Ballyknockan

Designation BKN 02 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballyknockan

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 95 – Ballygowan Drumlins and 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on a group of locally significant buildings and their views and setting at the junction of Mill Road and Tullygarvin Road including; pre-1830 mill buildings, later (circa 1840) mill buildings with a landmark chimney, and a pre 1830’s cottage which together with the associated mature vegetation contribute to the landscape character of the settlement.

Many of the mill buildings and cottages have been converted or rebuilt in a sympathetic manner creating a built form which integrates well with the historic fabric of the settlement and with its rural setting and is of particular landscape and visual merit.

The buildings form a cluster settlement pattern, contained by the rolling landform. The buildings and their setting contribute to a rural environment of the highest landscape and visual amenity value.

The LLPA also includes the lands enclosed by Mill Road, the sloping landform to the south and lands to the north which include watercourses, a mill race and former mill ponds now filled in, and a locally significant building, namely an Orange Hall built in 1909. These lands form the setting of the settlement and act as a backdrop to the buildings.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA contains watercourses and associated vegetation and numerous mature trees, important landscape features of wildlife and nature conservation value.

Heritage Interest

The mill buildings, mill chimney, mill race and stone bridge are of historic and industrial archaeological interest.
Carryduff

Designation CF 13 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Mealough Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA contains a significant, localised, raised landform divided into a number of agricultural fields bounded by hedgerows.

The LLPA includes a locally significant farmhouse and associated outbuildings situated on top of the hill. The farmhouse is surrounded by a very significant stand of mature trees which together with the landform contribute to the high landscape and visual quality of the area. The trees provide a particular focal point.

Due to its elevation the LLPA provides prominent views across Carryduff and the surrounding rural area.

On its western boundary, the LLPA includes the Purdy’s Burn stream corridor, which flows around the base of the hill.

Nature Conservation

The Purdy’s Burn stream corridor is an important landscape feature, of wildlife and nature conservation interest. It forms a wildlife corridor which links into Knockbreckan Glen, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance.

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

Amenity Value

The northern half of the LLPA lies within the Lagan Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a landscape recognised as being of distinctive character and special scenic value.

On its northern boundary the LLPA abuts Castlereagh Slopes Area of High Scenic Value.

The LLPA also lies adjacent to Saintfield Road LLPA, which contains a reservoir and part of the Carryduff River corridor. Together the LLPAs contribute to the landscape quality and amenity value of the area.
Carryduff

Designation CF 14 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Saintfield Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Knockbreckan Reservoir, a large, irregularly shaped waterbody, set within a relatively open landscape to the west and immediately adjacent to Saintfield Road. The reservoir is a landscape feature of visual amenity value and of local wildlife interest. There are extensive views out over Belfast towards Belfast Lough and the hills enclosing the city.

The LLPA also includes a section of the Carryduff River, a minor tributary of the River Lagan, from the rear of No. 615 Saintfield Road to its point of convergence into the Purdy’s Burn. The course of the river was diverted at the time the reservoir was built and is now channelled around the southern and western edges of the reservoir. The river with its footbridges, weirs and embankments adds to the landscape and amenity value of the LLPA.

Two dwellings and a number of buildings and structures associated with the waterworks lie within the sculpted landform of embankments and plateaux, formed during the creation of the reservoir. Of particular note is No. 591 Saintfield Road, formerly known as Waterworks Lodge, an early 20th century dwelling house surrounded by mature trees, overlooking the reservoir. The trees surrounding the building are visually significant, forming a distinctive feature of the landform.

The LLPA lies within the Lagan Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a landscape recognised as being of distinctive character and special scenic value.

On its western boundary the LLPA abuts Castlereagh Slopes Area of High Scenic Value.

Nature Conservation

The river forms a wildlife corridor which links into Knockbreckan Glen Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI) and Purdy’s Burn (Geodiversity) (SLNCI).

