



~~DRAFT~~ LEITRIM COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023 – 2029 – APPENDIX IX  
PART B - LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL CAPACITY STUDY FOR WIND FARMS AND  
WIND TURBINES



**Comhairle Chontae Liatroma**  
**Leitrim County Council**



# LEITRIM COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY – LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL CAPACITY STUDY FOR WIND FARMS AND WIND TURBINES

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Leitrim Landscape and Visual  
Capacity Study for Wind  
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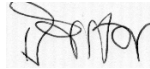
## REPORT

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

This landscape and visual capacity study was commissioned by Leitrim County Council and has been prepared as a supplementary exercise to the Leitrim County Renewable Energy Strategy, undertaken by RPS Group. The study is focused on particular geographic areas of the County, identified in the renewable energy strategy as meriting further assessment in terms of suitability to accommodate wind turbines from a landscape and visual amenity perspective. The remainder of the report is structured as follows:

- Section 2 – Approach and methodology;
- Section 3 – Assessment;
- Section 4 – Summary and conclusions.

## 2 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The capacity study has been undertaken with reference to the Landscape Character Areas in the Leitrim County Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) published in 2002 including subsequent updates in a recent review of the County LCA undertaken by RPS Group.

### 2.1 Study Area

The study focuses on areas of search identified in the renewable energy strategy as being 'accessible for wind development'. These areas were identified by the renewable energy strategy through a selection process which examined the County as a whole and considered a range of environmental and technical constraints including habitats and biodiversity, built heritage and settlements but excluding landscape and visual amenity. The study area for the capacity study comprises the areas of search highlighted in the renewable energy strategy and comprised of upland and lowland landscapes located in the following Landscape Character Areas. The areas of search are illustrated in Figure 1.1 Study Area included at the end of this report:

- LCA 4 - Arroo and Mountain Outliers;
- LCA 5 - Tievebaun Uplands;
- LCA 6 - The Doons and Crockauns;
- LCA 8 - Boleybrack Uplands;
- LCA 10 - Slieve Anierin; and
- LCA 11 Corry Mountain.

### 2.2 Approach and Methodology

The assessment approach and selection of criteria took account of best practice guidance including the following references:

- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2006) and the Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019 ;
- Scottish Natural Heritage (2014) *Siting and Designing Wind Farms in the Landscape*, Version 2, Scottish Natural Heritage.
- Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (2013) *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment*, 3rd edition, Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment;
- NIEA (2010) Wind Energy Development in Northern Ireland's Landscapes: SPG to accompany PPS 18

The key steps in the methodology are outlined below.

- A review of best practice guidance and relevant case studies was undertaken in order to inform the wind turbines landscape and visual capacity study;
- Fieldwork undertaken as part of the review of the published 2002 Landscape Character Assessment of County Leitrim was undertaken resulting in an updated baseline landscape character for the areas of search. This also included a site based evaluation of the areas of search for capacity to absorb wind turbines;
- A desk based baseline report was prepared comprising a descriptive account of the Landscape Character Areas as reviewed and updated from the County Landscape Character Assessment prepared in 2002; and
- A desk based and site based evaluation of the landscape and visual baseline of the search areas in accordance with a range of criteria identified in paragraph 2.3 below was undertaken and documented.

## 2.3 Criteria used for assessment

The criteria used to evaluate the identified areas of search are outlined below:

- **Scale** – wind turbines are large elements and for this reason, they can easily appear as dominant elements in the landscape. In this regard, a large scale landscape is likely to be of lower sensitivity than a small scale landscape where the wind turbines would appear to dominate. The scale of the land cover pattern, for example, a field pattern, is also important and landscapes of larger scale pattern are generally less sensitive to wind turbines;
- **Landform** – Smooth, regular and convex landforms or flat landforms which are not so distinctive are less sensitive to wind turbines than dramatic or rugged landforms. Wind turbines are more easily accommodated in landscapes comprised of simple horizontal skylines than the more complex landscapes with distinctive skylines formed by strong visual features such as iconic mountains or important focal points such as hilltop monuments or church spires;
- **Enclosure** – Landscapes with enclosure provided by topography or woodland and hedgerow vegetation may be less sensitive to wind turbines because of the visual screening afforded by these enclosing elements;
- **Complexity of landcover and features** – Simple landscape with extensive and consistent areas of landcover are likely to be less sensitive to wind turbines than landscapes with complex and irregular landcover patterns;
- **Man made influence** – A landscape with a higher level of man made influences such as industrialised areas featuring masts, pylons or chimneys may be less sensitive to wind turbines. Upland landscapes featuring commercial forestry may also be less sensitive to wind turbines than uplands which would otherwise seem natural with limited intervention by man;
- **Skylines and settings** – landscapes that do not form a distinctive backdrop are usually less sensitive to wind turbines than landscapes which present as strong and distinctive visual features such as mountain skylines as landmarks which form the setting or backdrop to lowland valleys and settlements;
- **Visibility and views** – Landscapes which are more visually enclosed may be less sensitive to wind turbines than landscapes which are open with extensive inward and outward views;
- **Landscape quality (condition)** – Landscapes where the quality and condition of the elements, features and fabric is good are usually more sensitive to wind turbines than landscapes where the condition is poor;
- **Scenic quality** – Landscapes of higher scenic quality will be more sensitive to wind turbines. Scenic quality relates to the visual appeal of the landscape including, for example, important and dramatic views of mountain skylines or dramatic cliffs or lakes. The settings of these landscapes may also be visually sensitive. Visual appeal may also be derived from a farmed landscape in good condition with intact field patterns;
- **Wildness and Tranquillity** – remote, isolated and wild landscapes will be more sensitive to wind turbines than active working landscapes;
- **Natural and cultural heritage features / cultural associations** – Cultural associations with a landscape may increase sensitivity to wind turbines; and
- **Amenity and recreation** – The presence of recreational assets such as walking routes or promoted viewing points may result in a higher sensitivity to wind turbines.

The areas of search in each LCA were evaluated against the criteria above and findings documented below together with recommendations. The assessment does not assign sensitivity rankings to the landscapes but instead, draws attention to the key characteristics that would contribute to a landscape's sensitivity to wind turbine development. Any proposed wind farm development would have to be considered on its own merits



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having regard for the advice and recommendations set out below. The evaluation also took account of existing connected wind farms and single wind turbines in the study area.

## 3 ASSESSMENT – CAPACITY STUDY

The baseline and assessment is presented below for the study area which is comprised of a number of isolated areas of land located within each of 6 LCAs. The following sections of this report present the baseline landscape character for each LCA as updated following the review of the 2002 published landscape character assessment. This is followed by an assessment of the available areas of search for their suitability for wind turbines with reference to the criteria outlined in the methodology in section 2 of this report. These areas comprise mostly upland landscapes that occur within the Moorland Plateaux landscape character type (LCT) and moorland hills LCT along with some small areas of lower lying farmland within each LCA as indicated in Figure 1.1. Further detail in terms of the areas of search in each individual LCA is illustrated in Figures 1.2 to 1.7. The figures are included in Appendix A at the end of this report.

### 3.1 LCA 4 - Arroo and Mountain Outliers

The Arroo and Mountain Outliers LCA, illustrated in Figure 1.2, comprises an extensive mountain complex with long linear valleys in between elevated ridgelines. It overlooks Lough Melvin to the north east. The landscape description and key characteristics are outlined below.

#### 3.1.1 Landscape description and Key Characteristics

The Arroo and Mountain Outliers Character Area is a large mountain complex which rises above Lough Melvin, Glenade and Lough Macnean Upper. It has contrasting elements of moorland plateaus, moorland hills and farmed slopes. The area is dominated by Arroo Mountain, which rises to 523m AOD. Other summits include Sheenun, Dough Mountain and Thur Mountain reaching 421, 462 and 410 m AOD respectively. These summits are separated from each other by high, remote, settled valleys. The range and quality of habitats and the variety of rare species has resulted in Arroo Mountain being designated as a Special Area of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Area and along with Ben Bulbin has been called the botanically richest mountain in Ireland. The moorland plateaus associated with these mountains is remote and relatively inaccessible although appreciated visually from the valleys below and lowland areas further south. Field pattern is generally absent at the higher elevations. On lower slopes, field pattern is defined by hedgerows and in some cases post and wire fencing. The screening effect of hedgerows and woodlands creates more intimate landscapes.

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Series of moorland plateaus with intact blanket bogs, heath and small loughs;
- Distinctive rock outcrops especially on the north facing slopes of Arroo;
- Remote, isolated and windswept character in upland areas with limited access;
- Steep-sided moorland hills with extensive views over the surrounding drumlin farmland and coastal lowlands;
- Contrasting land cover on mountain sides including hill and lowland farmland, forest, heath and blanket bog;
- Commercial forestry plantations dominate the land cover on Dough and Thur Mountains;
- Small-scale wind farm development on Saddle Hill;
- Field boundaries create strong patterns on lower hill slopes and show signs of dereliction in places;
- Distinctive upland valleys shelter small farming communities;
- Semi-natural woodlands on steeper slopes, in cloughs and around farms;
- Concentration of dwellings and farms along roads which occupy lower slopes and follow contours; and
- Traditional farm cottages with outbuildings scattered along roads fringing the upper limits of farmland on hillsides and in high valleys.

### 3.1.2 Assessment

A number of upland landscape character types (LCTs) which fall within Arroo and Mountain Outliers LCA are identified as areas of search for assessment in terms of the suitability to accommodate wind turbines. These are:

- Moorland Plateaux and Moorland Hills associated with the summit and lower slopes of Dough Mountain at elevations ranging from 300 to 462m AOD;
- Moorland Hills LCT associated with the lower slopes of Saddle Hill and Crocknagapple, overlooking the valley of the Owenbeg River at elevations ranging from 250 to 375m AOD;
- Small patches of the Moorland Hills LCT and the Upland Farmland LCT associated with the lower slopes of Arroo Mountain at elevations ranging from 130 to 250m AOD;
- Moorland Plateaux LCT and Moorland Hills LCT associated with the ridgeline in the vicinity of Sheenun overlooking Lough Melvin at elevations ranging from 200 to 421m AOD.

The assessment of these areas with reference to the criteria set out in section 2.3 is presented below together with recommendations for wind turbine development.

#### 3.1.2.1 Scale

The moorland landscapes associated with mountain summits and foothills comprises expansive open areas of moorland interspersed with tracts of coniferous forestry. At lower elevations, the farmed field pattern associated with the lower lying landscape north west of Arroo Mountain presents as a more intimate scale landscape.

#### 3.1.2.2 Landform

The landform associated with the moorland hills comprises gently rounded rolling moorland hills although there are many locations where distinctive rugged landforms are present and these are widely visible from the surrounding lowlands.



**Plate 4-1 Arroo Mountain Foothills** - Complex landform comprised of rolling moorland with rugged landforms, cliffs and rock outcrops in the vicinity of Arroo Mountain.

#### 3.1.2.3 Enclosure

The moorland landscapes are open and expansive with little or no hedgerows or woody vegetation to provide enclosure apart from the tracts of coniferous forestry which are randomly dispersed throughout. The landscape associated with the small areas of upland farmland in the vicinity of Saddle Hill feature some hedgerow vegetation which provides enclosure.



**Plate 4-2 Saddle Hill** – Open unenclosed moorland at higher elevations contrasts with enclosed farmed landscape at lower elevations where abundant hedgerow and wooded vegetation is present as a visual screen.

