



HOPETOUN

WELCOME TO HOPETOUN ESTATE'S COMMUNITY UPDATE

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS PRESENTATION
ON THE HOPETOUN ESTATE - A FAMILY
HOME AND WORKING FARM FOR
OVER 350 YEARS



Andrew Hopetoun

LORD HOPETOUN

*This presentation will focus mainly on the workings of the Estate,
a separate entity from the charity, Hopetoun House Preservation
Trust, which owns and manages Hopetoun House and a
substantial part of the designed landscape*



WE TAKE PRIDE IN HOPETOUN ESTATE

SPANNING 6,500 ACRES, HOPETOUN
ESTATE COMBINES STUNNING
LANDSCAPES AND ARCHITECTURE
WITH RICH HISTORY AND HERITAGE,
MAKING IT ONE OF CENTRAL
SCOTLAND'S MOST REMARKABLE
PLACES



HOPETOUN

A WORKING ESTATE



3,400
ACRES FARMED



VISITOR ATTRACTION AT
MIDHOPE CASTLE AND
PUBLIC EVENTS



GROUND CARE AND
LOGS, WOOD CHIP AND
CHRISTMAS TREE SALES



700
ACRES TENANTED



150k+
VISITORS ANNUALLY



MINERAL
EXTRACTION



1000
ACRES OF MIXED
WOODLAND



21
MEMBERS OF STAFF
30% LIVING ON-ESTATE



58 HOUSES AND OVER
90 PREMISES FOR
LOCAL BUSINESSES,
INCLUDING A
THRIVING FARM SHOP



HOPETOUN

A PLACE FOR OUR COMMUNITY



WORKING WITH LOCAL PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS, WE PROUDLY OFFER A RANGE OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES TO BENEFIT EVERYONE

LEISURE

- Two national cycle routes
- The John Muir Way
- 55km of accessible trails

SPACES AND PLACES

- Three public parks
- Twenty-five allotments
- Newton kick pitch
- Abercorn Church Hall
- Little Bugs Nursery
- Riding for the Disabled Association centre

LEARNING AND EDUCATION

- Schools' programmes and visits to the Estate
- Royal Highland Education Trust visits
- Scottish Agricultural College student placements

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

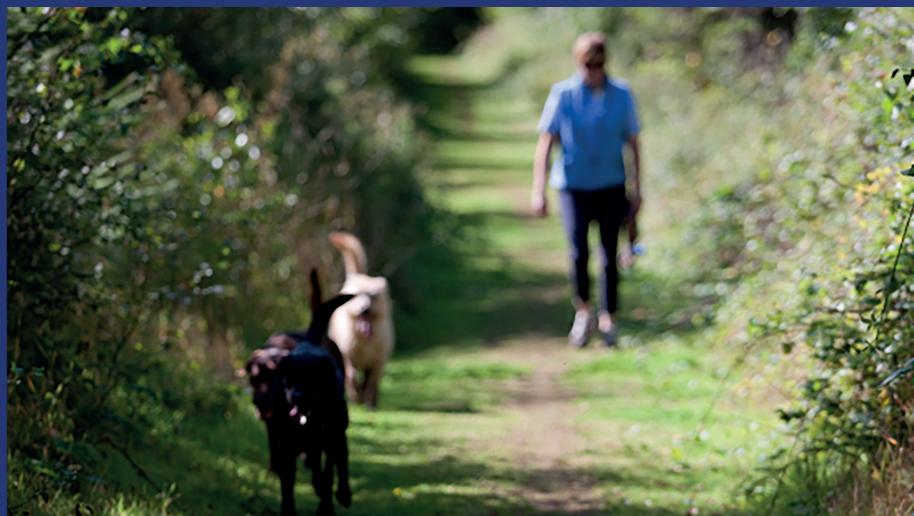
Ongoing engagement with around thirty community organisations, charities, community and county councillors, MSPs, MPs and representative bodies

DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Working with new and existing on-estate businesses, we have developed leisure and accommodation offerings that enhance our community's economic and cultural vitality

SAFETY AND WELCOMING

Hopetoun Estate works in partnership with West Lothian Council on active travel plans and managing issues such as fly-tipping, antisocial behaviour and parking to maintain a welcoming environment for all



HOPETOUN

A PLACE FOR LEISURE



HOPETOUN PROVIDES A HOME FOR LEISURE AND TOURISM

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS AND DESTINATIONS

- 100k+ visitors every year to:
- Midhope Castle, an important destination in West Lothian
 - An award-winning farm shop
 - A flourishing garden centre

FILMING LOCATIONS

Various films and series use Hopetoun Estate as a filming location, including the televised drama Outlander

PUBLIC EVENTS

With an attractive annual events calendar, more than 70k visitors come to such events as carriage driving, recreational assault courses, Scottish Schools Cross Country, charity events, and more

