

Settlement Green and Blue Network Reports:

A. Aberdour, Burntisland and Kinghorn

2 Green and Blue networks are identified in Aberdour:

ABDGN01: Aberdour Coast Green and Blue network

ABDGN02: Dour Burn to Cullaloe Green and Blue network

2 Green and Blue networks are identified in Burntisland and Kinghorn:

BURGN01: Burntisland and Kinghorn Green and Blue network

BURGN02: Binn Hill Green and Blue network

A short description summarising their key features, functions and opportunities is provided on the following pages.



Green and blue networks in Aberdour, Burntisland and Kinghorn. © Crown copyright and database rights 2024. Ordnance Survey 100023385.

ABDGN01: Aberdour Coast Green and Blue network

Stretching along the coast from Braefoot Bay to Silver Sands Bay, the Aberdour Coast Green and Blue network forms a key element within the longer Fife Coastal Path route, encompassing numerous high quality landscape, habitat and waterfront assets.

Key Features:

- Part of the Fife Coastal Path route, and includes a good range of local paths.
- Good existing – predominantly off-road – cycle access, including shared-use cycle and coastal path between Aberdour, Burntisland and Dalgety Bay.
- Some areas of coastal erosion, which might result in changes to the access network through Silver Sands being required in the future. Localised coastal flooding can occur at the mouth of the Dour Burn, but does not present any problems. The Dynamic Coast mapping identifies some predicted coastal erosion west and east of Aberdour. It will be important to preserve the green assets of Aberdour Golf Course; the green strip to the south east of Shore Road; and the coastal woodlands to the east as buffers against the potential impacts of long term coastal erosion.
- Network rail are responsible for maintain the coastal edge along the railway lines, which also helps maintain coastal path route
- High quality greenspace and beach assets, including Silver Sands and Castle Gardens. The access to greenspaces from some parts of the village could be enhanced.
- Part of the Local Landscape Area. Contributes significantly to the high quality landscape setting of the area.
- Biodiversity assets include The Heughs woodland which partly defines the eastern setting of Aberdour and the coastal woodland assets of Hawkraig Point wildlife site, Charleshill Point wildlife site, Braefoot Bay, St. Colme garden and designed landscape and Aberdour Golf Course. Some of which are ancient woodland.
- The intertidal area and coastal edge are designated.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- The priority should be to maintain the existing high quality.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing Green and Blue network assets.
 - The green and blue network priorities below relate to proposals in FifePlan (2017), these will be reviewed at the Proposed Plan stage of Fife's LDP2.
1. LDP proposal ABD 002 (Land at Wester Aberdour) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - High-quality landscaping must be provided on the Inverkeithing Road frontage, taking into account that this location is the entrance to the village. New hedging to replace hedging removed to provide visibility splays will be required
 - A high_quality edge must be provided along the western boundary of the development
 - Provide a wildlife habitat area incorporating SUDS in the south of the site and a pedestrian link into the woodland to the south. Development must be no closer to the adjacent trees than a distance equal to the height of the trees plus five metres

ABDGN02: Dour Burn to Cullaloe Green and Blue network

Centred on the Dour Burn and its tributaries, the Dour Burn to Cullaloe Green and Blue network helps define the northern setting of Aberdour, and incorporates access to the wider Cullaloe Hills.

Key Features:

- Existing core path network provides good access to the wider countryside and Cullaloe Hills.
- Landscape features contribute to the high quality landscape setting.
- Includes the Dour Burn and its tributaries; the riparian corridor includes high quality habitat assets and areas of wetland, woodland and grassland mosaic habitat. Wider countryside assets include Humbie Wood wildlife site.
- The Dour Burn is culverted under the road and rail line – SEPA flood risk data indicates potential for future problems that could affect the rail line, but no history of problems. Part of the woodland to the north of the Burn, in the area around the former school site floods.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- The priority should be to maintain the existing high quality.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing green and blue network assets.
 - The green and blue network priorities below relate to proposals in FifePlan (2017), these will be reviewed at the Proposed Plan stage of Fife's LDP2.
1. LDP proposal ABD 001 (Hillside School) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Deliver a north-south green and blue network link to connect and provide access through the site.

Burntisland and Kinghorn

BURGN01: Binn Hill Green and Blue network

Encompassing the wooded cliffs of Binn Hill, the Binn Hill Green and Blue network defines the northern edge of Burntisland and Kinghorn, contributing to the area's high value landscape setting and biodiversity value.

