

Belfast Harbour Area

Designation BHA 10 – Local Landscape Policy Area, North Foreshore

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

This LLPA comprises a continuous planting feature along both sides of the M2 Motorway between the Fortwilliam Roundabout and the intersection of the M2 and M5 Motorways and serves to contain the motorways and screen views.

To the west, the LLPA comprises the lands between the motorway and the railway line, including the associated scrub vegetation and numerous young pine trees. This planting is establishing well, is already making a notable visual impact and will become more significant as it matures.

To the east, the LLPA comprises the lands between the motorway and the North Foreshore landfill site including significant belts of vegetation. To the north, beyond the landfill site, the LLPA abuts the shoreline. The belts of structure planting have matured well and now form significant landscape features of visual amenity value, which contribute to the character of the area.

The vegetation to the east of the motorway serves to screen the views from the motorway into the landfill site and acts as an important buffer between the road and adjacent, future land uses. The vegetation also acts as an effective noise attenuation barrier.

Nature Conservation

This area is also important for wildlife and of high nature conservation value.

The western half of the LLPA is included within the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Between M5 and Railway.

A small portion of the LLPA, to the north, is also included within the following environmental designations:

Belfast Lough (Belfast City) Ramsar Site,
Belfast Lough (Belfast City) Special Protection Area, and
Inner Belfast Lough Area of Special Scientific Interest.

Amenity Value

The North Belfast / South Belfast / Lagan Valley Regional Park – Community Greenway runs along the eastern boundary of the LLPA, parallel to the city

bound side of the motorway, passing between the belts of planting that separate the motorway from the landfill site. This community greenway also forms part of the National Cycle Network which links into the city centre to the south, and provides a connection along the shore line between this LLPA and LLPAs in Newtownabbey district to the north. This further highlights the LLPA as an important public amenity resource and a green corridor through to the surrounding urban areas.

Belfast Harbour Area

Designation BHA 11 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Tillysburn

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 - Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes an extensive and open area of reclaimed wetland associated with the development of the Belfast Harbour Estate, which is of considerable visual amenity value and contributes to the landscape character of the area. The large scale of the open spaces serves to help integrate the adjacent commercial / office development within the existing landscape.

The LLPA also includes belts of planting and freshwater lagoons along the railway line and between the railway line and the Belfast Road. This planting is of considerable visually amenity as seen from these major transportation corridors, it makes a significant contribution to the landscape character of the area and serves to visually contain this main road and railway line.

The LLPA adds to and forms part of the wider flat open coastal landscape formed by the reclamation and planting of this part of Belfast Lough.

Part of the LLPA, within the North Down district, lies within Holywood Rural Landscape Wedge.

Nature Conservation

The woodlands, scrub areas, grasslands, lagoons, and wet woodland habitats are inherently of very high nature conservation value and provide valuable habitat for wildlife, particularly wildfowl, in an area under increasing pressure from commercial and industrial development.

The LLPA includes the following Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Belfast Harbour Estate,
Tillysburn, and
Belfast Harbour Estate (North Down), which is designated in the North Down District Proposals.

Tillysburn SLNCI is also identified as Tillysburn Urban Wildlife Reserve.

Amenity Value

Holywood Community Greenway, crosses through the LLPA. This is designated in North Down District Proposals. The community greenway

provides a link from the North Down Coastal Path through to Redburn Country Park.

The major part of the Tillysburn Urban Wildlife Reserve is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, underlining the landscape and visual amenity importance of the site.

Belfast Harbour Area

Designation BHA 12 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Victoria / King George

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 - Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Victoria Park, a formal Victorian park of high landscape and visual amenity value, a section of the Conn's Water and associated pedestrian walkway and the adjacent King George V Playing Fields.

Victoria Park, owned by Belfast City Council, is a planned landscape of historical interest created on reclaimed land. It includes a man-made island surrounded by a former boating lake, playing fields, bowling greens, tennis courts, significant groups of mature trees and shrubs and formal flower beds.

The park makes a major contribution to the landscape character of the area, forming an important large green open space adjacent to areas of dense housing, the George Best Belfast City Airport, the Belfast Harbour Estate and the Sydenham By-Pass, a major route into the city. The general open aspect of the south-eastern boundary of the park which abuts the Sydenham By-Pass affords views into the park from passing vehicles and also from the adjacent railway line.

Nature Conservation

The significant wooded areas, stands of mature trees, specimen trees and associated vegetation support valuable faunal biodiversity.

The water bodies within the park are included within the following environmental designation:

Inner Belfast Lough Area of Special Scientific Interest.

Amenity Value

The King George V Playing Fields, owned by Belfast City Council, contain three football pitches with surrounding amenity space.

The Odyssey / Tullycarnet Park / Ormeau Park – Community Greenway –runs through the southern part of the LLPA, alongside the Conn's Water, linking Victoria Park to Mersey Street and through to the Ballymacarrett Walkway, ensuring public access to these areas.

The path network forms part of the National Cycle Network and links through to the Comber Greenway, a traffic free walking and cycling route between

Belfast and Comber.

Much of the land contained within the LLPA is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, which reinforces the importance of the site in terms of landscape and visual amenity value and provides an important open space and amenity area within this densely built up part of the city.

Heritage Interest

Victoria Park is a unique, planned, formal pleasure park of historic interest.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

Un-named Mesolithic Occupation Site.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 085 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Alexandra

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Alexandra Park, located between Alexandra Park Avenue, Antrim Road and Limestone Road. The park is named after Princess Alexandra, who visited Belfast in 1885. The land was bought by Belfast Corporation to establish a park in the north of the city.

The park opens onto Alexandra Park Avenue and Castleton Gardens. To the south it is bounded by housing areas off Limestone Road. It is an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is viewed by passing motorists and used by local people for both passive and active recreation

The park contains a mix of planned landscape and recreation facilities, including open grass areas, mature specimen tree planting, shrubs, pedestrian walkways, two formal children's playgrounds, an ornamental lake and stream, (the Mile Water), bridges and sports facilities including a bowling green. The upper levels of the park, to the west, retain much of their original layout, while the eastern area, where the land falls away bordering the Mile Water glen, is more informal and designed to encourage wildlife.

The park features a gate lodge and a fine gothic revival gateway with four piers which were added in 1888 and are listed. It is enclosed by railings around the perimeter.

The park also adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of Alexandra Park Area of Townscape Character which it abuts to the south and west.

There are panoramic views over Belfast from the lower part of the park.

Nature Conservation

The area is important for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest.

The LLPA contains the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Alexandra Park.

Amenity Value

The LLPA provides a substantial green open space within a dense urban area which is of significant landscape, visual and amenity importance. The LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

The Carr's Glen / Waterworks Community Greenway passes through the park. This connects the park to the Antrim Road Waterworks to the north-west, highlighting the pedestrian linkage through the park.

Heritage Interest

The park was designed by J.C. Bretland and opened to the public in 1887. Much of the work was carried out by the unemployed as part of a relief scheme. The historic importance and interest of the park is underpinned by its designation as Alexandra Park Historic Park, Garden and Demesne

The park includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Alexandra Park Lodge and Gateway on Castleton Gardens, Grade B2.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 086 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ardmore

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 - Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA consists of areas of mature woodland along two major transport routes, the Belfast-Dublin railway line and the M1 Motorway in the Ardmore Park / Ashton Park / Finaghy Park North area of the city. Both sides of the railway in this area are densely wooded, as is the embankment to the M1 Motorway.

The vegetation is of high landscape and visual amenity value and makes a major contribution to the landscape character of the area, forming dense belts of vegetation which separate areas of housing from the adjacent transport routes.

The south eastern boundary of the LLPA abuts Finaghy – Area of Townscape Character. The LLPA provides an important backdrop to the character of this area.

Nature Conservation

The belts of woodland are also of wildlife and local nature conservation interest, forming green corridors in an area of dense housing.

Amenity Value

The woodland is important to the amenity of local residents in terms of reducing noise and pollution from these main transportation corridors.

The woodland also serves to visually screen both of these corridors in the views from the adjacent housing and mitigates against the impact on the residential areas of large volumes of traffic on the motorway and numerous trains on this main line. The vegetation also screens the views of the housing from the motorway and the railway line and provides landscape and visual amenity for the rail passengers and motorists.

Heritage Interest

There is some industrial heritage interest in connection with the railway line and its associated built features.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 087 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Avoniel

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the Flora Street Walkway along the Conn's Water river corridor from south of Avoniel Leisure Centre to the Beersbridge Road and extends to include the area around Elmgrove Primary School where the walkway turns to follow the Loop River.

The area of the Flora Street Walkway comprises a linear, open, grass park land and is enclosed to the southwest by housing and some specimen tree planting. To the east there is a strong belt of woodland planting along the open river corridor which is a significant landscape feature.

The walkway is an important, green, open space and amenity area of landscape and visual significance in an otherwise densely built-up area and is extensively used by local people.

There are views from the area towards the Belfast Hills.

Elmgrove Primary School, a listed building of local significance is included in the LLPA. It is surrounded by open grass areas with specimen tree planting and fronted by woodland planting on the slopes of the river corridor, all of which contribute to the views and setting of the listed building.

Nature Conservation

The two river corridors and associated vegetation are particularly significant for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The Odyssey / Tullycarnet Park / Ormeau Park Community Greenway passes through the LLPA, highlighting the importance of the pedestrian linkage through the area.

The LLPA provides a substantial green open space within a dense urban area which is of significant landscape, visual and amenity importance. A large part of the LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Elmgrove Primary School, the gate piers, gates and railings to the front boundary, Grade B+, and
The Caretaker's House at 287a Beersbridge Road, Grade B+.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 088 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballysillan

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Ballysillan Leisure Centre and the associated playing fields, both hard and soft, laid out in terraces down the slope. It also includes a bowling pavilion and bowling green, hard surfaced tennis courts, pedestrian paths, a children's playground and allotment gardens.

The playing pitches are divided by bands of woodland and tree planting on the embankments.

Two open stream corridors with associated vegetation, important landscape features, traverse the area.

The park opens on to the Ballysillan Road. It is an important and sizable green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area.

There are extensive, panoramic views from the playing fields over the city, to the hills beyond.

Nature Conservation

The stream corridors and bands of woodland and tree planting contribute to the importance of the area for wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The LLPA provides a substantial green open space within a dense urban area which is of significant landscape, visual and amenity importance. The LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space. It is viewed by many passing motorists and extensively used by local people for both passive and active recreation.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 089 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Balmoral Golf Course

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Balmoral Golf Course with its well maintained fairways and greens, rough areas, planting along the boundaries and mature trees throughout the course and delineating the fairways.

The LLPA includes a watercourse and its associated vegetation which flows in a general south – north direction along the back of dwellings on Priory Park crossing the golf course to follow a course along the rear of properties at King's Court to a culvert under Lisburn Road. The watercourse is crossed by a number of simple footbridges.

Trees play an important role in defining the character of the LLPA. As well as pockets of natural woodland cover, the LLPA displays parkland characterised with individual and stands of mature trees delineating the open fairways. Together this vegetation forms an attractive backdrop to the surrounding built up area as well as providing an important amenity resource.

Nature Conservation

The watercourse and associated vegetation, areas of deciduous woodland, stands of mature trees and specimen trees and associated ground flora all support valuable faunal biodiversity and are of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The golf course has also been identified as An Area of Existing Open Space which underpins the amenity value of the LLPA.

The Lagan Valley Regional Park / Bog Meadows / Whiterock Route – Community Greenway runs along the eastern boundary of the LLPA adjacent to the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society Show Grounds, which further highlights the area as an important amenity resource and green linkage through the surrounding urban area.

Heritage Interest

This parkland golf course is of local historic interest. Established in 1914 it housed an aerodrome during the First World War, which was used by the Royal Flying Corps and later the RAF.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 090 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Belfast Castle / Fortwilliam

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn and 112 – Belfast Basalt Escarpment, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

This LLPA comprises part of the striking landform which rises from west of the Antrim Road towards Cave Hill and adds to and forms part of the impressive setting of Belfast. The landform also affords outstanding, extensive views both to and from the rising lands which are extensively used by the public.

The LLPA also includes the open expanse of Fortwilliam Golf Course located to the south of Antrim Road with its associated trees and watercourses.

The LLPA includes historic buildings and their surroundings, including Belfast Castle Estate and the City of Belfast Zoological Gardens. These buildings are set in planned landscapes overlooking Belfast, characterised by the dramatic topography and structure planting of the highest visual amenity value.

Also included within the LLPA are a number of locally significant buildings including two schools, Ben Madigan Preparatory School and Our Lady of Lourdes (Park Lodge) Primary School, St. Gerard's Church and associated Presbytery and Community Hall, St. Clement's Retreat House and adjacent Convent of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, set within parkland landscapes which contribute to the landscape character of the area and are significant in terms of visual amenity value.

The LLPA includes extensive areas of native deciduous and coniferous woodland, a visually important landscape feature. Two areas of woodland, Old Throne Wood and part of the Belfast Castle Estate Woodland have been identified by the Woodland Trust as ancient / long established woodland and have been recorded on their Inventory of Ancient / Long Established Woodland, which highlights the historic value of the area.

The majority of the LLPA is included within the Bellevue / Fortwilliam Urban Landscape Wedge.

A large portion of the western part of the LLPA is also included within the Belfast Basalt Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA includes the following Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Bellevue Bridge,
Bellevue (Geodiversity),
Cave Hill / Collinward, and
Throne Woodland.

The LLPA also includes a large part of Hazelwood Area of Scientific Interest.

Amenity Value

The vast majority of the lands within the LLPA have also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins its amenity and recreational value.

Belfast Castle Estate and the City of Belfast Zoological Gardens which are part of Belfast City Council, Parks and Leisure Department, provide major amenity / recreation facilities for the whole city.

On its western boundary the LLPA abuts Cave Hill Country Park – Major Area of Outdoor Recreation in the Countryside, which provides access to the Belfast Hills and opportunities for informal active recreation.

Three Belfast Hills Access Points have been identified within this LLPA:

Downview Park West,
Antrim Road , and
Belfast Zoo, Antrim Road

Shore Road / Belfast Hills Community Greenway crosses through the LLPA providing an important pedestrian access.

Abbey Green, Monkstown to Cave Hill Community Greenway crosses the northern corner of the LLPA. This is designated in the Newtownabbey District Proposals.

Other areas of local amenity importance within this LLPA include Fortwilliam Golf Course and Old Throne Wood, which is a community woodland and includes the Snakey Path (between Antrim Road and Whitewell Road).

There are four sites with Tree Preservation Orders on them within this LLPA:

Lands at St. Clement's Retreat House, Antrim Road,
Lands at St. Gerard's Church, 722 Antrim Road,
Lands at Nos. 694 - 696 Antrim Road and
Lands at No. 50 Antrim Road, Newtownabbey

Heritage Interest

Belfast Castle Historic Park, Garden and Demesne and Bellevue (Belfast Zoo) Historic Park, Garden and Demesne have been included in the Register of Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes which highlights the importance of the

historic landscape around Belfast Castle Estate and the Zoological Gardens.

