

**Newark and Sherwood
Landscape Character Assessment
Supplementary Planning Document**

DECEMBER 2013

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment SPD

Document Passport

Title:	Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Document
Status:	Adopted Supplementary Planning Document
Summary:	The Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is a District- level assessment of landscape character which forms part of the wider assessment for the County. Its preparation has followed the County-level methodology and the document provides an explanation of the differences between landscapes that is based around a sense of place, local distinctiveness, characteristic wildlife, and natural features. In identifying specific Landscape Policy Zones (LPZs) and related actions the LCA will play an important role in the planning framework and in decisions over new development.
Date of Adoption:	11 th December 2013
Adopted By:	Economic Development Committee

Consultation

Summary:	The District Council consulted on the document seeking views from local residents, landowners, developers, town & parish councils and other interested parties for a period of 6 weeks from 3 rd October and 14 th November 2011. Following consideration of representations received the Council revised the document and submitted the final version to the Council's Economic Development Committee on the 11 th December 2013 for adoption.
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Availability of Document:

Copies of this document, the accompanying Screening Reports for the Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA) are deposited at Kelham Hall (open between 8.45 a.m. and 5.15 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 8.45 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. on Friday) and on the Council's website: <http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/spds/>. In addition paper copies of the SPD are available to view at Newark, Ollerton and Southwell libraries.

If you have any questions please contact the Council's Growth Directorate on 01636 650000 or planning@nsdc.info

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VOLUME 2

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<http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/spds/>

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- B** Information to be collected/checked before Landscape Character Area Survey
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- J** Summary Tables (The amalgamation of Landscape Character Parcels into Draft Policy Zones)
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1.1 Executive Summary

The Landscape Character Assessment was published in 2010. In October 2011 consultation was carried out on the document in order that it could be incorporated into the Newark & Sherwood Local Development Framework as a Supplementary Planning Document. Following the consultation further work was undertaken to address the issues raised by consultee, resulting in this finalised SPD.

1.1.1 Planning context

The European Landscape Convention (ELC) is the first international convention to focus specifically on landscape which was created by the Council of Europe. It defines landscape as:

“An area as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”. (Council of Europe 2000)

The ELC is the first international convention to focus specifically on landscape and was signed by the UK Government in February 2006, and became effective in March 2007. The convention promotes landscape protection, management and planning, as well as European co-operation on landscape issues. The convention applies to all landscapes, towns and villages, open countryside, the coast and inland areas, ordinary and degraded landscapes, as well as those that are afforded protection.

The Convention was reaffirmed as being part of the Defra delivery framework through the Natural Environment White Paper in June 2011.

Landscape Character is defined as:

“The tool that is used to help us to understand, and articulate, the character of the landscape. It helps us identify the features that give a locality its 'sense of place' and pinpoints what makes it different from neighbouring areas.”

(Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland, The Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage, 2002)

Landscape Character Assessment can be used in many situations, from devising indicators to gauge landscape change to inform regional planning, local development, environmental assessment and the management of landscapes.

1.1.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 28th March 2012

The NPPF provides the context within which sustainable development can be met through the planning system and paragraph 7 lists the economic role, social role and environmental roles that need to be met. The third bullet point is:

- ***an environmental role*** – *contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.*

One of the twelve core planning principles outlined on Page 5, paragraph 17 is bullet point 5

- *take account of the different roles and character of different areas, promoting the vitality of our main urban areas, protecting the Green Belts around them, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it;*

1.1.3 **Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment**

The Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is a District- level assessment of landscape character which forms part of the wider assessment for the County. Its preparation has followed the County-level methodology and the document provides an explanation of the differences between landscapes that is based around a sense of place, local distinctiveness, characteristic wildlife, and natural features. In identifying specific Landscape Policy Zones (LPZs) and related actions the LCA will play an important role in the planning framework and in decisions over new development.

Reflecting this importance the LCA has been a key part of the evidence base informing the production of the Core Strategy (CS) and the Allocations & Development Management (A&DM) Development Plan Documents (DPDs). The Assessment has been a significant factor in the making of decisions on site allocations within the A&DM DPD.

Core Policy 13 (Landscape Character) of the Core Strategy sets out that the Local Development Framework (LDF) will introduce a comprehensive landscape assessment of Newark and Sherwood which will identify the landscape character condition and sensitivity of each Landscape Policy Zone. The policy also sets out the expectation that development proposals will positively address the implications of the LPZs and demonstrate that the aims and objectives for that area would be contributed to.

The LCA offers an objective methodology for assessing the varied landscape within Newark and Sherwood and gives a greater understanding of what makes the landscape within the District locally distinctive. This is reflected through the identification of Policy Zones across the 5 Landscape Character Types represented within Newark and Sherwood, shown on Figure 1.1. The Landscape Character Assessment provides the basis for the implementation of Core Policy 13 and as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) of the LDF is capable of being a material consideration with within the planning process.

1.1.4 **Other Landscape Publications**

Other document's which may also be relevant to landscape issues within the District include:

- Southwell Landscape Setting (November 2012);
- Newark & Sherwood Green Infrastructure Strategy;
- Nottinghamshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan; and
- Newark and Sherwood Nature Conservation Strategy.

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These documents are available to view on the District Councils website.

<http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/evbase>

In addition a Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document is, at the time of writing, under production with a Landscape Capacity Study being prepared to support this. Further information can be found through the link below.

<http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/spds/>

1.2 How to use this document

This document describes the landscape character of the Newark and Sherwood District Council administrative area, which consists of 5 different County Character Areas. The report has been structured to enable users not to have to read the whole document to access the information they need, but to be able to go directly to the key information.

Each chapter of the report covers a distinct character area, and describes the broad characteristics of the area. It describes:

- The physical and human influences within the **character area**, (Refer to Appendix R for detailed Landscape History and Appendix I for soil/geology plans)
- The main factors that have brought about change in the **character area**, and considers the trends and pressures that may produce change in the future
- The native species list for the **character area**
- The visual character of the landscape for each **landscape character type**, the main Landscape Character types have been described and policy sheets included which summarise the key characteristics of each **Policy Zone**.

For example, if a user wants to know about the landscape character of an area of land south of Southwell the steps required are:

1. Refer to Figure 1 to determine the Landscape Character Area within which the site falls into (in this case the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands).
2. Refer to Figure 2 the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands Character Area, to check which Policy Zone the site falls into, in this case MN PZ 38. (Species listed under the Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands list would be suitable as native planting for a site within this area.)
3. Refer to the appropriate character description for MN PZ 38 (Halloughton Village Farmlands) to obtain a summary of the field data collected about the area.

The analysis sheet describes the key criteria which have been used to define the landscape condition, which in this case is *Good*. The Policy Sheet then describes the key criteria that have been used to define landscape sensitivity, which in this case is *Moderate*. These factors have been used to derive a **Landscape Policy** – in this case *“Conserve and reinforce” – actions that conserve distinctive features and features in good condition, and strengthen and reinforce those features that may be vulnerable*. Landscape actions are these listed at the base of the policy sheet, these are divided into actions relating to landscape features and built features.

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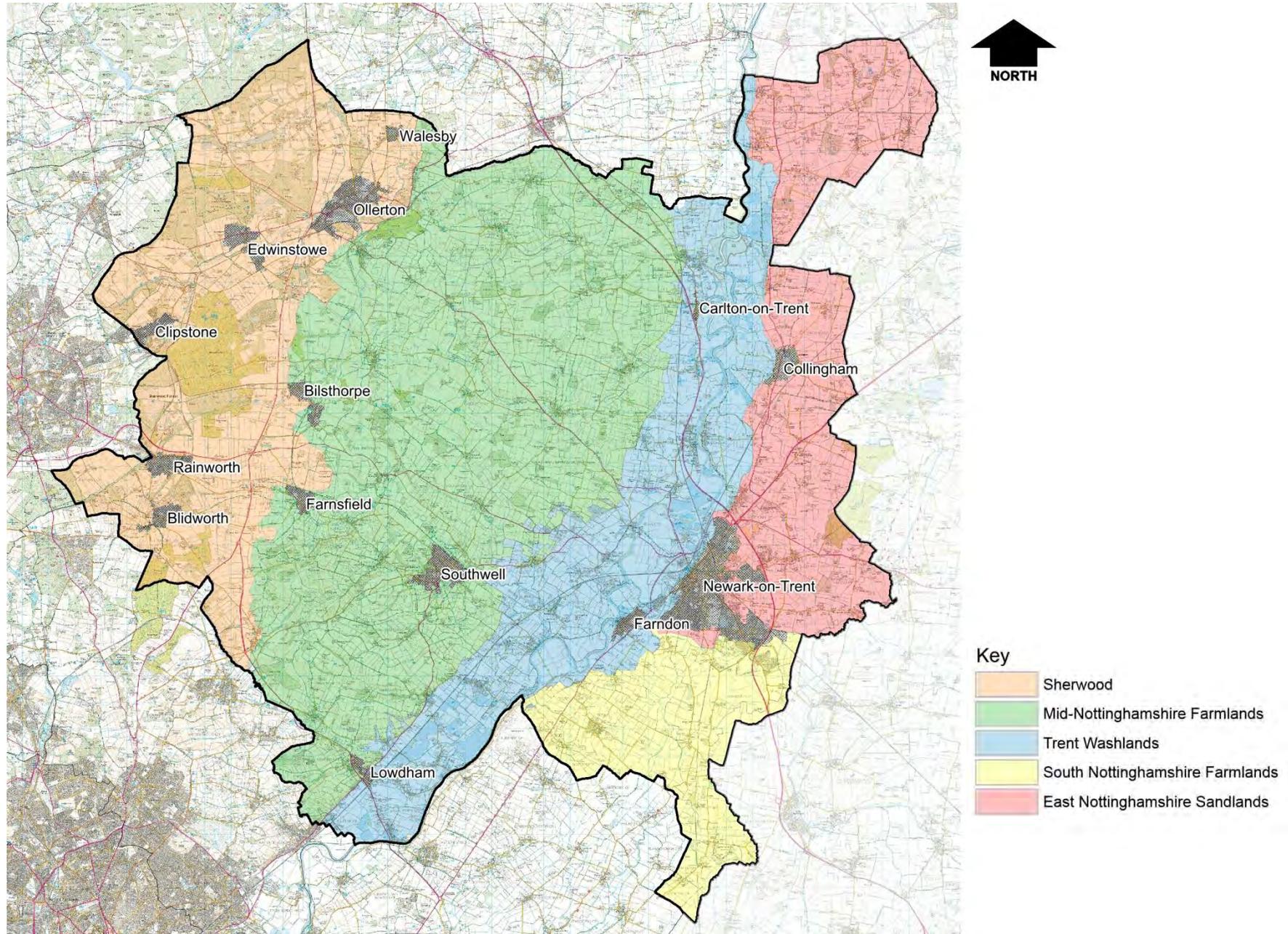


Figure 1.1 Regional Character Areas overlaid on an OS map

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment SPD

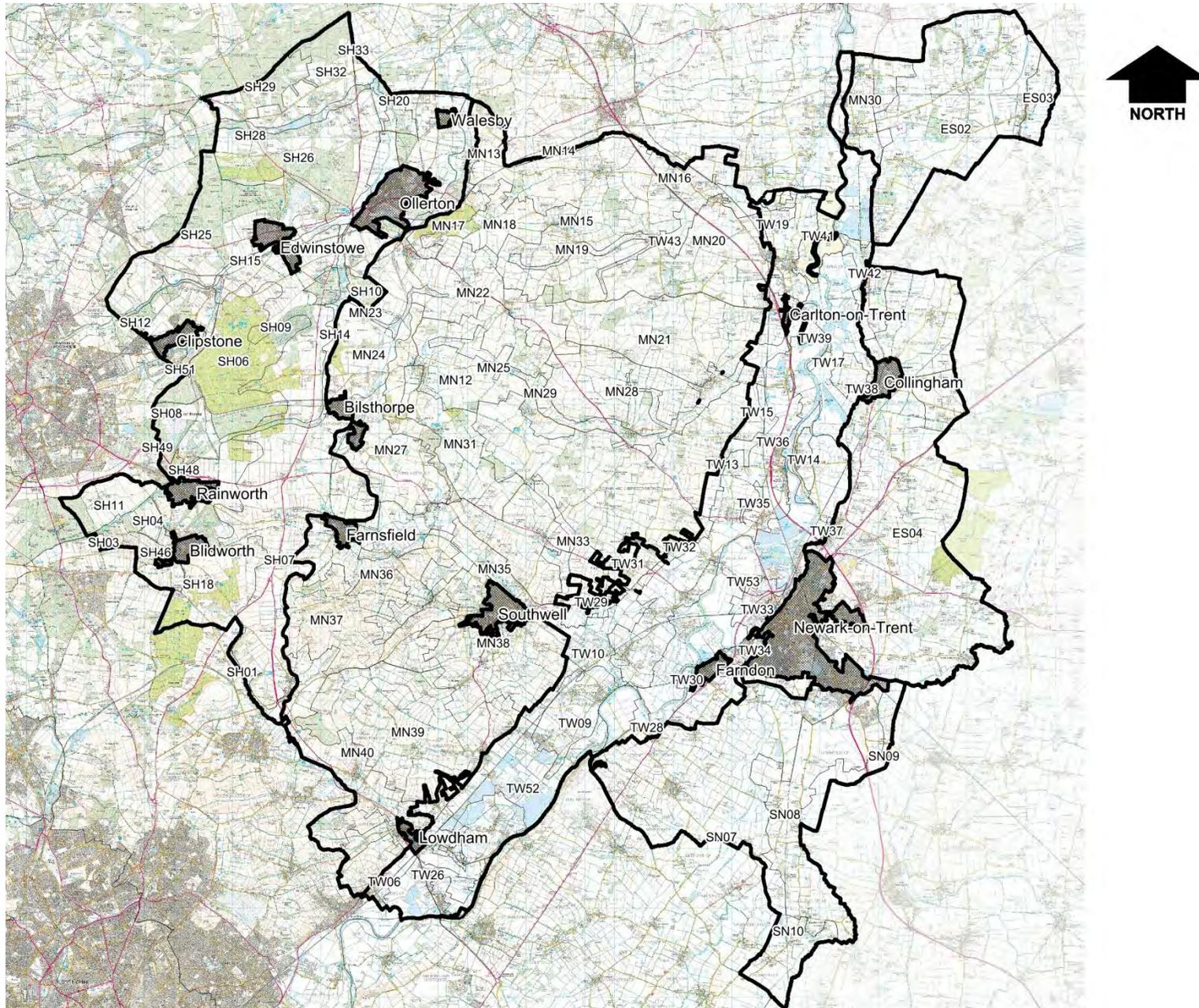


Figure 1.2 Policy Zones overlaid on an OS map

1.3 Policy Zones – Landscape Actions

For each of the Policy Zones a series of Policy sheets has been developed which detail a landscape action for each Policy Zone. The landscape actions are defined as follows:-

Conserve – actions that encourage the conservation of distinctive features and features in good condition.

Conserve and Reinforce – actions that conserve distinctive features and features in good condition, and strengthen and reinforce those features that may be vulnerable.

Reinforce – actions that strengthen or reinforce distinctive features and patterns in the landscape.

Conserve and Restore – actions that encourage the conservation of distinctive features in good condition, whilst restoring elements or areas in poorer condition and removing or mitigating detracting features.

Conserve and Create – actions that conserve distinctive features and features in good condition, whilst creating new features or areas where they have been lost or are in poor condition.

Restore – actions that encourage the restoration of distinctive features and the removal or mitigation of detracting features.

Restore and Create – actions that restore distinctive features and the removal or mitigation of detracting features, whilst creating new features or areas where they have been lost or are in poor condition.

Reinforce and Create – actions that strengthen or reinforce distinctive features and patterns in the landscape, whilst creating new features or areas where they have been lost or are in poor condition.

Create – actions that create new features or areas where existing elements are lost or are in poor condition.

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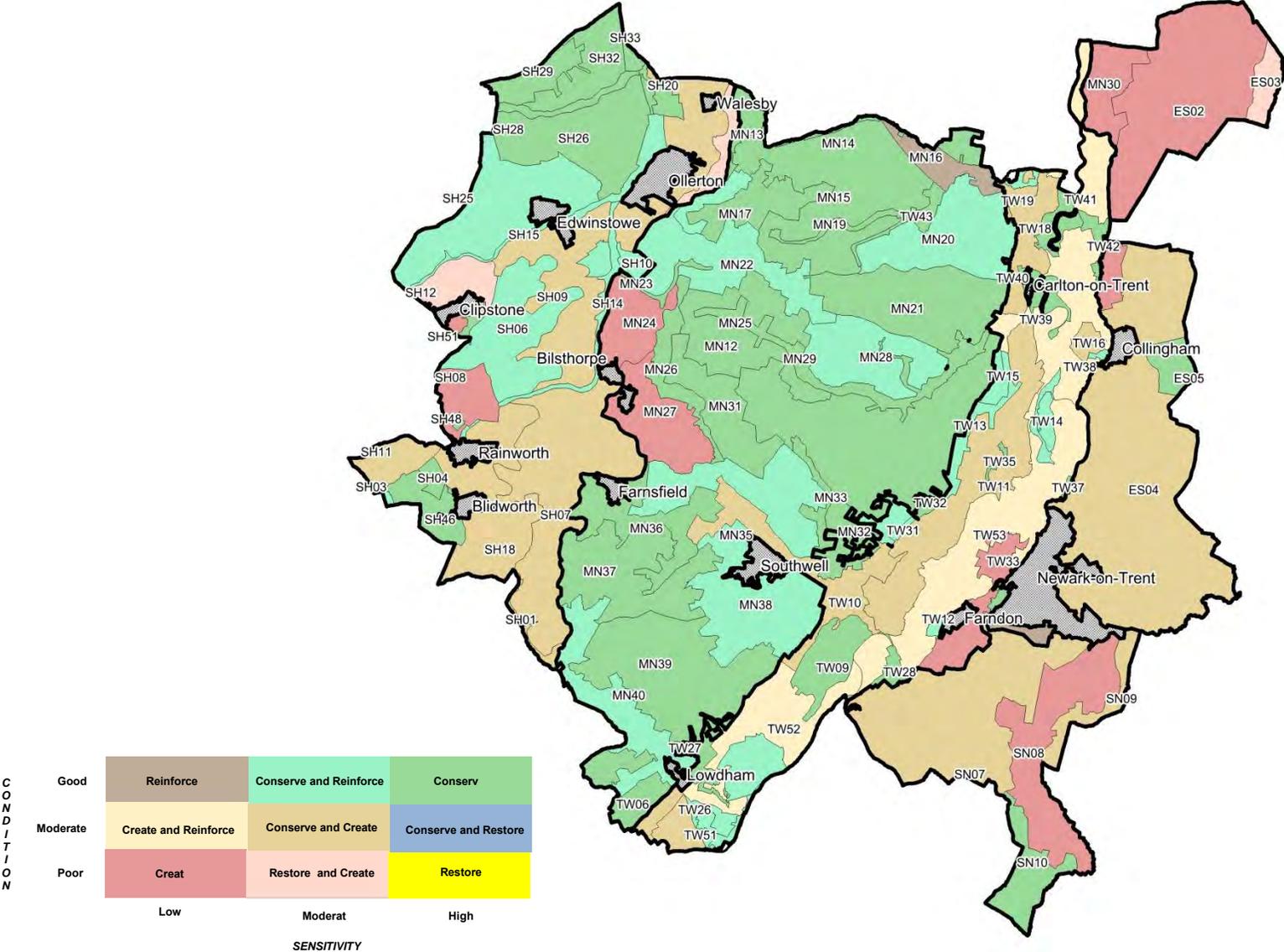


Figure 1.3 Landscape Policy Zones and Landscape Actions for each Policy Zone

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

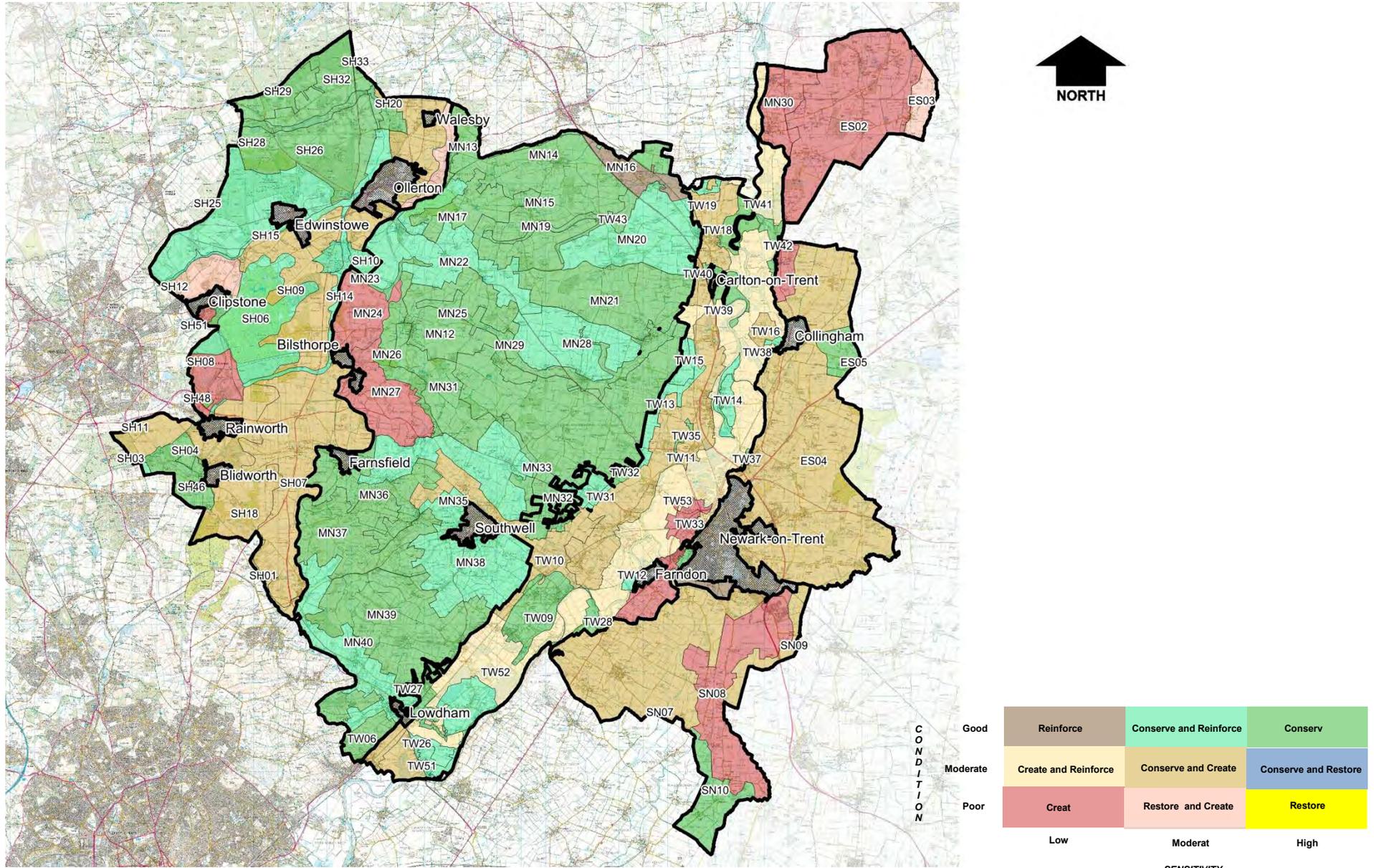


Figure 1.4 Landscape Actions overlaid on an OS map

1.4 Introduction and Methodology

When applied to the landscape, the notion of “character” is not a concept that merely concerns itself with aspects of scenic quality. The character of the landscape derives from a complex interaction of a wide range of physiological and historical phenomena. These include geology, topography, soils, ecology, archaeology, architecture, local customs and culture as well as the pattern of land use, settlement and fields. It is the varied interaction between these factors which produces the local and regional variations in character for which the English landscape is famous. The diversity of that character is a central part of our landscape heritage and vital to people’s appreciation and enjoyment of the countryside.

The landscape that we see today is a product of its historical evolution, reflecting the underlying physical resource and the changing nature of human exploitation of the land. The landscape will, of course, continue to change and evolve, reflecting the changing priorities and demands that society places on it. Over recent decades, however, these priorities and demands have often degraded rather than improved the fabric of the landscape. There is now a general consensus that positive action is needed to reverse this trend, and that this should place a high value on conserving and enhancing the inherent character and diversity of our landscapes.

It is the responsibility of Local Authorities to undertake county and district level assessments of the landscape character. These assessments play an integral role not only within the wider planning framework, offering guidance from the outset with key aims and objectives to help guide development, but during the planning process itself providing a useful tool and checklist for both the local authority and the design team.

This landscape character assessment covers the District of Newark and Sherwood. It relates to the evolving landscape character assessment for the whole of the county of Nottinghamshire and other associated county wide documents including the Nottinghamshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan and the Nottinghamshire Historic Landscape Characterisation. The methodology for Nottinghamshire Landscape Character Assessment, prepared by Nottinghamshire County Council [NCC], has been used to assess the landscape character of Newark and Sherwood. A copy of the full methodology is contained at Appendix A. All information contained at the introductory paragraphs within each of the following 5 chapters is specific to Newark and Sherwood unless stated otherwise.

1.4.1 **Context**

Newark and Sherwood District covers two National Character Areas [NCAs] as defined by Natural England; Trent and Belvoir Vales [48] and Sherwood [49]. At a county level, Regional Character Areas [RCAs] have been defined by Nottinghamshire County Council. While these relate to the NCAs, which cover much broader areas, they do not have exactly the same boundaries and have been created using the ‘Living Landscapes Project’ methodology. This is a GIS based process which is not only associated with the NCA work carried out by Natural England but is an established methodology used by counties across the country, including Derbyshire and Leicestershire both of which border Nottinghamshire. A total of five RCAs fall within Newark and Sherwood; Sherwood, Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands, Trent Washlands, East Nottinghamshire Sandlands and South Nottinghamshire Farmlands (Figure 1 shows these character areas in the context of the whole District). Each RCA forms a separate chapter within this Landscape Character Assessment. The RCAs are further divided into Landscape Description Units [LDUs], these are homogenous units within the broader RCAs.

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1.4.2 **Landscape Character Assessment**

Within each Regional Character Area the LDUs are subdivided into manageable survey units known as Landscape Character Parcels [LCPs]. Each LCP is assessed in terms of its individual landscape character in accordance with the methodology. A photograph which is representative of the character of each LCP is also taken and its location recorded. This information is detailed on the Landscape Character Assessment field survey sheets for each Regional Character Area which are included at the relevant Appendix D,E,F,G,H.

1.4.3 **Draft Policy Zones**

Following on from the Landscape Character Assessment of each LCP a number of Draft Policy Zones [DPZs] are created using the completed survey information. Key characteristics are tabulated to help determine which LCPs may or may not be grouped together to form a DPZ, for instance LCPs with obvious similarities become one distinct DPZ. The DPZs combine either one or more LCP depending upon the similarities of their attributes. A table showing the derivation of each DPZ for each Regional Character Area is included at Appendix J. [N.B. on the summary tables - under Landform/Landuse/Building Style etc. plain text denotes dominant or prominent characteristics and italics denote apparent or insignificant characteristics.]

1.4.4 **Landscape Condition and Sensitivity Assessment**

The DPZs are assessed in terms of their Landscape Condition and Sensitivity in accordance with the methodology. This information is detailed on the Landscape Condition and Sensitivity Assessment field survey sheets for each Regional Character Area, which are included at the relevant Appendix M,N,O,P,Q, and forms the basis of the Landscape Policy for each Zone. It is at this stage, once the survey process is complete, that the Draft Policy Zones become Policy Zones.

1.4.5 **Policy Zones**

A series of Policy Sheets, one per Policy Zone, covering each Regional Character Area within the District of Newark and Sherwood, have been produced and are set out within the relevant chapters 2 – 6, these are supported by a plan showing the resultant Policy for each Zone. Each Policy Sheet includes an overall character summary, specific characteristic features, a matrix and summary of the landscape condition and sensitivity and a representative photograph. Finally, a series of landscape actions is defined for each Policy Zone. An overarching plan of all Policy Zones within Newark and Sherwood has also been produced [Figure 3 and overlaid on an OS map Figure 4].

It should be noted that only the key heritage assets, which contribute to the wider character of landscape, have been described within this document. Users of the document should check with the planning authority's specialist heritage teams on the content, nature and significance of all heritage designation/sites for their area of interest.

Collectively these provide a Policy Framework for the conservation and restoration of Sherwood, Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands, Trent Washlands, East Nottinghamshire Sandlands and South Nottinghamshire Farmlands falling within Newark and Sherwood. This framework will help to ensure that landscape character is reflected in the many decisions and actions that affect its continuing evolution. The intention is not to fossilise change, but to provide a context that will enable policy making, planning and landscape management

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decisions to be made which respect and sustain the diversity and character of our countryside.

Chapter 2: The Sherwood Regional Landscape Character Area



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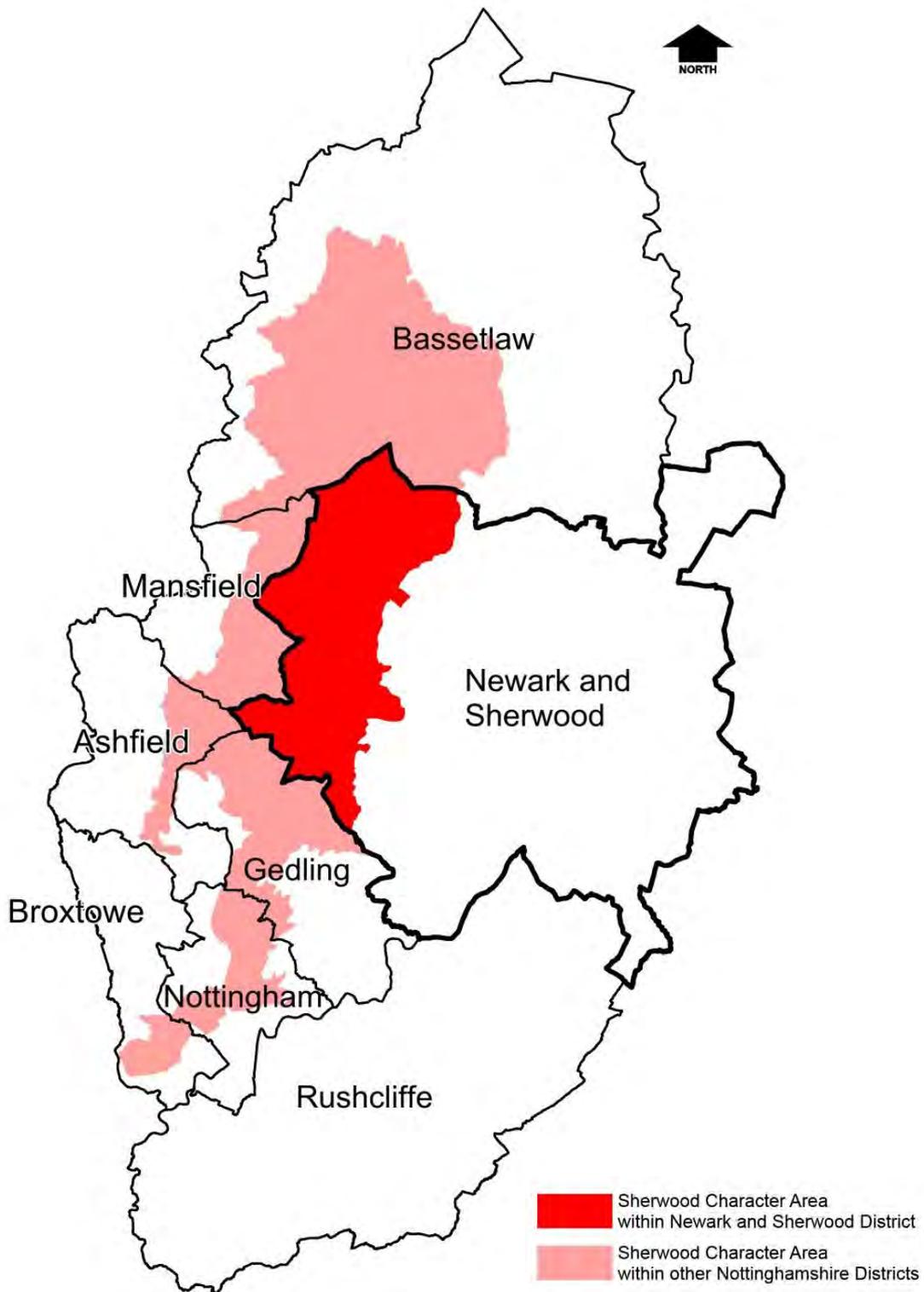


Figure 2.1 Sherwood Character Area within Nottinghamshire and Newark and Sherwood District

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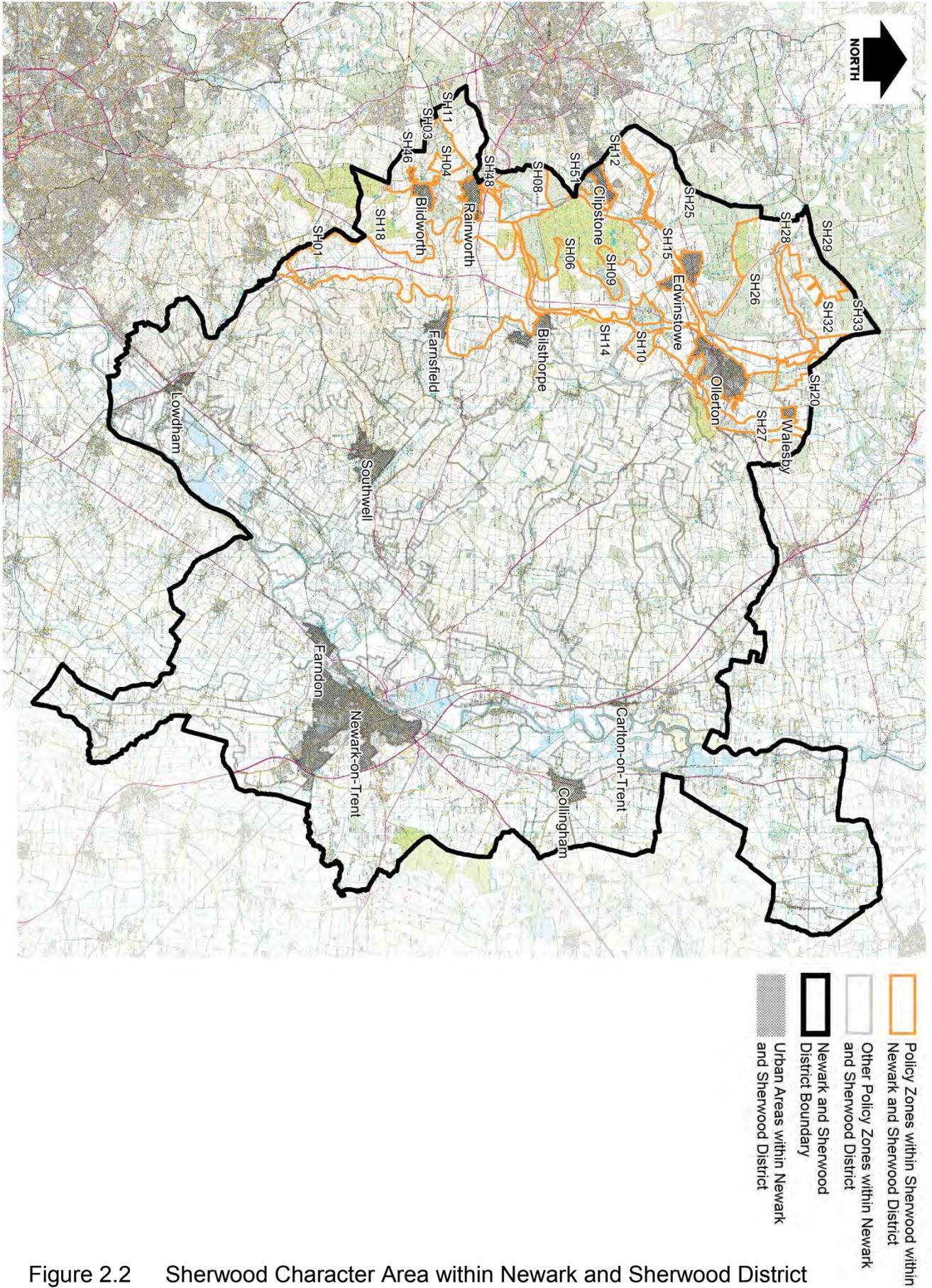


Figure 2.2 Sherwood Character Area within Newark and Sherwood District

2.1 Physical and Human Influences

2.1.1 Introduction

The Sherwood Character Area region is entirely confined within Nottinghamshire and is characterised by a wide and diverse range of landscapes including the heartland of the historic Sherwood Forest and the extensive parklands and large estates of the Dukeries. The area, rich with historical, ecological and landscape features, is intrinsically linked to a number of historical themes including the internationally renowned Robin Hood legend. The region runs northwards from Nottingham to the lowlands of the River Idle. It is located between the heavily populated Magnesian Limestone Ridge and Nottinghamshire Coalfield regions to the west, and the more rural areas of the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands region to the east.