### 3.1.2.4 Complexity of Landcover and Features

Areas of the upland moorland landscapes are relatively simple owing to their consistent rolling topography and moorland landcover. These areas are in contrast to the more complex landform associated with particular mountainous areas which present as distinctive and rugged cliffs or scree slopes such as that associated with Arroo Mountain. The transitional landscapes comprising farmland defined by hedgerows and overlooking lower lying expansive valleys present as a complex pattern.



**Plate 4-3 Arroo Mountain Range near Glenade** – Distinctive rugged scree slopes on the north western side of the Arroo Mountain Range present as a feature of high scenic quality in the area.

### 3.1.2.5 Man Made Influence

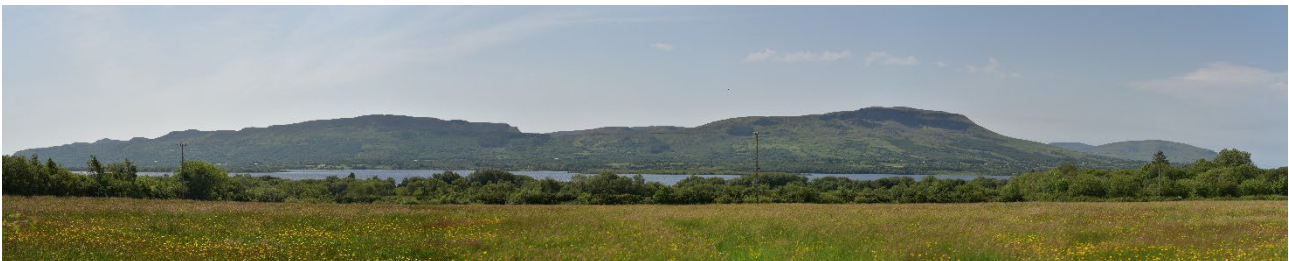
The more elevated areas comprised of moorland plateaux and moorland hills LCTs have limited or no features of a man made nature apart from a small number of wind turbines in the vicinity of Saddle Hill and tracts of coniferous forestry on the lower slopes of Dough Mountain.



**Plate 4-4 Dough mountain / Saddle Hill - Wind turbines and commercial forestry**

### 3.1.2.6 Skylines and Settings

The skyline of the mountain and ridgelines associated with the Arroo range and Dough Mountain form an important backdrop to the valley landscapes to the south. The ridgeline of Sheenun overlooking Lough Melvin also forms the backdrop to this lakeland landscape and the Garrison Lowlands further east in County Fermanagh (documented in the Landscape Character Assessment for Northern Ireland).



**Plate 4-5 The ridgeline of Arroo and Sheenun - The ridge as viewed from the north east side of Lough Melvin presents as a distinctive skyline which would conflict with wind turbine development.**

### 3.1.2.7 Visibility and Views

The areas of search, being located in upland mountain and foothills, offer many panoramic views including sweeping valleys and distinctive mountain skylines such as that associated with Tievebaun and truskmore Mountains. Long range panoramic views are also available of Lough Melvin.

### 3.1.2.8 Landscape Quality (condition)

The quality and condition of the moorland plateaux and moorland hills is generally good although the character of some of these areas is undermined in places due to the presence of coniferous forestry, for example the lower slopes of Dough Mountain.

### 3.1.2.9 Scenic Quality

A high scenic quality is attributed to the mountain and upland landscapes which are a key characteristic of this LCA overall.

### 3.1.2.10 Wildness and Tranquillity

A wild, remote and isolated character is associated with the elevated areas of moorland plateaux and moorland hills. The more settled farmland at lower elevations in the vicinity of Kinlough is less tranquil.

### 3.1.2.11 Natural and Cultural Heritage Features, Cultural Heritage Associations

The R280 Road route within the Glenade Valley affords views towards the Arroo and Mountain Outliers LCA and this particular route is associated with the Du Cuellar Trail, named after Captain Francisco de Cuellar, one of the survivors of the Spanish Armada shipwreck off the coast at County Sligo.

### 3.1.2.12 Amenity and Recreation

The mountain and upland landscapes associated with the identified areas of search have limited access however the scenery associated with these areas and their distinctive mountain skylines are enjoyed by many from the surrounding lowland valleys and glens. The Arroo trail, in the adjacent LCA 5 affords spectacular views of the Arroo Mountain complex.

## 3.1.3 LCA 4 Arroo and Mountain Outliers Summary and Recommendations.

The areas of search in the Arroo and Mountain Outliers LCA comprise upland landscapes, namely moorland plateaux, moorland hills and farmed foothills LCTs. These areas are generally open with little or no screening in views from the lower lying valleys and Lough Melvin. Landform varies from rolling, smooth rounded moorland hills to rugged mountain, cliffs and scree slopes which present as distinctive landforms throughout. The LCA overall is of some considerable scenic quality and would be highly sensitive to wind turbines. Some limited moorland areas in the vicinity of Dough Mountain and Saddle Hill may be considered subject to detailed design, having regard for landscape and visual constraints including potential cumulative effects with other wind turbines.

## 3.2 LCA 5 - Tievebaun uplands

The Tievebaun Uplands LCA, illustrated in Figure 1.3, comprises an upland landscape located in the north western part of the County. The mountain area is an extension of the Ox Mountains in County Sligo. The landscape description and key characteristics are outlined below.

### 3.2.1 Landscape description and Key Characteristics

Tievebaun is a large mountainous upland which is an extension of a limestone mountain range associated with Ben Bulbin, Truskmore and Kings Mountain in County Sligo. Within Leitrim, these mountains overlook the Glenade Valley to the north and The Glencar Valley to the south. The more elevated areas comprise moorland plateaux which is a wild, remote and largely inaccessible landscape. The scree slopes and landslips fringing Glenade and Glencar are highly visible from the lowlands and contribute significantly to the scenic quality of the glens.

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Wild, remote and largely inaccessible moorland plateaux;
- Varied and highly valued habitats;
- Distinctive mountain profile visible from neighbouring lowlands;
- Extensive views of the surrounding lowlands;
- Steep glacially scoured corries are distinctive geological landforms overlooking the valley at Glenade. Steep Cliff features overlooking the valley at Glencar;
- Possibility of extensive evidence for prehistoric settlement;

- Largely unsettled except for limited settlement on the gentler slopes to the south east;
- Small-scale wind farm development in the foothills near Carrickeeny; and
- Tracts of commercial forestry on the lower slopes to the north east.

### 3.2.2 Assessment

A number of landscape character types (LCTs) which fall within Tievebaun Uplands LCA are identified as areas of search for assessment in terms of the suitability to accommodate wind turbines. These are:

- Moorland Hills LCT associated with the foothills of Truskmore at elevations ranging from 200 - 300m AOD; and
- Upland Farmland and Foothills LCT on the eastern side of Tievebaun at elevations ranging from 180 to 300m AOD.

The assessment of these areas with reference to the criteria set out in section 2.3 is presented below together with recommendations for wind turbine development.

#### 3.2.2.1 Scale

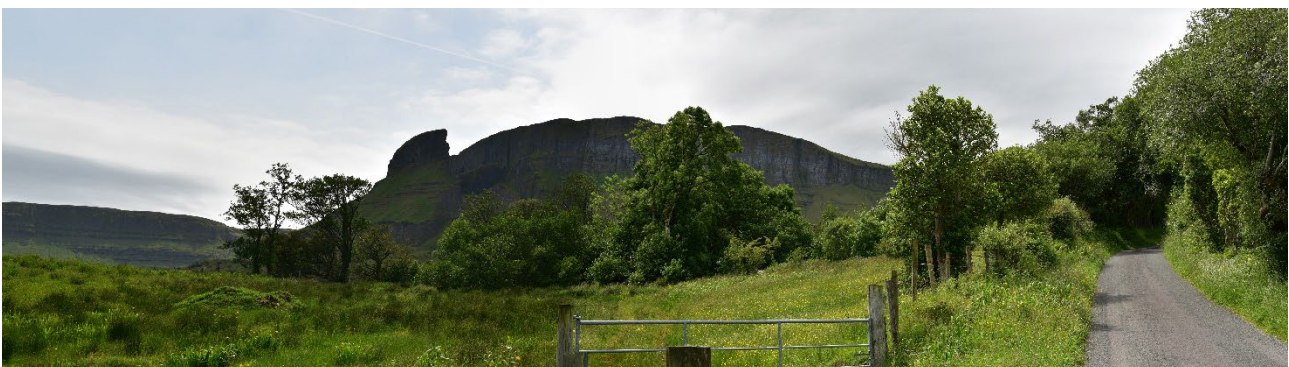
The landscape south east of Truskmore comprises an expansive landscape of moorland hills and marginal farmland. The relative scarcity of field pattern and uniformity of moorland landcover at higher elevations is such that the landscape could be perceived as being of large scale. Further north, the smaller areas of farmland, comprised of rough grassland in the vicinity of Tievebaun are overlooked by a more intimate rocky landscape associated with glacial corries and cliffs.

#### 3.2.2.2 Landform

The landform south east of Truskmore comprises a gently rolling and undulating landscape. The moorland hills have a smooth convex landform albeit interrupted by tracts of coniferous forestry plantations with rectilinear pattern. Further north, the smaller areas of search comprise rough grazing at the foot of the upland glacial corries which present as distinctive steep concave cliffs. These together with Eagles Rock present as distinctive rugged landscape features.

#### 3.2.2.3 Enclosure

The east facing foothills of Truskmore Mountain is remote, elevated and very open with little by way of field enclosure or woodland apart from the areas of commercial forestry. Further north, the smaller areas of farmland in the vicinity of Tievebaun are enclosed and overlooked by the distinctive corries and rock formations associated with Tievebaun Mountain, including Eagle's Rock.



**Plate 5–1 Eagle's Rock** – A distinctive cliff and rock formation in an area of high scenic quality.

### 3.2.2.4 Complexity of Landcover and Features

The landcover comprises a mosaic of rough grassland, moorland and bog interspersed with tracts of coniferous forestry. Further north, the smaller areas of search comprise rough grassland lie at the foot of the distinctive glacial corries associated with Truskmore and Tievebaun Mountain including the distinctive Eagles Rock.

### 3.2.2.5 Man Made Influence

A single communications mast is present on the summit of Truskmore which is partly visible from the valley landscape further north. Apart from the coniferous forestry, there are little other signs of man made influences. A small number of wind turbines are present in the moorland hills to the south east.



**Plate 5–2 Moorland Hills and enclosed farmland near Carrickeeny, south east of Truskmore – Man made influences in the form of wind turbines.**

### 3.2.2.6 Skylines and Settings

The skyline of Truskmore and Tievebaun foothills form an important backdrop to the valley landscapes at lower elevations. The glacially formed corries in the vicinity of Tievebaun and Eagle’s Rock are distinctive features appreciated from the Upland Farmland and Foothills to the east.

### 3.2.2.7 Visibility and Views

The areas of search associated with the Moorland Hills LCT south east of Truskmore have very limited access. These areas however are enjoyed visually from Glencar Valley to the south and Glenade Valley to the north. The Upland Farmland and Foothills in the vicinity of Tievebaun affords open views of the striking rocky cliffs associated with Tievebaun including the distinctive Eagle’s Rock.

### 3.2.2.8 Landscape Quality (condition)

The quality and condition of the landscape is generally good although the presence of coniferous forestry and the replacement of hedgerows and dry stone walls with post and wire fencing have somewhat undermined the character of the landscape.

### 3.2.2.9 Scenic Quality

A scenic quality is associated with the expansive tracts of bog, moor and heath in the south eastern part of this LCA. The areas of search in the northern part of the LCA are important to the setting of the upland rocky landscapes of Tievebaun and are of some considerable scenic quality.