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Belfast Castle, Steps and Walling, Grade B+,
The Floral Hall, Belfast Zoological Gardens, Grade B2 and
Nos. 694 - 696 Antrim Road, Grade B1.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

Five Caves, Cave Hill, and
Ballygolan Fort, Hazelwood Crannog.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 091 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Belfast Royal Academy (BRA)

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes Belfast Royal Academy which is of historic interest, being the oldest school in the city of Belfast, founded in 1785 by Rev. Dr. James Crombie. It was originally situated near St Anne's Parish Church in what is now Academy Street, but moved to its current location on the Cliftonville Road in 1880. It was called Belfast Academy until Queen Victoria granted permission for the school to style itself Belfast Royal Academy and its name was officially changed in January 1888.

The main school building is an imposing landmark, built of sandstone. It is framed to the sides and rear by later buildings and fronted by a sandstone wall, gates, railings and mature trees along the Cliftonville Road which contribute to its amenity value, views and setting.

The LLPA also includes St. James's (C of I) Church, a landmark and locally significant, sandstone building, strategically located at the junction of the Antrim Road and the Cliftonville Road. It is fronted by an open grass area with a number of mature trees and enclosed by a boundary wall and railings which contribute to the amenity value, views and setting of the church. To the north is the church hall, also enclosed by a wall and railings.

The LLPA recognises the setting of these listed buildings including their mature grounds and boundaries.

The LLPA adds to and forms part of a wider distinctive urban area which is defined by its notable landscape and significant built form. The LLPA is included within Lower Cliftonville Area of Townscape Character and provides an important feature of the ATC.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Belfast Royal Academy and boundary walls, gates and railings, Grade B, and St. James's Church (C of I), Church Hall, boundary piers, gates and railings, Grade B.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 092 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Belmont Glen

Landscape Character

This LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn and 104 – Craigtlet Escarpment, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes two listed buildings, Lismachan House and Gate Lodge with their distinctive planned setting, all of historic merit. The extensive grounds include green open spaces and well-established mature planting including specimen trees, groups of trees and boundary vegetation which screen views of the house from the road. The vegetation associated with Lismachan House is of particular landscape and visual merit, forming a focal point at the junction of the Belmont and Glenmachan Roads.

The LLPA includes a water course, its associated vegetation and steeply sloping banks. The river corridor is an important landscape and visual feature which is also of wildlife and local nature conservation interest and provides a green corridor on the outskirts of the city.

The significant vegetation along Belmont Road also adds to and forms part of the general treed character of the area.

This LLPA lies close to Glenmachan / Garnerville LLPA and Stormont LLPA, and adds to and forms part of the landscape and visual character of the immediate area.

The LLPA also lies within Craigtlet Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value. It is backed by significant rising lands to the east of Glen Road and to the north of Ballymiscaw Road, which are included in the Area of High Scenic Value and emphasise its importance in landscape and visual terms.

Nature Conservation

The woodland, mature trees and other vegetation, the river and areas of open grassland within the LLPA are of wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Part of the LLPA is included within the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Belmont Glen.

Amenity Value

The woodland stream and glen and adjacent Glen Road provide pedestrian access and extensive views south and west over Belfast and are therefore of significant amenity value.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings:

Lismachan House, No. 378 Belmont Road, Grade B+, and Gate Lodge, No. 376 Belmont Road, Grade B1.

A group of locally significant buildings and their associated grounds situated at Nos. 380 - 382 Belmont Road are also included within the LLPA. These buildings are small scale, red brick, old stable buildings once associated with Lismachan House of visual merit and historic interest.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 093 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Belmont Park

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes Belmont Park, an extensive public park of high landscape and visual amenity value with large open grass areas, groups of trees and mature specimen trees. The park is bisected by Parkway, a major road, the two parts being linked by a footbridge. There are open views into the park from Parkway, and extensive views from the park, west to the city and east to the Craigtlet Escarpment.

The LLPA also includes the CIYMS Club House and Sports Grounds, these open areas contribute to the landscape and visual amenity of the area.

The LLPA includes open grass verges along Old Holywood Road with a number of mature trees, which contribute to the views and setting of the area and provide a visual link to Belmont Park.

The northern boundary of the LLPA abuts Circular Road Area of Townscape Character. The LLPA provides an important backdrop to the character of this area.

Nature Conservation

The belts of trees and individual mature specimen trees contribute to the wildlife and local nature conservation importance of the area.

Amenity Value

The LLPA includes a network of pedestrian paths which ensure that the public have access to a landscape of high visual amenity value.

The Odyssey / Stormont Community Greenway crosses through the park.

Also included within this LLPA is an extensive area of allotment gardens, which in addition to being of landscape and visual amenity value ensure that this part of the LLPA is well used and of significant local amenity value.

As well as the sports grounds, much of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, which reinforces its importance in terms of landscape and visual amenity.

There is a TPO on the trees on lands at Nos. 220-230 Belmont Road, part of these lands are within the LLPA.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 094 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Benview

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes a stream corridor running through undeveloped backland, enclosed on all sides by housing development. Access is restricted. There are mature trees and areas of regenerating trees and shrubs both along the length of the stream corridor and throughout the site. The area is in rough grass.

It is an important informal, green open space of landscape and visual significance within a densely populated area, forming a backdrop to the surrounding houses.

There are extensive, panoramic views over the city to the hills beyond.

Nature Conservation

The stream corridor, associated trees and regenerating shrubs contribute to the importance of the area for wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 095 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Blanchflower / Patton

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located between the Sydenham By-Pass and the railway line and the Holywood Road, which are major transportation corridors. This enables large numbers of people each day to appreciate the landscape and visual amenity value of the LLPA.

The LLPA consists of:

The Belfast City Council owned Tommy Patton Millennium Park, its associated community centre, playing fields, playground, and walkways,

Aircraft Park, owned by Bombardier Aerospace, a recreational / sports ground including playing fields and a bowling green,

Blanchflower Park owned by Belfast City Council which consists of football and cricket pitches, and

Harland and Wolff Welders Football Club (Tillysburn Park) football pitch.

There are belts of structure planting throughout the Tommy Patton Millennium Park and mature trees and shrubs on the boundaries of the parks and playing fields and along the road frontages.

The setting and location of the LLPA forms a green buffer between areas of dense housing to the south and east and the George Best Belfast City Airport to the west.

Nature Conservation

The area is of wildlife and local nature conservation interest within a dense urban setting.

The LLPA includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Inverary.

Amenity Value

The entire LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and forms an important green open space of significant landscape, visual and amenity importance.

The Odyssey / Stormont Community Greenway, runs through and along the boundary of the LLPA.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 096 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Campbell / Ormiston

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

This LLPA is located between Upper Newtownards Road and Belmont Road and Castlehill Road and Hawthornden Way. It contains the distinctive planned setting of Campbell College and its extensive grounds, listed buildings, green open spaces and playing pitches, a large pond and well-established mature specimen trees, groups of trees and boundary vegetation. These grounds are extremely significant within this part of Belfast and are of particular landscape, visual and historic merit.

The LLPA is an outstanding feature in the landscape of east Belfast. It is such a major treed landscape that it can easily be viewed from the Craigantlet Escarpment and from Stormont Estate. Although Campbell College is located within a densely populated area, surrounded by major road corridors and housing development, the area retains a sense of quiet enclosure due to the substantial border of mature trees surrounding it. This helps to filter both visual intrusion and noise.

In addition the LLPA contains the planned setting of Ormiston, a listed building of local significance, located to the south west of Campbell College grounds adjacent to Hawthornden Way. The associated grounds and mature trees are also of particular landscape, visual and historic merit.

Included also is the planned setting of Netherleigh, its associated buildings, grounds and vegetation. This is also a listed building and now government offices.

The LLPA recognises the setting of these listed buildings including the treed landscape, stone wall boundaries and impressive driveways.

On its south western boundary, the LLPA includes part of Belmont Area of Townscape Character and the LLPA also abuts Castlehill Road Area of Townscape Character, on the south eastern boundary. The LLPA provides an important backdrop to the character of these areas. It therefore adds to and forms part of a wider distinctive urban area which is defined by its notable landscape and significant built form.

Nature Conservation

The area is important for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest providing an important refuge for wildlife in the locality.

The LLPA includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Campbell College and Ormiston.

Amenity Value

The LLPA provides a substantial green open space within a dense urban area which is of significant landscape, visual and amenity importance. A large part of the LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

The Odyssey / Stormont Community Greenway runs along the northern boundary of this LLPA.

There are two Tree Preservation Orders within this LLPA:

Lands at Campbell College / Cabin Hill School and
Lands at Campbell College adjacent to Castlehill Road.

Heritage Interest

The built forms within the grounds of Campbell College are particularly significant and are recognised for their historical interest. The walls and gates around the school and the walled garden are also important built features. The LLPA recognises the views and settings of these important buildings and features.

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Campbell College, Belmont Road, Grade B1,
Gate Lodge, Gates and Railings, Belmont Road, Grade B1,
Cabin Hill Preparatory School, Upper Newtownards Road, Grade B2,
Netherleigh, Massey Avenue, Grade B, and
Ormiston, Hawthornden Road, Grade B.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 097 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Carr’s Glen

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located both to the north and south of Ballysillan Road.

To the north-west of Ballysillan Road, the LLPA is centred on Carr’s Glen Linear Park, a steep-sided, semi-natural wooded glen which follows the Milewater stream corridor. The stream with its rapids, falls and heavily wooded banks forms a feature of significant landscape and visual amenity value. The park also includes areas of open grassland and specimen tree planting and is accessed through a formal wooden entrance feature. It is managed as part of Cave Hill Country Park and provides car parking and marked pedestrian routes which allow access up to Belfast Hills from the Ballysillan Road. There are extensive scenic views from the park over Belfast and also back towards the Belfast Hills, which form a dramatic backdrop to the park.

To the south-east of the Ballysillan Road, the LLPA continues along the Milewater stream corridor, with its associated vegetation at the rear of gardens on Sunningdale Gardens and Sarajac Crescent. It then opens out onto Cliftonville Golf Course with extensive open grass areas and stands of mature trees.

The park also adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of the Sunningdale Area of Townscape Character to the west, and the Cliftonville Area of Townscape Character to the south.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is an important area for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest.

The LLPA includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Lower Carr’s Glen.

Amenity Value

The linear park, stream corridor and golf course combine to form an important green space extending from the Belfast Basalt Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value through the residential area, extensively used by local people. It is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

The Carr's Glen / Waterworks Community Greenway passes through the linear park, linking two Belfast Hills Access Points, Horseshoe Bend, Crumlin Road and Carr's Glen, Ballysillan Road.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following archaeological sites and monuments:

Scheduled:

A sub-rectangular enclosure.

Unscheduled:

An enclosure; and

A site of an enclosure.

There are a number of sites of industrial heritage interest within the linear park including remains of an old mill alongside the stream and sites of former mill ponds.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 098 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Cherryvale

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Cherryvale Sports Ground, enclosed with railings and a mature hedge along the busy Ravenhill Road frontage, a main arterial route into the city. The grounds contain a number of grass playing pitches and informal open grass areas. There are significant specimen trees, groups of trees and mature shrubs and hedges around the boundaries and throughout the area, including lines of poplars along the boundary of one of the pitches and along the road frontage. The associated former gate lodge, sports pavilions and formal children's play area are included within the LLPA.

The sports ground also adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of Knock Eden Park Area of Townscape Character, to the east and Rosetta Area of Townscape Character, to the south and west.

It is an important informal, green open space, of landscape and visual significance within a densely populated area, forming a vegetative backdrop to the surrounding housing areas

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest with specimen deciduous tree groups including mature poplars.

Amenity Value

The LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

It is viewed by many passing motorists and extensively used by schools and local people for both passive and active recreation.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 099 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Cherryvalley

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes part of the Knock River corridor between Gilnahirk Road and Knock Road. The river corridor is enhanced by mature tree and shrub planting, regenerating plant growth and recent roadside tree planting.

The area opens on to the Knock Road, and Cherryvalley. It forms an important green open space, of landscape and visual importance within a busy urban area. It is viewed by many passing motorists.

The LLPA is located within Cherryvalley Area of Townscape Character. The significant vegetation associated with the LLPA adds to the character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of the large residential properties included in the Area of Townscape Character.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife, is of local nature conservation interest and part of a wildlife corridor.

Amenity Value

The LLPA provides a green open space within a busy urban area which is of significant visual and amenity importance.

The amenity value of the area is underpinned by the designation of a Tree Preservation Order, on that part of the site stretching from Gilnahirk Road to opposite Cherryvalley Green.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 100 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Clarawood

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

This LLPA contains the former Clara Park Playing Fields which were redeveloped as Clarawood Millennium Park in 2000 with funding from the Millennium Commission. The park is enclosed with belts of tree and shrub planting and includes a large stone sculpture entrance feature on a circular plinth, a circular play area, walkways and seats and an open grass area with football pitches.

Also included are a number of open grass areas, with semi-mature trees associated with Clarawood Park, Knockwood Crescent and Knockwood Park together with the central open grass area with trees at Clarawood Crescent. These areas contribute to the character of the housing and are of landscape and visual amenity value.

The LLPA also includes the Woodland Walkway which is managed by The Woodland Trust. This comprises an area of semi-mature tree planting on rising land, east of Knockwood Crescent, which forms a vegetative backdrop to the housing.

The Woodland Walkway adjoins Knock Burial Ground, which is located at the end of Knockmount Park. This mound, with mature trees is of archaeological and historic interest. The Woodland Walkway contributes to the views and setting of this archaeological site.

Part of the Knock River corridor, which opens onto Clara Road, is included within the LLPA, along with its associated woodland planting.

A number of buildings are included, within the LLPA. These include the Anne Napier Centre, previously a school, with its extensive open grass areas, with some tree planting and four apartment blocks, located in an open grass area with trees, facing Clarawood Park.

The various components of the LLPA include, green open spaces and amenity areas of landscape and visual significance, within a densely populated area. They contribute to the treed character of the area and the views and setting of the housing and the old burial ground.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA, in particular the area of the woodland walkway and the old burial ground, is important for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The LLPA provides a substantial green open space within a dense urban area which is of significant landscape, visual and amenity importance. Part of the LLPA, including the playing fields, has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and is well used by local people.

There is a Tree Preservation Order on lands at Clara Road.

Heritage

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument :

Knock Burial Ground, also known as Knock Ecclesiastical Site.

Clara Park Playing Fields were originally a sand and gravel pit where unexploded bombs from the German blitz of Belfast were brought for detonation.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 101 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Clifton 2

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Clifton Street Graveyard. The graveyard opened in 1797 on lands behind Clifton House (the Poor House) and was managed by the Belfast Charitable Trust, the owners of Clifton House, until 1984 when Belfast City Council took ownership. The original graveyard, adjacent to Henry Place was full by 1819 resulting in an extension towards the Antrim Road. The graveyard is no longer used for new burials, the last taking place in 1984. A stone wall encloses both sections of the graveyard, which was erected in an attempt to deter body snatchers, a common practice in the area. The walls are listed in recognition of their architectural merit and historical interest. Many memorials are built into the fabric of the walls which increases their historical value.

