

PROPOSED LAYOUT



SPACES FOR LIFE

The design process started by considering life and the range of different everyday life needs that should be accommodated in the new settlement. The plan would accommodate the different and sometimes conflicting requirements in distinctly different kinds of spaces.

The public spaces within An Camas Mòr, would be divided into three distinct types:

SPACES OF ESSENTIALLY URBAN CHARACTER

'The busiest and most accessible places'. These would basically be the High Street and the spaces contained along it. The needs of commerce, community and culture generate the greatest footfall and traffic, as well as the widest diversity of activity. These spaces would require flexibility, robustness and appropriate landscaped.

Hard, flat surfaces with suitable hard-wearing and easily maintained materials are proposed, to allow the full range of activities to take place. Attractive appearance and quality would also be important as they invoke identity and feelings of civic pride, which have a direct influence on the longer-term social and economic sustainability of the place. The quality of the design and the care in placing of street furniture, planting, lighting, signage, artwork and detailing are also vital for the same reasons.

OPEN SPACES WITH A PARK CHARACTER

'Places for activities'. These are soft-landscaped places such as the open spaces created around landscape features, as well as the smaller local 'pockets' of green such as play spaces. These spaces would allow for a range of uses, both passive and active recreation, as well as a wide range of users, young and old, locals and visitors.

These open spaces would be easily accessible. They would mainly be open but with some planting. Although their landscaping would be influenced by the indigenous landscape and flora, they would be designed and maintained to allow the intensity of use. These places would include play equipment, benches and other features to support active recreation.

NATURAL SPACES WITH A WILD CHARACTER

These are the more isolated parts of the plan, the wooded edges and wedges, the large area of ancient woodland to the south-east and the planted forest to the south-west.

These places would be the furthest from the busiest activities of the settlement and generally denser in vegetation, making them more suitable wildlife habitats and more appropriate for passive recreation like walking and informal play.

Any new landscaping would be as natural-looking as possible, incorporating a density and diversity of plant species, requiring minimal maintenance. These places would have a sense of wildness, promoting an identity, to anchor the place to the greater landscape of the National Park.

PLAYING FIELDS

Sports and activities for older children and adults would be located close to the school adjoining the proposed community countryside park.

TYPE OF SPACE



Townscape



Parkscape

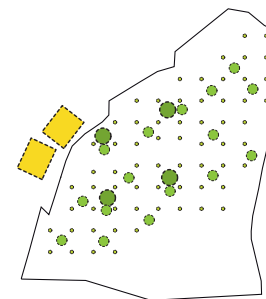


Wildscape

LANDSCAPING



Hard landscaping



Soft landscaping



Natural spaces

ACTIVITIES

Urban meetings

- Urban play (basketball, skateboarding, boule)
- Shopping
- Market
- Events (Concerts, outdoor exhibitions)
- Cafés and restaurants with outdoor seating

Urban recreation

- Organized play (e.g. swings, sandboxes, slides)
- Ballsports
- Barbecuing

Nature recreation

- Free play in the nature (bouldering, building huts)
- Picnics
- Walking the dog
- Hiking