### 3.2.2.10 Wildness and Tranquillity

The landscape generally comprises a relatively wild, remote and inaccessible moorland.

### 3.2.2.11 Natural and Cultural Heritage Features, Cultural Heritage Associations.

Pound Hill at Lurganboy is a site of historic interest where barytes were mined from the mid 18th century until the early 1980s.

### 3.2.2.12 Amenity and Recreation

Access to these landscapes is limited, however they are enjoyed visually from both the Glenade and Glencar Valleys.

## 3.2.3 LCA 5 Tievebaun Uplands Summary and Recommendations

The upland landscapes to the east of Tievebaun in the northern part of the LCA are considered to be sensitive to wind turbines. This is largely due to their valley location with outlook towards the striking cliff and rocky landscape associated with Tievebaun and also Arroo in the adjacent LCA 4. Arroo and Mountain Outliers. These landscapes are important to the setting of the highly scenic and distinctive rocky uplands.

The Moorland Hills LCT associated with the foothills of Truskmore is considered to be sensitive to wind turbines due to the scenic quality, remoteness and relative absence of vegetation screens. The landscape is visually open and it is enjoyed from the valleys below. There would be very limited potential to accommodate wind turbines in these areas and future development would have to consider potential cumulative effects with other wind turbines.

## 3.3 LCA 6 - The Doons and Crockauns

The Doons and Crockauns LCA, illustrated in Figure 1.4, is located in the north western part of the County. It comprises a mountain complex associated with the Crockauns together with hill farmland at lower elevations adjacent and overlooking Lough Gill. The landscape description and key characteristics are outlined below.

### 3.3.1 Landscape Description and Key Characteristics

This is a complex lake-land and mountainous landscape located west of Benbo on the western part of County Leitrim. It has contrasting elements of upland moorland plateaus and lowland hills. The area is dominated by the mountains of the Crockauns and Leann in the north overlooking Glencar and the Doons in the south which overlook Lough Gill. The distinctive and unusual profiles of these hills are unique to this area of Leitrim.

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Varied limestone geology has created distinctive landform features, mountain profiles and scree slopes;
- Upland areas feature moors and heathland and pastoral farmland features at low elevations;
- Tracts of commercial forestry are located in the foothills, especially to the north of the Crockauns and Leann Mountain;
- Broadleaved mixed species woodlands fringe Lough Gill;
- Sparse settlement pattern of isolated farmhouses amongst pastoral farmland;
- areas of rush infested pasture;
- Scrub encroachment and coniferous forestry plantations obscure distinctive landform features;
- Parkes Castle, an early 17th Century plantation castle is picturesquely placed on the northern shoreline of Lough Gill;
- Lough Gill and its shores are noted for their nature conservation value; and

- Dramatic and highly scenic setting at Glencar Lough.

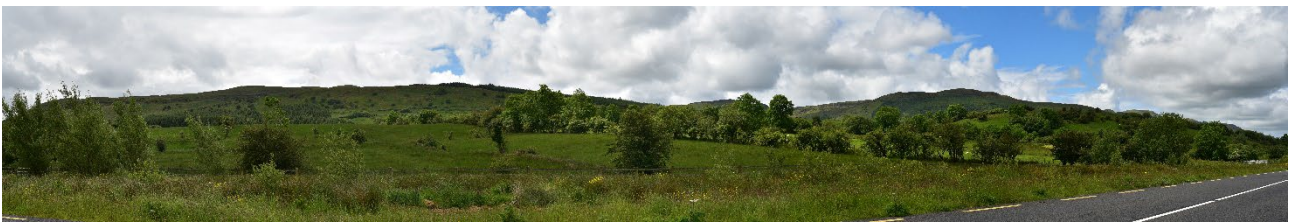
### 3.3.2 Assessment

One landscape character type (LCT) which falls within The Doons and Crockauns LCA is identified as an area of search for assessment in terms of the suitability to accommodate wind turbines. This is the Steep Mountain Peaks LCT associated with The Crockauns, Keelogyboy Mountain and Leean Mountain;

The assessment of this area with reference to the criteria set out in section 2.3 is presented below together with recommendations for wind turbine development.

#### 3.3.2.1 Scale

This is an open landscape featuring mountain and moorland at the higher elevations and marginal farming with patches of coniferous forestry at lower elevations. The absence of a notable field pattern defined by hedgerows at higher elevations results in an increased sense of scale or indeed a landscape without a scale.



**Plate 6–1 Moorland in the vicinity of Leean Mountain** – absence of distinct field pattern results in increased sense of scale.

#### 3.3.2.2 Landform

The landform is comprised of rolling hills which lead up to the steep sided summits of Keelogyboy and Crockauns. The summits of Leean Mountain, Keelogyboy and Crockauns are distinctive landforms. Many distinctive small knolls and occasional rocky outcrops are present at lower elevations.

#### 3.3.2.3 Enclosure

The moorland summits are open and expansive. At lower elevations, enclosure by hedgerow vegetation is very limited within the moorland hills and areas of rough grassland.

#### 3.3.2.4 Complexity of Landcover and Features

Marginal farmland comprised of rough grassland is present at lower elevations. Wooded vegetation is scarce or absent at higher elevations resulting in a consistent landcover of moorland.

#### 3.3.2.5 Man Made Influence

Man made influence is evident in the presence of coniferous forestry. At higher elevations, the landscape is open and relatively unspoilt.



**Plate 6–2 Crockauns** – commercial forestry at lower elevations.

### 3.3.2.6 Skylines and Settings

The Mountains and foothills form an important setting to the Glencar Valley. These mountains together with those associated with Truskmore, frame the views in a northerly direction along the length of this Glen.

### 3.3.2.7 Visibility and Views

Open panoramic views are available from many locations along the Glencar Valley towards this mountain landscape. The mountain backdrop forms an important and dramatic setting of the highly scenic Glencar Lough.



**Plate 6–3 Glencar Lough** – remote tranquil setting with dramatic mountain backdrop of The Crockauns (left part of view) and Truskmore (right part of view).

### 3.3.2.8 Landscape Quality (condition)

The upland areas are relatively intact and in good condition with limited detracting elements. At lower elevations, coniferous forestry has resulted in a fragmented pattern and has somewhat undermined the original landscape character.

### 3.3.2.9 Scenic Quality

This particular landscape is part of the wider Glen that includes Glencar Lough to the north west. The Glen as a whole is highly scenic. The particular mountain skylines, rocky outcrops and distinctive knolls associated with the Doons and Crockauns are important elements that contribute towards the scenic quality of this particular landscape.

### 3.3.2.10 Wildness and Tranquillity

At the highest elevations, the landscape is tranquil and has a sense of wildness due to its remoteness and relative absence of man made influences.

### 3.3.2.11 Natural and Cultural Heritage Features, Cultural Heritage Associations.

Parkes Castle is located within this LCA, close to the shore of Lough Gill. This fortified manor house which was the site of a tower house belonging to the O'Rourkes is a known visitor attraction.

### 3.3.2.12 Amenity and Recreation

The area is remote with limited or no access for recreational purposes. The landscape is enjoyed visually from the Glencar Valley and other locations further south.

## 3.3.3 LCA 6 The Doons and Crockauns Summary and Recommendations

The steep mountain peaks associated with the Crockauns, Hangman's Hill and Leean Mountain are distinctive mountain skylines which are sensitive to wind turbines. Other factors which contribute to the sensitivity of these areas include the inherent scenic quality, distinctive landforms, tranquillity and the relative scarcity of vegetation to provide visual screening. These areas are deemed to be unsuitable for wind farms due to their scenic quality and sensitivity.

## 3.4 LCA 8 - Boleybrack Uplands

The Boleybrack Uplands LCA, illustrated in Figure 1.5, comprises an area of mountain moorland and farmed foothills located immediately north east of Lough Allen. The landscape description and key characteristics are outlined below.

### 3.4.1 Landscape Description and Key Characteristics

The Boleybrack Uplands is a large mountain complex which rises above the Northern Glens, Central Lowlands and Lough Allen LCA. It has contrasting elements of moorland plateaus, steep moorland hills and gentle farmed slopes which rise above the lowland drumlins. The area is dominated by Boleybrack which rises to 449 m AOD. The summit of Boleybrack and adjacent uplands are remote and relatively inaccessible. Where access allows, panoramic views are available over the moorlands and surrounding lowlands. In the agricultural landscapes on the lower slopes hedgerows and woodlands screen long views and create more intimate landscapes. However large scale commercial forestry has covered many of these slopes with extensive plantations.

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Extensive, mountainous uplands are remote, wild and have limited access and have a sense of isolation;
- Rough grazing on moorland hills and plateaus;
- Extensive areas of commercial coniferous forestry at lower elevations;
- Sparsely populated. Small houses associated with outbuildings are evident across many of the lower, gentler farmed slopes;
- Impressive panoramic views from higher ground of surrounding mountains and lowlands;
- Field boundaries creating strong patterns on lower hill slopes showing signs of dereliction in places;
- Enclosure usually defined by hedgerows although stone walls and post and wire fences feature in some areas;
- Small-scale wind farm development on south west facing slopes;
- Distinctive upland valley sheltering small farming communities; and
- Semi-natural woodlands on steeper slopes above O'Donnell's Rock.

## 3.4.2 Assessment

A number of upland landscape character types (LCTs) which fall within Boleybrack Uplands LCA are identified as areas of search for assessment in terms of the suitability to accommodate wind turbines. These are:

- Moorland Plateaux LCT and Moorland hills LCT located on both the south west facing slopes of the Boleybrack Mountains and on the east facing slopes at the head of the valley near Aughrim;

The assessment of these areas with reference to the criteria set out in section 2.3 is presented below together with recommendations for wind turbine development.

### 3.4.2.1 Scale

The west facing slopes of the Boleybrack Mountains is an expansive moorland landscape with consistent bog and heathland landcover and featuring tracts of coniferous forestry at lower elevations. The absence of field pattern at higher elevations together with the expansiveness of the moorland is such that the landscape could be perceived as being large in scale.

The areas of moorland on the east facing slopes of the Boleybrack Mountains are located at the head of an expansive valley and could be perceived as a large scale landscape.

### 3.4.2.2 Landform

The landform is generally comprised of smooth rolling hills albeit dissected in places by small watercourses which extend down from the mountain tops. There are occasional areas where rocky outcrops and scarp slopes present a rugged and distinctive landform locally. Small loughs are present at higher elevations close to areas of search which are the subject of this study. These include Lough Carran, Lackagh Lough and Lough Altscraigh.



**Plate 8-1 Moorland Hills in the Boleybrack Mountain LCA** - a landscape comprised of smooth rolling hills and featuring existing wind turbines and commercial forestry.

### 3.4.2.3 Enclosure

At lower elevations, the hedgerow pattern, where present, results in a more enclosed landscape compared with the more elevated areas where the scarcity of woodland and scrub and relative absence of hedgerows results in an open landscape.

### 3.4.2.4 Complexity of Landcover and Features

At lower elevations, the pastoral farmed field pattern is apparent, defined by hedgerows combined with isolated patches of coniferous forestry results in a relatively complex landcover compared with that at higher elevations which features moorland and heath.

### 3.4.2.5 Man Made Influence

Tullynamoyle wind farm, comprised of 15 wind turbines is already present in the landscape. Tracts of coniferous forestry of varying size are also present as a frequently occurring feature at lower elevations in

the landscape. The coniferous forestry is extensive at the valley on the eastern side of the Boleybrack Mountains. The more elevated moorland hills are relatively open and unspoilt although post and wire fencing defines field boundaries instead of hedgerows at some locations.