LEISURE

Facilities for golf, fishing, game shooting, and corporate entertainment, such as clays and quad biking, and B&B accommodation. In addition, there are miles of accessible trails for informal walking and cycling



A PLACE WITH A RICH HISTORY



HOPETOUN'S REMARKABLE BUILDINGS AND HERITAGE INCLUDE:

BUILT AND NATURAL HERITAGE

- 28 listed buildings, making up 6.5% of West Lothian total listed properties
- 7 scheduled ancient monuments, representing 14% of scheduled monuments in West Lothian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

A dedicated archive, education programme, and conservation centre at Hopetoun House

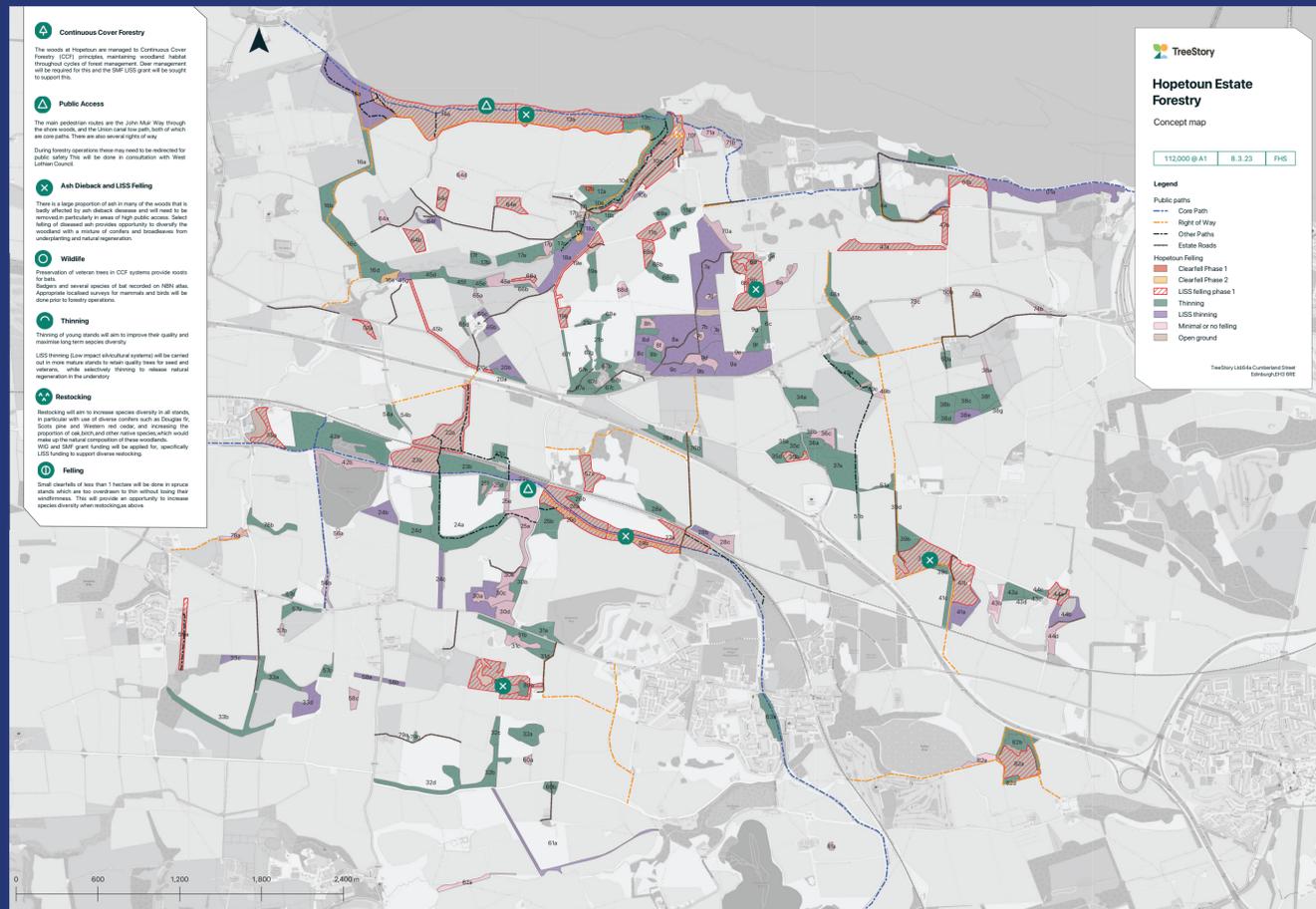
HISTORIC BUILDINGS

A number of significant heritage buildings and structures with archaic uses, including a mausoleum, Staneyhill Tower, doo'cots, ice houses and other historic features



