Ballyclare

Designation BE 15– Local Landscape Policy Area, Green Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the main building of the former Ballyclare Bleach Works, a landmark, red brick mill building fronted by an extensive open grass area with specimen trees and shrub planting which acts as its setting. The building is of visual merit and can be viewed by traffic passing on the busy Ballyclare-Templepatrick Road.

The other associated mill buildings are also included within the LLPA, some of which abut Green Road, and are of visual interest along the roadside.

The LLPA includes the Green Burn, the river corridor, together with the mill race and large mill pond, all important landscape features of visual interest.

Across Green Road from the mill is Coulter’s Hill House, with associated extensive grounds including open grass areas and mature tree planting. It is a locally significant building of historic interest and probably the original mill owner’s house. The fields to the north of the house, which slope up from Green Road and include the original tree lined driveway, are also included in the LLPA as they act as the setting to the house and afford views up the slope towards the house. These fields were used in the mid 1800’s as the bleach green associated with an earlier mill on the site of the Ballyclare Bleach Works.

The trees and other vegetation associated with the mill buildings and Coulter’s Hill House are of particular landscape and visual merit.

To the south east of Coulter’s Hill House is Green Road landfill site on rising ground (Coulter’s Hill), which has been extensively planted with native trees and shrubs, as part of the on-going restoration works. This tree planting as it matures will become an important landscape and visual feature to the south east of Ballyclare, forming a backdrop to Coulter’s Hill House and adding to and forming part of the general treed character of the LLPA.

Nature Conservation

The trees and other vegetation associated with Coulter’s Hill House and the Green Burn river corridor, together with the mill pond and associated vegetation, are of wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Heritage Interest
The mill buildings and associated mill race and mill pond are of industrial archaeology and local historic interest.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

A Non-Antiquity – an island in the mill pond; and
An Enclosure.
Ballyclare

Designation BE 16 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Six Mile Water Corridor

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on the Six Mile Water river corridor as it flows through Ballyclare and its hinterland. The river is a significant landscape feature and contributes to and forms part of the views and setting of Ballyclare and provides a valuable amenity resource for the town.

A significant proportion of the LLPA lies outside the settlement limit to the north east of the town and is characterised by a broad river valley floor, low lying wetland areas, enclosed by a patchwork of fields sub-divided by hedgerows, trees and stone banks on the valley slopes, together with the scrub woodland on the crest around Craighill Quarry. The associated views and setting of these features contribute to the character and setting of the settlement and are of landscape and visual significance.

The LLPA also includes the old railway track bed which follows the course of the river and is a distinctive linear feature that extends beyond the settlement limit into the open countryside.

Within the settlement development limit the LLPA is focused on a large area of amenity open space of landscape and visual merit, including; the Six Mile Water River Park, an informal public amenity area with a network of paths, woodland planting, play area and historic mill pond, War Memorial Park, a formal memorial garden and the Sixmile Leisure Centre and man-made lake.

A small portion of the LLPA lies within Ballyclare Town Centre and part of this is also within Ballyclare Area of Townscape Character.

Nature Conservation

The different features of the LLPA, the river corridor and associated areas of wet rush pasture and wet grassland adjacent to the river, the trees, hedgerows, woodland and scrub vegetation are of wildlife and nature conservation importance.

Amenity Value

Most of the LLPA, within the Ballyclare Settlement Development Limit, is an area of public amenity open space which has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space.
Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes part of Ballyclare Area of Archaeological Potential.

The LLPA includes the following archaeological sites and monuments:

Scheduled:
Motte

Unscheduled:
2 Enclosures,
Non-Antiquity – Island in Mill Pond and
A.P. Site – Elliptical Enclosure.
Ballyclare

Designation BE 17 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ross’s Avenue

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA lies to the northwest of Ballyclare town centre and comprises a rough surfaced, tree lined driveway, consisting mainly of mature beech trees, running perpendicular and to the west of Rashee Road. It provides access to a number of dwellings and to lands at No.4 Ross’s Avenue. The latter includes open grassland and a shelterbelt / single row of mature trees along the south western boundary which was planted around the same time as the avenue and a coniferous hedge screen along the south eastern boundary.

The trees within the LLPA form an amenity that is of high intrinsic value. The avenue of trees is a dominant landscape feature, which can be seen over a considerable distance, due to its position on the crest of a hill, the height of the trees, the length of the avenue and the flat topography of the surrounding landscape. They are an important local landmark in Ballyclare.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees provide an important habitat and valuable wildlife corridor within the urban area and they are of significant local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

There is a Tree Preservation Order on the trees at Ross’s Avenue, which recognises the importance of trees within the LLPA.

Heritage Interest

Ross’s Avenue is also considered to be of archaeo-glogical and local historic significance. The northern side of the avenue features a fine example of a mearing ditch, a tree-lined, double stone and earth, bank and ditch system.
**Ballyeaston**

**Designation BN 04 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballyeaston**

**Landscape Character**

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes Ballyeaston Ecclesiastical Site, an important archaeological feature, consisting of a medieval church on which stand the ruins of St. Augustine’s, a 17th century church and graveyard and containing a Holy Well and Souterrain. The church is a distinctive landmark feature which contributes to the character of the village.

The LLPA also includes a number of locally significant buildings, including First Ballyeaston Presbyterian Church which dates from the late 18th century. Its views and prominent setting to the east are included in the LLPA.

Second Ballyeaston Presbyterian Church, another locally significant building of particular landscape and visual merit, is also included within the LLPA. The church, which lies close to the western end of the village, was built in 1903 and is set within attractive landscaped grounds which contain stands of mature tree planting along the site boundary, including specimen monkey puzzle trees.

Other locally significant buildings within the LLPA are the two manses. Of particular local historical interest is Parade Manse built in the early 20th century and situated on the site of the parade grounds donated by the then church minister to the Ballyeaston Yeomanry during the 1798 rebellion – hence the name Parade Manse. The mature trees associated with the manse are of landscape and visual merit.

The second manse is situated outside the settlement limit close to a row of houses known as Dickeystown to the north east of the village. The manse is a large dwelling, located in open, sloping grounds, with belts of mature tree planting.

The landform to the south is included in the LLPA. It acts as the setting to the village and affords views up the slope towards Parade Manse.

The many mature trees and hedgerows associated with the locally significant buildings contribute to the landscape and visual amenity of the village and the attractive setting of the settlement.

To the south the LLPA overlaps Ballyeaston Rural Landscape Wedge, which has been designated to maintain the separate identities of Ballyclare and
Ballyeaston, to prevent merging and define and protect the setting of the two settlements.

Most of the village has been designated as Ballyeaston Area of Village Character (AVC) in recognition of its distinctive character and unique sense of place. The LLPA overlaps parts of the AVC.

**Nature Conservation**

The belts of mature trees and hedgerows within the LLPA are of local nature conservation and wildlife value.

**Heritage Interest**

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

Ecclesiastical Site - Medieval and Post-Medieval Church and Graveyard with Holy Well & Souterrain, and A Holy Well.

