

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Final Report for Consultation

for

Pembrokeshire County Council

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May 2022



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This second draft Landscape Character Assessment will be published for consultation between

X and x 2022

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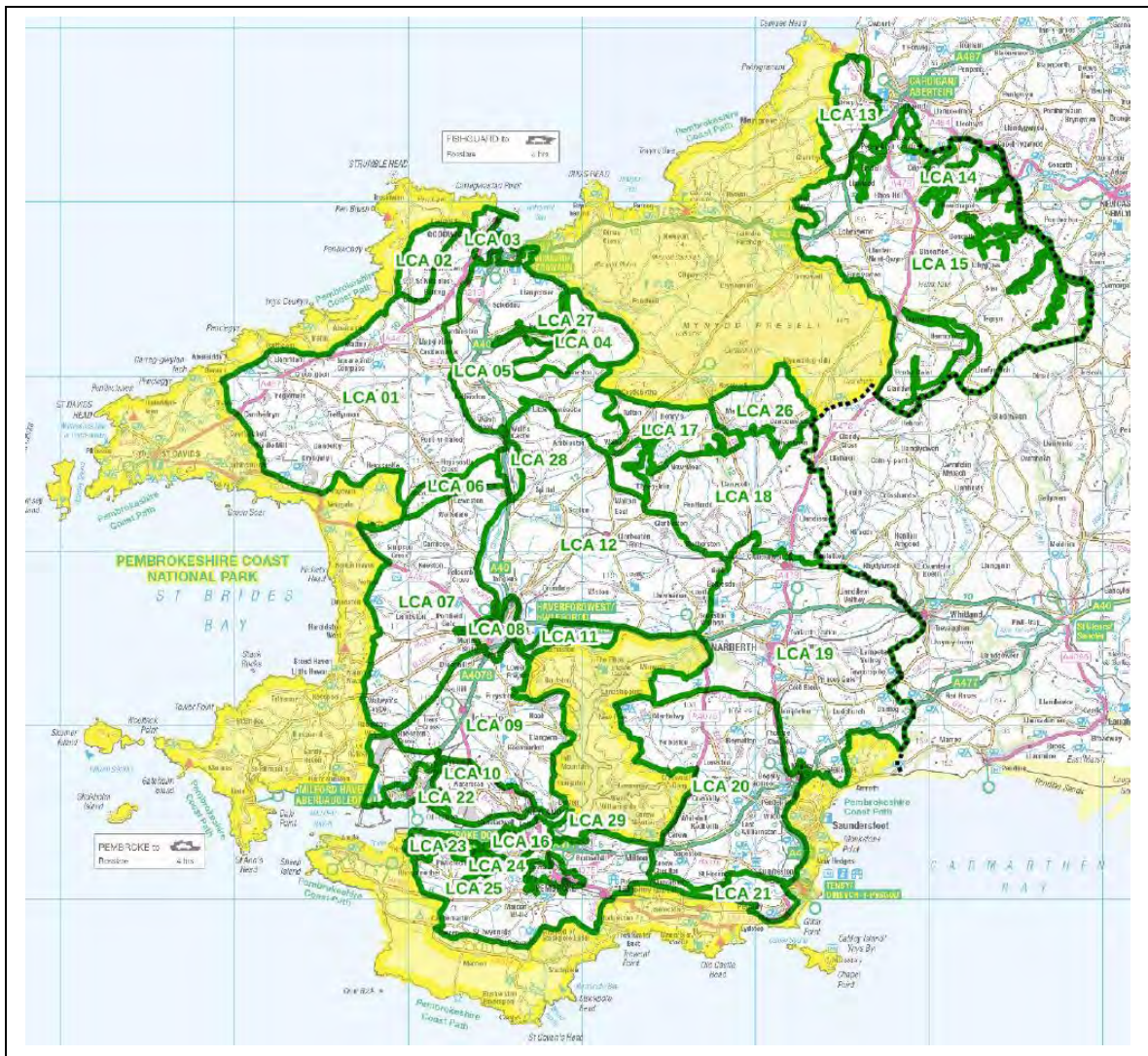
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Overview

A landscape character assessment identifies and describes the distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse. This landscape character assessment covers the county of Pembrokeshire outside the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. It is intended to describe and increase understanding of the key characteristics and qualities of the landscape, forces for change and recommended guidelines for planning and management. The assessment follows good practice guidance and has involved desk study and field studies and a comprehensive review after consultation. In total, 29 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) have been identified.

This draft Landscape Character Assessment will be subject to a second public consultation and is intended to form supplementary planning guidance to the Local Development Plan and evidence base to the Local Development Plan review.



1. Introduction

Background

- 1.1. This Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is for Pembrokeshire outside of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park (PCNP). It will, following consultation, form Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Pembrokeshire County Council Local Development Plan (adopted 28th February 2013), including Policy GN.1 'General Development Policy'. The Local Development Plan policy seeks to permit development which would not adversely affect landscape character, quality or diversity. The LCA will also form part of the evidence base to the review of the Local Development Plan (LDP2).
- 1.2. The primary source of desk-based information is LANDMAP information covering Pembrokeshire. LANDMAP stands for Landscape Assessment and Decision Making Process and is the formally adopted approach to baseline landscape assessment throughout Wales developed by Natural Resources Wales and advocated by the Welsh Government.

Purpose

- 1.3. This Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), when adopted by the Authority, will be a material consideration in deciding whether development proposals have an adverse impact on the landscape, contrary to Policy GN.1 'General Development Policy' and other relevant national and local policies.
- 1.4. It will describe the County's landscapes and help to understand how potential changes may affect landscape character. It will also identify forces for change and put forward management and planning guidelines. 29 landscape character areas are identified and assessed.
- 1.5. Its main purpose is to ensure that the landscapes of the county are considered when development or land management is proposed and decisions should include the potential to conserve or enhance landscape character. It should be weighed alongside all other material considerations.
- 1.6. This document contains the following
 - Method
 - An overview description of the County's landscape.
 - Summary of forces for landscape change.
 - Summary of management guidelines.
 - Glossary in Appendix A.
- 1.7. Separately there are assessments for the 29 landscape character areas, including a description, key characteristics, forces for landscape change and guidelines, along with reference to underpinning LANDMAP information.

