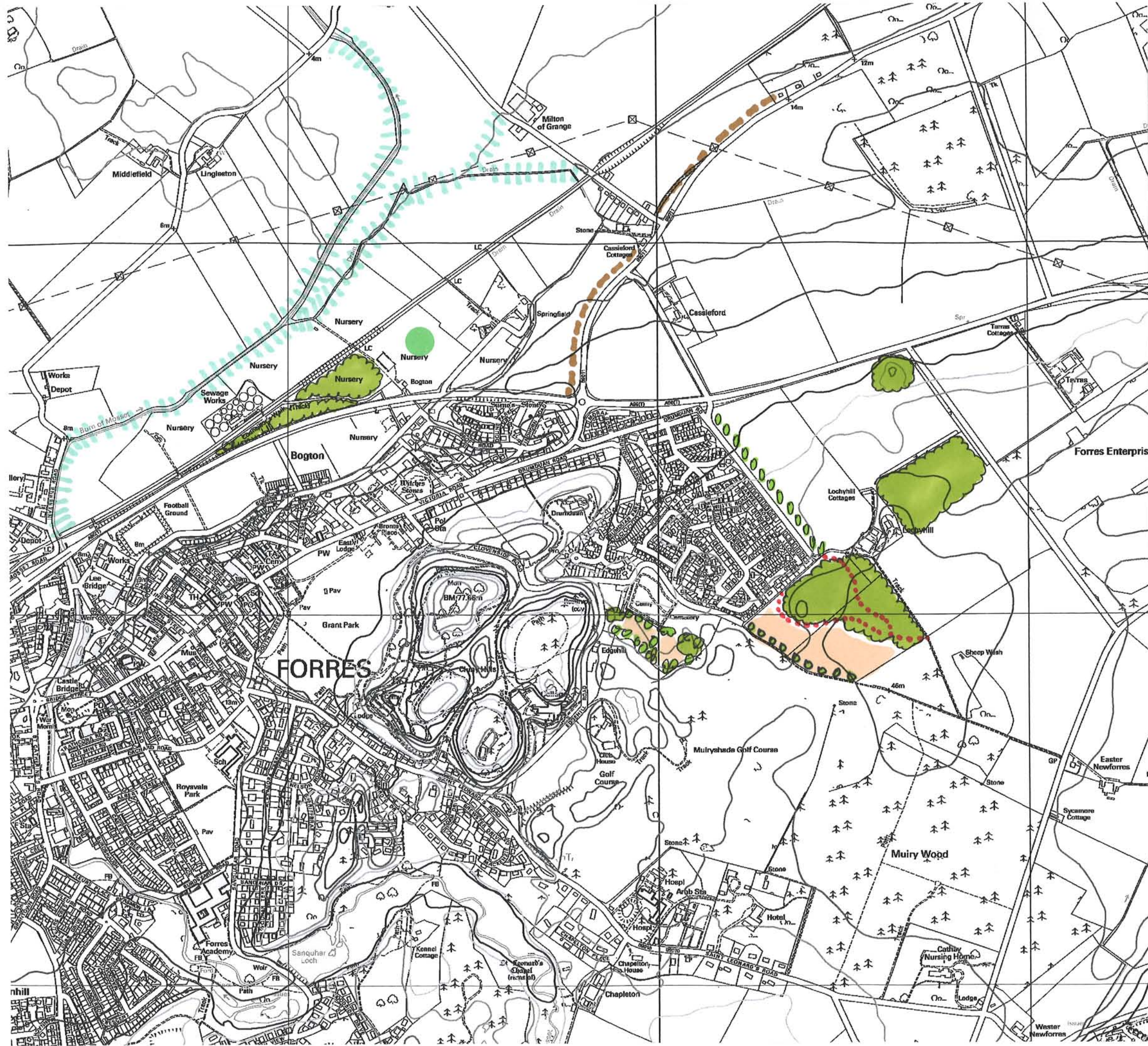









identified as being appropriate for development should be established as part of the development proposals, and associated walking routes incorporated at the same time.



- INTEGRATION OF NEW DEVELOPMENT INTO
THE MORAY LANDSCAPE
- ## Forres North East
- ### LANDSCAPE ENHANCEMENT PROPOSALS
- Scale 1:10 000
-  Suggested locations for development
 -  New woodland structure planting
 -  Riparian woodland
 -  Feature trees
 -  New footpaths and other access routes
 -  Location of possible site for industrial development
 -  Hedge and hedgerow tree planting to separate cycle route from carriageway and create landscape feature

7 FORRES SOUTH EAST: ASSESSING THE DEVELOPMENT BIDS

7.1 Forres South East: Landscape Survey and Site Observations

This study area has been further subdivided into two landscape character units. The woodlands and prominent hills of the Cluny hills and Sanquhar Wood enclose the south eastern outskirts of the town, separating the settlement from the plain with prominent knolls.

Key characteristics which influence settlement expansion include:

Prominent Hills

- extensive mixed woodland, with major pine and broadleaved components, extend over a distinctive series of hills
- the prominent and steep sided Cluny Hills provide a very well defined edge and setting to the settlement, while the extensive Sanquhar woodland reinforces the settlement edge to the south
- settlement extends along the B9010 in a linear pattern, caught between rising ground
- more recent development has also extended into the Sanquhar woodlands, onto neglected fields which are well contained within the forest
- the woodland areas are very well used for recreation, with a dense network of formal and informal footpaths, which also provide good access links between this area and the town
- the woodland also strengthens the sense of gateway created by the landform on the descent into town along St Leonard's Road



Level Plain with Knolls

- level, cultivated, arable farmland punctuated by the occasional knoll, often topped with pine
- drained, channelled watercourses and the occasional shelterbelt are the only other features within the farmland
- more organically shaped small woodlands and shelterbelts fragment the grassland of the Muirshade golf course
- the area has a network of tracks and footpaths, and there is good existing pedestrian access to the town and school through the adjacent woodland
- the golf course reinforces the edge of the settlement as it begins to orientate south east and occupies much of this area
- south of St Leonard's road the landscape is perceptually very detached from the main settlement, a perception which is reinforced by the separation created by Sanquhar wood and distance from the town

- the approach and sense of arrival along the B9010 is characterised by a gradual introduction to the town, emphasised by the line of single houses along St Leonard's Road which are slightly detached from the main settlement

INTEGRATION OF NEW DEVELOPMENT INTO
THE MORAY LANDSCAPE
Forres South East
SURVEY AND SITE OBSERVATIONS
Scale 1:10 000



Landscape Character

-  Prominent Hills
-  Level Plain with Knolls: this area includes land within the proposed flood water storage area, but which may be protected by flood prevention works

Landscape Survey

-  Steep sided hills, supplemented by woodland, provide visual containment
-  Low knolls, often wooded
-  Unmanaged grassland
-  Burn of Mosset and Sanquhar Lochs
-  Proposed flood water storage area: land removed from consideration
-  Paths and Tracks

Landscape Setting

-  Wooded hills contribute to landscape setting of the town
-  Sense of arrival

Visual Assessment

-  Wooded hills contribute to visual backdrop of the town