### **3.4.2.6 Skylines and Settings**

The summits and ridgelines of Boleybrack Mountains together with rock outcrops and scarp slopes are landmark focal points on the local area. The uplands form an important setting to Lough Allen which is visible from the south facing slopes. The uplands also form an important setting to the town of Manorhamilton to the north.

### **3.4.2.7 Landscape Quality (condition)**

The upland areas with blanket bog and heathland are relatively intact and in good condition with little by way of detracting elements. At lower elevations, farming and coniferous forestry has resulted in a fragmented pattern and the signs of clear felling has resulted in localised degradation of the landscape as has the introduction of post and wire fences to replace hedgerows.

### **3.4.2.8 Scenic Quality**

A notable scenic quality is associated with the moorland areas and especially where these form the setting of the lowland areas associated with Lough Allen.

### **3.4.2.9 Wildness and Tranquillity**

The upland areas of this landscape, where wind turbines are absent, have a remote and tranquil character compared with that at lower elevations where coniferous forestry, farmland, scattered dwellings and roads are present.

### **3.4.2.10 Natural and Cultural Heritage Features, Cultural Heritage Associations**

Ancient built heritage features occur in the Boleybrack Mountains including megalithic tombs, souterrains and sweathouses.

### **3.4.2.11 Amenity and Recreation**

The Leitrim Way long distance walking route crosses the moorland landscape east of Boleybrack mountain. The South West Cycle Trail follows the line of the R280 Regional Road along the valley to Manorhamilton, the setting of which is very much influenced by the upland moorland landscape.

## **3.4.3 LCA 8 Boleybrack Uplands Summary and Recommendations**

The sensitivity of these landscapes to wind turbines is derived from the distinctive skyline associated with the mountains which forms an important backdrop to the lowland areas especially Lough Allen. The scarcity of vegetation to provide enclosure and visual screening is also a factor which contributes to sensitivity. At lower elevations where woodland and hedgerows provide enclosure together with coniferous forestry, some limited opportunities to accommodate wind turbines may arise. The east facing lower slopes of the Boleybrack Mountains where commercial forestry is present may be considered subject to detailed design, having regard for landscape and visual constraints. Careful design would be needed to limit the visual influence of any wind turbines, including any extension to existing schemes and to avoid effects on the scenic Boleybrack Mountain skyline, the setting of Lough Allen and the surrounding valleys with settlements such as Manorhamilton, Killarga and Dowra. Further effects on the settlement of Drumkeeran ought to be avoided.

## 3.5 LCA 10 - Slieve Anierin

Slieve Anierin LCA, illustrated in Figure 1.6, comprises an extensive mountain landscape featuring the summits of Slieve Anierin and Bencroy which overlook Lough Allen from the east. The landscape description and key characteristics are outlined below.

### 3.5.1 Landscape Description and Key Characteristics

Sliabh An Iarainn is a large mountain complex which overlooks Lough Allen from the east and the lowland drumlin farmland further south. It has contrasting elements of moorland plateaus, steep moorland hills and gentle farmed slopes. The area is dominated by Sliabh An Iarainn, which rises to 585 m AOD. The summits are largely remote and inaccessible and feature heathland, bog and some limited infrastructure (telecommunications). At lower elevations, the small-scale field pattern is strongly defined in places by dense mature hedgerows resulting in more intimate landscapes. Panoramic views are available from the elevated landscapes towards the lowlands further south.

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Extensive, mountainous uplands overlooking Lough Allen from the east;
- Rough grazing on moorland hills and plateaus;
- Extensive areas of commercial forestry in particular on the south and east facing slopes of Slieve Anierin;
- Sparsely populated;
- Impressive views from higher ground towards the farmed lowlands and Lough Allen;
- Moorland plateaus retains sense of isolation despite access roads and infrastructure;
- Mature hedgerow boundaries creating strong small-scale field patterns on lower hill slopes. Some signs of dereliction in places;
- Distinctive upland valleys sheltering small farming communities;
- Semi-natural woodlands on steeper slopes and around farms; and
- Concentration of sweathouses on some of the lower farmed slopes.

### 3.5.2 Assessment

A number of upland landscape character types (LCTs) which fall within Slieve Anierin and Bencroy LCA are identified as areas of search for assessment in terms of the suitability to accommodate wind turbines. These are:

- Moorland Plateaux LCT and Moorland Hills LCT associated with Bencroy and Slieve Anierin; and
- The Upland Farmland and Foothills LCT and the Valley Farmland LCT east of Bencroy at The Yellow River.

The assessment of these areas with reference to the criteria set out in section 2.3 is presented below together with recommendations for wind turbine development.

#### 3.5.2.1 Scale

The moorland hills comprise an expansive smooth rolling moorland landscape which can be perceived as being of large scale due to the consistency of heathland and moorland landcover and relative scarcity of field pattern as a scale reference.



**Plate 10-1 Moorland hills in the vicinity of Corlough Eighter** – Smooth rolling landform and consistency of landcover result in a landscape perceived as being of large scale.

### 3.5.2.2 Landform

Landform is comprised of gently rolling moorland hills with occasional steep sided scarp slopes, distinctive hill summits and rocky outcrops occur at particular locations on both Slieve Anierin and Bencroy.



**Plate 10-2 Near the summit of Bencroy** – Rugged complex landform

### 3.5.2.3 Enclosure

Enclosure is limited except at lower elevations within small river valleys in between the moorland hills and summits. In these areas, hedgerow and wooded vegetation is present and although it is fragmented, it provides some degree of enclosure and visual screening. A greater sense of enclosure is associated with The Yellow River Valley in the east due to topography and vegetation.

### 3.5.2.4 Complexity of Landcover and Features

The landcover is relatively simple comprising moorland, heath and rough grassland supporting sheep grazing with little or no enclosure apart from occasional stone walls and post and wire fencing along roads. Tracts of coniferous forestry are present at lower elevations.



### 3.5.2.5 Man Made Influence

Apart from coniferous forestry, the landscape has very limited man made influences. A telecoms mast is located on the north east facing slopes of Bencroy.



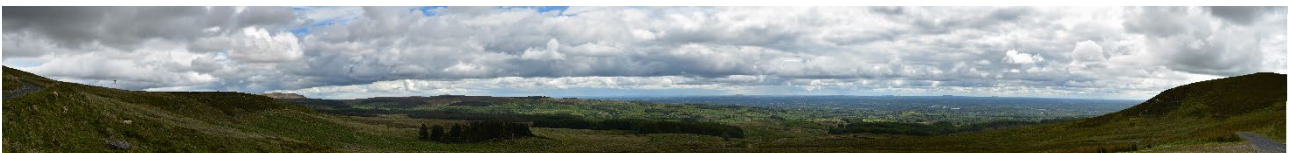
**Plate 10-3 near summit of Bencroy** – Man made influences present as telecommunications masts and commercial forestry.

### 3.5.2.6 Skylines and Settings

The distinctive mountain tops of Slieve Anierin and Bencroy form a backdrop to the farmed valley landscapes to the west. Slieve Anierin is notable in the skyline experienced from the lakeland landscape of Lough Allen and surrounding farmland. It also forms an important setting to the settlement of Drumshanbo.

### 3.5.2.7 Visibility and Views

Views in general are attained of the moorland hills and striking rock outcrops and scarp slopes associated with mountain summits. Panoramic expansive views are available to the south of the lowland farmland landscapes of South Leitrim from the southern slopes of Slieve Anierin. Panoramic views are also available of Lough Allen from the north western facing slopes of Bencroy.



**Plate 10-4 near Bencroy** - Panoramic views towards the lowland farmlands to the south. Scenic panoramic views will need to be carefully considered in the planning for future wind farms.

### **3.5.2.8 Landscape Quality (condition)**

Landscape condition and quality is relatively good although somewhat affected by the presence of post and wire fences replacing stone walls or earth banks. The telecoms mast is a detracting element and the conifer plantations have somewhat eroded the original character.

### **3.5.2.9 Scenic Quality**

The moorland hills are of high scenic quality in particular due to the distinctive dramatic scarp slopes and long range panoramic views of the lowland valleys and loughs.

### **3.5.2.10 Wildness and Tranquillity**

A wild and tranquil character is associated with the uplands and summits of Slieve Anierin and Bencroy.

### **3.5.2.11 Natural and Cultural Heritage Features, Cultural Heritage Associations**

The area has a history of mining albeit on a limited scale. A plaque dedicated to the memory of those who worked in the Bencroy Mines is located on the south facing slopes of Slieve Anierin. Close to this location, visitors can park and avail of the panoramic views of the farmed lowlands further south.

### **3.5.2.12 Amenity and Recreation**

The area features a number of walking routes including Sliabh An Iarann walking route and part of The Leitrim Way. Panoramic views are attained in selected locations.

## **3.5.3 LCA 10 - Slieve Anierin Summary and Recommendations**

The simplicity of the moorland landcover and absence of field pattern as a scale reference are characteristics which, in principle, would favour wind turbines. However the visual openness of the landscape, with outlook over lowlands and Lough Allen, presence of distinctive scarp slopes and hilltops and sense of remoteness or wildness are characteristics which contribute to increased sensitivity to wind turbines. Areas within the east facing lower slopes of Bencroy where commercial forestry is present may be considered subject to detailed design, having regard for landscape and visual constraints.

## **3.6 LCA 11 Corry Mountain**

Corry Mountain LCA, illustrated in Figure 1.7, comprises an area of upland moorland and farmed foothills which overlooks Lough Allen from the west. The landscape description and key characteristics are outlined below.

### **3.6.1 Landscape Description and Key Characteristics**

The Corry Mountain is an upland area which overlooks Lough Allen and lowlands from the west. The area features extensive tracts of peat bog, transitional woodland and scrub. Corry Mountain is the highest point reaching 436 m AOD. The uplands feature mountain roads which lead to wind farm developments of which there is a concentration of wind turbines which are visible from the surrounding lowlands. Panoramic views from elevated locations are available of the moorland plateaus, the surrounding lowlands and Lough Allen. In the agricultural landscapes on the lower slopes hedgerow enclosure results in more intimate landscapes. Large tracts of commercial forestry are a dominant feature along the moorland hills and at lower elevations.

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Extensive, mountainous uplands overlook Lough Allen from the west;
- Rough grazing on moorland hills and plateaus;
- Extensive areas of commercial forestry which dominate the moorland hills and lower slopes;
- A concentration of wind turbines on highest ridgelines;

- Sparsely populated;
- Impressive views from higher ground towards valley landscapes, Lough Allen and adjacent mountains;
- Moorland plateaus sense of isolation is eroded by the presence of many wind turbines;
- Field patterns on lower hill slopes fragmented by tracts of commercial forestry;
- Distinctive upland valleys sheltering small farming communities accessed by winding narrow roads; and
- Transitional woodland and scrub on steeper slopes.

### 3.6.2 Assessment

A number of upland landscape character types (LCTs) which fall within Corry Mountain LCA are identified as areas of search for assessment in terms of the suitability to accommodate wind turbines. These are:

- Moorland Plateaux LCT associated with Corry Mountain; and
- Moorland Hills LCT located to the north of Corry Mountain which are the foothills to Carrane Hill in County Sligo.

The assessment of these areas with reference to the criteria set out in section 2.3 is presented below together with recommendations for wind turbine development.