2. Landscape character assessment method

Approach

2.1. The following information sources and guidance have influenced the approach taken:

- LANDMAP information system resource. LANDMAP describes and evaluates aspects of the landscape and provides the basis of a consistent Wales-wide approach to landscape assessment.¹ The five aspect layers which comprise LANDMAP classify, describe, evaluate and put forward guidelines and inform the landscape character assessment which brings these elements together.
- The Landscape Character Map for Wales which provides regional scale landscape character areas and was prepared by the former Countryside Council for Wales (now Natural Resources Wales (NRW)), 2013.
- Studies in adjacent areas to enable consistency with existing defined landscapes including:
 - Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Guidance, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA), June 2011.
 - Seascape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Guidance, PCNPA, December 2013.
 - Carmarthenshire Special Landscape Areas, 2011.
 - Ceredigion County Council Designation of Special Landscape Areas, October 2010.

2.2. The UK government signed up to the European Landscape Convention (ELC) in 2006 and it has to be implemented and incorporated into policy. The ELC states that:

'landscape means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors'.

2.3. It acknowledges:

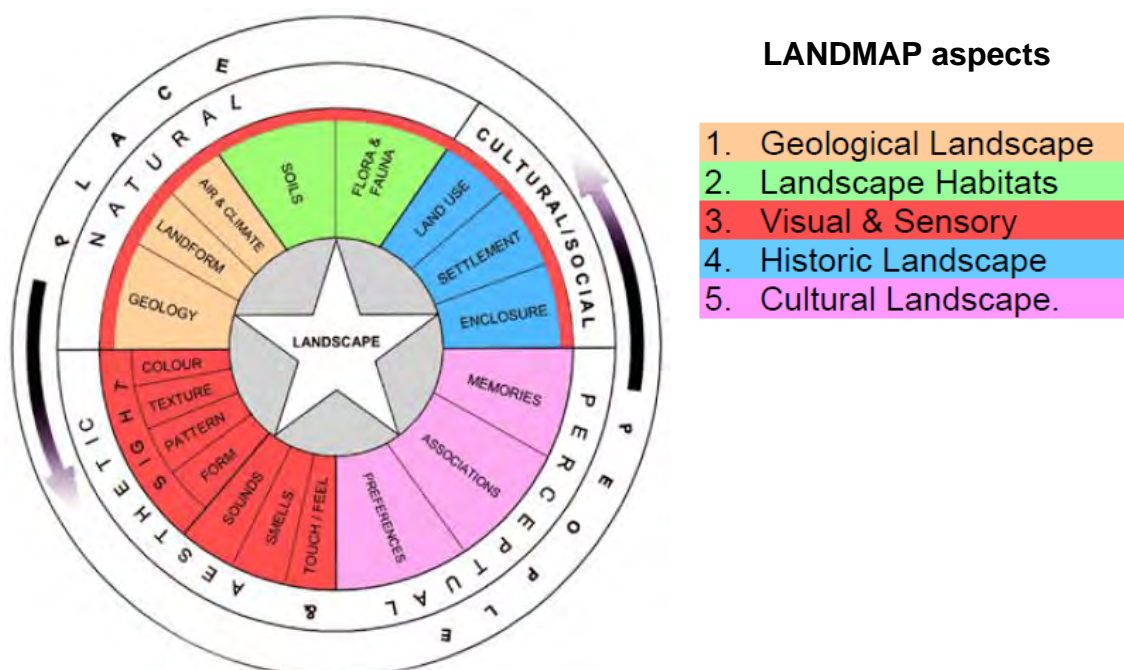
'that the landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas'.

¹ Pembrokeshire LANDMAP layers were quality assured in 2013. Cultural Landscape Services was created in March 2019.

2.4. Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is:

‘the process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape. It looks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features (characteristics) that make landscapes distinctive. This process results in the production of a Landscape Character Assessment’².

2.5. This LCA combines the principles of the Natural England (2014) approach with the use of LANDMAP. The relationship between landscape character and LANDMAP is summed up in the Annex 2 of the 2014 approach. This shows the LCA colour-coded wheel and how LANDMAP layers relate to each set of influences and factors which make up landscape character.



2.6. The study also acknowledges the Landscape Character Assessment guidance for England and Scotland, The Countryside Agency and Scottish natural Heritage, 2002.

2.7. Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) are unique individual geographical areas primarily based on the Quality Assured LANDMAP Visual and Sensory aspect areas refined by consideration of other aspect layers, site assessment and local stakeholder input. The aspect areas are classified to Visual and Sensory Level 3. For example, they could be Open or mosaic rolling lowland or Hillside and scarp slopes grazing. They share generic characteristics with other aspect areas of the same type. The landscape character areas have their own particular identity, sense of place and pattern derived from geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation, historic land use, settlement form and perceptual qualities.

² An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, October 2014, Natural England

Method steps

- 2.8. The following four steps has been taken in line with current available guidance ³.

Step 1: Definition of Purpose and Scope of the Assessment

- 2.9. The brief set out the purpose and scope which are described above. In addition, the assessment is intended to provide a context for further studies in Pembrokeshire, including sensitivity studies which consider the ability of the landscape to accommodate specific development.
- 2.10. The LCA is intended to describe the landscape and present it in an accessible way using written and mapped information. It has been undertaken at a scale of 1:25,000.
- 2.11. The assessment was originally carried out by officers of Pembrokeshire County Council in consultation with relevant stakeholders including NRW and PCNPA. After consultation the assessment has been reviewed and refined by White Consultants to take into account comments, updated guidance and information and changes on the ground.