The graveyard includes a good network of paths throughout it, with occasional seats. Mature trees enhance the space and form a backdrop to the surrounding housing. Access to the graveyard is by appointment only, nevertheless the graveyard is of significant landscape and visual amenity value and forms a valuable green space within an intensively built up area.

Nature Conservation

The mature tree cover within the graveyard makes this LLPA of some importance for wildlife and local nature conservation interest within the built up area of the city.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed features:

Boundary walls of the graveyard, Grade B.

Local Significance

The graveyard contains memorials and mausoleums of many notable Belfast families, including the Dunvilles, the Sinclairs and the McCrackens and individuals such as George Hyndman and John Templeton who helped establish the Belfast Botanic Gardens. The graveyard also contains a pauper's grave and there is also an unmarked, mass grave for the victims of the 1832 cholera epidemic. The graveyard therefore plays an important role in the interpretation of local history and as such is considered an important local historical site.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 102 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Colin Glen

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn and 112 – Belfast Basalt Escarpment, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA consists of the Colin River valley, including the Colin Glen Forest Park which is managed by the Colin Glen Trust. This is a linear landscape feature of the highest visual amenity value, which forms a green link between the urban conurbation of greater Belfast and the open rural landscape of the basalt escarpment.

The topography of the LLPA varies considerably from a dramatic steep sided gorge to gentler stretches of the river corridor and areas of open space forming the shoulder of the valley, all contributing to the landscape character and visual amenity of the area.

The LLPA includes extensive areas of woodland that are visually significant and make a huge contribution to the landscape character of the area.

The LLPA also contains extensive areas of open space, formed by upland rough pasture and heath including a former quarry (The Rumbling Hole), that contribute to the landscape and visual amenity of the area. Above this the Colin River becomes the Big River.

The Colin River and its associated water features, including waterfalls and ponds, are of visual amenity value and contribute to the landscape character of the area.

The vegetation associated with the LLPA forms the back drop to an adjacent listed building, the Church of St. John the Baptist, Stewartstown Road, which abuts the southern boundary of the LLPA.

A large part of the LLPA is located within the Belfast Basalt Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value.

Part of the LLPA is also within Colin Glen (Belfast) Urban Landscape Wedge and Colin Glen (Lisburn) Urban Landscape Wedge. A very small part of the LLPA is within Hannahstown Rural Landscape Wedge.

These landscape wedges recognise the need to break up the visual impact of the housing mass in the vicinity, provide additional protection for the valuable areas of open space, help define and retain the identities of the Suffolk / West Belfast area and the Dunmurry / Colin area and prevent different urban areas

from merging.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA recognises an important area of local nature conservation interest with high biodiversity and wildlife interest.

The LLPA includes the following Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Colin Glen (Geodiversity), and
Colin Glen / Hammils Bottom.

These SLNCIs are designated within the Lisburn District Proposals.

Amenity Value

Part of the LLPA consists of Colin Glen Forest Park, which provides a Forest Park Centre on the Stewartstown Road. The park has riverside walkways and water features and includes Colin Glen Belfast Hills Access Point, at Glen Bridge on the Glen Road, thus affording the public access to an area of the highest landscape and visual amenity value and of local nature conservation interest.

The Lady Dixon / Belfast Hills Community Greenway and the Lagan Valley Regional Park / Belfast Hills Community Greenway (designated in the Lisburn District Proposals) run the length of the southern half of the LLPA from Stewartstown Road to the Glen Bridge on the Glen Road

Part of the LLPA has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, again reinforcing the visual amenity importance of the area.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 103 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Cranmore / Bladon

Landscape Character

This LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes a large house, formerly a private residence, now Inchmarlo Preparatory School, and its associated planned landscape, including open grassed areas and significant mature trees which can be viewed from Cranmore Park and Osborne Gardens and are of particular landscape and visual merit.

Also included are the mature trees and shrubs of Victoria College, situated behind a high wall along Cranmore Park, which form an important visual feature and read with the landscape across the road, at Inchmarlo.

Drumglass Park, a historic municipal park which abuts Victoria College to the northwest, is included. This is a significant open space with associated mature vegetation, bandstand and children's play area, an important landscape and visual amenity. The park is well used by the public and abuts the Lisburn Road, a very busy shopping area and arterial route into the city centre.

The listed Gate Lodge, 350 Lisburn Road, at the entrance to Drumglass Park, is included in the LLPA, together with its views and setting.

The vegetation within Inchmarlo, Victoria College and Drumglass Park together contribute to the landscape and visual character of this area and are of particular amenity value. There is a Tree Preservation Order on the trees at Victoria College.

The grounds associated with the large listed property at 6 Osborne Gardens, the Royal Belfast Academical Institution (RBAI), headmaster's residence, is included in the LLPA together with its views and setting.

This in turn links to Cranmore Wood, an important landscape and visual feature. The wood is of historic interest and contains the remnants of Cranmore House.

Cranmore Wood forms the backdrop to Cranmore and Osborne Park Playing Fields, important large open spaces within this dense area of housing. They front the busy Malone Road, an arterial route into the city, from which there are views into the playing fields.

The playing fields are linked across the Malone Road by the mature vegetation between Bladon Park and Bladon Drive, an important landscape and visual feature.

The listed Gate Lodge at the entrance to Bladon Park, together with its views and setting is included in the LLPA. This in turn links into Bladon Park Playing Fields, another important open space within this built up area.

The whole LLPA forms an important landscape wedge and visual green link of amenity value from the Lisburn Road to the Malone Road and nearly (although not quite) through to Knightsbridge Park and the Lagan Valley Regional Park. This wedge is of particular importance being located within this otherwise densely developed area of the city.

Nature Conservation

The area is important for wildlife and local nature conservation interest. and

At its eastern end the LLPA contains the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Bladon Park.

Amenity Value

The LLPA provides a substantial green open space within a dense urban area which is of significant landscape, visual and amenity importance. A large part of the LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

The LLPA contains Drumglass Park, a Belfast City Council park and playground and the following school playing fields:

Cranmore Playing Fields (RBAI),
Bladon Park Playing Fields (RBAI),
Osborne Park Playing Fields (RBAI), and
Osborne Gardens (Inchmarlo Preparatory School)

There are two sites with Tree Preservation Orders within this LLPA:

Cranmore Wood, Cranmore Park and
Victoria College, Cranmore Park.

Heritage Interest

All of the LLPA lies within Malone Conservation Area and adds to and forms part of the very significant landscape character and visual amenity of the area.

The LLPA includes Cranmore Historic Park, Garden and Demesne and also Drumglass Historic Park, Garden and Demesne. These are recognised for their historic landscape and visual importance.

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

1 Bladon Park and gateway, Grade B,

350 Lisburn Road and gateway, Grade B1, and
6 Osborne Gardens, boundary wall and front gates, Grade B1.

The LLPA includes the following scheduled archaeological site and
monument:

Cranmore House, (a 17th century house in ruins).

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 104 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Dundonald Wedge

Landscape Character

This LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes an important local amenity area, Dundonald Cemetery. This was established on land acquired by Belfast Corporation in 1897 and opened in 1905. This municipal cemetery is of landscape and historical value.

The LLPA also includes the bed and embankments of the former Belfast to Comber railway line. This area and its associated vegetation, is of high amenity value, forming a strong landscape feature and wildlife corridor that extends beyond the settlement development limit into the open countryside.

The LLPA also includes Dundonald Leisure Park an important recreational resource and tourist facility.

The LLPA includes an area of open ground, on rising land bounded by hedgerows and trees behind Dundonald International Ice Bowl and the David Lloyd Fitness Club. This area provides views to the north, towards the urban area and the Craigantlet Hills beyond, and to the Castlereagh Hills to the south.

Dundonald Cemetery is located within Dundonald (Belfast) Urban Landscape Wedge and the section of the LLPA to the south of the former railway line is within Dundonald (Castlereagh) Urban Landscape Wedge.

This strategically important landscape wedge extends to include, Dundonald Leisure Park, Dundonald Cemetery and Knock Golf Course and physically and visually separates Dundonald from the suburbs of east Belfast. This buffer zone is further identified in the Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment and referred to briefly under the heading Landscape Setting – “a narrow buffer zone separates Dundonald from Belfast”.

A very small part of the LLPA, on the southern boundary, is located within Castlereagh Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Dundonald Old Railway Line.

Amenity Value

The section of the LLPA to the south of the former railway line has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and a large part of these lands is designated as Dundonald Leisure Park.

The leisure park is an important recreational resource and tourist facility and includes the Castlereagh Borough Council owned, Dundonald International Ice Bowl, Ten Pin Bowling Centre, Adventure Golf and a Touring Caravan Park. The park also includes the David Lloyd Fitness and Raquet Club.

There is a Tree Preservation Order on lands at and adjacent to Hanwood House, 125 Old Dundonald Road, which highlight their visual amenity value, although Hanwood House and its grounds are outside the LLPA.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 105 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Dunville

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Dunville Park, a small park donated to Belfast Corporation by Robert Grimshaw Dunville of the local Dunville Whiskey family, who provided five acres of land and money to lay out a public park, which was opened in 1889. It was enclosed with railings in 1891 and large gates and piers were erected in 1892. A superintendent's lodge was also built at the corner of Grosvenor Road and Falls Road, in the form of an octagonal Ionic Temple, but has since been demolished.

In the early 1900's the park was fully planted with broad belts of trees and shrubs around the perimeter and ornamental island beds within the centre. Today the park is kept in a much simpler form and includes an extensive area of grass, sub-divided by paths, a number of mature trees, mainly around the perimeter and some shrub planting. There is also a small play area and a community building.

The centre piece of the park is the large ornamental Victorian fountain built in commemoration of Sarah Dunville. Constructed in terracotta, with panels showing aquatic life around its base, the fountain forms an impressive architectural and visual feature. Designed by A.E. Pearce, it is believed to have been made by the famous ceramic factory, Royal Doulton. It is listed in recognition of its historic importance.

The park also adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of Falls / St. Mary's Area of Townscape Character, located to the south-west.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA has some importance for wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The park provides an amenity area of landscape and visual importance and historic interest. It was originally extensively used by local people for recreation and by convalescing patients in the Royal Victoria Hospital.

The LLPA has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and provides a green open space within a dense urban area.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed feature:

The fountain in the centre of the park, Grade B.

The historic importance of Dunville Park is underpinned by its inclusion in the Register of Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 106 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Falls

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes Falls Park and the adjacent City Cemetery. The park and cemetery are set against the backdrop of Black Mountain. They form an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area.

Falls Park became Belfast's second public park when it opened in 1873. It comprises a mix of planned landscape, naturalized wooded glen and recreation facilities, including open grass areas with mature specimen trees, shelterbelt plantings, shrubs and bedding plants, together with pedestrian walkways, car parking, seats, picnic areas, a formal children's playground, bowling green, BMX track, a number of playing pitches to the west and a bowling and camogie pavilion. An open-air swimming pool, fed directly from the Ballymurphy Stream, locally known as "The Cooler" was added in 1924, along with a bandstand, both no longer exist. A gate lodge, built in 1879 still exists.

The Ballymurphy Stream passes through the cemetery and the park, flowing through a wooded glen, forming an important linear landscape feature of wildlife and nature conservation interest.

The City Cemetery has a symmetrical layout and contains significant tree coverage of landscape and visual merit. It features a boundary wall, piers, ornamental gates and railings along the Falls Road and the Superintendent's House to the north-east (built in 1879 and probably designed by J.C. Bretland), all of which are listed. There are two fountains and a number of memorials within the cemetery which are also listed, including the Herdman, Inglis, Pirrie, Carson and Phillips memorials.

The LLPA also forms part of the extensive Milltown Urban Landscape Wedge which continues across the Falls Road into Milltown / Bog Meadows LLPA and on to the M1 Motorway.

The park also adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of Falls / Donegall Road Area of Townscape Character to the north-east.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife, is of local nature conservation interest and contributes to the wildlife corridors in the area.

Amenity Value

Falls Park has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and the whole LLPA provides a green open space within a dense urban area.

There are two Community Greenways within the LLPA. The Ballymurphy Route passes through the park, while the LVRP / Bog Meadows / Whiterock Route passes along the perimeter of the cemetery. These highlight the pedestrian linkages in the area.

The LLPA is viewed by many passing motorists and extensively used by local people.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Boundary Wall, Grade B1,
Superintendent's House, Grade B1,
Fountains, Grade B1,
Mausoleum, Grade B1,
Herdman Memorial, Grade B1,
Inglis Memorial, Grade B1,
Pirrie Memorial, Grade B1,
Carson Memorial, Grade B1,
Phillips Memorial, Grade B1,
Fennell-Stelfox Memorial, Grade B1, and
Lynn Memorial, Grade B1.

Both the park and cemetery were formerly part of the Sinclaire Estates and acquired by Belfast Corporation in 1866. The historic importance and interest of the Falls Park in particular is underpinned by its inclusion in the Register of Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 107 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Forth River / Wolf Hill / Ligoniel

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn and 112 – Belfast Basalt Escarpment, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes major landscape corridors, following the courses of the Forth River, the Legoniel River and their tributaries. These corridors link the Belfast Hills to the urban fabric of Belfast and are typically, densely vegetated, with steep gorges in the upper reaches, creating a landscape of high visual amenity value.

Other water features include three former mill ponds and associated mill streams which add to the landscape and amenity value of the LLPA.

Belts of mature native woodland, which cling to the escarpment slopes above Legoniel, form significant landscape and visual features of wildlife importance.

Included within the LLPA is Ligoniel Wood, an area of new community woodland located to the rear of properties on Mill Avenue. This has been developed by the Woodland Trust, under the Woods On Your Doorstep scheme and includes a 200m path through a new plantation of trees and shrubs of rowan, aspen, elder, oak and ash and a metal sculpture, placed in the centre called 'Shadows Of Ligoniel'.

Glenbank Park, a formal park, that was formerly the garden of a late 18th Century House is included in the LLPA, and together with its associated vegetation it is of landscape and visual merit and local historical interest.

Two other formal parks, Clarendon Park and Forth River Linear Park, are included within the LLPA, along with areas of open space and playing fields which contribute to the landscape and visual amenity of the area.

A large part of the LLPA lies within Belfast Basalt Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value. This recognises the landscape and visual importance of the area.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA recognises an important area of local nature conservation interest with high biodiversity and wildlife value.

The LLPA includes the following Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Belfast Hills – Divis / Ligoniel,
Ligoniel Village, and
Crow Glen (Geodiversity).

Amenity Value

The LLPA contains the Forth River Linear Park and The Forth River / Glencairn / Ligoniel Route, Community Greenway which runs the length of the LLPA, from Ballygomartin Road to Mill Avenue. Here it connects with the Belfast Hills Access Point, Wolfhill Grove, thus providing the public with access to an area of high landscape and visual amenity value and of local nature conservation interest.