#### 3.6.2.1 Scale

The moorland plateau associated with Corry Mountain LCA is an upland landscape with elevation ranging from 300m to 400m. A consistent landcover comprised of blanket bog and heath in the vicinity of Corry Mountain and the scarcity of field pattern as a scale reference is such that this could be considered to be a large scale landscape. The area is visually open and expansive enhanced by the dominance and enormity of the sky.



**Plate 11-1 Moorland Hills in the vicinity of Corry Mountain** – smooth rolling landform presents as a larger scale landscape.

#### 3.6.2.2 Landform

Landform is generally rolling and smooth and does not feature rugged or distinctive features. In this regard, the landform has characteristics that suggest that wind turbines could be accommodated.

### 3.6.2.3 Enclosure

The landscape features some limited level of enclosure as a result of the rolling topography. This means that in some locations, the topography is such that the landform would provide screening of the lower parts of turbine structures however the scarcity of long term woodland (conifers being short term due to harvest) cover and general absence of hedgerows are such that the landscape is quite visually exposed.

### 3.6.2.4 Complexity of Landcover and Features

A relatively simple rolling moorland landscape with relatively consistent landcover of heath and bog albeit featuring extensive coniferous forestry in the foothills to Carrane Hill.

This aspect of the landscape is favourable towards accommodating wind turbines due to the relative absence of complex, irregular or intimate landscape patterns.

### 3.6.2.5 Man Made Influence

Man made influences are apparent in the extent of coniferous forestry and extensive wind turbines which occupy the ridgeline of Corry Mountain and extend north west along this ridge towards Tullynamuckduff.



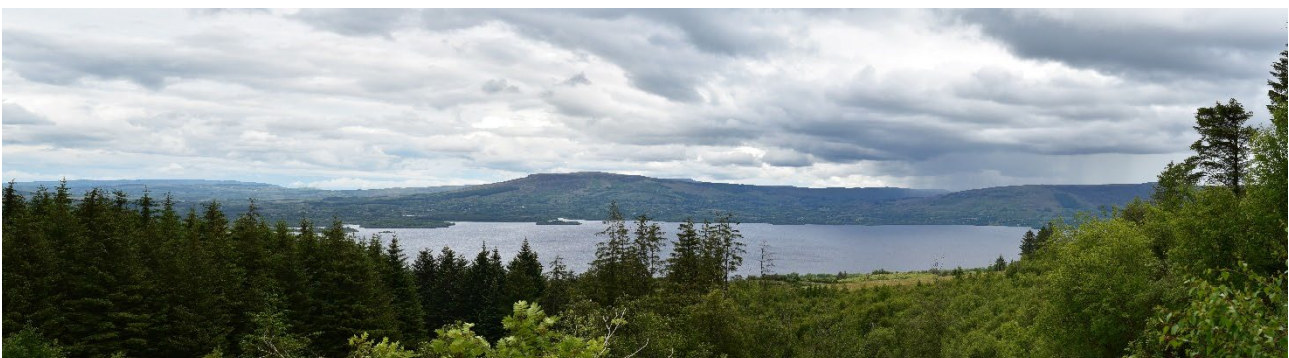
**Plate 11-2 in the vicinity of Tullynamuckduff** – man made influences present as wind turbines and commercial forestry.

### 3.6.2.6 Skylines and Settings

The Corry Mountain skyline forms part of the setting of the lakeland landscape of Lough Allen. The ridgeline also overlooks the farmed valley to the north. The ridgeline forms the setting for the settlement of Drumkeeran and for Dromahair further afield to the north.

### 3.6.2.7 Visibility and Views

Panoramic views of Lough Allen and surrounding farmland and skyline of Slieve Anierin are available in an south easterly direction.



**Plate 11-3 Views towards Lough Allen** - careful consideration of scenic lakeland landscapes is required in planning for wind farm development.

Panoramic views are also available at locations to the north east towards the Boleybrack Uplands albeit with wind turbines as detractors to this landscape of considerable scenic quality.



**Plate 11-4 Distant Views towards the Boleybrack Uplands** – careful consideration of scenic uplands is required in planning for wind farm development.

### **3.6.2.8 Landscape Quality (condition)**

Some derelict farming activity, rough grazing and coniferous forest clearance have resulted in localised areas of poor condition. The moorland areas are generally in good condition although the condition of localised areas of landscape have suffered due to a number of factors including forest clearance and replacement of roadside banks with post and wire fencing.

### **3.6.2.9 Scenic Quality**

The upland ridgelines with their outlook over the lowland valleys and Lough Allen are considered to be of considerable scenic quality.

### **3.6.2.10 Wildness and Tranquillity**

A sense of remoteness and wildness is associated with the moorland especially at higher elevations away from settlement and roads and other man made elements such as wind turbines.

### **3.6.2.11 Natural and Cultural Heritage Features, Cultural Heritage Associations**

The area has a history of mining on a small scale as evidenced by the presence of disused mines and a number of tracks used by miners who worked in the Arigna Coal Mines. The Miners Way Historical trail is a recreational route in the area.

### **3.6.2.12 Amenity and Recreation**

The Miner's Way Historical Trail extends through the southern part of the area of search. The upland landscape of this LCA is enjoyed by visitors and locals in the valley and around the scenic landscape of Lough Allen.

## **3.6.3 LCA 11 Corry Mountain Summary and Recommendations**

This landscape is considered to have some limited capacity to accommodate wind turbines. The rolling topography and simple landcover of blanket bog and heath are characteristics which indicate that some potential to accommodate wind turbines may exist subject to detailed design and assessment. Views across and from Lough Allen are an important consideration together with the setting of the town of Drumkeeran and recreational walking routes such as the Miner's Way. Some limited areas to the north west of Corry Mountain where commercial forestry is present may be considered subject to detailed design, having regard for landscape and visual constraints. In these areas, there is potential for adverse cumulative effects with the nearby wind farms and that associated with Carrane Hill in Sligo.

## 4 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The areas of search assessed for their capacity to accommodate wind turbines and wind farms from a landscape and visual perspective comprise mostly upland landscape character types. These include Moorland Plateaux LCT, Moorland Hills LCT and small areas in the Upland Farmland and foothills LCT within each of the 6 Landscape Character Areas considered in this capacity study.

The capacity study concludes that there is very limited capacity to absorb future proposed development in the form of wind turbines and wind farms. This is due to a number of factors as follows:

- Scenic quality and expansive nature of these landscapes which could potentially be undermined by the introduction of wind farms or wind turbines;
- Remote, tranquil and wild quality where the absence of man made influences is a key factor in the remote and scenic quality which could be undermined by the presence of wind farms or wind turbines;
- Intervisibility and relationship with the adjacent lowland farmland and lowland lakeland areas for which, the uplands are important to setting and present as a distinctive skyline or mountain backdrop;
- Presence of complex, distinctive and rugged landform;
- Landscape scale, at locations where field patterns defined by hedgerows convey a sense of a small scale landscape in which the presence or visibility of wind turbines would dominate; and
- Proximity of settlements for which, upland moorland and mountain areas are an important setting which would be adversely affected by future wind turbines or wind farms.

Although the study concludes that there is limited capacity to accommodate future development in the form of wind turbines and wind farms, it is acknowledged that areas of upland moorland where rolling landform and consistency of landcover could be deemed worthy of further assessment to ascertain capacity to accommodate a limited number of wind turbines. Such areas may also comprise altered landscapes due to man made influences such as commercial forestry. These areas may include the following:

- East facing lower slopes of the Boleybrack Montains within LCA 8 where the areas of search feature commercial forestry;
- East facing lower slopes of Bencroy where the areas of search feature commercial forestry within LCA 10 Slieve Anierin;
- Some limited moorland areas in the vicinity of Dough Mountain and Saddle Hill within LCA 4 Arroo and Mountain Outliers;
- Some limited areas to the north west of Corry Mountain where commercial forestry is present within LCA 11. In these areas, there is potential for adverse cumulative effects with the nearby wind farms and that associated with Carrane Hill in Sligo.

The capacity study concludes overall that the areas of search comprise landscapes of considerable scenic quality for which, the introduction of wind turbines and wind farms would, in many cases, result in likely significant effects. However, each future planning application for proposed development of this kind would have to be judged individually on its own merits with reference to a landscape and visual impact assessment report (LVIA) undertaken in line with best practice guidance by an appropriately qualified landscape architect. The LVIA would also demonstrate that the design of the proposed development, in terms of number, hub height, tip height and siting of individual wind turbines has regard for the baseline landscape character and visual amenity of the study area in which the development would be located.