Part of the LLPA lies within Ballyeaston Area of Archaeological Potential.
Ballynure

Designation BNE 04 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Main Street

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on Ballynure Methodist Church, a landmark building which forms a gateway feature on the south western approach to the village. The church congregation was established around 1815 and the Meeting House constructed in 1846, planned and paid for by the manager of the cotton mill in the village, Mr Robert Beatty. The Meeting House has undergone many extensions since its construction including its enlargement towards the main road in 1894, the addition of a Sunday School to the rear, a block of stables built in 1907 along the rear boundary of the plot, recently demolished, a rear extension including a vestry, kitchen and toilets in 1955 and a major redevelopment project in 1992 to include a new hall complex which visually integrates with the existing church.

Adjacent to the church is the Manse, a late Victorian dwelling with associated outbuildings which is of local significance. Along the rear boundary are mature trees which form an attractive backdrop to the Manse and enhance its setting.
Ballynure

Designation BNE 05 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballynure Water

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The majority of land contained within LLPA is located to the west of Ballynure, outside but adjacent to the settlement development limit. Included within this area are some of the most significant local buildings, landscape features, views and settings within the Ballynure area.

Included within the LLPA is Christ Church, a listed building, with its graveyard situated on the other side of Church Road containing the ruins of a Post-Medieval church, together with the adjoining Rectory, the nearby Ballynure Primary School and Church Hall, all locally significant buildings.

The above buildings and historic / archaeological sites lie within a planned landscape setting, characterised by a patchwork of fields, stands and avenues of mature trees situated sporadically around the area, in particular alongside the Rectory, Church and Graveyard, where there are significant stands of Scots pine, beech and distinctive yew trees. Together, these built and planted features contribute to the distinctive landscape setting of the settlement.

Ballynure Water and Castle Water river corridors flow through the LLPA and form the linking feature between the two nodes of the settlement. The Ballynure Water is a core visual landmark and also provides an attractive setting for the many dwellings adjacent to it. The river is very much an integral part of the setting of Ballynure.

Nature Conservation

The river corridors and associated vegetation, together with other areas of tree planting throughout the LLPA are important for wildlife and are of nature conservation value.

Amenity Value

The LLPA includes Ballynure War Memorial Park.

The park is also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins its public amenity value.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed building:
Christ Church, Grade B.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A Post-Medieval Church and Graveyard, with reported Enclosure, Well and Souterrain,

The LLPA also contains the site of an old cotton mill, in ruins, which is of local industrial archaeological interest.
Ballycor

Designation BR 002 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballycor

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA recognises the historic attributes which contribute to the character of the settlement and includes the site of the old corn mill and kiln, the old mill pond and mill race.

Also included is the stream corridor, a tributary of the Six Mile Water, which flows through a number of private gardens and together with the associated vegetation, is a feature of particular landscape and visual merit which contributes to the setting of the settlement.

The LLPA also includes Ballycor Church, a medieval church now in ruins and its associated graveyard, accessed by a historic laneway which links Ballycor to Ballyeaston.

The LLPA includes a number of hedgerows with mature trees which are of landscape and visual merit.

Nature Conservation

The stream corridor and its associated vegetation and the mature trees and hedgerows form an important wildlife corridor and are of significant nature conservation value.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following scheduled archaeological site and monument.

Ballycor Medieval Church and Graveyard.

The sites and features of mill heritage are of local industrial archaeological interest.
Ballyrobert

Designation BT 04 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballyrobert

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on the Lisnalinchy Burn watercourse. The LLPA includes the river, its banks and associated vegetation, the stone bridge at Ballyrobert Road and part of the stone bridge where the river flows through the embankment of the former railway line.

The stream corridor, with its associated vegetation is an important local landscape feature on the edge of the settlement and an area of nature conservation interest.

The river corridor acts as a physical stop to the settlement development limit on the northern boundary of Ballyrobert.

Nature Conservation

The stream corridor and associated vegetation are important for wildlife and are of local nature conservation value. On the eastern boundary the LLPA abuts Dismantled Railway at Kingsbog Crossing, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance.
Cogry / Kilbride

Designation CY 05 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Doagh River Corridor

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on the Doagh River corridor, a significant tributary of the Six Mile Water, from north of Brookfield Bridge to Tumbling Bridge on Bridge Road and also along Cogry Road. The river with its bridges, weirs and wooded glen is of particular visual significance and adds to the landscape and amenity value of the settlement.

The historical development of the settlement evolved around a number of mills dating from the early 19th century, developed along the Doagh River. There is still a significant mill heritage of industrial archaeological value along the length of the river, including mill races, the site of the former mill pond for Brookfield Mill, the site of former mill ponds associated with Cogry Mill, the site of a former flax mill and associated mill cottages and the Cogry Mills National School building.

Cogry Flax Mill is located at the southern end of the settlement. The mill is of significant local historical interest and forms a focal point within the settlement. Flax spinning was associated with the site from 1845/6 until 1957. It is now an engineering works. Originally known as Coggrey Flax Spinning Mill established by a Mr William Moone, the original mill building no longer exists having been replaced by the current large mill building in the late 1800’s, by the then owners William McMeekin and William Cummins. The current mill site is a large complex of stone and brick buildings dating from the late 1800’s to early 1900’s. The mill is said to have been the second in the UK to use electric light. It also unusually contained a cinema, opened in 1919 and used by workers and the community until the 1930’s, but is now in ruins.

Cogry Cottage and Coach House are located on the south-west side of the Cogry Mill complex. The cottage, which is a listed building, was built in 1845, contemporaneous with the establishment of the Cogry Flax Spinning Mill on the site and was the residence of the mill manager. It is an attractive detached three bay, one and a half storey house occupying an elevated position overlooking the Doagh River to the west. The Coach House dates from the late 1800’s to early 1900’s. A concrete bridge with ornate railings spans the river and links the cottage to Invermuir House.

Invermuir House and associated mature tree planting, forms a visual stop to development and an important entrance/exit feature on the approach from the south. Dating from 1840, it was the former residence of the owner of Cogry Mills. The building is listed in recognition of its architectural style and historic
interest. It is an attractive, symmetrical, three bay, two storey property with associated outbuildings, orchard and large lawn areas, all within a mature treed setting to the south-west of the Doagh River.

A former beetling mill on the eastern side of Bridge Road has been sympathetically restored into a dwelling and forms a landmark on the approach from the south.

Throughout the LLPA are mature tree plantings. In addition to the significant woodland planting associated with the river corridor, there is vegetation marking the location of former mill races and ponds, remnants of planned landscape features including roadside plantings to the west of Burnside Road and trees associated with Invermuir House. Some of the plantings within the LLPA are recorded on the 1830’s map and are therefore classed as Long Established Woodland. The significant tree groups along Cogry Road and Bridge Road together with the strong hedgerows are of visual amenity merit, enhancing the approach to the settlement from the south and south-west.

Nature Conservation

The river corridor with its mill ponds and associated vegetation, including areas of mature tree planting and hedgerows provide a significant wildlife corridor and are of local nature conservation value.

Amenity Value

The river forms part of an important amenity resource for local residents and includes pathways alongside the river, from Cogry Road to Kelburn Park, with seating, a new pedestrian bridge over the river, open grass areas and an equipped play area adjacent to Kelburn Park.

