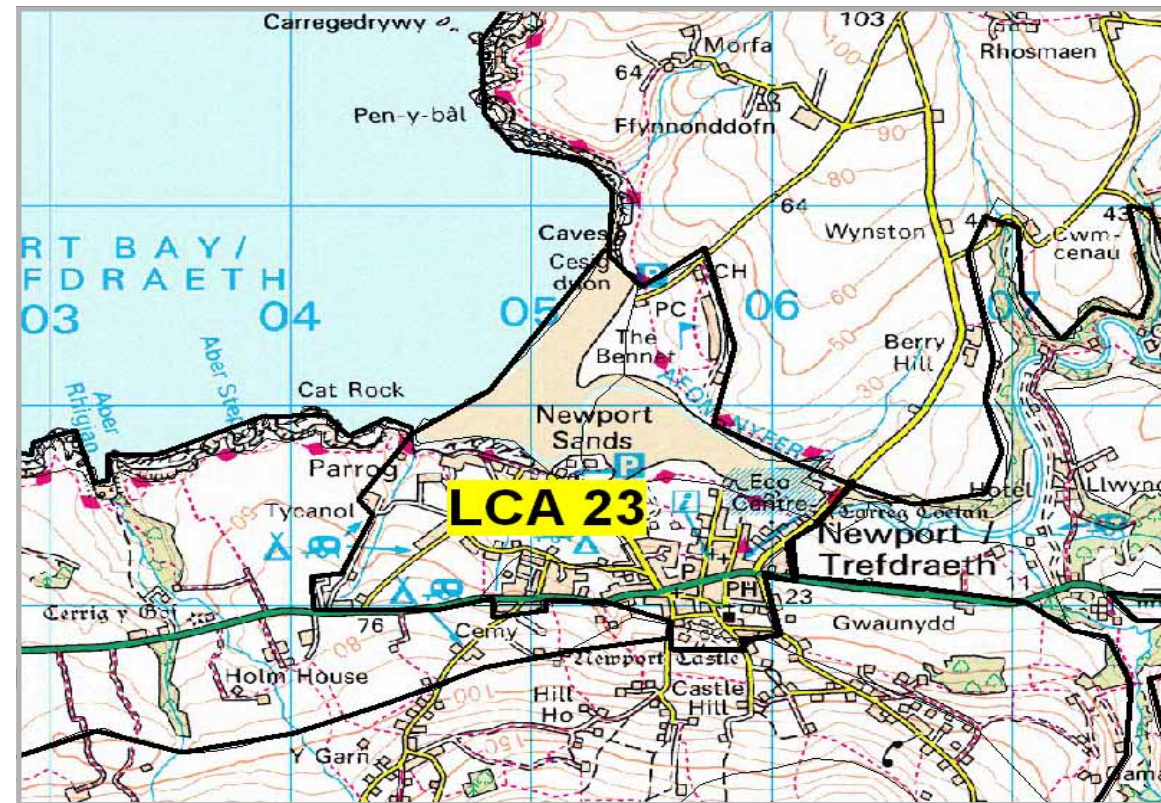
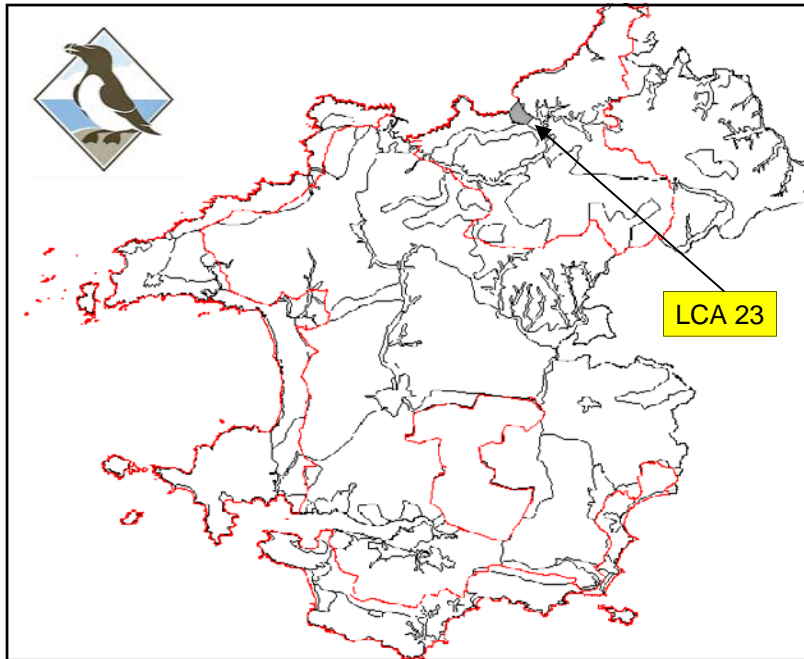


Pembrokeshire Coast National Park LCA 23 - NEWPORT



Location, Context and Physical Characteristics

This small LCA is founded upon the built-up area of the attractive and popular coastal town of Newport for the most part, but also straddles the estuary mouth of the Afon Nyfer to include the beach and land on the eastern side of the Newport Sands. This is a settlement with a long history and is another excellent example within the National Park of a planned Medieval village site, with a number of surviving typical features. The coast provides a strong sense of place and the LCA straddles the estuary of the Afon Nyfer, reflecting the strong cultural association of the village with the opposite bank.

Visual and Sensory Characteristics

This traditional small coastal town is located on the southern edge of the Newport estuary, at the head of Newport Bay, with attractive views of coastal cliffs across the mouth of the estuary to the north and inland to the dominating high ground of Mynydd Carningli. Its strong natural setting contributes greatly to the sense of place. The importance of the overlapping effect of trees, woodland and hedgebanks within the area create the feel of a town in a woodland when viewed from the north east across the estuary - a unique feature in the coastal context of this part of the National Park.