Figure 1.1: Study Area

Figure 1.2: LCA 4 Arroo and Mountain Outliers

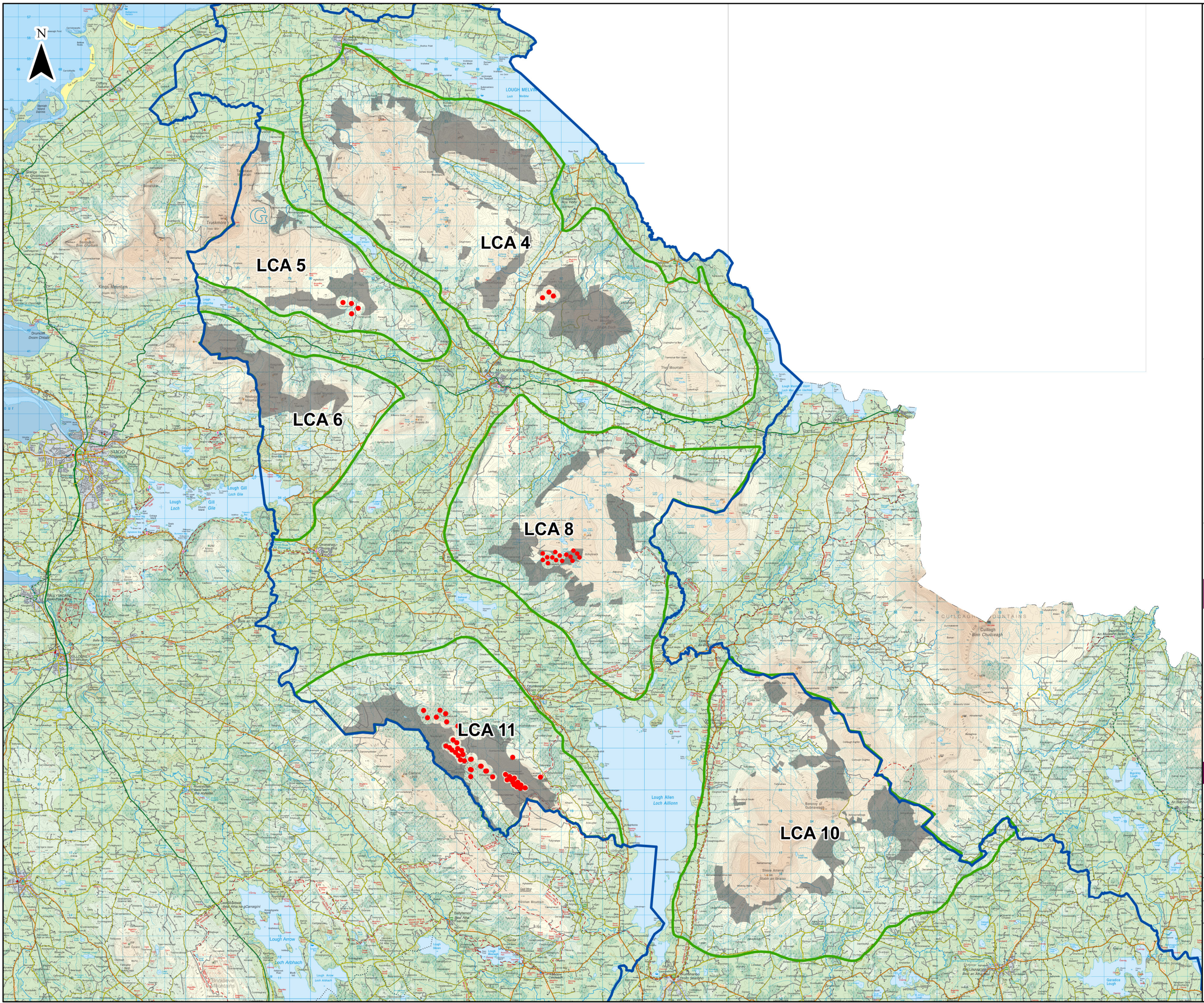
Figure 1.3: LCA 5 Tievebaun Uplands

Figure 1.4: LCA 6 The Doons and Crockauns

Figure 1.5: LCA 8 The Boleybrack Uplands

Figure 1.6: LCA 10 Slieve Anierin

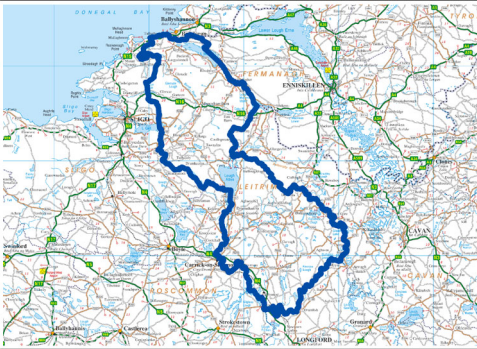
Figure 1.7: LCA 11 Corry Mountain



**Legend**

- Leitrim County Boundary
- Landscape Character Area Boundaries**
- LCA 4 - Arroo and Mountain Outliers
- LCA 5 - Tievebaun Uplands
- LCA 6 - The Doons and Crockauns
- LCA 8 - The Boleybrack Uplands
- LCA 10 - Slieve Anierin
- LCA 11 - Corry Mountain
- Areas of Search - Landscape and Wind Turbine Study
- Connected Wind Turbines

0 2.25 4.5 9 km



**Client**  
**Comhairle Chontae Liatroma**  
**Leitrim County Council**

**Leitrim County Council**  
**Renewable Energy Strategy**

**Title**  
**Fig. 1.1**  
**Study Area**

**Landscape Capacity**  
**for Wind Turbines**

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**Issue Details**

**File Identifier:**  
 MDR1528Arc0027D03  
 Landscape Capacity for Wind Turbines Overview Map

<b>Status:</b> Draft	<b>Rev:</b> D03	<b>Model File Identifier:</b> N/A
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<b>Drawn:</b> HF	<b>Date:</b> 06/05/2020
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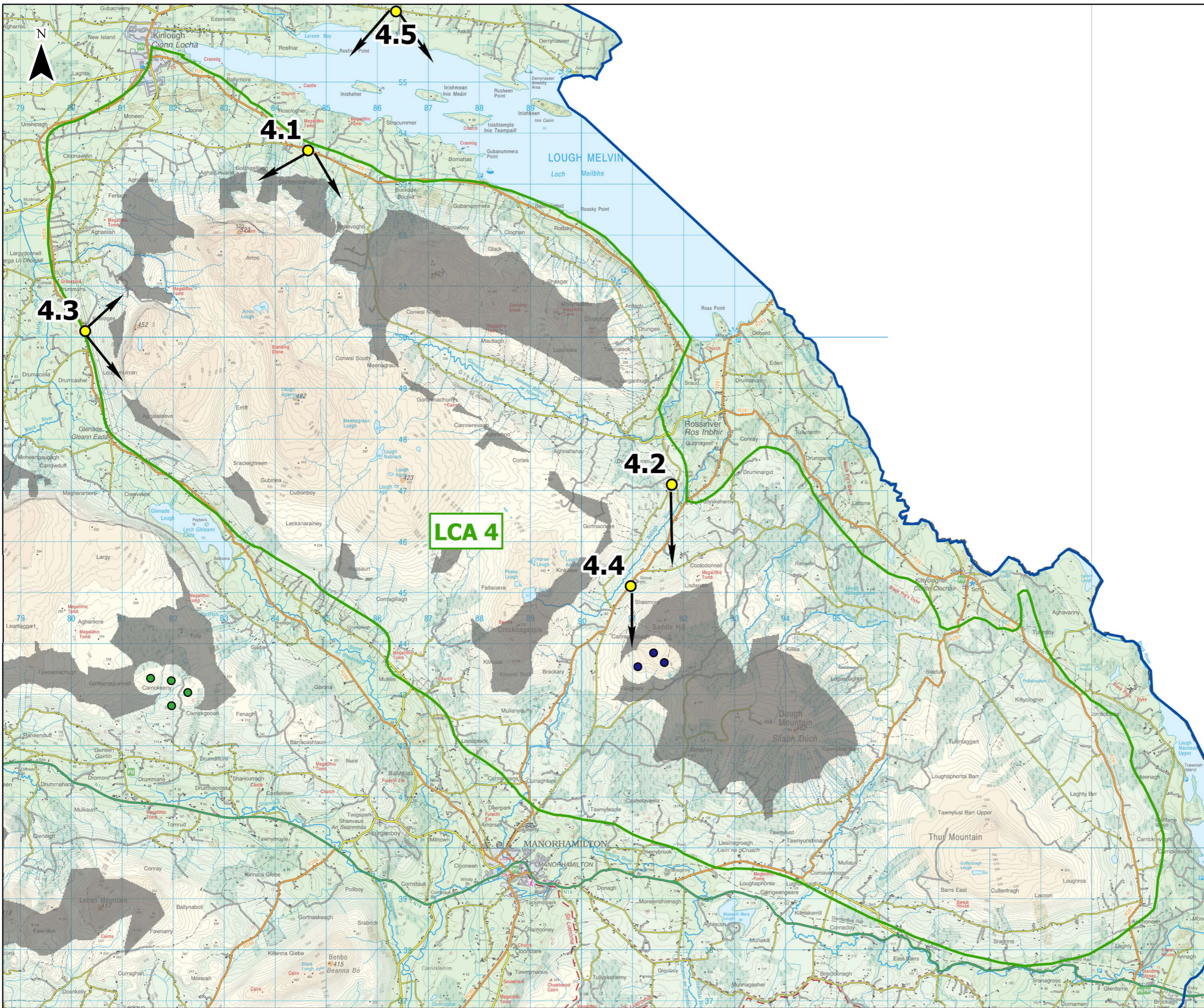
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**Legend**

- Leirrim County Boundary
- Landscape Character Area Boundaries
- LCA 4 - Arroo and Mountain Outliers
- Areas of Search - Landscape and Wind Turbine Study

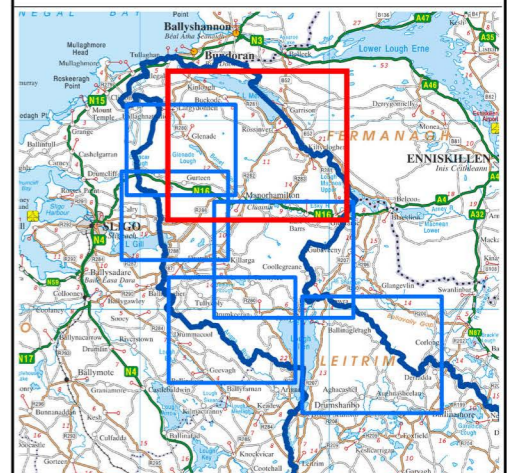
**Connected Wind farms (no of wind turbines)**

- Carrickeeny (4)
- Faughary (3)

**Photo Plates**

- 4.1
- 4.2
- 4.3
- 4.4
- 4.5

0 0.75 1.5 3 km



**Client**

 **Comhairle Chontae Liatroma**  
Leirrim County Council

**Leirrim County Council**  
**Renewable Energy Strategy**

**Title** LCA 4 - Figure 1.2  
Arroo and Mountain Outliers

**Landscape Capacity**  
**for Wind Turbines**  
Sheet 1 of 6

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**Issue Details**

**File Identifier:**  
MDR1528Arc0028D03  
Landscape Capacity for Wind Turbines Map Series

<b>Status:</b>	<b>Rev:</b>	<b>Model File Identifier:</b>
Draft	D03	N/A

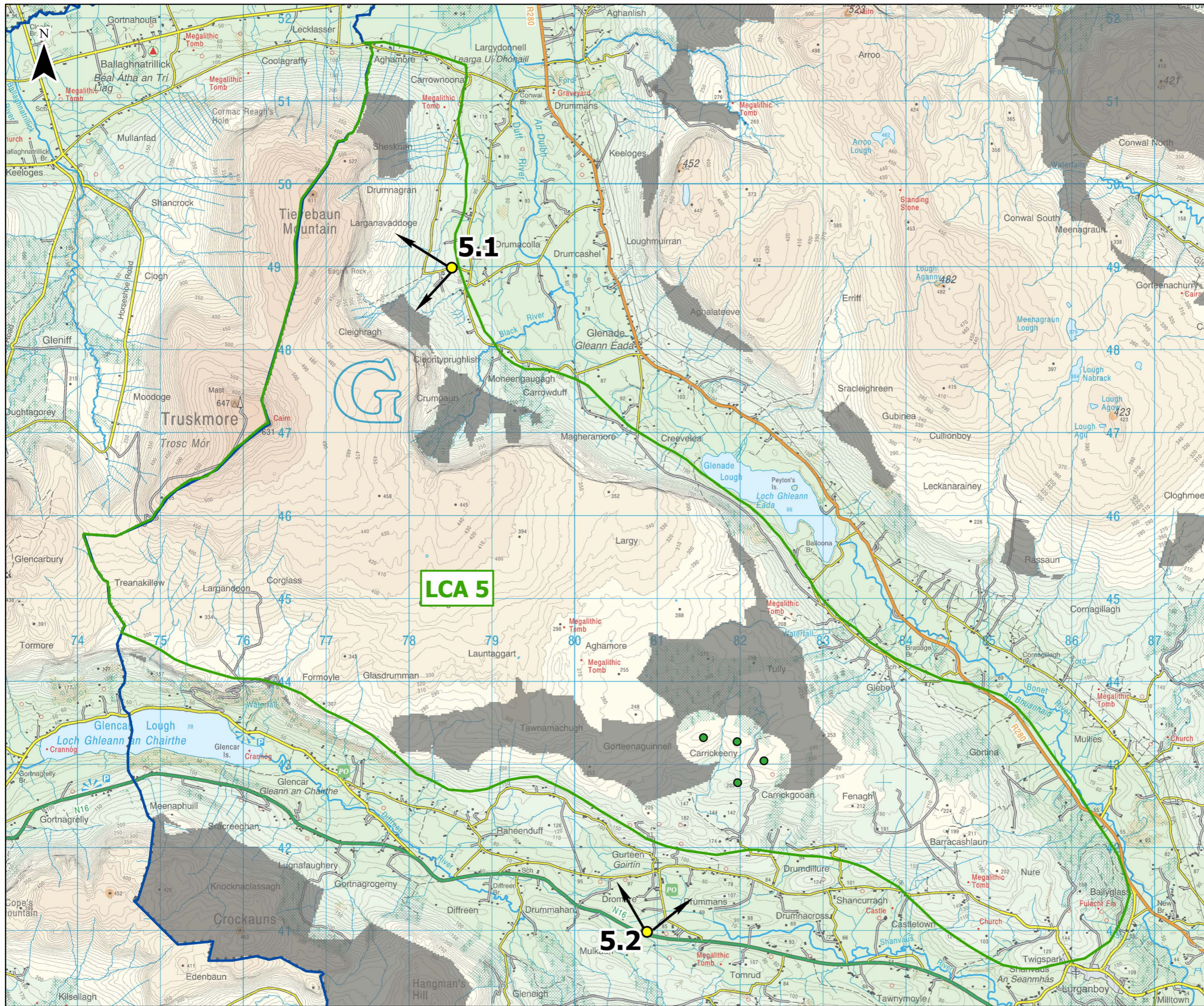
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RH	ITM