The extent of Sherwood Character Area within the District of Newark and Sherwood is shown on Figure 2.1

2.1.2 The Shape of the Land

The region is closely associated with a broad belt of Permo-Triassic sandstones which, like the adjoining mudstones, run northwards through the length of Nottinghamshire and beyond into South Yorkshire. This belt of country, which averages 10-12 kilometres in width, narrows at its southern extremity where the outcrop thins and is faulted out along the Trent Valley. Towards the northern end of the outcrop, where the region passes into the Idle Lowlands, the Permo-Triassic bedrock is largely overlain by alluvial and fluvio-glacial drift. Within Sherwood itself the sandstones rise as a line of low hills along the eastern edge of the Magnesian Limestone Ridge. These hills dip gently eastwards, but due to the softness of the underlying rock they seldom assume the character of a bold escarpment.

The outcrop of Permo-Triassic sandstones covers nearly a quarter of the District and comprises two recognisable formations. The lower of these is the Lenton formation [formerly the Lower Mottled Sandstone] consisting of bright red, fine-grained sandstone with local clayey bands. The upper division, now called the Sherwood Sandstone formation [formerly the Bunter Pebble Beds], comprises a much greater thickness of brownish-red, coarse-grained sandstones with extensive beds of quartzite pebbles. These pebble beds and red sandstones, often showing well-developed current bedding, are frequently exposed in cuttings, sandpits and natural bluffs throughout the region. The loose-textured nature of both sandstones also makes them highly porous and as a consequence the land surface is prevailingly dry. The lower sandstone rests on an impervious bed of Permian Marl, however, and this forms the base of an extensive aquifer which has, since the mid-19th century, provided a major source of water supply.

The Sherwood Sandstone typically gives rise to a markedly undulating topography, which, apart from a few larger rivers, is characterised by a general absence of surface drainage. These rivers, include the Meden and Maun, which rise on the Magnesian Limestone Ridge and flow across the region in a general south-west to north-east direction before turning northwards into the River Idle. The reason these rivers maintain their flow is that their valleys lie just below the water table. All of these valleys are defined by narrow alluvial corridors, which in places open out into wide marshy flats. The latter are particularly well-developed below the confluence of the Meden and Maun where the wetland and water features contrast strongly with the dryness of the broad stretches of plateau-like country that separate the river valleys. The flanks of these low, rounded hills are nearly everywhere sculptured by numerous

dry valleys, thought to have been formed by the melting of snow at a time when the climate was much colder.

2.1.3 **Soils**

A range of soil types has developed within the region, the majority being well-drained sandy soils. Well-drained coarse loamy soils are found on the lower slopes of the dry valleys in accumulations of head [recent colluvium or wind-blown material].

On the eastern boundary of the region there are pockets of Mercia Mudstone; in these areas the soils are surface and ground water gleys. The soils have very slightly stony clay loam surface horizons, and cropping limitations are imposed by the heavy texture and soil wetness.

2.1.4 **Landscape History**

The present landscape of the Sherwood region is dominated by the artefacts of aristocratic estates and agricultural reform, largely laid down in the 18th and early 19th centuries, and by those of late 19th and 20th century industry, particularly coal mining. This has been an area in which changes in land use, however long they took to effect, have been radical and clear cut, in contrast to the piecemeal evolution evident in other regions in Nottinghamshire. Underlying the long history of the Sherwood region, and a key determinant in the pattern of stability and change within it, is the essential character of its geology and resulting soils. The porosity of the Sherwood Sandstones and consequent fragility of the soils in general have placed limits upon the sustainability of farming here. Advances in agricultural methods from the 18th century until today may appear to have pushed out those limits but the qualities of the land continue to present agricultural challenges which can be overcome only at a cost, financial and environmental. It remains to be seen if this cost can be both supported and mitigated or if within the vastly complex modern economic structures there will be a reversion to land uses which respect the basic qualities of this region.

For a more detailed analysis of Sherwood's history refer to Appendix R.

2.2 Landscape Evolution and Change

2.2.1 Introduction

This section examines the main forces that have brought about change and evolution within the Sherwood region within Newark and Sherwood District over recent decades. It does this by discussing how the current structure and pattern of land use has developed, paying particular regard to agriculture, woodland, transport, urban/industrial development, mineral extraction and tourism. It also considers the trends and pressures that may produce landscape change in the future.

2.2.2 Agriculture



Historically, agriculture on the sandlands of the Sherwood region has had a more tenuous hold than in other parts of the district. Poor quality soils, with limited moisture retention properties, have created a relatively unstable base to the agricultural economy and this has, over the years, produced wide variations in the pattern and nature of land use. These instabilities have continued into the present century and, to an extent, are still present in the current agricultural system.

The sandstone areas are not generally capable of sustaining high quality pasture, and as a consequence most agriculturally productive land has been put to arable use. Before the Second World War arable land was mostly under fodder crops. The sandy soils, highly permeable parent rock and low rainfall averages meant that the chief management aim was to increase the water-holding capacity of the soil. This was done through liberal applications of farmyard manure, the turning in of green crops and the traditional practice of folding sheep in fields. Economic hardships experienced in the 1920s and 1930s led to the abandonment of many sandland farms. Many areas of present heathland originate from these abandoned landholdings.

Since the 1940s, technological innovations in agriculture have led to the development of intensive, high input agricultural systems. These systems have overcome many of the traditional constraints to agriculture and have, for the last few decades at least, placed the agricultural economy on a more secure footing. The widespread use of irrigation, coupled with heavy dressings of lime, potassium and phosphorus and also frequent seasonal applications of nitrogen, has ensured consistent yields at levels that were previously unobtainable.

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The principal crops of the region are cereals, particularly barley and wheat, with potatoes, sugar beet, oilseed rape, field beans, dry peas, carrots and linseed also being grown. Livestock operations are found within most of the parishes of the region. As already noted, there are a number of constraints to agricultural production, the severity of these constraints varying widely in response to physical factors such as soil type. Much of the arable land is easily worked; however, compaction and panning can occur if soils are worked too soon after heavy rain. There is also a danger of wind erosion, especially during spring and autumn. The generally low available water capacities of the sandland soils and relatively low rainfall average mean that yields are often lowered by drought.

The majority of agricultural land within the region is classified by MAFF as having moderate limitations to agricultural use. The higher quality soils, with sandy loam or loamy sand textures, have better moisture retention capacities and occur in the northern areas of the region. The lower quality agricultural land occurs extensively to the south of the Maun Valley where limitations are imposed by the susceptibility of soil to drought and the presence of pebbles.

The heavy reliance on fertiliser and irrigation inputs has created problems that now question the long-term sustainability of the current agricultural system. The Sherwood Sandstone outcrop overlies an extensive aquifer that is utilised as a public drinking water supply. There are concerns about the capacity of the aquifer to supply water for irrigation purposes and this is reflected in the limited availability of water abstraction licences. A more severe problem than this has been associated with the high inputs of nitrogenous fertiliser. Nitrate contamination of the aquifer has now exceeded statutory limits at a number of boreholes.

The problems associated with contamination of the aquifer have led to much of the region being designated as a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone [NVZ]. The NVZ scheme aimed to reduce nitrate levels by encouraging farmers to restrict applications of both organic and inorganic fertilisers. With regard to the NVZ scheme, it is doubtful that farming in the future will be significantly affected. There may, however, be little expansion in the area devoted to sheep and pigs because of reduced limits on organic manure.

2.2.3 Woodland/Tree Cover



The woodland cover of Sherwood Regional character area as a whole is higher now than for many centuries. In 1086 the greatest concentration of woodlands in the County lay within the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands region, to the east. The Sherwood Sandstones were of secondary importance despite the presence of Sherwood Forest. The lowest levels of

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woodland cover are thought to have occurred in the 18th century largely as a result of clearance in the preceding centuries.

Landscape improvement, game preservation, timber production and fuel supply were the main reasons for increases in woodland cover during the 18th and 19th centuries. Landscape considerations were particularly influential, with many of the houses, parks and great estates being established on the agriculturally poor sandland soils. Planting was very elaborate and on a large scale, and preceded the laying out of the modern agricultural landscapes that we see today. Currently the Sherwood region is the most wooded part of the district, a large proportion of which is coniferous.

There are significant variations in the distribution and pattern of woodland across the region. These variations are one of the most important factors in determining its landscape character. The area north of the Maun Valley contains the remnants of the historic Sherwood Forest, and the edge of the Dukeries, along with the broad-leaved estate lands and the coniferous infill plantations established in the last 60 years.

The main sources of land for post-1920 woodland planting have come from agriculture and waste, the light sandy soils being easily converted to woodland. Plantations were established as large management units by both the Forestry Commission and private estates. Large-scale planting by the Forestry Commission began in the late 1920s and a fivefold increase in the area of predominantly pine woodland has occurred since that time. Many of these early plantations are now reaching economic maturity and will be progressively felled in a way that restructures the forest blocks to create greater ecological and visual diversity. There have been significant increases in woodland cover within the parkland areas, with the planting and extension of existing parkland trees and plantations. Smaller-scale gains in woodland cover have been made from the planting of former industrial areas and coal tips.



Three ancient woodlands, as identified by the 1990 English Nature Inventory of Ancient Woodlands, are found within the region. The areas identified as ancient woodland at Birklands, Bilhaugh and Buck Gates are remnants of the historic Sherwood Forest and contain the best examples of oak-birch woodland in the County, they are also designated SSSIs.

2.2.4 Transportation

A number of major roads have had an impact upon the region, the most prominent being the A614, which runs in a north-south direction through much of the district, whilst the A617 cuts across the region in an east-west direction. A dense network of railway lines were developed to serve the needs of the coal industry. Contraction of this industry in recent decades has led to many of these becoming derelict. Some of these are being upgraded to form greenway routes for pedestrian cyclist and horse rider access to link in with the surrounding rights of way network.

2.2.5 Urban and Industrial Development

The main urban areas within the Sherwood Area are Ollerton, Rainworth and Clipstone which are classified as 'Service Centres' within the Local Development Framework's Settlement Hierarchy. These settlements provide a range of local facilities and act as a focus for service provision to a large local population and rural hinterland. The smaller Principal Villages of Edwinstowe and Blidworth, which offer a good range of day to day facilities and act as a secondary focus for service provision, are also located in the Area.

In order to help encourage regeneration and to secure and support the roles of these settlements they have been identified as locations for future growth through the Local Development Framework. To facilitate this growth a series of site allocations have been made for a range of uses including residential, employment and retail.

The coal industry has played a central role in the economic life of large parts of the region, where much of the area was traditionally dependent upon mining employment. This also included the larger town of Worksop (in Bassetlaw District) as well as the numerous mining villages. The redevelopment of redundant collieries for appropriate uses has been encouraged, with green after uses, including agriculture, forestry and recreation, being the preferred approach for certain rural collieries and spoil tips.

2.2.6 Renewable Energy

The United Kingdom is legally bound to meeting challenging targets for the generation of energy from renewable sources (15% by 2020) and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (to 34% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050). A framework of national policy, reflecting the need to increase the supply and usage of energy from low-carbon sources and to ensure that adverse impacts are satisfactorily addressed, has been put in place to help deliver these aims. Significantly, this carries the expectation that applications be approved, unless material considerations indicate otherwise, if their impacts (such as that on the landscape) are (or can be made) acceptable. Core Policy 10 'Climate Change' of the Core Strategy and Policy DM4 'Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation' in the Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document's set out local planning policy on this issue.

Given this policy context there are likely to be future applications for renewable energy developments, such as wind-farms, in the Sherwood area. For instance a Wind Farm of five turbines with a height to tip of 125m and a rotor diameter of 82m has been granted planning permission for a 25 year operational period on the land at Lyndhurst, near Rainworth. Such structures have the potential to change the landscape character, with the power generation industry continuing, therefore, to be a dominant feature of the region.

2.2.7 **Minerals Extraction**

The principal mineral resources exploited in the region are deep-mined coal and Sherwood Sandstone. Both forms of extraction have had a considerable impact on the economy and environment of the region, particularly coal extraction.

Many of the pits in the region were established during the first half of the 20th century when technical advances in the mining industry enabled wider exploitation of the deep coal resource. A number of the pits were located next to existing villages and on green field sites in the more rural areas away from the main centres of population. This led to the enlargement of the existing villages and the creation of a number of isolated and free-standing mining communities.

A number of environmental issues are associated with coal extraction, particularly that of visual intrusion. The visual impact of mine-head developments and spoil disposal is enormous, with many spoil heaps being established prior to current planning legislation when little attention was given to environmental considerations. More recent permissions seek to minimise the visual impact of tipping through attention to grading and shaping details and so reduce the “engineered” appearance of many pit heaps. The Sherwood region has a naturally rolling landform; the opportunities to integrate pit heaps into the landscape are therefore perhaps greater than in certain other parts of the district. Priority is therefore given to the early reclamation of the external visible faces of pit heaps.

The premature closure of pits has had major environmental consequences for reclamation, as existing programmes can no longer be achieved. The County Council, UK Coal and the Forestry Commission are working together to develop new proposals to restore such spoil heaps to a mixture of forestry, heathland and public open space.

Sandstone extraction generally leaves a moderately deep void and little on-site material, and the options for infilling are limited due to the need to protect the aquifer. Low-level reclamation may be feasible; however, the resulting landform may be unsuitable both visually and in management terms. The area is unsuitable for agricultural after uses because of inherently poor soil types. Woodland and nature conservation after uses are often the most appropriate. Reclamation conditions are favourable for the establishment of native oak and birch woodland and also for the re-creation of heathland habitats.

2.2.8 **Tourism**

Sherwood Forest is one of the major tourist attractions in Nottinghamshire, attracting in excess of one million visitors each year. There are a number of tourist facilities, including a visitor centre at the Sherwood Forest Country Park, car parks and a number of surfaced footpaths. The Forestry Commission promotes public access within Sherwood Pines, a large block of woodland near Edwinstowe. Walking, cycling and horse-riding are the most popular activities. The presence of the Center Parcs holiday village, also near Edwinstowe, is a major tourist attraction. This complex remains one of the region’s largest employers. The tourism industry is likely to play an increasing role in the economy of the Sherwood region, particularly since the decline of the mining industry.

2.2.9 **Climate Change**

Research has identified trends and emerging patterns of global climate change. Within the UK, implications for climate change include:

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- Global temperature increases of between 1.8 and 4 degrees centigrade above the 1990s levels by the end of the 21st Century, with UK increases anticipated at 2 to 3.5 degrees by 2080.
- Greater warming in the South and East of the UK, rather than the West and North.
- Increasing temperatures resulting in milder winters and high summer temperatures.
- An increase in sea levels by 26-86 cm, by 2080. Extreme high water incidences 10 to 20 times more frequent, increasing coastal flood risks.
- Changes in rainfall patterns, with wetter winters and drier summers. The greatest changes are anticipated for the South and East of the UK, where summer rainfall could reduce by 50%, and snowfall reduced by 60 – 80% by 2080. **(1)**

These changes have the potential to impact on all other drivers for change in the future.

The issues of the most relevance to the landscape character of **Sherwood** include:

Built Development:

- Increased development on land away from locations such as river corridors and low lying areas that are at risk from flooding.
- Sustainable design and layout of new development to result in less use of water, energy and raw materials.

Infrastructure:

- Pressure for renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind turbines to reduce emissions.
- Demand for new riverine defence works in response to tidal surges and high waves.

Minerals and Waste:

- Reducing the amount of waste land filled and increasing the amount of waste recycled and composted.

Agricultural and Land Management:

- Increased risk of river flooding and loss of land as a result of rising sea levels and coastal erosion.
- Changing weather conditions leading to longer growing seasons and the ability to grow different types of crops.
- The introduction of energy crops to provide an sustainable source of fuel.
- Gradual changes in flora and fauna in response to warmer, wetter conditions and more disturbed weather patterns.

Forestry and Woodland:

- Sustainability of forest tree species may alter due to changes in climatic conditions.
- Lengthy period of drought and dry conditions may lead to an increased risk of upland forest fire.

Tourism and Recreation:

- Increased number of visitors to the countryside due to higher temperatures.

(1) www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/about/ukeffect

2.3 Species List - Sherwood

The following list includes native tree and shrub species that are commonly found within the **Sherwood** and are suitable for inclusion in planting schemes. These are important for determining the area's regional character. A range of native species may also be appropriate to particular locations or sites. In these cases professional advice should be sought.

All plant material should be of local provenance or at least of British origin. The document 'Using local stock for planting native trees and shrubs' - Forestry Commission - Practice Note August 1999 by George Herbert, Sam Samuel and Gordon Patterson; provides guidance in this respect. A list of suppliers is provided on the Flora Locale website – www.floralocale.org

TREES	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ streamsides
Alder (Common)	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>				■
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>		□	■	■
Birch (Downy)	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	□			
Birch (Silver)	<i>Betula pendula</i>	■	□	□	
Cherry (Wild)	<i>Prunus avium</i>		□	□	
Crab apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>		□		
Elm (English)	<i>Ulmus minor var. vulgaris</i>		□		
Elm (Wych)	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	□	□	□	

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Maple (Field)	<i>Acer campestre</i>		■	□	
Oak (Common)	<i>Quercus robur</i>	■	■	■	
Oak (Sessile)	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	□		□	
Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	□		□	
Willow (Crack)	<i>Salix fragilis</i>				■
Willow (White)	<i>Salix alba</i>				□

SHRUBS	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ streamsides
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	□	□		
Dogwood (Common)	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>		□		
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	□	□		
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	□	■	□	□
Hawthorn (Midland)	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>		□		
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	□	■		
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	□	■		
Rosa (Dog)	<i>Rosa canina</i>	□	□		

■ Dominant species

□ Other species present

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2.4 Visual Character of the Landscape

2.4.1 Introduction

The character of the Sherwood region is strongly influenced by a number of factors. The high level of woodland cover and strong heathy character provide a reminder of the formerly extensive areas of forest and “waste”. A range of features combine to produce a distinctive and sometimes unified landscape; these include rolling landform, scattered areas of grass, bracken and heather heathland, excellent examples of lowland oak/birch woodland, large mature coniferous forests, enclosed arable farmlands, narrow river corridors and ornamental parklands.

The undulating landform ensures views of varying distance. Frequently these are of well-wooded skylines; however, in the more open arable areas they are often confined to the crests of the dry valleys. The arable farmlands are, in places, totally devoid of tree cover with the geometric patterns of low hawthorn hedgerows imparting a distinctive, but rather uniform character to the landscape. To the north of the region, farmland becomes the most dominant landscape element; the extent and pattern of woodland cover is markedly different from the landscapes located further south. Scattered pockets of parkland add diversity to the landscape, creating a strong historical sense of place.

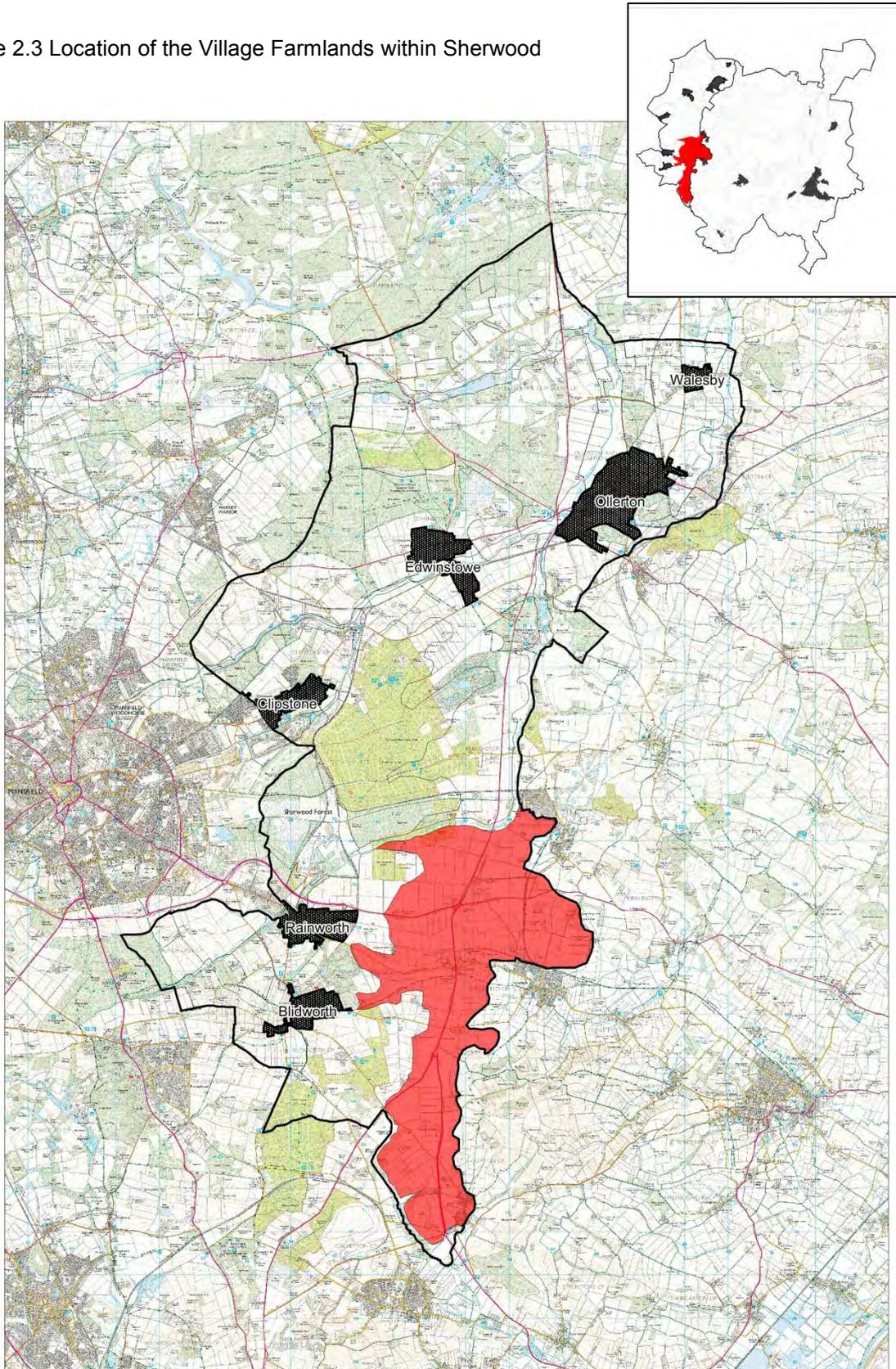
The **Sherwood Region** can be subdivided into seven distinct landscape character types of which six occur in Newark and Sherwood. These are the:

- Estate Farmlands
- Wooded Estatelands
- Village Farmlands
- Meadowlands with Plantations
- Meadowlands
- Wooded Farmlands

These have been classified generically which means that, theoretically, the landscape types could occur at any location within the country where there are similar physical resources and historical patterns of land use. In reality the landscape types possess a distinctively local character, because they share the broad characteristics of the regional character area, or represent a particular aspect of that character.

Sherwood: Village Farmlands

Figure 2.3 Location of the Village Farmlands within Sherwood



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood Village Farmlands



This is a gently rolling, in places industrialised agricultural landscape characterised by a traditional pattern of small villages and farms. It has the following characteristic features:

- Gently rolling topography
- Medium to large-scale semi-irregular field pattern
- Views framed by rising ground and woodland edges
- Nucleated settlement pattern of small red brick villages
- Mining settlements with associated pit heaps and railway lines

Landscape description

These landscapes are located along the eastern margin of the **Sherwood** region, straddling the geological boundary between the Sherwood Sandstone and the lower part of the Mercia Mudstones group (formerly the Keuper Waterstones). The landscapes have a transitional character, sharing attributes of both the **Sherwood** region and the **Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands**. The division between the two regions is marked by the rising Mudstone escarpment which provides a visual frame to the east. The clay soils of this landscape have prevented the colonisation of hedgerows and roadside verges by bracken, gorse and broom species. The heathy character associated with other parts of the **Sherwood** region is therefore absent from the *Village Farmlands*.

These are enclosed, predominantly arable farmland landscapes with medium to large-scale field patterns, set upon a generally undulating but locally level landform. The woodland pattern is relatively varied with a dispersed pattern of small-scale deciduous and mixed species woodlands. Although woodland is an important feature, there is not generally a strong sense of wooded enclosure, farmland being the dominant component of this landscape. Longer-distance views are, however, framed by woodland edges to the west. The principal woodland species are Oak, with the inclusion of introduced species of Beech, Sweet chestnut, Scots pine and Sycamore.

Hedgerows are low, trimmed and predominantly hawthorn. They are mostly intact but are gappy in parts. There are few mature trees within the hedgerows. Hedgerows become more mixed towards the foot of the clay escarpment along the eastern boundary of the landscape, which also coincides with a slight increase in the number of hedgerow trees.

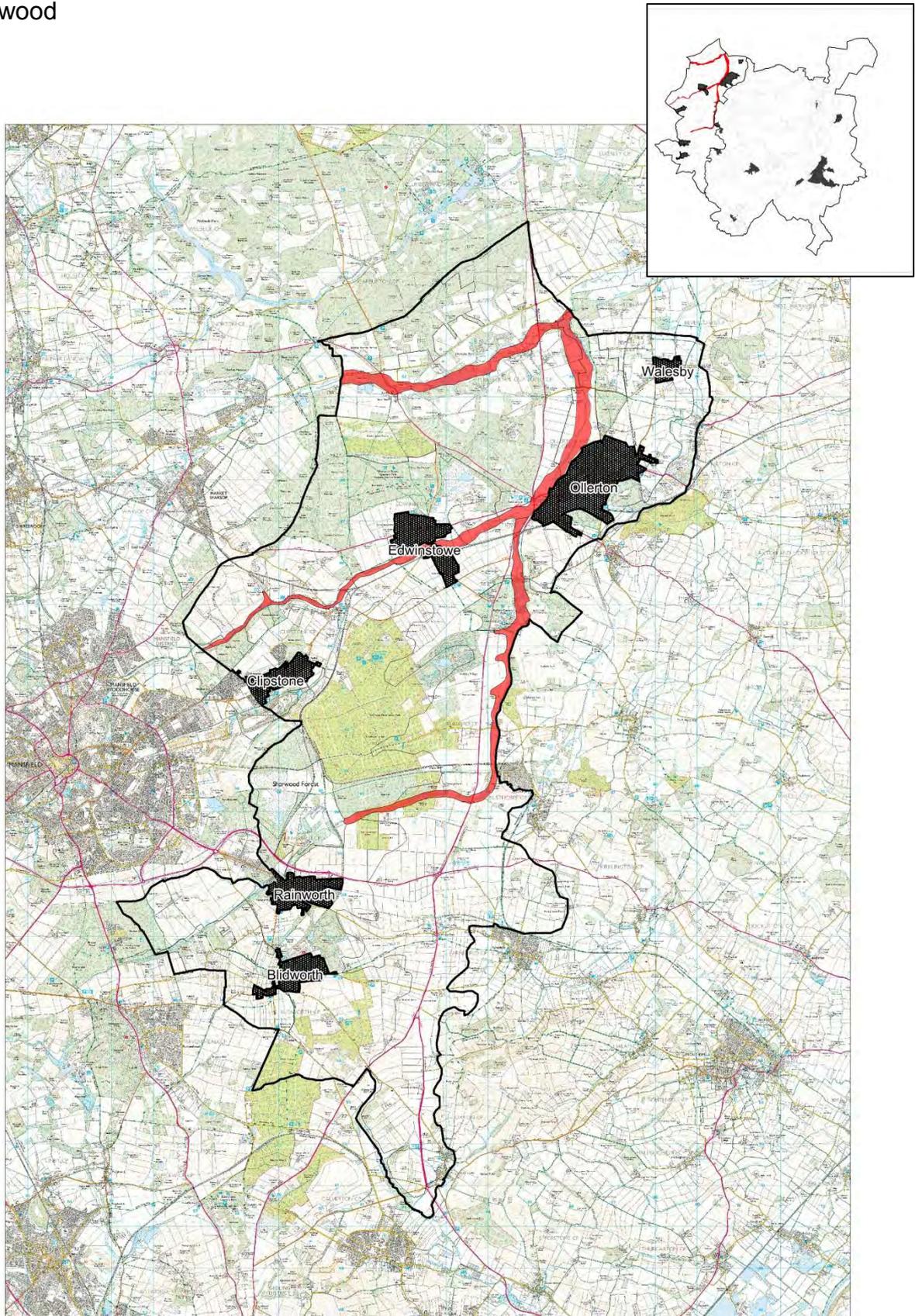
Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood Village Farmlands

Small nucleated red brick villages form an important component of the landscape's overall character. Most are located to the east of the area with Oxton to the south retaining its traditional rural character. Urban and industrial developments associated with the coal mining industry also have had an impact, with active and derelict sites located around Bilsthorpe. The influence of the mining industry creates a strong link with the character of the wider areas of the **Sherwood** region.



Sherwood: Meadowlands with Plantations

Figure 2.4 Location of Meadowlands with Plantations within Sherwood



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood Meadowlands with Plantations



This is a narrow pastoral river corridor landscapes, confined in places by riparian trees and woodlands. It has the following characteristic features:

- Meandering river channels, sometimes defined by woodland edges
- Permanent pastures and flood meadow
- Fringing alder, willows and riparian scrub
- Alder and willow carrs
- Mine sites, pit heaps and urban edges

Landscape description

These landscapes are formed by the river corridors of the Maun, Meden and Rainworth Water. The river valleys are defined by narrow alluvial deposits. Surrounding landscapes often have a large impact on the river corridors due to their very narrow and linear nature.

Significant areas of river corridor have been retained under grassland; in these areas the unity of the landscape is at its greatest. Permanent grasslands and flood meadows are characteristic features of river valley landscapes, providing a strong sense of place and feeling of naturalness, particularly where they are associated with fringing alders, willows and scrub. Areas of pasture are found along all of the river corridors with the most extensive at Perlethorpe along the Meden.

Arable cultivation has encroached to riverside edges in all of the river corridors, particularly along the Maun where almost 60% of its reach is flanked by arable land. The character of these areas has been severely fragmented, especially where there is little bankside vegetation. In places the narrow river channels exist as solitary features providing the only evidence of the river corridor. The river channels become more dominant landscape features when fringed by well-defined lines of alder, willow and riparian scrub.

The river channels flow through closed canopy woodland in a number of places, particularly along stretches of the Meden, and Maun. The woodlands are mainly broad-leaved, although Rainworth Water flows through dense coniferous plantation at Clipstone Forest. Many of the rivers have woodland running along one side of the channel, in places on relatively steep

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood Meadowlands with Plantations

banks. The presence of bankside woodland often helps define the river channel, especially in the more open arable areas.

Alder and willow carrs are found at a number of locations, the largest established along the Maun, and Meden. Associated with areas of marshy vegetation, these features impart a strong, unspoilt, and unified character to the river corridors.

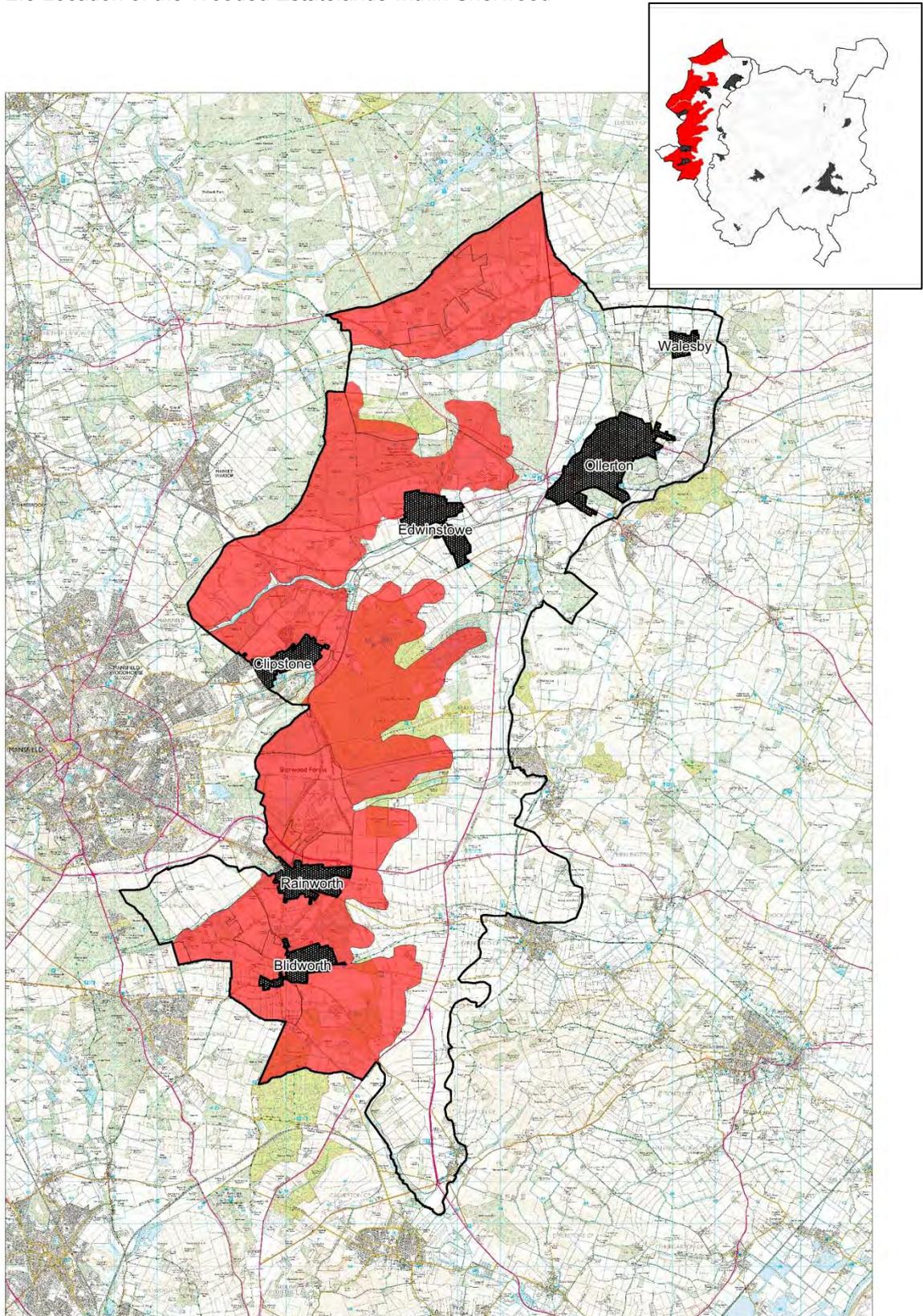
The river corridors are integral and central elements of many of the parkland landscapes. The moving water combines with ornamental tree plantings and permanent pastures to create unified, tranquil landscapes. The Meden flows through the heart of the *Forest Estate* lands landscape, feeding the man-made lakes at Thoresby.

The Maun, and Meden rivers flow across the central areas of the Sherwood Sandstone, passing through landscapes that are essentially heathy in character. In places this character extends into the river corridors, reflected in the presence of acidic grassland, gorse, broom and birch scrub. The New England/Robin Hood Cave area is the most extensive of such landscapes.

Urban and industrial influences are experienced along parts of all of the river corridors, which often result in a fragmented character, particularly along the main urban fringes, and in areas adjacent to colliery sites. Although there is little built development within the river valleys themselves, they are susceptible to the impact of surrounding developments due to their narrow and linear nature.

Sherwood: Wooded Estatelands

Figure 2.5 Location of the Wooded Estatelands within Sherwood



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood Wooded Estatelands

A heavily wooded and sparsely settled landscape characterised by a heathland character along road verges, disused mineral lines and woodland rides with large fields framed by woodland edges. It has the following characteristic features:

- Undulating landform
- Sparsely settled and largely inaccessible
- Views framed by woodland edges
- Extensive broad-leaved, mixed and coniferous woodlands
- Extensive areas of unenclosed heath
- Unfenced minor roads

Landscape description



The landscape has a unified and intact character composed of a number of landscape elements, including extensive coniferous and broad-leaved woodland, ornamental parklands with man-made lakes, commercially managed agricultural estatelands and an undulating landform. It is situated between Budby in the north and the northern edge of Sansom Wood in the south.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Sherwood Wooded Estatelands

The *Wooded Estatelands* have an undeveloped character with few roads and a very low resident population. Outside of the larger settlements such as Edwinstowe, and Rainworth the only built developments to be found are located at the estate villages of Perlethorpe and a number of scattered farm buildings and lodge houses.

The strong heathy character of the sandstone is a major component of the landscape imparted by relatively extensive areas of grass and bracken heath and the widespread occurrence of acidic grassland, bracken, broom and gorse along woodland edges, rides and roadside verges. The presence of bracken, gorse and broom species is instrumental in producing the strong heathy character of the landscape. These species are found widely on roadside verges, woodland edges, railway embankments, derelict land sites and old sand quarries, and in many hedgerows.

The open nature of the heaths is reinforced by the unfenced character of minor roads in the area. Smaller areas of heath also occur as clearings within the more densely planted woodland. Heather-dominated heath is limited in extent with some areas of heath found within Thoresby Park, and Budby Forest North.

