

Technical Appendix

Lairdmannoch Energy Park

Technical Appendix 5-4: Landscape Sensitivity

Lairdmannoch Energy Park Limited

wind²

May 2025



APPENDIX 5.4: LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

The sensitivity of the landscape character types which may receive landscape effects above Moderate are assessed below. Landscape sensitivity is not absolute and can only be defined in relation to each development and its location. To assess the sensitivity of a particular landscape it is good practice to consider the value attached to the landscape and its susceptibility to the particular form of change likely to result from the proposed development. Assessment text relates to sensitivity of the landscape receptor as a whole, to the proposed development, with additional comments regarding the Site where relevant. In the main this has been taken from the Dumfries and Galloway Wind Energy Landscape Sensitivity Study (2025) and NatureScot Landscape Character Assessment (quotes shown in *italics*) as well as from local sources and site assessment. The table below is based on guidance provided within LI TGN 02/21 - specifically table 1 within that document.

Host Landscape: AU 20 (LCT 176) – Foothills with Forest (Laurieston Area)

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Value attached to Landscapes				
Designated scenic quality	No specific designation	National or regional designation	Peripheral areas to north and south fall within D&G Galloway Hills Regional Scenic Area	Regional
Natural Heritage	Low presence of ecological or geological / geomorphological interest.	High presence of ecological or geological / geomorphological interest.	Bordered by Laughenghie /Airie Hills SSSI and Woodhall Loch SSSI to west and northeast respectively Areas of Ancient Woodland to north and west of Laurieston and bordering to southeast. The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere is a large area which covers this LCT.	National
Cultural Heritage	Low presence of archaeology or historical interests	High presence of archaeology or historical interests	Loch Mannoch stone circle & cairns is a Scheduled Monument (SM) and together with multi-period archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to post-medieval period lies within an “archaeologically sensitive area” (ASA) “.. <i>and on the edge of moorland within the lower open areas below the forest where there are also archaeological and historic sites. An ASA lies within this area...</i> ” inside the Proposed Development Site boundary.	National

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
			Within AU20 (LCT176) and within the Proposed Development Site archaeological remains include potentially prehistoric settlement and agricultural, and funerary and burial remains as well as potentially medieval and post-medieval agricultural related assets. Other cultural heritage assets within AU20 (LCT 176) include the Martyr's Grave/ Monument to the south of Loch Mannoeh; disused Stranraer-Dumfries railway line and Stroan Viaduct to the north	
Landscape condition/ quality	Landscape in a poor state of repair with incongruous elements	Landscape fully intact in good condition with limited incongruous elements	The landscape is generally in a good condition with few incongruous elements. However, there are extensive areas of commercial forestry.	Regional / Community
Cultural associations	No strong associations with notable people, events or the arts.	Strong cultural associations with notable people, events or the arts, which contribute to perceptions of natural beauty.	Cultural associations with The Covenanters (Martyr's Grave/ Monument above Loch Mannoeh)	Regional
Distinctiveness	Commonplace elements and features, or the landscape itself. Lacking distinctive and strongly expressed character and with no important relationship to a settlement.	Presence of rare elements or features or rarity of the landscape itself. Landscape with a distinctive and clearly expressed character and/or with an important relationship to a settlement.	Whilst the large areas of coniferous forestry are commonplace and unremarkable, there are one or two locally interesting landscape features such as Dow Craig Hill at Glengap (VP5), Loch Mannoeh (VP4) and the Kirkconnell Linn	Community
Amenity and recreation	Limited amenity/recreational function where experience of the landscape is important	Well used for recreation where experience of the landscape is important; or forms part of a view that is important to a recreational experience. May contain National Trails or other long distance routes.	There are some Core Paths and a woodland picnic site, but mostly within forestry areas.	Community