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

Heritage Interest
The reservoir is of significant historical importance to Belfast. It was commissioned by the Belfast and District Water Commissioners and designed by the Carrickfergus born engineer Luke Livingstone Massey as the first stage of the Mourne Water Scheme to provide the rapidly expanding city of Belfast with fresh water supplies from the Mourne Mountains catchment area. Built in 1901, it was used to store 100 million gallons of water diverted from the Kilkeel and Annalong Rivers in the Mourne Mountains and transported along hand built conduits, tunnels and pipelines.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A Rath, located close to Waterworks Lodge.
Carryduff

Designation CF 15 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Comber Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused around a collection of late 20th century church buildings including St. Ignatius Church, associated halls and the Rectory.

The congregation of St. Ignatius Church was founded in 1952, worshipping in a barn belonging to a Mr Thomas Sloan before moving into a dual purpose hall in 1954 on the Comber Road site. The foundation stone for the current church building was laid adjacent to the hall in 1964 and the church held its consecration service in October 1965. The church, with its particularly fine stained-glass windows, forms a focal point within the town, located at a busy road intersection. The church represents a fine example of 1960’s church architecture and is listed in recognition of its architectural style and detailing.

A multi purpose hall was built at the same time as the church. It was later incorporated into a new and enlarged hall complex, the Dean Good Memorial Hall, opened in 1991. To the rear of the hall is a large car park, lawn, formal seating area and an enclosed, square hard paved area.

The Rectory, also built in the 1960’s, lies to the north west of the church and hall, with vehicle access off the Saintfield Road and a pedestrian link to the church.

The setting of the church buildings is enhanced by the significant plantings within the grounds including, formal hedges, shrub planting, a distinctive line of mature poplar trees along the boundary with the Carryduff River and fronted by a mix of younger deciduous trees dominated by birch. The trees are of particular landscape and visual amenity value, forming a backdrop to the church.

Nature Conservation

The trees within the LLPA are important for wildlife and are of local nature conservation value. The site also occupies a location adjacent to a feeder stream of the Carryduff River which further increases its wildlife habitat value.

Amenity Value

Part of the church grounds are identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, as are the adjacent playing fields and the Carryduff River corridor.

Heritage Interest
The LLPA includes the following listed building:

St. Ignatius Church, Grade B+.
Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises three residential properties; Nos. 2, 3 and 4 Sloan’s Avenue, within an extensive treed setting, on a localised landform. The trees are of a high landscape and visual amenity value, forming a prominent feature within the built up area and viewed from many of the surrounding roads.

No. 2 Sloan’s Avenue dates from the early 20th century, although the building to the rear is considerably older and appears on the 1st Edition Maps. Nos. 3 and 4 Sloan’s Avenue date from the mid to late 20th century. The significant plantings are also likely to be of mid to late 20th century origin.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees and associated garden vegetation are of local wildlife and nature conservation value.
Carryduff

Designation CF 17 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Church Road, Carryduff

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises a locally significant building, Carryduff Presbyterian Church and associated hall complex and graveyard. The church and attached hall complex form a focal point on Church Road. The buildings are set back from the road, fronted by a large car park area. A low wall and railings with two gated vehicle entrances and small pedestrian gate enclose the church frontage. The graveyard lies to the east of the church and forms a significant area of green open space within the built up area and contributes to the setting of the church.

The origins of Carryduff Presbyterian Church date from 1838, with meetings being held in an old school in Killinure. As the congregation grew a new Presbyterian Meeting House was subsequently built and opened in 1841. Internally the church has been remodelled over the intervening years, including the addition of extra seating in 1883.Externally the church building has been modified with the addition of a bell tower in 1959/1960 and a significant extension to the vestibule in 2001.

Additional church buildings were added in the 20th century, including the Stuart Hall in 1930, the Crossley Hall and kitchen in 1972 and the Maddock Room in 1984. In 2002, a major building programme lead to the demolition of the existing hall facilities and the construction of a new suite of halls, opened in 2003.

Mature trees bound the eastern side of the graveyard and contribute to the setting of the church buildings and form a prominent linear landscape feature.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees associated with the LLPA are of wildlife and local nature conservation value.

Heritage Interest

The church complex and its associated graveyard are of archaeological and local historic interest.
Carryduff

Designation CF 18 – Local Landscape Policy Area, South East Carryduff

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes a low lying area of mixed wetland and scrub to the rear of housing on Winchester Road.