A large part of the LLPA has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, again reinforcing the visual and amenity importance of the area.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes Glenbank, Historic Park, Garden and Demesne.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

A rath,
An enclosure, and
A souterrain.

The mill ponds and mill streams associated with the former Wolfhill Flax Spinning Mill (demolished) are of industrial archaeology and local historic interest.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 108 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Glencairn

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA encompasses Glencairn Park, a public park established within the remnants of the demesnes associated with two houses, Glencairn and Fernhill, dating from the mid 19th century and standing towards the top of hills on either side of a sloping valley with a backdrop of Divis Mountain and scenic views over Belfast. Only Fernhill now remains and is used as a local museum. Glencairn was demolished in the 1990's and a purpose built nursing home built on its site. The two adjoining estates were owned by related families, the Cunninghams, who came from Scotland to Ireland during the plantation and as such the park is of local historic importance and interest. Acquired by Belfast Corporation in 1962 the grounds were then opened as a public park.

Behind the nursing home, is an ancient rath with ramparts and a surrounding ditch. During the Cunninghams' time, the ditch was filled in and used as a ring for training horses. The rath is topped by a ring of trees and forms a distinctive feature within the park.

Fernhill House was originally laid out in lawns, shrub borders and a rock garden. Glencairn House was surrounded by extensive lawns, gravel pathways, formal gardens, vegetable plots and a croquet lawn. However, most of the ornamental features have now gone although the lime avenue at Fernhill and the oak avenue and some exotic specimen trees at Glencairn, along with extensive areas of mature shelterbelt tree planting, parkland trees and open grass areas still remain.

The lower valley slopes of the densely wooded Ballymartin River corridor are included in the LLPA together with the lands which slope down from the rear gardens of properties on Westway Gardens and from Glencairn Road. The woodland is a mix of natural regeneration within an older woodland plantation. The river corridor forms a distinctive linear landscape feature and backdrop to the park.

Nature Conservation

The river corridor and its associated vegetation combined with the trees and woodland throughout the LLPA provide a significant local nature conservation resource.

The LLPA contains the following Site of Local Nature Conservation importance (SLNCI):

Ballygomartin River, Glencairn.

Amenity Value

The LLPA has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and Glencairn Park is an important amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is viewed by many passing motorists and extensively used by local people for recreation. Facilities within the park include, a BMX track, equipped play area, car parking, paths and seating.

Glencairn Park and the Ballygomartin River corridor combine to form an important green space extending from the Belfast Basalt Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value through the residential area. The Forth River / Glencairn / Ligoniel Route Community Greenway, passes through the park along Glencairn Road, towards a Belfast Hills Access Point on Glencairn Road, highlighting the linkage through the park to the Belfast Hills.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA also includes Glencairn and Fernhill Historic Park, Garden and Demesne, which underpins its historic importance.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A large rath, with ramparts and a surrounding ditch.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 109 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Glenmachan / Garnerville

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn and 104 – Craigantlet Escarpment, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the listed building, Glenmachan Tower and its associated distinctive planned setting on elevated ground, overlooking the wider Belfast area. This is a landmark building with distinctive visual merit and historic interest.

Glenmachan Tower is surrounded by extensive grounds, green open spaces and well established mature planting, including specimen trees, groups of trees and boundary vegetation. These grounds are extremely significant within this part of Belfast and are of particular landscape, visual and historic merit. Included also within the grounds are the buildings associated with the Church of God.

A number of locally significant buildings and their grounds, situated on rising land along Quarry Road, are also included within this LLPA. These buildings are mostly large dwellings set back from the road, on the upper reaches of the hill slope and are surrounded by mature vegetated boundaries of landscape and visual merit. This road is situated directly south of Glenmachan Tower and the vegetation and landform along Quarry Road, add to and form part of the general treed character and rising landform of the area

Included also are the stands of mature vegetation along Glenmachan Road which are of landscape and visual merit and provide the treed and rural character of this road on the edge of the city.

The LLPA also includes the trees around the junction of Garnerville Road and Old Holywood Road, which are of particular landscape and visual significance.

The LLPA includes stream corridors, associated vegetation and landforms. These stream corridors and glens are important landscape and visual features which are also of wildlife and local nature conservation interest. One of these, extending from Glen Road to Old Holywood Road provides a green corridor to the rear of the housing area.

This LLPA lies close to, Belmont Glen LLPA, Belmont Park LLPA , Campbell / Ormiston LLPA and Stormont LLPA and adds to and forms part of a wider distinctive urban area which is defined by its notable landscape and significant built form.

A large part of the LLPA lies within Craigtantlet Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value. This emphasises its importance in landscape and visual terms and forms part of the setting of Belfast.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA includes part of the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Glenmachan.

This emphasises the importance of the area for wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The open spaces and substantial vegetation associated with the LLPA are of amenity significance and landscape and visual importance.

There are three sites with Tree Preservation Orders within this LLPA:

Lands at 77-79 Garnerville Road / Old Holywood Road,
Lands at Glenmachan House, and
Lands at Old Holywood Road.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed building:

Glenmachan Tower, Grade B.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A 17th century mill.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 110 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Grove

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on the Grove Playing Fields which were acquired by the Belfast Corporation in 1931 and were the first playing fields to be established in Belfast. They are located immediately adjacent to York Road, a main arterial route in Belfast. The main entrance is via Jellicoe Avenue to the west and it is also accessed from Esther Street to the south. The park is enclosed by railings, a gate and piers along Jellicoe Avenue and forms a backdrop to housing on Alexandra Park Avenue.

The area contains a mix of recreation facilities, including open grass areas, sports pitches, a sports pavilion, pedestrian walkways and a formal children's playground. Two bowling greens and pavilion are located to the south-east of the park.

Belts of mature tree planting and hedges define the different parts of the park and the boundaries. There are also areas of shrub planting and roses.

There are extensive views from the playing fields over Belfast Lough and the hills beyond.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest, the mature tree planting in particular providing wildlife habitats

Amenity Value

The LLPA is a sizable and important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is viewed by passing motorists and local people who use it for both passive and active recreation.

Most of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 111 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Half Moon Lake

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises a small public park, centred on a small lake, half moon in shape, with a path around its edge and backed by a mound with a spiralling path to a viewpoint at its summit. Timber jetties extend into the lake and are used as fishing platforms. The area includes significant mature woodland and scrub, marginal flora, recently established wildflower meadow and new native tree planting.

The park is of historic importance and interest. The lake with an island feature originally formed part of a small planned landscape associated with Glenville House which also included a small formally laid out garden immediately to the north-east and south-east of the lake although this has since been removed. The lake was also originally used as a holding pond, known as Glenville Dam, fed by the Colin River via a mill race and weir and used to feed a mill to the south-west on Suffolk Road. A section of the mill race and weir remain.

The LLPA is an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is surrounded on all sides by houses and contributes to the views and setting of the properties and is used by local people for recreation. The park underwent significant environmental improvement works which were completed in 2002.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA has a rich variety of wildlife and includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation (SLNCI):

Lenadoon Dam.

Amenity Value

The LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and provides a green open space within a dense urban area and is widely used by local residents for recreation.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 112 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Holy Cross

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Holy Cross Church and Holy Cross Retreat, the associated grounds, statue, mature trees and other vegetation, which are a landmark grouping, occupying a dramatic location on the crest of the hill at the junction of Crumlin Road and Woodvale Road. It is enclosed to the front by a wall, railings and ornamental gates and to the rear by a wall. The church is accessed up steps from the Crumlin Road.

The church site is of archaeological and historic importance and interest. The first small church on the site was opened on 10th January 1869. Then followed the school and a monastery completed in 1877-1881 and built in an austere Romanesque Revival style. The existing church was completed in 1902 for the Passionist Order, to the designs of Doolin, Butler and Donnelly of Dublin and is regarded as one of the best ecclesiastical buildings in Belfast. Its exterior has a Romanesque façade with imposing twin towers on either side of the doorway. Its interior is lavishly finished with rich frescoes painted by a member of the Order.

The church and the retreat are listed buildings in recognition of their architectural merit.

The grounds around the church and the retreat, the associated mature trees and open grass areas provide the setting of the church grouping. It also includes an area of mature tree planting and regenerating vegetation to the south of the church where there is a small graveyard.

Nature Conservation

The church grounds are important for wildlife and are of local nature conservation value and interest.

Amenity

The area is a green open space, of amenity, landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area, viewed by many passing motorists and extensively used by local people.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following listed buildings:

Holy Cross Church, Grade B+, and
Holy Cross Retreat, Grade B+.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 113 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Hunterhouse / Wedderburn / Rathmore

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn and 106 – Lagan Parkland, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the distinctive planned setting of Hunterhouse College, Upper Lisburn Road. This college is a listed building and its extensive grounds include additional school buildings, green open spaces, playing pitches and well-established mature planting, including specimen trees, avenue planting, groups of trees and boundary vegetation.

The LLPA also includes the Gateway at Hunterhouse College, also a listed building, located at the school's entrance on the Upper Lisburn Road and set within the mature landscape associated with the College.

Also included in the LLPA is the Convent of the Sacred Heart of Mary, another listed building and its planned setting and views, on the rising landform in the southern part of the LLPA. The buildings of Rathmore Grammar School, which are of architectural merit, are located adjacent to the convent which acts as the focal point to the grouping.

St. Anne's Primary School, St. Anne's Church and Parochial House and associated extensive grounds are located further down the slope from the grammar school and are included in the LLPA.

The three listed buildings, coupled with the various school buildings set in extensive grounds, with associated open space and mature vegetation are important in landscape and visual terms, are of historic merit and form the character of the busy road junction at Kingsway / Black's Road / Upper Lisburn Road.

The LLPA also acts as a green landscape buffer along the otherwise built-up road frontage of the Upper Lisburn Road / Kingsway area.

The LLPA also contains Wedderburn Park, a municipal park with football pitches, tennis courts, bowling green, children's play area, extensive grass areas, shrub planting and specimen trees which forms an important open green space of landscape and visual merit. The park is overlooked by the adjacent housing areas and there are views from the park towards the mature trees associated with Hunterhouse College.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance:

Dunmurry Schools.

Amenity Value

The LLPA is a sizable and important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is viewed by passing motorists and local people and school children who use it for both passive and active recreation.

The majority of the land within the LLPA, (excluding Hunterhouse College and grounds and Wedderburn Park) is within the Lagan Valley Regional Park, underpinning the importance of the landscape and visual amenity of the LLPA.

The lands associated with Wedderburn Park are identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Lady Dixon / Belfast Hills Community Greenway follows the southern boundary of the LLPA along Dunmurry Lane.

There is a Tree Preservation Order on these lands at Hunterhouse College.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings:

Hunterhouse College, Upper Lisburn Road, Grade B1,
Gateway at Hunterhouse College, Upper Lisburn Road, Grade B, and
Convent of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Grade B1

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

Rathmore Enclosure.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 114 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Knocknagoney

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Knocknagoney Park, a municipal park opened in 1985, which is accessed from the busy Hollywood Road.

The park comprises a steeply sloping, open grass, valley area enclosed by belts of woodland and shrub planting. It includes pedestrian walkways, a number of which link through to the surrounding housing areas, steps, retaining walls, two stone built look-outs, a bridge feature, a hard-surfaced sports pitch and a car park.

The vegetation within the park reads with the belts of vegetation along the boundaries of the playing fields and sports grounds along Hollywood Road.

There are extensive views from the upper slopes of the park over Belfast Lough and the city.

The hill beyond the park, to the east acts as a backdrop to the park which affords a visual link from the Hollywood Road to the Craigtantlet Escarpment.

Included within the LLPA are blocks of apartments at Knocknagoney Dale, which are locally significant and fronted by open grass areas with mature tree planting and backed by a steep grass embankment.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The majority of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

It is an important, green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area, viewed by many passing motorists and used by local people for both passive and active recreation.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 115 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Knock Golf Course / Hospital Glen

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn and 104 – Craigtantlet Escarpment, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Knock Golf Course, a green open space of high landscape and visual amenity value, located on the outer edges of east Belfast, adjacent to the boundary between the Belfast and Castlereagh Council districts.

The LLPA comprises the golf course with its well maintained fairways and greens, rough areas, planting along the boundaries, with mature trees throughout the course and delineating the fairways.

The LLPA also includes a stream corridor, its associated landforms and vegetation, which flows down from the Craigtantlet Escarpment and across the eastern portion of the golf course. This stream corridor makes a significant contribution to the landscape and visual amenity of the LLPA.

The portion of the LLPA, focused on the stream corridor, is also located within Craigtantlet Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value. This stream corridor links the LLPA to the open countryside to the north and lies within an area recognised as being of high landscape and visual amenity value.

The LLPA abuts Stormont Estate LLPA, to the west and Dundonald Wedge LLPA, to the south and adds to and forms part of the general landscape and visual character of the area.

The LLPA forms part of the larger Dundonald Urban Landscape Wedge, designated in both Belfast and Castlereagh District Proposals. This strategically important landscape wedge extends to include, Dundonald Leisure Park, Dundonald Cemetery and Knock Golf Course and physically and visually separates Dundonald from the suburbs of east Belfast. This buffer zone is further identified in the Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment and referred to briefly under the heading Landscape Setting – “a narrow buffer zone separates Dundonald from Belfast”

The LLPA also adds to and forms part of the setting for the adjacent Stormont Castle and Parliament Buildings, Historic Park, Garden and Demesne.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA includes areas of wildlife and local nature conservation importance including hedgerows, belts and stands of mature trees and the stream corridor, associated landforms and vegetation.

The majority of this stream corridor is included within the following environmental designation:

Craigantlet Woods Area of Special Scientific Interest.

The remaining lower reaches of the stream corridor are included within the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Interest (SLNCI):

Craigantlet Woods, designated in the Castlereagh District Proposals.

Amenity Value

This area is extensively used both for passive and active recreation. The LLPA is located adjacent to the Upper Newtownards Road, a main arterial route into Belfast and this enables passing motorists and pedestrians views into the LLPA and allows them to appreciate its landscape and visual amenity value.

The golf course is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

Stoney Road, along much of the northern boundary of the LLPA, follows the course of a much earlier route way, depicted on maps of the 1620's, and potentially on the course of a medieval or older route way.

The LLPA contains the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A spring.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 116 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ligoniel Park

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Ligoniel Park which is of industrial archaeological and historic interest. The park was originally the grounds of Ligoniel House (now demolished) which was owned by the manager of the Ligoniel Mill. It comprises areas of woodland, scrub, remnants of mature parkland trees, open grass areas, wildflowers which grow on the surrounding limestone and a network of pedestrian paths. There is also a sizable pond which was once a mill dam, known locally as Boodles Dam and formerly used to power flax and spinning mills. A former mill race flows through the park to feed the dam.

The park is located to the east of the Ligoniel Road, on high ground on the fringe of the Belfast Hills. It is an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It offers wide panoramic views over Belfast and the surrounding countryside as far as the Mourne Mountains. It is extensively used by local people for recreation.

Nature Conservation

LLPA is located within the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Crumlin Road / Upper Hightown Road.