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Perceptual (Scenic)	Landscape with no particular scenic / visual appeal.	Landscape with strong appeal to the senses, particular visual.	With the exception of the Glegap/ Loch Mannoch area which has locally attractive landscape features, the area is scenically unremarkable	Community
Perceptual (Wildness and Tranquillity)	Busy with evidence of human activity, well-lit.	Remote, peaceful or with a sense of wildness. Dark skies.	There is some localised sense of wildness and tranquillity in the Loch Mannoch area (VP4) where it is largely contained by topography and there is currently little obvious evidence of human activity and at night it has dark skies.	Regional
Function	No important blue/green infrastructure function or important relationship with national landscape designation.	Landscape with important blue/green infrastructure function or strong relationship that is important to a national landscape designation.	No specific blue/green infrastructure present.	Community
Overall Judgement of Value				Regional

Susceptibility

Scale	Large scale landscapes where the turbines may be in proportion with the landscape are generally less sensitive.	Small scale intimate landscapes are generally more sensitive to large scale structures.	<i>"This landscape has a generally medium to large scale with hills rising to around 300m although scale is reduced where the landform is more complex and contained on the eastern and southern fringes of the area."</i>	Medium-Low
Landform	Smooth regular flowing, flat or uniform landscapes	Dramatic, rugged and complex landscapes	Open moorland partially enclosed by forestry. <i>"Broader upper hill slopes and rounded tops are interspersed with occasionally more interlocking small-scale valleys and knolly hill tops within the higher plateau area to the west...Landform is more complex on the lower hill slopes on the eastern and southern fringes of this unit with a cluster of craggy knolls and more defined steep-sided hills"</i>	Medium

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Openness/enclosure	Open and exposed landscapes	Enclosed and sheltered landscapes	Extensive areas of open moorland with some degree of enclosure provided by large areas of forestry and amongst craggy knolls to the south.	Medium
Land cover	Extensive areas of simple or regular landcover (including intensive farming and forestry)	Complex, intimate or mosaic cover	<i>"Much of this landscape is forested and largely comprises managed spruce mainly on the higher gently rolling upland plateau area...more extensive pasture and, often wet, moorland extends on the lower east-facing slopes; ...The elongated and strongly contained Woodhall Loch and Loch Mannoich lie on the eastern fringes of these foothills".</i>	Medium-Low
Complexity and patterns	Simple and sweeping lines, linear feature and patterns	Complex or irregular patterns	A combination of open, sweeping moorlands to the north and craggy hills and knolls to the south.	Medium
Built Environment	Contemporary masts, pylons, industrial elements, buildings infrastructure, settlements	Established, traditional or historic built character	<i>"Sparsely settled within the higher forested plateau but with small farms and cottages located within farmland ... The small settlement of Laurieston sits at the eastern foot of this landscape."</i>	High/Medium
Overall Judgement of Susceptibility				Medium
Overall Judgement of Sensitivity				Medium

Nearby Landscape: AU 13 (LCT 169) – Drumlin Pastures (Deeside Area)

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Value attached to Landscapes				
Designated scenic quality	No specific designation	National or regional designation	Galloway Hills Regional Scenic Area occurs around the extreme northern periphery and extreme southern periphery of the AU/LCT.	Community
Natural Heritage	Low presence of ecological or geological / geomorphological interest.	High presence of ecological or geological / geomorphological interest.	Some Ancient Woodland between Ringford and Kirkconnell and other isolated locations throughout AU/LCT. SSSI and SPA at Threave and Carlingwark Loch. The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere is a large area which covers this LCT.	National
Cultural Heritage	Low presence of archaeology or historical interests	High presence of archaeology or historical interests	<i>“...There is a range of significant archaeological sites and areas with prominent features such as forts, towers and crannogs in this landscape.”</i> Examples include designated and non-designated prehistoric defensive, funerary and burial and settlement assets; Roman forts and settlements; medieval defensive and agricultural assets; as well as post-medieval and modern settlement, residential and agricultural remains typical of a semi-rural agrarian landscape divided by roadways. The Scheduled Threave Castle within the Inventory Designed Landscape of Threave Castle is located within AU13 (LCT 169). The non-designated Neilson’s Monument and the potential adjacent prehistoric fort are also located within AU 13 (LCT169).	National
Landscape condition/ quality	Landscape in a poor state of repair with incongruous elements	Landscape fully intact in good condition with limited incongruous elements	A well-farmed landscape in a generally good state of repair with limited incongruous elements.	Regional