The LLPA also includes part of the Carryduff River corridor, an important landscape feature.

The vegetation associated with both the river corridor and the wetland habitat is of landscape and visual amenity merit.

Nature Conservation

The vegetation associated with both the river corridor and the wetland habitat is important for wildlife and of local nature conservation interest and contributes significantly to the network of wildlife corridors and landscapes which occur in the locality of Carryduff.

Amenity Value

The LLPA can be viewed from the rear of the houses on Winchester Road and from higher viewpoints at Alveston Drive and on the Killynure Road, from where views can be afforded down over the LLPA and the surrounding countryside.
Crossnacreevy

Designation CSY 03 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Crossnacreevy / Ryan Park

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA extends over a large area and encompasses Roselawn Cemetery, which lies between the Ryan Park and Crossnacreevy Settlement Development Limits. This cemetery is Belfast’s principal municipal cemetery which was opened in 1954. It comprises an undulating landscape formation, strong boundary planting and mature trees, green open spaces, watercourses and lakes and is of high landscape and visual significance and of local amenity importance.

The area includes the Chapel and Crematorium, locally significant buildings, and their views and settings.

The LLPA contributes to the setting of Crossnacreey and Ryan Park, the latter being a small contained settlement of early social housing, a fine example of its kind. The heavily treed formal park associated with the cemetery is an important landscape feature which adds to the rural character of the settlements.

To the north west, adjacent to Ryan Park, the LLPA abuts Castlereagh Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value.

The LLPA lies adjacent to East of Crossnacreevy LLPA, across the Ballygowan Road, and together the LLPA’s provide an area of high landscape and visual amenity value, with significant views being obtained from one area to the other.

Nature Conservation

The cemetery, with its extensive plantings and water features, is an important area for wildlife and of local nature conservation value.

Amenity Value

Roselawn Cemetery is Belfast’s principal municipal cemetery and therefore of significant amenity value.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:
An Enclosure (Rath), located on the western side of the cemetery.
Crossnacreevy

Designation CSY 04 – Local Landscape Policy Area, East of Crossnacreevy.

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 96 – Castlereagh Plateau, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA extends over a wide area, from opposite the entrance to Roselawn Cemetery, to south east of the settlement of Crossnacreevy. The LLPA incorporates an undulating landscape formation, with locally significant buildings, green open fields, watercourses and associated vegetation.

The LLPA includes a number of locally significant buildings, their views and settings. These include; Ards View House, a two storey farmhouse dating from the 1830s. Crossnacreevy House, a two storey farmhouse dating from the 1850s, O’Neill Memorial Primary School, which was built in 1905, and the house at No. 202 Ballygowan Road.

The most prominent attribute of the LLPA is the striking landform including a number of hills of rolling open pasture containing stands of mature trees and hedgerows. Crossnacreevy House and Ards View House are located on the tops of two of the hills, the latter having prominent views over the countryside.

The older part of Crossnacreevy comprises a historic linear development, circa 1930’s, of small bungalows along the Ballygowan Road, to the east of the settlement. The LLPA forms the setting of the settlement, the landform falling behind the houses to the east, to a stream corridor, part of which contains a sizeable number of young trees.

This LLPA lies adjacent to Crossnacreevy / Ryan Park LLPA, across the Ballygowan Road, and together the LLPAs provide an area of high landscape and visual significance, with significant views being obtained from one area to the other.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA contains a diverse ground flora, mature vegetation and an important local watercourse which provide valuable cover and habitat for wildlife. Its nature conservation value is enhanced, by its location on the edge of an urban area and within a wider, intensively farmed rural landscape.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:
Enclosure, Site of Enclosure, and Enclosure (destroyed).
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 29 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballyregan Glen

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located, for most of its length, within Landscape Character Area 104 – Craigantlet Escarpment, and the northern end of the LLPA encroaches into Landscape Character Area 102 – Holywood Hills, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

This LLPA is centred on a stream corridor and its associated steeply wooded glen and waterfalls. The stream flows from the upper slopes of the surrounding Craigantlet / Holywood Hills, down to the urban area. The semi-natural woodland contains tree species such as ash, hazel and wild cherry.