Step 2 Desk Study

- 2.12. The landscape character areas boundaries and descriptions are primarily derived from the LANDMAP⁴ information set complemented by other information sources. All layers have been provided by specialists to NRW in accordance with the approved LANDMAP methodology⁴ and quality assured.
- 2.13. The layers used for this assessment were as follows at the time of review.
- | <i>LANDMAP layer</i> | <i>Last updated</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Geological Landscape | 03/04/2007 |
| Visual and Sensory | 06/02/2015 |
| Historic Landscape | 15/03/2015 |
| Landscape Habitats | 15/01/2016 |
| Cultural Landscape Services | 05/03/2019 |
- 2.14. There have been some changes on the ground and these have been taken into account in the LCA extents and descriptions.
- 2.15. The Visual and Sensory aspect is the primary source of information guiding the extents of LCAs and providing information particularly on landform, landcover and settlement pattern. This has been over-laid with Landscape Habitats and Geological Landscape aspect layers followed by the Historic Landscape aspect boundaries. The Cultural Landscape Services⁵ layer is

³ 'An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, October 2014, Natural England.

⁴ <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/business-sectors/planning-and-development/evidence-to-inform-development-planning/landmap-the-welsh-landscape-baseline/?lang=en>

⁵ Former CCW Methodology 2002 'The LANDMAP Information System' Chapter 5.

- largely based on the Visual and Sensory layer boundaries and so does not influence extents.
- 2.16. In addition to LANDMAP information, Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping and up to date aerial photographs have helped refine boundaries and provided further detail on the characteristics of each area. Nature conservation and cultural heritage designations have been noted where they influence landscape character and qualities.
 - 2.17. The LCA is intended to be broadly consistent with assessments undertaken in adjacent authority areas. The Wales National Landscape Character Assessment, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park's landscape and seascape character assessments and adjacent LANDMAP assessments in Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion have been reviewed to help ensure consistency across administrative boundaries.
 - 2.18. The desk study has consequently formed the basis for the field survey and stakeholder engagement and has been confirmed or refined through that process.
 - 2.19. Stakeholders in Pembrokeshire's landscape⁶ were invited to be part of the steering group to scrutinise the proposed methodology and emerging candidate Landscape Character Area boundaries. Revisions were undertaken as a result.

Step 3 Field Study

- 2.20. Field study has been undertaken in order to ground-truth the findings of the desk study and to gather additional information. The field study has also helped to identify discernible landscape trends, key qualities, existing development impacts and was used to provide additional detailed and specific information on the key characteristics and perceptual qualities of the landscape character areas.

Step 4 Description and Reporting

- 2.21. The findings of the desk study and field study contribute to a description of each LCA. In Wales, there is no need for landscape types to be derived as the underpinning LANDMAP layers are classified. For each LCA key characteristics and qualities are identified with those that contribute to the sense of place most emphasised in bold text. Local forces for change and management guidelines are then set out. From these, an overview description and summary forces for change and guidelines have been prepared. These also incorporate consideration of climate change and how Pembrokeshire's landscapes will need to adapt to, and mitigate this whilst maintaining their distinctive character as far as possible.
- 2.22. Consultation will be undertaken on the updated Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and will include neighbouring authorities, Natural Resources Wales and other organisations, communities, and residents. Following consultation the SPG will be adopted by the Authority.

⁶ Natural Resources Wales landscape Specialist, expert Officers from PCC and PCNPA.

3. Pembrokeshire landscapes overview description

- 3.1. Pembrokeshire is located on the western fringes of Great Britain bordering the Atlantic Ocean with associated prevailing south westerlies. Whilst the county landscapes are largely located slightly inland from the coastal edge, which is covered by the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, maritime influences and sea views are apparent.
- 3.2. The landscape is predominantly lowland rolling plateau farmland interspersed with valleys, many incised, and occasional upland hills and ridges. The study area is divided into two, separated by the Preseli Hills which are within the National Park. The larger south western part is dominated by the catchment of the Eastern and Western Cleddau stretching from just south of Fishguard and the Preseli Hills to the north to the highly distinctive drowned ria of the Daugleddau (in the National Park) and Milford Haven Waterway to the south, lying along the Ritec fault. To the north east of the Preselis the land drains primarily to the iconic Teifi in a series of incised wooded valleys.
- 3.3. Ordovician sedimentary slates underly the bulk of the rolling landscape to the north with intrusions of Ordovician igneous basalt or rhyolite on small upstanding ridges with outcrops, such as Plumstone Mountain. Rocks are banded east west with Silurian mudstone at Arnolds Hill with subsequent bands to the south of Carboniferous mudstone and sandstone including coal measures in places, such as Stepside, interspersed with Carboniferous limestone, Devonian old red sandstone, Silurian sandstones and siltstones and Precambrian igneous rock around Johnston. This east west geological pattern is overlaid by the southwards flowing Cleddau drainage pattern caused by fluvio-glacial action including glacial outwash deposits such as Lampeter Vale and boulder clay, also to the east.
- 3.4. The extensive Cleddau Rivers SAC emphasises the importance of both the Eastern and Western Cleddau and many of their tributaries. The Pembrokeshire Marine SAC is focussed on the tidal Milford Haven Waterway. There are scattered SSSIs such as moorland on Plumstone Mountain, a series of wet pastures eg Yerboston Moors to the east and linear ancient woodland largely in narrow valley sides and floors. Treffgarne Gorge and Tors is a mixed biological and geological SSSI.
- 3.5. Upland character is stronger to the north where distinctive rocky outcrops and forestry plantations on the Preseli fringes add to the sense of place. To the south, the lowland plateau forms more settled rich and fertile farmland. Much of the county is rural and tranquil with narrow lanes linking sparse and small isolated rural settlements. Distinctive enclosure includes hedgebanks/cloddiau as well as hedges, stone walls and widespread linear woodland in narrow valley bottoms and sides and in small copses. There are open areas on gentle ridge tops and large sweeps of views across the County and to the coast.