HOPETOUN

A PLACE WITH A RICH LANDSCAPE AND NATURE



HOPETOUN'S REMARKABLE LANDSCAPE AND NATURAL HERITAGE INCLUDE:

LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY

- Designed Landscape
- The Firth of Forth Special Area of Conservation
- A RAMSAR site
- Historic red deer and fallow deer parks
- Special Landscape Area
- 2 Sites of Special Scientific Interest in the Forth Shore and Philpstoun Muir, representing 12.5% of West Lothian total SSSI
- 10 local geodiversity sites - 20% of West Lothian's total
- 9 Local biodiversity sites, making up 7% of West Lothian total biodiversity sites

WOODLANDS

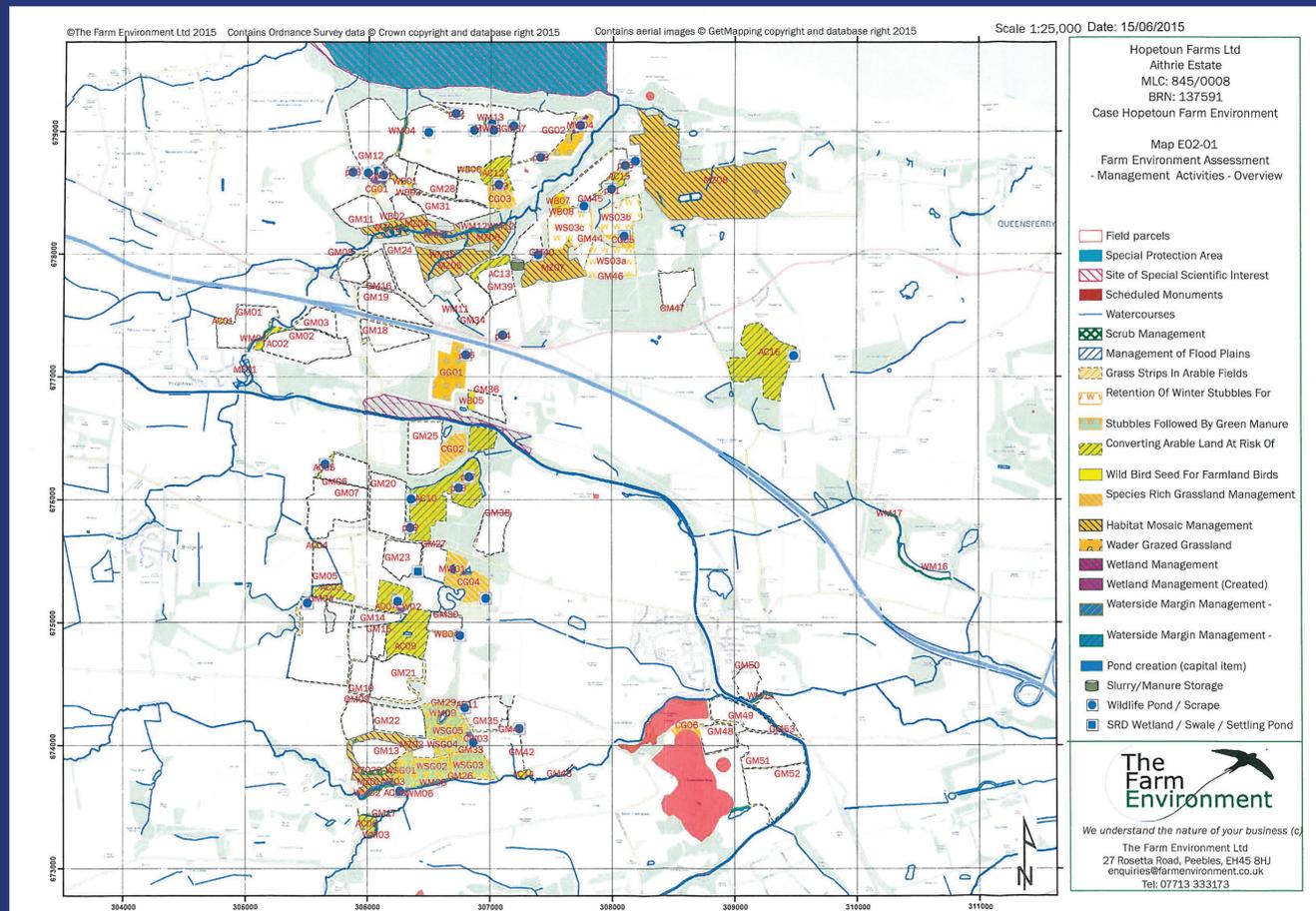
- Hopetoun Estate holds an extensive ancient woodland network
- Long-term Forest Plan in place for ongoing sustainable management, agreed with Scottish Forestry

