managers and designers of new and existing woodland intended to encourage public access should:

• maximise provision for access by active and sustainable transport modes to and through woodland

• include provision for all levels of ability through location, access points and design

POLICY 17 Hutting

Proposals for huts within woodland should:

• follow Reforesting Scotland guidance "New Hutting developments"
• provide a management plan for the woodland
• provide vehicular access and parking by a public road and not within the woodland
• consider using local businesses for materials and skills

Hutting proposals within SSSIs, Ancient Woodlands of semi-natural origin will not be supported

POLICY 18 Community collaboration

Proposals for tree planting in and around urban areas should be taken forward in a collaborative approach and seek consensus from all sectors of the community including children. Equality impact assessment is recommended to identify issues.

POLICY 19 Management of Council Trees

Unless there are exceptional overriding reasons such as safety, trees owned or managed by the Council will not be cut back or felled, at the expense of the Council, as a result of the following:-

- Being perceived as too large or overgrown
- Shade (unless oppressive)
- Loss of a view
- Dropping aphid honeydew/sap
- Dropping leaves or other seasonal debris
- Interfering with TV reception
- Affecting the efficient working of solar panels
- Touching overhead telecommunication wires
- Overhanging branches

POLICY 20 Productive woodland

Creation of woodlands for production of wood is generally supported in line with the Strategy mapping. Management and registration of these with UKWAS is supported. However:

• Plantation on ancient semi-natural woodland sites (PAWS) should be restored to native woodland

• New productive woodland should not be solely softwood

• Restructuring of softwood woodland to improve landscape and biodiversity value is encouraged

• Improving the recreational value of commercial woodland is encouraged

POLICY 21 Woodland creation within farmland

Woodland creation in farmland should aim to complement and improve agricultural production. Loss of agricultural production capacity may be acceptable where woodland creation is shown to improve water quality through reducing diffuse pollution and / or reduce flooding including surface water runoff to roads and rivers.

POLICY 22 Notable trees

The Strategy supports the retention of notable trees.

POLICY 23 Plaques and Memorial Trees

Plaques in association with memorial trees are not supported in the countryside nor natural areas within towns.

POLICY 24 Scheduled Monuments and Archaeological sites

Where planting, felling or restructuring might affect any Scheduled Monument or archaeological site (of known or suspected archaeological interest), a professional archaeological assessment and, if necessary, a field evaluation should be undertaken.

The Council will not normally support proposals that would harm a Scheduled Monument, site of regional or local archaeological interest, or its setting. In exceptional circumstances, the Council may accept archaeological advice that the significance of the remains is not sufficient to justify physical preservation in situ when weighed against the benefits of the proposal. In such cases, the Council will seek mitigation measures such as:

• excavation, recording and analysis of the archaeological remains in advance of the commencement of the project

• reporting of results along with any subsequent post-excavation work undertaken, and if warranted, publication

POLICY 25 Protection of the historic environment

Woodland creation, management, expansion or tree planting, removal or restructuring should aim to enhance and not harm the historic environment including Scheduled Monuments, Battlefields, Gardens and Designed Landscapes (either Inventory or Local), Listed Buildings or Conservation Areas, and where relevant their settings.

POLICY 26 Protection and Enhancement of Landscape

Woodland expansion or tree planting, management, removal or restructuring should enhance and not harm landscapes and landscape character. The landscape interest of Special Landscape Areas, the coastal area, Green Belt and Countryside Around Town areas should be taken into account in woodland creation proposals. For forestry proposals that require Environmental Impact Assessment, applicants are encouraged to provide a Design Statement explaining the landscape change.

East Lothian Council

Tree and Woodland Strategy

APPENDIX E: Guidance for development

Guidance for development

The approach to woodland and trees on development sites should follow the mitigation hierarchy of avoid – minimise – restore – offset.

Trees on Development Sites

Except where it is not feasible to do so, trees, woodland and hedgerows on development sites should be retained, sustainably managed, and protected in accordance with NPF4 policy 6D, Policy NH8 of LDP and Policy 1 of this Strategy. Where it is not possible to retain all the existing woodland, habitat connectivity should not be lost in accordance with NPF Policy 3 and 6b(iii). Existing mature trees or woodland should be included in public open space rather than incorporated into the garden or ground of private property where possible.

