

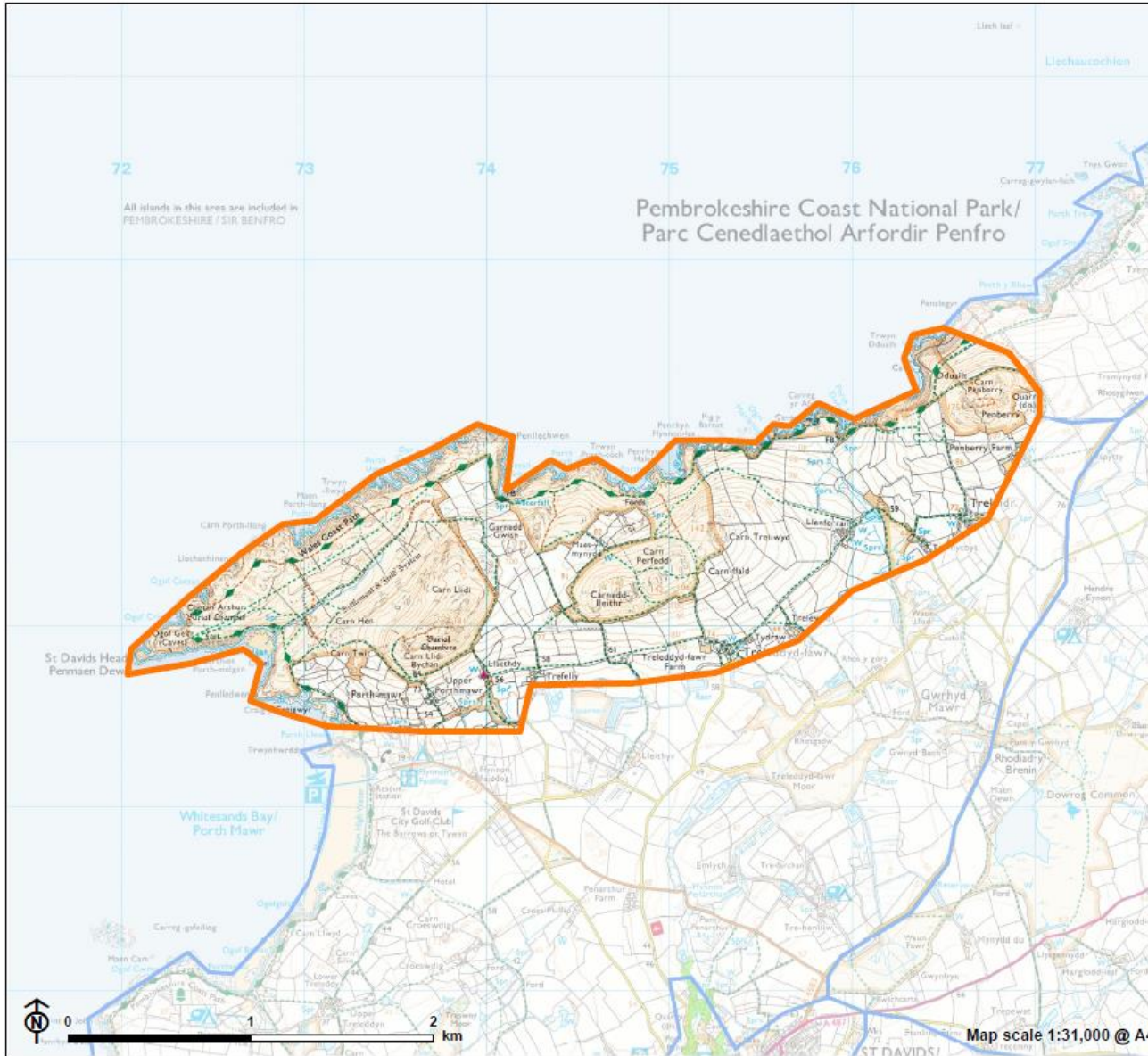
LCA 16: Carn Llidi

Trees and Woodland Siting and Design Guidance
 Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