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

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings:

Cogry Cottage and Outbuildings, 51 Bridge Road, Grade B1, and Invermuir House, Bridge Road, Grade B2.

The LLPA contains the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

A possible Moat (Motte), near Brookfield Bridge, and A Souterrain, along Cogry Road.

The features of mill heritage are of significant local industrial archaeological interest.
Doagh

Designation DH 07– Local Landscape Policy Area, Doagh River Corridor

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on the Doagh River corridor from Kilbride Bridge in the north, along the north western boundary of the settlement and then through the village and crossing the southern boundary of the settlement development limit. The river forms an important landscape and visual amenity feature within the area.

The river is not only a significant landscape feature, but is also strongly associated with the historical development of the village of Doagh. The river was the source used to feed the mill pond and millrace associated with the large, 19th century mill building, which lies to the north east of the LLPA and is now the focal point of the new housing development known as The Mill.

The river forms the backdrop of the new housing and is an important visual feature which separates the settlement from the surrounding countryside. On the south western boundary the LLPA links into Burn Road LLPA and on the southern eastern boundary abuts Station Road LLPA.

Part of the river corridor also supports mature trees and associated vegetation. The trees are an important landscape and visual feature, which soften the impact of the housing development on the adjoining countryside.

Nature Conservation

The stream corridor, mature trees and associated vegetation are important for wildlife and are of local nature conservation value.

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

River / Morley Bridge

Amenity Value

The LLPA is also an important amenity resource for local residents, which provides for recreational walks along the new pathways beside the river corridor.

Heritage Interest
The sluice gates in the northern section of the river and remnants of an old beetling mill and mill race in the southern section and the various bridges (Kilbride, Hunterstown, Morley and Doagh Bridges), over the river are of industrial archaeological and local historical interest.
Designation DH 08 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Burn Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA identifies Ballyhamage House and associated outbuildings as a locally significant building. It is a fine period house, mainly in stone, forming a landmark and good visual stop to development at the western limit of the village. The house itself predates the 1830’s maps. The original owner was Rev. George Johnston who extended the property in 1853 when he added a church to the house. This church served as a Chapel of Ease, providing a convenient place of worship for the family of the house. Further outbuildings have been added over the years. The house once stood within a well treed site, much of which has recently been felled, although remnants of the tree planting along the road frontage is of particular landscape and visual merit. These trees also contain a small rookery.

Fields to the north and west of Ballyhamage House have been included for reasons of the views afforded across the lands towards the locally significant building.

The LLPA includes a number of prominent tree groups which represent remnants of planned landscape features established in the 1800’s which are of landscape and visual amenity value and historical interest.

The LLPA also includes a group of traditional farm buildings dating from the early to mid -1800’s which are of some local historical interest.

On its north eastern boundary the LLPA links into Doagh River Corridor LLPA.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees and associated vegetation and rookery are important for wildlife and are of local nature conservation value.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

An A.P. Site - Circular Crop Mark, located to the north-west of Ballyhamage House.
Doagh

Designation DH 09 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Fisherwick House

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on Fisherwick House and grounds, which are of particular landscape and visual significance and are a landmark feature in the village, of particular architectural merit and historic importance. The house was originally an 18th century hunting lodge with a game park, now replaced by a striking single storey house dating from 1805 with associated outbuildings, including a stable block. Both the main approach to the house and the back entrance to the farmyard are from Mill Road, the main approach being through ornamental gates flanked by stands of mature tree planting. There are glimpsed views of the house from Ballyclare Road, but views from Mill Road are restricted by a stone wall and mature vegetation which contribute to the character of the area.

The house is surrounded by extensive grounds with open lawn areas, shrub and hedge planting and belts of mature trees which contribute to the character and setting of the house. Much of the tree planting is over 200 years old and classified as Long Established Woodland. The trees are of landscape and visual significance and form the backdrop to the properties on Ballyclare Road.

Fisherwick House, its associated outbuildings, grounds and mature vegetation are included with Doagh Area of Village Character and form a significant entrance / exit feature to the village along Mill Road.

Nature Conservation

The belts of mature tree planting which include a rookery are also of importance for wildlife and are of local nature conservation value.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed building:

Fisherwick House, Grade B1.
Doagh

Designation DH 10 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Station Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the site of St. Mary’s Medieval Church which may have been part of a 6th century monastic settlement of the Black Friars although the first documented reference was in 1215. The church foundations are faintly discernable, being lower than the surface of the ground, except on the western side, where a fragment of ivy-clad wall still remains. A souterrain discovered in the 18th century provided an underground passage from the church leading across the road into what were then open fields.

An sub-rectangular church graveyard surrounds the church site. It is enclosed by a wall and accessed through an iron gate. There are a number of mature trees fronting Station Road which are of visual amenity importance. Many of the pre-1800 headstones have been removed, leaving the more recent ones, a number of which are late 19th century and some quite ornate and imposing.

Included within the LLPA is a Norman Motte, one of the outposts of Carrickfergus Castle, located between the graveyard and the Doagh River corridor. The motte is separated from the graveyard by a small farmyard and shed. Mature tree planting forms the backdrop to the graveyard, frames the monument and contributes to its riverside setting.

The LLPA is included within Doagh Area of Village Character and the old church, graveyard, motte and associated vegetation form a significant feature of the village.

On its western boundary the LLPA abuts Doagh River Corridor LLPA.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees and associated vegetation within the LLPA are of importance for wildlife and nature conservation value.

The LLPA abuts Doagh River / Morley Bridge Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following archaeological sites and monuments:

Scheduled:
A Motte.

Unscheduled:
Marie de Douach (St Mary’s of Doagh), Medieval Church and Site of Graveyard.
Hillhead

Designation HD 003 – Local Landscape Policy Area, South East of Hillhead

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes, Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the Ballylinney Burn corridor and associated vegetation. It is an important landscape and visual feature within this part of Hillhead, providing a physical linkage between the different elements which contribute to the LLPA. The river together with its associated vegetation is also of amenity value and a local nature conservation resource.

The LLPA also includes Braeside, a pre-1830 farm, with later additions. This locally significant dwelling is surrounded by extensive grounds, including mature tree planting of landscape and visual merit and a sizable pond. The treed setting of this building contributes to the character and setting of the settlement and forms an attractive feature on the southern approach.

Another locally significant building within LLPA is a late 18th century building and outbuildings which was formally a spade mill. These buildings are collectively known as Logwood Mill and are located directly alongside the Ballylinney Burn corridor, close to the junction of Hillhead Road and Logwood Road. The old industrial building, its associated vegetation, views and setting alongside the river, are of landscape and visual merit.

Nature Conservation

The stream corridor and its associated vegetation and the mature trees and hedgerows form an important wildlife corridor and are of significant nature conservation value.

Heritage Interest

Logwood mill is of local industrial archaeological and historical interest.
Hillhead

Designation HD 004 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Logwood Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes, Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on a locally significant building and its setting, Bruslee House, a mid 19th century farmhouse, with associated outbuildings, grounds, trees and mature vegetation. The building cluster overlooks open countryside and is surrounded by hedgerows and mature tree planting, particularly along the road corridor and alongside the field adjacent to the dwelling.