Extensive coniferous plantations, mixed woodlands and smaller-scale broad-leaved woodlands are distributed throughout the landscape. The woodlands are of variable size and structure, collectively producing a landscape with a well-wooded character. The woodlands often have long sinuous edges that enclose and frame the open farmland areas. The strong sense of wooded enclosure is enhanced by the rolling landform which creates frequent views of wooded skylines, of rolling pine forests and of other woodlands. The general pattern, therefore, is that of a patchwork of alternating areas of dense woodland and open farmland.

Large coniferous plantations dominated by Corsican and Scots pine have been established throughout the landscape, the largest of which is Clipstone Forest. Much of the woodland is now high forest and reaching economic maturity. Attempts were made in the past to soften harsh coniferous edges by the establishment of hardwood belts along woodland edges and rides; oak, birch, sweet chestnut, beech and sycamore are the more common species planted, with birch predominating. This practice has allowed acidic grassland, bracken, gorse, broom and in parts heather understoreys to establish along edges and rides. This contributes to the dry heathy character of the landscape, particularly along the farmland margins. There are, however, still many harsh coniferous edges to be found, particularly along the eastern sides of the main plantations. The extensive Forest Enterprise woodlands are currently being restructured to create more ecologically and visually diverse landscapes, so this effect will be mitigated over the coming years.

Broad-leaved woodlands generally occur on a smaller-scale. Oak and birch are the principal species, although sweet chestnut, ash, beech and sycamore are also found. The largest concentration of broad-leaved woodlands is located in the Bilhaugh area. The Birklands and Bilhaugh area represents the last vestige of the historic Sherwood Forest. It consists of sessile and pedunculate oak, birch and pine species. The open canopy forest is closely associated with extensive mosaics of grass, bracken and heather heathland. Ancient stag-headed oaks are a particular feature of interest within the forest area.

The impact of the coal industry on the landscape cannot be over-emphasised. This is not only evident along the urban fringes of the larger towns but also throughout many of the more rural areas. The impact of each pit site varies in relation to local factors such as topography and screening. A number of pits are reasonably well screened by mature coniferous woodland. However, others are much more prominent, especially where mining villages have been

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood Wooded Estate lands

established adjacent to the pitheads. The winding gear, processing plants, railway lines and pit heaps impose a strongly urban/industrial character on otherwise rural areas.

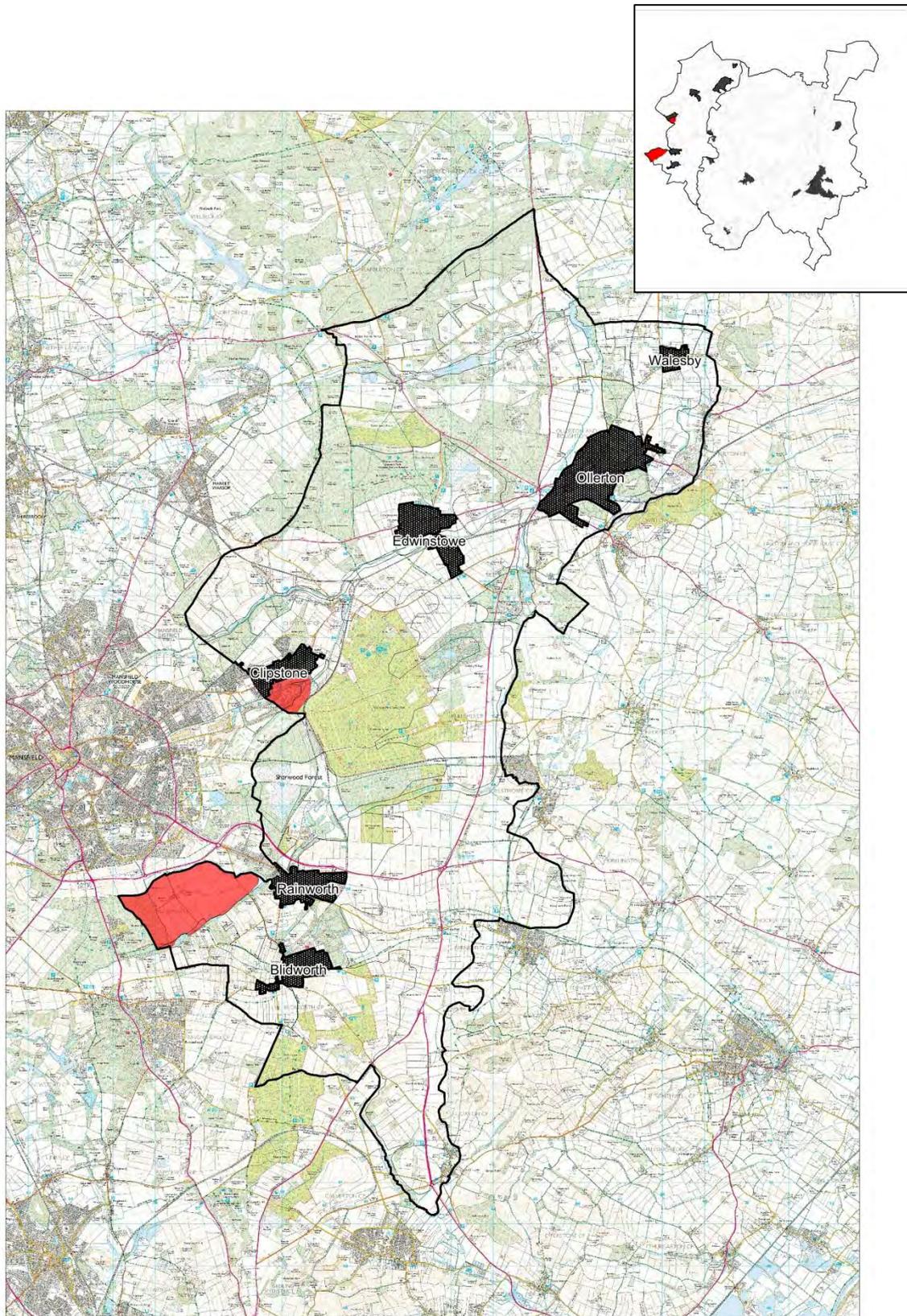
The pit heaps are the most visible legacy of the coal industry. Restoration standards are variable, with many pit heaps displaying unnatural and engineered landforms. The sheer size of many of the heaps means that they often loom over surrounding landscapes, dominating skylines for some distance. As the surrounding farmland areas are almost exclusively arable, the restoration of pit heaps to grassland after uses can sometimes make these features even more visible. The pit heaps often have a very stark and barren appearance. Restoration to woodland after uses has also been carried out widely but at present few plantings have reached sufficient maturity to improve local landscapes. Areas of heathland have regenerated naturally on certain pit heaps, usually where they are adjacent to existing areas of heathland.

Most of the open areas are characterised by arable farming. Fields are generally defined by woodland edges although there are areas with enclosed rectilinear field patterns to be found locally. The rolling landform enhances the strong sense of wooded enclosure in these areas. Although pastoral landscapes are not widespread they are found locally; the most significant area is located at the estate village of Perlethorpe, where a relatively extensive undulating pastoral landscape of improved sheep pasture is enclosed by blocks of coniferous and broad-leaved woodlands. Perlethorpe, with its red brick and black tile buildings, imprints a distinctive character on the area, enhanced by the river Meden which flows immediately to the north of the village.

The area to the south of Blidworth is the only significant pastoral area. Situated on steeply sloping ground, it has an intimate and varied character composed of enclosed, small-scale irregular-shaped fields containing unimproved grassland fields. Hedgerows are fuller than in the surrounding arable areas and are species-rich. The presence of bracken, gorse and broom in hedgerows and roadside verges gives the area a distinct heathy character. There is one ornamental park, Thoresby Hall, characterised by mature lime, sycamore, yew, Scots pine, Wellingtonia, sweet chestnut, beech and ancient oak trees.

Sherwood: Wooded Farmlands

Figure 2.6 Location of Wooded Farmlands within Sherwood



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood Wooded Farmlands



This is an undulating, well-wooded and in places industrialised landscape characterised by large arable fields, pine plantations and remnants of semi-natural woodland and heath. It has the following characteristic features:

- Dissected undulating topography
- Frequent views of wooded skylines
- Strong heathy character reflected in the widespread occurrence of bracken, gorse and broom species
- Geometric pattern of large-scale arable fields
- Planned layout of straight roads
- Neatly trimmed hawthorn hedgerows
- Large pine plantations
- Mining settlement and associated spoil heaps
- Scrubby semi-natural woodland and heaths with ancient-stag headed oaks

Landscape description

The landscape has a distinctively rolling and undulating landform and an intensively farmed, well-wooded and strongly heathy character. Industrial influences associated with the coal industry are apparent with the restored pit heaps now incorporated into Vicar Water Country park. Within Newark and Sherwood District it covers a relatively small area west of Harlow Wood, and the eastern end of Vicar Water Country Park.

The undulating nature of the landform provides views of varying distance: towards the bottom of the dry valleys, views are relatively confined; on the crests, views are of longer distance. They can sometimes be panoramic.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Sherwood Wooded Farmlands

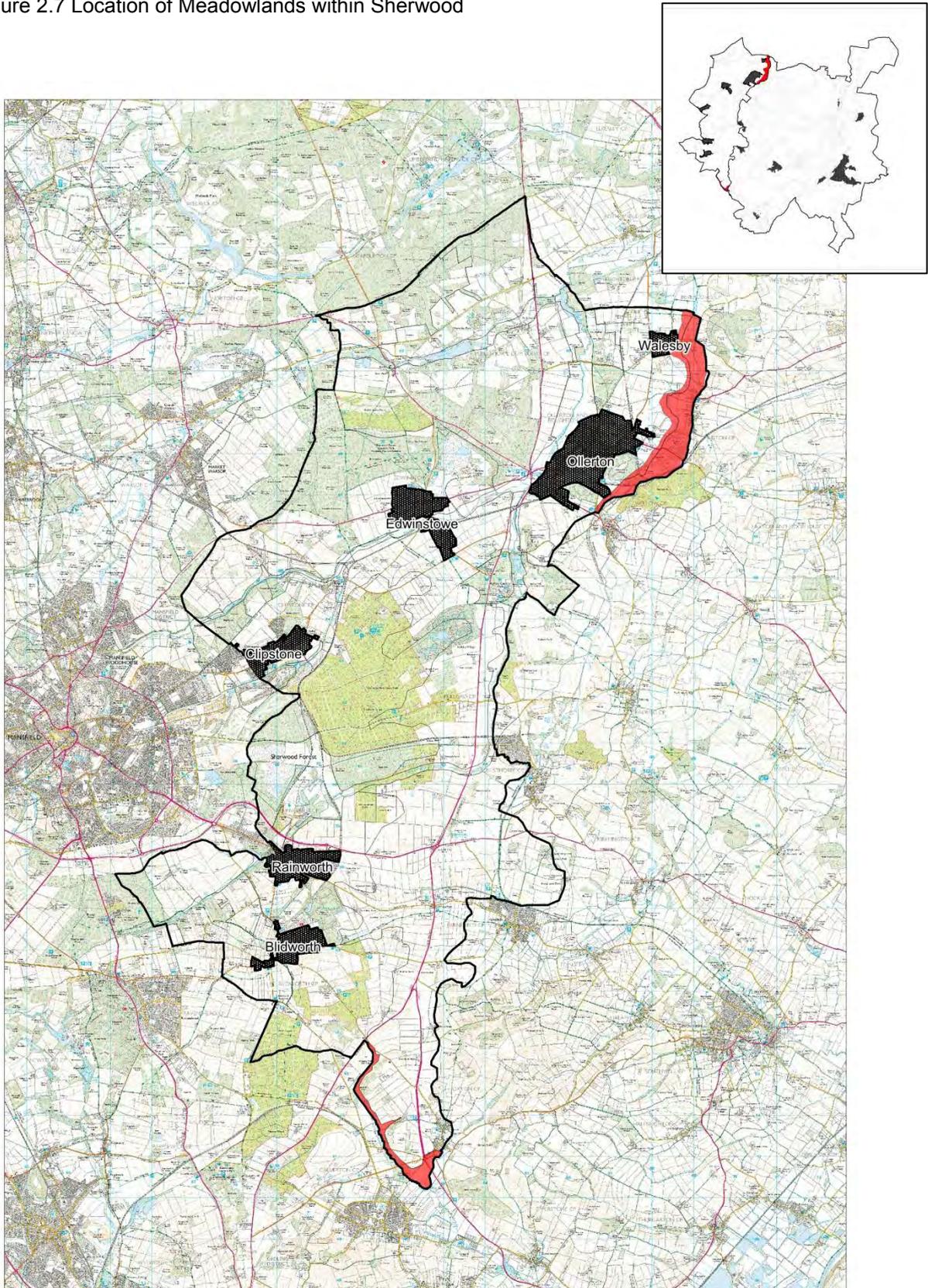
Despite the impact of the coal industry, there is still a strong sense of continuity in the landscape imparted by the rolling landform, the large area of woodland cover, heathy vegetation and the regular enclosure pattern of hedged fields.

The farmland of this landscape is almost entirely arable, with a regular geometric field pattern constructed from low, trimmed and predominantly hawthorn hedgerows. The rectilinear hedgerows are rarely tall enough to obscure views and the straight lines give an impression of conformity and order which is, however, “softened” by the rolling nature of the landform; this gives a curvilinear appearance to the otherwise regimented hedgerows. The absence of hedgerow trees in the landscape is particularly pronounced.

Urban influences in the form of residential edges, industrial estates, mine sites and pit heaps are experienced along the urban fringes of the main towns on the western side of the region, which include Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield and Mansfield.

Sherwood: Meadowlands

Figure 2.7 Location of Meadowlands within Sherwood



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Sherwood Meadowlands

The Meadowlands is an open landscape characterised by a rectilinear pattern of fields and roads bounded by neatly trimmed hawthorn hedges. It has the following characteristic features:

- Meandering river channel often defined by sinuous riparian tree cover along the water course.
- Neatly trimmed hawthorn hedges, in places with gorse, broom and bracken
- Red brick and pantile Sparsely settled with scattered farmhouses
- Former coillery site and urban edges apparent

Landscape description

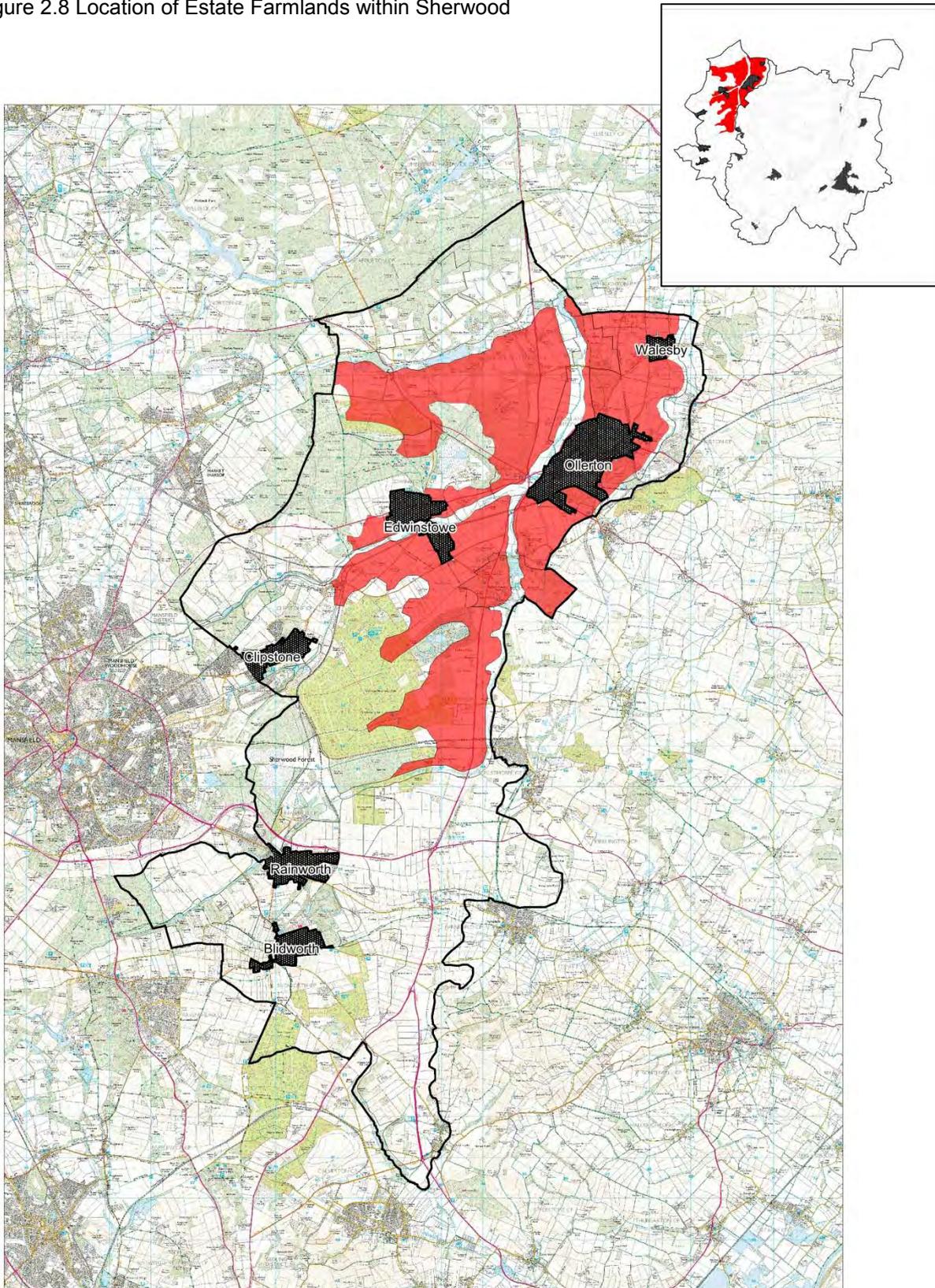
This landscape is centred on two areas within Newark and Sherwood, to the east of Boughton incorporating the low lying ground around Boughton Dyke and Bevercotes Breck east of Walesby and to the south of the District, in an area incorporating land along the Dover Beck and Oxton Bogs.

The landscape to the south contains the narrow river corridor of the Dover Beck flanked by deciduous wet woodland and riparian tree cover around Oxton Bogs. Long sinuous woodland edges lie along the boundaries of this landscape with some coniferous plantation woodland to the north east of the Beck. Around the valley Boughton Dyke is a strong belt of riparian vegetation which defines the water course. Some permanent and improved pasture and flood meadowland lie adjacent to this water course with more industrial and commercial development lying closer to road corridors.

Settlements and buildings in the landscape are associated with the dispersed pattern of farmsteads, the western edge of Kirton and the industrial estate and sewage works south east of Boughton.

Sherwood: Estate Farmlands

Figure 2.8 Location of Estate Farmlands within Sherwood



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood: Estate Farmlands



This is an enclosed, gently rolling estate landscape characterised by an ordered pattern of fields, roads and woodlands. It has the following characteristic features:

- Isolated brick-built farmsteads and estate cottages
- Large-scale rolling topography
- Views enclosed by wooded skylines
- Estate plantations and belts of trees
- Large arable and grass fields
- Low-cut hawthorn hedges
- Straight roads with wide grass verges

Landscape description

The *Estate Farmlands* is a planned estate landscape in the northern western part of Newark and Sherwood District. The *Estate Farmlands* is characterised by discrete blocks of woodland ranging in size from small coverts to larger field-sized plantations. These woodlands are a dominant and unifying element, defining both the scale and pattern of the landscape. Most have been planted with a mixture of broad-leaved and coniferous species, including ash, oak, sycamore, Scots pine and larch. The larger plantations are linked by belts of trees which together with the associated areas of parkland, these trees have the effect of creating a sequence of large spaces framed by woodland edges. Middle-distance views are nearly everywhere enclosed by wooded skylines, an impression reinforced by the relatively subdued nature of the underlying topography.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood: Estate Farmlands



Like the rest of **Sherwood**, the *Estate Farmlands* are characterised by sandy, free-draining soils which originally supported a dry heathland habitat, until this was enclosed and improved for agriculture during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Enclosure of this waste resulted in the distinctive pattern of large geometric fields and straight roads that can be seen today. The large-scale pattern of hedged fields generally complements the scale and pattern of woodland cover, creating a well-ordered and visually unified landscape. Field boundaries are nearly everywhere defined by low-cut hawthorn hedges, while most of the roads are bounded by wide grass verges. In places these verges retain a remnant heathy vegetation, reflected in the occurrence of roadside bracken and gorse.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood Policy Zones

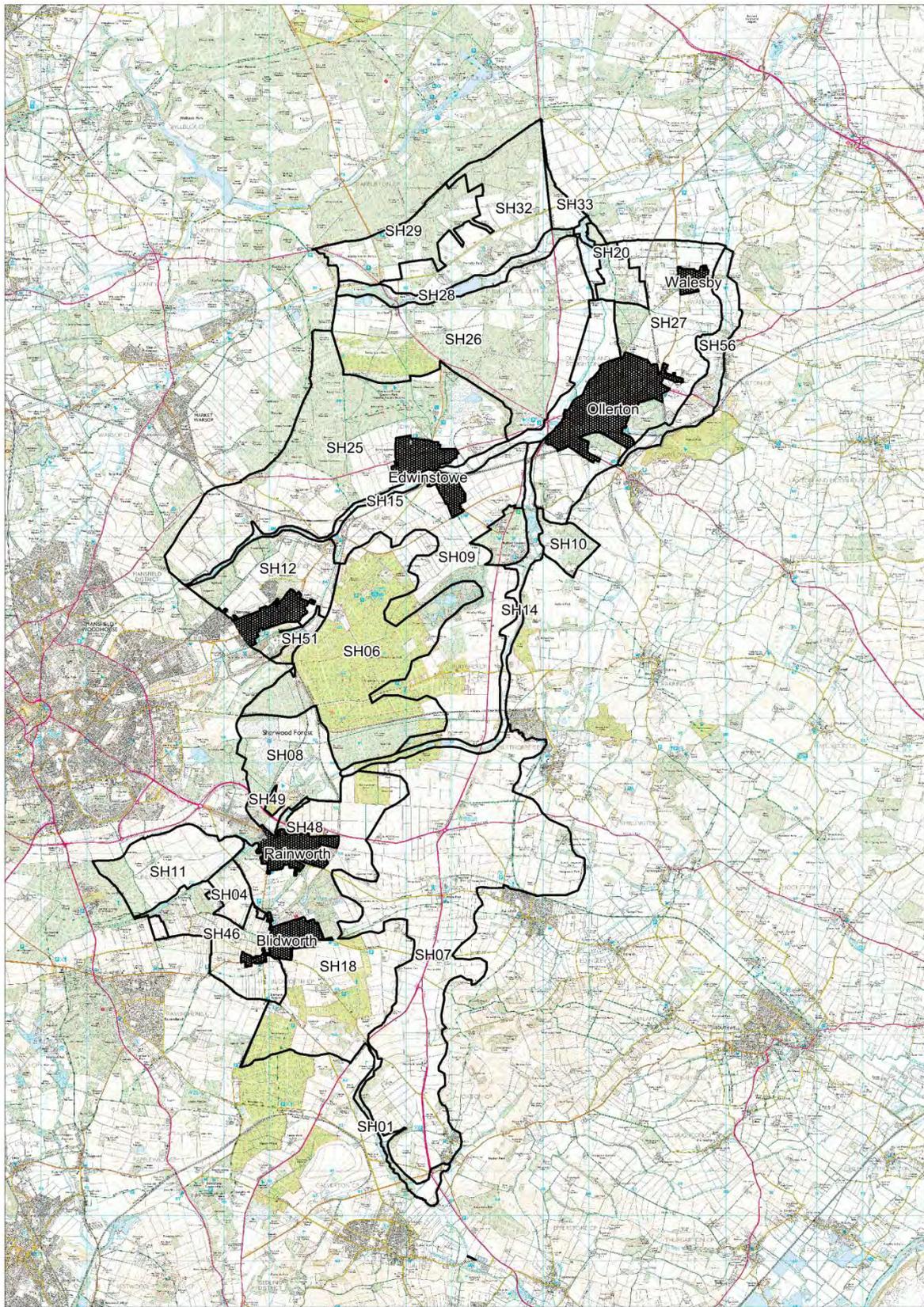


Figure 2.9 Policy Zones within Sherwood

2.5 Landscape Policy Sheets

2.5.1 Policy Zones Contents Sheet

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Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 1: Oxton Bogs Meadowlands
Policy: Restore and Create

This Policy Zone consists of the narrow valley of the Dover Beck. The PZ varies in height from 95 metres at its northern end at Darcliff Hill to 45 metres at its southern end near Calverton Lido.

Land use in the area consists of a coniferous plantation woodland at Darcliff Hill. Thorndale Plantation is a deciduous woodland through which the Dover Beck flows and collects into a series of ponds within the woodland which vary seasonally in level. The remainder of the area is under intensive arable production or improved permanent pasture. At the extreme northern end Oakmere Park Golf Course encroaches into the area. At the southern end of the valley, close to the village of Calverton there is an area of urban fringe use on Bonner Lane; this includes a sewage works, a caravan and camping site with permanent chalets and a lido with associated restaurant and car parking.

Thorndale Plantation consists of Oak dominated woodland to its southern end, also Lime, Horse Chestnut and Birch. The central section contains Oak, Birch and Pine and also Cherry with Willow and Alder in the wetter areas. The northern valley area is a wetter with Alder and Willow Carr. Field boundary hedges are mostly Hawthorn and are grown out in places and open at the base.

There is limited permanent residential settlement in the area this includes isolated farms such as Salterford Farm and Beanford Farm. On the Sanderson Map of 1835 much of the area was unenclosed heath land to the east of the Dover Beck therefore much of the field pattern and woodland is of more recent origin.

Threats to the area include the extension of the golf course to the north, and the expansion of urban fringe uses of Calverton in the south. Other threats include the flooding of the river valley or lowering of the water table so that the wet woodland is lost.

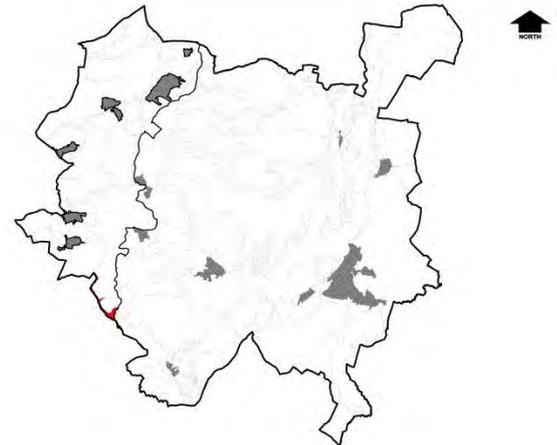
S PZ 1 Oxton Bogs Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 1
 Landscape Character Parcel: LCP 14



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Narrow wooded valley of the Dover Beck
- Coniferous plantation woodland – Darcliff Hill
- Deciduous mixed species woodland – Thorndale Plantation
- Intensive arable farming
- Improved permanent pasture adjacent to isolated farms
- Urban fringe development
- Heath land character, apparent on road verges

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Moderate**

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements mainly woodland and arable fields, there are **some** detracting features to the south of the area these include urban fringe development such as a caravan and camping site with permanent chalets, a lido with associated restaurant and car parking, and a sewage treatment works surrounded by palisade fencing. Overall this gives a **visually coherent** area. Thorndale Plantation is designated as a SINC - Ref 1/56, for its aquatic plant and invertebrate communities. In ecological terms the woodland and wetlands provide a **moderate** habitat for wildlife. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the land use pattern has changed since Sanderson's plan of 1835 when the area was unenclosed heathland but some of this underlying healthy character

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood**

is still apparent.

A **visually coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **Moderate**

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** of the Sherwood LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **enclosed** areas of woodland giving a **low** visibility of features within the PZ. There are views out from the edges of the woodland to the urban edge of Calverton.

A **moderate** sense of place and a **low** visibility leads to a **low** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Enclosed

Visibility: Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- Seek opportunities for converting arable land to permanent pasture
- Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous woodland, particularly wet woodland
- Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal aquatic vegetation
- Identify opportunities for conserving and restoring areas of heath land and Oak woodland.
- Avoid use of exotic tree species in any extension of golf course to the north

Built Features

- Conserve the sparsely settled character of the river corridor.
- Screen urban fringe uses to the south by incorporating native species planting to blend into adjacent areas in any new development.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESTORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 4: Rainworth Lodge Wooded Estatelands
Policy: Conserve and Restore

This is a steeply sloping area which drops from a high point of 151 metres on Cross Lane to the south of the area, to 100 metres in the valley of Rainworth Water.

The land use consists of intensive arable farming for the production of cereals and oil seed rape. There are also areas of improved permanent pasture used for grazing of horses and these fields have been subdivided using temporary fencing materials to form smaller paddocks. To the northern edge is an area of mature deciduous woodland surrounding an area of unimproved pasture with isolated mature trees adjacent to the residential property Rainworth Lodge. A minor road, Cross Lane, crosses the area to the south and the narrow valley of Rainworth Water forms the northern boundary. The area is bounded to the east by Blidworth Lane linking Blidworth to Rainworth.

The area of deciduous woodland is dominated by Oak and also includes Scot's Pine. The road boundary hedgerows are strong particularly to the north of Cross Lane and consist mostly of Hawthorn with some Holly, and also include mature trees such as Ash, and Oak. Field boundary hedgerows are of much poorer quality and are generally gappy or grown out Hawthorn; the hedgerows contain isolated mature trees - Ash, Oak, and Scot's Pine. The underlying heath land character is evident in the road verges where Bracken and Gorse are present.

The historic pattern of small fields shown in the Sanderson Plan of 1835 has been degraded by the removal of field boundaries in this area particularly to the south of Cross Lane.

Built features within the Policy Zone include Rainworth Lodge - an isolated residential property of red brick with a slate roof. Cottage Farm has a rendered red brick farm building with a slate roof with modern agricultural storage buildings to the north east of the farm. A former sand and gravel quarry on the western boundary has now been used for light industrial development.

Threats to the area include further removal of field boundaries due to agricultural intensification and further breaking down of the field pattern due to the creation of horse paddocks. Threats also include the possible expansion of the small industrial area on the site of the former quarry, and flooding within the valley of Rainworth Water.

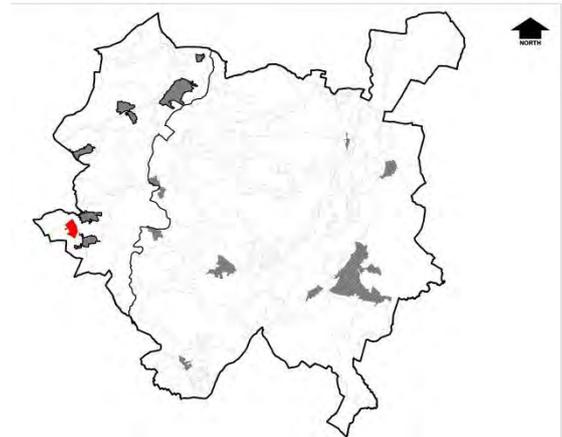
S PZ 4 Rainworth Lodge Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 4
 Landscape Character Parcel: S 10



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Strongly undulating topography
- Medium sized arable fields used for cereal production and Oil seed rape
- Improved pasture used for grazing horses
- Deciduous woodland dominated by Oak with Scot's Pine
- Isolated farms and detached houses
- Gappy and grown out field boundary hedgerows of Hawthorn with mature trees – Ash, Oak
- Stronger road boundary hedgerows of Hawthorn with Holly as well as mature trees – Ash, Oak
- Heath land character apparent to road verges

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Moderate**

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements in that the majority of the area is arable fields with a small area of deciduous woodland to the north. There are **few** detracting features these include busy minor roads which surround the PZ and the light industrial use of the former quarry site, overall the area is **strongly visually unified**. Overall this is a **weak** habitat for wildlife due to its lack of connectivity. Cultural integrity is **poor** in that the Sanderson pattern has been degraded by

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements:	of Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly unified
Ecological Integrity:	Weak

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

the removal of field boundaries and this process is continuing due to the further subdivision of these areas to form horse paddocks. There are limited buildings within the area but those residential buildings present are red brick which has been rendered over, with slate roofs.

A **strongly visually unified** area with a **very weak** functional integrity gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Cultural Integrity: Poor
Functional Integrity: Very Weak

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity High

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **High**

The components of the landscape including the apparent heathland character of the area are characteristic of the Sherwood LCA The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place.

The strongly undulating land form falling to the low point of Rainworth Water and the limited amount of woodland within the PZ give a **high** visibility of the area from in and out of the PZ. There are panoramic views of the area and the land to the north from Cross Lane; these include views of the coniferous wooded ridge lines north of Rainworth.

A **moderate** sense of place and a **high** visibility give this area a **high** landscape sensitivity.

Distinctiveness: Characteristic
Continuity: Historic
Sense of Place: Moderate
Landform: Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover: Open
Visibility: High

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Restore

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of the deciduous woodland around Rainworth Lodge
- **Conserve** mature trees within road edge hedgerows and field boundaries
- **Restore** field boundary hedgerows where these are in poor condition of have been removed
- **Create** opportunities for restoring heath land where appropriate

Built Features

- **Conserve** the remaining field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles
- Promote careful siting of agricultural buildings

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 6: Pines Wooded Estatelands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This Policy Zone consists of an area almost entirely covered by woodland which is bounded by the valley of Rainworth Water to the south. The area is gently undulating with a height range of between 60 to 105 metres.

The major land use is as commercial forestry plantations, mostly Scot's Pine and Corsican Pine. Most of this area is publicly accessible and forms a recreational centre known as Sherwood Pines. To the east of the area is the residential Center Parcs Holiday Village which is only accessible to visitors to this facility. There is an area of intensive arable farmland on the northern edge of the area. There is a disused railway line to the west and south. There are many tracks within the forest area but no major roads.

The conifer woodlands are mainly Scot's Pine with broad leaved edges of Beech, Sweet Chestnut, Oak and Birch. Field boundary hedgerows to the north are low, gappy and in poor condition, with fencing in places to fill the gaps.

The area has a heathland character with patches of heathland and acid grassland within the woodlands and the majority is designated as a BioSINC, ref 1/90 Clipstone Forest Area –'An expanse of mostly coniferous forestry within which occur numerous ephemeral heathland habitats of botanical and vertebrate zoological interest'. Within the Center Parcs site heathland is managed to achieve biodiversity objectives. There is also heathland present along the disused railway line. Sanderson's Plan of 1835 shows this area as unenclosed heathland.

Built features include the Forestry Commission headquarters within the woodland, which are of modern construction. The Center Parcs development contains the central recreational facility buildings including a church, swimming pool complex, restaurant and bowling alley, as well as holiday cottages around an artificial lake. The only other building outside the above areas is Blooms Gorse Farm which is a listed building.

Views within the area are generally restricted by woodland except at the very northern edge of area.

Threats to the area include clear felling of forestry areas or major expansion of the recreational facilities of Sherwood Pines Forest Park or Center Parcs. Lack of management of the clearings of acid grassland within the woodland areas will lead to scrubbing over of these heath land areas with subsequent loss of biodiversity.

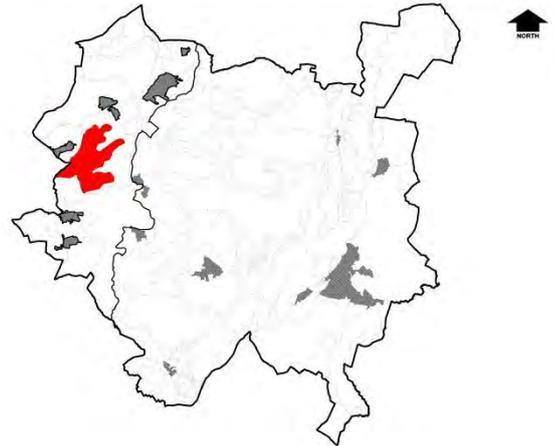
S PZ 6 Sherwood Pines Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 6
 Landscape Character Parcel: S19



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Coniferous forestry plantations with broadleaved margins
- Intensive arable farming to northern area with poor quality hedgerows
- Heath land character apparent as acid grassland within woodland areas and along disused railway lines
- Center Parcs Holiday Village contained within the area including residential holiday village complex
- Sherwood Pines recreational facilities contained within the area
- One Isolated farm within the area.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Very Good**.

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements and **few** detracting features, these include pylons and electricity poles; this gives a **strongly visually unified** area. The majority of this area is designated as a BioSINC ref 1/90 Clipstone Forest Area ‘an expanse of mostly coniferous forestry within which occur numerous ephemeral heathland areas of botanical and vertebrate zoological interest’. This mosaic of coniferous woodland, heathland and acid grassland gives the area a **strong** ecological integrity Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the original heath land landscape has been obliterated by plantation forestry but remnants of this survive as the heathland.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Variable

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

Overall this gives a **strong** functional integrity.

A **strongly visually unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition

Functional Integrity:

Strong

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity

Low

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **Low**

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** of the Sherwood LCA. The time depth is generally **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall. There is evidence of the pre forestry heathland character in the presence of heathland and acid grassland within the woodlands and along rides and disused railway lines.