- 3.6. The County's rich cultural heritage is indicated by inclusion in parts of the Preselis and Milford Haven Waterway Landscapes of Outstanding Historical Interest and the Lower Teifi Valley Landscape of Special Historical Interest. There are a scattering of prehistoric features, particularly inland promontory forts adjacent to the many incised valleys to the north east and at the strategically important Treffgarne Gorge. A series of standing stones lie to the north east and burial chambers can be found on local high points throughout.
- 3.7. Many castles are scattered across the landscape, with associated small settlements, indicating the contested nature of the county between the Welsh and the Normans and later English settlers. Their location still reflects the cultural divide between the more fertile and productive land to the south occupied by English-speaking communities and the poorer land to the north with prevailing Welsh-speaking settlements. The broad line dividing these two areas is called the Landsker line which can be defined by stone castles between Roch in the National Park to the west and Laugharne in Carmarthenshire to the east. Within the county there are Wiston, Llawhaden and Narberth castles and associated historic settlements with Conservation Areas and listed buildings. The larger castles to the south such as Pembroke and Haverfordwest consolidated the protection of the better land.
- 3.8. The historic strategic importance of Milford Haven as a huge sheltered harbour has led to development of the only Royal Docks in Wales at Pembroke Dock with distinctive Napoleonic War era Martello towers and the former whaling port at Milford Haven with its Georgian terraces. Throughout, historic villages and market towns such as Haverfordwest, Narberth and St Dogmaels have distinctive characters and settlement cores which are Conservation Areas with numerous listed buildings. Historic parks and gardens are relatively sparse and tend to be focussed to the south such as at Lamphey which also has a scheduled Bishops Palace, and at Orielton. Scolton Manor is an outlier to the north.
- 3.9. Where the County does meet coastal waters the character of the landscape and settlements is usually more urban and often influenced by harbour/port infrastructure. To the south, Milford Haven Waterway is abutted by large energy-related installations served by large vessels. To the north, Goodwick hosts a ferry terminal close to the Lower Town of Fishguard and its charming harbour. Busy A roads serve these ferry ports as well as the coastal resorts within the National Park, such as Tenby. There is also related tourism development such as theme parks and caravan/chalet accommodation in this coastal hinterland, mainly to the south.
- 3.10. There is a long boundary and strong inter-relationship with the National Park. Its rugged coastline, cliffs, sandy beaches, seaside towns, offshore islands and exposed Preseli Hills are visible in views from many inland areas in the County, influencing its character. Likewise, the landscapes of the county provide an important setting to the Park.
- 3.11. The 29 LCAs are listed below and the landscape and seascape context of the county is shown in Figure 1, the designations and constraints in Figure 2 and the LCAs in Figure 3.

Landscape character areas

| LCA Ref | LCA Name |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| LCA01 | Treffynnon |
| LCA02 | St Nicholas |
| LCA03 | Fishguard Coastal |
| LCA04 | Mynydd Cilciffeth |
| LCA05 | Scleddau Lowlands |
| LCA06 | Treffgarne and Plumstone Mountains |
| LCA07 | Pelcomb and Simpsons Cross |
| LCA08 | Haverfordwest |
| LCA09 | Johnston Lowlands |
| LCA10 | The Haven North |
| LCA11 | Western Cleddau |
| LCA12 | Landsker Lowlands |
| LCA13 | St Dogmaels |
| LCA14 | Afon Cych & Afon Taf Wooded Valleys |
| LCA15 | Boncath |
| LCA16 | Southern Haven Developed |
| LCA17 | Mynydd Preseli Uplands |
| LCA18 | Eastern Cleddau Valleys |
| LCA19 | Narberth and Lampeter Vale |
| LCA20 | Jeffreyston Lowlands |
| LCA21 | Penally |
| LCA22 | Milford Haven |
| LCA23 | Southern Haven Industrial Fringe |
| LCA24 | Southern Haven mudflats |
| LCA25 | Hundleton and Lamphey |
| LCA26 | Maenclochog |
| LCA27 | Trecwn |
| LCA28 | Treffgarne Gorge |
| LCA29 | Cosheston Peninsula |

KEY

- Pembrokeshire County boundary
- Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
- National Landscape Character Areas
- Pembrokeshire Coast National Park landscape character areas
- Pembrokeshire landscape character areas
- Pembrokeshire Coast National Park seascape character areas