There are only glimpsed views of the upper slopes of the glen from Ballyregan Road due to intervening topography. The extent of the glen is however clearly visible from the junction of Dunlady Road and Upper Newtownards Road and in views from the Castlereagh Hills, forming a distinctive feature of landscape and amenity value on the surrounding hillside.

Ballyregan Glen is located within Craigantlet Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value, a landscape recognised as being of high visual amenity value.

Nature Conservation

The stream, wooded glen and associated vegetation are important for wildlife and are of high nature conservation significance. The glen is relatively inaccessible which benefits biodiversity as the semi-natural woodland is largely undisturbed and has a well developed canopy layer and understorey and is considered species rich.

The majority of the LLPA is located within Craigantlet Woods Area of Special Scientific Interest.

Amenity Value

The glen and stream corridor add to the amenity value of the area.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A Mound /Motte, located at the confluence of a small feeder stream with the main stream.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 30 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Cairnshill

Landscape Character

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

This LLPA is centred on a stream corridor and its steep sided, wooded glen of mature broadleaved trees and scrub, which flows for the most part, to the rear of housing at Cairnshill.

The glen is of landscape and visual amenity value forming an important linear landscape feature within a densely built up area.

At the foot of the glen is a formal park, accessed from Colby Park, managed by Castlereagh Borough Council. The park includes open grass areas, specimen tree planting, paths, seating and play equipment. Further along the glen is a path connection between Carnbrae Avenue and Cairnshill Park which provides an important pedestrian route across the glen from housing on its north eastern side and Cairnshill Primary School on its south western side.

Nature Conservation

The river, trees and scrub are of considerable nature conservation value within the urban area forming a good wildlife corridor and habitat.

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

Cairnshill

Amenity Value

The park and stream corridor form an important recreational amenity area, of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area.

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

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

Site of Enclosure, located at the top of the glen.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 31 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Creagh Glen

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 105 – Castlereagh Slopes, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

This LLPA is centred on the Cregagh River corridor, which cuts its way through a deeply incised wooded glen. The LLPA extends from just south of Manse Road, where the woodland forms part of the planned landscape setting around Lisnabreeny House, a period dwelling of some local historic value within the grounds of the adjacent Lagan College, down to the Upper Knockbreda Road. The glen is readily viewed from the Upper Knockbreda Road and Manse Road and, in wider views forms a distinctive feature of landscape and visual amenity value on the hillside.

The glen comprises a mix of semi-natural woodland and plantation with dominant species of beech and sycamore with clumps of distinctive Scots pine. The woodland has a good understorey and ground flora with natural regeneration of ash, sycamore, larch and hazel and as such is of significant nature conservation and wildlife habitat value.

Much of the woodland been identified as ‘long established woodland’ possibly ‘ancient’. Such woodland is of historical interest and significant nature conservation value.

Cregagh Glen, for the most part, is within Castlereagh Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value, a landscape recognised as being of high visual amenity value. The glen and stream corridor add to the amenity value of the area.

The majority of the LLPA is also included within Glencregagh Rural Landscape Wedge, which underpins its landscape value.

Nature Conservation

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

Cregagh Glen (Geodiversity),
Cregagh Glen, and
Lisnabreeny.

Amenity Value

The glen lies adjacent to a densely built up urban area and a path network allows access along the extent of the LLPA, and provides a valuable recreational resource. The majority of the glen is under the ownership and
management of the National Trust with the exception of a small section at its entrance which is managed by Castlereagh Borough Council.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 32 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Cregagh

Landscape Character

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

The LLPA lies within Cregagh housing estate, which is a large coherent area, formally laid out around a very extensive open grass area. It was designed as a new suburban community between 1945 and 1950, with flat concrete roofed, terraced dwellings of a distinctive architectural style and with private gardens. A high-rise tower block (Kilbroney House) was later built in the open space and this forms an entrance feature.

The LLPA lies within Cregagh Area of Townscape Character. This ATC was designated in recognition of its importance in terms of its urban design and historic interest.