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Enclosed

The undulating landform is **apparent** with the major areas of woodland giving this area an **enclosed** character giving a **low** visibility of features in and out the PZ.

Visibility: Low

A **moderate** sense of place and a **low** visibility leads to a **low** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of acid grassland and heath land throughout the area.
- **Conserve** areas of deciduous woodland within the forested areas
- Replace field boundary hedgerows to the northern area where these have been lost or degraded
- **Create** opportunities for restoring heath land where appropriate

Built Features

- In the northern area, **conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of agricultural buildings
- Within the woodland area, any expansion of the recreational and leisure facilities with associated built features should respect the landscape character of the setting within the woodland.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criterion is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category.

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 7: Oxton Village Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

This Policy Zone consists of an area which stretches from Oxton in the south to Bilsthorpe in the north. The area is gently undulating with a height range of between 70 to 90 metres along the A614 corridor and with a high point of 104 metres at Rufford Forest Farm.

The major land use in the area consists of intensive arable farming for the production of cereals and sugar beet. There is also large scale vegetable production particularly of carrots and potatoes, some of which are grown under polythene to produce early crops. There are associated package and storage facilities for vegetable growing, e.g. Inkersall Grange Farm. There is also intensive pig production to the north of Farnsfield. Field sizes are generally large. There are small areas of pasture, as well as parkland around village of Oxton. Recreational facilities include Oakmere golf course which lies to the west of the area and Lockwell Hill Outdoor Activity Centre to the east of the A614 at the northern end of the PZ. The A614 runs north to south through the area and is a major tourist route linking the City with the north of the County. The A617 crosses from east to west. A disused mineral railway line also crosses from east to west and another railway line to the east has been converted into the Southwell Trail, a long distance walking and cycling route.

There is a concentration of leisure activities around White Post Farm, including the Wonderland Leisure Park and White Post Public Farm, together with other facilities such as a Garage, Public House and Restaurant,

There is very little woodland within the area. There are small patches of deciduous woodland such as Godson Plantation to the south, Flowers Wood and Rook Wood to the north. There are small areas of short rotation coppice adjacent to the A614, as well as recent planting on the golf course. There are small patches of conifer woodland such as Foulds Plantation, Gorse Covert to the south and Damstead Plantation, the southern edge of Clipstone forest, to the north. Field boundary hedgerows are generally poor, gappy, and Hawthorn. There are isolated hedgerow trees – Oak and Ash. Road hedge boundaries are variable but in most areas are Hawthorn, again with mature hedgerow trees, mostly Oak. The area has an underlying heathland character and this is expressed by appearance of Bracken in road verges and along the disused railway lines, some of which are heathland register sites.

The historic field pattern in the Sanderson Plan of 1835 is still recognisable but has been broken down by removal of field boundaries due to agricultural expansion.

Built features include mostly isolated farms with core buildings of red brick. Many farms have modern agricultural buildings around their perimeter. The village of Oxton is contained within the area which has traditional red brick and pantiled roofed core. There are long open views to the coniferous wooded ridgelines of Sherwood to the east and north.

Threats to the area include expansion further of leisure activities at White Post Farm, further break down of field pattern by removal of hedgerows due to agricultural intensification and expansion of urban centres of Bilsthorpe and Farnsfield into the area.

S PZ 7 Oxtan Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 7
 Landscape Character Parcel: S3, S4, S15, S16, S73



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Intensive arable farming in large geometric fields
- Small patches of deciduous and coniferous woodland
- Poor internal field boundaries, stronger road hedge boundaries with isolated mature trees mainly Oak to both.
- A614 runs north to south, A617 east to west
- Isolated farms of red brick core with modern agricultural buildings
- Heathland character, apparent to road verges, heathland species present along disused railway lines
- Settlement of Oxtan with historic red brick and pantiled core.
- Concentration of leisure facilities at White Post Farm at the junction of A614/A617

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Moderate**

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements mainly large geometric arable fields with only small areas of deciduous and coniferous woodland. There are **some** detracting features; these include busy roads including the A614, and A617 and commercial activity around White Post Farm. Overall this gives a **visually coherent** area.

There is one designated site in the area, BioSINC ref 2/541 - Farnsfield disused railway - 'A sizeable linear habitat of dry grassland and scrub'. Overall this is a **moderate** habitat for wildlife although connectivity is reduced by poor hedgerows in places and busy roads.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Some

Visual Unity: Coherent

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Variable

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

<p>Cultural integrity is variable in that the land use pattern is of the Sanderson’s Plan of 1835 has been degraded by removal of hedgerows. Fragments of deciduous woodlands that were present in the Plan remain as well as isolated vernacular farm buildings.</p> <p>A visually coherent area with a coherent functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a moderate landscape condition.</p>	<p>Functional Integrity: Coherent</p>																				
<p>Landscape Sensitivity</p> <p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as Moderate</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Sherwood LCA. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The undulating landform is apparent with intermittent areas of woodland and hedgerow giving a moderate visibility of features in and out of the PZ. There are long views along the A614 corridor towards the coniferous woodlands to the north and west.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place and a moderate visibility leads to a moderate landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Sensitivity Moderate</p> <p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																				
<p>LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create</p>	<p>Condition</p>																				
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the ecological diversity of small deciduous pre-Sanderson woodlands throughout the area • Conserve and reinforce field boundary and road hedgerows where these have become degraded or lost • Create opportunities for restoring areas of heath land where appropriate • Create small deciduous woodlands where appropriate <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the integrity and rural character of the landscape by concentrating new developments around the existing urban fringe of Bilsthorpe and Farnsfield • Create small scale woodland/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development • Conserve the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles. • Promote sensitive design and siting of agricultural buildings • Conserve the historic red brick and pantiled roofed core of Oxton 	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Low</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Moderate</td> <td style="text-align: center;">High</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Good</td> <td style="text-align: center;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Moderate</td> <td style="text-align: center;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Poor</td> <td style="text-align: center;">CREATE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Low</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Moderate</td> <td style="text-align: center;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>		Low	Moderate	High	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE																		
	Low	Moderate	High																		

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 8: Vicar Water and Rainworth Heath Wooded Estatelands

Policy: Create

This Policy Zone lies to the urban fringes of Clipstone to the north, Mansfield to the west and Rainworth to the south. Rainworth bypass runs through the southern area.

There are many detracting features to the urban fringes which include Crown Farm Industrial Estate - a large scale development visible over long distances. There is also large scale commercial and industrial development along the A617 on the approach into Mansfield and Ransom Wood Business Park lies to the south west of the Policy Zone.

The underlying gently undulating landscape has been considerably altered by coal mining activity at Rufford and Clipstone collieries. Rufford is still in the process of restoration and part of Clipstone colliery has been restored to create the Vicar Water Country Park to the north. Steep slopes have been created on the spoil tips which are an unnatural feature in the landscape. There is also an active sandstone quarry at Ratcher Hill where quarrying has left steep vertical slopes.

There are pine plantations and smaller blocks of deciduous woodland within the Policy Zone and the large scale pine plantation of Clipstone Forest lies to the east. More recent planting has taken place on reclaimed spoil tips

The Policy Zone area is largely shown as unenclosed heathland on Sandersons Plan of 1835. There are small pockets of heathland but the majority of the area has been disturbed by mineral and quarrying activity. Spoil heaps and disused mineral lines are now prominent features. Other features include a golf course and sewage works. Fly tipping is a problem in some areas and off road motorcycles are also evident.

The area has many SINCs and areas designated on the heathland register, including former mineral railway lines and colliery sites. Rainworth Heath is a designated SSSI. The area has a strong network of interconnecting blocks of deciduous woodland, coniferous plantations and patches of heathland and scrub providing good wildlife networks. Small areas of farmland have strong hedgerows with trees, for example around Newlands Farm.

There are panoramic views from the spoil tip at Vicar Water. Elsewhere views are contained by landform, urban edges and by mature plantation to the east.

Threats to the area include urban/industrial and residential expansion of the adjacent towns. Recent development has been large scale and does not respect the local vernacular and landscape character. The Rainworth bypass/MARR route will create more pressure for industrial and commercial development on the eastern edge of Mansfield. The Rufford Colliery site will be under pressure despite restoration proposals for heathland.

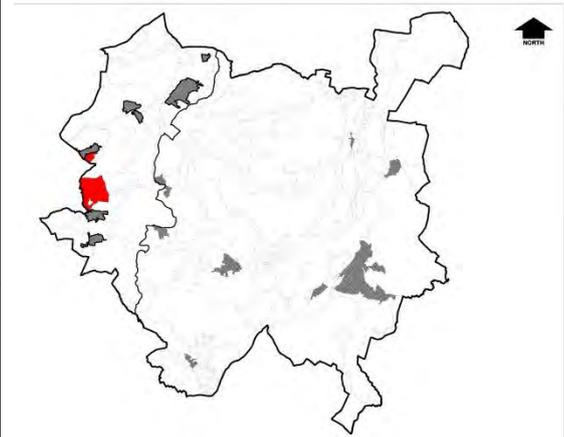
S PZ 8 Vicar Water and Rainworth Heath Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 8
 Land Cover Parcels: S20 and S21



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Landscape altered by mineral extraction and quarrying activity
- Large scale commercial and industrial/business parks on the urban fringes of Mansfield
- Busy roads – Mansfield and Ashfield Regeneration Route
- Large scale pine plantations and smaller deciduous blocks of woodland
- Heathland areas with bracken, gorse and heather
- Fishing lake at Vicar Pond

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape condition is defined as **very poor**. The area has an **incoherent** pattern of elements with **many** detracting features such as mineral extraction sites and industrial estates. Visual unity is **significantly interrupted**.

Rainworth Heath is a SSSI and there are many SINCS and heathland register sites. Ecological integrity is **strong**, there are good wildlife corridors within the site and linking to adjacent areas. Areas of unrestored colliery workings and recently restored areas are considered to have moderate ecological value.

Cultural integrity is **poor**. The historic pattern of unenclosed heathland landscape has largely been destroyed by mineral activity.

A **significantly interrupted** area with a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a **very poor** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Poor
Pattern of Elements:	Incoherent
Detracting Features:	Many
Visual Unity:	Significantly interrupted
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate/Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Poor
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>Sandersons Plan of 1835 shows the Policy Zone largely as unenclosed heathland. This has largely been disturbed, but heathland has successfully established on some restored mineral sites.</p> <p>Overall the features are characteristic of Sherwood with an historic time depth (post 1600) and the area has a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>An open panoramic view is possible from the top of the spoil tip to the west of Vicar Pond. Views within the site are enclosed by landform and woodland. The apparent landform and intermittent tree cover give a moderate visibility within the site.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate visibility gives a moderate landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Create																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create heathland habitats with Oak/Birch woodland and open acid grassland/heathland • Create natural rolling landforms in keeping with the Sherwood region when restoring mineral and quarry sites - avoid unnatural, engineered landforms • Create woodland to help restore unity to the landscape – medium to large scale planting would be appropriate in this area • Conserve existing heathland habitats <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentrate new development around the existing settlements of Mansfield, Clipstone and Rainworth to conserve the remote rural character of the landscape • Promote sensitive siting of new industrial and commercial buildings • New development should respect the local character in scale and design • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of isolated farm buildings using vernacular designs • Create woodland to contain and soften urban development, preferably in advance of new development 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p> <p>N.B. Where one criterion is ‘very poor’ this pushes the policy description into the next lowest category.</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 9: Old Clipstone Estate Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

This Policy Zone consists of an area which stretches from the valley of Rainworth Water in the south, to the valley of the River Maun in the north. It is bounded by Sherwood Pines woodland to the west and the valley of Rainworth Water to the east. The area is gently undulating with a height range of consistently between 60 metres and 85 metres.

The major land use in this area is intensive arable farming for the production of cereals; the area has a regular, medium sized field pattern. There are some areas of improved pasture particularly to the south of the area; some used for sheep grazing. Also to the south there are recreational facilities associated with horses – such as riding stables, and stud farms. There are also urban fringe uses along the main transport routes, such as public houses and transport cafes, also a cattery, and kennels. Within the fringes of the Sherwood Pines woodland is 'The Jungle' outdoor activity centre.

The A614 passes north to south through the area and the B6030 and B6034 pass east to west. The Robin Hood Way long distance footpath crosses the area from east to west. A disused mineral railway line connects the former Bilsthorpe Colliery to the former Rufford Colliery to the south of the area.

The area includes coniferous forestry plantations to the fringes of Sherwood Pines Forest Park which screen the outer edges of the Center Parcs Holiday Village. These woodlands, mostly Scot's Pine and Corsican Pine, have broad leaved margins with Beech, Birch, Lime, Oak and Sweet Chestnut present.

Very few fragments of deciduous woodlands remain, such as Clappall Hill, and Hudsons Hill Wood, shelter belts along farm access tracks. The fringes of coniferous woodland surrounding the Center Parcs Holiday Village also contain mature deciduous trees, such as Oak and Sweet Chestnut, which were once contained within the Pittance Park woodland shown on the Sanderson Plan of 1835. There is a mature Lime Avenue bordering the forest track to Inkersall Farm.

Field Boundary hedgerows are Hawthorn with some becoming gappy. Road boundary hedgerows are variable; to the A614 for example they are strong in places but very poor or absent in others. Road boundary hedgerows are generally stronger to minor roads and contain mature Oaks in places.

The area has a heathland character with heathland species apparent to road verges and along disused railway lines,

The historic field pattern in the Sanderson Plan of 1835 is still recognisable but there has been removal of internal field boundary hedgerows due to agricultural expansion.

There are limited built features. These include residential properties of modern construction off the A614 on the track into Clipstone Forest, and the Limes Café on the A614. The outer edges of the village of Old Clipstone are also within this area. There are several isolated farms. These tend to have red brick core buildings surrounded by modern sheds, e.g. Featherstone House Farm. Listed Farm buildings include Eastfield Farm, Inkersall Farm and Featherstone House Farm.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Sherwood

Views are medium to long range terminated by landform and forestry blocks.

Threats to the area include the clear felling of forestry areas, expansion of recreational uses within these areas, loss of mature vegetation to minor roads such as mature Oaks due to poor management of roadside hedgerows, and a further break down of field pattern due to agricultural intensification, as well as an increase in horse grazing. Other threats include expansion of the urban area of Lidgett into the area

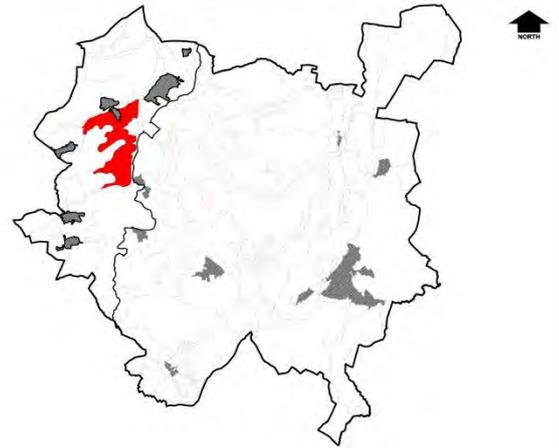
S PZ 9 Old Clipstone Estate Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Estate Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 9
 Landscape Character Parcel: S 51/ S 52



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Coniferous forestry plantations with broad leaved margins
- Intensive arable farming in medium regular geometric fields
- Very small patches of deciduous woodland
- Poor internal field boundaries, stronger road hedge boundaries with isolated mature trees, mainly Oak.
- A614 runs north to south, B6030 and B6034 run east to west
- Isolated farms of red brick core with modern agricultural buildings
- Heath land character, apparent to road verges and along disused mineral railway lines

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements, mainly medium geometric arable fields and areas of coniferous plantation woodland to the west. There are **some** detracting features; these include busy roads including the A614, B6034 and B6030, pylons crossing the area, and large agricultural buildings around farms. Overall this gives a **visually coherent** area. There are parts of 2 BioSINCs in the area. These are BioSINC ref 1/90 Clipstone Forest Area ‘an expanse of mostly coniferous forestry within which occur numerous ephemeral heath land habitats of botanical and vertebrate zoological interest’ and BioSINC ref 2/545 Alder Carr, Inkersall ‘a thin canopy of mixed deciduous species over and acidic community of some interest’. Overall this is a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, although connectivity is reduced by poor hedgerows in places and busy roads. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the land use pattern of the Sanderson’s

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Plan of 1835 is still recognisable within the farmed areas but has been lost to the west due to forestry planting. Fragments of deciduous woodlands that were present at the time of the Plan remain as well as isolated vernacular farm buildings, some of which are listed.

A **visually coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** of the Sherwood LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post-1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall. There is evidence of the pre-enclosure heathland character in the presence of heathland species to road edges and along disused mineral railway lines.

The undulating landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a **moderate** visibility of features in and out of the PZ, although the higher proportion of woodland in the west creates a more enclosed area. In the north there are dominant views of the residential urban edges of Edwinstowe and Lidgett.

A **moderate** sense of place and a **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of small deciduous woodlands throughout the area.
- **Conserve** and **Create** field boundary and road hedgerows where these have become degraded or lost.
- **Create** opportunities for restoring areas of heath land where appropriate.
- **Create** small deciduous woodlands where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the integrity and rural character of the landscape by concentrating new developments around the existing urban fringe of Edwinstowe and Lidgett.
- **Create** small scale woodland/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development.
- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of agricultural buildings.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 10: Rufford Estate Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This Policy Zone is a gently undulating area which ranges in height from 75 metres on its western edge and slopes down eastwards the valley of Rainworth water, and rises again to 85 metres within New Park Wood to the east.

Rufford Abbey lies at the centre of this area (former Cistercian monastery) and is a Scheduled Ancient Monument set within a registered Historic Park and Garden. It is also a Grade 1 Listed Building and its grounds contain many Grade II Listed structures.

The major land use within the area is Rufford Country Park, a major tourist facility managed by the County Council, with buildings centred on the medieval Rufford Abbey and with a large area of mature deciduous woodland to the north of the visitor facilities. The area also includes Rufford Park Golf Course and the coniferous woodland of New Park Wood. Other visitor facilities include the Go Karting Centre at Amen Corner on the western boundary. The A614 runs north south through the area. The road is bordered by mature woodland to both sides and to the west is an area of acid grassland and heathland known as Shooters Brake. To the south is an area of detached housing screened by mature woodland. There is a small area of improved pasture to the southern edge of the area.

Rufford Park Wood is designated as a BioSINC and consists of mature trees with Oak as the dominant species; it also includes areas of open parkland with mature Oak and Sweet Chestnut trees and avenues of mature trees. New Park Wood is also a BioSINC and is coniferous plantation woodland with deciduous woodland to its western fringe. Rufford Park Golf Course is intensively managed to amenity standards rather than to meet biodiversity objectives to create heathland for example. It has some small areas of recently planted woodland which include exotic species. There are no hedgerows within this area, which is primarily managed for tourist and recreational uses.

The area has an underlying heathland character and this is most apparent to the western edge where there is the area of acid grassland and heathland mentioned above. Heathland species are also apparent to road verges and woodland rides.

The historic pattern is recognisable in the sense that the large areas of woodland shown on the Sanderson's Map, 1835 remain. However, only Rufford Park contains woodland from this time. New Park Wood has retained its Sanderson shape and structure but areas have been infilled with conifer planting. The golf course area was originally open parkland.

Built features within Rufford Country Park include a courtyard and stable of redbrick and pantiled buildings converted into visitor facilities, as well as the stone Abbey ruins. There are associated formal landscape gardens. There are also isolated farms of red brick with pantile roofs within the area such as Manor Farm. To the south are kennels with associated agricultural buildings but these are screened by woodlands. Residential detached properties to the south, enclosed by woodland, are of modern red brick construction.

The main threats to the area are expansion of tourist facilities within Rufford Country Park and expansion of the residential area to the south leading to loss of woodland, and parkland landscape. Poor management of woodland particularly New Park Wood could lead to decline in the condition of the woodland.

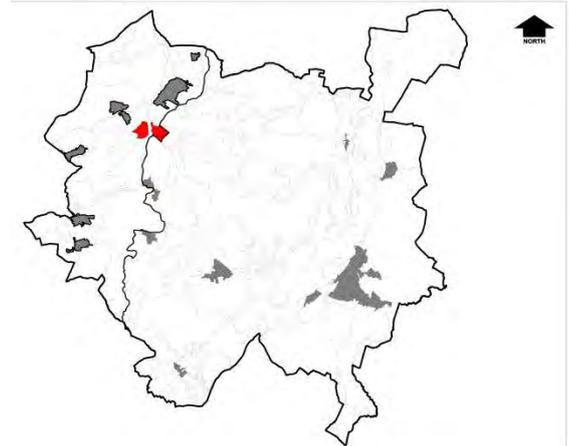
S PZ 10 Rufford Abbey Estate Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Estate Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 10
 Landscape Character Parcel: S 48, S 49



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Mature deciduous woodland and open parkland landscape with mature trees – Rufford Country Park
- Coniferous woodland with deciduous fringes – New Park Wood
- Lime avenues within Rufford Country Park
- Intensively managed Rufford Park Golf Course
- Tourist facilities at Rufford Country Park including historic Rufford Abbey (Scheduled Ancient Monument and Grade I Listed building)
- Heathland character particularly apparent to west of area around Shooters Brake

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**

The PZ has a **coherent** pattern of elements consisting mainly of two large areas of mature deciduous woodland and a coniferous plantation woodland. There are **some** detracting features; these include busy roads - A614 - and vehicles moving through the Rufford woodland areas. Overall this gives a **visually coherent** area. The two woodlands are BioSINCs ref 1/125 Rufford Country Park 'a mosaic of woodland and wetland and grassland habitats of considerable faunal interest' and BioSINC ref 2/572 New Park Wood and Scotland Bank

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

'a mostly devastated old woodland retaining some features of botanical interest' Overall this is a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, although connectivity is reduced by the highly maintained golf course between these two areas. The woodlands were present on the Sanderson Map of 1835, although New Park Wood has been infilled with conifer plantation. The ruins of the medieval abbey as well as the vernacular buildings and farms give a **good** cultural integrity to the area

A **visually coherent** area with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **good** landscape condition

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**

The assemblage of landscape features is unique and rare in the Sherwood LCA as a whole. The time depth of some of the features within the area, such as the Abbey, is ancient although overall the continuity is historic, giving a **strong** sense of place. The undulating landform is **apparent** with **enclosed** areas of woodland giving a **low** visibility of features in and out of the PZ in these areas. Views are more expansive within the golf course area

A **strong** sense of place and a **low** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness: Unique/rare

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Strong

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Enclosed

Visibility: Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of mature deciduous woodlands and deciduous woodland fringes within the area as well as individual parkland and avenue trees.
- **Conserve** the existing areas of heath land and acidic grassland to the west.
- **Create** opportunities for restoring areas of heathland, where appropriate, particularly to the Golf Course to provide links between the two woodland areas.
- Avoid further planting of exotic tree species to golf course.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the character and architectural style of the historic abbey and Rufford buildings and its landscape gardens, and ensure this is respected in any new development.
- Promote measures for **reinforcing** the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of agricultural buildings preferably in areas screened by woodland as existing.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 11 Lindhurst Wooded Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

This Policy Zone is a gently undulating area which extends from the valley of Rainworth Water at 110 metres in the south to the built edge of Mansfield in the north at 167 metres; and from the edge of Kirkby in Ashfield in the west to the village of Rainworth in the east. The highest point is at Coxmoor Plantation which is at 190 metres.

Land use in the area includes intensive arable production of cereals and oil seed rape as well as coniferous plantation woodland with smaller areas of deciduous woodland. There is some horse grazing on improved pasture to the southern fringes of Mansfield. There is also intensive pig production in the area around Rushley Farm. The recently built Mansfield and Ashfield Regeneration Route (MARR) cuts through the north of the Policy Zone, commercial and industrial development is beginning to be located along this route.

The main concentration of woodland is in the centre of the area and consists of Normanshill Wood and Thieves Wood to the west of the A60, and Harlow Wood is to the east of the A60. Both of these areas are commercial forestry plantations with wide margins of broad leaved trees particularly where they abut transport corridors. Caudwell Wood to the north of MARR is a deciduous woodland with Oak, Sweet Chestnut as the dominant species, also with Ash, Birch, and Sycamore and a shrubby under storey with a heathland species field layer. The smaller Stone Hills Plantation and Coxmoor Plantations are also coniferous woodlands with broad leaved margins. There is a small section of riparian woodland to Foul Evil Brook to the east of the area which includes Alder, Birch and Willow. The area as a whole has a distinct heath land character and there are several heath land register sites in the area.

Field boundaries vary in quality throughout the area. Road hedgerows are also variable but very good in places such as on Caudwell Road where there are mature trees including Ash, Oak and Sycamore within the hedgerows. The most mature and species rich hedgerows are along farm tracks, such as those to Lindhurst Farm and Black Scotch Farm, these also contain mature trees including sections of Holly.

Historical maps of the area show that the whole of the eastern section was unclosed heath land except for the area around the present day Lindhurst Farm and the western area was enclosed fields. This pattern is still recognisable in the modern day landscape although there has been much removal of intervening boundaries due to agricultural intensification.

There is limited residential settlement within the area, there is small housing estate within Harlow Wood tend to have a vernacular core of red brick and pantiled roofs but with modern agricultural buildings surrounding them. There is built development at Portland Training College within Harlow Wood and Fountaindale School within Thieves wood.

Threats to the area include uncontrolled expansion of industrial and commercial buildings along the MARR route and expansion around the West Nottinghamshire College site, as well as extension of industrial and residential areas to the edge of Kirkby in Ashfield and Mansfield.

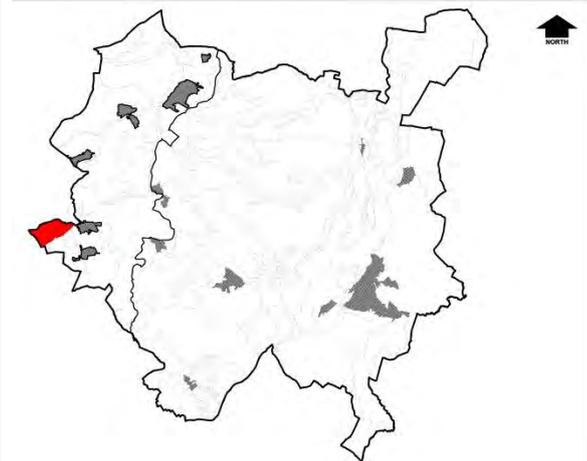
S PZ 11 Lindhurst Wooded Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 11
 Landscape Character Parcel:
 S74,S75,S77,S78,S79,S80



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Coniferous forestry plantations with deciduous margins to road edges
- Deciduous woodlands with Oak, Sweet Chestnut dominant
- Intensive arable farming in large geometric fields
- Mixed species hedgerows with mature trees to farm tracks
- MARR route crosses the north of the area
- Built edge of Mansfield and Kirkby in Ashfield to the north and west
- Isolated farms and limited settlement.
- Heath land character, particularly to road verges ,heath land species present on woodland rides.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Moderate**

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements mainly large geometric arable fields and blocks of plantation woodland, there are **some** detracting features these include telecommunications masts on high points, busy roads including the A60 and MARR route and the built edge of nearby urban areas. Overall this gives a **visually coherent** area. There are a number of SINC's and heath land sites in the area. Overall this is a **moderate** habitat for wildlife although connectivity is

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Coherent
 Elements:

Detracting Some
 Features:

Visual Unity: Coherent

Ecological Moderate

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

reduced by poor hedgerows and busy roads. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the land use pattern is still recognisable to the west from Sanderson’s plan of 1835 but many hedgerows have been removed. Many of the woodlands existed at the time of this Plan but they have been more infilled with conifer planting in recent times so that only their boundary shape remains .

A **visually coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **moderate** landscape condition

Integrity:

Cultural Integrity: Variable

Functional Integrity: Coherent

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **Moderate**

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** of the Sherwood LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall. There is evidence of the pre enclosure heath land character in the presence of heath land species to road edges and woodland rides.

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

The undulating landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a **moderate** visibility of features in and out of the PZ. There are dominant views of the urban edges of Mansfield and Kirby in Ashfield.

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

A **moderate** sense of place and a **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of small deciduous woodlands throughout the area
- **Conserve** farm track hedgerows with mature trees including Holly
- **Create** and reinforce field boundary and road hedgerows where these have become degraded or lost
- **Create** opportunities for restoring areas of heath land where appropriate
- **Create** small deciduous woodlands where appropriate

Built Features

- **Conserve** the sparsely settled character of the landscape by concentrating new developments around the existing urban fringe of Mansfield and Kirkby in Ashfield to the north and west.
- **Create** small scale woodland/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development
- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 12: Cavendish Woodland Estatelands and Wooded Farmlands
Policy: Restore and Create

This Policy Zone is an undulating area that extends from a small water course, Vicar Water, at 70 metres in the east up to the built edge of Mansfield Woodhouse in the west. The land drops down to the River Maun in the north and borders the built edges of Forest Town and Clipstone to the south. The highest point is at the western end of Clipstone at 119 metres. The undulating landform is more gentle to the north of Clipstone, in the east with a shallow ridgeline running south west to north east along Clipstone Drive.

This area is dominated by coniferous plantations (Intake Wood, Newlands, and Garibaldi Plantation) and intensive arable farming with a medium sized geometric field pattern. Cavendish Wood lies to the north east of this area and is a mixed woodland. To the east are a series of smaller scale fields of pasture around Vicar Water grazed by sheep, cattle and horses. There is also some horse grazing on improved pasture around Cavendish Lodge. To the south there is a small area of the worked spoil heaps of Clipstone Colliery.

Around the coniferous plantations there are generally broadleaf margins which are made up of oak, elder, birch, sweet chestnut, beech and a little rowan. Along the railway line embankment to the eastern edge of Vicar Water is a tree and scrub belt of oak, birch, gorse and hawthorn. This area has a more heathy character.

Where arable land use predominates to the west field boundaries are generally more fragmented. Hedges are also fragmented along the small valley floor against Vicar Water with stronger, intact trimmed hedges around Cavendish Lodge.

The Sanderson historical maps of this area show that much of this area was unenclosed in 1835 with the northern section forming Clipstone Park. Cavendish Lodge lies to the north east of the area on the edge of the former historic Clipstone Park. The boundaries of the park are still evident in the field pattern although many of the field boundaries are in poor condition. The remains of King John's Palace are found within a field just south of the village of Kings Clipstone near to where the River Maun and Vicar Water meet. The palace was a hunting lodge and royal residence built before 1164.

Residential housing is generally concentrated outside this area within Mansfield Woodhouse to the west and the larger suburb of Clipstone to the south along the B6030. The historic village core of Kings Clipstone lies to the north eastern tip of this area and a new modern housing estate has been constructed adjacent to a pine plantation, Intake Wood.

The area around Baulker Farm is degraded by large industrial sheds, electrical sub stations and pylons and power lines run east to west across this area.

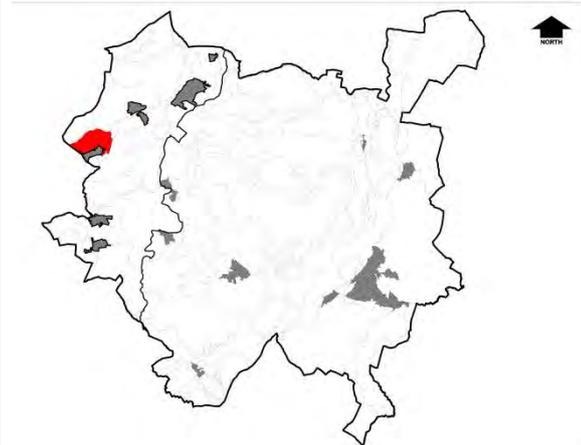
S PZ 12 Cavendish Wooded Estatelands and Wooded Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands and Wooded Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 12
 Landscape Character Parcel: SH22 and SH66



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Coniferous plantations with broadleaf margins
- Irregular medium sized arable fields
- Scattered tree cover and heathy vegetation along railway embankment to the eastern edge of Vicar Water
- Isolated farms and traditional village core of Kings Clipstone
- New housing development in Intake Wood
- Small fields of unimproved pasture against Vicar Water
- Views often contained by urban edges or coniferous plantations

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **poor**. The Policy Zone contains an **incoherent** pattern of features with **some** detracting features such as industrial sheds and sub stations around Baulker Farm, pylons and power lines, and the spoil heaps of Clipstone Colliery to the south. Overall the landscape is **visually interrupted**.

Tree cover within this area is largely pine and concentrated within woodland blocks. Field boundaries vary throughout the policy area with many gappy and in decline, particularly to the south western edge against Mansfield Woodhouse. The traditional red brick core of Kings Clipstone is intact with some limited recent infill and peripheral development adjacent to it. Cavendish Lodge is a Grade II listed building and the field pattern is largely intact within this area. New housing development has taken place within the area of Cavendish

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Poor
Pattern Elements:	of Incoherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Interrupted
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Park to the north of New Mill Lane. The overall cultural integrity is **variable**.

The SINC sites tend to be concentrated along the southern bank of the River Maun with small sections of woodland, some spa ponds east of Warren Farm and grasslands all providing habitats with some linkages. However, fragmented hedges and some intensive arable hedges particularly to the west, give an overall **moderate** ecological integrity.

The functional integrity is **coherent** with some productive arable land.

A **visually interrupted** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **poor** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of this area **characteristic** of the Sherwood region and the continuity / time depth is **historic** (post 1600) which gives a **moderate** sense of place.

The larger scale blocks of woodland plantation around Cavendish Woods and Newlands and the larger size fields exhibits the tree cover and relative lack of enclosure that is shown on the Sanderson plan of 1835. The hedges around Cavendish Lodge reflect the historic pattern shown in the plan.

The undulating landform is **apparent** with some **intermittent** views out of the area to the west of Mansfield Woodhouse and to the north west from Clipstone Drive to wooded skylines.

A **moderate** sense of place combined with a **moderate** visibility gives a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Restore and Create

Landscape Features

- **Restore** the historic field pattern particularly primary hedgerows and those close to urban settlement of Mansfield Woodhouse.
- **Restore** the heathy character to woodland margins, tracks and roadside edges.
- **Create** heathland habitat within new areas of public open space where appropriate.
- **Create** new areas of oak woodland linking up with existing areas of woodland.

Built Features

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

Condition

Condition	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
		Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood

- **Restore** the vernacular character and architectural style of Kings Clipstone.
- **Create** new areas of oak and birch woodland to help integrate new and existing urban development.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Conserve the integrity and rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around the existing urban edge of Mansfield Woodhouse.
- Improve the setting of the remains of Kings Johns Palace to allow for greater appreciation and understanding of this heritage asset.

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 14: Rainworth Water Meadowlands with Plantations
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This Policy Zone consists of the narrow river valley of the water course known as Rainworth Water. The landform falls gradually from 90 metres to 40 metres towards the north.

From the north east of Rainworth to the A614 corridor, the river is in a shallow valley bordered on either side with acid grassland. In the central section from the A614 to Robin Dam Bridge on Eakring Road, the river is in a narrow valley which flows through large arable fields. From Robin Dam Bridge to the junction with the River Maun at Ollerton, the river is in a narrow floodplain which has deciduous woodland immediately to its eastern side. The river then flows through the grounds of Rufford Country Park where the watercourse has been dammed to form an ornamental lake.

The main land cover of the area includes riparian woodland consisting of Willow, Birch and Alder, and small blocks of deciduous woodland and acid grassland in the southern section. The central section has very little fringing vegetation within the arable area. The area within Rufford Country Park consists of open areas of improved pasture with mature parkland trees including mature Oaks and Sweet Chestnut. The area is crossed by short sections of the A614, minor roads and a disused mineral railway line.

The fragments of deciduous woodland, such as Clappall Covert and Toothill Wood, along the course of Rainworth Water were present on the Sanderson Plan of 1835, together with the larger area of Cutts Wood which borders the area to the east of the valley. The area has a heath land character apparent to road verges and along disused railway line.

Within the agricultural areas the historic field pattern is still recognisable from the Sanderson Plan but there has been much hedgerow removal. The field boundary hedgerows that remain are hawthorn with isolated trees – Ash and Oak. The hedgerows to minor roads are generally strong and well-trimmed.

Built features within this PZ include the Mill area of Rufford Country Park which is open to the public and consists of parking areas, a garden centre and a café. The buildings are of traditional red brick with pantile roofs. There is also a small area of detached residential property surrounded by mature woodland to the south of Rufford Country Park.

The main threats are further agricultural expansion in the central and northern areas, leading to further hedgerow removal and further disintegration of the historic pattern, as well as removal of riparian vegetation to the banks of Rainworth Water. Other threats include the increase of tourist pressures at Rufford Mill, leading to loss of parkland and woodland, as well as residential expansion. Flooding of the Rainworth Water valley is also a threat.

