



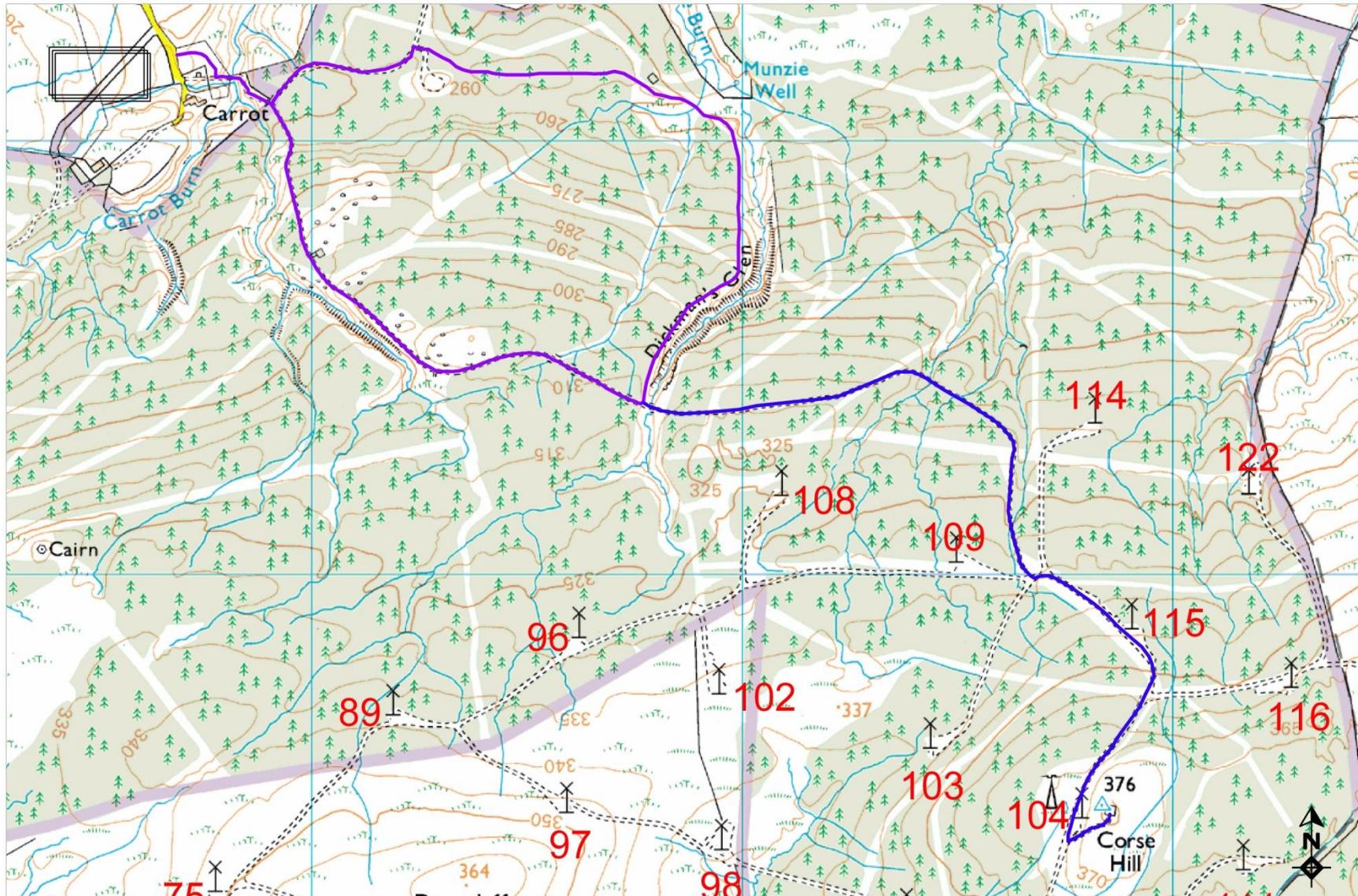
## Carrot – Walk & Cycle Routes

Walk Length: Short route – 4.7miles/7.6km

Long route – 10.2miles/16.4km

Corse Hill – 4.7miles/7.6km

Fitness Level: Strenuous



DATE: 22/01/2014

SCALE: 1:11000

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## General

Parking at the Carrot entrance to Whitelee is at the side of the road in an informal layby just back from the entrance to the windfarm. Please park carefully to avoid causing issues for other road users and residents of Carrot. The entrance to the windfarm is along the road towards Carrot and is via an opening in the fenceline with a Forestry Commission Scotland sign close by.

Please be aware that the tracks and roads within Whitelee are multi-use and popular with various access users. Visitors are therefore requested to be considerate of other access users such as horse riders, dog walkers, cyclists etc. All access users to Whitelee are asked to abide by the spirit of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and carry out their activity responsibly. [For further information on your access rights please see: [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com)]

No farm animals/livestock should be present along the routes but occasionally sheep can breach boundary fences. If you see any livestock please report them to the Whitelee Countryside Ranger Service.

## Walk/Run/Ramble

Three route options are provided here, all starting from the Carrot entrance. Moving through the field towards the windfarm, watch for owls that frequent the area. There is a small section of embankment to descend to join an old forest road up into the windfarm – please note the slope down is of formed earth and can be muddy/slippery after wet weather. A short distance after joining the forest track, there is an old farm gate to pass through, but it is possible to slip between the gate post and fence on the left side of the gate, or open the gate.

Two of the routes entail walking off track while the Corse Hill walk remains on tracks for the full distance.

### Short (purple) route:

This is a circular walk that is on and off track. From the start on entering the windfarm it quickly climbs up a short, steep, rocky section of forest track with a gate and stile at the top, before turning east and taking visitors through a section of Whitelee Forest. (Please note the stile has a high step and visitors may wish to open the gate instead – please close it behind you.) The route then heads along a firebreak in the trees at the rear of a clearing (old quarry), before heading up and through Dickman's Glen to

rejoin the old forest track. This route is off-track and ground conditions can be wet and muddy when passing through the woodland rides and along Dickman's Glen. Watch for Roe Deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), Jays (*Garrulus glandarius*) and Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*) in the wooded areas. On rejoining the forest track, head downhill to the start of the route.

### Long (purple then blue) route:

This utilises the same route as the short walk but doesn't return to Carrot on rejoining the forest track. Continue uphill into the windfarm on rejoining the forest track. Following this route will lead to Corse Hill, the highest point in East Renfrewshire, from where spectacular views over Glasgow, the Irvine valley and over the windfarm are afforded. It is also an excellent vantage point for bird watching.

### Corse Hill:

This is a direct route to Corse Hill using forest and windfarm tracks all the way, thus avoiding going off track. This route climbs from the start and omits the Dickman's Glen section, and continues until reaching the summit of Corse Hill. Track conditions are generally good for the walk although the first section of forest road is rocky and can be puddled in sections.

## Cycle – Mountain Biking

All 3 routes described for walking can be used for mountain bike riding but are not recommended for use with other styles of bicycle.

The direct route from Carrot to Corse Hill is the best in terms of track quality, being surfaced all the way. There are still some rough sections of rocks however. The route taking in Dickmans Glen is best avoided unless visitors are looking for muddy routes to follow!

Please be advised that the return, downhill, route from Corse Hill to Carrot is steep and rocky and cyclists are advised to use caution when descending and to watch for other access users.

WCERS

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Contact: Tel – 0141 614 0962 / Email – [whitelee-crs@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:whitelee-crs@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/whitelee](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/whitelee)