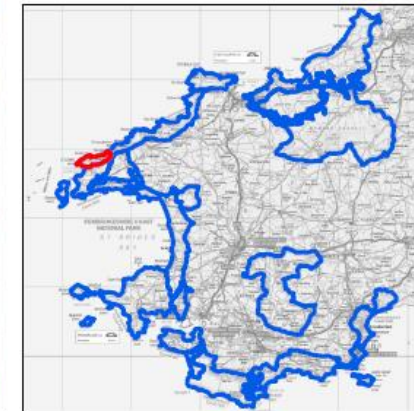


LCA 16 location and existing woodland coverage

- LCA 16: Carn Llidi
- Neighbouring LCA
- National Forest Inventory woodland*



*The NFI definition of woodland is a minimum area of 0.5 hectares



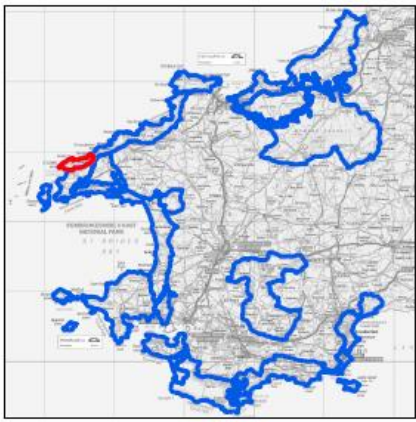
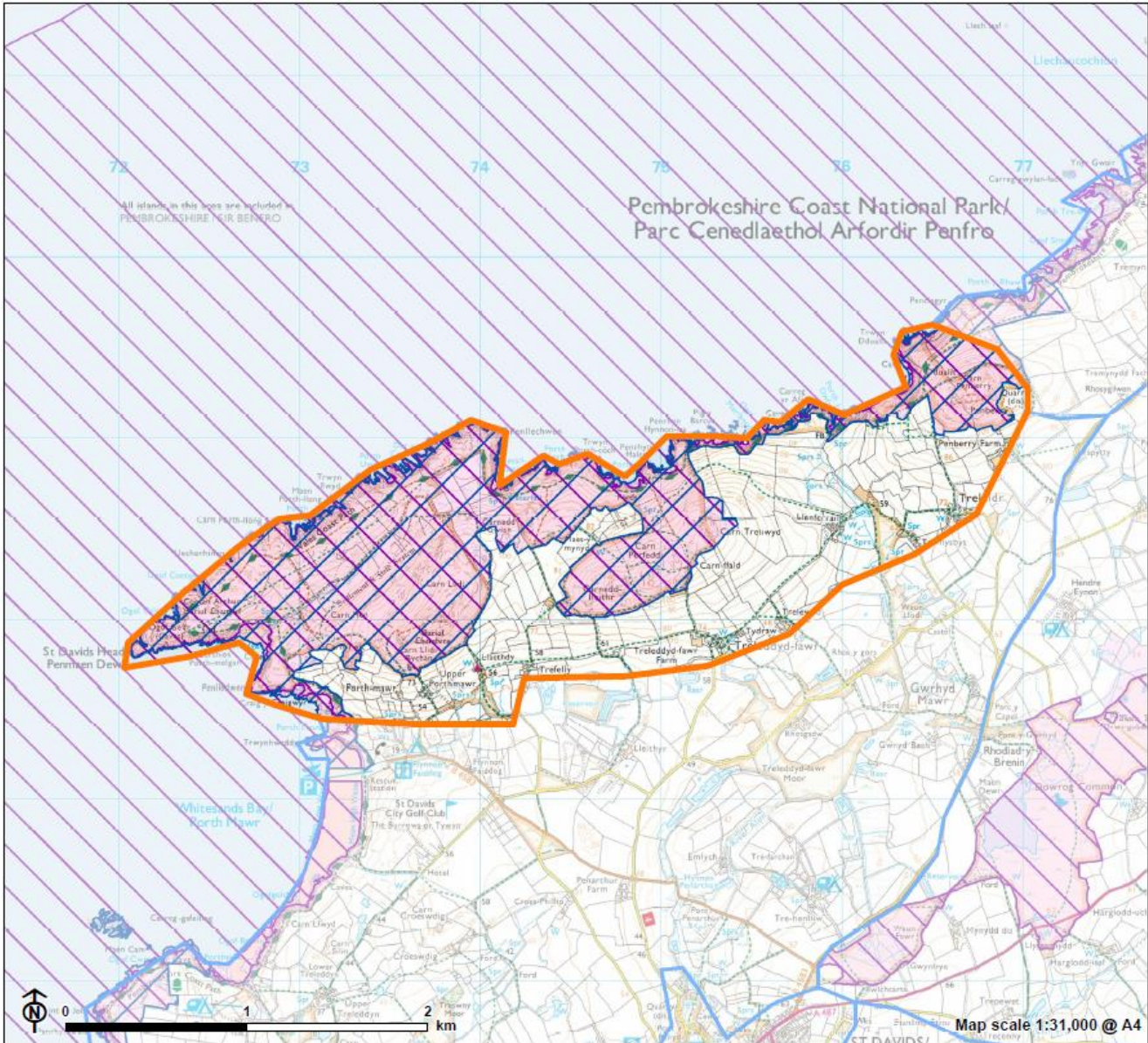
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CB/AHB EB:Collins_N LUC FIGX_11664_r0_LocationAndWoodland_A4L 09/11/2021 Source: OS, FC, NRW