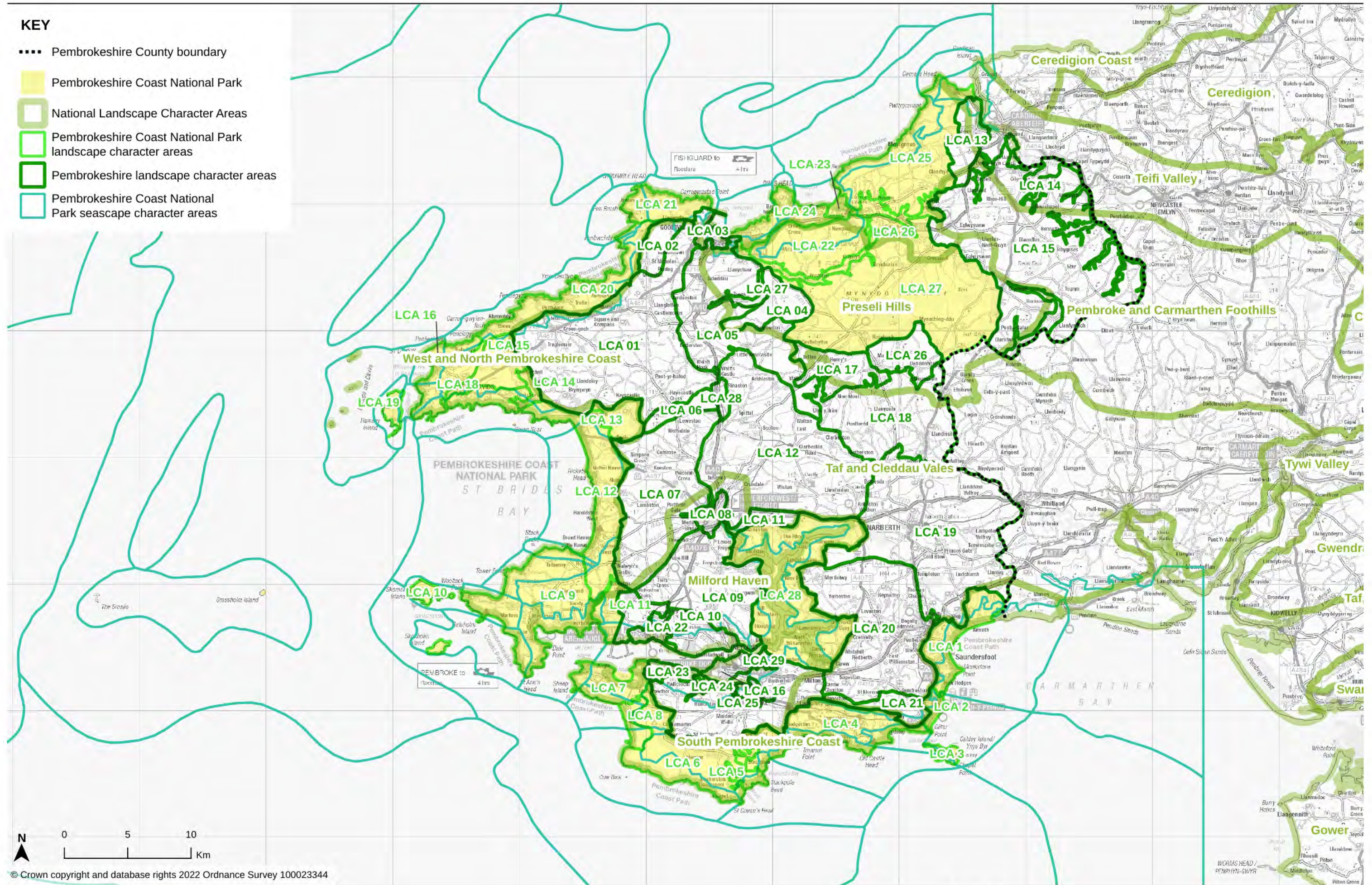
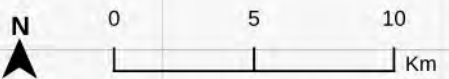
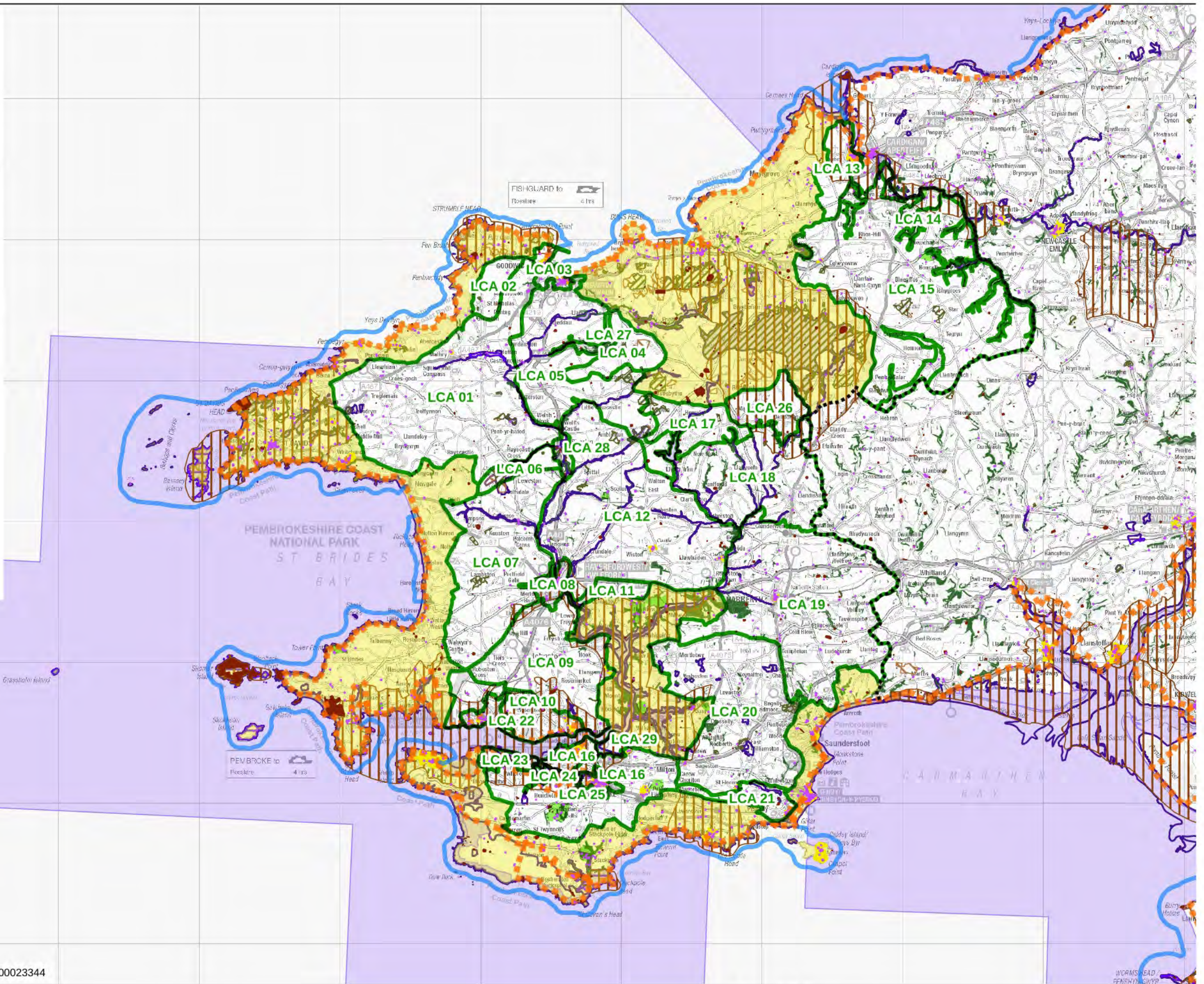