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Cultural associations	No strong associations with notable people, events or the arts.	Strong cultural associations with notable people, events or the arts, which contribute to perceptions of natural beauty.	Strong cultural associations with Robert Burns; Robert the Bruce; and James Neilson, inventor of the hot blast furnace for iron-making.	National
Distinctiveness	Commonplace elements and features, or the landscape itself. Lacking distinctive and strongly expressed character and with no important relationship to a settlement.	Presence of rare elements or features or rarity of the landscape itself. Landscape with a distinctive and clearly expressed character and/or with an important relationship to a settlement.	The pastoral drumlin landscape is widespread and commonplace in this area but well expressed here and less usual elsewhere. <i>'Distinctive elongated mounds with smoothly convex outlines, creating an undulating landform.'</i>	Regional
Amenity and recreation	Limited amenity/recreational function where experience of the landscape is important	Well used for recreation where experience of the landscape is important; or forms part of a view that is important to a recreational experience. May contain National Trails or other long distance routes.	This is primarily a working agricultural landscape. However, there are two scenic routes passing through this area peripherally to the east; The Galloway Tourist Route, and the Robert the Bruce Trail. There are few Core Paths and no cycle routes (cycle route 7 is just to the south). Threave Gardens and Threave Castle are popular local destinations in the summer.	Regional
Perceptual (Scenic)	Landscape with no particular scenic / visual appeal.	Landscape with strong appeal to the senses, particular visual.	A pleasant, if unremarkable, pastoral landscape.	Community
Perceptual (Wildness and Tranquility)	Busy with evidence of human activity, well-lit.	Remote, peaceful or with a sense of wildness. Dark skies.	Limited or no sense of Wildness and Tranquillity.	Community
Function	No important blue/green infrastructure function or important relationship with national landscape designation.	Landscape with important blue/green infrastructure function or strong relationship that is important to a national landscape designation.	No specific blue/green infrastructure present.	Community

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Overall Judgement of Value				Regional
Susceptibility				
Scale	Large scale landscapes where the turbines may be in proportion with the landscape are generally less sensitive.	Small scale intimate landscapes are generally more sensitive to large scale structures.	<i>"The consistent pattern of small drumlins and occasional medium sized hills (rising to just under 200m) extends over an extensive area of low-lying land. ..The small scale of the low drumlins is easy to appreciate due to the frequent presence of livestock, trees and hedges which create ready scale reference points. Some broader low lying areas occur between drumlins."</i>	Medium
Landform	Smooth regular flowing, flat or uniform landscapes	Dramatic, rugged and complex landscapes	<i>"...Frequent occurrence of low rounded and often elongated, smoothly convex mounds or drumlins. Less frequent, larger, more visually prominent and irregularly shaped small hills interspersed with occasional areas of flat ground and loch basins."</i>	High/Medium
Openness/enclosure	Open and exposed landscapes	Enclosed and sheltered landscapes	<i>Extensive areas of open pastureland enclosed by low boundaries</i> <i>'The landform creates a strong enclosure with varied degrees of intimacy depending on the height and complexity of the landform'.</i>	Medium
Land cover	Extensive areas of simple or regular landcover (including intensive farming and forestry)	Complex, intimate or mosaic cover	<i>'... An extensive pattern of grassland fields, well defined by hedges and occasional woodland. Small clumps of trees are sometimes located on the tops of the drumlins and the higher more rugged hills feature patchy gorse and rough grassland. Occasional lochs and wetlands occupy the flat ground between drumlins. The diverse land use of this character type reinforces</i>	High/Medium

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
			<i>the small scale and adds to the richness of this landscape."</i>	
Complexity and patterns	Simple and sweeping lines, linear feature and patterns	Complex or irregular patterns	<i>"...Drumlins frequently interlock to create more complex topography. The smoothness and rhythm of this topography is a key characteristic"</i>	High
Built Environment	Contemporary masts, pylons, industrial elements, buildings infrastructure, settlements	Established, traditional or historic built character	Generally lower-lying landscape <i>"... often well settled with dispersed farms and individual houses, small settlements and estate buildings largely tucked in between the drumlins. Roads are often small and relatively narrow, winding their way through the drumlins, although there are several larger A-class roads."</i>	Medium/Low
Overall Judgement of Susceptibility				High-Medium
Overall Judgement of Sensitivity				High-Medium