LCA 16 nature conservation designations

-  LCA 16: Carn Llidi
-  Neighbouring LCA
-  Special Protection Area
-  Special Area of Conservation
-  Site of Special Scientific Interest

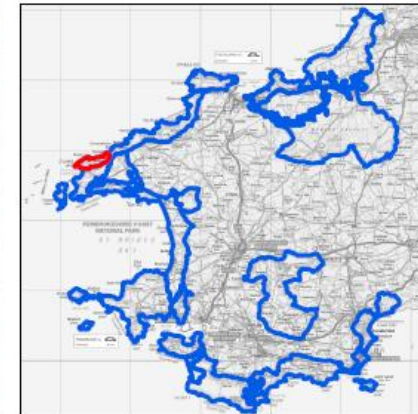
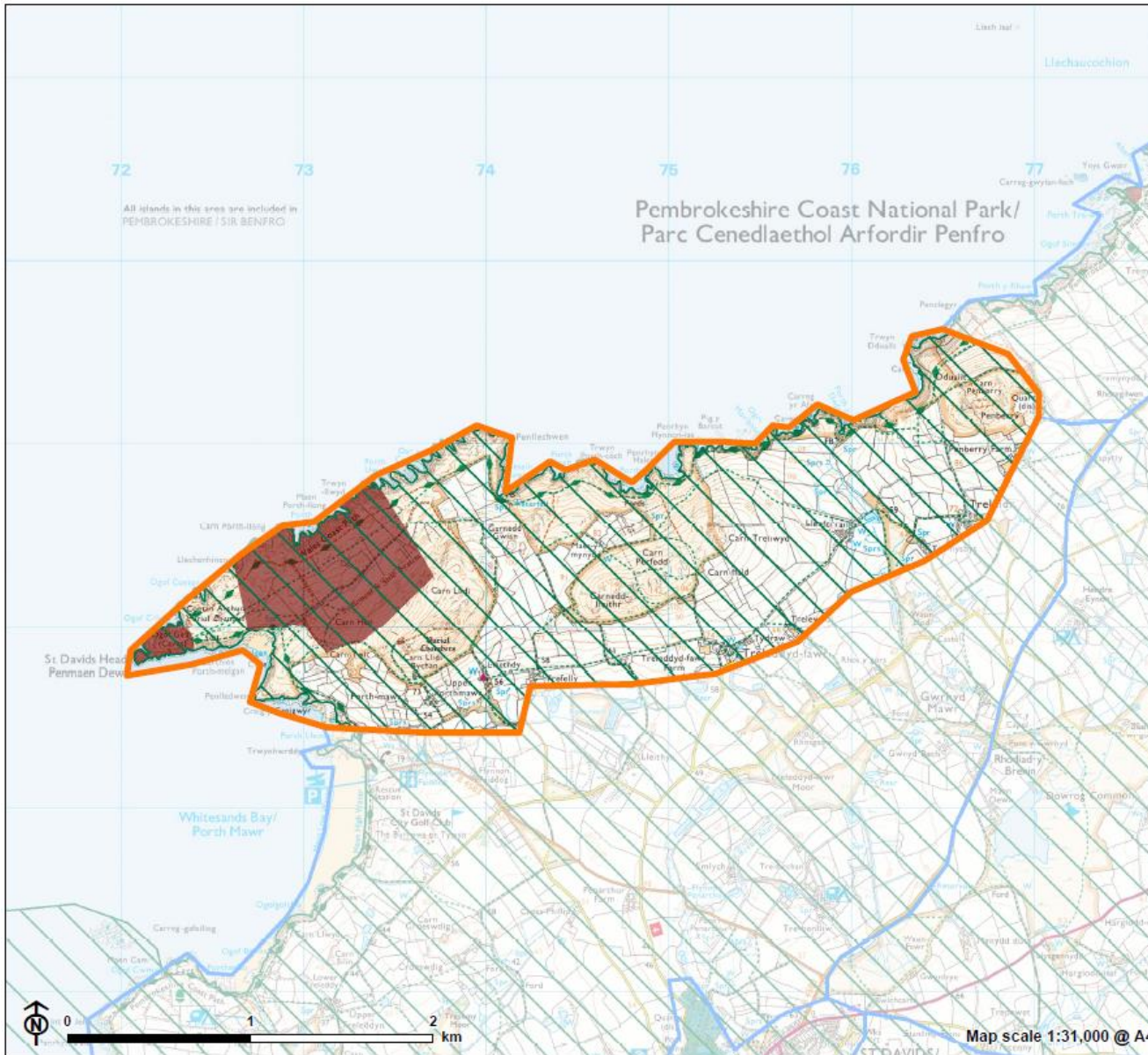