Vegetation and Habitat Characteristics

Primarily, a built-up area dominated by housing with areas of amenity grassland, semi-improved grassland and an extensive sandy inter-tidal area. Habitats include sand and mudflats, sand dune and saltmarsh. Important species include otter and several species of bats are known to use the area.




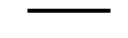
Geological Characteristics

The sandy shore, dune complex, spit and marginal areas of saltmarsh form the estuary of Nant Duad (Quaternary: Holocene). The low and gently undulating platform on the south side of the Nyfer valley, including part of Newport town, is presumed to be dominated by glacial/ fluvio-glacial deposits (Quaternary: Pleistocene) over Ordovician bedrock. The LCA includes the relatively gentle lower slopes on the eastern side of the massif adjacent to Cwm Clydach. The bedrock geology includes Ordovician slates and volcanic rocks. The surface geology is, however, likely to include significant glacial and peri-glacial deposits (Quaternary: Pleistocene).

Historic and Cultural Characteristics

Almost all of this LCA lies within the Newport and Carningli Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest in Wales. The Neolithic chambered tomb of Carreg Coetan Arthur and the Medieval castle are features of national significance. There is a strong sense of place, largely derived from the layout, quality and historic nature. It has become an exceptionally attractive place to live and therefore has attracted inward migration. This has inevitably led to cultural change, perhaps most noticeable in the diminution of the everyday use of the Welsh language.

Map Notation:

-  National Park Boundary
-  Boundary
-  LCA Boundary
-  LCA Boundary defined by the National Park Boundary



Evaluation & Recommendations

LCA No.	Character Area	Visual & Sensory Aspect Areas	Geological Landscape Aspect Areas	Landscape Habitats Aspect Areas	Historic Landscape Aspect Areas	Cultural Landscape Aspect Areas
23	Newport	13 - High 16 - High	14 - Moderate 21 - Moderate 41 - Moderate	001 - High 358 - Moderate 701 - Moderate 761 - Low	46069 - Outstanding 46215 - High	129 - High

LANDMAP Aspect Evaluation Terms:

Outstanding:	Of International or National Importance
High:	Of Regional or County Importance
Moderate:	Of Local Importance
Low:	Of Little or No Importance

(The reference numbers in the table refer to the discrete Aspect Areas identified)

Special Qualities (Key Landscape Characteristics)

- Newport LCA was identified as being distinct from the adjacent coastal LCA's and meriting designation in its own right. This was based upon its strong sense of place and long history of settlement
- It has an attractive coastal character, with older buildings along the shore with maritime industrial and commercial references — especially at The Parrog — and the core of the town has many traditional built features and a pleasant setting, with a generally sympathetic level of development
- There are attractive unspoilt coastal views along shoreline, especially to the north along the beach to the headland, and to the west along the foreshore of Newport Bay towards Dinas Head. The appearance of a town set within a woodland and trees is a particularly strong perception when viewed from the north across the river estuary, with the church tower and castle as prominent landmarks in the scene
- There is a strong sense of history and the feel of a long-established settlement within the old core of the town, dating from around 1197 AD. Newport is almost as good an example of a planned Medieval settlement as Angle. The Anglo-Norman layout is preserved in the locations of the church and castle at the head of the town, and a single street running down to the Old Castle (earthwork) at the estuary shore, probably the original seat of control prior to the construction of the stone castle. The post-Medieval turnpike road cuts through the original street plan but burgage plots are still visible in the present property plots. The notable Neolithic chambered tomb of Carreg Coetan Arthur lies at the north eastern edge of the town close to the Afon Nyfer
- Newport forms the focus of the Newport and Carningli Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest in Wales, which has the notable features of the Carreg Coetan Arthur, The Parrog, with its relict warehouses and limekilns, and the two castle sites
- There are extensive Conservation Areas at Newport and Newport Parrog (designated in July 1999) with only a narrow separation between them.
- The special character of Newport has been fashioned by generations who lived and worked in the town and its surroundings which should be assumed in all management guidance.

Discernible Landscape Trends

- Tourism related developments on the north shore (The Bennet) in more recent times have not respected the architectural form and character of the old town core and the traditional foreshore buildings at The Parrog
- The westwards expansion of residential areas between the A487 and Feidr Ganol has not been accompanied by a sufficiently strong landscape framework to assimilate these developments and their appearance is not in keeping with the character of the town when viewed from the beach and The Bennet.

Management Guidance

- Conserve and enhance the coastal character of the town through sympathetic building siting, layout, form and materials for any new development or re-construction. Ensure that future building and infrastructure changes respect the outstanding historical value of the Medieval planned layout and the setting of the key extant buildings and historic sites, especially within the Conservation Areas
- Retain and enhance wherever possible the woodland, trees and hedgebank vegetation which contributes strongly to the setting of the town, especially on the western edges.
- Consider the appropriateness of tourism development on the edge of the town and the impact on its character; ensure that the design of new buildings maintains the essential character of Newport and does not detract from its sense of place
- Conserve the pastoral agricultural and woodland mosaic character of the rising ground to the south which forms the attractive inland setting of the village
- Encourage landowners to participate in agri-environmental schemes and leave overgrown areas around the margins of arable fields for the benefit of wildlife, with regular cyclical management of hedgerows as the characteristic field boundaries
- Ensure that the risk of water pollution incidents is kept to a minimum and conserve the beaches
- Maintain archaeological sites in favourable condition, especially with respect to their visual setting
- Ensure that as far as possible no significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or damaged
- Ensure that as far as possible ancient monuments and remains are not lost or damaged.