The British Standard BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to Design, Demolition and Construction' sets out best practice for trees on construction sites, with tree care at its core. This Standard can be applied to all development, not just that which requires planning permission. Where trees are retained or proposed on a site, the objective is to achieve a relationship between the trees and development that will last into the future.

The basic steps involved in complying with the British Standard 5837:2012 involve consideration of:

1. **Site survey** – topography, soil assessment, tree survey. All existing trees and hedges on the site should be accurately plotted through a topographical survey. Their crown spreads, trunk diameters at 1.5m above ground and their root protection areas should also be recorded and shown on this plan. A tree survey should include information on species, stage of life, location, condition, crown spread, and retention/condition category according to BS5837:2012. This should form the basis of the Tree Constraints Plan.
2. **Design** – consider constraints posed by existing trees through a full arboricultural impact assessment. A tree constraints plan should be produced that indicates all trees and hedges to be retained together with appropriate protection. Design should consider root protection areas and crown spreads and future final mature size of trees for both existing and proposed trees in relation to structures and gardens. It should also consider allowance for habitat connectivity and appropriate locations for new planting of hedgerows and trees.
3. **Technical work** – arboricultural method statement, location and type of barrier and ground protection, monitoring proposals
4. **Demolition and construction close to existing trees** – how physical damage to roots will be avoided, protection during demolition, treatment of hard surfacing within any root protection area, engineering design of foundations within the root protection area, subterranean construction with the root protection area, utilities
5. **Site works –** how the site will be drained, topsoil quality, soil compaction, use of mulch, hard surfacing, use of herbicides.

The context of the site in relation to nearby trees should also be considered. This should include consideration of habitat connections with or through the site, and trees where the crown spread

overhangs the site or root protection areas extend within the site. Where a Design Statement is required, this should include nearby trees and how the context will change over time with their maturity or loss.

Where there are trees on or adjacent to the site, or new trees are proposed, plans should ideally include the following details:

- Location of underground and overhead services, including foul and surface water drainage systems and pipes, gas pipes, water pipes, electricity, heat and communication cables
- Changes in levels, including retaining walls and cut and fill works (where no level changes are proposed this should be stated on the plans)
- Location of temporary structures and works such as site huts, cranes, plant, construction access
- Location of storage areas for materials, spoil, fuel, concrete mixing and works car parking

Ensuring these are kept outwith the root protection areas of trees on the site will help make sure that existing trees are not harmed during construction. This information will also ensure that new trees can be appropriately site to enable their successful establishment.

Mitigation for loss

In accordance with Policy 1 of this Strategy any loss of trees, woodland or hedgerows to allow development should as far as possible be mitigated for with new planting of an area (or length, with regard to hedges) no less than that being removed. The function provided by the trees being planted must aim to be the same as that of those being removed. National Planning Framework 4 Policy 6 b(iii) does not support development proposals where woodland habitats are fragmented or severed unless appropriate mitigation measures are identified and implemented.

The developer should provide details of any mitigation measures and/or compensatory planting proposed at the time of application. This should include location, species mix, timescale for planting and maintenance plans. Where mitigation measures are proposed due to fragmentation of habitat, the development must provide information showing how the proposals compensate for the loss of connectivity. The mapping in Spatial Guidance Section of this Strategy should be referred to for the possible locations and type of tree planting, woodland or hedgerow creation. Developers wishing to carry out this planting outwith the development site must demonstrate that planting cannot be undertaken within the site. Developers wishing to carry out this planting outwith East Lothian must demonstrate that planting cannot be undertaken within East Lothian.

As noted in Policy 1 where the carbon sequestration value of new woodland, tree or hedgerow planting does not completely equal that lost the loss of carbon storage should be compensated in other ways. The developer should demonstrate how this will be carried out. Options may include buying carbon credits.