WILDLIFE

- Wildlife Estates Scotland Level 2 Accreditation demonstrates our commitment to maintaining and enhancing the wildlife and environment



A PLACE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL FARMING



HOPETOUN HAS PARTICIPATED IN ENVIRONMENTAL FARMING SCHEMES FOR OVER 20 YEARS

ENVIRONMENTAL FARMING

- Hopetoun follows the Agri-Environment Climate Scheme
- As a result of this, the estate benefits from extensive field margins and beetle banks and wild flower meadows, including:
 - 22 acres of wetland creation and management
 - 107 acres of grass strips in arable fields (equivalent to 68 miles of 4m grass margin)
 - 172 acres converting arable at risk of erosion or flooding to low input grassland
 - 104 acres stubbles followed by green manure in an arable rotation
 - 248 acres in habitat mosaic management
 - 28 acres of wetland management
 - 38 acres of species rich grassland management
 - 10 acres water margins in arable fields
 - 20 acres water margins in grassland fields
 - 17.5 acres wild bird seed
 - 85 acres of wader grazed grassland
 - 45 new ponds established
 - Productive beehives are used to enhance pollination



A PLACE FOR THE FUTURE

Heritage and Regeneration

HOPETOUN IS COMMITTED TO THE PRESERVATION OF HERITAGE AND REGENERATION

PROGRESS MADE

- Invested heavily in built heritage including:
 - Steading conversions for offices and work premises at West Philpstoun and Home Farm, providing employment for eight local businesses
 - Maintenance and upgrading of let housing stock using local contractors
 - A programme of investment in redundant vernacular farm steadings to put into a good state of repair and bring back into other productive uses
 - Over £10 m invested in buildings since 2010
- Ongoing preservation and conservation of significant buildings and structures
- Significant investment in the maintenance of Designed Landscape including drystone dykes and formal landscape features
- Bringing uninhabitable cottages back into useful homes

TO COME

- Continue the programme to preserve and enhance traditional buildings and find sustainable use for the long-term as part of our Estate business. We are currently focusing on Craigton Steading and Kirklands Steading
- There are currently over ten traditional steadings either partially or wholly redundant for agricultural use. We plan to develop these, prioritising these in terms of heritage importance, location, and condition
- Currently early plans for Duddingston Steading are in consultation with West Lothian Council
- Continue to work in partnership with West Lothian Council on developing housing and business premises
- Proposed works to Greenriggs ponds and Gullet ponds and reinstatement of North Deer Park sea wall



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A PLACE FOR THE FUTURE

Net Zero and Environment



HOPETOUN IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING SCOTLAND'S NET-ZERO GOALS

PROGRESS MADE

- Estate-wide environmental conservation schemes and Level 2 Wildlife Estates Scotland accreditation
- Extensive tree safety works carried out along roads, paths and railways, including dealing with ash dieback
- Sustainable woodland improvements on estate provides fuel for biomass system
- Three PV arrays currently supply power to our farms and the Estate
- A sustainable 800 kW biomass district heating system, serving Hopetoun House, the Estates Office, and nearby cottages

TO COME

- Carbon audits on all farms and implementation of regenerative farming methods (eg min till, cover crops etc)
- Continued tree safety works, ash dieback clearance and woodland improvements
- Collaboration with Ampyr Energy UK on two potential renewable schemes under the Aithrie Net Zero initiative
 - Newton: 30MW export capacity with co-located 20MW battery storage (approx. 115 acres)
 - Threemiletown: 30MW export capacity (approx. 115 acres)
- Potential for direct wires to major local users and EV charging stations
- Continual review of other technologies, such as biogas
- Exploration of smaller-scale renewable options for estate residents and businesses central to the estate's zero-carbon transition
- Energy efficiency measures in properties to reduce carbon emissions, for example heat pumps, insulation and solar panels



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A PLACE FOR THE FUTURE

Growth and Regeneration



HOPETOUN IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH STAKEHOLDERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO DEVELOP SUSTAINABLE ENTERPRISE AND CONTRIBUTE TO STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNING FOR THE AREA

PROGRESS MADE

- Involvement in Winchburgh Development over more than 25 years, culminating in an award-winning settlement expansion involving new secondary schools, primary schools, community facilities and a motorway junction
- Provision of house sites for small developers and individuals
- Planning consent for distillery at Midhope Castle
- Planning consent for restoration of South Philpstoun Bing

TO COME

- Consideration and submission to West Lothian Council Local Development Plan process, a 10 yearly review of potential land use in West Lothian. This will encompass housing and other developments, landscape and environment protections, access and tourism
- Work with partners to deliver distillery project and related visitor facilities
- Enhance the Midhope Castle visitor experience, whilst respecting the rural nature of the location



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THANK YOU FOR
ATTENDING

We look forward to your
comments on today's event

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