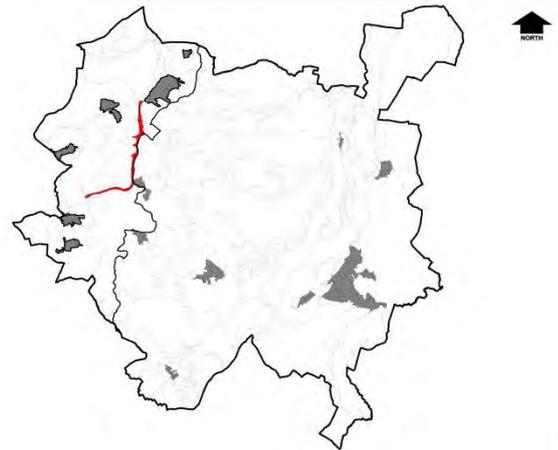
S PZ 14: Rainworth Water Meadowlands with Plantations

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands with Plantations
 Policy Zone: S PZ 14
 Landscape Character Parcel: S 17/ S 18



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Narrow valley of Rainworth Water with riparian vegetation in parts
- Arable farming in irregular fields along river valley right up to river edge in central section and improved pasture
- Acid grassland, riparian vegetation and deciduous woodland to southern section
- Heathland character apparent to southern section of the valley along road verges and disused railway lines
- Parkland landscape within Rufford Country Park with mature trees (Historic Park and Garden)
- Rufford Mill and ornamental lake with associated tourist facilities
- Detached residential settlement to the south of Rufford Country Park

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**. The Policy Zone contains a **coherent** pattern of elements with **few** detracting features; these include busy roads such as the A614 cutting across this narrow area. Overall the landscape is **visually unified**.

A significant strip of riparian vegetation follows Rainworth Water in the south and north of the valley comprising mature Alder, Birch and Willow. Generally there is good vegetation connectivity along the valley between deciduous woodland belts and hedgerow field

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern Elements:	of Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

boundaries adjacent to the Policy Zone. There are parts of 3 BioSINCs within this area. These are BioSINC ref1/90 Clipstone Forest Area ‘an expanse of mostly coniferous forestry within which occur numerous ephemeral heathland habitats of botanical and vertebrate zoological interest’, BioSINC ref 2/545 Alder Carr, Inkersall ‘a thin canopy of mixed deciduous species over and acidic community of some interest’, and BioSINC ref 1/125 Rufford Country Park ‘a mosaic of woodland and wetland and grassland habitats of considerable faunal interest’ Overall this gives a **moderate** wildlife habitat.

There are relatively few buildings or structures within the area except for the Rufford Mill buildings which are vernacular red brick with pantile roofs. The historic field pattern is still evident in part and the underlying pre-enclosure character is apparent in the heathland character. The overall cultural integrity is considered **variable**.

A **visually unified** area combined with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **good landscape condition**.

Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **Moderate**

Features which give the area local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Sherwood region and the continuity / time depth is **historic** [post-1600] giving a **moderate** sense of place. The presence of Rainworth Water prevents intrusive land use or development, and arable and pastoral land is farmed right up to the water’s edge.

The gently undulating landform is apparent and contains only **intermittent** small deciduous woodlands together with riparian vegetation which gives moderate visibility in and out of the PZ.

A **moderate** sense of place combined with **moderate** visibility gives **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood**

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce													
<p><u>Landscape Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and reinforce the pastoral character of the Rainworth Water valley. • Promote measures for restoring arable land to pasture and flood meadow. • Conserve and reinforce river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation where this exists. • Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity and character of riparian woodland. • Conserve parkland landscape of Rufford Country Park and protect mature trees. • Conserve the existing areas of heathland and acid grassland bordering Rainworth Water to the southern area. • Create new areas of heath land where appropriate. <p><u>Built Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the sparsely settled character of the river corridor by avoiding development within the immediate flood plain of Rainworth Water. • Reinforce the sense of place of the built environment by using materials and design that reflect the local character of the area around Rufford Mill. • Contain new small scale development within historical field boundaries. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #D3D3D3;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 100px; margin-top: 10px;"> Low Moderate High </p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE										
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE										
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE										

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 15: River Maun Meadowlands with Plantations
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This Policy Zone covers a narrow river corridor that contains the River Maun. This small water course flows in a north easterly direction from Mansfield Woodhouse in the west through Edwinstowe and up past the north western residential edge of Ollerton. To the west the River Maun flows in a relatively enclosed river corridor, with low lying fields to the north and a steep and often wooded bank to the south. There are occasional sandstone outcrops to the southern bank. In contrast to the east of Edwinstowe, the area either side of the river is relatively flat and more open in character with medium sized arable fields both to the north and south of the river. The landscape is more fragmented here with loss of flood meadow to arable production.

Between the north-eastern edge of Mansfield Woodhouse and Edwinstowe there is a stronger sense of wooded enclosure with mixed woodland along the southern bank. Willow trees fringe the edge of the banks of a series of man-made fishing ponds to the north of Newlands and Cavendish Wood. These fishing ponds are at a slightly higher level than the river.

A camping and caravan site is located within the valley bottom to the south east of Lamp Pens Farm. A mineral railway line and pylons cut across the river near to Clipstone junction and a sewage works lies just west of Rainworth Water and Ollerton, adjacent to Carr Brecks Farm.

To the west of Kings Clipstone views tend to be contained within the valley, due to both woodland cover and the more meandering nature of the river in this area. To the east of Kings Clipstone views open out to the edge of Edwinstowe and to Sherwood Country Park in the south. To the east of Edwinstowe structures associated with Thoresby coal mine are also visible.

There are sections of bridleway either immediately adjacent or parallel to the water course for much of this Policy Zone, including a short section of the Robin Hood Way west of Edwinstowe.

Threats to this area include the increased pressure for parking close to fishing ponds which could disrupt the tranquillity of the River Maun. Lack of woodland management on the edge of the river corridor could also impact on the continued succession of trees as older trees are not replaced.

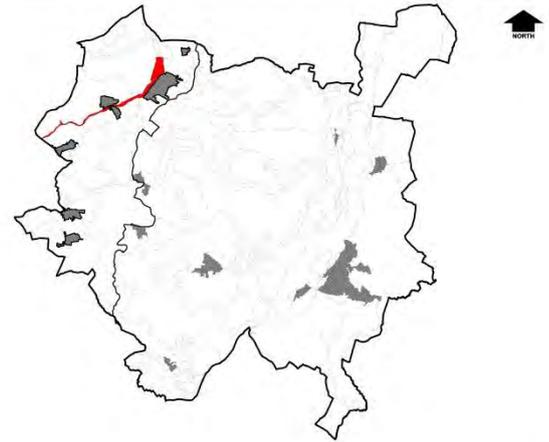
S PZ 15: River Maun Meadowlands with Plantations

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands with Plantations
 Policy Zone: S PZ 15
 Land Cover Parcel: S27 S28



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Narrow meandering river valley
- West of Edwinstowe - low lying fields to the north and steeper wooded valley side to the south
- Occasional sandstone outcrops to the southern bank
- Arable farming on flatter areas to the east
- Some willow, alder and riparian vegetation along the banks adjacent to the river
- Some views out to built edges, railway embankments, and woodland edges

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**. The Policy Zone contains a **coherent** pattern of elements with a **few** detracting features. These include the urban fringe, sewage works, pylons, and busy roads crossing the valley. Overall the landscape is **visually unified**.

The River Maun is a **moderate** habitat for wildlife with some areas of broadleaved woodland and outgrown hedgerows with trees along parts of the narrow valley. There are several SINC sites but ecological value has been reduced in areas of arable farming. Flood meadow has been lost to intensive arable farming and some straight sections of river suggest that the profile has been engineered. Hedgerows vary in condition, with some outgrown or fragmented and

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern Elements:	of Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

some stronger and trimmed.

The condition of heritage features is **variable**. There are some small areas of flood meadow and historic field boundaries. The location of the water meadows is still evident in the field pattern to the north of the river from Warren Farm to the east of Lamb Pens Farm. These meadows were created between 1816 and 1837 and they released water and sewage over farmland, greatly increasing agricultural production. Most of the farmhouses adjacent to this policy zone also date from this time.

Recent isolated development has generally had a negative impact on the valley.

Overall this is a visually unified area with a coherent functional integrity which gives a **good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity

Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of this landscape such as tree cover, patches of heathy vegetation and the generally undeveloped land within the river corridor are **characteristic** features of Sherwood Landscape Character Area. However, the historic time–depth has largely been degraded by intensive arable farming, and some localised development around Edwinstowe, and Ollerton. Views are generally contained by the low landform and intermittent tree cover and visibility is **moderate**.

A **moderate** sense of place combined with a **moderate** visibility gives a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve and reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** and **reinforce** the pastoral character of the river valley.
- Promote measures for restoring arable land to pasture and flood meadow.
- **Conserve** and **reinforce** river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity and character of

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood**

riparian woodland.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the sparsely settled character of the river corridor by avoiding development within the immediate flood plain of the River Maun.
- **Reinforce** the sense of place of the built environment by using materials and design that reflect the local character of the area.
- Contain new small scale development within historical field boundaries.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 18: Blidworth and Rainworth Wooded Estatelands
Policy: Conserve and Create**

This Policy Zone consists of an area which stretches from the former Calverton Colliery in the south to the villages of Rainworth and Blidworth in the north. The area is gently undulating with a height range of consistently between 90 and 135 metres.

The major land uses consist of commercial forestry plantations particularly to the south of the area. The forestry areas are publicly accessible with well maintained picnic areas and broad deciduous edges to the woodlands. To the centre and north intensive arable farming predominates with regular medium to large fields of cereals. There is some permanent pasture used for sheep grazing and horse grazing nearer to the settlements of Blidworth and Rainworth. There is intensive rearing of chickens in poultry sheds. Facilities for leisure activities include a golf course to the south and sports fields near the villages. There is also evidence of the former coal mining industry with restored colliery spoil heaps at Calverton and Blidworth, disused mineral lines also cross the area. Busy roads pass through the area such as the A614, and the Rainworth Bypass, away from these straight major routes are more winding routes often with 'sunken lanes' particularly around Blidworth.

The conifer woodlands are mainly Scot's Pine and Corsican Pine with edges of Ash, Beech, Birch, Holly and Oak. Coniferous game coverts are also dotted throughout the area. There are many isolated deciduous woodlands dominated by Oak and Sycamore some of which are ancient woodlands. Field boundary hedgerows are mostly trimmed but often gappy with limited hedgerow trees. Where present, these are Birch, Oak and Sycamore. Road hedgerows are stronger with large mature trees in places particularly along the minor roads.

The area has a heath land character, with patches of heath land within woodlands and along road verges. The plantations create the characteristic coniferous wooded skylines of the Sherwood region.

The historic field pattern has been lost in the areas of mineral extraction and forestry planting and there has been much hedgerow removal or replacement with post and wire fences in the intensively farmed arable areas.

Built features include isolated farms with core buildings of red brick with slate roofs, and also stone buildings. Many farms have modern storage buildings around the perimeter e.g. Haywood Oaks Farm There is a small industrial estate north of Blidworth with modern buildings.

Threats to the area include clear felling of forestry areas causing a change on the character of these areas, further intensification of agriculture, expansion of industrial, and residential areas of Blidworth, as well as industrial and residential expansion of Rainworth particularly along the bypass.

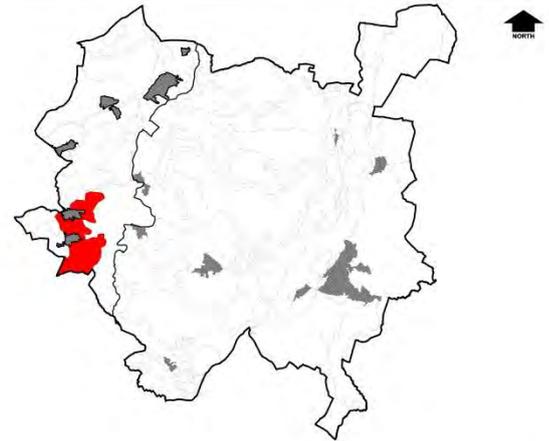
S PZ 18 Blidworth and Rainworth Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 18
 Landscape Character Parcel: S1, S2, S11



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Coniferous forestry plantations with deciduous margins to road edges
- Small deciduous woodlands dominated by Oak.
- Intensive arable farming in large to medium geometric fields
- Poor internal field boundaries, stronger road edge boundaries with mature trees
- Rainworth Bypass crosses the north of the area, A614 runs north to south
- Isolated farms
- Heathland character, apparent to road verges , heath land species present within woodlands and along disused mineral railway lines.
- Evidence of former coal mining, restored spoil heaps at Blidworth and Calverton
- Settlements of Bildworth and Rainworth

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Moderate**

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements mainly large geometric arable fields and blocks of coniferous plantation woodland, there are

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Some

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

some detracting features these include busy roads including the A614 and Rainworth Bypass route and the built edge of urban areas of Rainworth and Blidworth. Overall this gives a **visually coherent** area. There are a number of SINCs and heath land sites in the area. Overall this is a **moderate** habitat for wildlife although connectivity is reduced by poor hedgerows in places and busy roads. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the land use pattern is of the Sanderson's plan of 1835 has been lost due to forestry planting and coal mining activities and where it exists many hedgerows have been removed. Fragments of deciduous woodlands that were present in the plan remain and well as isolated vernacular farm buildings.

A **visually coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **moderate** landscape condition

Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **Moderate**

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** of the Sherwood LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall. There is evidence of the pre enclosure heath land character in the presence of heath land species to road edges and within woodlands.

The undulating landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a **moderate** visibility of features in and out of the PZ to the north, although the higher proportion of woodland in the south creates a more enclosed area. There are dominant views of the urban edges of Bildworth and Rainworth.

A **moderate** sense of place and a **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of small deciduous woodlands throughout the area
- **Conserve** and Reinforce field boundary and road hedgerows where these have become degraded or lost
- **Create** opportunities for restoring areas of heath land where appropriate
- **Create** small deciduous woodlands where appropriate

Built Features

- **Conserve** the integrity and rural character of the landscape by concentrating new developments around the existing urban fringe of Blidworth and Rainworth

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood

- **Create** small scale woodland/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development
- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of agricultural buildings

**Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 20: Walesby Forest Estate Farmlands /
Meadowlands with Plantations
Policy: Conserve**

This area is known as Walesby Forest, and includes a large International Outdoor Educational Activity Centre located to the west of the village of Walesby.

This is a predominantly flat open river valley landscape containing areas of mixed woodland (Scots Pine, Larch and Oak) to the north and south, heathland and acidic grassland to the east, and permanent pasture and rough grassland to the west. Areas of permanent pasture with scattered standard Birch and Pine trees are located through the central part of the area. Within these pasture areas are heathy sections. The permanent pasture to the east of the river is used for amenity uses associated with the Activity Centre.

The River Maun here, known as Whitewater, meanders northwards through the area joining the River Meden for a short section where the Robin Hood Way crosses both rivers to the north. The river is a strong feature surrounded by linear strips of flood meadow, riparian vegetation and pollarded willows.

The River Maun's eastern bank is steep in places with grass, scattered trees and gorse. Here a distinctive sandstone outcrop, known locally as Robin Hoods Cave, is thought to be an area where Robin Hood once sheltered.

Conjure Alders Woodland is a remnant of a more ancient landscape. Field boundaries consist of post and wire fences with a few overgrown and gappy hedgerows.

There are several SINC sites including Walesby Wood, Gosling Carr and Conjure Alders, Bothamsall.

Pylons run through the area from north to south. Whitewater Lane encloses the area to the south. The activity centre complex contains a variety of non-vernacular buildings, lodges and camping areas located to the south of the area within large open fields surrounded by woodland plantations.

The Robin Hood Way runs through the north and along the north east boundary of the area.

S PZ 20 Walesby Forest Estate Farmlands / River Meadowlands with Plantations

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Flat, open river valley
- Meandering river with distinctive sandstone outcrop
- Low lying flood meadows
- Alder and Willow and other riparian vegetation,
- Heathland and permanent pasture
- Mixed deciduous woodland
- Walesby Forest International Outdoor Educational Activity Centre

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

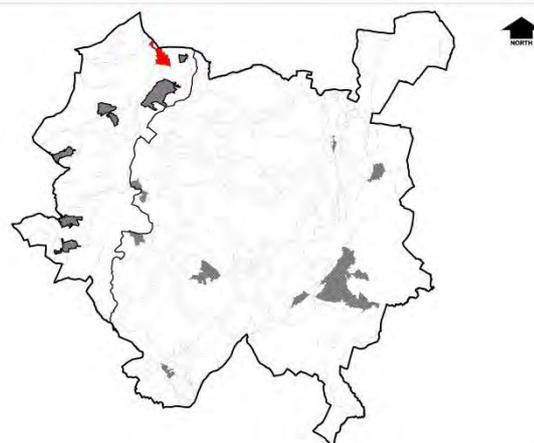
The Landscape condition is defined as **good**. There is a **coherent** pattern of elements with **few** detracting features; these include pylons which run from north to south along the eastern edge of the area, and a static caravan site is located adjacent to the activity centre. The buildings associated with the Activity Centre, to the south, although modern in appearance are well screened by woodland. Overall this is a visually unified area.

There are several SINCs within the PZ including: Walesby Wood, Gosling Carr and Conjure Alders, Bothamsall. There are numerous small blocks of mixed woodland, areas of permanent pasture with scattered trees, heathland, and the River Maun bordered by linear sections of flood meadow which is grazed by sheep. Hedgerows are few and tend to be overgrown or gappy in places. Field boundaries along the Robin Hood Way are timber post and rail. The mixed woodland, trees, hedgerows, flood meadow, heathland and permanent pasture provide a **moderate** network of wildlife corridors.

Cultural integrity of the area is **variable**. The area contains historic features associated with the legend of Robin Hood and remnants of the historic Conjure Alder Woodland exist to the north, which is

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: River Meadowlands with Plantations, Estate Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 20
 Landscape Character Parcel: S28, S29, S31, S44



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
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Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Strong

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

present on the Sanderson Plan. However, other historic east west field boundaries have been removed. The permanent pasture located to the east of the River Maun is used for amenity uses associated with the Activity Centre and much of the woodland is also managed for amenity use. The policy zone has a **moderate** intensity of recreational use.

A **visually unified** area with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **good** landscape condition

Landscape Sensitivity

The historic field pattern shown on the Sanderson Plan is still evident despite the areas recreational use. The assemblage of mixed woodland, trees, hedgerows, flood meadow, heathland and permanent pasture is unique and rare within the Sherwood area but overall the features contained are **characteristic** with an **historic** (post 1600) time depth. Overall the area has a **strong** sense of place

Views out of the area are often limited by woodland and overgrown hedgerows. There are open views along the River Maun valley and long distance views to the A614 in the west. The **apparent** landform with **intermittent** tree cover gives a **moderate** visibility overall.

A **strong** sense of place and a **moderate** visibility gives a **high** landscape sensitivity overall

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the pastoral character and ecological diversity
- **Conserve** river corridor diversity and marginal riverside vegetation
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity and character of woodland, riparian habitats, heathland, and permanent pasture
- **Conserve** existing hedgerows and seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting, particularly within the heathland habitats.
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries

Built Features

- Seek opportunities to restore woodland, riparian habitats, heathland and permanent pasture when considering new development
- New development should reflect the local vernacular of the Sherwood region.

Sensitivity

High

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Strong
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 25: Birklands Wooded Estatelands
Policy: Conserve & Reinforce

This is a well-wooded landscape encompassing the historic Sherwood Forest set within the Sherwood Forest Country Park. The area is located to the north east of Mansfield, and to the north and west of Edwinstowe. Market Warsop is located to the west. The River Maun valley lies along the southern edge of the area and the River Meden lies to the north west of the area. The rivers valleys and settlements are located outside the policy zone area.

This well-wooded and, in places, industrialised landscape has a distinctively rolling and undulating landform. To the north and east, semi-natural woodland dominates the landscape. To the south and west, coniferous woodland is surrounded by an intensively farmed arable landscape. The arable farmland has a medium-sized geometric field pattern enclosed by hawthorn hedges. Further south, there are smaller fields of vegetable crops and pasture adjacent to the Maun Valley and Bradmer Hill. Thoresby Colliery is located to the east of the area.

To the east, the area is dominated by remnants of the historic Sherwood Forest. This semi-natural woodland consists of ancient stag headed Oaks, Birch and some Corsican Pine planted in blocks. The open canopy forest is closely associated with extensive mosaics of grass, bracken and heather heathland. The ancient stag-headed Oaks form a distinctive feature within the forest area. To the north and west, there are large coniferous plantations (Scots Pine) with deciduous woodland edges (Oak, Birch, Ash, Sweet Chestnut, Beech). These extensive plantations are gradually being converted to Oak wood pasture requiring the felling of Pine and Beech. This practice has allowed acidic grassland, bracken, gorse, broom and, in parts, heather under-stores to establish along edges and rides.

The woodlands contain a comprehensive network of planned vistas and forest rides. Holly trees form the edges to the north / south broad grassy ride. This is a remnant of a historic landscape marking the neutral ground between the Thoresby and Welbeck Estates. Thoresby Colliery, spoil heaps are covered in more recently planted woodland.

The views within the area are varied and are either contained by close belts of woodland or by plantations at a greater distance. Roadside and field boundaries consist of low, well trimmed, hawthorn hedgerows with Oak and Ash trees. Hedgerows are generally well maintained but some are gappy in places. There has been some reinstatement of old hedge lines to restore historic parkland features.

There are a number of isolated farmsteads scattered throughout the area, a number of which have listed building status. There is a small area of residential settlement at Spion Cop and Bradmer Hill to the west. To the east Thoresby Colliery has obliterated the wooded and agricultural landscape pattern, to the west, earlier woodland such as Birklands have survived. The surrounding agricultural landscape is interspersed with other land uses such as Sherwood Forest Farm Park, a caravan park, a sewage works, a lorry park, several car parks and a cricket pitch to the north of Edwinstowe. Sherwood Forest Country Park and Visitor Centre to the Major Oak is located to the north of Edwinstowe.

A railway line runs north-west to south-east across the western side of the area. The A60 Mansfield road runs along the western edge of the area. The busy A6075 runs from east to west across the centre of the area linking Mansfield to Edwinstowe. The area has a comprehensive network of tracks, footpaths and bridleways. The Robin Hood way runs from north to west along the western edge of the Country Park.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Sherwood

There are several SINC's within the area, including Birklands and Bilhaugh (i & ii), Clipstone Drive, Edwinstowe, New Lodge Plantation, Hanger Hill Drive Wood, Bradmer Hill Cutting and Warsop Sand Quarry. Bilhaugh West, Ollerton Corner and Birklands and Bilhaugh are SSSI's, the latter is also designated as a SAC (Special Area for Conservation). Sherwood Forest is a National Nature Reserve.

The change for the woodland around Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre is from coniferous timber production to oak wood pasture which is being driven by a nature conservation objective. The closure of the Thoresby Colliery could lead to further woodland or heath land creation. Hedgerows between arable fields tend to be in decline due to lack of management leading to the loss of the surrounding historic field pattern.

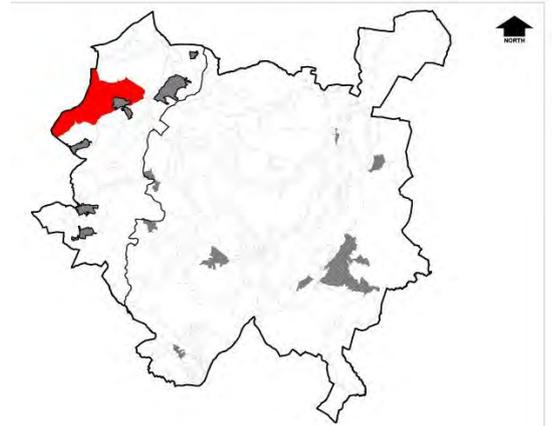
S PZ 25 Birklands Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 25
 Land Cover Parcel: S23, S24, S25



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Undulating topography
- Frequent views of wooded skylines
- Geometric pattern of medium to large-scale arable fields
- Trimmed hawthorn hedges
- Large coniferous plantations
- Scrubby semi-natural woodland and heaths with ancient-stag headed Oaks
- Strong heathy character (bracken, gorse and broom species)

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**.

This large area has a generally **coherent** pattern of elements with **some** detracting features. Thoresby Colliery and its associated spoil heaps are located to the east of the area. The busy A6075 cuts from east to west across the centre of the area linking Mansfield to Edwinstowe. Other land uses include a lorry park at Bradmer Hill, a sewage works as well as numerous masts and pylons. Tourist attractions such as Sherwood Forest Farm Park also tend to detract from the landscape unity of the area. Overall the visual unity is **coherent**.

There are several SINC's within the area, including Birklands and Bilhaugh (*i & ii*), Clipstone Drive, Edwinstowe, New Lodge Plantation, Hanger Hill Drive Wood, Bradmer Hill Cutting and Warsop Sand Quarry. Birklaugh West Ollerton Corner and Birklands and Bilhaugh are SSSI's, and the latter is also designated as a SAC (Special Area

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Strong

for Conservation). Sherwood Forest is a National Nature Reserve.

This area has a number of large coniferous and broadleaved woodlands set within an intensively farmed arable landscape. Sherwood Forest Ancient Woodland located to the north of Edwinstowe contains remnants of historic oak and birch woodland. The open canopy forest contains extensive mosaics of grass, bracken and heather heathland. The ecological integrity is **strong** within this area.

Roadsides and arable land are enclosed by generally well maintained, trimmed hawthorn hedgerows with some oak and ash trees. The woodland, hedgerows and heathland provide a strong network of wildlife corridors and there is moderate tree coverage with a diverse age structure. There has been recent planting at the Thoresby Colliery and Blakeley Lane, whereas the semi-natural woodland areas are over-mature and in decline. Overall the cultural integrity is **variable** giving a **strong** functional integrity.

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity	Moderate
<p>Features which give the area local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Sherwood region and the continuity is historic although ancient in parts which gives a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>A number of trees and woodland are shown on the Sanderson Plan. The field pattern is mainly intact, to the west the field pattern has been lost to modern arable farming practices and coniferous plantations and to the far east by Thoresby Colliery and associated development. Tree cover varies throughout the area with blocks of woodland particularly to the east and more open areas of arable fields to the west. Overall the extent of tree cover is intermittent.</p> <p>The views within the area are varied and are either contained by close belts of woodland or by plantations at a greater distance. A moderate sense of place combined with moderate visibility gives a moderate landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness:</p> <p>Continuity:</p> <p>Sense of Place:</p> <p>Landform:</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover</p> <p>Visibility:</p>	<p>Characteristic</p> <p>Historic</p> <p>Moderate</p> <p>Apparent</p> <p>Intermittent</p> <p>Moderate</p>

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** and **reinforce** the ecological diversity and distinctive character of heathland and semi-natural woodland habitats.
- **Conserve** and **reinforce** existing hedgerows and seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting with some hedgerow trees, where appropriate.
- Restoring areas of arable land to semi-natural oak woodland and heathland.
- **Conserve** all existing heathland sites.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood

- **Reinforce** the existing level of tree cover and use oak and birch along woodland edges and rides.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the historic character and setting of village settlements. New development should respect the scale, design and materials used traditionally
- **Conserve** the integrity and remote rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements of Market Worksop and Mansfield Woodhouse
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 26: Budby Estate Farmlands
Policy: Conserve

The area is located to the north and east of Sherwood Forest Country Park, the River Meden lies to the north along with the villages of Budby and Perlethorpe and the River Maun is located to the east. Budby South Forest falls within the Policy Zone in the west. The A616 and A614 transect the area north-west to south-east and north to south respectively.

Landform is gently undulating and affords medium distance views to wooded skylines. There is a strong sense of wooded enclosure in some areas.

Range of land uses are apparent which give a varied character overall. Arable fields are dominant in both the east and west, mixed farmland interspersed with small woodland blocks runs through the centre of the area. Influences of Thoresby Hall parkland extend into the north of the Policy Zone by way of pasture. An army training camp is contained within woodland north-east of Stilehollow plantation.

Broadleaved, coniferous and mixed plantations are evident throughout giving the area a strong wooded character. Areas of scrubby, semi-natural woodland are apparent, for example Budby South Forest and around Sherwood Heath. Hedgerows have been allowed to deteriorate in the east. Generally houses in the area are of historic character however there are some more recent buildings towards the edge of Thoresby village. Budby appears to have a distinctly uniform building style.

S PZ 26 Budby Estate Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Medium scale arable farmland.
- Small scale pastoral landscapes.
- Commercial forestry/woodland blocks.
- Historic Thoresby Estate including red brick farm buildings and associated parkland
- Proteus Training Camp and shooting range.
- Nucleated settlement at Budby/Perlethorpe.
- Views limited by extensive woodland planting.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

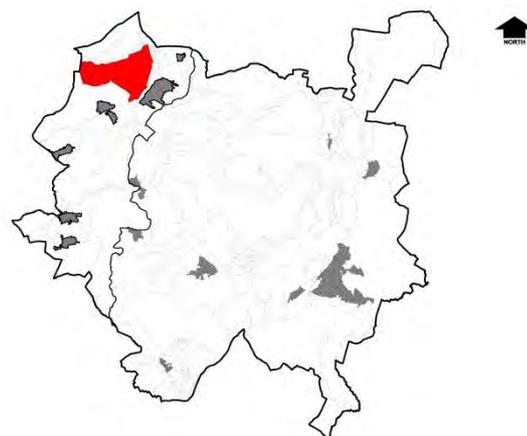
The landscape condition is very good. There is a **coherent** pattern of elements with **few** detracting features within the Policy Zone, namely Proteus Training Camp [former TA camp], the A614 and low voltage power lines. Overall this equates to a **visually unified** area.

Field boundaries tend to be hawthorn hedgerows, maintained although gappy in places, and post and wire fencing replacing lost hedgerows. Built features include a combination of red brick estate and farm buildings, rendered estate cottages at Budby and utilitarian agricultural barns. There are also pre-fabricated buildings, red brick buildings, Nissen Huts and timber clad buildings associated with the Proteus Training Camp. Houses are located within Budby and Perlethorpe. The overall cultural integrity is considered **good**.

Approximately half of the area is occupied with trees, ranging from young to mature plantations. Both individual and groups of trees, mostly oak, within the parkland and woodland blocks of birch [some with heathland understorey] Scots pine, oak, beech and yew. An area north-east of Buck Gate is designated ancient woodland, otherwise there are no SINCS or other ecological designations in the Policy Zone. Roberts plantation is birch and oak dominant. Small watercourses are apparent. The ecological integrity is defined as **moderate** which gives a **strong** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good landscape condition**.

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Estate Farmlands, Wooded Estatelands
Policy Zone: S PZ 26
Land Cover Parcel: S32



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood District Council:
Sherwood**

Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate												
<p>Features which give the area local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Sherwood region and the continuity/time depth is historic [post 1600] giving a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>There is little evidence of any pressure from development within the Policy Zone. A relatively strict maintenance regime across woodland and farmland is apparent. The local character is generally being conserved, hedgerows removal/ field enlargement poses a threat to this.</p> <p>Moderate visibility is afforded due to the wooded enclosure of the Policy Zone. The topography has been assessed as dominant. A moderate sense of place with moderate visibility leads to moderate landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; padding: 5px;">Distinctiveness:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Characteristic</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Continuity:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Historic</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Sense of Place:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Landform:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Dominant</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Extent of Tree Cover</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Enclosed</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Visibility:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> </tr> </table>	Distinctiveness:	Characteristic	Continuity:	Historic	Sense of Place:	Moderate	Landform:	Dominant	Extent of Tree Cover	Enclosed	Visibility:	Moderate
Distinctiveness:	Characteristic												
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Sense of Place:	Moderate												
Landform:	Dominant												
Extent of Tree Cover	Enclosed												
Visibility:	Moderate												
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve													
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements of Budby and Perlethorpe. • Conserve historic field pattern by containing new development within historic enclosed boundaries, restoring and reinforcing poor hedgerow boundaries and where necessary, create new hedgerows to replace post and wire fencing. • Conserve and respect the historic character and setting of Thoresby Estate and surrounding parkland. • Conserve the traditional architectural style of red brick construction. • Conserve permanent pasture and seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral. • Conserve ancient woodland, woodland and individual parkland trees, seek to reinforce as appropriate. • Conserve and respect the character and setting of neighbouring Sherwood Forest Country Park. 	<p>Condition</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Poor</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Sensitivity</p>		Good	Moderate	Poor		Low	Moderate	High				
	Good	Moderate	Poor										
	Low	Moderate	High										

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 27: Ollerton Estate Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

This is an arable landscape located to the north and south-west of the settlement of Ollerton and New Ollerton. The gently rounded topography has localised flatter areas to the north-east. Ollerton Pit Woods occurs in the southeast of this area; this former colliery spoil heap is a dominant feature within the landscape. The River Maun runs along the northern edge of the area.

The area is dominated by medium to large-scale intensively farmed arable fields, with isolated areas of sheep pasture and occasional intensive livestock sheds further to the south.

The area has a varied woodland pattern. There are blocks of broadleaved woodland (Birch, Ash, and Oak) to the north, and a large coniferous plantation (Scots Pine, Birch) with broadleaved margins to the west. To the south of Ollerton, Ollerton Pit Woods, and Ollerton Hills are comprised of large blocks of mixed deciduous woodland (Birch, Ash, Oak and Willow) located within intensively farmed areas.

Although woodland is an important feature, the area has no strong sense of wooded enclosure; farmland is the dominant component of the landscape. Views to the west are enclosed by woodland. The area has some open views, but most views are restricted by landform, vegetation and housing.

Large geometric fields are enclosed by low hawthorn hedgerows with some Oak and Ash occurring as hedgerow trees. Hedgerows are generally intact but are gappy and lost in some localised parts. An ancient parish hedgerow runs along Beards Belt located along Robin Hood Way, located north of Walesby Village.

Walesby Village is located in the centre of the area. This small nucleated village has a historic core with red brick buildings and some more recent suburban development. The larger settlements of Ollerton, New Ollerton and Boughton are located further south. The area has a number of isolated farmsteads to the north adjacent to the River Maun. This predominantly agricultural landscape is interspersed with other land uses such as a caravan park, a large agricultural distribution centre and Sherwood Castle Holiday Village. The Robin Hood Way runs across the northern end of the area, to the north of Walesby.

There are several SINC sites including Houghton Decoy and Boughton Break Ride as well as 3 heathland register sites.

Threats to the area include further loss of field boundaries due to agricultural expansion with additional built structures, and expansion of settlements of Walesby, Ollerton and Boughton.

S PZ 27 Ollerton Estate Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Gently rounded topography
- Medium to large-scale semi-irregular field pattern, enclosed by low hawthorn hedges some in poor condition
- Occasional hedgerow trees
- Views framed by rising ground and woodland edges
- Small, nucleated, red brick villages
- Mining settlements with associated reclaimed colliery spoil heaps

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

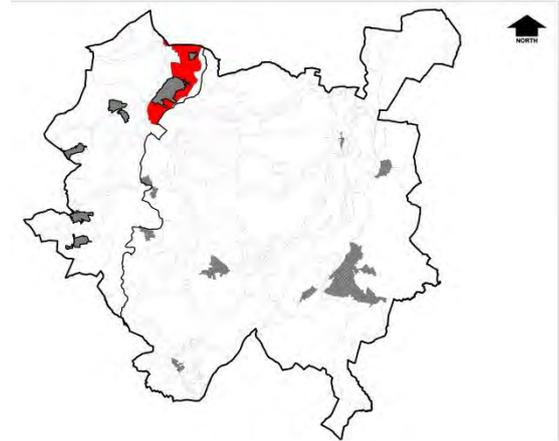
The landscape condition is defined as **moderate**. The pattern of elements is **coherent** and the area has **some** visual detractors, these include an agricultural distribution centre and chicken sheds located to the north of Walesby village. There are a number of intensive livestock sheds to the south of the policy zone. A limited number of busy roads cross the area and power lines cut across the area to the south, overall the visual unity is **coherent**.

There are several SINCS within the area including Houghton Decoy and Boughton Break Ride. An ancient parish hedgerow runs along Beards Belt located along Robin Hood Way, north of Walesby Village.

This intensively farmed arable landscape contains a number of small to medium-sized mixed deciduous woodland blocks and coniferous plantations to the north, south and west. There are a few areas of grazed pasture. Medium to large-scale arable fields are enclosed by low hawthorn hedgerows with occasional trees (Oak and Ash). Hedgerows are generally intact in the north and south, but are gappy and lost in parts around settlements and further south. The mixed woodland, trees, and hedgerows provide a network of wildlife corridors that is considered to have **moderate** ecological integrity. There is a low coverage of trees with some newly planted trees associated with villages, new developments and the restored colliery

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Estate Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 27
 Landscape Character Parcel: S44, S70



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

spoil tip.

This agricultural landscape is interspersed with other land uses such as a caravan park, a large agricultural distribution centre and Sherwood Castle Holiday Village. The Robin Hood Way runs across the northern end of the area, to the north of Walesby. Cultural integrity is **variable**. Walesby is a small nucleated village with a historic core with red brick buildings and some suburban influences. The larger settlements of Ollerton, and Boughton also have an older historic core but have more recent residential expansion which dominates the southern end of the area. There are a number of isolated red brick farmsteads, adjacent to the River Maun.

A **visually coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition

Landscape Sensitivity

The trees and woodland associated with the River Maun and Houghton Decoy are shown on the Sanderson Plan. The historic field pattern has been replaced by medium to large-scale intensively farmed arable fields. The features of the area are **characteristic** of the Sherwood region and of an **historic** time depth (post 1600), the sense of place is **moderate**.