Developers should where possible also show the end destination of the material of trees removed, whether transplanted to other locations, used on site for other purposes (such a dead wood habitat, for play items), sold as timber, or treated as waste.

Development in areas of existing woodland or identified as suitable for woodland creation

National Planning Framework 4 Policy 6 requires that where a development site is located within an area of existing woodland or identified for woodland creation in a Forest and Woodland Strategy

(this strategy) the design must include enhancement and improvement of existing woodland and the planting of new trees on site. Areas of existing woodland are shown on the mapping in the Spatial Guidance section of the Strategy. Newly planted woodlands not shown on this mapping are also considered 'woodland'.

Areas identified as suitable for woodland creation where NPF4 Policy 6D applies are shown on the mapping in the Spatial Guidance section, and are:

• Preferred and potential locations on the Sensitivity to Woodland Expansion Map (figure 27),

• All woodland creation areas identified on the Potential for Native Woodland map (figure 25)

• Inventory Ancient Woodland Sites including those with no trees currently (mapped below). Poor condition of ancient woodland is not a justification for its loss; condition can be improved with good management.

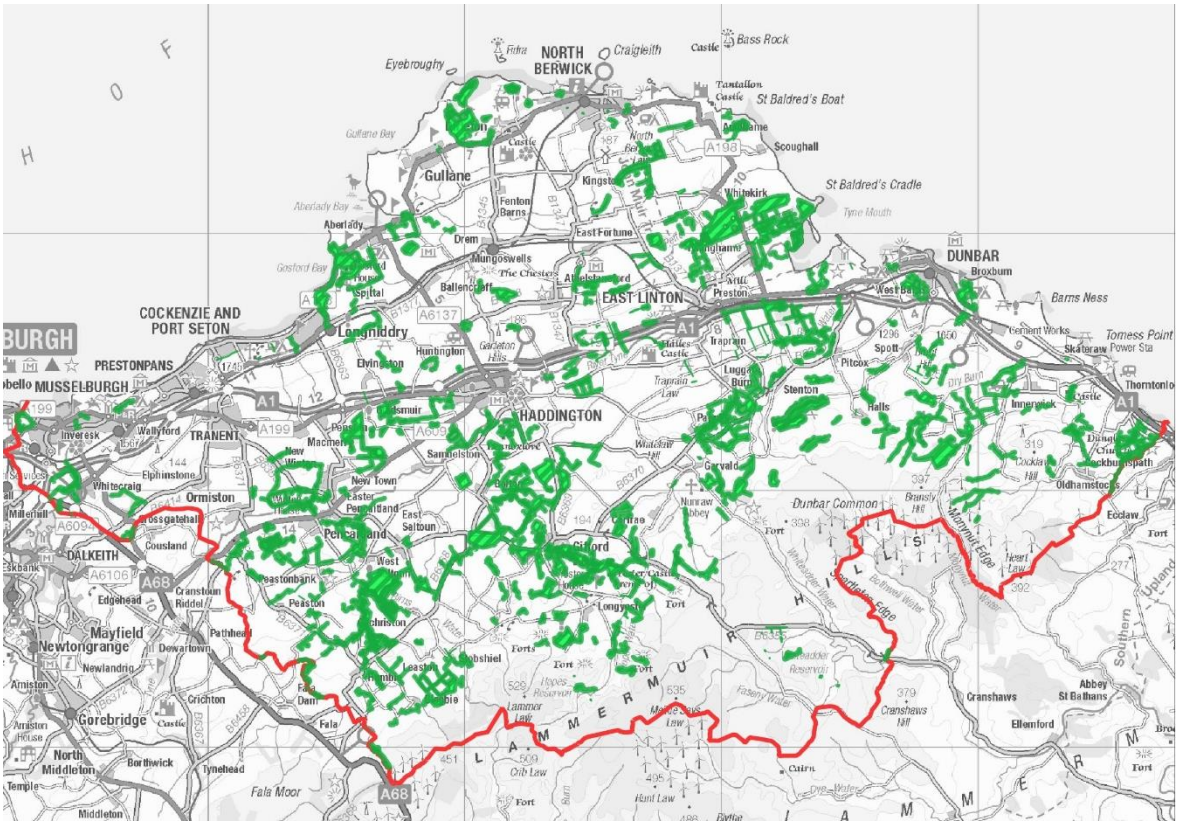


Figure E1 Ancient Woodland Map

In areas identified on the Potential for Native Woodland map (figure 25) new woodland, hedges and trees should be a minimum of 50% East Lothian native species and of a species mix suitable for its location. Annex F provides lists of native tree and shrub species for different woodland types. Consideration should also be given to planting of native species for climate migration. This could include up to 50% of species not native to East Lothian but native to the UK and Europe.

Species choice and design for development within settlements

Within urban planting schemes a wide range of species may be suitable. The Tree Species Selection for Green Infrastructure: A Guide for Specifiers (TDAG) includes the environmental tolerance and

other characteristics of over 280 tree species for urban planting. Consideration must be given to the townscape character including referring to the individual conservation area character appraisals. The target tree canopy coverage for settlements is 30%. The effect of the proposal on this target should be considered. Tree planting should ideally be indicated on site plans with mature canopy spread to ensure that sufficient space has been allowed for canopy growth and avoidance of conflict with structures and gardens.

Only native plants or trees on the list of non-native exemptions may be included in the proposed planting plan to avoid spread of non-native invasive species. Less common tree species on the exempt list should be planted away from watercourses and boundaries with sensitive habitats to avoid spread into native and vulnerable habitats.

Developers should refer to the guidance of the Trees and Design Action Group (TDAG) when considering integrating trees into the urban environment. Considerations should be given to the right tree in the right place for the right function and providing the right space and infrastructure for successful tree planting. The diagram below from TDAG indicates some of the benefits and design consideration required for urban tree planting.