Bruslee House and grounds are of particular visual merit and contribute to the overall treed character and to the setting of Hillhead.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees and shrubs are an important local wildlife resource of nature conservation value.
Hillhead

Designation HD 005 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Hillhead Road 1

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises two sets of locally significant, semi-detached cottages and their associated gardens, numbers 177-183 Hillhead Road, which are of local historical and archaeological interest. Numbers 177 and 179 are two storey and date from the early 20th century. Numbers 181 and 183 are one and a half storey cottages from an earlier period, circa late 1850’s. The cottages are located at the south eastern end of the northern node of the settlement.

A feeder stream of the Ballylinney Burn with associated vegetation including mature trees runs along the north eastern boundary of numbers 181 and 183 Hillhead Road before continuing south west between the two sets of semi-detached cottages. Together with the mature trees, hedgerows and associated stream side vegetation, the dwellings form a good visual stop to development.

Nature Conservation

The stream corridor and associated vegetation are also of wildlife value and local nature conservation interest.
Hillhead

Designation HD 006 – Local Landscape Policy Area, North West of Hillhead

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises a grouping of mid 20th century bungalows and their large garden settings with associated vegetation, at 120-130 Hillhead Road, which are of architectural interest and landscape and visual merit.

Nature Conservation

The gardens are of some wildlife and nature conservation value.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A Corn Drying Kiln, at 120 Hillhead Road.
Hillhead

Designation HD 007 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Hillhead House, Hillhead Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys and is on the boundary of Landscape Character Area 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes a locally significant building, Hillhead House, a late 19th century, two storey house, and its setting on rising ground. This comprises extensive gardens, containing mature trees and shrubs, a large area of woodland and agricultural fields in grass, subdivided and bounded by stone wall and bank features with native hedgerows and trees.

The LLPA also contains a recent, red brick, two storey replacement dwelling on the site of former, 1830s two-storey, semi-detached dwellings. This detached dwelling is situated directly adjacent to Hillhead House on the edge of the wooded grounds associated with the house.

The LLPA includes the site of an early 20th century manse recently replaced by two, red brick, detached dwellings. The treed setting of the manse has largely been retained. Adjacent and included within the LLPA is a mid 20th century, detached two-storey dwelling, also with stands of mature trees. The trees surrounding these properties together with the trees surrounding Hillhead House form a prominent feature in the local landscape, visible from most aspects of Hillhead.

This LLPA adjoins and reads as part of Green Road, Ballyclare, LLPA part of which is visible from Hillhead and contributes to the views and setting of Hillhead settlement.

The LLPA is situated adjacent to the southern boundary of Ballyclare Rural Landscape Wedge. The wedge is designated with the intention of distinguishing and maintaining the separate identities of Ballyclare and Hillhead, to prevent the merging of the two settlements, to provide an important element in defining and protecting the setting of Ballyclare and Hillhead and to maintain the rural character of the countryside.

The LLPA designations and Rural Landscape Wedge underpin the high amenity value and environmental quality of the local landscape and the contribution the various landscape elements make to the setting and character of both Hillhead and Ballyclare.

Nature Conservation
The mature trees, woodland and associated vegetation are of wildlife and local nature conservation value.

On its south eastern boundary, the LLPA abuts Hillhead House Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance.
Millbank

Designation MK 02 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballymartin Water River Corridor

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on the Ballymartin Water river corridor from south of Millbank Road and extends downstream to Ritchie’s Bridge on the Antrim Road. It includes the western bank of the river and its associated vegetation. Along its eastern bank the LLPA extends to include a millrace and the adjoining lands between the millrace and the river. The road bridge over the river at Millbank Road is also included in the LLPA.

The river corridor acts as a visual and physical buffer to the settlement.

The vegetation associated with the river and millrace and field boundaries provides an attractive backdrop and contributes to the landscape setting of the settlement.

Nature Conservation

The river corridor is an important landscape feature and area of nature conservation interest, further enhanced by its associated vegetation.

Heritage Interest

The millrace, a remnant feature of the settlement’s mill history, which connects to the Ballymartin Water at a weir and sluice, is of industrial archaeological and local historical interest.
Designation MK 03 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Antrim Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes a single row of mature beech trees, fronting Antrim Road, that form a landmark feature at the entrance to the settlement. The mature trees are backed by young deciduous woodland and scrub vegetation associated with the stream corridor and ornamental conifer planting associated with number 723 Antrim Road which adds visual depth to the tree group.

The LLPA extends to include a small area of young woodland to the rear of number 723 Antrim Road. The area of trees collectively is of landscape and visual merit.

Nature Conservation

The trees, scrub and stream corridor are of wildlife value and local nature conservation interest.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 34 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Abbey

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located between Whiteabbey Hospital, Hill Croft School and the Belfast to Larne railway line. It consists of an open green area in rough grass, with the occasional tree. The stand of mature trees to the north and the mature hedgerows along the railway line boundary are of particular landscape and visual amenity value.

Directly south of Hill Croft School is the site of Druin La Croix, a thirteenth century Premonstratensian Abbey of historic and archaeological importance. The Premonstratensians, known in England as the White Canons (from the colour of their habit), were a Christian religious order of Augustinian Canons founded at Premonstre near Laon in 1120. Whiteabbey’s name is derived from the Premonstratensian Abbey which existed in this area in the medieval period, and relates to the colour of the Canons robes (hence White Abbey).

To the north east of the abbey site lies another archaeological site, a Tree Ring, a monument type normally associated with designed landscape embellishment of the later eighteenth century onwards. On close inspection the ring is still visible although only a few trees remain, but the site is still of historic and archaeological importance.

On its southern boundary the LLPA abuts Rush Park Area of Townscape Character.

There are significant views from the LLPA, to the north west, towards Carnmoney Hill and to the south west, towards the Belfast Hills. This enhances the landscape and visual setting of the LLPA.

Nature Conservation

The boundary trees and hedgerows are of wildlife and local nature conservation interest.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following archaeological sites and monuments:

Scheduled:
The site of Druin La Croix, a 13th century Premonstratensian Abbey.
Unscheduled:
A Tree Ring.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 35 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballycraigy

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the rising landform to a prominent ridgeline, known as Sentry Hill, to the north east of the M2 Motorway and west of the A8(M) Motorway which contains Newtownabbey and contributes to its setting. The settlement of Ballycraigy is located on the top of the ridge. The hillside comprises a number of large fields in pasture, bounded by mature hedgerows with tree belts in parts and includes a number of prominent groups of farm buildings including the listed Sentry Hill.

Sentry Hill, named after the hill on which it stands, is of important local historic and amenity value, now managed as a tourist site. It consists of a two storey formal farmhouse and outbuildings built in 1835 with late Victorian and early 20th century additions. To the south, is a large lawn enclosed by mature beech trees.

Three mature hedgerows with visually significant trees extend out from the garden of Sentry Hill down towards the M2 Motorway and form strong linear features in the landscape.