Views to the west are enclosed by woodland. The area has some open views, but most are restricted by landform, vegetation and housing, overall the visibility in and out of the area is **moderate**.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity and character of woodland habitats
- **Conserve** existing hedgerows and seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting
- Seek opportunities to restore hedgerows with some hedgerow trees where appropriate to field boundaries
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to mixed woodland, permanent pasture, and heathland

Built Features

- New development should be contained within historic field boundaries
- **Conserve** the historic character and setting of Walesby – new development should respect the scale, design and materials used traditionally in the Policy Zone and be contained near to the existing settlements of Walesby and Ollerton.
- Sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 28: Meden Vale and Church Warsop Meadowlands with Plantations

Policy: Conserve

The area stretches from Lound Hall in the east to Church Warsop in the west along the Meden and Maun valleys. It almost bisects the Sherwood character region south of Clumber and Thoresby Estates and north of Sherwood Forest Country Park. Thoresby Lake falls within the Policy Zone in the west.

Both the River Meden and Thoresby Lake have gently sloping sides, further east the flat valley floor is evident between the Meden and Maun valleys.

Views tend to be medium distance either towards surrounding higher ground or woodland and plantation blocks which occur frequently adjacent to the river corridors. Some views are limited by residential development at Meden Vale and by the reclaimed slopes of the former Welbeck Colliery.

Essentially the Policy Zone comprises small areas of pasture, flood meadow and arable alongside the watercourses. Part of the historic landscape of Thoresby Park (Registered Historic Park and Garden) encroaches into the area from the north; mature parkland trees stand close to the Lake and deer graze to the waters edge. Most field boundaries are post and wire fencing, though a few gappy hawthorn hedgerows are also present. Small areas of settlement are contained within the area; Lound Hall Training Centre, Haughton Hall Farm and Haughton are located close to the River Maun while the small villages of Perlethorpe and Budby are located close to the River Meden along with Gleadthorpe Grange further west. Threats to this area include the increased pressure for parking close to fishing ponds which could disrupt the tranquillity of the River Maun. Lack of woodland management on the edge of the river corridor could also impact on the continued succession of trees as older trees are not replaced.

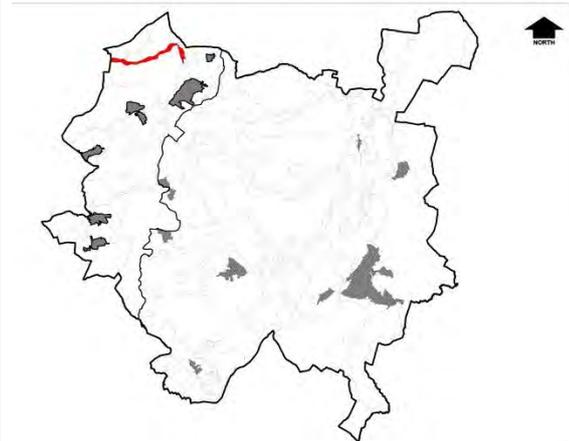
S PZ 28 Meden Vale and Church Warsop Meadowlands with Plantations

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands with Plantations
 Policy Zone: S PZ 28
 Land Cover Parcel[s]: S29, S30, S31



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- River Meden, River Maun, Thoresby Lake.
- Linear sections of flood meadow.
- Deciduous woodland belts aligning the river corridor.
- Mix of oak and poplar with heathland understorey.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is very good. The Policy Zone contains a **coherent** pattern of elements with **few** detracting features including the urban areas of Meden Vale, Church Warsop and Market Warsop, Welbeck Colliery. Although busy roads, the A616 and A614 are minor detractions running perpendicular to the valley. Overall the landscape is **visually unified**.

The River Meden dominates the Policy Zone, subsequently the area is not intensively used. There are relatively few buildings or structures within the area, farm buildings are mainly red brick with slate or pantile roofs. Urban areas at nearby settlements Meden Vale, Church Warsop and Market Warsop are more modern in style. The historic field pattern is still evident in part though several hedgerows have been replaced by post and wire fencing. The overall cultural integrity is considered **good**

Linear sections of flood meadow follow the watercourse, some is used for pastoral farming and some amenity grassland occurs near to settlement. Generally there is good vegetation connectivity along the valley between deciduous woodland belts and hedgerow field boundaries adjacent to the Policy Zone. Waterfowl is characteristic of the area. Tree coverage is moderate and of diverse age structure, oak and poplar are the dominant species and occur with heathland understorey in less wooded areas. A significant strip of riparian vegetation follows the River Meden comprising mature willow, poplar with understorey. One SINC, a woodland block, is contained within

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition

Very Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Strong

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Very Strong

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood

the Policy Zone along with two nature reserves; The Bottoms [riparian habitats along the River Meden] and Budby Carr [mixed plantation woodland]. The ecological integrity is defined as **strong** which gives a **very strong** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually unified** area combined with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good landscape condition**.

Sensitivity

Features which give the area local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Sherwood region and the continuity/time depth is **historic** [post 1600] giving a **moderate** sense of place. Both the River Meden and Thoresby Lake have gently sloping sides, further east the flat valley floor is evident between the Meden and Maun valleys.

The presence of the River Meden prevents intrusive landuse or development. Dense woodland along the majority of the valley helps to further protect the river as a habitat, although the tree cover is noticeably sparse between Meden Vale and Budby, where arable and pastoral land is farmed right up to the water's edge.

Moderate visibility is afforded due to the wooded enclosure of the Policy Zone. The landform is considered **dominant**. A **moderate** sense of place combined with **moderate** visibility gives **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape Features

- Conserve the character, pattern, ecological diversity and biodiversity of the River Meden corridor and surrounding flood meadow, seek to enhance as appropriate.
- Conserve the structure of existing woodland and flood meadow and seek to enhance and reinforce as necessary to encourage greater habitat diversity as appropriate.

Built Features

- Conserve the rural character of the landscape by respecting the scale and setting of existing settlements.
- New development should take account of the distinctive ecological elements within the Policy Zone.

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Dominant
Extent of Tree Cover	Enclosed
Visibility:	Moderate

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High
	Sensitivity		

**Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 29: Meden Vale and Church Warsop Wooded
Estatelands**

Policy: Conserve

The area is located south of Worksop, immediately between the Poulter valley, at the north, and the Meden valley at the south. The A60 runs north-south through the west and the B6034 runs north-south through the east; these roads are connected by the A616 which bisects the Policy Zone south-east to north-west. The village of Budby lies to the south-east, Cuckney and Norton are located towards the north-west. Church Warsop and Meden Vale lie at the south-western boundary.

Generally the landform is rounded and gently undulating, rising to a ridgeline north of Church Warsop before descending sharply in both the north and south towards the Rivers Poulter and Meden respectively. There are localised steep sections around the spoil heap [north-west of Meden Vale] where land has been worked, this has been restored to grassland. Views are mostly medium distance towards wooded skylines. Views of Welbeck Park are gained from the north and of built settlement from the south. Internal wooded areas create some enclosed views within the core of the Policy Zone.

The Policy Zone comprises mainly arable fields on the lower ground, woodland is evident at the ridgeline. The fringe of Welbeck Estate features in the east along with a corner of Clumber Park Estate [Carburton] in the far north-east. Remnants of historic features include avenues, clumps of trees and lodges. Broad Lane, a historic lane which possibly separated the two estates, runs east-west and is now part of the Robin Hood Way. Recreational activity is fairly low key in the area; horse riding, walking and cycling. Plantations are generally mixed and coniferous. Stone vernacular farmhouses, estate lodges and walls are characteristic of the area, however both Church Warsop and Meden Vale have a non-vernacular urbanising influence.

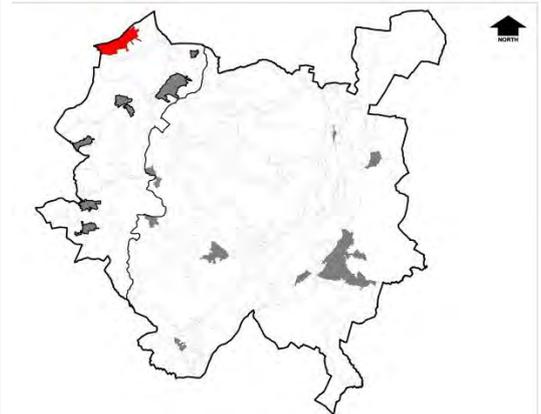
S PZ 29 Meden Vale and Church Warsop Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 29
 Land Cover Parcel[s]: S36, S69



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Medium scale arable farmland.
- Intensive pig farming and a small amount of rough grazing.
- Lady Margaret Hall, part of the Welbeck Estate.
- Stone and red brick built farmhouses and dwellings.
- Coniferous and deciduous woodland blocks.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is good. There is a **coherent** pattern of elements and **few** detracting features within the Policy Zone, including low voltage power lines, agricultural sheds, the A616, and spoil heaps and the mineral railway associated with Welbeck Colliery. Overall this leads to a **visually unified** area.

Landuse is mainly medium scale arable farming with some rough grazing. A pig farm is located close to Meden Vale. Buildings tend to be of stone or red brick construction, though stone is more dominant. Lady Margaret Hall [stone built], part of the Welbeck Estate, lies within the Policy Zone. The urban estates of Meden Vale and Church Warsop are apparent and of modern non-vernacular style. The overall cultural integrity is considered **variable**.

The historic field pattern has declined due to mineral workings and the need to create larger arable fields, these are bounded by hawthorn hedgerows which are well trimmed although gappy in places. No hedgerow trees are apparent. The Policy Zone has moderate tree cover and combines mature woodland blocks with more recently planted areas of both deciduous and coniferous species. There is some heathland along field and woodland boundaries, acid grassland occurs along road verges and beneath woodland. There are no SINC's or other ecological designations within the Policy Zone. The ecological integrity has been assessed as **moderate** which gives a **coherent** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually unified** area and **coherent** functional integrity

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition

Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Variable

Functional Integrity: Coherent

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

gives a **good landscape condition** overall.

Sensitivity

Features which give the area local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Sherwood region and the continuity/time depth is **historic** [post 1600] giving a **moderate** sense of place.

Visibility is **high** due to the open views to wooded higher ground beyond the boundary of the Policy Zone and the **dominant** undulating landform. A **moderate** sense of place with **high** visibility results in **high landscape sensitivity** overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** woodland blocks and reinforce as necessary.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pasture.
- **Conserve** historic field pattern, restoring and reinforcing poor hedgerow boundaries where necessary.
- Seek opportunities to create areas of heathland where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around the existing settlements of Meden Vale and Church Warsop. Create small scale woodland/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development.
- **Conserve** and respect the local vernacular of stone/ red brick construction in any new development.
- **Conserve** and respect the historic character and setting of Lady Margaret Hall and surroundings.
- Contain new development within historic field boundaries.

Sensitivity

High

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Dominant
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	High

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 32: Clumber Wooded Estatelands
Policy: Conserve

The area is bounded by the B6034 to the west and the A614 to the east. Netherfield Lane connects the A616 and A614 near to the southern boundary. The landform of this Policy Zone is gently undulating with Clumber Lake to the centre of the area which is fed by the River Poulter. There are medium distance views with frequent wooded skylines, views are more enclosed within the wooded areas.

The Policy Zone consists of over 75% of the parkland landscape of Clumber Park [National Trust] and Thoresby Park [Pierrepoint family since 1600] which are visitor attractions with their associated woodland, lakes, roads, tracks and footpaths. There are small areas of arable and pastures. There are also areas of heathland within the parkland grazed by rare breed cattle and sheep.

There are extensive areas of coniferous woodland with deciduous edges; species including Scots Pine, oak, beech, hawthorn and sycamore. Arable farmland contains clumps of mature trees and there are mature parkland trees within grassed areas. A particular landscape feature is the double lime avenue on the entrance road from the A614 into Clumber Park. Rhododendron is common as an understorey species in woodland areas.

Hardwick Village contains estate houses belonging to the Clumber and are generally red brick with pantiled roofs. Existing red brick and pantiled buildings within Clumber Park are also used to house visitor facilities such as a café, National Trust shop, bicycle hire etc. the Clumber site also contains a walled kitchen garden and associated glass houses and outbuildings. There is also a church within the Clumber estate.

Threats include loss of hedgerows due to increased arable land use; some loss of parkland due to additional coniferous planting, spread of rhododendrons within the understorey replacing native species, and additional visitor pressure on the parklands resulting in the expansion of facilities.

S PZ 32 Clumber Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Undulating landform.
- Sparsely settled landscape.
- Views framed by woodland edges.
- Extensive broadleaved, mixed and coniferous woodlands.
- Country houses set in ornamental parklands [Clumber is grade 1 listed].
- Narrow man-made lakes along river valleys.
- Extensive areas of unenclosed heaths.
- Unfenced minor roads.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is very good. There is a **coherent** pattern of elements with **few** detracting features within the Policy Zone; the A614, caravan parks and a radio mast. Overall the area has a **unified** visual appearance.

The Policy Zone generally comprises large areas of parkland with woodland; Clumber and Thoresby Parks. Clumber has a grade 1 listing on the English Heritage Register for Parks and Gardens. Areas of farmland are principally contained within the south and north-east and include both arable and pasture. Pleasure grounds and gardens associated with the estates are strong landscape features along with buildings and structures which are constructed of red brick and stone; Thoresby Hall and Hotel [grade 1], remnant parts of Clumber House, the chapel, several gatehouses [some listed], Clumber bridge and Hardwick Village, also part of the Clumber estate. Some conversion works to outbuildings are evident at Clumber to provide visitor facilities, however all works reflect the local vernacular. Field boundaries are inconsistent with the majority of fields defined by woodland and plantation blocks. Hedgerows are more apparent in the south. The overall cultural integrity is considered **good**.

Extensive areas of coniferous, mixed and broadleaved woodland cover at least half of the Policy Zone. The age structure is diverse; including mature areas and evidence of replanting schemes. A number of the parkland trees are veterans. Heathland areas are apparent within the parkland and are mostly grazed. A range of

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 32
 Land Cover Parcel[s]: S35



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

habitats occur at Clumber particularly and are well maintained by the National Trust and the Forestry Commission. A significant area at Clumber [1000 acres] has SSSI status. A double avenue of lime trees is an exceptionally striking feature aligning the single public road which bisects Clumber Park [Lime Tree Avenue]. The ecological integrity is described as **strong** which overall gives a **very strong** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good landscape condition** overall.

Sensitivity

Features which give the area local distinctiveness are **unique/rare** of the Sherwood region and the continuity/time depth has been assessed as **ancient** [pre 1600], giving a **very strong** sense of place.

The Policy Zone has an enclosed nature with views to, from and within the area being limited by frequent and extensive woodland and plantation. Longer 'designed' views are afforded at key locations such as Lime Tree Avenue and across Serpentine Lake at Clumber toward the Poulter in the east. When combined with a **dominant** landform this results in **moderate** visibility. A **very strong** sense of place combined with **moderate** visibility gives **very high landscape sensitivity** overall.

Sensitivity

Very High

Distinctiveness:	Unique/Rare
Continuity:	Ancient
Sense of Place:	Very Strong
Landform:	Dominant
Extent of Tree Cover	Enclosed
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS- Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** all areas of historic parkland and landscape features contained within it. Seek opportunities for restoring parkland character.
- Identify opportunities for conserving and restoring areas of heathland and semi natural oak woodland.
- **Conserve** and enhance woodland/plantation blocks and connectivity across the area.
- **Conserve** and enhance hedgerow and tree planting.
- **Conserve** ecological diversity and biodiversity of all habitats, enhance where appropriate.
- Grade 1 status of the parkland would preclude any inappropriate development.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the sparsely settled and undeveloped character of the landscape.
- **Conserve** and protect buildings and other built features, their character and setting, within the parkland
- **Conserve** the traditional architectural style of red brick and stone construction.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral.

Condition

Condition	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
		Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 33: Bothamsall Wooded Estate lands
Policy: Conserve

The area lies south of the Poulter valley and east of Blyth Road [A614] which forms the western boundary. The village of Bothamsall is located outside the Policy Zone boundary to the south-east and Elkesley lies in the north-east. The River Meden follows the south-eastern boundary but lies just outside the area. Clumber Park is located immediately west of the Policy Zone.

Topographically the Policy Zone is gently undulating with flat areas, sloping from higher ground in the east down towards the west. Elevated landform in the south allows open views across the area towards flatter, lower lying land in the north.

The northern section of the Policy Zone is dominated by interlocking areas of woodland and plantation, these are surrounded by arable fields which also occupy much of the remaining area. A pig farm covers part of the Policy Zone in the east, south of Normanton Larches Farm, an oil well is also located in close proximity, south-east of the farm. Spittalmoor Forest Farm is situated further south. Clumber Park Hotel is located on the western edge of the Policy Zone fronting Blyth Road [A614].

An historic avenue of trees remains along West Drayton Avenue which extends from Clumber in the west to West Drayton further east of the Policy Zone. This avenue now forms part of the Robin Hoods Way.

S PZ 33 Bothamsall Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Intensive open arable farmland with significant woodland and plantation blocks.
- Pig farm; part of adjacent Policy Zone.
- No settlement areas, only isolated farmhouses.
- Narrow hedged lanes.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

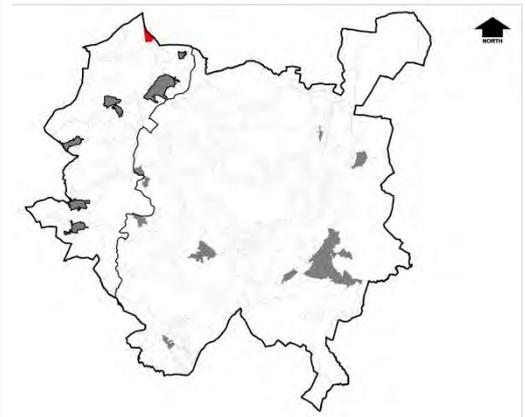
The landscape condition is very good. There is a **unified** pattern of elements with **few** detracting features within the Policy Zone; an oil well, pylons and high voltage power lines. Overall the area has a **strongly unified** visual appearance.

Pig farming extends into the centre of the Policy Zone from the east, elsewhere the land is under intensive arable use interspersed with strong plantation and woodland blocks. There is some evidence of missing field boundaries in localised areas but generally the historic field pattern is intact. Woodland sometimes partially or entirely encloses fields. Two red brick farmhouses lie isolated within the landscape and no other settlement or development exists, pylons within the east being the only urban influence. The overall cultural integrity is considered **good**.

Two SINCS lie within the Policy Zone and comprise valuable roadside verges and coniferous plantation. Tree cover is moderate to high and largely mature; significant woodland and mixed plantation blocks extend throughout the area into the surrounding landscape. Where hedgerows remain they are generally well maintained, though gappy in some places, and connect into woodland and plantation across the Policy Zone, most notably in the east and west, providing a strong green infrastructure throughout. Trees are apparent along roadside verges, however hedgerow trees are rarely seen. Deciduous woodland is more evident in the north. The ecological integrity is described as **strong** which overall gives a **very strong** habitat for

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands, Estate Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 33
 Land Cover Parcel[s]: S33



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

wildlife/functional integrity. A **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good landscape condition**.

Sensitivity

Features which give the area local distinctiveness are **unique/rare** of the Sherwood region and the continuity/time depth is **historic** [post 1600], giving a **strong** sense of place.

The Policy Zone has an enclosed nature and the landform is **apparent** resulting in **low** visibility. A **strong** sense of place combined with **low** visibility gives **moderate landscape sensitivity** overall.

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness: Unique/Rare

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Strong

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Enclosed

Visibility: Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** historic field pattern, maintain existing hedgerows, restore and reinforce poor hedgerow boundaries where necessary.
- **Conserve** and enhance woodland/plantation blocks and connectivity across the area.
- **Conserve** and enhance hedgerow and tree planting along roadsides.
- **Conserve** ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINC, enhance where appropriate.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral and/or provide field margins to increase link up habitats and improve biodiversity.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the sparsely settled and rural character of the landscape.
- Contain new small scale development within existing field boundaries.
- **Conserve** the traditional architectural style of red brick construction.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

NB: where one criterion is 'very good' this pushes the policy descriptions into the next highest category

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 46: Blidworth Wooded Estatelands
Policy: Conserve

This Policy Zone consist of a gently to steeply undulating area which varies in height between the high point on the ridgeline on New Lane at 138 metres to low points to the south on Calverton Road at 91 metres and in the valley of Rainworth Water to the north at 110 metres.

Land use in the area consists of unimproved and improved permanent pasture which is used for the grazing of horses. There are smaller areas of arable production of cereals and oil seed rape. The historic field pattern of Sanderson's Plan of 1835 is intact, although the pasture areas, used for horse grazing are being further subdivided with temporary fencing materials to form smaller paddocks. There are many temporary wooden stable buildings within the paddocks throughout the area.

The road hedgerows, to Ricket Lane in particular, are strong and bushy with several species including Blackthorn, Elder, Hawthorn, Hazel and Holly. Mature trees within the hedgerows are mostly Ash, Oak and Holly. Field boundary hedgerows are also good, particularly in the central area. A track known as New Lane crosses the north of the area and is enclosed by strong mixed species hedgerows including Black thorn, Hawthorn, and Holly. This hedgerow also contains with many tree species including Ash, Birch, Field Maple, Holly, Lime, Oak, Poplar, Sweet Chestnut, Sycamore, Rowan, and Willow. The number of species present indicates that this is possibly an ancient hedgerow. The heath land character of the area is particularly prevalent along this green lane with Gorse, Broom and Bracken present in the hedgerows and verges.

Woodlands in the area include several areas of deciduous woodland sloping down to the valley of Rainworth Water these are dominated by Oak but also contain coniferous species and have open glades of acid grassland. The woodland around Fountain Dale to the north contains Alder Carr and wet woodland forming a fringe around dried up fish ponds and along Rainworth Water. There is a planted woodland on the site of a former sand pit south of New Lane.

The only settlements in the area are isolated farms some of these are vernacular red brick with pantile roofs or stone with slate roofs, although some are of modern construction and most have modern agricultural buildings to the perimeter. Isolated residential properties are generally modern red brick although some stone buildings are present on Cross Lane.

The main threats to the area are expansion of the village of Blidworth into the area, intensification of grazing pressure of horses which will have a detrimental impact on the unimproved pasture areas, and further subdivision of the narrow fields to form paddocks which will lead to a further breakdown of the historic field pattern.

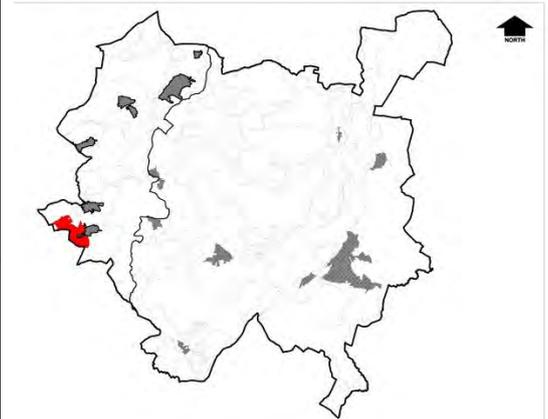
S PZ 46 Blidworth Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 46
 Landscape Character Parcel: S 10



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating to steeply undulating topography
- Permanent unimproved and improved pasture grazed by horses
- Arable production of cereals and oil seed rape.
- Strong bushy hedgerows to road edges and field boundaries including Holly, with mature trees mainly Oak and Ash
- New Lane has particularly species rich hedgerows with many tree species, including Oak and Holly
- Heath land character particularly to track verges, especially to New Lane
- Small areas of deciduous woodland connecting to the valley of Rainworth Water
- Isolated farms and residential properties

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**

The Policy Zone has a **unified** pattern of elements as the majority of the area is permanent improved and unimproved pasture. However there are **some** detracting features in that there is some breakdown of the field pattern due to subdivision of the field areas into smaller paddocks for horse grazing. There are also many temporary wooden stables within the paddocks. Busy roads also pass through the area. Despite this, overall this is a **visually unified** area. There are 3 SINC designations within the area, and these are all woodlands with acid grassland to the north of the area connecting to the valley of Rainworth Water The permanent pasture, and interconnecting mature

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

hedgerows and small woodlands provide a **moderate** habitat for wildlife. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the historic field pattern is intact. A **visually unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Functional Integrity: **Strong**

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**

Distinctiveness: **Characteristic**

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** of the Sherwood LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall. However the medieval field pattern around the historic core of the village of Blidworth is intact throughout the area and many of the farms use vernacular materials of stone or red brick with pantile roofs. Some elements of the landscape such as the mature hedgerows are possibly ancient, the evidence being the number of species present within the hedgerows.

Continuity: **Historic**

Sense of Place: **Moderate**

Landform: **Apparent**

Extent of Tree Cover: **Intermittent**

The undulating landform is **apparent** and with **intermittent** tree cover provided by the bushy hedgerows which gives a **moderate** visibility into and out of the area. There are panoramic views to the north and south from the high point of New Lane to the north of the area.

Visibility: **Moderate**

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** visibility gives a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

Condition

- **Conserve** the historic pattern of permanent unimproved and improved pasture.
- **Conserve** mature hedgerows with mature trees to pasture areas and roadsides.
- **Conserve** the possibly ancient mature hedgerows and mature trees to New Lane
- **Conserve** small woodlands with acid grassland to the north of area.
- **Create** opportunities for restoring areas of heath land where appropriate

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Built Features

- **Conserve** the sparsely settled character of this area by concentrating any new development outside of this area of historic field pattern and within the core of Blidworth Village.
- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating any new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings and temporary stables for horses
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 48 Rainworth Water Wooded Estatelands
Policy: Conserve and reinforce

This small Policy Zone lies to the north of the residential areas of the village of Rainworth. The recently constructed A617 Rainworth Bypass crosses the south of the area with a small section of open space lying to the south of the bypass.

The site consists, at its northern end, of remnant heathland within an area which has been disturbed by coal mining and sand and gravel extraction in the area around Rufford Colliery and an active sand quarry at Ratcher Hill to the north. The water course known as Rainworth Water also passes through the area in a narrow valley. The course of the stream is not visible within the landscape but its course is marked by wetland vegetation. There are isolated mature trees throughout the area generally Birch and Hawthorn. At its southern end the site contains an artificial pond that was constructed as part of the Rainworth Bypass project. This has been designed to treat excess runoff from the bypass within a planted reed bed; a concrete channel directs water into the pond. A gated access path has been constructed to maintain these features. A PROW passes through the area running parallel with Rainworth Water. Beyond the bypass is an area of public open space surrounding sports fields.

The site has a very distinct heathland character with areas of bracken, gorse and broom present, and is a remnant of an historic landscape within a disturbed area. Sanderson's Plan of 1835 shows Rainworth Water as part of a much larger area of open, unenclosed heathland crossed by tracks and rights of way.

The site is designated as a BioSINC ref 2/701 - Rainworth Water Piece – 'A valuable mosaic of acid grassland habitats flanking Rainworth Water'. The area is a strong habitat for wildlife and there are good links to adjacent areas such as Rainworth Heath and Strawberry Hills Heath, both designated as a BioSINC and SSSI, and Rainworth Forest which is a BioSINC.

Threats to the area include continued, unauthorised access by motor bikes and quad bikes causing disturbance to this designated site, as well as fly tipping. Other threats to the area include flooding of the valley of Rainworth Water.

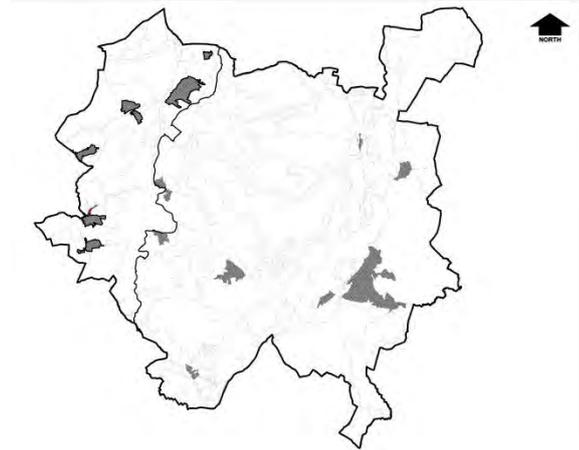
S PZ 48 Rainworth Water Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 48
 Landscape Character Parcel: S11 and S20



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat topography
- Regenerating scrubby woodland – Birch and Hawthorn
- Mosaic heath land and acid grassland
- Narrow valley of Rainworth Water
- Reed beds to balancing pond adjacent to Rainworth Water
- Open views to distant coniferous wooded skylines

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**

The pattern of elements of the area is unified consisting of heath land with acid grassland with regenerating scrub and the valley of Rainworth Water. The area has **some** detracting features – the main ones being the busy Rainworth Bypass which was constructed to the south of the site in 2000 and the access road to Rufford Colliery which lies immediately to the west. Overall the PZ is **visually unified**. A balancing pond was constructed within this area to treat runoff from the bypass with a created reed bed; this has associated concrete engineering features such as overflow channels and a maintenance access path.

The PZ is designated as a BioSINC ref 2/701 - Rainworth Water

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional	Very Strong

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

Piece – ‘A valuable mosaic of acid grassland habitats flanking Rainworth Water’. The site has a **strong** ecological integrity and has good links with adjacent heathland and woodland areas which are also designated sites.

Cultural integrity is **good** in that the historic heath land has been retained within a wider landscape that has been altered by mining and quarrying activity.

A **visually unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Integrity:

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Low

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **Low**

Sanderson’s Plan of 1835 shows large areas of open heath land in this locality – this has largely disappeared due to the expansion of Rainworth to the south, quarrying activity and coal mining at Rufford Colliery. Rainworth Water Piece is a remnant of this former landscape.

Overall the components of this PZ are **characteristic** of Sherwood with an **historic** time depth (post 1600) giving the area a **moderate** sense of place.

There are open views of wooded coniferous skylines around Strawberry Hill to the north and to the residential fringes of Rainworth to the south. The landform is **insignificant** and the **intermittent** tree cover gives the site a **low** visibility in distant views

A **moderate** sense of place with a **low** visibility gives a **low** landscape sensitivity

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Insignificant
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and reinforce

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of the heathland habitat – management objectives are likely to involve thinning and removal of Birch woodland to maintain acid grassland and heathland habitats.
- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of the aquatic habitat of Rainworth Water and reed beds associated with the balancing pond
- **Reinforce** the landscape condition of the area by removing fly tipping within the stream valley and controlling unauthorised access.

Condition

Condition	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
		Low	Moderate	High
		Sensitivity		

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 49: Rainworth Heath Wooded Estatelands
Policy: Conserve

This small Policy Zone lies to the north of Rainworth. The A617 Rainworth Bypass lies immediately to the south of the area and the residential area of Rainworth lies to the south of the bypass. The site is bounded to the east by the Rufford Colliery Access road.

The site consists of remnant heathland in an area which has been disturbed by coal mining and sand and gravel extraction in the area around Rufford colliery and the active sand quarry of Ratcher Hill to the north. There is an area of mature deciduous woodland to the southern end of the site separating and screening the heathland from the busy bypass. There are informal paths around the area.

The site reaches a high point in its centre at Spring Hill 110 metres and slopes gently down to the south east and south west to the valley of Rainworth Water.

The site has a very distinct heathland character and is a remnant of an historic landscape within a disturbed area. Sanderson's Plan of 1835 shows Rainworth Heath as part of a much larger area of open, unenclosed heathland crossed by tracks and rights of way.

The site is designated as a SSSI and a BioSINC, ref 1/38- Rainworth Heath – 'A site with some of the best remaining areas of wet and dry heath in Nottinghamshire of botanical and zoological interest'. The area is a strong habitat for wildlife and there are good links to adjacent areas such as Rainworth Water Piece and Rainworth Forest, designated as BioSINCs; as well as Strawberry Hills Heath, designated as a BioSinc and SSSI.

The area is managed to achieve biodiversity objectives by Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and grazing pressure to prevent scrub encroachment is maintained by a resident flock of Hebridean sheep.

Threats to this area include continued disturbance of the area as a result of unauthorised access by motor bikes and quad bikes.

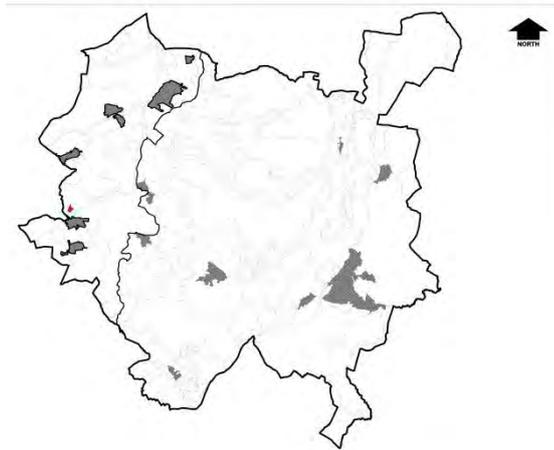
S PZ 49 Rainworth Heath Wooded Estatelands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Estatelands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 49
 Landscape Character Parcel: S20



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Oak and Birch Woodland to the south west of reserve.
- Wet and dry heath land vegetation with acidic grassland
- Informal access paths, some showing signs of erosion due to motorbike access
- Open views to coniferous wooded skylines to the north and residential areas of Rainworth to the south.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**

The pattern of elements of the area is **unified** consisting of heath land with regenerating scrub and woodland. The area has **few** detracting features – the main ones being the busy Rainworth Bypass which was constructed to the south of the site in 2000 and the Rufford Colliery Access road to the east. Overall the PZ is **strongly visually unified**.

The PZ is designated as a SSSI and a BioSINC ref 1/38- Rainworth Heath – ‘A site with some of the best remaining areas of wet and dry heath in Nottinghamshire of botanical and zoological interest’. It contains a small area of deciduous mature woodland between the site and the Bypass dominated by Oak and Birch. The site has a **strong**

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

ecological integrity and has good links with adjacent heath land and woodland areas.

Cultural integrity is **good** as the historic heath land has been retained within a wider landscape that has been altered by mining and quarrying activity.

A **strongly visually unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity/ habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**

Sanderson’s Plan of 1835 shows large areas of open heath land in this locality – this has largely disappeared due to the expansion of Rainworth to the south, quarrying activity and coal mining at Rufford Colliery. Rainworth Heath is a remnant of this former landscape. Overall the features are **characteristic** of Sherwood with an **historic** time depth (post 1600) giving the area a **moderate** sense of place.

There are open views of coniferous wooded skylines to the east and north as well as the residential fringes of Rainworth to the south. The landform is **apparent** and **intermittent** tree cover gives a **moderate** visibility within the site.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** visibility gives a **moderate** landscape sensitivity

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve and Reinforce

- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of the heathland habitat – management objectives are likely to involve thinning and removal of Birch woodland to maintain acid grassland and heathland habitats

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High
	Sensitivity		

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 51: Sherwood Forest Golf Course Wooded Farmlands
Policy: Conserve

This Policy Zone lies to the north east of Mansfield and south of Clipstone. Sherwood Forest Golf Course dominates the south western area. The area to the north east has been disturbed by mineral activity and is crossed by dismantled mineral railway lines. The former Rufford junction lies to the south of Vicar Pond which is now a fishing lake. Pylons run west to east to the south of Vicar Pond. To the north eastern area there are small areas of deciduous woodland and pine woodland and some pasture.

The golf course is undulating and areas between the fairways and greens are managed to retain heathland vegetation. Scots Pine, Birch and Oak are the dominant tree species. There are clumps of trees and a linear band of trees runs along the western edge of the golf course – this is Oak/Birch woodland with some Sycamore and Scots Pine. Bracken, Gorse, Broom and Heather are common within acidic grassland areas.

The Policy Zone area is largely shown as unenclosed heathland on Sandersons Plan of 1835. The area to the north east has been disturbed by mineral activity but heathland has successfully been restored in some areas – particularly Clipstone Heath. Although the fairways and greens look manicured, the heathland character of the golf course has been successfully retained.

The Policy Zone has two designated SSSIs and four SINCS. Sherwood Forest Golf Course is designated as a SSSI and a SINC, described as a large mosaic of sandland habitats with notable faunal and floral interests. Clipstone Heath to the north east of the golf course is described as an important area of dry acid heathland. Vicar Pond and Mansfield Colliery Railway are also designated SINCS.

A bridleway runs along the western edge of the golf course and up to Vicar Pond. The Mansfield Trail runs along the old mineral line.

Threats to the area include a change in management of the golf course and other heathland areas and loss of pasture to arable land use.