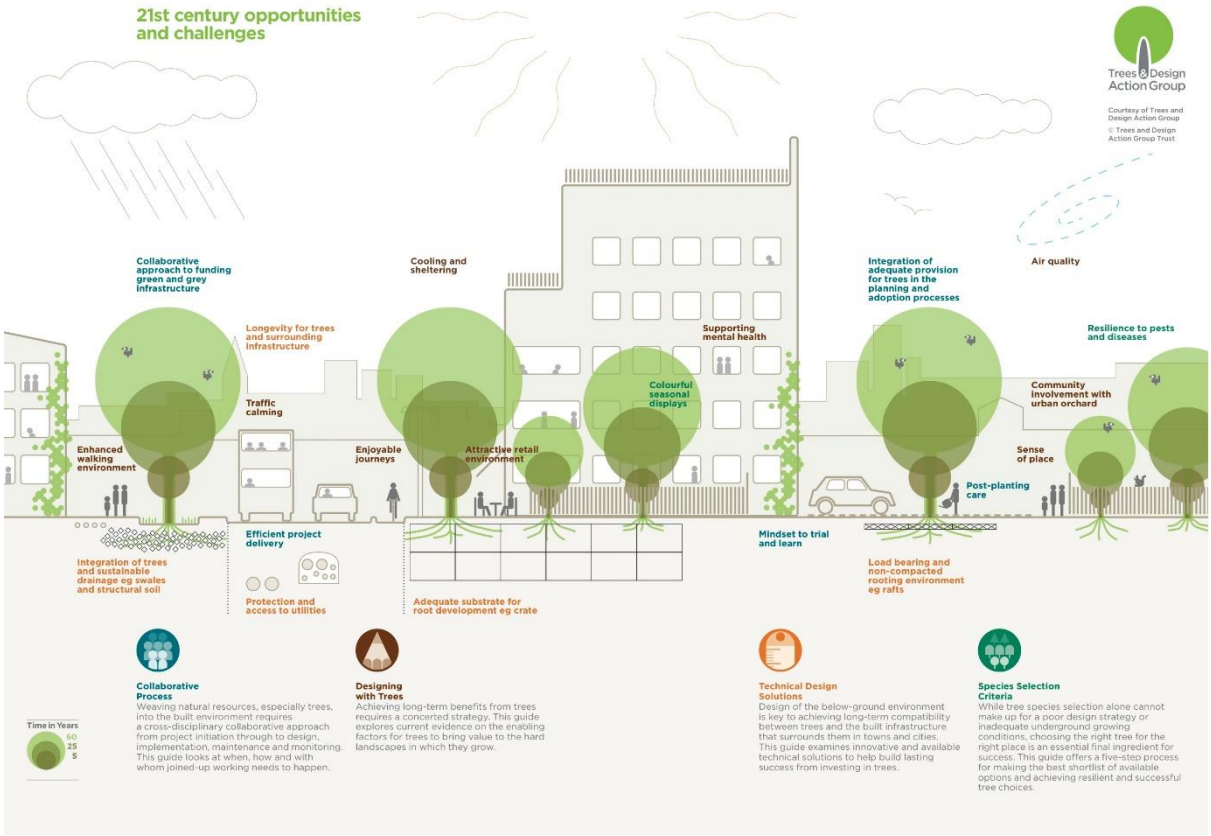


Figure E21 21st Century Opportunities and Challenges, TDAG

NatureScot have produced guidance on biodiversity enhancement for Local Development – that is, development that is not householder, major or national development, "Developing with Nature". The guidance may however also be used by those submitting householder planning applications. The guidance contains information about planting Trees, Scrub and Woodlands, as well as other measures that can be taken to improve biodiversity.

Maintenance

A ten-year maintenance and management plan and schedule should be submitted with any planning proposal involving planting. This is to ensure successful establishment of planting.

A tree and/or woodland management plan should be prepared addressing the protection of existing trees and scrub, natural regeneration and encouraging a diverse understorey, retaining open glades, management of standing and fallen deadwood and any invasive non-native species, and maintenance of other measures such as bird or bat boxes. The plan should include a protocol for ensuring any future factor or grounds manager is aware of the plan.

East Lothian Council

Tree and Woodland Strategy

APPENDIX F: Woodland planting mixes

Woodland planting mixes

The following tables detail the tree and shrub species suitable for creating new native woodlands. This is based on National Vegetation Classification (NVC) woodland types that are found in East Lothian and those identified in the Native Woodland Model that would be capable of growing in East Lothian. The species are identified as major and minor components.