Within the LLPA there are numerous archaeological sites and monuments all of which add to the historical and archaeological interest of the area.

There are significant views from the elevated lands around Ballycraigy, to the east to the Carrickfergus Escarpment and Carnmoney Hill, to the south to the Belfast Hills and across lower farmland to the north.

Nature Conservation

This large LLPA is a mosaic of semi-improved pasture and rough grassland, with substantial stands of wet rush pasture separated by mature hedgerows and lines of mature native trees and scrub woodland. The LLPA is ecologically diverse and of high intrinsic nature conservation value. It includes a range of valuable habitat types; wet marshy areas, wet rush pasture, ditches and some areas of species rich wet grassland, and local watercourses. This large LLPA also contributes to the overall integrity of the wider countryside, particularly at this interface with a major continuous urban area.

Amenity Value
Sentry Hill Historic House and Grounds are owned by Newtownabbey Borough Council and are open to the public. The house and contents provide a rare insight into life in rural Ulster in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The trees on lands at 91 Ballycraigy Road are protected by a Tree Preservation Order in recognition of their particular amenity value.

**Heritage Interest**

The lands within this large LLPA have significant archaeological potential.

The LLPA includes the following listed buildings:

Sentry Hill farmhouse and outbuildings, at 44 Ballycraigy Road, Grade B.

The garden associated with Sentry Hill is recorded in the Northern Ireland Heritage Gardens Committees, Northern Ireland Heritage Gardens Inventory 1992, now held by NIEA Built Heritage and is described as “an example of a farmhouse garden, well documented over two centuries…”

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological sites and monuments:

- Crannog – Ballycraigy,
- A.P. Site – Circular Cropmark – Ballycraigy,
- 2 A.P. Sites – Circular Enclosures – Ballycraigy,
- Urn Burials – Ballyvesey, and
- Urn Field – Ballyvesey.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 36 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Ballymartin Water

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on the Ballymartin Water corridor, as it flows northwards, from the rear of the residential area at Hydepark Manor to Roughfort Bridge on the Roughfort Road. The river with its weirs and vegetated banks is a highly significant landscape feature of particular visual merit and forms a distinctive landscape setting within the area.

At its southern end, the LLPA and the river corridor form a natural settlement limit to Newtownabbey and a boundary between the urban and rural lands. Further to the north, the river corridor passes an old mill building and is important to the setting of the mill.

North of this, the LLPA lies within the development limit and is a distinctive visual feature adjacent to Sealstown Road and Trench Lane. The river is crossed by a road bridge on the Mallusk Road and a pedestrian bridge which affords views over the river. It then runs though an area of open countryside which is outside the development limit.

The river corridor, its associated trees and other vegetation, is an important landscape feature of visual significance and amenity value in the locality. It helps to define the character of the area, acts as a buffer between the housing area and the rural area and forms an attractive backdrop to the surrounding built up area.

Nature Conservation

The Ballymartin Water flows through areas of rough pasture / floodplain meadow grassland, containing mature trees and some scrub woodland. The river corridor has retained much of its natural condition, and is an important nature conservation resource, providing habitat and cover, for local wildlife.

Heritage Interest

The Ballymartin Water corridor has been important in the past for both for industrial and settlement activity.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 37 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Campbell Road / Manse Road

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

This LLPA is located adjacent to the busy Manse Road corridor and is also bordered by Campbell Road, Manse Way and Carnmoney Road North. The LLPA is surrounded by dense housing development and is an important green open space within a major area of development.

Included within the LLPA is Mossley Recreation Grounds on Carnmoney Road North. Of particular landscape and visual merit is a stand of pine trees fronting the recreational grounds on Campbell Road.

To the south-west of the Recreation Grounds is an open grass area which fronts Earlview Primary School and affords views of the school and contributes to its setting.

The LLPA also contains an amenity area to the north of Manse Way opposite the school, which comprise pathways, large expanses of grass and groups of amenity tree planting.

The LLPA also includes an amenity area designed as part of the Global Point International Business Park. This area includes dense woodland trees and shrubs, planted within the last ten years, together with a pedestrian pathway. Although relatively young, the planting already forms an effective visual buffer and screen between the residential development and the business park. It also adds to and forms part of the setting of an unscheduled archaeological site, namely a rath at Ballyhenry. This archaeological site is a visible feature and its setting is of historic interest.

In the vicinity of Mossley Methodist Church the LLPA contains remnants of a planned landscape with a collection of specimen trees such as monkey puzzle and large evergreen shrubs.

To the south-west of this area the LLPA contains an area of rough grass bounded to the south by a hedgerow along Manse Road and to the rear by mature trees which screen the housing area and are of landscape and visual merit. There is also the remnant of an old lane, lined by an avenue of mature beech trees, an important landscape and visual feature to the west of the LLPA.
**Nature Conservation**

The trees, hedgerows and areas of open grassland within the LLPA are of wildlife and local nature conservation interest within an expanding urban area.

**Amenity Value**

Mossley Recreation Grounds on Carnmoney Road North is an area of local amenity importance which comprises; playing pitches, bowling green, tennis courts and pavilion, play area, formal park and amenity grassland with belts of mature trees, linking through to planned open space associated with housing development.

A large part of the LLPA has been identified as Area of Existing Open Space, which underpins its amenity and recreational value.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 38 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Carnmoney Hill

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on the prominent landform of Carnmoney Hill within the Newtownabbey urban area. It is a volcanic plug which rises to 232m and is the most northerly summit of the Belfast Hills. It is a landmark of particular landscape and visual importance, being visible from North Down, Belfast Lough, the M2/M5 Motorways and northern parts of the Belfast Metropolitan Area. The views and setting of this hill contribute to the landscape character of Newtownabbey and the wider Belfast area.

Carnmoney takes its name from Cairn Monadh, “the cairn on the boggy mountain” a burial chamber that originally stood on the summit of Carnmoney Hill. The LLPA includes numerous archaeological sites and their settings and therefore is of significant historical landscape importance.

Carnmoney Hill is a landscape characterised by steep escarpment slopes, with semi-natural and mainly deciduous woodland on the slopes. A quarry occupies part of the northern slope and is accessed off Ballyduff Road. The few dwellings and farm buildings that lie within the LLPA are prominent features in the landscape.

The different elements of the LLPA together contribute to the character and setting of the Newtownabbey urban area and provide a valuable amenity resource.

Carnmoney Hill has also been designated an Area of High Scenic Value, in recognition of its high visual amenity value.

Nature Conservation

Carnmoney Hill is a significant area of local nature conservation interest and biodiversity value.

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

Carnmoney Hill, and
Carnmoney Plug (Geodiversity).

Amenity Value
Carnmoney Hill is an area of local amenity importance. It contains, Carnmoney Cemetery, Rathfern Wood, a recently planted community woodland of ash, hazel and oak with waymarked paths, ponds and view points and a community centre with associated play facilities. Access to the hill is available providing opportunities for informal active recreation amongst the long established woodland or on the more open summit.

Five Belfast Hills Access Points are located within the LLPA. These are:

Carnmoney Cemetery, O’Neill Road,
O’Neill Road,
Rathfern Wood, Knockenagh Avenue,
Fernkea Lane, Ballyduff Road,
The Brackens and
Rockview Lane, Glebe Road.