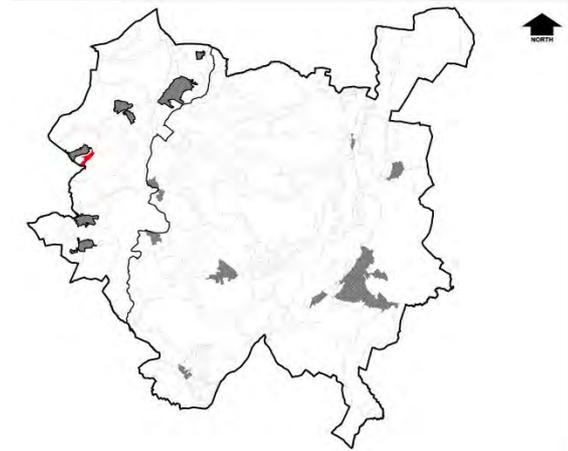
S PZ 51 Sherwood Forest Golf Course Wooded Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Wooded Farmlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ51
 Land Cover Parcels: SH21



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Golf course is a dominant feature, characterised by heathland vegetation
- Woodland dominated by Oak, Birch and Scots Pine
- Linear belts of trees
- Vicar Pond – well used fishing pond
- Old mineral railway lines and areas disturbed by coal mining
- Acidic grassland and heathland habitats

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape condition is defined as **very good**. The area has as **coherent** pattern of elements with few detracting features. Although the north eastern area is dissected by disused mineral lines, overall the visual unity is **unified**.

There are two SSSIs and four SINCs within the area. Ecological integrity is **strong** and there are good wildlife corridors within the site and linking to adjacent areas.

Cultural integrity is **variable**. The historic heathland landscape is still evident on the golf course site but the historic landscape to the north of this has been destroyed by mineral activity.

A **visually unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>Sandersons Plan of 1835 shows large areas of open heathland. Although mineral activity has altered the landform to the north east, heathland has re-established – particularly within Clipstone Heath SSSI and SINC. The old mineral lines have also been designated as SINCS.</p> <p>Overall the features are characteristic of Sherwood with an historic time depth (post 1600) and the area has a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>There are open views along the fairways within the golf course, but generally trees and woodland do not allow long distance views out of the site. To the north, views are generally restricted by woodland and the railway embankment to the south and east, Clipstone to the north, and the spoil heap to the west.</p> <p>Views within the site are enclosed by the woodland, The apparent landform and intermittent tree cover give a moderate visibility within the site.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate visibility gives a moderate landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the ecological diversity and character of the heathland habitats within the golf course, on Clipstone Heath, and other SINCS • Conserve the ecological diversity around Vicar Pond • Conserve areas of grassland/pasture • Avoid use of exotic species on golf course <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve local vernacular style – any extensions to the golf club house should be in keeping with the local character 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p> <p>N.B. Where one criterion is ‘very good’ this pushes the policy description into the next highest category.</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

Sherwood Policy Zone S PZ 56: Kirton Meadowlands
Policy: Create and Restore

This is a narrow PZ which follows the valley of the Rivers Idle and Maun to the northern half and the Boughton Dyke to the southern section. The river is marked by a strong band of riparian vegetation, including mature Willows and Alder. This LCP is at the junction of the Sherwood Landscape Character Area and the Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands LCA to the east; land form rises steeply to the east immediately outside the LCP boundary. To the east views are closed by the wooded ridgeline and there are distant views to the east of the coniferous wooded ridgelines of Sherwood.

Land uses to the northern section include grazing on permanent and improved pasture adjacent to the river corridor; there are small pockets of arable farming. These land uses continue in the southern section but nearer to Ollerton industrial and commercial uses become more prevalent. There is a large industrial estate at Boughton located on both sides of the A 6097. The village of Kirton lies approximately to the centre of the LCP. This has a core of red brick and pantile roofed buildings and a stone church. Newer infill development alongside the A6097 has been less in keeping with the character of the village core. Other industrial land uses to the south include part of the former Ollerton Colliery with associated mineral lines. Other transport routes pass through the area including the A6097, part of the A1 and part of the East Coast main railway line.

Vegetation within the area consists of the riparian woodland, but limited woodland outside this area. Hedgerows are variable. They are strong mixed species hedgerows with mature trees in some areas, such as along the lane between Kirton and Walesby, but within the grazed areas close to the river they have been removed in some places and replaced by post and wire fences.

The historic pattern has been degraded by the removal of field boundaries in much of the area and completely removed to the southern end due to industrial development. However, to the west of Kirton evidence of the strip field system remains intact.

Threats to the area include further industrial expansion, expansion of urban areas such as Retford, Kirton and Ollerton; intensification of agriculture, decline of woodland due to poor management and maintenance, and additional biomass planting.

S PZ 56 Kirton Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands
 Policy Zone: S PZ 56
 Landscape Character Parcel: S53 and S 56



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Meandering river channel defined by bands of riparian vegetation consisting of mature Alder, and Willow
- Permanent and improved pasture and flood meadow
- Alder and Willow carrs and holts
- Industrial and commercial development along transport corridors
- Kirton village core red brick and pantile roofed
- Former colliery sites and urban edges apparent

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **poor**.

The PZ has a **coherent** pattern of elements arranged along the river corridor but with **many** detracting features. These include post-industrial areas, recent industrial estates, and busy roads and other transport routes passing through the corridor. Overall the PZ is **visually interrupted**.

The area consists of open areas of permanent and improved pasture with small areas of arable production. The main area of woodland is the fringe of riparian vegetation bordering the Boughton Dyke, the River Maun and River Meden which provides a connectivity of habitats and a **moderate** network for wildlife with its associated small woodlands, holts and carrs. There are 3 SINC sites along the valley as well as 4 others associated with post-industrial landscapes or road verges.

Cultural integrity is **variable**. The field pattern present in the

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Poor
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Many
Visual Unity:	Interrupted
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Sherwood

Sanderson Plan is still recognisable to the north part of the PZ but there has been some hedgerow removal, To the south of the PZ the historic pattern has been obliterated by industrial development. To the centre the strip field pattern survives to the east of the village of Kirton with sinuous roads connecting the villages within the valley.

A **moderate** ecological integrity with a **variable** cultural integrity gives a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife A **visually interrupted** area with a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a **poor** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The elements of which the PZ is composed are characteristic of the Sherwood LCA and although there are recent features such as the industrial estates and infill development in Kirton, overall the time depth is historic and older patterns in the landscape remain. The area has a **moderate** sense of place.

The landform of the area is **apparent** and the tree cover including hedgerows is **intermittent** giving a **moderate** visibility in and out of the area. Views to the east are contained by the strong ridge line to the east of Kirton. At higher points there are views to the distant wooded ridgelines of the Sherwood region View along the valley these are limited by water side vegetation. A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** visibility gives a **moderate** sensitivity.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Create and Restore

Landscape Features

- **Restore** pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands
- Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture
- **Restore** and enhance the ecological diversity of riparian woodlands
- **Restore** and enhance river channel diversity and marginal river side vegetation

Built Features

- **Conserve** the sparsely settled character of the river corridors concentrating new small scale development along transport corridors
- New development should protect the historic core of Kirton and respect its scale, design and traditional materials
- **Create** new development using the traditional architectural style of red brick construction

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood

- Sensitive design and siting of new commercial and industrial buildings taking account of the distinctive landscape elements within the Policy Zone

Chapter 3: The Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands Regional Character Area



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Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands

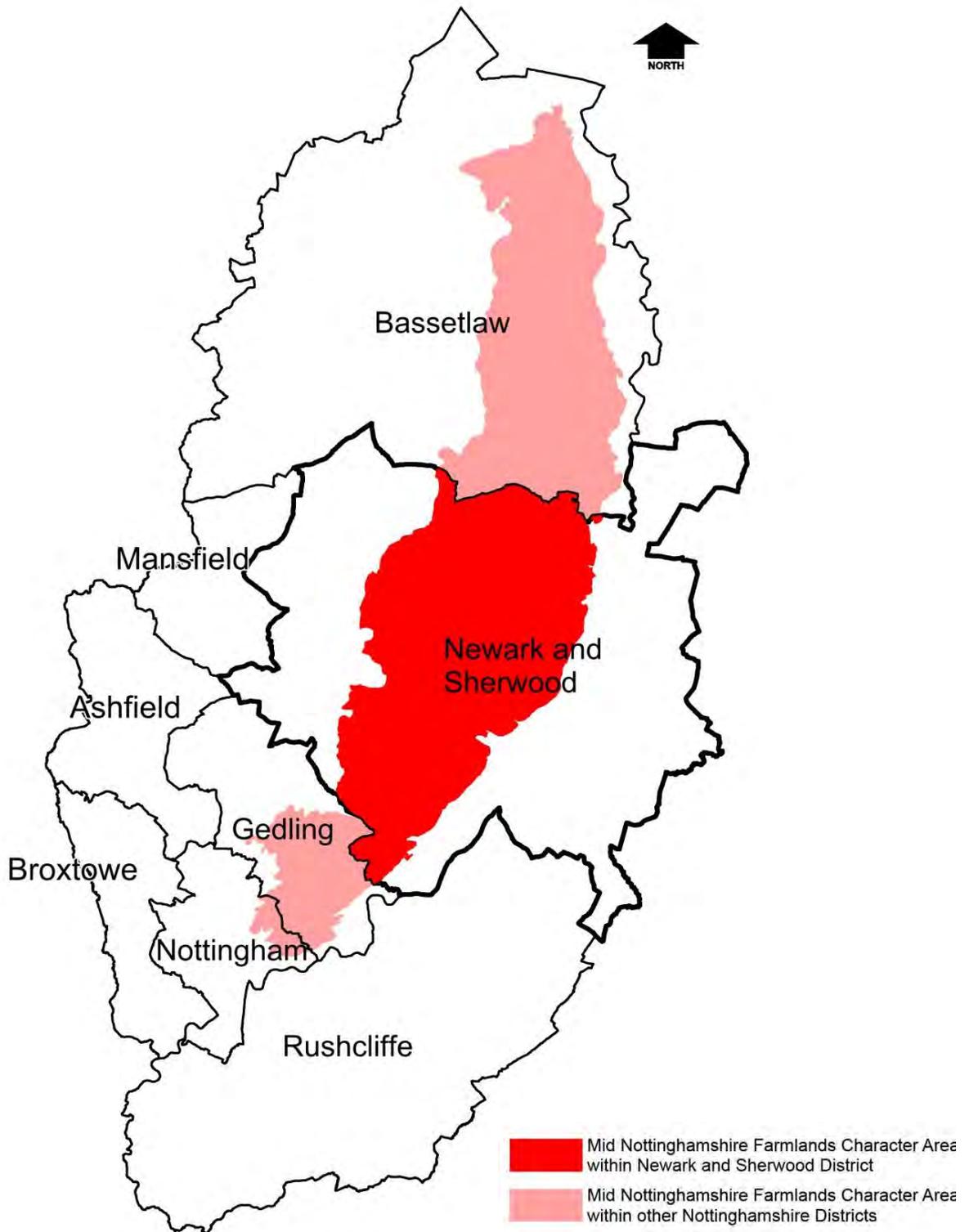


Figure 3.1 Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Character Area within Nottinghamshire and Newark and Sherwood District

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

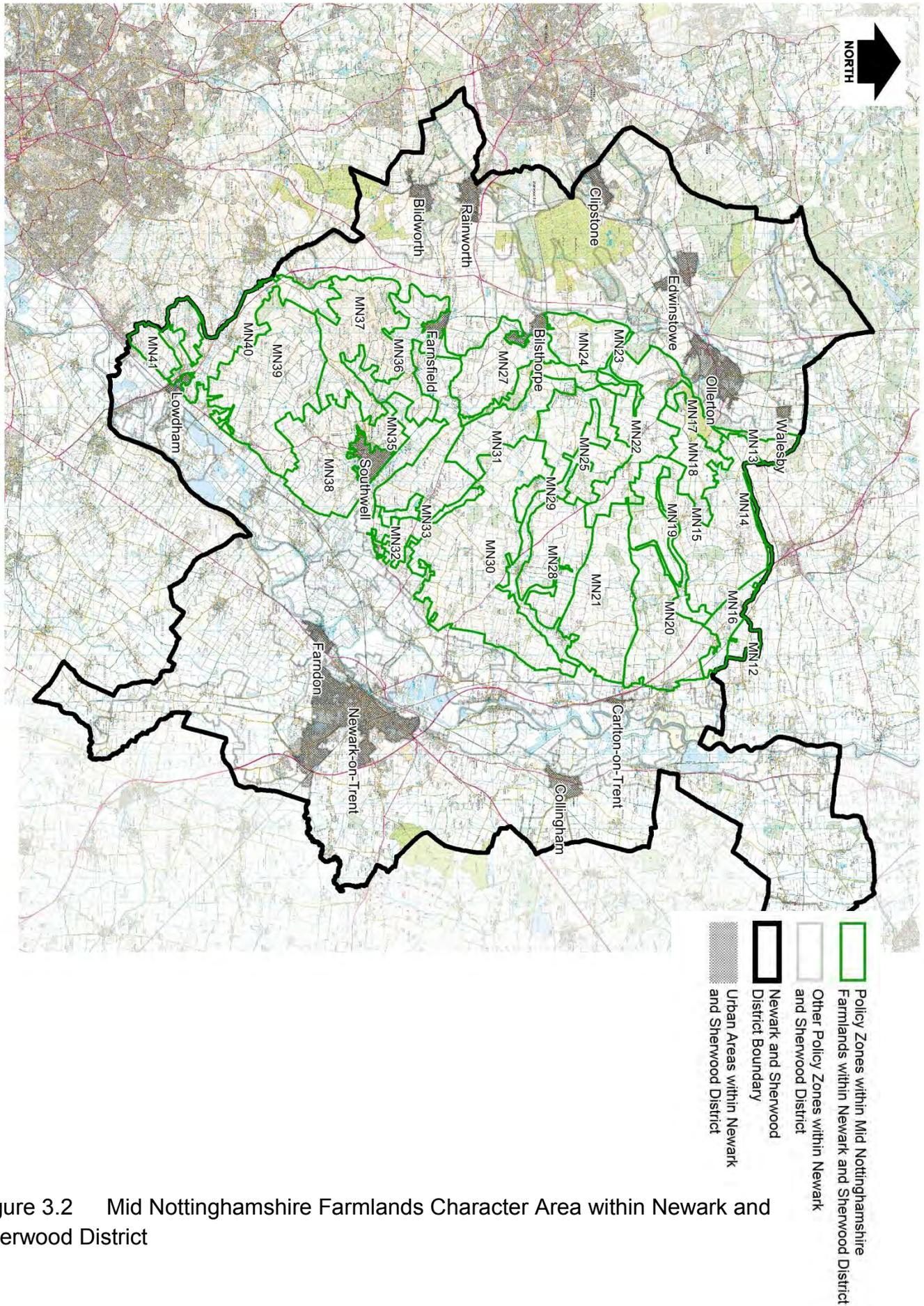


Figure 3.2 Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Character Area within Newark and Sherwood District

3.1 Physical and Human Influences

3.1.1 Introduction

The Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands forms a discrete area within Nottinghamshire, extending in a broad band from the edge of Nottingham north to the Idle Lowlands. It is bounded to the west by the Sherwood region and to the east by the lowlands of the Trent Washlands. Small nucleated villages, isolated farmsteads and quiet country lanes are important components of the region's character, along with undulating landform, hedged fields and woodland. These features, and the fact that the area is dominated by agriculture, ensure that the region has a traditional rural character. This is reflected in the pattern of settlement and enclosure.

The extent of Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands county character area within Newark and Sherwood is shown on Figure 3.1

3.1.2 The Shape of the Land

The Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands is closely associated with a broad belt of Triassic rocks that run northwards through the length of the Newark and Sherwood District to Bassetlaw and beyond. These rocks comprise two formations: Waterstones, consisting of thinly bedded sandstones and siltstones separated by layers of mudstone, and the Mercia Mudstone (formerly known as the Keuper Marl) comprising a great thickness of stratified reddish mudstones with occasional bands of hard sandstone, known locally as "skerry". Both formations are overlain by alluvial and fluvio-glacial drift in the Idle Lowlands, which borders the region to the north and north-west. This covering of drift also extends along the Trent Valley to the east.

Like the rock formations above and below it, the Mercia Mudstone gives rise to a low rolling escarpment that slopes gently eastwards in general conformity with the underlying bedrock. A well-marked scarp slope overlooks the Sherwood Sandstone along the western edge of the outcrop. The Waterstones form the lower, and on the whole gentler, portion of this slope, while the upper, and often much steeper, slope is composed of Mercia Mudstone, with its more resistant skerry bands. These bands, where they are well-developed, give rise to a much more varied and undulating topography as well as giving added prominence to the scarp slope.

Owing to the impervious nature of the underlying mudstones, the escarpment has become heavily dissected by numerous streams, each occupying a well-defined valley, many of which are floored by alluvium. To the north of the district an increasing number of streams have cut through the Mercia Mudstone to expose the underlying Waterstones. The various becks and streams occupy shallower valleys, than those south of the district.

3.1.3 Soils

Dark brown stony clay loam or clay soils cover most of the region's land surface. Dark reddish brown sandy silt loam and clay loam soils occur on the lower beds of the Mercia Mudstone group to the west. Dark brown clay loam and silty clay loam soils are found on gentler slopes in the east, where the mudstone is overlain by thin fine loamy or fine silty drift. Tongues of reddish/greyish river alluvium are found in the beck valleys. Stony soils can be found where the skerries come close to the surface.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

3.1.4 Landscape History

Little can be said about the early history of the landscape of the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands. The clay soils of the Mercia Mudstones are not on the whole sympathetic to the production of cropmarks, the results of differential crop growth over buried ditches, pits and other features which have revolutionised our understanding of the prehistoric and Roman periods in other regions such as the Trent Washlands and Sherwood. The rural character and remoteness of much of this region has also contributed to a lack of study and survey. In consequence, the archaeology of the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands depends almost entirely upon objects recovered from the surface of ploughed fields and earthworks, which have to be interpreted against the wider background of landscape history deduced from evidence elsewhere.

For a more detailed analysis of the Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands history refer to Appendix R.

3.2 Landscape Evolution and Change

3.2.1 Introduction

This section examines the main forces that have brought about change and evolution within the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands over recent decades. It does this by discussing how the current structure and pattern of land use has developed, paying particular regard to agriculture, woodland, transport, industrial/residential development and mineral extraction. It also considers the trends and pressures that may produce landscape change in the future.

3.2.2 Agriculture



The economy of the region is dominated by agriculture with most farmland being of medium agricultural quality. Pockets of higher quality land occur to the west and east of the region on loamy drift and in the alluvial valley bottoms.

A large proportion of the farmland in the region is under arable rotation. Wheat is by far the most frequent crop, with barley a close second. The local climate and the nature of the soil mean that autumn sown crops are usually a more feasible option than those sown in spring. Peas and root crops such as sugar beet and potatoes are grown as part of rotations on the lighter, higher quality agricultural land.

The main change in agricultural practice since the Second World War has been the swing from a mixed agricultural economy to one dominated by arable farming, with an associated increase in holding size. The scale of permanent pasture has vastly reduced since 1939. The majority of pastures are now found south of the district and elsewhere along watercourses and settlement edges. Traditionally cattle farming was widespread and in the 1930s strong corridors of pasture flanked most of the beck valleys. The character of these features has changed with significant areas now used for cropping. A change in grassland management has also occurred, present day management being more intensive and often involving two or more annual silage crops compared to the un-intensive hay crop taken 50 years ago.

Wheat has remained constant as the dominant arable crop since the 1930s. Oats, once a frequent component of arable rotations in the region, have become much less common, and superseded in importance by barley. Root crops, then as now, play a small role as break crops. Clover was widely planted as a break crop in the 1930s, being second only to wheat in terms of arable area. Clover crops are now uncommon with oilseed rape and field beans taking their place.

Horticulture has a similar distribution now to that of the 1930s, although it is much reduced in area. Small areas of horticulture are scattered through the region, occupying a small

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

percentage of the total farmed area. A major change in the rural economy has been associated with the dramatic decrease in the area of orchard land. Remnant orchards are, however, a feature of many of the smaller village settlements and are suggestive of their past importance to the local land-based economy.

3.2.3 Woodland/Tree Cover



The Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands is a relatively well-wooded landscape containing many deciduous woodlands and a high proportion of the County's ancient semi-natural woodland. At the beginning of the present millennium the region was the most wooded part of Nottinghamshire despite the presence of Sherwood Forest to the west. However, in more recent times large-scale planting in Sherwood has meant that the area has been overtaken in terms of the proportion of woodland that it contains. Small and medium woodlands are scattered throughout although in the north and east, woodlands are less common.

Deciduous woodland is the dominant woodland type across the region and includes a relatively high number of ancient semi-natural woodlands. These vary in size from the small, linear woods along the valleys to the large blocks of woodland like Wellow Park, which is 130 ha in extent. Ash, field maple, hazel, oak, hawthorn and wych elm are typical deciduous woodland species.

Between 1920 and the present day there has been a slight but perceptible change in the nature of woodland cover in the region. Agricultural intensification has led to a number of established woodlands being cleared or reduced in size. However, many new woodlands have been planted, often small ones of less than one hectare. The end result is that since the 1920s there has been an overall increase in the hectare-age of woodland in the region but a decrease in the area of ancient semi-natural woodland.

Dutch elm disease had a major impact upon the landscape during the period 1960-1980, leading to the loss of virtually all hedge and roadside elms. Despite this loss hedgerow trees still form an important component of the region's tree cover, with ash, oak and willow the dominant species.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

3.2.4 Transportation

A small number of main roads affect the region, crossing the area in a north-west to south-east direction such as the A616 and A617. These are linked to the rural settlements by a comprehensive network of country lanes. A short section of the A1, west of Carlton-on-Trent and south of Tuxford, is the only trunk road within the area. Running parallel to the A1 is the main London railway line.

3.2.5 Urban and Industrial Development

The Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands is a sparsely populated region, the settlement pattern is formed by numerous small nucleated villages and isolated farmsteads. Large-scale new development has been relatively well controlled so that the region's rural character, and the historic settlement pattern of small red brick villages, is still intact.

The Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands span the central part of the District with the settlement of Southwell at its heart. Southwell is classified as a 'Service Centre within the Local Development Framework's Settlement Hierarchy and provides a range of local facilities acting as a focus for service provision to a large local population and rural hinterland. The smaller Principal Villages of Bilsthorpe, Farnsfield and Lowdham offer a good range of day to day facilities and act as a secondary focus for service provision.

In order to help secure and support the roles of these settlements, and to encourage regeneration in Bilsthorpe they have been identified as the locations for future growth through the Local Development Framework. To facilitate this growth a series of site allocations have been made for a range of uses including residential, employment and retail.

Whilst they may not be the focus for significant levels of growth it is clear that economic and social factors will continue to exert pressure on rural areas of the District and it is likely that the demand for rural housing will continue to grow, driven by the increasing number of people who want to live in a rural location. The refurbishment and conversion of old farm buildings to high quality residential dwellings is now widespread. If the trend continues there may be further consequences for the future pattern and character of the rural landscape.

Employment development will be directed toward the built-up areas of the District and only acceptable in the open countryside where the need for a rural location and the contribution towards rural employment can be demonstrated. The conversion of existing buildings in rural locations to beneficial uses, diversification of rural businesses where this contributes to the local economy and tourism development / accommodation which meets identified needs are also provided support in local planning policy.

Continued uncertainty in the agricultural sector and declining incomes will ensure that rural tourism and farm diversification play an increasing role in the economy of the area. This is likely to result in the conversion of existing agricultural buildings, and in some cases demands for new built development.

3.2.6 Energy

The power generating industry warrants separate consideration due to its enormous impact on the landscape of the region. There are two functioning coal-fired power stations located in the neighbouring **Trent Washlands**, Cottam, and West Burton to the east. The power stations and associated web of high voltage power lines, of which 4 cross this character area,

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

constitute the most dominant and visually intrusive landscape features within and out-with the **Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands**.

3.2.7 **Renewable Energy**

The United Kingdom is legally bound to meeting challenging targets for the generation of energy from renewable sources (15% by 2020) and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (to 34% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050). A framework of national policy, reflecting the need to increase the supply and usage of energy from low-carbon sources and to ensure that adverse impacts are satisfactorily addressed, has been put in place to help deliver these aims. Significantly, this carries the expectation that applications be approved, unless material considerations indicate otherwise, if their impacts (such as that on the landscape) are (or can be made) acceptable. Core Policy 10 'Climate Change' of the Core Strategy and Policy DM4 'Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation' in the Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document's set out local planning policy on this issue.

Given this policy context there are likely to be future applications for renewable energy developments, such as wind-farms, in the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands area. For instance a Wind Farm of five turbines with a height to tip of 103.5m and a rotor diameter of 80m has been granted planning for a 25 year operational period on land at Stonish Hill and the former Bilsthorpe colliery, near the village of Eakring. Such structures have the potential to change the landscape character, with the power generation industry continuing, therefore, to be a dominant feature of the region.

3.2.8 **Minerals: sand and gravel**

Industrial development and mineral extraction are closely linked within the region as a whole, with most activity confined to the area south of the A1.

Clay quarrying and associated brickworks form the most important industrial activity with Nottinghamshire supporting a locally significant brick manufacturing industry. Kirton is the largest active clay pit in Nottinghamshire with a permitted area of 80 hectares, which will eventually be partially landfilled and restored to agricultural use. Kirton clay pit provides both red-firing and cream-firing clays, the former accounting for about 90% of demand. Reserves of cream clay are located in the south east of the pit within a separate working area. Reserves of cream clay should be sufficient until at least 2030. It is estimated that red clay reserves will be exhausted by 2009. The pit is being progressively reclaimed back to agriculture by re-profiling the land.

Oil has been found in the carboniferous sandstone which underlies the Mercia Mudstone. Active fields in the region are to be found at Kirklington, and Egmanon. In landscape terms winning oil is not very obtrusive as the necessary landtake is small. The plant is minimal and is generally screened by low earth mounds and/ or trees. Following exploitation, land is restored to its former use. It is likely that further exploration for oil will take place in the area.

3.2.9 **Tourism**

Lying in the heart of the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands is Southwell is a small country town which is well known for its large 12th Century Norman Minster. Set within a shallow bowl, the surrounding undulating landform, with woods and dumble streams, provides an attractive landscape setting for the town and the Minster whose towers are visible from the surrounding

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

countryside. Refer to the 'Southwell Landscape Setting Study' (November 2012) for further information.

3.2.10 Climate Change

Research has identified trends and emerging patterns of global climate change. Within the UK, implications for climate change include:

- Global temperature increases of between 1.8 and 4 degrees centigrade above the 1990s levels by the end of the 21st Century, with UK increases anticipated at 2 to 3.5 degrees by 2080.
- Greater warming in the South and East of the UK, rather than the West and North.
- Increasing temperatures resulting in milder winters and high summer temperatures.
- An increase in sea levels by 26-86 cm, by 2080. Extreme high water incidences 10 to 20 times more frequent, increasing coastal flood risks.
- Changes in rainfall patterns, with wetter winters and drier summers. The greatest changes are anticipated for the South and East of the UK, where summer rainfall could reduce by 50%, and snowfall reduced by 60 – 80% by 2080. **(1)**

These changes have the potential to impact on all other drivers for change in the future. The issues of the most relevance to the landscape character of the **Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands** include:

Built Development:

- Increased development on land away from locations such as river corridors and low lying areas that are at risk from flooding.
- Sustainable design and layout of new development to result in less use of water, energy and raw materials.

Infrastructure:

- Pressure for renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind turbines to reduce emissions.
- Demand for new riverine defence works in response to tidal surges and high waves.

Minerals and Waste:

- Reducing the amount of waste land filled and increasing the amount of waste recycled and composted.

Agricultural and Land Management:

- Increased risk of river flooding and loss of land as a result of rising sea levels and coastal erosion.
- Changing weather conditions leading to longer growing seasons and the ability to grow different types of crops.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- The introduction of energy crops to provide an sustainable source of fuel.
- Gradual changes in flora and fauna in response to warmer, wetter conditions and more disturbed weather patterns.

Forestry and Woodland:

- Sustainability of woodland tree species may alter due to changes in climatic conditions.
- Lengthy period of drought and dry conditions may lead to an increased risk of upland forest fire.

Tourism and Recreation:

- Increased number of visitors to the countryside due to higher temperatures.

(1) www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/about/ukeffect

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

3.3 Species List – Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

The following list includes native tree and shrub species that are commonly found within the **Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands** and are suitable for inclusion in planting schemes. These are important for determining the area's regional character. A range of native species may also be appropriate to particular locations or sites. In these cases professional advice should be sought.

All plant material should be of local provenance or at least of British origin. The document 'Using local stock for planting native trees and shrubs' - Forestry Commission - Practice Note August 1999 by George Herbert, Sam Samuel and Gordon Patterson; provides guidance in this respect. A list of suppliers is provided on the Flora Locale website – www.floralocale.org

TREES	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ streamsides
Alder (Common)	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>				■
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	■	□	■	□
Aspen (Downy)	<i>Populus tremula</i>	□			
Cherry (Wild)	<i>Prunus avium</i>	□			
Crab Apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	□	□	□	
Elm (English)	<i>Ulmus minor var. vulgaris</i>		□	□	
Elm (Wych)	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	■	□		
Maple (Field)	<i>Acer campestre</i>	■	□	□	□
Oak (Common)	<i>Quercus robur</i>	■	□	■	□
Willow (Crack)	<i>Salix fragilis</i>	□		□	■
Willow (White)	<i>Salix alba</i>			□	■

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

SHRUBS	<i>Botanical name</i>	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ streamsides
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	■	■		□
Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	□	□		
Dogwood (Common)	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	□	□		□
Gelder Rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	□	□		□
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	■	■		■
Hawthorn (Midland)	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	□	□		□
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	■	□		
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	□	□		
Osier	<i>Salix viminalis</i>				□
Privet (Wild)	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>		□		
Rosa (Dog)	<i>Rosa canina</i>	□	■		□

■ Dominant species

□ Other species present

3.4 Visual Character of the Landscape

3.4.1 Introduction

The Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands is an area of undulating landscape with a distinctively rural, agricultural character. Arable farming is the predominant land use on the clay soils, where mixed farming prevails. The historical pattern of land use and settlement is influenced by the physical characteristics of the region, particularly its soils. It is also influenced by its geographical relationship with adjacent regions where different physical conditions occur. Many villages have been established along the margins of the Mercia Mudstone outcrop where a wider range of physical resources is accessible. A more limited range of resources has historically been available to the inhabitants of the central parts of the region, consequently a sparser settlement pattern is evident.

The region is relatively remote from major population centres and has a well-defined and largely undeveloped rural character. Industry is of little significance save for the occasional clay quarry and brick works. A number of main highways cross the area, but typically roads are narrow country lanes linking the scattered nucleated settlements. The villages are well integrated into the surrounding countryside with small-scale field patterns, unimproved pastures, species-rich hedgerows and remnant orchards forming common features along their edges.

A characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands is the strong sense of enclosure which exists over most of the region. Field patterns have remained largely intact although they have become somewhat eroded in the most intensively farmed areas, especially to the north and east. Ancient hedgerows are scattered throughout, hedgerow trees are usually ash and oak and have a localised importance in the landscape.

The landscape has a generally well-wooded character except over tracts of land to the far north and east. Woodlands tend to be mainly deciduous or mixed and are typically small to medium in size. A special feature of the area is the many ancient woodlands, often prominently sited on hilltops and rising ground. Scattered pockets of parkland add to this well-wooded character, along with the many tree-lined streams which drain the area from west to east.

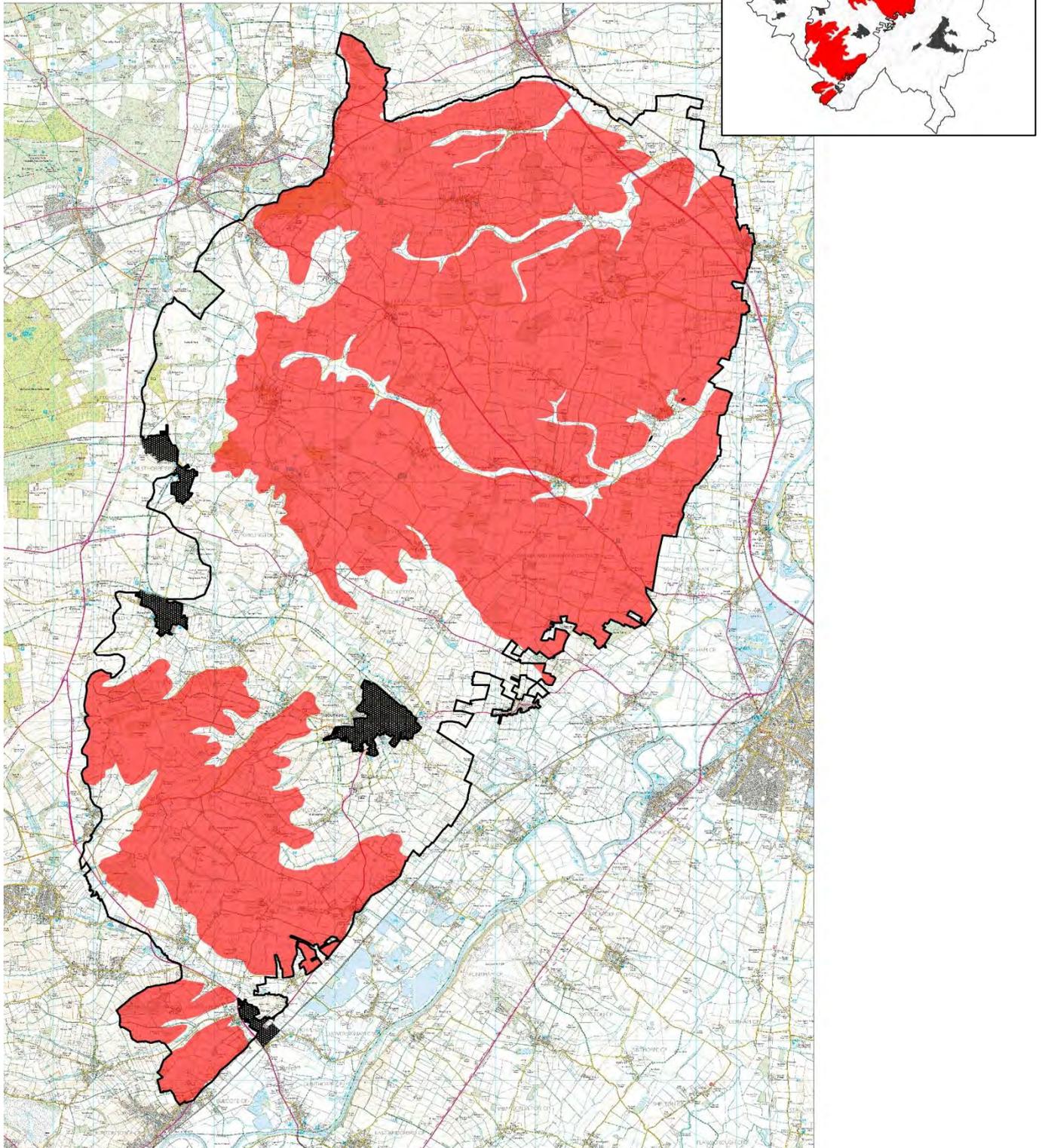
The **Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands** can be subdivided into six distinct landscape types of which four occur in Newark and Sherwood. These are:

- Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
- Meadowlands
- Estate Farmlands with Plantations
- Village Farmlands

These have been classified generically which means that, theoretically, the landscape types could occur at any location within the country where there are similar physical resources and historical patterns of land use. In reality the landscape types possess a distinctively local character, because they share the broad characteristics of the regional character area, or represent a particular aspect of that character.

Mid- Nottinghamshire Farmlands: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

Figure 3.3 Location of Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands



This is a varied undulating arable landscape characterised by remnant ancient woodlands and small rural villages. It has the following characteristic features:

- Varied undulating topography
- Ancient woodlands, often prominently sited on hill tops
- Well-defined pattern of hedged fields
- Streams defined by lines of trees and permanent pasture
- Traditional pattern of farms and small rural villages
- Red brick buildings with pantile roofs
- Quiet country lanes
- Small remnant orchards and permanent pastures around villages

Landscape description

The **Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands** has a distinctively well-wooded, enclosed rural character where arable cultivation is the dominant land use and settlements are typically nucleated villages of traditional style or isolated farmsteads.

Landform is often a distinctive feature, allowing middle distance views of wooded horizons over the gently undulating farmlands. The pattern of hedged fields and woodlands is the principal visual elements of the landscape and helps to define the character of the Wooded Farmlands. The woodlands are small to medium in size and are distributed throughout the area, particularly on hill tops and rising ground. Deciduous and mixed woodlands dominate. A special feature of the area is the large number of ancient woodlands, for example at Redgate, Wellow, and Cheveral Woods.

The field pattern is still intact and well-defined, although it has been eroded in places, leading, in some areas, to the feeling of enclosure giving way to a more open character. Hedges enclosing the large arable fields are generally intensively managed and therefore short and gappy. Hedges around the smaller, pasture fields tend to be less intensively managed and are often important visual features. Ancient hedgerows are scattered throughout, usually along roadsides, green lanes or close to ancient woodland sites. There is a variable

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

distribution of hedgerow trees, which can be dominant in some areas and more sparsely distributed in others. Ash and oak are the species most commonly found.

The pattern of arable farming is interspersed with areas of permanent pasture, but these are localised and generally associated with settlement or watercourses. Ridge and furrow fields are found occasionally. Streams traverse much of the area and are often lined with willow, ash, alder and hawthorn, giving them significance in the landscape. Some of the riparian willows are old pollards. The Beck, which runs from east of Eakring through Caunton and Norwell towards the River Trent, has a particularly strong riparian character afforded by the trees on its banks and the corridor of grassland running alongside.