The LLPA encompasses the area of amenity open space in the centre of the estate. It is laid out in grass with a few trees scattered around the perimeter. To the west of the LLPA is Cregagh Primary School and associated sports pitches. The LLPA acts as the setting of the buildings and affords views across the open space to other parts of the estate.

Amenity Value

The LLPA is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, which underpins its public amenity value.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 33 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Dunlady Glen

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located, for most of its length, within Landscape Character Area 104 – Craigantlet Escarpment, and the southern tip of the LLPA encroaches into Landscape Character Area 97 – Belfast / Lisburn, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on a stream corridor, within the steeply wooded Dunlady Glen. The stream flows from the upper slopes of the surrounding Craigantlet Hills, down to the urban area behind the houses at Lambert Avenue and along the edge of Dundonald High School playing fields to the Upper Newtownards Road.

There are views of the glen down the slopes from Dunlady Road and Carrowreagh Road, the trees being a particular feature in the landscape of high visual merit.

Part of the LLPA is also within Craigantlet Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value. This landscape is recognised as being of high visual amenity value and the glen and stream corridor add to this.

The open stream corridor is also visible along the edge of the playing fields at Dundonald High School where it is an important landscape and visual feature.

On its western boundary, the LLPA includes a rath and adjacent fields, mature trees and hedgerows.

The LLPA adds to and forms the setting to this feature of visual merit and historic interest.

Nature Conservation

The stream, wooded glen and associated vegetation are important for wildlife and are of high nature conservation significance. This is amplified by the majority of the upper section of the LLPA being located within Craigantlet Woods Area of Special Scientific Interest.

Amenity Value

The southern section of the LLPA lies adjacent to an Area of Existing Open Space associated with Dundonald High School Playing Fields and contributes to the amenity value of the open space / playing fields.

Heritage Interest
The LLPA includes the following scheduled archaeological site and monument:

A Platform Rath, located on the western boundary of the LLPA.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 34 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Forster Green

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 very busy junction of the Upper Knockbreda Road, Newtownbreda Road and Saintfield Road, adjacent to the shopping complex at Forestside.

The LLPA includes the grounds and vegetation associated with the Forster Green Hospital complex, on the rising land behind the buildings and extending south, up the slope, to the rear of the housing at Breda Drive and Breda Park.

The LLPA includes the significant belt of mature trees around the perimeter, with groups of woodland, specimen trees, some orchard planting and a belt of planting along the Upper Knockbreda Road frontage, together with extensive open green areas to the rear of the buildings. This vegetation is of particular landscape and visual significance.

The trees and associated vegetation on rising ground are very prominent in a number of views, especially from the busy road junction and from the commercial hub of Forestside and act as a backdrop to the hospital complex.

The LLPA abuts Castlereagh Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value which recognises the high visual impact and amenity of the area. It also defines and protects the setting of Metropolitan Castlereagh and maintains the rural character of the countryside on the edge of the settlement development limit.

The lands to the east of the LLPA are also within Glencregagh Rural Landscape Wedge. This is designated to prevent the merging of the two urban areas of east Belfast and Castlereagh, by maintaining a strategic belt of countryside which acts as a visual break between the two areas.

Nature Conservation

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

Forster Green Hospital.

Amenity Value

Most of the LLPA has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins the amenity value of the area.
The Annadale / Castlereagh Escarpment Community Greenway abuts the LLPA to the west, which further demonstrates that the area is an important public amenity resource in this very busy urban setting.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 35 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Fort / Ballyhanwood

Landscape Character

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

The greater part of LLPA is centred on two large, locally significant dwellings on the Ballyhanwood Road, number 27 and number 33 - Ballyhanwood House. They are located on rising land with extensive views out over the surrounding area. The dwellings are set in extensive mature grounds, and are screened by thick, vegetated boundaries, with stands of tall, mature tree planting which are of particular landscape and visual merit. A stream corridor runs thorough the vegetation to the northwest of Ballyhanwood Road and flows into two ponds and over a weir to the east of number 27.