Figure 1
Pembrokeshire landscape and seascape character context
 Pembrokeshire County landscape character assessment

KEY

- Pembrokehire County boundary
- Pembrokehire Coast National Park
- Heritage Coast
- Pembrokehire landscape character areas
- Landscapes of Historic Interest
- Ancient woodland
- National nature reserves
- Special areas of conservation (SACs)
- Sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs)
- Historic parks and gardens
- Scheduled monuments
- Conservation Areas
- Listed Buildings
- Wales Coast Path
- Common land
- Open Country



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Figure 2
Designations and constraints
Pembrokehire County landscape character assessment

KEY

- Pembrokehire County boundary
- ▭ Pembrokehire Coast National Park
- ▭ Pembrokehire landscape character areas

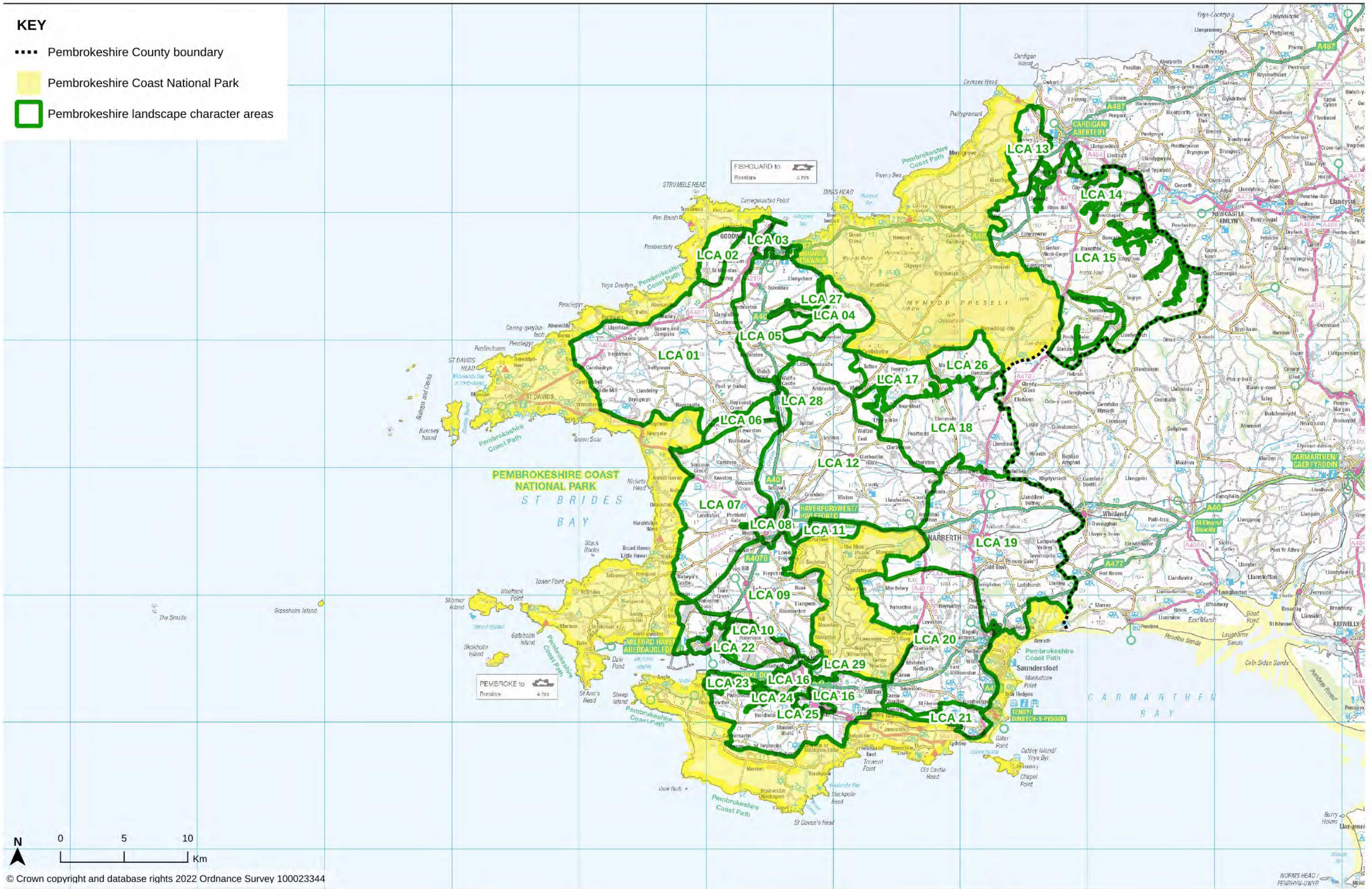


Figure 3
Pembrokehire landscape character areas
 Pembrokehire landscape character areas

4. Landscape change

4.1. The following summarises the general forces for change in Pembrokeshire which are described in more detail in relation to each LCA. They include:

- **Large scale intensification of agriculture** to arable with associated loss and intense management of hedgerow boundaries and other vegetation and increase in scale of agricultural buildings and containment facilities.
- Changes to **livestock and agricultural practices**, including changes to sheep farming levels in north Pembrokeshire (including changes as a result of Brexit) and grazing of commons.
- Changes to tree land cover as a result of woodland and **forestry plantations expansion** or felling, and diseases e.g. ash dieback.
- **Larger scale settlement growth and expansion** mostly in southern Pembrokeshire.
- **Incremental residential development** in smaller settlements and as isolated development and loss of traditional development character of settlements.
- **Commercial and industrial development in deep water harbours** especially in Milford Haven but also around ferry ports of Fishguard and Pembroke Dock.
- **Increase in wind turbines and solar arrays**, especially to the south west.
- **Tourist attractions and accommodation**, particularly static caravan parks both in proximity to the seaside towns and sandy beaches to the south east and elsewhere.
- **Change of use in military sites** such as at Brawdy/Cawdor Barracks.
- **Loss of historic and archaeological features** through development..
- **Changes to interactions within the water environment**, including potential changes to ferry operations, marina development and increased recreational use, including at Llys y Fran.
- Changes to the location and intensity of **light pollution**..
- **Changes to travel patterns** and potential for conflict between modes of transport, and further congestion leading to pressures for further road developments.
- Changes to extent and dispersal of **Welsh speaking communities** may influence the cultural landscape such as place names and interpretation.

- 4.2. The UK Climate Risk Assessment 2017 Evidence Report 2017: Summary for Wales outlines that the risks of climate change to Wales. These include risks and opportunities for species and habitats, agriculture and forestry, soils and natural carbon stores, from temperature, sea level change, flooding and drought. Specific reference to risks and opportunities from changes in landscape character are stated as -

'Landscape character has changed in Wales over the last few decades. Climate change has been a contributing factor, both directly through its effects on land cover and indirectly by influencing some land uses over others in specific locations. Changes in land cover and land use will undoubtedly continue to occur into the future and the magnitude of climate change (and responses to it) will be a key factor in influencing this change. Ancient woodlands and hedgerows are not only important ecosystems, but are also historic assets containing evidence for past human use. The potential effects of climate change on forestry, ancient woodland and hedgerows may be gradual but significant. Soil erosion, land-use change and replanting could all damage individual historic assets'.

- 4.3. Climate change will influence land use and vegetation patterns in the short term through to the longer term through direct effects, eg flooding, sea level rise, drought and extreme weather, and also through measures to increase resilience including mitigation and adaptation. More specific changes are set out below.

- 4.4. Direct effects that are likely to change the landscape character include:

- Decline in some existing trees including ancient woodland and other vegetation cover through weather patterns and increased pests and diseases.
- Decrease in surface water visible in summer months with low stream flows but increase in flooding and pollution due to extreme weather events around watercourse corridors and at the coast.

- 4.5. Adaptation and mitigation measures that could also change the landscape character include:

- Increase in new patterns of more diverse tree cover to provide carbon sequestration, shelter, flood/run off control and green infrastructure/biodiversity.
- Intensification of agriculture and change in cropping patterns and introduction of other built elements such as anaerobic digestion plants.
- Increase quality and extent of hedgerows and Pembrokeshire hedgebanks including fallow margins/headlands.
- Conservation and increase of semi-natural habitat patches and corridors including Green Infrastructure links, watercourses, riparian corridors, woodland, hedgerows, rough grazing, common, and patches of wetland and heathland.
- The protection or relocation of development in areas prone to flooding eg the A487 at Newgale (in the National Park).

- Renewable energy developments including wind turbines and solar arrays to capitalise on grid connectivity to the south, in the Future Wales pre-assessed area to the east and sporadic and smaller scale elsewhere.
 - Changes to the fossil fuel industry over time with increased focus on offshore/marine and onshore renewables especially to the south.
- 4.6. In order to tackle the forces for change management guidelines are set out below.

5. Management guidelines

Principles

- 5.1. The overarching principle is to manage and plan the landscape to conserve and enhance the distinctive character of each landscape character area whilst optimising adaptation to, and accommodate mitigation of, climate change.
- 5.2. Substantial parts of Pembrokeshire lie in the setting of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park and the Council has a duty of regard to conserve and enhance its natural beauty.
- 5.3. The following guidelines should be followed across the county where appropriate. They are complemented by LCA specific guidelines.

Landscape character

- Conserve and enhance the character of the National Park and its setting avoiding or at least minimising effects of development on the National Park's purposes and special qualities.
- Conserve and enhance the key landscape characteristics of each area.
- Remove or mitigate detractors and avoid cumulative impacts eroding the character of an area.
- Conserve and enhance inherent landscape characteristics such as openness or enclosure where possible bearing in mind the need for resilience to climate change.

Biodiversity

- Protect and enhance biodiversity creating and reinforcing linkages between related habitats ie strong green infrastructure, such as along watercourses, hedgerows/cloddiau, woodland and moorland/heath.

- Increase biodiversity to improve resilience to climate change with native species tolerant of the likely extremes of weather.
- Manage tree/woodland/forest planting for carbon sequestration.
- Protect, conserve and enhance ancient woodland.
- Conserve, enhance and restore natural watercourses and related corridors and other waterbodies to provide flood retention and control, biodiversity and access where appropriate as well as maintaining landscape character.
- Manage floodplain areas to optimise the combination of flood retention and management, biodiversity and recreation.
- Create new water bodies in appropriate locations such as hollows with associated planting to add resilience to the landscape as well as biodiversity and landscape interest.
- Conserve and enhance hedgerows by removing gaps, encouraging widening and thickening at bases, encouraging headlands adjacent and hedgerow trees where in character. Use hedgerows to minimise and slow run off on slopes.
- Conserve, enhance and create mixed tree belts where in character to improve shelter, provide some timber and link other woodlands.
- Conserve, enhance and create new mixed and broadleaf woodland where appropriate to add shelter, some timber, biodiversity and character to the landscape.
- Conserve and enhance conifer plantations through selective felling and replacement and improvement of edges with broadleaf planting.
- Conserve and enhance wetlands including marsh and marshy grassland to protect landscape character and optimise biodiversity and create corridors or stepping stones with other wetlands.
- Conserve and enhance unimproved or semi-improved pasture optimising biodiversity.
- Conserve and enhance pasture minimising run off with appropriate stock and grazing regimes.
- Conserve and enhance heathland/moorland for biodiversity and openness, managing access.