Amenity Value

The LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and provides a green open space within a dense urban area and is widely used by local residents for recreation.

Heritage Interest

Boodles Dam and mill race are of industrial archaeology interest.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 117 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Loughview

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Loughside Park, a formally laid out area of amenity value for local residents.

The associated trees, both individual and in groups, together with other vegetation including the boundary planting, grass mounds, open spaces and paths are features of landscape importance and provide the character of the area.

A children's play area is included within the park which helps attract people into the area.

The park is of visual importance, especially as it is located between the Shore Road, a busy arterial route into Belfast, and the Belfast to Larne railway line.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA has some nature conservation value in respect of the trees that have been planted.

Amenity Value

The LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

The park is an important, green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area, viewed by many passing commuters and used by local people for both passive and active recreation.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 118 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Lower Crescent

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Crescent Church, a listed building, built in the Gothic Revival style in red sandstone. It is a landmark building fronting University Road, a busy arterial route into the city centre. It is a particularly popular church attracting many people throughout the week.

The Crescent Church is backed by a formal open space which was refurbished in the mid 1990's. It is laid out in paths with seats and lights surrounding a rectangular lawn area. It is enclosed with a low wall and ornamental railings, shrub planting and mature and semi-mature specimen trees.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is an important wildlife oasis within a built-up and busy area and is of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The area is of particular landscape and visual amenity value and is one of the few, formally designed and enclosed garden squares in the city. It is an important green open space and amenity area within a very busy part of Belfast.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed building:

Crescent Church, Grade B.

The LLPA lies within Queen's Conservation Area and the open space is of historic importance. It contributes to the townscape character of the area and to the setting of the church and the terraces of listed buildings along Lower Crescent and Upper Crescent.

Designation BT 119 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Malone Church

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes Malone Presbyterian Church and Gateway which are listed buildings. The gateway comprises two stone gate posts with ornamental lanterns on top and an ornamental wrought iron gate at the entrance to the church. The church is enclosed by a wall around its perimeter and surrounded by hard-standing and lawns with shrub planting and a number of mature specimen trees which contribute to the setting of the church.

The present church replaced an earlier church built before 1830's. The replacement was designed by Young and Mackenzie, the foundation stone was laid in 1899 and it was opened in 1901. It is a Gothic style church with external walls of Scrabo sandstone and dressings of Scottish sandstone. The church, with its high steeple and weather vane is a landmark building and focal point of architectural merit at the very busy junction of Lisburn Road and Balmoral Avenue.

The LLPA also includes the adjacent Friends' Burial Ground, an old graveyard, fronted by a stone wall along Balmoral Avenue and which dates from the 1830's. It is formally laid out with straight paths which intersect at the centre and contains deciduous and coniferous, mature specimen trees.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is an important wildlife oasis within a very busy, built-up area and is of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The burial ground is an important green open space of landscape and visual importance at a major junction, on a main arterial route into the city.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Malone Church and Gateway, Grade B.

The LLPA lies within Malone Conservation Area and the church and graveyard are of historic importance and contribute to the townscape character of the area.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 120 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Milltown / Bog Meadows

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes Milltown Cemetery and the adjacent Bog Meadows Nature Reserve.

Milltown Cemetery, opened in 1869, is the main private cemetery in Belfast, owned by the Roman Catholic Church. It occupies an exposed site which slopes from the Falls Road towards the Bog Meadows and the M1 Motorway and affords good views of the city.

The cemetery fronts onto the Falls Road, with an ornate boundary wall and railings and arched entrance, all of which are listed. A lodge is situated to the south of the entrance. Within the cemetery is a listed memorial, the Clark Canavan Cross and a listed mausoleum, the Bowen Vault.

The LLPA includes the Bog Meadows, a 19 hectare area of wetland habitat, part of a larger area which once served as the floodplain of the Blackstaff River, which is now culverted under the M1 Motorway. The Bog Meadows comprise; ponds, reed beds, wet meadows, woodland, streams and hedgerows and forms an important site for breeding and overwintering birds and other wildlife.

The LLPA also includes a section of the Ballymurphy Stream which flows through a wooded glen and forms a linear landscape feature of visual amenity merit and nature conservation value.

The LLPA forms part of the extensive Milltown Urban Landscape Wedge which extends from the M1 Motorway and continues across the Falls Road into Falls LLPA.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA contains the following Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Bog Meadows, M1 / Falls Road, and Milltown Cemetery.

The high nature conservation and biodiversity value of the Bog Meadows is also recognised by its designation as a Local Nature Reserve, managed by the Ulster Wildlife Trust.

Amenity Value

The Bog Meadows form an important amenity area of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is viewed by many passing motorists arriving from the west along the M1 Motorway and extensively used by local people for recreation. Facilities include wheelchair accessible paths, interpretation signs, bridges, viewing platforms, car parking and playing fields.

There are two Community Greenways within the LLPA, Ballymurphy Route, and LVRP / Bog Meadows / Whiterock Route. These highlight the pedestrian linkages in the area.

There is a Tree Preservation Order on the trees along the Ballymurphy Stream corridor.

The Bog Meadows section of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes remnants of the area's industrial heritage, including mill buildings and sites of mill ponds and mill streams, now overgrown. There is also a collection of buildings set around a courtyard which were formerly the Milltown Industrial School, run as a home and school for male orphans of the area. These buildings and sites further enhance the local historical interest of the LLPA.

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Milltown Cemetery Gateway, Boundary Walls and Railings, Grade B,
Clark Canavan Cross, Grade B and
Bowen Vault, Grade B.

Local Significance

Within the cemetery there are three large areas of open space which mark mass graves for the city's poor. Over 80,000 people are buried in the "poor ground", many of whom died of Spanish Flu in 1919 and other epidemics such as typhoid and cholera. The graveyard therefore plays an important role in the interpretation of local history.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 121 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Mountain Hill

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located off Mountainhill Road, Legoniel and consists of a municipal park of local landscape and visual amenity value that contributes to the landscape character of the area.

The park contains areas of open space, belts of young woodland planting, young specimen tree planting, a path network and a children's playground that are well used by local residents.

The park and its planting contribute to the treed backdrop of St. Vincent de Paul's Church and Primary School, locally significant buildings in the area.

The park has significant views of the Belfast Hills and the Mourne Mountains.

Nature Conservation

The belts of young woodland planting are of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The path network that passes through the LLPA provides a linkage between Ligoniel Road and Ligoniel Park to the north of Mountainhill Road.

The majority of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, underlining the importance of the site in terms of its amenity value.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 122 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Musgrave

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA consists of Musgrave Park, a municipal park and a planned landscape of historic interest. The park includes extensive open areas in grass, pedestrian pathways, tennis courts, a bowling green and pavilion, significant groups of mature trees, belts of structure planting and formal flower beds.

The LLPA forms an important green open space strategically situated between Stockman's Lane, the M1 Motorway and Musgrave Park Hospital. The area is an important public amenity resource, viewed by many motorists and widely used for both passive and active recreation.

The LLPA contains areas of wildlife and local nature conservation interest. This is provided by groups of mature trees, shrubbery and other planting throughout the site and also includes part of the Blackstaff River corridor and its associated wet woodland to the north-west.

The LLPA provides significant views of the Belfast Hills to the north.

The features contained within Musgrave Park combine to create an environment of high landscape and visual amenity value which contributes to the character of the area.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA contains part of the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

South of M1 Roundabout, Junction 1.

Amenity Value

The LVRP / Bog Meadows / Whiterock Route Community Greenway, passes through the LLPA, connecting the Lagan Valley Regional Park to the Belfast Hills.

The LLPA is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and is an important, green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual significance, viewed by many passing commuters and used by local people for both passive and active recreation.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains Grovelands (Musgrave Park) Historic Park, Garden and Demesne, This is a maintained ornamental garden, which was built in the 1860's to the design of William Barre

The LLPA also contains the following listed structure:

A Stone Pillar, Grade B.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 123 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Oldpark

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Marrowbone Millennium Park, formerly known as Oldpark Playing Fields, a local park developed on derelict land on the site of Oldpark Brick Works. The park is fronted by feature railings and gates backed by low to medium high shrub planting which enhances the streetscape and gives a sense of enclosure to the park. The park includes open grass areas, a grassed playing pitch, an equipped play area, a viewpoint, low shrub planting with specimen trees, feature grass mounding and a network of paths and seating.

The park is bounded on its western side by a steep embankment with a mix of semi-natural woodland on the slopes. Some of the planting has been recently cleared but the remainder is of landscape and visual amenity merit and nature conservation value.

The park occupies an elevated location within the city and offers panoramic views west and south over the city and the surrounding countryside as far as the Mourne Mountains and north towards the Belfast Hills.

Nature Conservation

The vegetation associated with the park is of importance for wildlife and local nature conservation interest within the built up area of the city.

Amenity Value

The park underwent extensive environmental improvement works which were completed in 2000. It is an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is surrounded on all sides by houses and is used by local people for recreation.

The importance of the LLPA as an open space is underpinned by its identification as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 124 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Orangefield / Dixon

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is an extensive area of open space located in east Belfast. It contains: Dixon Playing Fields, Greenville Park, Orangefield Playing Fields and Laburnum Playing Fields. These comprise a mixture of grass playing fields, all weather pitches, tennis courts, a bowling green, cycle tracks, pedestrian pathways, playgrounds and pavilions. Some of these playing fields are associated with, Orangefield High School, Orangefield Primary School and Grosvenor Grammar School.

The LLPA has significant landscape and visual character and is comprised of open, flat grass areas with some hard-surfaced pitches, bordered by groups of trees, boundary planting and many mature specimen trees. Although the LLPA is located within a densely populated area, surrounded by roads, housing development and schools, it retains a sense of quiet enclosure and helps to filter both visual intrusion and noise.

The parks and playing fields form an important and large green landscape wedge surrounded by dense housing development and schools. It is widely used for both passive and active recreation and is a well established landscape element, of significant public amenity value.

The area forms part of a larger landscape wedge in this part of Belfast, which extends from Shandon / Gilnahirk LLPA and Clarawood LLPA, in the east, through to Avoniel LLPA to the west.

The LLPA also includes part of the Knock River corridor, its associated vegetation and landforms. The river is an important landscape and visual feature which provides a green wildlife corridor to the rear of the housing areas and through the parkland.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA, with its belts of planting, mature trees and river corridor provides an extensive area of wildlife importance and local nature conservation interest within a densely populated area.

Amenity Value

The Odyssey / Tullycarnet Park / Ormeau Park Community Greenway passes through the LLPA, connecting east Belfast to Titanic Quarter.

The LLPA is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and is an important, green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual significance, and widely used by local people and school children for both passive and active recreation.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A 17th century mill.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 125 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ormeau Park

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Ormeau Park which comprises the remains of the planned landscape demesne at Ormeau. It is Belfast's oldest municipal park and one of the largest and busiest parks in the city.

The park was designed by Timothy Hevey and opened to the public in 1871. The opening was marked with a parade from Carlisle Circus through Belfast which attracted a large crowd and finished with speeches in the park. The present day park still roughly follows his design but with several alterations, for example, in the 1920's, the embankment road cut off the river frontage from the park. The importance of the park is underpinned by its inclusion in the register of Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest in Northern Ireland.

The park opens on to Ormeau Road, Ormeau Embankment, Park Road, and Ravenhill Road. It is an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is viewed by many passing motorists and extensively used for both passive and active recreation.

The park features ornamental gates at its entrances and is enclosed with railings around its perimeter, all of which are listed. It contains a successful mix of planned landscape and recreation facilities, including open grass areas with mature specimen trees, shrubs and bedding plants, together with areas of woodland, pedestrian walkways, two formal children's playgrounds and a listed Victorian band stand and its setting. It includes the Ormeau Park Recreation Centre and the Ozone Complex as well as an indoor tennis facility, outdoor tennis courts, basketball, netball, and football pitches, a cycle track, eco-trails and orienteering course. The old walled garden associated with the original Ormeau House now contains the service yard, bowling greens and pavilion.

It also contains an extensive area of long established woodland, which underpins the historic importance of the planting within the park.

The LLPA also includes Ormeau Golf Course, which abuts the park to the south-east. Ormeau Golf Club was formed in 1893 and is one of the oldest in Ireland. It includes a club house and a nine-hole golf course set within the remnants of the planned parkland which was once part of the Marquis of Donegall's Ormeau Demesne and includes open grass areas, many fine

mature specimen trees and a pond with a fountain. The golf course contributes to the green open space and amenity value of this part of the city.

The park adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of the adjacent Areas of Townscape Character along Ormeau Road, Park Road and Ravenhill Road.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The Odyssey / Tullycarnet Park / Ormeau Park Community Greenway, passes through the LLPA, connecting south / east Belfast to Titanic Quarter.

The LLPA is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space and is an important, green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual significance, and widely used by for both passive and active recreation.

Heritage Interest

The park is of historic importance and interest. The land for Ormeau Park was formerly part of the Donegall family estate which became their home in 1807, when the family moved to Ormeau from their town house in Donegall Place. The building was extended by George Chichester, 2nd Marquis of Donegall, who lived there until his death in 1844. Eventually the family were forced to sell the estate to pay their spiraling debt. In 1869, the area was purchased by Belfast Corporation.

The LLPA contains the following listed structures:

Main Entrance Gates and Railings, Grade B, and
Band Stand, Grade B.

Ormeau Park is designated as a Historic Park, Garden and Demesne.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 126 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Pirrie Park

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

Pirrie Park was acquired by Methodist College, Belfast in 1932. The main pavilion was immediately converted and extended into classroom accommodation for the new Preparatory Department, Downey House. The site also included an old cricket pavilion, the Anderson Pavilion which was also utilised by the school but it has subsequently fallen into disrepair and has recently been removed.

The grounds have been developed over the intervening years and now include a rugby pitch surrounded by an 'Enclosure' of grassed banks for viewing, a rugby pavilion which looks out onto the 'Enclosure', built and formally opened in September 1957, a girls' hockey pavilion also completed and opened in December of the same year and the Wells Pavilion a recent addition, which houses modern changing facilities for cricket teams. A small stand is also located within the 'Enclosure', used by the Governors of the school during rugby matches. Additional accommodation for Downey House has been provided by temporary classrooms.

Behind the rugby pavilion is the cricket pitch and more rugby pitches. Elsewhere on the site there are further rugby and all weather hockey pitches, netball/basket ball courts and hard surfaced tennis courts.

An outdoor swimming pool with diving boards, well known for its coldness, was opened in 1938 and a small pavilion provided changing accommodation, which continued to be used long after the pool was closed at the end of the 1970's. This building has now been demolished and the pool has been filled in.

There is mature tree planting along part of the boundary which forms a vegetative screen to the surrounding houses and some mature vegetation around the edge of a number of the pitches. This vegetation is of landscape and visual merit and amenity value.

The park also adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of Ardenlee Area of Townscape Character, to the north and east and Ravenhill Park Area of Townscape Character, to the south and west.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

Pirrie Park is an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area, well used by Methodist College and others for sports recreation.

The LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

The Odyssey / Tullycarnet / Ormeau Park Community Greenway passes through the Park, highlighting the pedestrian linkage across it from Pirrie Park Gardens and Ardenlee Avenue to the Ravenhill Road.

Heritage Interest

Pirrie Park is of local historic interest. The grounds were formerly owned by Harland and Wolff Ltd. who bought an area of farmland to create a facility to be used for the recreation of their workers. The former farmhouse and associated outbuildings, built in 1897 still stand and are now the home of the head groundsman.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 127 – Local Landscape Policy Area, River Lagan / Botanic

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes Botanic Gardens, which were established in 1828 by the Belfast Botanic and Horticultural Society and continued as a private park for many years, only opening to members of the public on Sundays. It became a public park in 1895 when the Belfast Corporation bought the gardens. The gardens form a focal point and valuable amenity open space within south Belfast, used extensively by members of the public and students, visited by many tourists and regularly used as a venue for public events.

The most notable feature within the gardens is the Palm House, designed by Charles Lanyon and completed in 1840. It is one of the earliest examples of a curvilinear, cast iron, glasshouse in the world and is listed in recognition of its architectural and historic importance. The gardens also contain the Tropical Ravine House, built by head gardener Charles McKimm in 1889 which features a unique design of a sunken ravine running the length of the building, with a balcony at each side for viewing. The gardens are formally laid out with paths, seats, grass areas and flower beds. They feature long herbaceous borders, a rose garden created in 1932, a rockery, alpine garden and children's play area. There are many mature trees, shrubs and bedding plants. A statue of Lord Kelvin, the imminent physicist stands at the Stranmillis Road entrance and there is a gate lodge at the northern entrance which is listed along with the gate pillars.

Located within Botanic Gardens is Queen's University Physical Education Centre, with a bowling green to the north and an expansive grass area to the south.

The Ulster Museum also lies within Botanic Gardens. The original building was completed in 1929, with a subsequent extension built in 1971, and after an extensive refurbishment reopened in October 2009. The building is another focal point and landmark within the park. The museum is listed as are the gates, piers, railings and walls along Stranmillis Road for their architectural merit and historic interest. It is a building much used by school children and other members of the public.

To the south of the museum is the listed Friar's Bush Graveyard which is enclosed by a high stone rubble wall and entered via. an archway through the listed gate lodge, built in 1829.

The LLPA extends to include a number of listed buildings associated with Queen's University and its grounds, including Queen's University Main Building (the Lanyon Building), designed by Charles Lanyon, circa 1847/49, QUB South Wing, the Old Library, also by Lanyon, circa 1886/68, the Department of Music building and the Whitla Hall, built circa 1949. The War Memorial which stands as a focal point at the University Road entrance is also listed. The setting of the buildings is enhanced by many mature trees around the perimeter of the campus, extensive lawns to the front of the main building and the quadrangle in the centre.

Across the road is the main campus of Methodist College, originally known as Wesleyan College, the largest grammar school in Belfast. The college was founded in 1865, originally as a college to train Methodist Ministers and partly as a school for boys. It opened on 18th August 1868 and shortly thereafter became co-educational. Both the main building and the McAuthur Hall, circa 1887/91, are listed for their architectural merit. Mature trees and large areas of lawn enhance the setting of the school buildings and contribute to the landscape and amenity value of the College grounds.

College Gardens which runs along the north eastern boundary of the College and the listed gates and piers at the Lisburn Road end are included in the LLPA.

Included within the LLPA is part of the River Lagan corridor including Stranmillis and Annadale Embankments, the listed King's Bridge and the allotments at Annadale Embankment. The river and associated vegetation form an area of high landscape value and recreational amenity importance.

The LLPA opens onto Malone Road, University Road, Stranmillis Road, Stranmillis Embankment and Annadale Embankment. It is an important green open space and amenity area, with many fine buildings of landscape and visual merit and historic and archaeological importance within a densely populated area. It is viewed by many passing motorists and extensively used by local people for both passive and active recreation.

The LLPA adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of Queen's Conservation Area, Stranmillis Village Area of Townscape Character (ATC) to the west, Holyland ATC and Rugby ATC to the north east, Ormeau ATC to the east and Wellesley Avenue / Kier ATC to the north-west.

Nature Conservation

The River Lagan corridor, its embankments and areas of tree and shrub planting within the LLPA are important for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The North Belfast / South Belfast / LVRP Community Greenway and a National Cycle Route pass along the embankments of the river, highlighting the pedestrian and cycle linkages along the river between the city centre and Lagan Valley Regional Park to the south.

Part of the southern half of the LLPA is within the Lagan Valley Regional Park.

Most of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

Friar's Bush Graveyard is believed to be the site of a Christian burial ground, circa. AD 485. It is of particular archaeological and historic interest featuring many memorials and mausoleums to distinguished citizens of Belfast. The graveyard also contains a pauper's grave and there is an unmarked, mass grave for the victims of cholera. It contains the Friar's Bush church site, Capella de Kilpatrick, an unscheduled monument. The Graveyard plays an important role in the interpretation of local history and as such is considered an important historical and archaeological site.

The LLPA contains Botanic Gardens Historic Park, Garden and Demesne.

A large part of Queen's Conservation Area is located within the LLPA.

The following listed buildings are included within the LLPA:

King's Bridge, Grade B+,
Dept. of Music, Queen's University, Grade B1,
Geology Building (Old Library), Queen's University, Grade B,
Main Building, Queen's University, Grade A,
South Wing Extension, Queen's University, Grade B+,
War Memorial, Queen's University, Grade B1,
Whitla Hall, Queen's University, Grade B+,
Palm House, Botanic Gardens, Grade A,
Gate Lodge, Botanic Gardens, Grade B,
Kelvin Monument, Botanic Gardens, Grade B+,
Tropical Ravine, Botanic Gardens, Grade 2,
Ulster Museum, Stranmillis Road, Grade B1,
Friar's Bush Graveyard, Stranmillis Road, Grade B1,
McArthur Hall, College Gardens, Grade B1, and
Methodist College, College Gardens, Grade B1.

The LLPA also contains two unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

A Mesolithic Occupation Site, and
Capella de Kilpatrick – a church site within Friar's Bush Graveyard.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 128 – Local Landscape Policy Area, St. Mary’s

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises a convent and a number of educational buildings surrounded by areas of parking, grassed and hard surfaced sports pitches, tennis courts, informal grass areas and a private burial ground, fronted by a stone wall along the Falls Road. The buildings and their environs are of local significance and contribute to the landscape character and visual amenity value of the area.

Significant groups of trees throughout the LLPA are remnants of the planned landscape developed around the original St. Mary’s school and college buildings and form an amenity of high landscape value, enhancing the setting of the buildings and providing an element of seclusion to the grounds.

The buildings include St. Mary’s Dominican Convent and Chapel founded in 1870 for the purpose of providing education for girls. The original school was later renamed St. Dominic’s High School and more recently St. Dominic’s Grammar School. The convent and chapel retained the name St. Mary’s and are listed in recognition of their architectural merit and historical interest.

Over the intervening years the school has grown with the addition of new extensions and a number of new schools were built in the grounds of St. Mary’s Convent in the 20th century including St Catherine’s Convent Primary School (closed in 2005 and demolished) and St. Rose’s, an all girl intermediate school situated on the old Dominican farm which was officially opened in 1961.

The LLPA also includes St. Mary’s, the first Teacher Training College in Belfast established by the Dominican Order in 1900. The original building is an attractive red bricked building with a mix of Victorian and Edwardian styles and is a landmark building along the Falls Road. It is similar in form and detailing to St. Dominic’s Grammar School and St. Mary’s Convent. A gate lodge built at the entrance to the training college off Beechmount Avenue still exists. Originally for the training of women teachers for primary education, the college has undergone many changes including the amalgamation with St. Joseph’s Teacher Training College for men and the inclusion of courses in secondary education. Now known as St. Mary’s University College, the old college buildings have been refurbished and new buildings added over time.

The LLPA lies within Falls / St. Mary’s Area of Townscape Character which underpins the architectural merit and landscape amenity value of the features

identified within the area. The LLPA adds to the character and enhances the setting of this ATC.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees within the LLPA are important for wildlife and are of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The playing pitches and tennis courts form an important open space of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area, well used by the schools for sports recreation.

In recognition of their recreational value, the pitches and courts are identified as an Area of Existing Open Space

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

St. Mary's Dominican Convent and Chapel, Grade B+, and
Boundary Walls and Railings, Grade B+.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 129 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Seaview

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Northwood Linear Park, a small, formal park located within an area of dense housing between Skegoneill Avenue and Premier Drive.

The park is enclosed by railings and features steep embankments covered with tree and shrub planting which define open grass areas. There are formal walkways throughout the park and a circular children's play area accessed from Seapark Drive.

The LLPA also includes an open stream corridor to the west, which runs through an unmanaged area of rough grass with some tree and shrub planting

The vegetation provides a visual backdrop to the surrounding housing areas.

There are panoramic views towards the Craigantlet Escarpment from the elevated land within the park.

Nature Conservation

The vegetation and open stream corridor are important for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The park is used by local people for recreation. It is an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual significance. The majority of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 130 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Shandon / Gilnahirk

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Shandon Park Golf Club. Founded in 1927, the 18 hole, parkland golf course is situated three miles from Belfast city centre, in the suburbs of east Belfast. It contains tree lined fairways and blocks of mainly mixed deciduous woodland. An open stream corridor with associated vegetation runs through the course.

The golf course abuts the Knock Road, a busy dual carriageway. It forms an important green open space and amenity area of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area which is viewed by many passing motorists. There are extensive views from within the golf course over Belfast and Stormont Estate and it is well used for active recreation.

The LLPA extends beyond the boundary of the golf course to include two small informal areas of amenity space fronting housing at Glen Road / Whincroft Road and Marfield Drive. These are laid out in grass with some tree planting and backed by shelter belts associated with the golf course.

The LLPA includes Gilnahirk Park, to the north-east of the golf course. The park comprises sloping grassed areas with pathways and mature tree planting. A tree lined stream corridor, a tributary of the Knock River, forms the north-west boundary of the Park. The area forms a valuable neighbourhood green space, used by local people for recreation.

The LLPA includes Shandon Park Mound. This is a motte, with oval summit and planted with mature Scots pine. The mound is of landscape and visual amenity value, forming a distinctive and prominent feature in the landscape.

The LLPA contributes to an extensive wedge of green open space, which runs from Gilnahirk Park, through the golf course, to Laburnum, Orangefield and Dixon Playing Fields and Avoneil Leisure Centre, all of which have been designated as LLPAs.

Shandon Park Golf Course and Gilnahirk Park both add to the townscape character of the area and contribute to and enhance the setting of Cherryvalley Extension Area of Townscape Character to the north.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is an important area for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The LLPA forms an important green open space and amenity area of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area and is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

The importance of pedestrian linkage is recognized by the Odyssey / Tullycarnet Park / Ormeau Park Community Greenway which passes through the golf course.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following archaeological site and monument in State Care:

Shandon Park Mound.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 131 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Shankill

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Shankill Rest Garden, formerly Shankill Graveyard, which became public property in 1958 and is maintained by Belfast City Council as a formal park.

The graveyard is laid out in grass, with formal paths which meet at a central circle, enclosed with a beech hedge around a statue of Queen Victoria which once stood in the Royal Jubilee School's grounds in Durham Street. The statue was carved in 1897 by sculptor John Cassidy to celebrate the Queen's diamond jubilee. Gravestones are located throughout the area and there are a number of mature deciduous trees. The garden is fronted along the Shankill Road by a boundary wall, railings and gateway, all of which are listed.

Nature Conservation

The garden is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest in this densely built up area of the city.

Amenity Value

The park provides an important green open space and amenity area of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area, viewed by many passing motorists and well used by local people for passive recreation.

Heritage Interest

The graveyard is of local historical and archaeological interest. Tradition has it that St. Patrick founded a church on the site, the mother church of Belfast, around the 5th century. An 8th century bishop's crozier found in the graveyard is evidence of the site's long ecclesiastical connections, although the first reference to a church on the site dates back to 1306. Around the time of the Reformation, it became known as the Church of St. Patrick of the White Ford. It fell into disuse during the 17th century and was demolished in 1774. The precise site and size of the church is now unknown, but for more than 700 years, all denominations of people were buried in the graveyard and it was the main graveyard in Belfast. There are many historically interesting graves including the family burial plot of the Baird family who founded the Belfast Telegraph.

The LLPA includes the following listed features:

The Gateway, Boundary Wall and Railings, Grade B.

The LLPA also contains an unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

The White Church, a multi-period church and graveyard with Bullaun and Holy Well.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 132 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Somerton

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located off Premier Drive and comprises an area of rising land, in rough grass with mature tree planting. Access to the area is restricted.

The LLPA includes Fort William, a scheduled archaeological site, located in the grounds of Castle High School, on a north facing slope just below the top of a hill, in a strategic location with extensive views out over Belfast Lough and the hills beyond. This is a quite well preserved, though overgrown, star-shaped artillery fort. It comprises an almost square interior enclosed by a bank, except at the northeast and southwest where there are projecting bastions. An outer ditch encloses the bank and bastions. The fort is covered with mature trees. It is of local historic interest and archaeological importance.

Nature Conservation

The trees and other vegetation on the site are of wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The LLPA includes an area which was previously used as allotment gardens. It is presently in rough grass and has some tree planting.

The LLPA is an important, informal, green open space of landscape and visual significance which adds to the character of the Somerton Road / Chichester Park Conservation Area and forms a vegetative backdrop to the surrounding houses on Seaview Drive and Dunlambert Drive.

The majority of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

There is a Tree Preservation Order on the trees at Fort William.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA included the following archaeological sites and monuments:

Scheduled:

Fort William, Artillery Fort.

Unscheduled:

A Souterrain and Enclosure.

The LLPA is located within the Somerton Road / Chichester Park Conservation Area.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 133 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Somme

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA lies to the front and north of Craigavon House and the Ulster Volunteer Hospital (commonly known as the Somme Hospital), locally significant buildings of historic interest and importance, which are included within the Circular Road Area of Townscape Character.

The LLPA forms part of the original planned setting for Craigavon House and is of historic importance and interest. It comprises a bowl-shaped, open, rough grass area which slopes down from the house and is bounded to the east by a belt of mature, mixed deciduous trees, which reads with other mature vegetation on Parkway, immediately adjacent to the LLPA and is viewed by many passing motorists. The LLPA is bounded to the west by mature vegetation behind the houses on Avonvale.

The mature vegetation is an important landscape feature of visual significance and amenity value which contributes to the general treed character of the area.

There are two Tree Preservation Orders on lands adjacent to the LLPA. One at Circular Road and Somme Hospital and the other at the Somme Hospital Grounds.

The vegetation also adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of the Circular Road Area of Townscape Character to the south and west.

The open aspect of the LLPA affords extensive views from Craigavon House over the city to the Belfast Hills beyond.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest.