Key Features:

- Core path network; missing core path section at Stenhouse Reservoir to the western end of the green and blue network. Area also includes some smaller-scale networks of paths put in by local landowners – the quality is variable. Kinghorn has a good network of local and medium-length routes.
- Limited provision of greenspace, but incorporates wider countryside assets, notable destinations include Kinghorn Loch and Craigencalt Ecology Centre. Kinghorn Loch is a water access core path.
- The wooded cliffs of Binn Hill make a significant contribution to the landscape setting of Burntisland and Kinghorn and define the northern edge of the settlements. The Hill includes a mosaic of woodland, wetland and grassland assets which contribute to the high value landscape setting and biodiversity value.
- Includes the Kirkton Burn which runs through Burntisland and drains Binn Hill. The Burn is culverted in a number of places.
- Incorporates Alcan remedial site – not publicly accessible, but well managed water treatment ponds/facility.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Kinghorn - seek to strengthen and improve the links between Kinghorn and Kinghorn Loch and Craigencalt Ecology Centre where and when possible.
- Missing core path section at Stenhouse reservoir in the longer-term.
- CSGN Habitat Networks and Opportunity Areas mapping has identified primary opportunities areas for woodland and grassland enhancement to improve habitat connectivity on Binn Hill and to the west of Dodhead Golf Club.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing green and blue network assets.
 - The green and blue network priorities below relate to proposals in FifePlan (2017), these will be reviewed at the Proposed Plan stage of Fife's LDP2.
1. LDP proposal BUR 002 (Grange Farm) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Deliver a path connection across the site.
 2. LDP proposal KHN 001 (Lochside) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Establish high quality edges along the southern and north eastern boundaries.
 - Provide potential to link through proposed cemetery site to Kinghorn Loch.
 3. Kinghorn woodland cemetery proposal LDP proposals KHN 003/KNH 004 (east of Kinghorn Loch) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Provide opportunities to improve access to Kinghorn Loch and to develop the informal recreational offer and habitat value in the area.
 - Provide links to the adjacent housing site.

BURGN02: Burntisland – Kinghorn Coast to Kirkcaldy Green and Blue network

Key Features:

- Part of the longer Fife Coastal Path route and incorporates other core path connections to the north, linking to the Binn Hill Green and Blue network.
- Existing on-road cycleway links Burntisland to Kinghorn and Kinghorn to Kirkcaldy – have been upgraded to an off-road shared use path. Wider on-road cycleways connect north in land towards Auchtertool.
- Notable habitat assets include important patches of coastal grasslands at Beacon Point, Pettycur Bay and between Kinghorn and Kirkcaldy; seek to protect and expand this coastal grassland network. North of the railway there are areas of remnant ancient woodland.
- In Burntisland, other assets include Burntisland Links and the blue flag beach and the recently de-culverted Kirkton Burn through Colinswell. The greenspace at Red Mud Pond provides good views, but the quality of this space and others is currently poor.
- In Kinghorn access to and quantity of greenspace is more limited, most likely in part due to the topography of the village. Assets within the village include the Pettycur Bay and Kinghorn Braes.
- Some risk of coastal erosion in the Burntisland harbour area and some risk of coastal flooding in the area around Burntisland Leisure Centre. Also coastal erosion at Pettycur Bay. The Dynamic Coast mapping identifies some predicted coastal erosion along this part of the coast. It will be important to protect green assets along this coastline as buffers against the potential impacts of long term coastal erosion.
- Potential to enhance contribution to landscape setting, particularly in the harbour area.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Burntisland – potential to enhance the greenspace quality of Red Mud Pond and Seamill through improvements to the path network and coastal access, grass management and is a potential site for new sports pitches. Proposals should seek to capitalise on the good views, but also taken into account the issues to do with contaminated land.
- CSGN Habitat Networks and Opportunity Areas mapping has identified a primary opportunities area for woodland enhancement to improve habitat connectivity in the coastal woods to the west of Burntisland.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing green and blue network assets.
 - The green and blue network priorities below relate to proposals in FifePlan (2017), these will be reviewed at the Proposed Plan stage of Fife's LDP2.
1. LDP proposal BUR 010 (Railway sidings) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Improve access and public realm as part of any development proposals in the harbour area.
 - Incorporate green infrastructure providing habitat, SUDS and contributing to the landscape setting, including in areas where public access is impracticable or inappropriate due to the nature of site use.
 2. LDP Proposal BUR 003 (Land at Haugh Road) – priorities in developing this site should be to:
 - Establish a high quality edge on to Haugh Road, which is fronted by development. Provide good access from the development on to Haugh Road and safe points of crossing to access the SUDS/wetland park on the north side of the road and to Red Mud Pond greenspace, via Haugh Road.
 - Deliver an access link east which connects the development to Kirkton Road, as an important, direct link to the town centre and railway station.

- High quality landscape and habitat edge with the railway line. No development should be within 10m of adjacent area of woodland along the southern and western boundaries.
- Consider appropriateness of an off-site contribution to enhance the quality and range of functions of Red Mud Pond greenspace.