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 Source: OS, NRW



LCA 16 Historic Environment Designations

-  LCA 16: Carn Llidi
-  Neighbouring LCA
-  Outstanding Historic Landscape
-  Scheduled Monument
-  Conservation Area



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 Source: OS, Cadw

Existing woodland coverage within the LCA



The distinctive craggy summit of Carnedd-Ileithr and Carn Perfedd, rising above pastoral fields enclosed by traditional drystone walls.

This Landscape Character Area (LCA) is characterised by a distinctive upland area on the coast with rocky summits at Carn Llidi, Carnedd-Ileithr, Carn Perfedd and Carn Penberry. St David's Head is located on the western edge of the LCA. Landcover comprises rough grazing/moorland around the hills and pastoral fields separated by stone walls and hedgebanks on lower ground. The area does not contain any significant area of woodland and trees are limited to very occasional small groups or individual trees within the farmed part of the LCA and are often associated with buildings.

Natural and cultural heritage designations and records

The focus of this Guide is on the sensitivity and opportunities for woodland creation in relation to landscape character. It can only play an advisory role in the weighing of potential benefits of woodland creation against likely impacts on non-woodland habitats and cultural heritage assets, which should be considered in more detail at site level. Please refer to the main report for more detail.

Natural heritage	SAC, SPA, SSSI NNR, LNR (including Wildlife Trust/ RSPB reserves) RIGS	There are three SAC in the LCA which cover 303.1 ha (56.6% of the LCA). St David's Peninsula Coast SSSI covers 270.6 ha (50.6% of the LCA). There is one RIGS in the LCA, covering 4ha.
Cultural heritage	National Park Register of Historic Landscapes Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and HER data	St David's Peninsula and Ramsey Head Landscape of Special Historic Interest covers 94.4% of the LCA. LCA 16 Carn Llidi includes 178 HER assets which cover a range of archaeological and historical features, including scheduled and undesignated monuments, listed and non-listed historical buildings and locations of finds. These features date from prehistory up to recent times.

Landscape sensitivity to new woodland planting

Key sensitivities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Distinct, unenclosed coastal upland area punctuated by rocky summits including Carn Llidi, Carnedd-Ileithr, Carn Perfedd and Carn Penberry. St David’s Head is a distinct landform. ■ The naturalistic moorland and heathland habitats and pervading sense of exposure due to the absence of tall vegetation. Large swathes of the area are internationally/nationally designated as SAC/SSSI for the heathland and maritime habitats. The area is also noted as having national importance for rare arable flora. ■ Bracken and regenerating scrub habitats throughout the LCA which support a variety of animal and plant species, including adders. ■ The predominantly unenclosed character and pastoral land use. On lower slopes, fields are enclosed by prominent hedgebanks. The field pattern is irregular with a range of field sizes, and includes some remnant strip fields. ■ Nationally important archaeological remains, displaying thousands of years of land use and settlement (recognised as part of the St. David’s Headland and Ramsey Head Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historical Interest). ■ Expansive views of the coastline and seascape. The Carn Llidi landscape itself forms a prominent landmark feature in views from the sea. ■ The strong sense of exposure and remoteness, with little human development. Perceptual qualities are strongly influenced by weather and sea conditions.
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Overview	<p>The unenclosed areas of common land are characterised by internationally/nationally designated semi-natural landcover, frequent archaeological features and the distinct rocky outcrops, resulting in a landscape which is highly sensitive to change from any scale of woodland creation.</p> <p>The enclosed agricultural parts of the LCA are less sensitive to planting and provide opportunities for the creation of small-scale woodlands which could form part of a mosaic with the pastoral landcover. The south facing slopes on the landward side of the LCA are less sensitive to planting than the north and eastern facing slopes which are strongly associated with the open, exposed coast.</p> <p>Landscape sensitivity to all scales of mixed woodland for this LCA is high.</p>
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Landscape Sensitivity Scores