The smaller part of the LLPA lies to the southeast of Ballyhanwood Road and contains an archaeological site, an unnamed rath, from which there are extensive views across Dundonald and beyond. This landmark, which is located on high ground on the corner of Fort Road, is covered with trees and is of particular landscape and visual significance and local historical interest.

The two parts of the LLPA are connected by a laneway leading from the Ballyhanwood Road up to the rath. The laneway is lined with a mature hedgerow with tree planting which acts as a significant landscape element and entrance to this significant archaeological site.

The trees associated with the LLPA, both on the rath, around the two dwellings and along the laneway are of landscape and visual interest, acting as a landmark and visual pointer. The trees associated with the two dwellings also form an important visual backdrop to the Dundonald Leisure Park.

The LLPA is also within Castlereagh Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value which recognises the high visual impact and amenity of the area. It also defines and protects the setting of Metropolitan Castlereagh and maintains the rural character of the countryside on the edge of the settlement development limit.

The LLPA lies south of Dundonald (Castlereagh) Urban Landscape Wedge and Dundonald Wedge LLPA, which separates Dundonald from Belfast and helps maintain their separate identities and prevents the merging of the two urban areas.

Nature Conservation
The trees, hedgerows and stream corridor are of wildlife interest and of local nature conservation significance.

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

Moyard (Geodiversity)

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A Rath and possible Souterrain.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 36 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Hillfoot

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 105 – Castlereagh Slopes, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on a stream corridor, and its deeply incised wooded glen, waterfalls and weir, which runs from its bridging point on Manse Road to a weir and culvert at the Upper Knockbreda Road.

The glen is readily viewed from the Upper Knockbreda Road and Manse Road and, in wider views forms a distinctive feature of landscape and amenity value on the hillside.

It contains a diverse mix of tree and understorey species and is rich in ground flora and as such is of considerable nature conservation value. Stands of mature trees including distinctive pines add to the amenity value of the glen and form prominent features extending up the hillside.

Much of the woodland has been identified as ‘long established woodland’, recorded on the 1st Edition Maps. Such woodland is of historical interest and significant nature conservation value.

Most of Hillfoot Glen is also within Castlereagh Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value, a landscape recognised as being of high visual amenity value.

Nature Conservation

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

Hillfoot Glen.

Heritage Interest

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

An Enclosure, located near the bottom of the glen.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 37 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Knockbreda

Landscape Character

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

The LLPA centres on the listed Knockbreda Church, which is of particular archaeological and historic interest and visual merit. It was funded solely by Anne Trevor, the Dowager Viscountess Middleton and designed by Richard Castles (or Cassels) who, although the most important architect working in Ireland at the time, rarely designed churches. As a result the design is unlike any of its era in Ireland. The church was consecrated in August 1737 and was intended as much as an estate chapel for Belvoir Park as to serve the scattered inhabitants of the parishes of Breda, Knock and Kirkdonnel. Later additions to the church include the apsidal chancel by Thomas Drew in 1883 and the vestry by R.I. Caldwell in 1910.

The church sits on top of a hill surrounded by an old graveyard enclosed by a stone wall. The elevated position affords extensive views over the city below. The graveyard contains three listed late 19th century mausoleums, the Waddell-Cunningham-Douglas Monument, the Rainey-Goddard Monument and the Greg Monument. Sir Charles Lanyon, the eminent architect, engineer and politician is also buried in the graveyard. There are a number of specimen trees throughout the graveyard including a distinctive row of specimen Irish Yew trees either side of the path leading up to the church entrance and beech trees close to the southern boundary of the graveyard, which are of particular landscape and visual merit. A small garden of remembrance is located in the south west corner of the old graveyard.

To the north of the old graveyard on lower sloping ground, is Knockbreda New Cemetery, established in 1905 by the Parish Church, now under the management of Castlereagh Borough Council. The new cemetery is also enclosed by stone walls, with some vegetation around the perimeter. Both graveyards are of particular archaeological interest and significant to the history of Belfast.

To the south east of the church is a modern church hall with a car park and tennis courts to the rear and to the north east, there is an older, former church hall, dating from 1930 which has been converted into a dwelling. A new extension to the cemetery lies to the east of the old graveyard.