Nearby Landscape: AU 8 (LCT 164) – Flooded Valley

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Value attached to Landscapes				
Designated scenic quality	No specific designation	National or regional designation	Within Galloway Hills Regional Scenic Area	Regional
Natural Heritage	Low presence of ecological or geological / geomorphological interest.	High presence of ecological or geological / geomorphological interest.	Some Ancient Woodland; SSSIs and SPA at Airds of Kells Wood; Ken Dee Marshes; and River Dee (Parton to Crossmichael) The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere is a large area which covers this LCT.	National

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Cultural Heritage	Low presence of archaeology or historical interests	High presence of archaeology or historical interests	<p><i>“...Early and later medieval sites such as abandoned churches and castle mounds are the most visible elements of past settlement, and their distribution largely echoes that of modern settlements and houses.”</i></p> <p>Cultural heritage assets include; Scheduled defensive and ecclesiastic structures, the non-inventory gardens and designed landscapes of Parton estate village and policies, Airds House and policies, Culgruff and Hensol House; the non-designated remains of the dismantled Dumfries-Stranraer railway including Loch Ken Viaduct.</p>	Regional
Landscape condition/ quality	Landscape in a poor state of repair with incongruous elements	Landscape fully intact in good condition with limited incongruous elements	Landscape in a generally good state of repair with limited incongruous elements	Regional
Cultural associations	No strong associations with notable people, events or the arts.	Strong cultural associations with notable people, events or the arts, which contribute to perceptions of natural beauty.	Strong cultural associations with Robert Burns; Robert the Bruce	National
Distinctiveness	Commonplace elements and features, or the landscape itself. Lacking distinctive and strongly expressed character and with no important relationship to a settlement.	Presence of rare elements or features or rarity of the landscape itself. Landscape with a distinctive and clearly expressed character and/or with an important relationship to a settlement.	The reservoir /loch landscape is unique and distinctive with a clearly expressed character.	Regional
Amenity and recreation	Limited amenity/recreational function where experience of the landscape is important	Well used for recreation where experience of the landscape is important; or forms part of a view that is important to a recreational experience. May contain	There are three scenic routes passing through this area alongside the loch; The Galloway Tourist Route, The Red Kite Trail and the Robert the Bruce Trail. There are some Core Paths one of which leads to the Red Kite viewing point above Parton (VP15). There is also a Red Kite Centre, a marina and a caravan and camping site.	Regional

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
		National Trails or other long distance routes.		
Perceptual (Scenic)	Landscape with no particular scenic / visual appeal.	Landscape with strong appeal to the senses, particular visual.	<i>'The attractiveness of this landscape – the combination of diverse landcover patterns and the dominance of the Loch – is appreciated by large numbers of people who visit the area for recreation. Its scenic qualities are also recognised by its inclusion within the Galloway Hills Regional Scenic Area designation.'</i>	Regional
Perceptual (Wildness and Tranquillity)	Busy with evidence of human activity, well-lit.	Remote, peaceful or with a sense of wildness. Dark skies.	Little sense of wildness or tranquillity due to busy main road and frequent settlement.	Community
Function	No important blue/green infrastructure function or important relationship with national landscape designation.	Landscape with important blue/green infrastructure function or strong relationship that is important to a national landscape designation.	This landscape along the River Dee and Loch Ken forms a valuable blue/ green infrastructure component.	Regional
Overall Judgement of Value				National/Regional

Susceptibility

Scale	Large scale landscapes where the turbines may be in proportion with the landscape are generally less sensitive.	Small scale intimate landscapes are generally more sensitive to large scale structures.	<i>"...the scale of the loch is unique within the region. There are many small scale features in this landscape, from the islands on the loch, to the low mounded landforms, rocky terraces, interlocking drumlins and small woodlands, individual trees, narrow winding roads and diverse settlement pattern".</i>	High
Landform	Smooth regular flowing, flat or uniform landscapes	Dramatic, rugged and complex landscapes	<i>"...The Flooded Valley occurs in one location in Dumfries and Galloway It is very distinctive. The middle and lower reaches of this valley are somewhat different from the dale landscapes in that they bear more obvious signs of glacial and fluvioglacial erosion</i>	High