Heritage Interest

The adjacent Ulster Volunteer Hospital is a Grade B+ Listed Building.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 134 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Springfield Park and Dam

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located to the south of Springfield Road and includes Springfield Pond and associated vegetation. Naturally regenerated vegetation has grown up on the banks of the reservoir while more formal planting has taken place along the boundary of the LLPA, where the reservoir's setting abuts new industrial development. This area is of high landscape and visual amenity value.

Adjacent to the pond is Springfield Park a small neighbourhood park managed by Belfast City Council which includes a car park and paths and affords good views out over the pond.

Nature Conservation

Springfield Dam with its associated vegetation is an important nesting and feeding area for various species of wildfowl.

The LLPA contains the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Springfield Pond / Highfield Glen.

Amenity Value

Springfield Park and Springfield Dam are identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, which underpins the amenity value of the area.

The Forth River / Glencairn / Ligoniel Route Community Greenway passes through the LLPA. This highlights the area as an important public amenity resource and linkage from the surrounding urban areas to the Belfast Hills.

Heritage Interest

Springfield Dam is of industrial heritage interest. It was constructed as a mill pond to power Springfield Cotton Mill and latterly had been associated with Mackies Foundry, once a major employer in the city.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 135 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Stormont

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, and 104 – Craigtantlet Escarpment, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises the Stormont Estate which is of particular landscape and visual merit, historic interest and nature conservation value. The Estate, which lies on the southern slopes of the Craigtantlet Escarpment, forms an important and highly prominent landmark and can be viewed from many vantage points across Belfast. It is used extensively by Members of the Assembly, government employees and members of the public and visited by many tourists.

The Estate includes the original, listed Stormont Castle, a baronial mansion house which dates from 1850, with its fine restored glasshouse with bothies to the rear and associated planned grounds set out within a framework of three wooded glens. The demesne was purchased when the need for a separate parliament building for Northern Ireland emerged following the Government of Ireland Act of 1920 and the Stormont Estate plantings seen today were laid out. The castle itself subsequently served as the official residence of the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland and later as the headquarters of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Also included within the LLPA are Parliament Buildings, an imposing landmark and listed building, designed by Sir Arnold Thornley in the Greek classical style and fronted in Portland stone. It was opened by Edward, Prince of Wales (later King Edward VIII) in 1932. It is accessed by the tree lined Prince of Wales Avenue, known locally as “The Mile”, a straight and impressive driveway which climbs up the hill from the southern gate to the imposing building and is planted on either side with double rows of lime trees in the lower section. The upper part is planted on either side with Irish yew trees.

The listed Stormont House (also called Speaker’s House) lies within the Estate and served as the official residence of the Speaker of the House of Commons of Northern Ireland between 1921 and 1972. It was designed by Ralph Knott, an architect best known for his work on County Hall in London.

There are also a number of large government buildings throughout the Estate, including Dundonald House, Castle Buildings, Craigtantlet Buildings and the Veterinary Research Station on Stoney Road.

The extensive grounds comprise expanses of lawns with woodland, some of which are long established, belts of mature tree planting, many fine specimen

trees, walkways, stream corridors, three planted glens and on the north-west side, a memorial cedar grove with a statue, "The Gleaner". To the north east of Parliament Buildings is an oval shaped field surrounded by shelter belts which was formerly used as a camp ground for the Boy Scouts. The design of the public area is attributed to W.J. Bean, H. Armytage-Moore and later W.H.Campbell.

There are a number of statues of note throughout the grounds including a listed statue to Edward Carson, erected in 1932, at the junction of the formal road layout and a reconciliation sculpture by Josefina de Vasconcellos, placed in 2000, a small water sculpture depicting a couple embracing across a divide, one of a number of similar sculptures throughout the world.

The grounds are accessed through impressive and listed gates and piers on Upper Newtownards Road and Massey Avenue, beside which are listed gate lodges.

The LLPA extends to include a number of fields in pasture and the upper parts of two wooded glens which form the immediate backdrop to the Estate in many of the views across the city. These fields are located within Craigantlet Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value, a landscape recognised as being of high visual amenity value.

The estate adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of the Castlehill Road Area of Townscape Character to the west.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest and includes the following Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Stormont, and
Ballymiscaw (Geodiversity).

Amenity Value

The Stormont Estate grounds are an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance. The recreational value of the estate has been enhanced by the development of woodland walks, fitness trail, provision of seating and picnic areas and the much used Stormont Play Park, which was created in 1998/99 at the bequest of the then Secretary of State, who wanted the Stormont Estate to become more widely accessible to the public. The Maynard Sinclair Pavilion, the Civil Service Sports Club with its associated playing pitches also lies within the estate and adds to the recreation facilities.

Part of the LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes Stormont Castle and Parliament Buildings Historic Park, Garden and Demesne which underpins the historic significance of the estate and the contribution it makes to the local landscape character

The following listed buildings and structures are included within the LLPA:

Parliament Buildings, Grade B+,
Stormont Castle, Grade B+,
Conservatory, Stormont Castle, Grade B1,
Police Station, Stormont Castle, Grade B,
Speaker's House, Grade B,
Viscount Craigavon's Tomb, Parliament House Grade, B,
Lord Carson Memorial Statue, Stormont Estate, Grade B,
Gate Lodge, Gates and Screen, Upper Newtownards Road, Grade B+, and
Gate Lodge, Gates and Screen, Massey Avenue, Grade B+.

The LLPA also includes the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

An Oval Enclosure (Rath), and
An Enclosure.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 136 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Strandtown

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Strandtown Primary School, a listed building of local significance and historic importance, built of red brick and approached from North Road along a fairly long curving avenue.

It includes the listed gates, gate piers and railings along North Road together with the listed pavilion to the west of the school, also constructed in red brick.

The school is flanked by hard surfaced playing pitches and surrounded by an extensive area of open grass playing fields which contribute to the views and setting of the listed buildings.

Mature specimen tree planting on the boundaries forms the backdrop to the surrounding houses and contributes to the views and setting of the listed buildings. The line of mature trees along the North Road frontage is of particular landscape and visual merit.

The listed school buildings, pavilion and surrounding grounds add to the townscape character of the area and contribute to and enhance the setting of the Belmont Area of Townscape Character.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA and the mature trees are important for wildlife and are of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The school grounds are an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area and are extensively used by school children.

The playing fields within the LLPA are identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and features:

Strandtown Primary School, Grade B+,
Pavilion, Grade B+, and

Gate Piers, Gates, Railings, Grade B+.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 137 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Strangford

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Strangford Avenue Playing Fields, a number of grass sports pitches, enclosed on all sides by housing.

The pitches are surrounded by groups of deciduous trees, underplanted with shrubs, which are of landscape and visual merit and form a vegetative backdrop to the surrounding houses. A mown grass path winds its way through the trees around the perimeter.

There are views towards the Belfast Hills from the more elevated part of the playing fields.

Nature Conservation

The area is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The LLPA is an important open space within an area of housing. It is of amenity value and used for both active and passive recreation.

The LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 138 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Stranmillis

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is of historic importance and interest. It includes the remnants of an early 17th century demesne. A plantation castle was built around 1611 which was later replaced by Stranmillis House. There was also a deer park of some 100 acres enclosed by a two mile horse racing course.

The LLPA includes the grounds and buildings of Stranmillis College which was founded in 1922 to provide state-funded teacher training in Northern Ireland. It is now a college of Queen's University Belfast. The imposing main building of the college is a landmark building fronting the busy Stranmillis Road roundabout. It is a listed building with two listed gatehouses, gateway, boundary wall and railings, backed by a number of large educational buildings. Stranmillis House and the Henry Garrett Building both listed buildings within the Stranmillis grounds are also included within the LLPA.

The LLPA contains a number of other listed buildings, their views and settings, located to the north of the LLPA; Nos. 1 to 9 Mount Pleasant, Summer Hill, St. Bartholomew's Church and Riddle Hall, built originally as a hostel for female students at Queen's University, its gatehouse and gateway. To the south west, the LLPA includes the listed Danesfort House and two listed gatehouses on the Malone Road. It also includes the Ulster Clinic and associated grounds.

Two lakes within the gardens associated with Lennoxvale, which supplied Belfast's water supply from the late 18th century until 1840, form part of the LLPA as well as a pond formed in the ice age from a kettle hole on sloping ground to the south-west of the Henry Garrett Building.

All are set in attractive and extensive ornamental grounds with belts of mature tree planting along the perimeters, woodland and specimen trees, shrubs and open grass areas.

The lands included in the LLPA are an important green open space and amenity area, of landscape and visual significance within a very busy part of the city. They contribute to the character of the area, are viewed by many passing motorists and pedestrians and form the backdrop to a number of educational buildings and private properties.

The LLPA adds to the townscape character of the area and enhances the setting of Stranmillis Riverside and Stranmillis Village Areas of Townscape Character and the Malone Conservation Area.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest and includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Grounds at Stranmillis and Riddel Hall.

Amenity Value

There are three Tree Preservation Orders on lands within the LLPA:

Lands at Summer Hill,
Lands at Danesfort, Malone Road, and
at 237 Stranmillis Road.

The Recreation Grounds at Stranmillis College are identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

The following listed buildings and structures are included within the LLPA:

Nos. 1-9 Mount Pleasant, Grade B1,
Danesfort, 120 Malone Road, Grade B+,
Stranmillis House, Grade B1,
Summer Hill, Mount Pleasant, Grade B1,
120A Malone Road, Gate and Piers, Grade B1,
122 Malone Road, Gate Lodge and Gate Piers, Grade B2,
Riddel Hall and Gateway, Grade B1,
Gate Lodge to Riddel Hall, Grade B,
Main Building and Stone Walls to front lawn and car park at Stranmillis College, Grade A,
Front Gate Lodge at Stranmillis College, Grade B2,
Boundary Wall and Railings at Stranmillis College, Grade B1,
Back Gate Lodge at Stranmillis College, Grade B1,
Henry Garrett Building, Grade B+, and
St. Bartholomew's Church, Stranmillis Road, Grade B

The following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments are included within the LLPA:

Moses Hill's House, Fortified House and Bawn,
Pleasure House Hill, Rath,
Findspot of Polished Stone Axes, and
Urns.

The central part of the LLPA is within Stranmillis House (College), Historic Park, Garden and Demesne.

The northern part of the LLPA is within Edgehill, Lennoxvale, Mount Pleasant, Riddel Hall and Summer Hill, Historic Park, Garden and Demesne – Supplementary Site.

There is also an area of long established woodland to the north of Stranmillis College which, along with its inclusion within a historic park, underpins the important historic interest of the trees and shrubs within the area.

The south west part of LLPA is within the Malone Conservation Area, while most of the rest of the LLPA is within Stranmillis Conservation Area.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 139 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Strathearn

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes part of the school grounds associated with Strathearn School, including a former gate lodge.

The LLPA consists of the remnants of a planned landscape to the front of the main school building with extensive grass areas, significant groups of mature trees and tennis courts which form the setting of the locally significant school building and affords views of the building.

The open grass areas and the associated trees contribute to the landscape character of the area, are of visual significance and amenity importance, forming a sizable green space within an area of fairly dense housing.

Nature Conservation

The significant trees within the LLPA are of landscape and visual significance and are also of wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The generally open aspect of the south-western boundary affords views into the school grounds by passing vehicles and pedestrians on Sydenham Avenue and Wandsworth Drive.

There is a Tree Preservation Order on the trees within the grounds of the school which underpins their landscape and visual amenity value.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 140 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Trench

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises a stand of mature, mixed species trees occupying an elevated position, on an embankment adjacent to the Andersonstown Road and Stewartstown Road, main arterial routes into the city. The dominant trees within the stand are rows of poplar planted in the late 20th century when the roads were re-aligned. Behind the poplars and on their fringes are older trees, such as Scots pine, sycamore, lime and horse chestnut which are remnants of more extensive plantings associated with the former Trench House, demolished in recent years to make way for the new school buildings of St Genevieve's High school.

The LLPA also identifies a group of younger mixed species trees to the rear of St Michael's Nursery School and the hall associated with St. Michael the Archangel Church which extends the wooded character of the area to the south.

The trees provide a vegetative boundary and visual screen to the adjacent St. Genevieve's School and a backdrop to St. Michael's Church, associated hall and adjoining St. Michael's Nursery School.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is of wildlife significance and local nature conservation interest

Amenity Value

The trees within the LLPA are an important landscape and visual feature of particular amenity importance within a densely populated area viewed by many passing motorists and pedestrians along a considerable length of the Andersonstown Road.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 141 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Wandsworth Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located at the junction of the tree lined roads of Knocklofty Park and Wandsworth Road in east Belfast, and consists of a mixed species group of mature trees including, pine, sycamore, cherry and larch, within an area of amenity grassland. A path cuts diagonally across the site.

The LLPA lies within Belmont Area of Townscape Character, which is a large area of residential development and varies in age, style, density and form, from street to street. The area is unified by the high quality of public and private landscaping within gardens and along the roads. The LLPA and associated trees are of significant landscape and visual importance and amenity value and make a significant contribution to the treed character of the area.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees are of local nature conservation value.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 142 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Waterworks

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on the Antrim Road Waterworks, which contains two large water bodies surrounded by a landscaped amenity area. The Waterworks was the source of Belfast's water supply in the mid 1800's. The growing city soon outpaced supply however and the site eventually became a public park in the 1950's and became used for recreation.

The LLPA contains two formal water bodies, the upper and larger one with two small vegetated islands. It also includes open grass areas, mature specimen tree planting and pedestrian walkways. To the north is an area of regenerating trees and shrubs, immediately adjacent to Westland Road and in the north west is a grassed playing field accessed from Westland Gardens.

The LLPA extends to include Queen Mary's Gardens to the south-east, a small, open space garden area with formal bedding plants and trees which is particularly visible at the junction of the Antrim Road and Cavehill Road. The gardens include a hard all-weather sports area, two pavilions and a children's playground.

A river, which flows down from Carr's Glen, flows between the water bodies and Cavehill Road and subsequently down a series of channeled weirs, within Queen Mary's Gardens, and on into Alexandra Park where it becomes the Mile Water.

The Waterworks are bounded to the south east by railings and along the upper part of Cavehill Road, by a hedge. They are important open spaces and amenity areas of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. They are viewed by passing motorists and extensively used by local people for both passive and active recreation.

The LLPA also adds to the townscape character of the area and contributes to and enhances the setting of the surrounding Areas of Townscape Character.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is an oasis for wildfowl in north Belfast and is of local nature conservation interest.

The LLPA includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Waterworks Park.

Amenity Value

Carr's Glen / Waterworks Community Greenway passes through the LLPA, linking the Waterworks and Queen Mary's Gardens area to Alexandra Park to the south east and to Carr's Glen to the north-west, highlighting the pedestrian linkage through the area.

The LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

The Waterworks are of local historic interest. During the Second World War, German bombers reputedly mistook them for the Belfast docks area and dropped bombs in the local vicinity.