Species in the lists should make up at least 50% of the canopy of the woodland type to be classed as native woodland. Trees identified in **bold** are not native to East Lothian, although UK native. Including these species may increase resilience to climate change and may help with climate migration. To further help with this the remainder of the canopy could include other UK and European natives.

Native Trees		Woodland types present in East Lothian with major (✓) or minor (×) species suitability					
Tree Species	Common Name	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (W8, W10)	Wet Woodland (W2, W6, W7)	Upland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (W9)	Upland Birch Wood (W4)	Upland Oak Wood (W11)	Juniper scrub (W19)
Alnus	Alder		✓	x	x		
Fraxinus*	Ash*	✓	✓	✓			
Populus tremula	Aspen	×		x		x	
Fagus sylvatica	**Beech**						
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	✓				x	
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple	x					
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm	✓		x			
Acer campestre	**Field Maple**	✓					
Prunus avium	Cherry, Gean	x					
Prunus padus	Cherry, Bird		x	x			
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	x	x	x		x	
Carpinus betulus	**Hornbeam**	x					
Pinus sylvestris	**Scots pine**						
Quercus robur	Common Oak	✓	x	x			
Quercus petraea	Sessile Oak	✓	x	x		✓	
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	x		✓		x	x
Sorbus aria	**Whitebeam**	x					
Salix fragilis	Crack Willow		✓				
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	x	x		x		
Taxus baccata	Yew						

*Although Ash has been included in the table, given the current impact of Ash Dieback disease we do not recommend planting this at this time.