Nature Conservation

The area, with its mature trees, is important for wildlife and is of local nature conservation interest.
Amenity Value

The church and its associated grounds form an important open amenity space in a built-up area of particular landscape and visual merit.

The Annadale / Castlereagh Escarpment Community Greenway runs alongside the western boundary of this LLPA.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following listed buildings:

Knockbreda Church, Grade A,
The Waddell-Cunningham-Douglas Monument, Grade B,
The Rainey-Goddard Monument, Grade B, and
The Greg Monument, Grade B.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 38 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Moat / Enler

Landscape Character

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

This is a large and elongated LLPA, which runs from Moat Park, Dundonald, following the course of the Enler River, and connecting with the disused Comber railway line at Graham’s Bridge Road. The LLPA includes lands adjacent to the former railway line at Millar’s Forge and also includes the tributary of the Enler River and adjacent lands at Longstone, Millmount Road, Ardmore Avenue and Carrowreagh Gardens and finally linking through to the Upper Newtownards Road.

The LLPA includes Dundonald Motte, one of the largest in Ulster which is located on top of a steep mound and forms a distinctive landmark within the settlement. Its associated views and setting contribute to the character and setting of Dundonald.

The LLPA includes an area of amenity open space known as Moat Park. The park is in two parts separated by East Link Road and includes the Motte and surrounding landform, amenity grassland associated with the Enler River corridor, an equipped play area, grassed areas with feature mounding, trees and shrub planting, bowling green and club house, a network of paths connecting East Link Road, Upper Newtownards Road, Comber Road, Park Drive, Park Avenue and Graham’s Bridge Road and a hard paved seating area enclosed by grass mounding and planting fronting the Upper Newtownards Road.

The park creates a landscape buffer between the two nodal points that make up Dundonald and provides an open aspect to the historic motte.

To the north east of Moat Park, on rising ground and included within the LLPA, is Dundonald Primary School and its landscaped grounds containing many mature trees. The school site and its trees create an attractive backdrop to the park setting.

The LLPA includes the Enler River corridor and its tributaries, an important landscape feature and of local nature conservation interest. The flood plain, along the lower reaches of the river and its tributary, provides an informal amenity open space for the residents of Ballybeen housing estate and acts as a landscape buffer.

The LLPA also includes open space amenity lands associated with Millar’s Lane housing development and at Longstone Special School.
The different elements of the LLPA contribute to the character and setting of Dundonald and provide a valuable amenity resource within a densely built up area. The LLPA abuts Dundonald Area of Townscape Character, which includes two significant churches and Cleland Mausoleum (a Grade A, Listed Building), which form prominent skyline features associated with the motte.

Nature Conservation

The open watercourses, disused railway line, areas of open space and associated vegetation are of local wildlife and nature conservation value within this densely built up area.

The LLPA also contains areas of mature urban woodland which displays good age diversity, vertical structure and ground flora. There are mature native hedgerows and trees along the line of the disused railway, which is an important urban wildlife corridor that extends beyond the settlement development limit into the open countryside.

Amenity Value

Moat Park and the playing fields associated with Dundonald Primary School are an important local amenity facility for both passive and active recreation in this densely populated urban area.

A large part of the LLPA is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins its public amenity value.

Heritage Interest

The northern section of the LLPA is located within Dundonald Area of Archaeological Potential.

The LLPA includes the following archaeological sites and monuments:

Scheduled:
Dundonald Motte

Unscheduled:
An Early Mesolithic Occupation Site,
A Medieval / 17th Century Settlement Site, and
A 17th Century Water Mill.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 39 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Newtownbreda

Landscape Character

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

The LLPA comprises a stream corridor, which flows westwards from the Saintfield Road down to the Newtownbreda Road. This is an important landscape feature and area of nature conservation interest, further enhanced by its associated vegetation.

The trees along the stream corridor provide an attractive backdrop and contribute to the landscape setting of Newtownbreda High School and the adjacent housing areas.

A section of the stream corridor has been developed into a small public park with footpaths, tree planting and open grass areas. As the stream passes through the park, it flows along a man-made channel and a system of shallow waterfalls.