The LLPA includes the following listed building and structures:

260 Antrim Road and associated railings, Grade B1.

The LLPA also includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

An Enclosure.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 143 – Local Landscape Policy Area, West Kirk / Shankill Memorial Park

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located on Shankill Road and comprises, West Kirk Presbyterian Church and adjacent Outreach Centre, a small formal open space on the eastern side of the church and Shankill Memorial Park on the western side of the church.

West Kirk Open Space was created in 1989/1990 and comprises a wide, brick paved path around a central grass area, enclosed by ornamental walls, railings and shrub and tree planting on two sides, planting against the church's eastern elevation and a large raised brick planter to the south. The paths open out into a car park area to the rear which serves the church complex. Lighting and seating complete this local amenity area.

Shankill Memorial Park was also created in 1989/1990. It is enclosed by ornamental walls, railings and shrub planting on all sides and is accessed through a decorative arch from the Shankill Road. The park comprises a raised walkway around the perimeter with seats, lighting and a flag pole and a central sunken grassed area with two island beds laid out with seasonal flowering bedding plants.

These two open spaces and associated vegetation add to and form part of the views and setting to the adjacent locally significant buildings which include West Kirk Presbyterian Church and the Church Outreach Centre which is run from the building adjoining and to the rear of the church and which was originally built in the 19th century as a school.

Nature Conservation

The open space and park are important for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest in this densely built up area of the city.

Amenity Value

These two open space areas and their associated vegetation are of landscape and visual merit and form an important local amenity area of some historic interest in a densely built up commercial and residential area.

Local Significance

The focal point of Shankill Memorial Park is a commemorative granite boulder in memory of the local people who gave their lives in the two world wars. In the north-western corner, there is a more recent memorial stone and a Victoriana lamp standard erected in memory of those who died as a result of the Shankill Road bombing in 1993.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 144 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Willis’s Lake

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 97 – Belfast / Lisburn and 106 – Lagan Parkland, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA centres on an open lake (locally known as Willis’s Lake), and surrounding vegetation, including both tree and shrub species. It is located in the middle of a suburban housing area on the outer urban fringes of south Belfast. The lake is an important landscape feature and fairly unique in an urban area. It is of distinctive visual merit, being viewed from the surrounding houses and roads. There is an open area with footpath to the south of the lake, now fairly overgrown.

The LLPA also includes a locally significant period house (Lakeside House), now in institutional use and its attractive setting. The house, which is of historic interest, sits on raised ground overlooking the lake, its lawns sloping down to the water’s edge.

A stream corridor and its associated vegetation, a mix of coniferous and deciduous mature trees to the west of Lakeside House is included in the LLPA. This is an important landscape and visual feature, of wildlife and local nature conservation interest which also acts as a visual buffer between Lakeside House and the surrounding housing development.

The views to and from the house are included - there are significant, unspoilt views from Lakeside House over the lake and the house and grounds in turn form a backdrop to the lake and focal point in the views from the south.

Nature Conservation

The lake is also important for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest, providing habitats for waterfowl.

Amenity Value

Although located within a densely populated area, the lake and associated vegetation provide a peaceful atmosphere and focal point within the surrounding development.

Outer Belfast City

Designation BT 145 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Woodvale Park

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Woodvale Park, which fronts onto and has accesses from Woodvale Road, Woodvale Avenue and Ballygomartin Road. It is a formal Victorian park of high landscape and visual amenity value that makes a major contribution to the landscape character of the area.

Woodvale Park became Belfast's fourth public park when it opened in 1888. The park includes a Victorian bandstand, bowling greens and pavilions, children's playground, grassed and all weather playing pitches, amenity grass areas, amenity planting, stands of mature trees and paths and is, in part, laid out according to the original Victorian plans. The gate piers, gates and railings on Woodvale Road and Ballygomartin Road are all listed.

The park is situated adjacent to Woodvale Area of Townscape Character and adds to the views and setting of the significant built form contained within the ATC.

Nature Conservation

The vegetation within the LLPA is of some wildlife and local nature conservation importance.

Amenity Value

Woodvale Park is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, which underpins the amenity value of the area.

Heritage Interest

The historic importance and interest of the park is underpinned by its designation as Woodvale Park Historic Park, Garden and Demesne

The LLPA contains the following listed structures:

The Gate Piers, Gates and Railings, Grade B.

Belfast City Centre

Designation CC 028 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Blythefield

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is also located within a Belfast City Centre Character Area – Great Victoria Street.

The LLPA comprises the grounds of Arellian Nursery School and Blythefield Park, developed in the 1980's adjacent to the major railway junction and approach to Great Victoria Street Station and the West Link. It is an important green open space, amenity area and community facility of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area.

Arellian Nursery School was established in 1928 by the Arellian Association and the old girls' association of Richmond Lodge School. It is thought to be the oldest nursery school in Ireland. The nursery comprises an attractive single storey timber clad building set within a wooded site giving it a sense of enclosure and distinctive character. The school and its grounds are of significant landscape and visual amenity value and the building is of architectural interest. A former caretaker's house sits within the grounds to the south of the main building. The grounds include grass areas, hard play areas and play equipment. The wooded site has been further enhanced in recent years through a school project supported by the Woodland Trust who helped the nursery to create a Fairy Forest with the supply and planting of 100 trees.

Belts of woodland and shrub planting surround the site, enhancing the setting of the park and primary school and providing valuable screening and a buffer between the park, school and the surrounding major transport corridors.

Nature Conservation

The extensive planting within the LLPA is of importance for wildlife and local nature conservation interest within this built up area of the city.

Amenity Value

Blythefield Park includes an area of communal allotments, developed in 2005, a BMX track developed in 2006, open grass areas, paths, seating and numerous sculptures. Two bridges provide necessary access across the railway lines and valuable linkages between different housing areas separated by the railway corridors. The foot bridge includes pieces of community artwork, mosaics of local buildings set into the walls, designed by pupils of Donegall Road Primary School and interpreted by local artist, Martin McClure.

The LLPA provides a green open space within a dense urban area which is of significant visual and amenity importance.

A large part of the LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA is of some local historical interest, being on the site of a former workhouse graveyard.

Belfast City Centre

Designation CC 029 – Local Landscape Policy Area, City Hall

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is also located within a Belfast City Centre Character Area – Civic Precinct.

The LLPA recognises the landscape and visual amenity value, architectural merit and historical importance of Belfast City Hall and its formal setting within Donegall Square. The foundation stone was laid in 1898 and the City Hall formally opened in 1906. It was built by a local firm, H & J Martin Ltd. to a competition winning classical renaissance design from Alfred Brumwell Thomas. The City Hall is listed and forms an important landmark building within the city centre.

The building contains many features of note including; the impressive marble Grand Staircase, many statues and portraits, fine chandeliers, the Central Dome with Whispering Gallery, the Rotunda, Council Chamber, Reception Hall, Banqueting Hall with fine vaulted ceiling and the Great Hall with its magnificent stain glass windows depicting King William III, Queen Victoria, King Edward and the coats of arms of the four provinces of Ireland. Recent additions to the City Hall facilities include a coffee shop and exhibition space depicting the history of industry in Belfast from the 17th century.

The grounds are enclosed by impressive walls, railings and gates. Within the grounds of the City Hall are many listed statues and memorials namely; the 1st Marquis of Dufferin Memorial, Sir Edward Harland Memorial, Sir Robert McMordie Memorial, Sir Daniel Dixon Monument, Sir James Haslett Memorial, Victoria Monument, Titanic Monument and Boer War Memorial. The Belfast War Memorial (Cenotaph) sits within a Garden of Remembrance with its background colonnade, on the western side of the square and includes the recently relocated Korean War Memorial.

Amenity Value

The grounds of the City Hall, the lawns and trees form a focal point and valuable amenity open space within the city centre, used extensively by members of the public and visited by many tourists. The City Hall and its grounds form the venue for many public events and make a significant contribution to the townscape character of the Belfast City Centre Conservation Area.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA lies within Belfast City Centre Conservation Area.

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings:

Belfast Cenotaph and Garden of Remembrance, Grade A,
Belfast City Hall, Grade A,
Boer War Monument, Grade A,
First Marquis of Dufferin Memorial, Grade A,
Sir Daniel Dixon Monument, Grade A,
Sir Edward Harland Memorial, Grade A,
Sir James Haslett Memorial, Grade A,
Sir Robert McMordie Memorial, Grade A,
Titanic Monument, Grade A, and
Victoria Monument, Grade A.

The LLPA is located within Belfast Area of Archaeological Potential

Belfast City Centre

Designation CC 030 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Clifton 1

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located within a Belfast City Centre Character Area – West City Fringe.

The LLPA centres on Clifton House, its views and setting. This listed building is an imposing landmark of significant architectural merit, historical interest and landscape and visual amenity value. Originally Belfast's Poor House, Clifton House was founded by the Belfast Charitable Society in 1774 as a home for the city's destitute, sick and poor and as the base for the Society's extensive welfare work. A large extension was built in 1868 which fronts on to what is now the West Link, with access off Clifton Street. Today, Clifton House and grounds accommodates sheltered housing run by HELM Housing Association and a residential home and interpretive centre run by the Society.

With its central, pedimented block topped by a distinctive, octagonal stone tower, approached by a grand sweep of stone steps and flanked by matching wings with gabled end pavilions, Clifton House forms a good visual stop at the end of Frederick Street. From its elevated position there are extensive views out over the city.

A single storey gate lodge stands to the north of the driveway which was built in 1938 to a design contemporaneous with Clifton House and replaces a smaller and earlier lodge. The gate lodge is also listed.

The LLPA includes a small mews of sheltered housing in a design sympathetic to the listed buildings which has been built to the north east of the main building on the site of the former productive gardens.

The grounds surrounding the buildings are included in the LLPA. Clifton House is fronted by formal gardens, redesigned in 1993 and laid out in lawns with beech hedging, shrub planting and a driveway centred on the building's tower. A courtyard garden has also been created within the enclosure of the buildings and there is a car park for the residential home to the rear. Mature trees within the grounds enhance the setting of the buildings and are of landscape and visual significance.

Nature Conservation

The garden and particularly the mature trees are of local nature conservation value within this built up area.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings and structures:

Clifton House and boundary railings, walls and gates, Grade A, and
The Gate Lodge, Grade B1.

The LLPA includes Clifton House Historic Park, Garden and Demesne which underpins the historic importance of the formal gardens.

The LLPA is located within Belfast Area of Archaeological Potential.

Belfast City Centre

Designation CC 031 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Royal Belfast Academical Institution (RBAI)

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is also located within a Belfast City Centre Character Area – Civic Precinct.

The LLPA comprises a formal lawn surrounded by mature trees, fronted by an ornamental wall, gates and railings and access drive. The area forms the views and formal setting to the adjoining listed Royal Belfast Academical Institution (opened 1814) and Belfast Institute (opened 1907).

The LLPA forms the remnants of College Square, a large formal square enclosed by trees, developed at the same time as RBAI, with the listed school building at its centre. Over the centuries the square has been used as recreation grounds by the school and has been reduced in size as land was used for the construction of the Belfast Institute and for the development of much needed school buildings.

The LLPA together with the adjacent listed buildings forms a landmark at the end of Wellington Place and contributes to the townscape character of the Belfast City Centre Conservation Area.

Amenity Value

The features of the LLPA form an amenity area of landscape and visual importance and provide an important green open space within the city centre.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA is located within Belfast City Centre Conservation Area.

The LLPA is also located within Belfast Area of Archaeological Potential

Hannahstown

Designation HN 02 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Hannahstown Hill

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 112 – Belfast Basalt Escarpment, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999)

Hannahstown is located on the upper slopes of the Belfast Hills, adjacent to the south western development limit of Belfast. These slopes serve to contain the settlement and provide extensive views over the surrounding metropolitan area. The area is quite rural in character due to its settlement form and landscape setting.

The LLPA is centred on St. Joseph's Church, its surrounding environs and graveyard. St. Joseph's is a locally significant building, situated on an elevated, open site, with extensive views over the surrounding metropolitan area. It was originally built in the 19th century, has been recently extended and a new community hall built. The church together with the associated parochial house and hall act as a focal point in Hannahstown and can also be seen in a number of longer views from the surrounding area. The grounds contain mature mixed vegetation including deciduous and coniferous trees, which together with the church provide an area of significant visual amenity.

The LLPA includes the sloping lands to the south and east of the church and its grounds, which act as the views and setting of this locally significant building.

Also included, on the south western slopes of the LLPA, are a stream corridor and its associated vegetation, which are an important landscape and visual element, as well as a wildlife habitat.

The LLPA includes mature trees and thick vegetated boundaries, important in landscape and visual terms, which contribute to the rural character of Hannahstown.

The location of Hannahstown is particularly unique, as it is the only settlement situated within the Belfast Basalt Escarpment, Area of High Scenic Value and therefore lies within a landscape recognised as being of high amenity value.

This LLPA is included within Hannahstown Rural Landscape Wedge. This rural landscape wedge has been designated to prevent the Belfast city area and Hannahstown from merging together and contributing to urban sprawl. This also helps to define and protect the landscape setting of Hannahstown as a separate entity.

Nature Conservation

The narrow glen running through the western section of the LLPA is an area of local nature conservation and wildlife interest. The remainder of the LLPA contains semi-natural grassland, hedgerows, scrub and mature trees and forms an important mosaic of natural habitat of high biodiversity value.

Amenity Value

The LLPA is located within the operational boundary of the Belfast Hills Partnership Area.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

A Souterrain, and
An A.P. Site, 2 Circular Crop Marks.

Hannahstown

Designation HN 03 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Upper Springfield Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 111 – The Divis Summits, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

Hannahstown is located on the upper slopes of the Belfast Hills, adjacent to the south western development limit of Belfast. These slopes serve to contain the settlement and provide extensive views over the surrounding metropolitan area. The area is quite rural in character due to its settlement form and landscape setting.

This LLPA is located between two of the settlement nodes of Hannahstown. The lands in the northern part of the LLPA comprise an area of rough grass, which slopes fairly steeply up from the road and adds to and forms part of the rural character of Hannahstown.

A stream corridor runs throughout the LLPA and there is dense vegetation along the stream in the south western part of the LLPA, which is the start of Glenside Forest Community Woodland and allows public access along the stream corridor. These elements are important in landscape and visual terms and contribute to the rural character of Hannahstown.

The LLPA is located within Belfast Basalt Escarpment, Area of High Scenic Value. The edge of the Antrim Plateau is well defined as the steep, basalt scarp slope which stretches from Lisburn to Newtownabbey, providing a dramatic backdrop to the northern and western edges of Belfast. Hannahstown lies within this landscape of high amenity value and the LLPA adds to and forms part of this landscape.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA contains a mountain stream and associated vegetation of local nature conservation and wildlife value.

Part of the LLPA, to the west of Upper Springfield Road is within the Glenside Community Woodland, an area of high nature conservation interest with public access.

The LLPA also lies within the following Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Colin Glen / Hammils Bottom, and
Belfast Hills - Divis / Ligoniel.

Amenity Value

The LLPA is also located within the operational boundary of the Belfast Hills Partnership Area.