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**Legend**

- Leitrim County Boundary
- Landscape Character Area Boundaries**
  - LCA 5 - Tievebaun Uplands
  - Areas of Search - Landscape and Wind Turbine Study
- Connected Wind farms (no of wind turbines)**
  - Carrickeeny (4)
- Photo Plates**
  - 5.1
  - 5.2

0 0.5 1 2 km

**Client**  
**Comhairle Chontae Liatroma**  
**Leitrim County Council**

**Leitrim County Council**  
**Renewable Energy Strategy**

**Title** **LCA 5 - Figure 1.3**  
**Tievebaun Uplands**

**Landscape Capacity**  
**for Wind Turbines**  
 Sheet 2 of 6

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 MDR1528Arc0028D03  
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<b>Status:</b>	<b>Rev:</b>	<b>Model File Identifier:</b>
Draft	D03	N/A

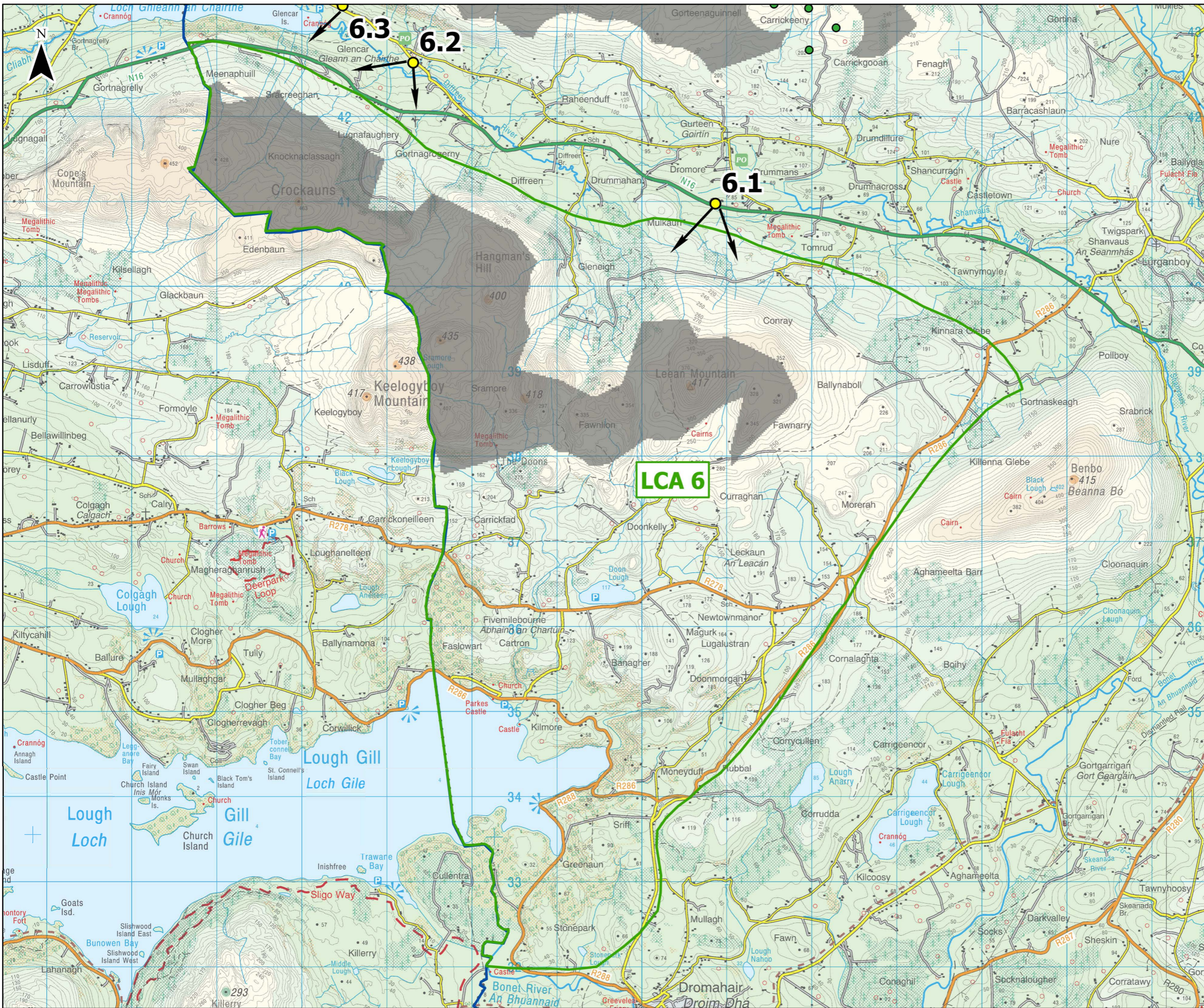
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HF	06/05/2020

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RH	ITM

**NOTE:**

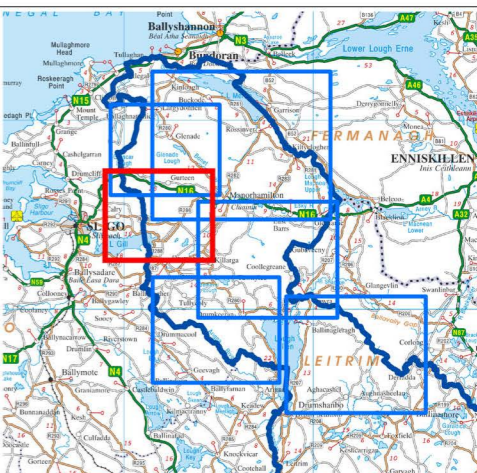
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**Legend**

- Leirrim County Boundary
- Landscape Character Area Boundaries**
- LCA 6 - The Doons and Crockauns
- Areas of Search - Landscape and Wind Turbine Study**
- Connected Wind farms (no of wind turbines)**
- Carrickeeny (4)
- Photo Plates**
- 6.1
- 6.2
- 6.3

0 0.5 1 2 km



**Client**

 **Comhairle Chontae Leitrim**  
Leirrim County Council

**Leirrim County Council**  
Renewable Energy Strategy

**Title** LCA 6 - Figure 1.4  
The Doons and Crockauns

**Landscape Capacity**  
for Wind Turbines  
Sheet 3 of 6

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Draft	D03	N/A

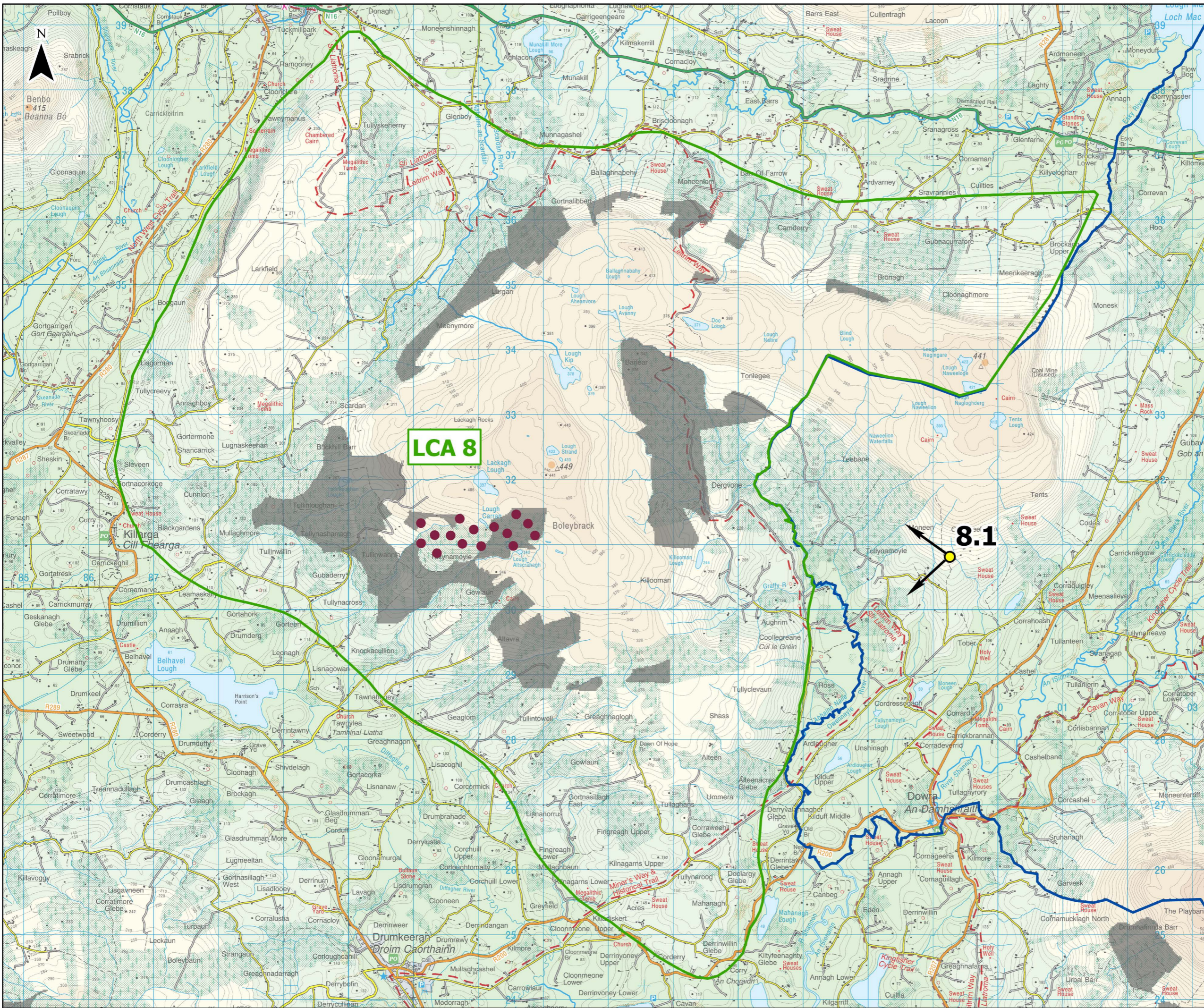
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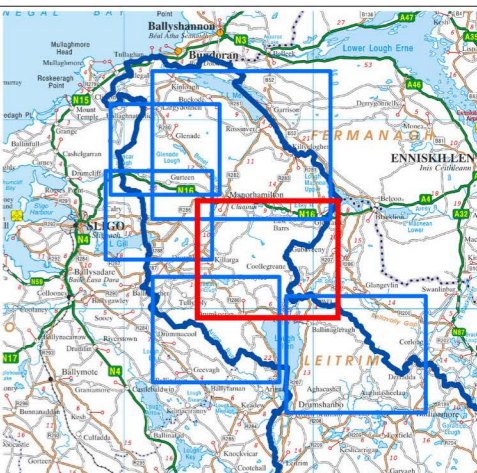
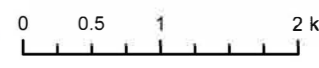
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RH	ITM