The LLPA also includes a stand of mature trees, mainly pine and cypress, on a steep embankment to the front of Newtownbreda High School, which together with the trees along the north eastern boundary, contribute to the landscape and visual amenity value of the stream corridor.

Nature Conservation

The stream corridor, associated vegetation and mature trees on the boundaries of the LLPA are of wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

The LLPA provides a wildlife corridor linking through from Cairnshill LLPA in the east, through to Belvoir Forest Park in the west.

Amenity Value

Most of the LLPA has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, which underpins its public amenity value.
Metropolitan Castlereagh

Designation MCH 40 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Tullycarnet

Landscape Character

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

This LLPA is centred on Tullycarnet Park, a municipal park, which is a pocket of green open space within a densely populated, built-up urban area. It contains open grass areas, mature tree planting and associated vegetation, walkways, a bowling green, pavilion and playground.

The LLPA is situated on rising ground from where there are substantial views out over the surrounding urban area to the Belfast Hills beyond. These views are of particular landscape and visual merit.

The site is bordered, for the most part, by stands of mature tree planting and includes trees throughout the area. These trees are of landscape and visual interest and act as a landmark and visual pointer in the surrounding area.

The LLPA provides an attractive backdrop and setting to the adjacent Gilnahirk Primary School, Our Lady and St. Patrick’s College and housing areas.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA, with its stands of mature trees is of wildlife value and of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

The Odyssey/Tullycarnet Park/Ormeau Park Community Greenway crosses through the park and is an important linkage to the surrounding area.

The LLPA has also been identified as An Area of Existing Open Space, which underpins the high public amenity value of the area.
Designation MH 06 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Church Road, Moneyreagh

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 95 – Ballygowan Drumlins, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes a collection of institutional buildings dating from the late 18th to the early 20th century, along with two 1930’s/1940’s dwelling houses, together with their associated settings which make up the historic core of the village.

The oldest building in the group is the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church. The congregation dates back to the 18th century. The original meeting house was a barn-like structure built in 1719, demolished to make way for the current church building which was erected in 1770 and is the oldest church building in the area. The church provided for the education of local children until the first school house was built.

Adjacent to the church is the manse, a mid 19th century dwelling house, with its associated garden.

North of the manse are two former school buildings. The oldest is the original National School which pre-dates the 1850’s. Beside it stands a hall which was formerly the Richard Lyttle Memorial School. This building was in use as a school from 1908 until 1961 when the present Moneyreagh Primary School was opened.

A Masonic Hall dating from 1911 and a 2-storey dwelling house dating from the 1930’s/1940’s lie to the north of the former school buildings.

At the junction of Church Road and Ballykeel Road is No. 57 Church Road, a two storey 1930’s/1940’s dwelling set back from the road behind a high wall with mature vegetation. To the south is a small amenity grassed area. Together these features form a focal point at the road junction and contribute to the setting of the Masonic Hall, adjacent dwelling and former 1908 school building.

The LLPA, with its locally significant buildings is also located within Moneyreagh Area of Village Character as it adds to and enhances the character and setting of the settlement.

Nature Conservation

The mature garden vegetation is of some nature conservation value and wildlife interest.
**Amenity Value**

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

**Heritage Interest**

This locally significant group of buildings which make up the historic core of the village are of local historic interest.
Moneyreagh

Designation MH 07 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Keel Way

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 95 – Ballygowan Drumlins, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises an area of amenity open space on a localised hill, fronting properties on Keel Way. It includes an area of grass, divided by a belt of woodland running diagonally from the entry between Nos. 4 and 5 Keel Way to the playground on Hillmount Drive. Trees also bound the LLPA to the south. The woodland planting is of landscape and visual amenity value forming an attractive backdrop to the surrounding houses. A path network runs through the area forming an important linkage and adding to the recreational amenity of the site.

Nature Conservation

The trees associated with the LLPA are also of wildlife and local nature conservation value.

Amenity Value

The LLPA forms part of a small public park created in the 1990’s which also includes an adjacent children’s equipped play area and as such is of local recreational value and is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.