

V. Taybridgehead

Two green and blue networks were identified in the Taybridgehead:

TAYGN01: Tayport Coastal Green and Blue network

TAYGN02: Scotsraig to Morton Green and Blue network

NEWGN01: Newport to Wormit Green and Blue network

NEWGN02: The Old Railway Nature Trail 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 the Taybridgehead area. © Crown copyright and database rights 2024. Ordnance Survey 100023385.

TAYGN01: Tayport Coastal Green and Blue network

Stretching along Tayport's coast from East Common to the Tay Bridge, this scenic green and blue network contributes to the settlement's and encompasses part of the longer distance Fife Coastal Path route.

Key Features:

- Includes the Fife Coastal path route – some sections of the path might be at risk from coastal flooding in the future, in particular at the eastern end of Tayport (north of Shanwell Road).
- An existing cycle route connects Tayport to the Tay Road Bridge and beyond to Dundee, to Newport and beyond and east to Tentsmuir Forest although access could be improved.
- Tentsmuir Forest has a recreational path network.
- Quality greenspace assets include East Common and West Common. Sea level rise might mean that East Common is under threat of inundation in the longer-term.
- The Shoreline Management Plan indicates the potential for coastal flood risk and a possible need for new coastal defences in some areas in the longer term. Currently there is some erosion in the area around the caravan park.
- The Dynamic Coast mapping identifies some predicted coastal erosion to the east of Harbour Road.
- Includes part of the Scotsraig Burn, which flows through Tayport, partly in culvert (exact route unknown) before meeting the sea at the East Common. Also includes part of the Great Drain, which flows from Leuchars.
- The coast is heavily designated for its habitat importance sites and includes the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA).
- Makes a significant contribution to landscape setting – priority to avoid coalescence with Newport and maintain the current high quality.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Connections on to the Tay Bridge could be improved to permit easier active travel use, in particular cycle access. Provide active travel links between the proposed park and choose and the Tay Bridge and core path network.
- The Shoreline Management Plan identifies the Common and further east into Tentsmuir as an area for possible managed realignment in the future, given the likely impact of sea level rise on the area. Any future project could deliver habitat enhancements, but there are also past landfill uses would also need to be dealt with.
- Works might be required to sections of the Coastal Path in the future, where sea level rise causes issues for the current route.

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 LWD 017 (South East of the Tay Bridge Roundabout at the A92/B946 junction) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Ensure that high quality active travel connections are provided to this facility from Tayport and Newport.
 - Provide landscape screening to maintain the quality of the approach to and from the Tay Road Bridge.
 2. LDP proposal TAY 007 (Abertay Works) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Provide a high quality development edge, fronting on to East Common.

TAYGN02: Scotsraig to Morton Green and Blue network

Spanning Speir's Hill, Scotsraig Golf Course and Morton Loch, this green and blue network makes an important contribution to Tayport's landscape setting and to the area's wider biodiversity value.

Key Features:

- Existing core paths provide connection to Tentsmuir Forest, and Drumoig. Also connects to the Fife Coastal Path route.
- High quality habitat value - includes Scotsraig Golf Course, which contributes to the woodland and grassland habitat networks locally. Includes Morton Loch, which is a National Nature Reserve and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).
- Includes part of the Scotsraig Burn, which flows through the eastern part of Tayport, part of culvert before meeting the sea at the Tayport Common.
- Sensitive landscape setting issues to consider with any development on Speir's Hill.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Aspiration to improve the connection over Speir's Hill
- Community aspiration for allotments – suitable site yet to be identified

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing green and blue network assets.

NEWGN01: Newport to Wormit Coast Green and Blue network

Stretching along the Newport and Wormit Coast between the Tay Bridges, this is a fine grain coastal green and blue network which makes an important contribution to the character and setting of both settlements.