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
			<i>and deposition on the side slopes, in the form of drumlins, roche moutonees and rocky ridges"</i>	
Openness/enclosure	Open and exposed landscapes	Enclosed and sheltered landscapes	An enclosed, sheltered lochside landscape largely due to the relatively narrow flooded V-shaped valley with its well-wooded shoreline.	High
Land cover	Extensive areas of simple or regular landcover (including intensive farming and forestry)	Complex, intimate or mosaic cover	<i>"...The valley has a mixture of improved grazing on the smooth drumlins and rough grassland with heather on the rocky ridges. The patterns of dry stone dykes are particularly distinctive on the drumlins. Some field enlargement and road improvements have led to a loss of hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Closer to the loch, small forests, broadleaf woodlands, shelterbelts, hedgerow trees and wetland scrub become more significant. The semi-natural woodlands along water courses, in wetlands and on steep slopes are essential features of this landscape."</i>	High
Complexity and patterns	Simple and sweeping lines, linear feature and patterns	Complex or irregular patterns	There is a complex mosaic of landcover alongside the loch <i>"...The area of water, its irregular outline of bays and wetland fringes, makes it especially interesting. The character of the flooded valley changes from its open lower section to closer confinement adjacent to the granite hill mass of Cairn Edward and Bannan Hill."</i>	High
Built Environment	Contemporary masts, pylons, industrial elements, buildings infrastructure, settlements	Established, traditional or historic built character	Rural area with little commercial or urban development The pattern of settlement is relatively dispersed and widespread, and provides a framework of point features.	High
Overall Judgement of Susceptibility				High
Overall Judgement of Sensitivity				High-Medium

Nearby Landscape: AU 19 (LCT 175) – Foothills (Fleet Area)

Factors affecting sensitivity	Lower Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Higher Sensitivity to Wind Energy	Explanation	Judgement
Value attached to Landscapes				
Designated scenic quality	No specific designation	National or regional designation	Within Galloway Hills Regional Scenic Area and abutting/ slightly overlapping Fleet Valley NSA to west.”.. <i>the western edge of this AU falls within the Fleet Valley NSA. The enclosure given by the ridge of small hills to the east of the Fleet valley which culminates in Barr Hill south of Gatehouse of Fleet is noted as a special quality of the NSA. All of this landscape also falls within the Galloway Hills RSA.</i> ”	Regional/National
Natural Heritage	Low presence of ecological or geological / geomorphological interest.	High presence of ecological or geological / geomorphological interest.	Mostly within Laughenghie and Airie Hills SSSI. There are areas of Ancient woodland to the south. The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere is a large area which covers this LCT.	National
Cultural Heritage	Low presence of archaeology or historical interests	High presence of archaeology or historical interests	“The area is rich in archaeology with an ASA covering much of the area.” The area is dominated by the Grobdale ASA, an area in which evidence of a prehistoric landscape has been identified. The majority of cultural heritage assets within the ASA, which include prehistoric settlement, agricultural and funerary and burial assets and medieval to modern agricultural and settlement remains identified by the Dumfries and Galloway Historic Environment Record.	National
Landscape condition/ quality	Landscape in a poor state of repair with incongruous elements	Landscape fully intact in good condition with limited incongruous elements	The landscape is in good condition with no incongruous elements.	Regional
Cultural associations	No strong associations with notable people, events or the arts.	Strong cultural associations with notable people, events or the arts, which contribute to perceptions of natural beauty.	No strong cultural associations in this area.	Community