The Monkstown to Carrickfergus Escarpment via Valley Park and Carnmoney Hill, Community Greenway runs along the western and northern boundaries of the LLPA.

Heritage Interest

Carnmoney Hill is a historically important and locally distinctive landmark. It contains archaeological sites that have been identified for special protection as Scheduled Historic Monuments, as well as other sites of archaeological and industrial heritage interest.

The LLPA includes the following archaeological sites and monuments:

Scheduled:
Raised Rath – Dunanney Fort, Nancy’s Fort – Dunanney, and Rath – Dunanney

Unscheduled:
A.P. Site - Cropmark – Ballyduff,
Cairn – Carnmoney, Ballyduff,
A.P. Site - Oval Cropmark – Carnmoney,
Findspot of Urn Burial – Carnmoney,
Medieval Settlement Site – Carnmoney,
Rath – Croghfern,
2 Souterrains – Croghfern,
Souterrain and Stone Enclosure – Croghfern,
A.P. Site - Circular Cropmark – Dunanney, and
Rath – Dunanney
Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises a formal urban park located within the centre of Glengormley. It includes a bowling green and pavilion with toilets and changing facilities, tennis courts, basketball court, equipped play area, expansive areas of amenity grassland, formal tree planting, beech hedging, structure planting around the perimeter and a path network which provides a walking circuit and a link between the facilities. A formal, tree lined avenue links Ballyclare Road and Carnmoney Road and provides the formal approach and setting to Glengormley’s War Memorial, set within a circular paving feature with seating and enclosed by beech hedging to the rear.

Nature Conservation

The planting associated with the park is of local wildlife and nature conservation value in this densely built up area.

Amenity Value

The park is an important green open space and amenity area of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area. It is surrounded by houses and is used by local people for recreation.

The park is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins its amenity and recreational value.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 40 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Hazelbank

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

This LLPA comprises Hazelbank Park, which is a valuable public amenity, maintained by Newtownabbey Borough Council, the landscape character of which is a prominent and significant feature within the area. The park comprises a bowling green, car parking, playground, woodland, path network, Macedon Point viewpoint, open grass areas and a coastal path which forms part of the national cycle network.

Historic maps reveal that the present Hazelbank Park was originally the site of two large 18th century dwellings, Macedon House and Hazelbank House, the latter was built in 1796 with a tree planting scheme that was contemporary of the era. The grand dwellings no longer remain, however the remnants of the planned landscape are still clearly visible.

The LLPA contains areas of long established woodland and mature specimen trees, remnants of the parkland landscape, and also more recent woodland planting. Together this vegetation forms the landscape framework to the park and contributes to the attractive treed backdrop to the shoreline.

The LLPA provides views of Belfast Lough and the North Down coast as well as of the Belfast Hills. The views and setting of this LLPA contribute to the landscape character of Newtownabbey and the wider Belfast Metropolitan Area.

The LLPA abuts Abbeydene/ Abbeylands Area of Townscape Character and contributes to the character and setting of the ATC.

Nature Conservation

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

Hazelbank Park.

The LLPA also abuts the following environmental designations:

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

These identify Belfast Lough and the surrounding BMA Coastal Area as a significant area that requires the highest degree of conservation protection.

**Amenity Value**

The LLPA is an important green open space and amenity area of landscape and visual importance within a densely populated area and abutting the M5 Motorway.

The LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins its amenity and recreational value.

The LLPA includes Monkstown to Carrickfergus Escarpment via Valley Park and Carnmoney Hill, Community Greenway. This links, by way of a pedestrian footway, under the M5 Motorway, to Gideon’s Green and the M5 Lagoon, another area of public amenity, which is also designated as an LLPA.

The Community Greenway forms part of the Sustrans National Cycle Network Route No. 93, Lagan and Lough (Belfast to Lisburn) and the Ulster Way and is well used by walkers and cyclists.

**Heritage interest**

The LLPA includes various features of local historical interest including the stable block from the former Hazelbank House and two towers which were used as lookout posts during the Second World War.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 41 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Loughshore Park

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA comprises Jordanstown Loughshore Park, a linear park on the shores of Belfast Lough with panoramic views over the Lough towards the North Down Coast. Facilities within the park include paths, seating, car parking, a small touring caravan park and campsite, toilets, picnic areas, equipped play area, recycling facilities, large areas of amenity grassland including a grassed amphitheatre and mature tree and shrub planting.

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 motorists and pedestrians. It is extensively used by local people for recreation and visited by tourists. The green open space and associated vegetation within the park make a valuable contribution to the special landscape character of the Shore Road corridor and the coastline along the northern shores of Belfast Lough which can be viewed from the Lough and the North Down coastline.

Nature Conservation

The mature trees and shrubs within the LLPA are of local nature conservation value.

The LLPA abuts the following environmental designations:

Belfast Lough (Newtownabbey Borough) Ramsar Site,
Belfast Lough (Newtownabbey Borough) Special Protection Area, and
Outer Belfast Lough (Newtownabbey Borough) Area of Special Scientific Interest.

These identify Belfast Lough and the surrounding BMA Coastal Area as a significant area that requires the highest degree of conservation protection.

Amenity Value

The park forms part of an important pedestrian and cycle route well used by walkers and cyclists along the northern shore of Belfast Lough which links with Hazelbank Park to the south via the Shore Road promenade and coastal path.
Loughshore Park is also the start / finish of Sustrans National Cycle Network, Route No. 93 Lagan and Lough (Belfast to Lisburn).

The LLPA is identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins its amenity and recreational value.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 42 – Local Landscape Policy Area, M5 Lagoon

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes Whitehouse Lagoons, an area of open water, wetland and mudflats. They were created when a causeway was built in front of Whitehouse Strand to support the new M5 Motorway which opened in 1980. The lagoons form a unique landscape feature of visual significance and are important for wildlife and nature conservation.

The northern portion of LLPA comprises Gideon’s Green, an area of formal parkland with open grassed areas, paths and semi-mature woodland planting to the perimeter with the M5 Motorway. Within the centre of the park is a stone monument to Gideon Bonnivert, from whom the park derives its name, a Huguenot soldier whose diary recorded the landing nearby of the army who accompanied William III to Ireland in 1690.

The embankments of the motorway causeway at Gideon’s Green were planted with mixed species of trees and shrubs on completion of the motorway. This planting is now a significant feature in the local landscape, acting as a buffer between the road and the public park and contributing to the views and setting of Gideon’s Green.

The southern portion of the LLPA comprises open grassland over infill at different levels and is located within a Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance.

Nature Conservation

The LLPA is of significant wildlife and nature conservation value, in particular it is important as a feeding and roosting ground for wading birds and wildfowl.

The lagoons within the northern portion of the LLPA lie within the following environmental designations:

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

These identify Belfast Lough and the surrounding BMA Coastal Area as a significant area that requires the highest degree of conservation protection.
The southern portion of the LLPA includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI):

Between M5 and Railway.