Small-scale broadleaved woodlands (≤5ha)			Moderate		
Small-medium scale broadleaved woodlands (>5- 15ha)					High
Medium-scale broadleaved woodlands (>15-30ha)					High
Large-scale broadleaved woodlands (>30ha)					High

Opportunities for future tree and woodland coverage within the LCA

- Small-scale woodland creation amongst the agricultural land could increase woodland coverage, contribute to landscape diversity and interest and provide important ecosystem services including soil stabilisation, flood prevention and reduction of agricultural run-off. These should be carefully designed to avoid masking historic field patterns.
- There are opportunities for the creation of wood pasture to integrate more trees into the agricultural landscape.
- Consider opportunities for small-scale woodland planting/natural scrub regeneration adjacent to watercourses for the benefit of biodiversity, flood management, to prevent soil erosion and to reduce agricultural run-off into watercourses.
- Consider the opportunities for the regeneration and extension of traditional orchards using heritage varieties.
- Site new small-scale woodland to screen farm-based development or small-scale tourism developments/infrastructure.
- Any new planting should follow principles of good design as set out in the UK Forestry Standard.
- Choose appropriate native species suited to local conditions (e.g. climate, soil, hydrology, existing vegetation) to achieve a diverse woodland mosaic character.

Strategic guidance for new woodland / tree planting

Landform and scale

- Avoid masking the distinctive rocky summits at Carn Llidi, Carnedd-Ileithr, Carn Perfedd and Carn Penberry.
- Design woodland to align along existing contours and undulations of the landscape, such as the minor stream valleys. Avoid siting woodland on the open slopes.

Landcover (including semi-natural habitats)

- Avoid adversely affecting existing areas of non-woodland semi-natural habitats, directly or indirectly, and encourage diversity of habitat networks. This includes valued upland habitats (heathland, purple moor grass and rush pasture) and coastal habitats (maritime cliff and slope), as well as bracken/scrub habitats and areas supporting rare arable flora.
- Preserve the rocky outcrops and associated areas of rough grazing and moorland. Ensure that as far as possible no significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or damaged.

Field pattern

- Conserve and restore existing hedgerow boundaries and hedgebanks to reinforce the existing pattern of small pastoral fields.
- Consider allowing hedgerows to grow out (where not obscuring public highways/rights of way) through reduced coppicing/flailing cycles, to enhance biodiversity.

Existing tree and woodland character

- Conserve the existing small areas of trees associated with farmhouses on the lower slopes and restore adjacent field boundaries, to improve connectivity and strengthen the landscape framework.

Historic character

- Avoid adversely affecting, directly or indirectly, the rich cultural heritage of the area, particularly the numerous archaeological remains, including Neolithic chambered tombs and settlement, Iron Age forts and field systems.
- Protect the role of the landscape as part of the St. David's Headland and Ramsey Head Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historical Interest. Carn Llidi, Carnedd-Ileithr and Penberry are noted as important prominent features along the coast within the designation.
- Avoid siting woodland across multiple fields which may mask the irregular historic field patterns.

Visual character

- Conserve the extensive views to the coastal views from the Wales Coast Path/Pembrokeshire Coast Path and views to surrounding landscapes from the open hilltops and higher slopes. When designing and siting woodland, ensure that it does not obscure these important views.
- Ensure that new woodland in the fringing pastoral landscape does not detract from views to the rugged skylines of this area and open hilltops, as these are important features of the landscape. Perceptual and scenic qualities

- Conserve the open character of the upper slopes of the Carn Llidi LCA. Locate new woodland so that it does not detract from the enjoyment of the exposed and remote quality of the vast tracts of open access land in this landscape.
- Enhance the experience for recreational users, ensuring public access is maintained across the network of public rights of way.
- Have regard to the cumulative impact of woodland creation and tree planting, ensuring it does not lead to a change of landscape character, particularly in the more open landscape of the higher slopes.



Isolated farmsteads sit within the pastoral landscape, with hedgerows and occasional copses adding to the diversity of vegetation cover.



The rocky summit of Carn Penberry, with scrubby vegetation covering its upper slopes transitioning to pastoral grassland on the more fertile lower slopes.



Trees in the landscape occur in small areas associated with farmsteads.



The sparse vegetation and low hedgerow boundaries result in an open and exposed character across much of the LCA.