Distinctiveness	Commonplace elements and features, or the landscape itself. Lacking distinctive and strongly expressed character and with no important relationship to a settlement.	Presence of rare elements or features or rarity of the landscape itself. Landscape with a distinctive and clearly expressed character and/or with an important relationship to a settlement.	<i>“The setting provided by the foothills landscapes to the Fleet Valley and the attractive upland character they have in their own right are noted in the citation.”</i>	Regional
Amenity and recreation	Limited amenity/recreational function where experience of the landscape is important	Well used for recreation where experience of the landscape is important; or forms part of a view that is important to a recreational experience. May contain National Trails or other long distance routes.	There is limited amenity/ recreational use apart from three core paths and a parking/ viewing area at Knocktinkle, which is good for observing dark skies. The minor road is sometimes used for classic car rallies.	Community
Perceptual (Scenic)	Landscape with no particular scenic / visual appeal.	Landscape with strong appeal to the senses, particular visual.	<i>“A distinct sense of naturalness can be experienced within this upland valley, heightened by the context of more modified densely forested foothills.”</i>	Regional
Perceptual (Wildness and Tranquility)	Busy with evidence of human activity, well-lit.	Remote, peaceful or with a sense of wildness. Dark skies.	<i>‘It can feel secluded due to its strong containment by hills.’</i>	Regional
Function	No important blue/green infrastructure function or important relationship with national landscape designation.	Landscape with important blue/green infrastructure function or strong relationship that is important to a national landscape designation.	<i>“The rugged and open backdrop provided by these foothills to the small scale, highly patterned Fleet Valley and which contribute to the scenic diversity of the NSA.”</i>	Regional
Overall Judgement of Value				Regional

Susceptibility

Scale	Large scale landscapes where the turbines may be in proportion with the landscape are generally less sensitive.	Small scale intimate landscapes are generally more sensitive to large scale structures.	<i>"..this landscape unit is fairly limited in extent, comprising an upland valley edged by low hills and this gives it a small medium scale overall."</i>	Medium/Low
Landform	Smooth regular flowing, flat or uniform landscapes	Dramatic, rugged and complex landscapes	<i>"..the floor of the valley is relatively smooth and level in places although lower slopes are increasingly hummocky. A mix of smoother and more knolly hills contain the valley – all have well defined and often craggy tops. The hills to the west are particularly rugged and include Castramont and Fell of Laghead which form a 'pinch-point' in the valley."</i>	High/Medium
Openness/enclosure	Open and exposed landscapes	Enclosed and sheltered landscapes	<i>The moorland landscape 'has an open character, (but) it is strongly contained"</i>	Medium
Land cover	Extensive areas of simple or regular landcover (including intensive farming and forestry)	Complex, intimate or mosaic cover	<i>'Improved pastures enclosed by stone dykes extend across the valley floor and lower hill slopes. Patchy heather, grass and bracken cover hills. Small woodlands are associated with farms and are increasingly diverse on the smaller knolly hills that form the edge of the Fleet valley.'</i>	Medium
Complexity and patterns	Simple and sweeping lines, linear feature and patterns	Complex or irregular patterns	<i>Although the landcover of moorland is simple, "...a complex landform of the often craggy and well-defined hills ..contain this valley."</i>	Medium/Low
Built Environment	Contemporary masts, pylons, industrial elements, buildings infrastructure, settlements	Established, traditional or historic built character	<i>"This landscape is sparsely settled with dispersed farms elevated just above the valley floor and in the lower hills on the edge of the Fleet valley. A narrow minor road is aligned through the lower part of the valley."</i>	Medium
Views intervisibility	Visually contained and have limited inward or outward views	Extensive views within or of the area with distant horizons.	<i>'There is sense of surprise experienced when entering this open upland valley from the densely forested Laurieston Foothills (AU20) to the east. ... Although in general this landscape is not highly visible from key transport routes and more densely settled areas, the western hills form the edge to the Fleet Valley and the</i>	High/Medium

			<i>setting to Gatehouse of Fleet. The promoted viewpoint of Knocktinckle in this landscape unit focuses on the Fleet Valley NSA. Airie Hill is visible from the Loch Ken area."</i>	
Landscapes that form settings, skylines, backdrops, focal points	Generally low lying landscapes without distinctive landform or horizon	Areas with strong features, focal points that define the setting or skyline	<i>"The rugged western hills of this unit are important in providing the backdrop to the highly scenic Fleet Valley and the setting to Gatehouse of Fleet. This open and relatively unmodified valley is also important in the contrast it provides to surrounding extensively forested Foothills with Forest (20)."</i>	Medium
Overall Judgement of Susceptibility				Medium
Overall Judgement of Sensitivity				Medium