Cultural heritage

- Avoid inappropriate development in the setting of Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, scheduled monuments and listed buildings and their curtilages.

- Protect and conserve historic features and elements especially where they reinforce landscape character.
- Reinforce, enhance and in places reinstate traditional field boundaries and patterns using traditional techniques and appropriate local stone including cloddiau (banks) with or without hedges, stone walls and hedgerows to enhance landscape character, biodiversity, shelter and flood protection.
- Avoid ploughing or other ground disturbance around features and buried archaeology.

Planning for built form

- Locate new settlement growth in the least sensitive landscapes avoiding adverse effects on biodiversity and cultural heritage.
- Avoid separating the traditional core of the settlement from the wider landscape and maintain/create strong green corridors/infrastructure running through the settlement.
- Implement settlement growth in proportion with the existing settlement and do not overwhelm it.
- Carry out new development in character where a settlement contributes to the distinctiveness of the landscape or improve its character and edge where it is detractive.
- Maintain separation between larger settlements and smaller settlements.
- Avoid development in floodplains and other areas vulnerable to flooding including along the coast.
- Over time create new valley and coastal development forms in areas outside vulnerable flood zones.
- Plan and manage tourist facilities and accommodation in line with the Pembrokeshire LDP policies and SPG including caravan and camping guidance.
- Manage economic growth areas in scale with the landscape where effects can be minimised through location and mitigation.
- Plan new agricultural buildings and structures to fit with or enhance the character of existing buildings maximising integration and minimise prominence with appropriate location and recessive cladding and materials.
- Avoid intrusive skyline developments.
- Limit the scale and frequency of vertical structures especially in setting of National Park.
- Minimise light pollution in agricultural developments and rural areas.

- Reflect the vernacular style and materials of buildings and boundaries to reinforce local character especially in prominent locations.

Renewable energy

- Locate and plan solar energy developments in the least sensitive landscapes such as flat and enclosed landscapes with regular field patterns and limited biodiversity. However, also avoid locating arrays on the more productive agricultural land in order to support food production resilience.
- Mitigate solar energy developments through hedgerow and tree planting and biodiversity corridors such as headlands which should be retained after solar array removal.
- Locate and plan wind energy developments in the least sensitive landscapes at an appropriate scale especially avoiding the setting of the National Park and avoiding prominent skylines.
- Minimise cumulative effects between renewable energy developments recognising that capacity may be reached in some areas.

Appendix A

Glossary of technical terms

Glossary of Technical Terms

| Term | Definition |
|---|--|
| Aspect | In Wales, an aspect is a component of the LANDMAP information recorded, organised and evaluated into a nationally consistent spatial dataset. The landscape information is divided into five aspects- geological landscape, landscape habitats, visual and sensory, historic landscape and cultural landscape services. |
| Aspect areas | Areas defined in each of the LANDMAP aspect assessments which are mutually exclusive |
| Characterisation | The process of identifying areas of similar character, classifying and mapping them and describing their character. |
| Characteristics | Elements, or combinations of elements, which make a particular contribution to distinctive character. |
| Classification | Dividing the landscape into areas of distinct, recognisable and consistent common character and grouping areas of similar character together. |
| Clawdd/ cloddiau | earth bank or mound relating to a hedge faced with stone in some areas |
| Distinctiveness | see sense of place |
| Elements | Individual components which make up the landscape such as trees, hedges, walls, clawdd and buildings. |
| Features | Particularly prominent or eye catching elements, like tree clumps, church towers, rock outcrops or wooded skylines. |
| Landscape Change (forces for change) | These are the influences which have changed or may change the landscape the future. They can be natural processes or man-made influences. |
| Key Characteristics | Those combinations of elements which are particularly important to the current character of the landscape and help to give an area its particularly distinctive sense of place. |
| LANDMAP | <i>LANDMAP</i> is the national Geographical Information System (GIS) based information system for Wales, devised by the Countryside Council for Wales, for taking landscape into account in decision-making. It is a nationally consistent dataset divided into 5 aspects- geological landscapes, landscape habitats, visual and sensory, historical landscapes and cultural landscape services. |
| Landscape | an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors |
| Landscape Character | A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse. |

| Term | Definition |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Landscape Character Areas | Single unique areas which are discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape type. Each has its own individual character and identity, even though it shares the same generic characteristics with other areas of the same type. |
| Landscape Character Assessment | The process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features (characteristics) that make landscapes distinctive. This process results in the production of a Landscape Character Assessment. |
| Scenic quality | seascape/landscape with scenes of a picturesque quality with aesthetically pleasing elements in composition |
| Sense of place | the character of a place that makes it locally identifiable or distinctive ie different from other places. Some features or elements can evoke a strong sense of place eg islands, forts, vernacular architecture. |
| Sensory | that which is received through the senses ie sight, hearing, smell, touch. |
| Setting, of a heritage asset | The surroundings in which the asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or a negative contribution to an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral. |

Notes

Landscape character definitions (excluding LANDMAP definitions) are derived from 'An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment', October 2014, Natural England.

Abbreviations used in the text

AOD Above Ordnance Datum

GIS Geographic information system

Km Kilometres

LBAP Local Biodiversity Action Plan

LCA Landscape character assessment or landscape character area

LVIA Landscape and visual impact assessment

m Metres

SM Scheduled Monument

SLA Special Landscape Area

SMR Scheduled Monument Record

SAC Special Area of Conservation

SPG Supplementary planning guidance

SSSI Site of Special Scientific Interest