**Amenity Value**

The LLPA is an important green open space and amenity area of landscape and visual importance, abutting the M5 Motorway and the Belfast to Larne railway line.

The northern half of the LLPA has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins the area’s recreational and amenity value.

The LLPA links, by way of a pedestrian footway under the M5 Motorway, to Hazelbank Park, an area of public parkland and also designated as an LLPA. To the west of the lagoons lies Glas-Na-Bradan Glen, also an area of public amenity and nature conservation interest and designated as an LLPA.

The Monkstown to Belfast Community Greenway links these three LLPAs. This further highlights the area as an important public amenity resource and green linkage route.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 43 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Mossley Mill

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the restored mill pond adjacent to Mossley Mill, a 19th century flax mill, converted and refurbished to create the new Civic Centre and Town Hall for Newtownabbey Borough Council. As part of the refurbishment, the mill pond has been enhanced by a timber boardwalk, railings, seating, lighting and new planting to provide safe public access to this amenity resource. It is of particular landscape and visual merit, being seen from the council offices, the car park, Carnmoney Road North and the adjacent housing areas.

Stands of mature trees have been retained around the mill pond and within the car park area of the mill complex. This established planting has been supplemented with new amenity tree and shrub planting and contributes to the attractive setting of a locally significant industrial heritage site.

The LLPA includes the mill chimney, which is a listed building. The LLPA contributes to the setting of the adjacent former mill buildings which are also listed.

Also included is a short section of the Three Mile Water river corridor adjacent to the mill pond, an important landscape feature.

The different elements of the LLPA contribute to the character and setting of the historic mill complex and the surrounding urban area and provide a valuable amenity and wildlife resource within a densely built up area.

Nature Conservation

The river corridor and the mill pond are included within the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (SLNCI).

Three Mile Water.

Amenity Value

The mill pond and its immediate surroundings have been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, which underpins the recreational and amenity value of the area.
The LLPA is adjacent to the Three Mile Water LLPA also identified as an Area of Existing Open Space. Linkages between the two LLPA's are provided by the river corridor itself and a road access along the side of the mill complex.

Abbey Green, Moonkstown to Cavehill, Community Greenway passes through the two LLPAs. This further highlights the area as an important public amenity resource and green linkage from the surrounding urban areas to open countryside.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed feature:

Mill chimney, Grade B2.

The mill chimney, mill pond and former mill buildings are of local industrial archaeological and historical importance.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 44 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Rathcoole

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA consists of The Diamond Play Area and adjoining playing fields and Rathcoole Youth and Community Centres.

The LLPA is an expansive area of fairly flat green open space located within a densely populated, built-up urban area which is predominated by residential development. It contains a large, open grass area, part of which is laid out as playing fields, some semi-mature / mature tree planting, groups of shrubs, walkways, playground facilities and changing rooms.

There are substantial views from the LLPA towards Carnmoney Hill and the Belfast Hills, both Areas of High Scenic Value. These views are of particular landscape and visual merit.

The expansive open space acts as a central focal point, being overlooked by surrounding development. It also acts as the setting to the high rise blocks of flats, locally significant buildings, seen in many views from Belfast.

Amenity Value

The LLPA, for the most part, has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space, which underpins its amenity and recreational value.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 45 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Rathmore

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is centred on an archaeological site its views and setting, consisting of an oval shaped, Bivallate Rath from the early Christian period with remnants of an old hedge line planted around the inner bank. It occupies high ground within an area of dense residential development and forms a distinctive landscape feature from which there are extensive views over the surrounding area.

The LLPA extends away from the rath in a north easterly direction to include a hedgerow which is of wildlife and nature conservation value.

Amenity Value

The LLPA includes an area of amenity open space created immediately around the rath extending to Fairview Road and a green area fronting Ballyfore Gardens, which contribute to the views and setting of the rath. The maintained grass area, with a path circumnavigating the rath, and linkages off to the neighbouring housing, forms a valuable neighbourhood green space which links into a wider open space network.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following scheduled archaeological site and monument:

Bivallate Rath.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 46 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Sandyknowes

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is located at the junction of Antrim Road and Ballyhenry Road fronting the Sandyknowes Roundabout, a major motorway interchange. The LLPA forms an attractive approach towards the urban area and a buffer between the busy road corridor and adjacent housing.

The LLPA is centred on a public amenity area known as Sanyknowes Park, with a network of tree lined paths, tree planting to the site boundaries, large open grass areas and play areas.

The different elements of the LLPA together, contribute to the landscape character and setting of the local area and provide a valuable amenity resource.

Nature Conservation

The mature wooded areas within the park are of local nature conservation value.

Amenity Value

Sandyknowes Park has also been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins its amenity and recreational value in this densely built up urban area.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA contains the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

The site of an ancient church.
Metropolitan Newtownabbey

Designation MNY 47 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Three Mile Water

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on the Three Mile Water river corridor, including smaller tributaries such as the Pound Burn, as it progresses from Mossley Mill towards Belfast Lough. The river, with its weirs and wooded banks is a highly significant landscape feature of particular visual merit and forms a distinctive landscape setting within the area.

As well as the natural woodland cover throughout the river corridor, the LLPA displays parkland characterises with individual and stands of mature specimen trees, in more open ground, probably planted as part of the planned landscapes surrounding former locally significant residences. Together this vegetation forms an attractive backdrop to the surrounding built up area as well as providing an important public amenity resource.

The LLPA includes the Newtownabbey Borough Council owned Glen Park, located off Glenville Road close to the junction with the Shore Road and most of the Three Mile Water Park, located off the Doagh Road.

The different elements of the LLPA together contribute to the character and setting of the Newtownabbey urban area and provide a valuable amenity resource.

To the south, the LLPA abuts Whiteabbey Area of Townscape Character and Whiteabbey Mill Area of Townscape Character and contributes to the character and setting of these areas.

Nature Conservation

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

Three Mile Water.

In addition to the river corridor and associated vegetation, the LLPA includes other areas of nature conservation interest including the Three Mile Water Conservation Park and Monkstown Wood, a Community Woodland, managed by the Woodland Trust. These areas provide an accessible nature conservation and amenity resource within the urban area.

Amenity Value
There are two Tree Preservation Orders within the south eastern section of
the LLPA, on lands at Glenavna House Hotel, Whiteabbey and on lands at
Whiteabbey. This emphasises the visual amenity and landscape value of
trees in contributing to the distinctive landscape character of the area.

The LLPA provides a valuable amenity resource for the surrounding
population and includes a mix of informal and formal recreational facilities
including the Three Mile Water Playing Fields, play equipment and pitches at
Glen Park and a number of pedestrian and cycle routes and open grassed
areas.

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

The following Community Greenways cross through the LLPA:

Abbey Green, Monkstown to Cave Hill,
Monkstown to Belfast, and
Monkstown to Carrickfergus Escarpment via Valley Park and Cammoney Hill.