Native Shrub		Woodland types present in East Lothian with major (✓) or minor (×) species suitability					
Shrub Species	Common Name	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (W8, W10)	Wet Woodland (W2, W6, W7)	Upland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (W9)	Upland Birch Wood (W4)	Upland Oak Wood (W11)	Juniper scrub (W19)
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	x	x				
Cytisus scoparius	Broom	x					
Frangula alnus	**Alder Buckthorn**		✓				
Rhamnus cathartica	**Purging Buckthorn**	✓	✓				
Cornus sanguinea	**Dogwood**	✓					
Sambucus nigra	Elder	x	✓	x			
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	x					
Viburnum opulus	Guelder Rose	x	x				
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	✓	✓	x		x	
Corylus avellana	Hazel	✓	✓	✓		x	
Ligustrum vulgare	**Wild Privet**	x					
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	✓					
Viburnum lantana	**Wayfaring Tree**	✓					
Juniperus communis	Juniper					✓	✓
Salix triandra	**Almond Willow**		x				
Salix pentradra	Bay Willow		✓		x		
Salix aurita	Eared Willow		x		x		
Salix cinerea	Grey Willow	x	✓	x	✓		
Salix viminilis	**Ossier Willow**		x				
Salix purpurea	Purple Willow		x		x		

Native Trees		Woodland types with potential to grow in East Lothian with major (✓) or minor (×) species suitability		
Tree Species	Common Name	Lowland Oak-Birch Woodland (W16)	Upland Oak-Birch woodland (W17)	Scots Pine Woodland (W18)
Alnus	Alder			
Fraxinus*	Ash*			
Populus tremula	Aspen	×		
Fagus sylvatica	**Beech**			
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch	✓	✓	x
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	✓	x	x
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple			
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm			
Acer campestre	**Field Maple**			
Prunus avium	Cherry, Gean			
Prunus padus	Cherry, Bird			
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	x	x	
Carpinus betulus	**Hornbeam**			
Pinus sylvestris	**Scots pine**			✓
Quercus robur	Common Oak	✓	x	
Quercus petraea	Sessile Oak	✓	✓	
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	x	x	x
Sorbus aria	**Whitebeam**	x		
Salix fragilis	Crack Willow			
Salix caprea	Goat Willow			
Taxus baccata	Yew			

Native Shrub		Woodland types with potential to grow in East Lothian with major (✓) or minor (×) species suitability		
Shrub Species	Common Name	Lowland Oak-Birch Woodland (W16)	Upland Oak-Birch woodland (W17)	Scots Pine Woodland (W18)
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn			
Cytisus scoparius	Broom			
Frangula alnus	**Alder Buckthorn**	X		
Rhamnus cathartica	**Purging Buckthorn**			
Cornus sanguinea	**Dogwood**			
Sambucus nigra	Elder	x		

Ulex europaeus	Gorse	x		
Viburnum opulus	Guelder Rose			
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn		X	
Corylus avellana	Hazel		x	
Ligustrum vulgare	**Wild Privet**			
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle			
Viburnum lantana	**Wayfaring Tree**			
Juniperus communis	Juniper		x	x
Salix triandra	**Almond Willow**			
Salix pentradra	Bay Willow			
Salix aurita	Eared Willow			
Salix cinerea	Grey Willow			
Salix viminilis	**Ossier Willow**			
Salix purpurea	Purple Willow			

Hedgerow Species	Hedgerow type and major (✓) or minor (×) species suitability		
Species	Common Name	Rural Hedge	Urban Hedge
Fagus sylvatica	**Beech**		✓
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	x	
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple	x	x
Sambucus nigra	Elder	x	x
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm	x	x
Acer campestre	**Field maple**	x	x
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	x	
Crateagus mongyna	Hawthorn	✓	
Carpinus betulus	**Hornbeam**		✓
Quercus robur	Common Oak	x	
Ligustrum vulgare	**Wild Privet**		✓
Rosa canina	Dog Rose	x	

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence in Scotland to plant trees, shrubs or plants into 'the wild' outside their native range. 'The wild' is defined as a semi-natural area in either rural or urban areas. There is a list of exemptions to this. Plants on this list may only be planted without a licence provided they are managed in accordance with the UK Forestry Standard.