Key Features:

- Part of the Fife Coastal Path currently runs on-street through the town.
- An on-road cycle route provides existing east-west connectivity.
- The Shoreline Management Plan and Dynamic Coast mapping indicates that there is little risk of coastal flooding if the existing coastal defences and rock/beach are maintained; most are located in privately owned land.
- The coast is heavily designated for its habitat importance sites and includes the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA). The smaller rocky spaces along the shore also contribute to the habitat value.
- Wormit has a lack of access to greenspace. There are a number of small-scale greenspaces – the quality could be improved through small-scale interventions, but there are no neighbourhood parks.
- Newport has good access to greenspace and good quality spaces.
- Contributes to the coastal character and landscape setting of Wormit and Newport.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Connections on to the Tay Bridge could be improved to permit easier active travel use, in particular cycle access.
- Provide active travel links between the proposed park and choose and the Tay Bridge and core path network..Small-scale greenspaces – quality could be improved through small-scale interventions.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing green and blue network assets.

NEWGN02: The Old Railway Nature Trail Green and Blue network

Following an old railway line, this green and blue network provides an important east-west access network and habitat corridor linking communities in Wormit and Tayport.

Key Features:

- Existing core path network, which includes a route along the former railway line linking Newport to Wormit, and routes connecting to Tayport.
- The railway line route provides a great resource and an important local habitat corridor through the settlements – protect and enhance where possible.
- Other habitat assets include Muttonhole Wood and the private Tayfield House Estate, which includes Tayfield Den. Some of the woodland is on the Ancient Woodland Inventory.
- Makes an important contribution to the landscape setting of Wormit and Newport.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Upgrade the existing path along the old railway to a multi-use standard, as an important active travel connection.
- Provide an active travel connection to the future park and choose facility.
- A core path at the western end, to the south of Wormit is yet to be developed.
- There is an aspiration to establish a multi-use active travel route to connect to Drumoig and Leuchars in the longer term.

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 WOR 003 (South of Wormit Farm) – priorities in developing the site should be to:
 - Provide a multi-functional greenspace on the site.
 - Provide a high quality development edge to the south and east of the site to provide an appropriate gateway into Wormit.
 - Create a high quality landscape edge and buffer to the west along the railway.
 - Incorporate an access route through the site, which connects into the proposed developments to the north of the site (WOR 001 and WOR 004) and onto the B946 and permits easier access into Wormit.
 2. LDP proposals WOR 001 (Wormit Farm) – priorities in developing these sites should be to:
 - Retain and enhance the route of the existing core path through an appropriate boundary treatment and a high quality development edge which fronts and overlooks the route.
 - Incorporate an access route through the site, which connects into the proposed developments south of the site (WOR 003 and WOR 004) and onto the B946 and permits easier access into Wormit.
 3. LDP proposals WOR 002 (Wormit Sandpit) – priorities in developing these sites should be to:
 - Retain and enhance the route of the existing core path through an appropriate boundary treatment and a high quality development edge which fronts and overlooks the route.
 4. LDP proposals WOR 004 (Wormit Farm (Rail Halt)) – priorities in developing these sites should be to:
 - Incorporate an access route through the site, which connects into the proposed housing developments to the north and south of the site (WOR 001 and WOR 003) and permits easier access into Wormit.
 5. LDP proposal NEW 001 (Ericht Road) – priorities in developing the site should be to:
 - Retain the existing core path route which runs along the western boundary of the site and upgrade to multi-use standard. Ensure the route is overlooked by a good development edge, which enhances the route and provides a setting for the development.
 - Deliver a high quality landscape edge along the southern boundary of the site through appropriate new planting and boundary solutions to provide an appropriate setting for the development and deliver a physical woodland habitat connection.

6. LDP proposal NEW 002 (South of Victoria Park) – priorities in developing the site should be to:
 - Retain the existing core path route which runs along the western boundary of the site and upgrade to multi-use standard. Ensure the route is overlooked by a good development edge, which enhances the route and provides a setting for the development.
7. LDP proposal NEW 003 (North West of Forgan Roundabout) – priorities in developing the site should be to:
 - Establish a new high quality landscape edge to the west of the site to provide a setting for the development and incorporating a cycling/walking active travel route along the B995 linking to the Forgan roundabout.
8. LDP proposal LWD 031 (Land west of Forgan Roundabout) – priorities in developing the site should be to:
 - Establish a new high quality landscape edge to the east of the site to provide a setting for the development and provide an appropriate settlement edge.