These further highlight the area as an important public amenity resource and
green linkage from the surrounding urban area to open countryside to the
north.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following listed features:

Bleach Green Railway, Viaducts and Arches, Grade B1 and
Larne to Belfast Railway Line, Railway Viaduct, Grade B.

and abuts the following listed features:

Auld’s Bridge at Hawthorne Road, Grade B2, and
Bridge at Doagh Road / Low Row, Grade B2.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and
monument:

An Enclosure and Souterrain at Croghfern.
Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes the campus of the University of Ulster at Jordanstown, with its associated green open spaces, sports pitches, tree planting and other vegetation, together with the listed Dalriada House and Gate Lodge and their views and settings.

The LLPA includes two stream corridors, one running along the north western boundary and then through the grounds of the University, the other, the Silver Stream, runs along the north eastern boundary of the university grounds. They are important landscape features and together with associated trees, shrubs and grassland create an area of wildlife and nature conservation importance.

To the north east, the LLPA contains a section of the Silver Stream and its eastern bank. This section extends across the Belfast to Carrickfergus railway line and up as far as the now disused railway line.

North of the disused railway line the LLPA joins West of Greenisland LLPA, designated in the Carrickfergus District Proposals.

The Silver Stream also lies within Greenisland Rural Landscape Wedge which helps maintain the separate identities of Newtownabbey and Greenisland and prevent the merging of the two urban areas.

Nature Conservation

The blocks of trees, grassland and stream corridors are important for wildlife and are of local nature conservation interest.

Amenity Value

There is a Tree Preservation Order on all of the lands at and adjacent to the university. This emphasises the visual amenity and landscape value of trees in the area.

The playing fields of the University of Ulster have been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins their recreational and amenity value.

Heritage Interest
The LLPA includes the following listed buildings:

Dalriada House, Grade B, and
The Gate Lodge at 684 Shore Road, Grade B1.

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A Raised Rath and Souterrain.
Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is of particular landscape and visual significance. It is focused on the Glas-na-Bradan river corridor from adjacent to Carnmoney Cemetery to its mouth at the Whitehouse Lagoons adjacent to Belfast Lough. Upstream the river passes through patchy scrub within mainly wet grassland and a recent plantation of native tree species, while adjacent to Valley Leisure Centre the river flows into a small lake. Along its lower reaches the river passes through a mature wooded glen with more recent woodland regeneration.

Glas-na-Bradan public parkland displays the characteristics of a planned landscape, with groups and individual mature specimen trees such as pine and beech set within open grassland areas. The shrub planting, such as mature specimens of rhododendron and laurel, amongst the tree groups is also typical of a planned landscape. The parkland along with the wooded glen forms the historic setting to two locally significant residences, Rantalard House with its walled garden and Merville House.

The LLPA is adjacent to and contributes to the setting of Merville Garden Village designated as a Conservation Area in 1995. The ‘village’ draws much of its inspiration from the Garden City Movement combining architecture and its natural setting in a way that affords its residents a spacious environment, rich in contrasting form and colour, yet retaining a suburban intimacy.

Nature Conservation

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

Glas-na-Bradan,
Glas-na-Bradan (Geodiversity), and
O’Neill Road.

Amenity Value

There is a Tree Preservation Order on lands east of Tobar-Glen Crescent, O’Neill Road.

The LLPA contains a number of recreational facilities including the Valley Leisure Centre, associated playing fields and all weather pitches, Whitewell
Playing Fields and managed public parkland at Valley Park and Glas-na-Bradan.

Other areas of local amenity within the LLPA include Carnmoney Cemetery to the south west of Prince Charles Way and a Jewish Burial Ground on Church Road.

Most of the LLPA has been identified as an Area of Existing Open Space which underpins its recreational and amenity value.

Two Community Greenways cross through the LLPA:

Abbey Green, Monkstown to Cave Hill, and Monkstown to Carrickfergus Escarpment via Valley Park and Carnmoney Hill.

These further highlight the area as an important public amenity resource and green linkage from the surrounding urban area to open countryside to the north.

**Heritage Interest**

The LLPA includes the following unscheduled archaeological site and monument:

A Souterrain at Dunanney.
Roughfort

Designation RT 003 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Roughfort

Landscape Character

The LLPA is located within Landscape Character Area 114 – Three and Six Mile Water Valleys, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA includes a number of archaeological sites and their settings. The most notable is Rough Fort, a Motte located to the south of Roughfort Road and associated trees. A Chambered Grave or Wedge Tomb lies to the north of Roughfort Road, and is known as Carn Greine. They form landmark features and their associated views and settings contribute to the character and setting of the settlement.

The LLPA includes a number of locally significant buildings clustered around the junctions of Roughfort Road, Millbank Road East and Fort Road and also the site of an old church in the side garden of a new house on Millbank Road East.

Two lines of trees, one along Millbank Road East, and one on the rear boundary of numbers 65 and 67 Roughfort Road, form strong vertical features in the landscape which are of visual merit.

Nature Conservation

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

On its northern and eastern boundaries the LLPA abuts Ballymartin Water Below Roughfort Bridge, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance.

Heritage Interest

The LLPA includes the following archaeological sites and monuments:

Scheduled Monuments:
Wedge Tomb – Carn Greine
Motte – Rough Fort

Unscheduled Sites:
Medieval Church & Graveyard (site of) – Com Gran
Souterrain
Battle Site 1567
Designation SD 04 – Local Landscape Policy Area, Straid

Landscape Character

The LLPA straddles two Landscape Character Areas, 115 – Tardree and Six Mile Water Slopes and 98 – Carrickfergus Upland Pastures, (Northern Ireland Landscape Character Assessment 1999).

The LLPA is focused on Straid Hill, a landmark feature to the south of the settlement. The hill is visible on the approaches to the village and from within the village itself and forms a particularly striking setting for the settlement.

On top of the hill there are stands of mature tree planting, known as Straidhill Plantation. The trees are an exceptional landscape feature, visible over a wide area.

The area around the village has many other examples of fine stands of mature tree planting which add to and form part of the character of the area. On the slopes of Straid Hill the fields are bounded by stone walls and mature trees, which are of particular landscape and visual merit. On the approach to the village along Seskin Road, the tree planting forms an archway over part of the road and is an impressive entrance into the settlement.

Towards the top of Straid Hill is Straidhill House, an old farmhouse on an elevated site, an important landmark within the landscape as well as a prominent visual element.

The LLPA also includes the views and setting of Mill House, a locally significant building of historic interest, located to the north of the LLPA. This was originally the Corn Mill and has been redeveloped into an organic farm. The LLPA includes the old mill pond and the trees and other significant vegetation along the mill race.

The Bryantang Water river corridor and its associated vegetation lie within the eastern portion of the LLPA. The river is not only an important landscape and visual feature, but was also the source used to feed the mill pond and mill race which ran the corn mill and is also of wildlife and nature conservation importance.

Nature Conservation

Straidhill Plantation, which contains beech dominated woodland and the numerous other mature trees within the LLPA are important for wildlife and of nature conservation value.

The Bryantang Water river corridor and its associated vegetation also forms an important wildlife corridor and is of significant nature conservation value.
The LLPA includes the following Site of Local Nature Conservation Interest (SLNCl):

Straidhill Plantation

**Heritage Interest**

The Bryantang Water is strongly associated with the historical development and industrial archaeological interest of Straid and the former corn mill and mill race are still features of the settlement.