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- Legend**
- Leirtrim County Boundary
  - Landscape Character Area Boundaries**
  - LCA 8 - The Boleybrack Uplands
  - Areas of Search - Landscape and Wind Turbine Study
  - Connected Wind farms (no of wind turbines)**
  - Tullynamoyle (15)
  - Photo Plates**
  - 8.1



**Client**  
**Comhairle Chontae Leitrim**  
 Leitrim County Council

**Leitrim County Council**  
 Renewable Energy Strategy

**Title** LCA 8 - Figure 1.5  
 The Boleybrack Uplands

**Landscape Capacity**  
 for Wind Turbines  
 Sheet 4 of 6

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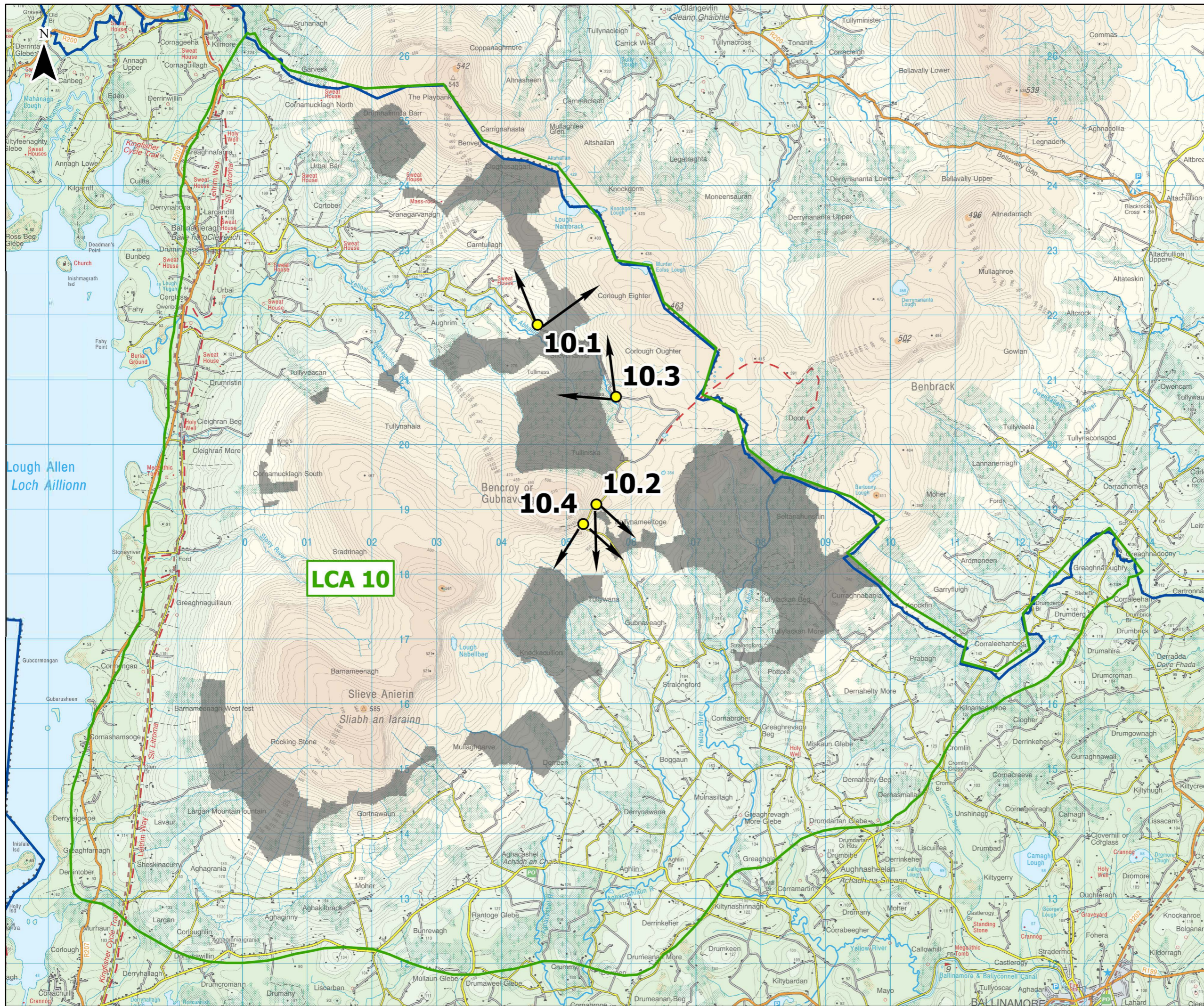
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<b>Drawn:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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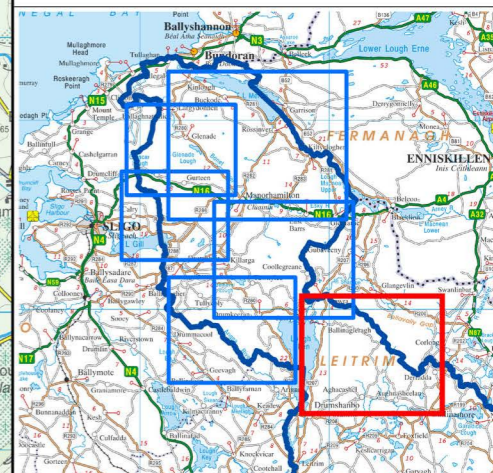
**Legend**

- Leirrim County Boundary
- Landscape Character Area Boundaries
- LCA 10 - Slieve Anierin
- Areas of Search - Landscape and Wind Turbine Study

**Photo Plates**

- 10.1
- 10.2
- 10.3
- 10.4

0 0.5 1 2 km



**Client**

 **Comhairle Chontae Leitrim**  
Leitrim County Council

**Leitrim County Council**  
**Renewable Energy Strategy**

**Title** LCA 10 - Figure 1.6  
Slieve Anierin

**Landscape Capacity**  
**for Wind Turbines**  
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Draft	D03	N/A

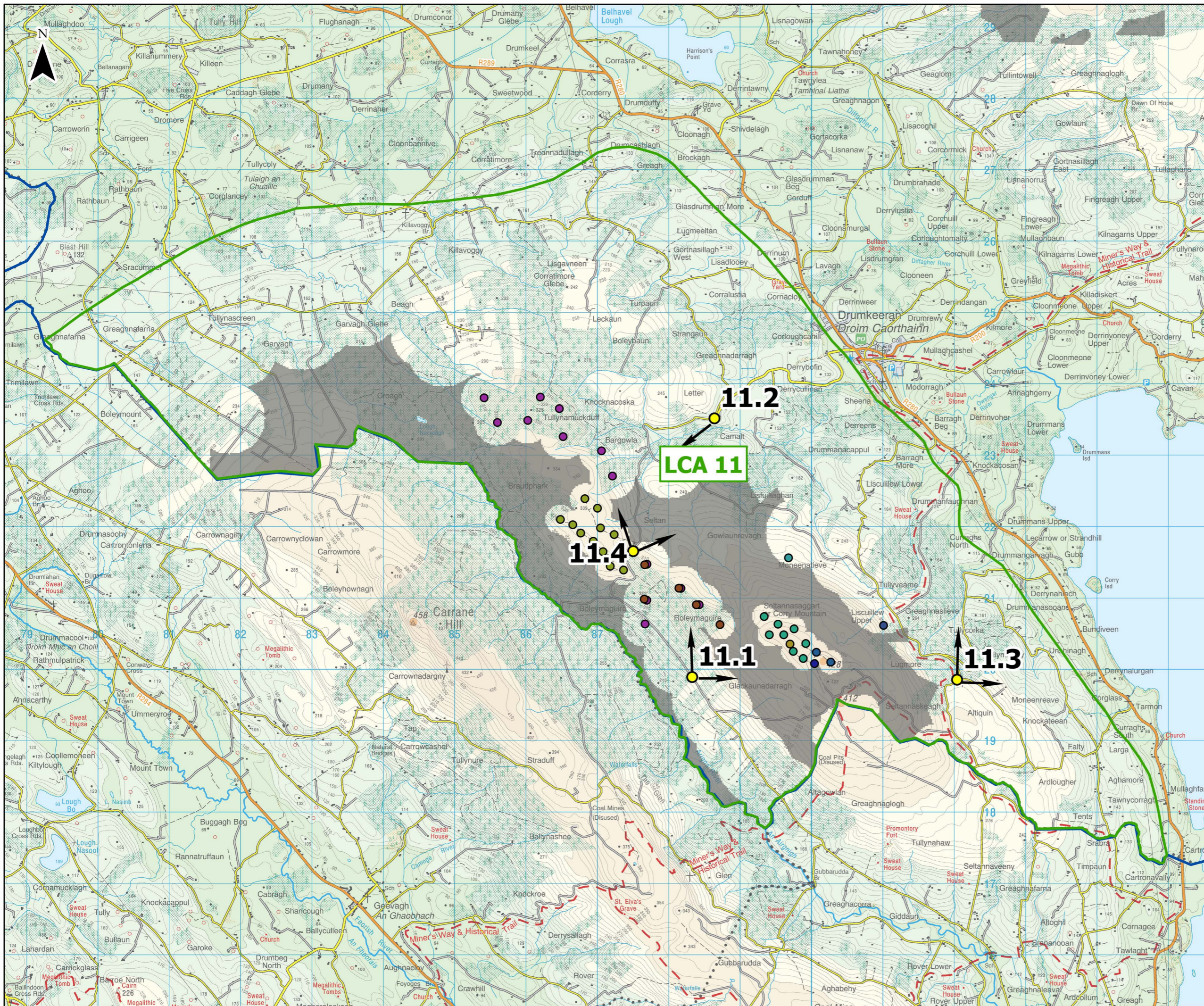
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RH	ITM

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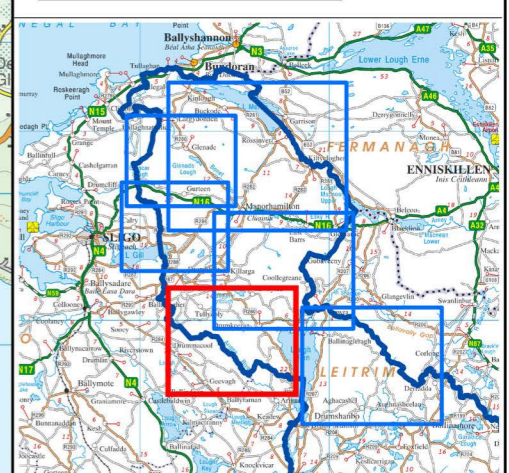
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**Legend**

- Leitrim County Boundary
- Landscape Character Area Boundaries
- LCA 11 - Corry Mountain
- Areas of Search - Landscape and Wind Turbine Study
- Connected Wind farms (no of wind turbines)
  - Black Banks (12)
  - Corrie Mt (8)
  - Garvagh - Glebe/Tullynahaw (8)
  - Moneenavee (5)
  - Spion Kop (2)
- Connected Single Wind Turbines
  - Black Banks 1
  - Black Banks 2
  - Corrie Mt
  - Moneenavee Wind Farm 1
  - Moneenavee Wind Farm 2
  - Spion Kop Wind Farm
- Photo Plates
  - 11.1
  - 11.2
  - 11.3
  - 11.4

0 0.5 1 2 km



**Client**  

**Comhairle Chontae Leitrima**  
 Leitrim County Council

**Leitrim County Council**  
 Renewable Energy Strategy

**Title**  
 LCA 11 - Figure 1.7  
 Corry Mountain

**Landscape Capacity**  
 for Wind Turbines  
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