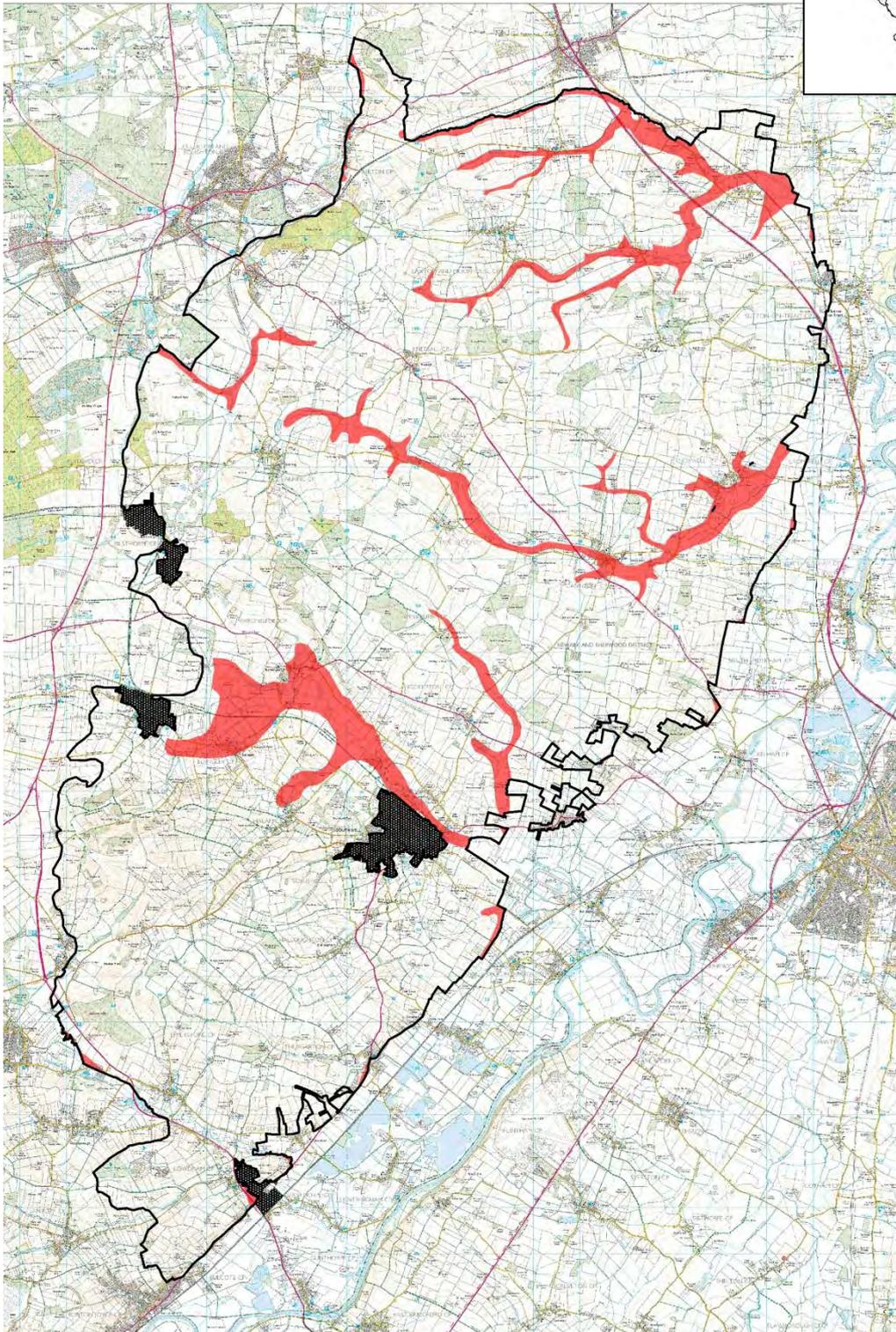
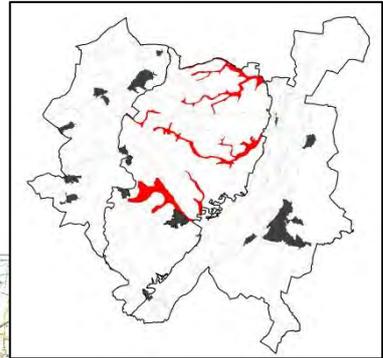
There are a number of special and historic landscape features found within the Wooded Farmlands, notably Laxton Open Field System. Here three large open fields, edged by grass sykes, are still farmed on the medieval strip farming system. Pockets of mature parkland also occur, adding to the well-wooded character. Winkburn is one of the most notable examples, where specimen trees in permanent pasture include oak, horse chestnut and lime. Clumps of trees and blocks of deciduous woodland add to the parkland feel.

The settlements of the Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands are nucleated red brick and pantile villages. These are small in size with predominantly traditional dwellings and only a limited amount of new build. Some settlements have remnant orchards associated with them, generally in permanent pasture fields. Isolated red brick and pantile farmsteads are also a feature throughout. The settlements are linked by a network of roads and rural lanes. The traditional settlements and country lanes add to the overall rural character of the landscape.

The Wooded Farmlands are a remote rural area that has been relatively unaffected by urban and industrial development. Probably most intrusive are the lines of pylons which dominate some areas. Industrial activity to the west in the **Sherwood** region and to the east in the **Trent Washlands** is sometimes visible in the distance.

Mid- Nottinghamshire Farmlands: Meadowlands

Figure 3.4 Location of Meadowlands within the
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Meadowlands



This is a flat, low-lying river corridor landscapes characterised by permanent pasture and riparian trees. It has the following characteristic features.

- Flat, alluvial flood plains
- Sparsely settled with few buildings
- Permanent pasture and areas of mixed agriculture
- Small-scale, semi-irregular pattern of hedged fields
- Riparian trees and shrubs
- Tradition of willow pollarding
- Clumps of deciduous trees and small woods
- Ridge and furrow grassland

Landscape description

The Meadowlands are formed from the valleys of the Dover Beck and the Greet, which are located towards the south of the **Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands** region. The Dover Beck runs south of Oxton to the Trent, in a north-west to south-easterly direction bisecting the Village Farmlands. The Greet flows along the northern edge of the historic market town of Southwell.

The Meadowlands are distinctive riparian landscapes with an intimate, enclosed character and a strong sense of place enhanced by the high proportion of pasture and localised abundance of willow pollards. The Dover Beck has a broader alluvial flood plain than the Greet, achieving an average width of 0.5km with its flat valley floor bound on both sides by rolling clay topography. Permanent pastures are a characteristic feature of large areas of river corridor although arable farming and horticulture have encroached into the flood plain in some areas, creating less peaceful, less traditional waterside landscapes. Ridge and furrow grasslands are a feature in some areas.

The semi-irregular pattern of hedged fields is well-defined, consisting mainly of small to medium-sized fields. Hedges around permanent pasture fields are often tall and bushy whilst

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Meadowlands

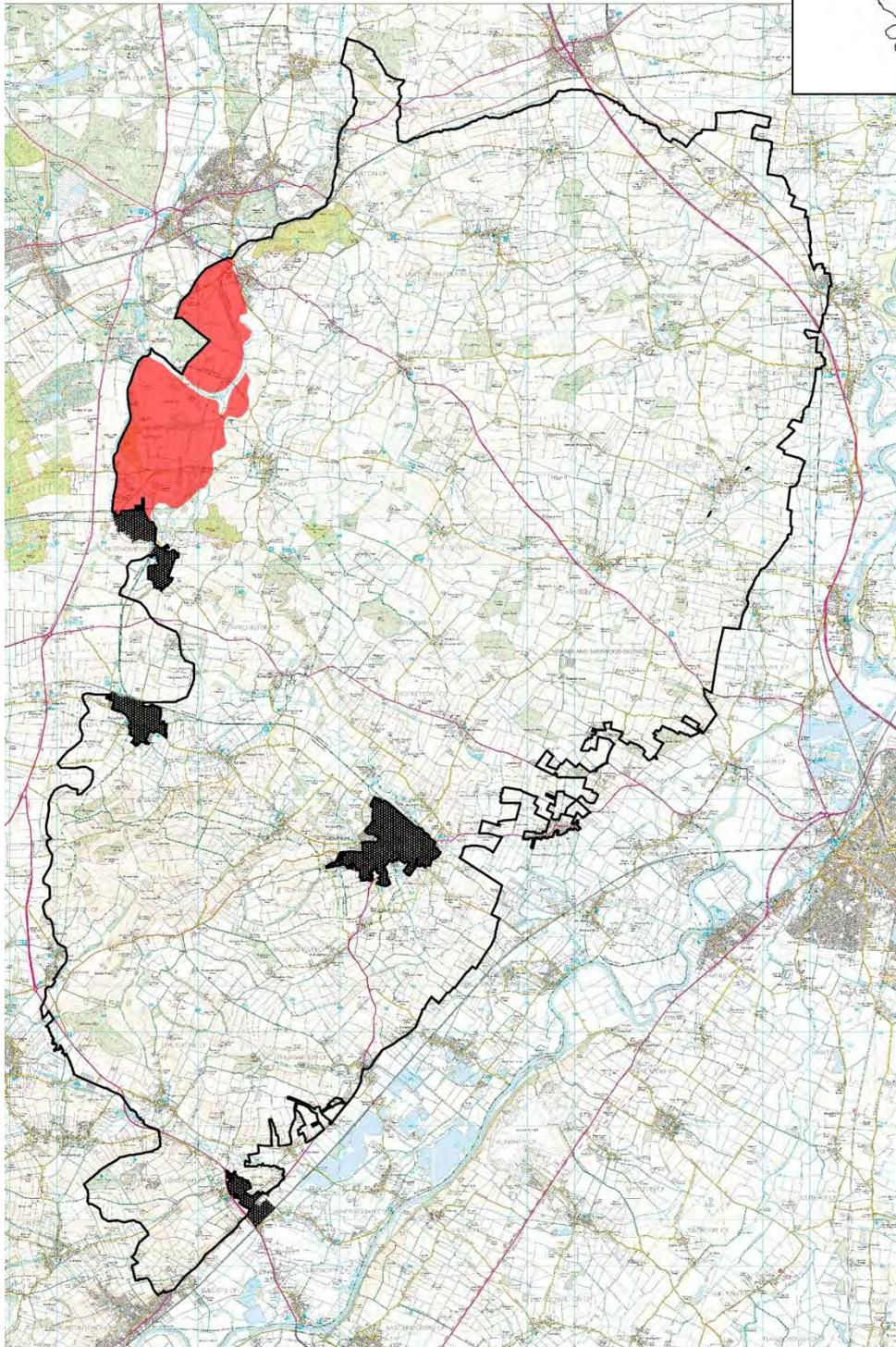
those enclosing the arable fields are lower and more regularly maintained. The hedgerows are a mix of older, species-rich hedgerows and more recent hawthorn hedges; the latter dominate.

Riparian trees are important features, many of them being pollarded crack willows, found particularly along the southerly reaches of the Dover Beck and some of the tributary ditches such as the Grimesmoor Dyke. Other riparian trees include ash, alder and hawthorn. Hedgerow tree cover is important on a localised basis; the principal species are ash and oak. Ash is the dominant species, but oak becomes more common in the north west of the Dover Beck valley. There are some ornamental trees associated with the villages, like the roadside horse chestnuts close to Gonalston. A number of small, mainly deciduous woods and clumps of trees are also scattered throughout.

The Meadowlands are a sparsely settled landscape with few buildings. Settlements are located to the margins of the valleys where traditionally there has been a reduced risk from flooding. The attractive red brick and pantile villages of Epperstone and Gonalston lie to the edge of the Dover Beck, reinforcing the rural character of that valley whilst the Greet has acted as a natural barrier to the northern expansion of Southwell.

Mid- Nottinghamshire Farmlands: Estate Farmlands with Plantations

Figure 3.5 Location of Estate Farmlands with
Plantations within the Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Estate Farmlands with plantations



A heavily wooded and sparsely settled landscape characterised by ornamental parklands, lakes and large fields framed by woodland edges. Only a small part of this landscape type lies within Newark and Sherwood District boundary, which is focussed around the Rufford Park Estate. It has the following characteristic features:

- Undulating landform
- Sparsely settled and largely inaccessible Views framed by woodland edges
- Extensive broad-leaved, mixed and coniferous woodlands
- Country houses set in ornamental parklands
- Narrow man-made lakes along river valleys
- Extensive areas of unenclosed heath
- Unfenced minor roads

Landscape description

The landscape has a unified and intact character composed of a number of landscape elements, including extensive coniferous and broad-leaved woodland, ornamental parklands with man-made lakes, commercially managed agricultural estatelands and an undulating landform.

The *Estate Farmlands with Plantations* have an undeveloped character with few roads and a very low resident population. The only built developments include a number of scattered farm buildings and lodge houses. The area has escaped the impact of the coal industry and other major forms of development and as a result, has a unified and intact character.

The *Estate Farmlands with Plantations* are situated on the geological base of Sherwood Sandstone. The underlying geology has an impact on landscape character marked by a heathy character throughout the area.

The strong heathy character of the sandstone is a major component of the landscape imparted by relatively extensive areas of grass and bracken heath and the widespread occurrence of acidic grassland, bracken, broom and gorse along woodland edges, rides and roadside verges. Grass and bracken heaths tend to be open in nature, although there is often encroachment from surrounding woodland by birch, oak and pine species. The open nature of

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Estate Farmlands with plantations

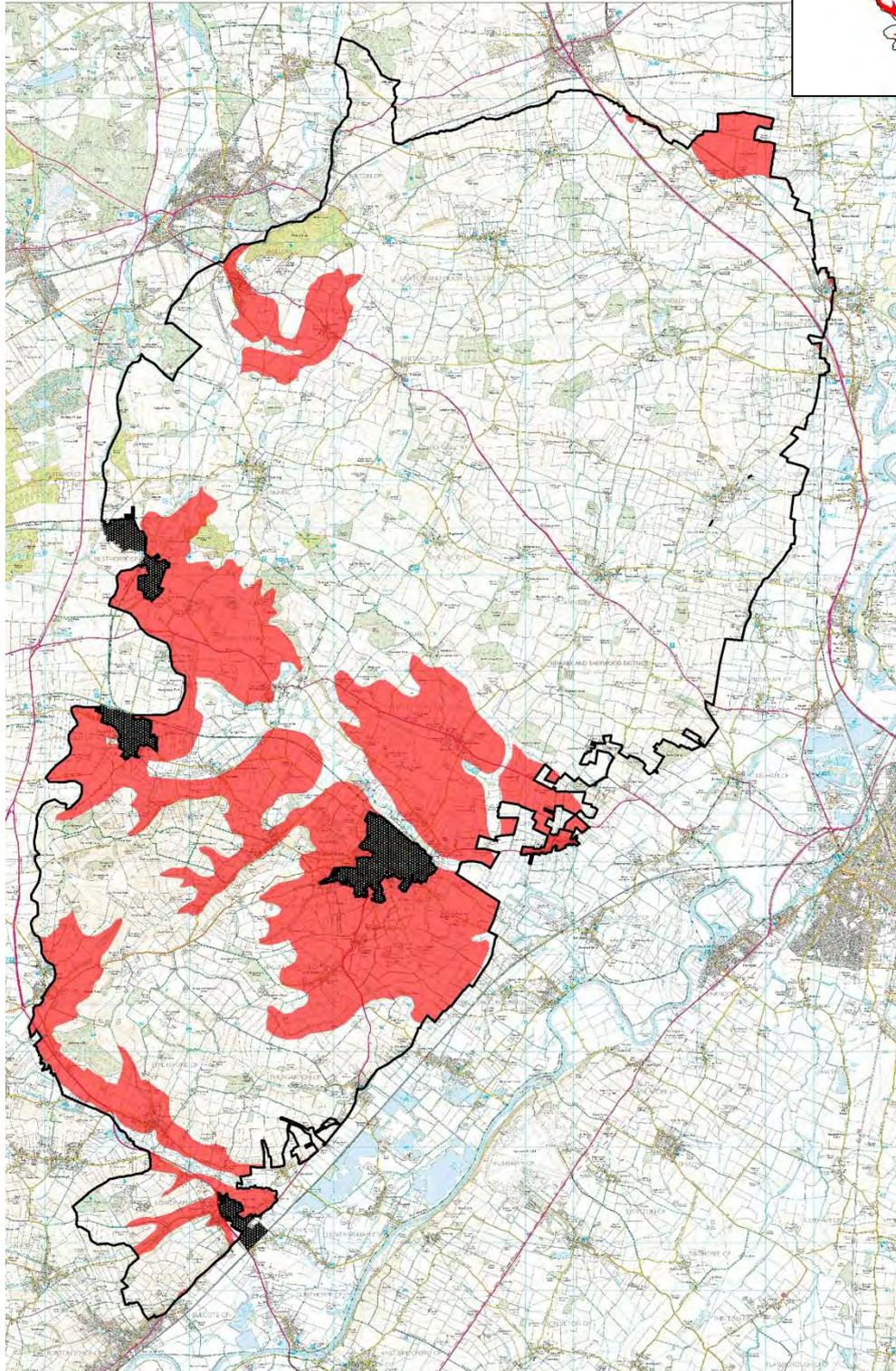
the heaths is reinforced by the unfenced character of minor roads in the area. Smaller areas of heath also occur as clearings within the more densely planted woodland. Heather-dominated heath is limited in extent.

Extensive coniferous and mixed species plantations form an important component of the landscape. These take the form of ornamental plantings and larger-scale infill plantations established in the 1920s and 1930s, which are mainly Corsican and Scots pine. Where broadleaved woodlands occur, these areas often have medium to large-scale arable fields defined by long sinuous and irregular broad-leaved woodland edges; views are generally of medium distance with frequent wooded skylines with a sense of wooded enclosure.

Most of the open areas are characterised by arable farming. Fields are generally defined by woodland edges although there are areas with enclosed rectilinear field patterns to be found locally. The rolling landform enhances the strong sense of wooded enclosure in these areas. Although pastoral landscapes are not widespread they are found locally.

Mid- Nottinghamshire Farmlands: Village Farmlands

Figure 3.6 Location of Village Farmlands within the
Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Village Farmlands



This is a gently rolling agricultural landscape with a simple pattern of large arable fields and village settlements. It has the following characteristic features:

- Gently rolling topography
- Simple pattern of large arable fields
- Nucleated settlement pattern of villages and isolated farmsteads
- Small-scale pastoral landscapes and remnant orchards around settlements
- Lines of willow and other riparian trees along streams
- Open views to the Trent Valley, power stations and pylons

Landscape description

The Village Farmlands are dominated by a simple pattern of large arable fields and nucleated village settlement. Other key features include hedgerow trees, small woods and tree-lined streams.

The character of the Village Farmlands is almost completely dominated by arable farming. This is reflected by the pattern of large fields which are enclosed by low, intensively managed hedgerows. Despite intensive management the field pattern remains the most visually important feature in the landscape. Hedges are usually hawthorn but a few species-rich hedgerows do occur. Hedgerow trees are scattered ash and oak which have a localised significance.

Woodlands are small, usually deciduous and occur infrequently. Where they do occur they are of local importance. Perhaps more frequent are the becks that drain the area towards the Trent, examples of which are North Beck and Lee Beck. Where these are tree-lined they enjoy some prominence in otherwise open landscapes. Ash, willow and hawthorn are common becksides species.

Industrial influences are present in this landscape but are localised.

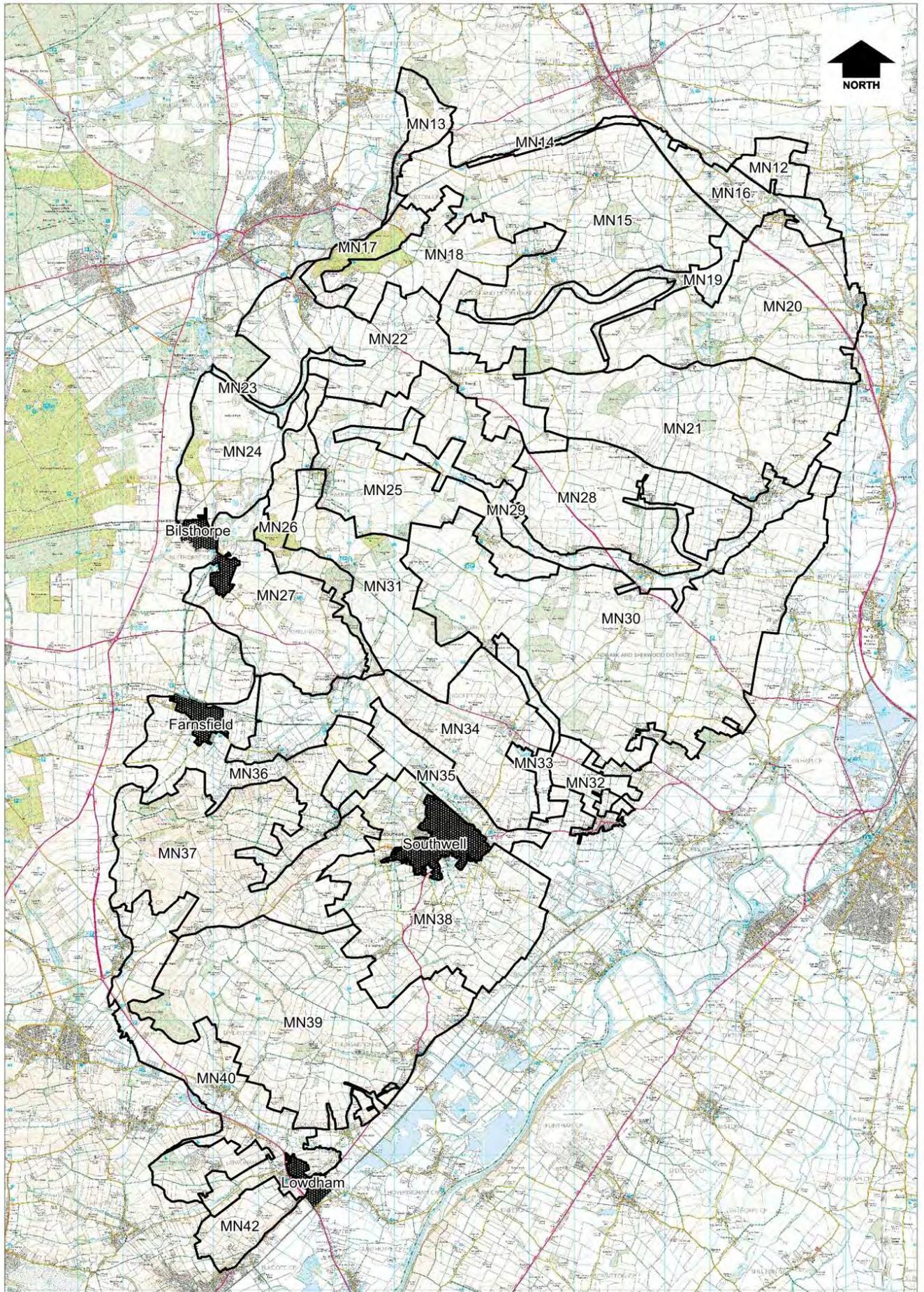


Figure 3.7 Policy Zones within the Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zones

3.5 Landscape Policy Sheets

3.5.1 Policy Zones Contents Sheet

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**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 13: Kirton Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve**

The area is enclosed to the north by ancient mixed deciduous woodlands and plantations, and by the industrial settlement of Boughton to the south.

The landform is undulating, tending to lead down towards the south and the settlement of Kirton. Hanging Hill Plantation, Nickerbush Plantation and Bevercotes Park form the northern boundary to the area and run along the highest topographical point of the Policy Zone. This allows long distance views looking towards the south and west following the line of topography to the valley floor. Views are limited to some extent within the settlement of Kirton and along tracks and lanes around the vicinity of Kirton due to hedgerows, woodland and topography.

There are very few detracting features in the area, although pylons and power lines bisect the area from south-east to north-west which interrupt the views in these directions.

The majority of the area is composed of medium scale geometric field patterns. Some of the fields are larger scale with a more irregular field pattern, whilst there is some horseyculture present closer to the village of Kirton. Field boundaries tend to be generally well maintained species-rich hedgerows (Hawthorn, Ash, Field Maple, Ilex, Elder, Rubus), aside from the area of horseyculture where post and rail fencing is present.

There is a section of designated Mature Landscape Area occupying the north-east and south of Kirton village. Biological SINCs also exist in Collington Wood, Nickerbush Plantation and Hanging Hill Plantation. These woodlands generally have broadleaved margins with species such as Oak, Horse Chestnut and Birch. There are some areas of semi-natural scrub within irregularly shaped fields.

- 2/555 - Bevercotes Park 'A largely replanted ancient woodland site retaining locally a notable range of characteristic species'
- 5/2169 - Collinridge Wood 'An ancient woodland on a west facing slope'

The settlement of Kirton lies in a Conservation Area and is generally composed of vernacular red brick and pantile buildings to the historic core. There is some newer residential development to the periphery, although the use of vernacular materials is evident and they tend to respect the local character.

Threats to the landscape and potential drivers for change in the area include:

- Transition from pastoral to arable farming, with the potential fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows, leading to loss of field pattern;
- Further development of Kirton, either infill or peripheral, would be likely to have a detrimental impact on the area.
- Forestry - whether lack of management, or over-management of the woodlands to the north, would be likely to have a negative impact.

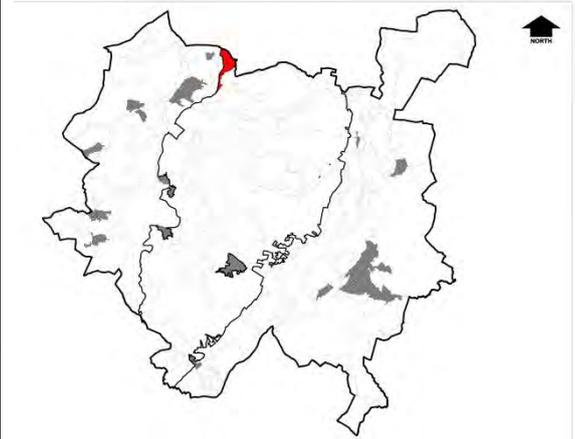
MN PZ 13 Kirton Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 13
Landscape Character Parcel: MN33 & MN34



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Vernacular settlement of Kirton
- Ancient mixed deciduous woodlands – Bevercotes Park and Collinridge Wood
- Deciduous mixed species Plantations – Nickerbush and Hanging Hill Plantations
- Intensive arable farming
- Improved permanent pasture adjacent to isolated farms
- Peripheral residential development infill to Kirton

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements mainly woodland and arable fields; there are **few** detracting features with some pylons and pylon lines bisecting the area. Overall this gives a visually **strongly unified** area. Bevercotes Park (Ref 2/555) and Collinridge Wood (Ref 5/2169) are designated as Biological SINCS for their Ancient Woodland communities. In ecological terms the woodland provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is intact with mature species-rich hedgerows with outgrown hedgerow tree species and has not changed since Sanderson’s plan of 1835. Small amounts of new development to the periphery of

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

<p>Kirton are the only evident change.</p> <p>A visually strongly unified area with a very strong functional integrity gives a very good landscape condition.</p>	<p>Functional Integrity: Very Strong</p>																
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity High																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as high.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is dominant with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally high visibility of features within the Policy Zone. There are views out from the north towards the west of the site over Kirton.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place and high visibility leads to a high landscape sensitivity overall. Evidence of vernacular materials even in new residential developments enhances the sense of place locally.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Dominant</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: High</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the existing pastoral nature of land use. • Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous woodland, particularly ancient woodland. • Prevent horseyculture from infringing into traditional pastoral and arable fields. • Conserve and reinforce hedgerows where these are gappy and in poor condition, particularly internal hedgerows. Seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern/boundaries where these have been lost and introduce more hedgerow trees. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the vernacular character of the existing village of Kirton. • Limit development to periphery of village to prevent sprawl connecting with neighbouring Boughton industrial estates and mineral extraction to the south. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 14: Goosemoor Dyke
Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve**

The Policy Zone is located south of Tuxford and north of Egmanton. The area is composed of two main features – intensive arable fields and linear riparian habitat.

A gently undulating landform leading to the valley bottom, where riparian vegetation following the line of Goosemoor Dyke forms the northern boundary of the area. Views are generally medium distance in the south of the area, with intermittent wooded skylines interrupted to the north by the settlement of Tuxford. Views in the north of the area are generally enclosed by the riparian vegetation associated with Goosemoor Dyke. There are very few detracting features in the area, although pylons and power lines bisect the area from east to west, resulting in interrupted views in these directions.

The majority of the area is composed of medium scale geometric arable field patterns. Hedgerows form the boundaries of the fields and are generally well maintained and composed of hawthorn.

A Biological SINC also exists along the linear section of riparian vegetation following Goosemoor Dyke and represents zoological interest in water Beetles along the stream.

- 5/2227 - Goosemoor dyke 'A stream of interest for Water Beetles'

There are no settlements or built development in the area.

There are few likely threats to the landscape aside from intensification of arable farming, leading to fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows resulting in loss of field patterns. Other possible effects of increased intensification would be degradation and loss of riparian vegetation along Goosemoor Dyke.

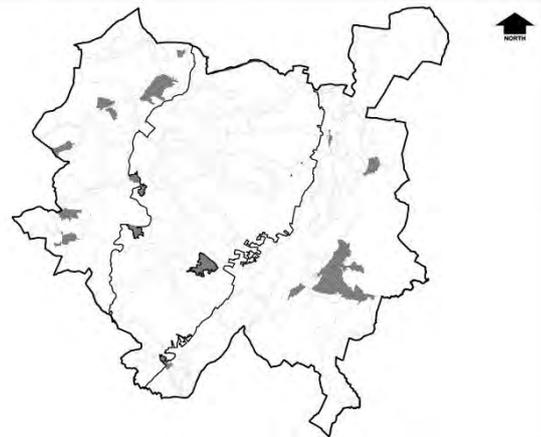
MN PZ 14 Goosemoor Dyke Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Mid-Nottinghamshire Meadowlands (Note this PZ lies to northern edge of Newark and Sherwood District)
Policy Zone: MN PZ 14
Landscape Character Parcel: MN35



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Riparian habitat following line of Goosemoor Dyke
- Biological SINC designation along Goosemoor Dyke (Water Beetles).
- Intensive arable farming

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements mainly woodland and arable fields; there are **few** detracting features with some pylons and pylon lines bisecting the area. Overall this gives a visually **strongly unified** area. Goosemoor Dyke (5/2227) is designated as a Biological SINC for its zoological interest (Water Beetles). In ecological terms the woodland provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is intact with mature species-rich hedgerows with outgrown hedgerow tree species and has not changed since Sanderson's plan of 1835.

A visually **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong
Sensitivity	Moderate

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility of features within the Policy Zone. Views are limited to the northern edge of the area due to riparian habitat, however, views are medium distance to the south of the area as topography and arable land use allows more open views to the north.

A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall. The lack of any development, historic or otherwise, gives an undisturbed quality to the area.

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- Maintain existing historic field patterns.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous riparian woodland.
- Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal aquatic vegetation.
- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).

Built Features

- No built features – not appropriate for building.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 15: Egmanton Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve**

The area is enclosed by arable fields and part of the village of Laxton, while the north-eastern boundary is formed by the A1. A linear section of riparian habitat following the path of Goosemoor Dyke lies to the north of the area, while the majority of the remaining area is surrounded by intensive arable fields.

The landform is gently undulating, with slightly more undulation north of Egmanton, where topography gently leads down to Goosemoor Dyke.

Views are generally medium to long distance with skylines intermittently interrupted by wooded skylines and pylons and power lines running from north-east to south-west. Views from within settlements and along tracks and lanes can be enclosed by topography and vegetation.

The area is defined by the three historic settlements of Egmanton, Laxton and part of Moorhouse which contain many farms within the village boundaries. Agriculture has a strong influence in the area, evident by the numerous historic farms. The land use and management reflects the community agricultural way of life.

Agriculture in the area is predominantly arable, however there is also pastoral and horseculture present – generally within the vicinity of the villages. The field systems range from small to medium scale and have regular geometric patterns. Field boundaries are composed principally of well maintained Hawthorn hedgerows, although mature species-rich hedgerows are present along tracks and lanes. Some post & rail and post & wire fencing is present close to settlements.

A variety of vegetation exists throughout the site; riparian vegetation follows a stream running from east to west through the area, and along various drains; blocks of mixed deciduous woodland (some of which are designated as Biological SINCs) are present throughout the area.

A number of Biological SINCs exist:

- 5/653 - Kirton Wood Assart Hedge 'A rich diversity of trees, shrubs and associated ancient woodland flora along a stream'
- 5/369 - Egmanton Meadow 'A hay meadow with unusual species diversity'
- 2/791 - Laxton Road Verges, Egmanton 'Broad verges with a notable grassland community'
- 2/789 - Moat Farm Pasture 'A rough pasture whose interest centres on the marsh around the ancient finger pool'
- 1/73 - Kirton Wood 'A mature deciduous woodland with a notable flora'
- 5/167 - Egmanton Wood 'Planted woodland and remnant dumble with a rich and diverse ground flora'
- 5/166 - East Park Wood, Laxton 'Plantation on an ancient woodland site with a notable remnant ground and woodland flora'
- 2/616 - East Park Wood Bank 'A species-rich grassy bank between arable fields'
- 5/368 - Laxton Meadow 'A traditionally managed unimproved hay meadow'

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- 5/2114 - Moorhouse Lane, Laxton 'A roadside verge supporting a base-rich grassland community'
- 2/615 - Laxton Mill Field sykes 'Extremely herb-rich grassland strips around the Mill Field, of historical and botanical importance'
- 5/315 - Mill Field Grassland East 'A traditionally managed grassland strip of botanical significance'
- 5/316 - Mill Field Grassland West 'A species-rich strip of grassland'

There are also Mature Landscape Area designations to the south of Egmanon, around Laxton and north of Moorhouse.

A number of historic elements are present throughout the area including several Scheduled Ancient Monuments. The historic village of Laxton and its associated agricultural history. Historic fish ponds lie to the west of Egmanon, and to the west of Laxton. The remains of a Moat and Bailey are situated next to the church in Egmanon. The remains of a Mill Mound lie to the east of Laxton. Within Laxton and Egmanon there are several Listed buildings including the parish churches which are Grade 1 status.

The area is relatively undisturbed by transport networks with mainly quiet B and C roads, tracks and lanes. There are a number of linear transport corridors present on the periphery of the area, however, with the busy A1 forming the north-eastern boundary and a mineral railway bisecting the area to the west.

Main threats to the landscape in this Policy Zone include:

- Intensification of arable agriculture leading to loss of hedgerows and historic field patterns;
- Further built development outside the historic village cores;
- Increasing horseculture resulting in fragmentation and loss of hedgerows and subsequent 'cluttering' of the landscape through associated temporary structures such as sheds and electric fencing;
- Expansion and/or intrusion of transport infrastructure (A1);
- Lack of management of mixed deciduous woodlands within the area (Kirton Wood, Kneesall Wood, Egmanon Wood, East Park Wood, Lady Wood, Laxton Wood and Laxton Middle Wood) leading to degradation or loss

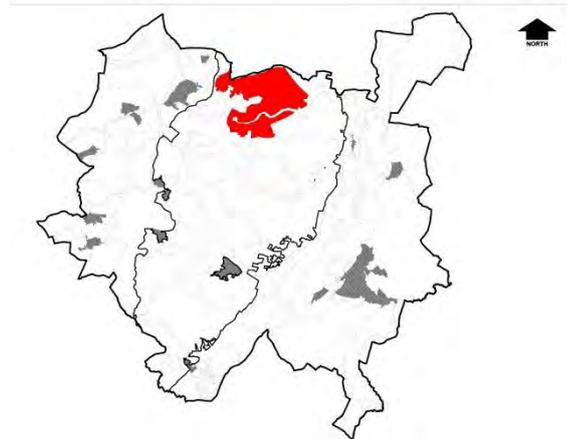
MN PZ 15 Egmanton Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Mid-Nottinghamshire Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ15
Landscape Character Parcel: MN36 and MN38



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Vernacular and historic settlements of Egmanton and Laxton
- Numerous streams, drains, open water and associated riparian vegetation
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Blocks of mixed deciduous woodland
- Intensive arable farming
- Improved permanent pasture adjacent to isolated farms
- Medieval open field system present around Laxton village

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Very Good**

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements with blocks of woodland, arable and pastoral fields; there are **few** detracting features with some pylons and pylon lines and a mineral line bisecting the area. Overall this gives a **visually strongly unified** area. Numerous sites are designated as Biological SINCs, along with a number of Mature Landscape Areas. In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with woodland blocks and linear sections connecting into a good hedgerow network, along with numerous riparian habitats. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is intact with mature species-rich hedgerows with outgrown hedgerow

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional	Very Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

tree species and has not changed since Sanderson's plan of 1835.

A **visually strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **high**.

The components of the landscape are **unique / rare** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA, principally due to the historic nature of them. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **strong** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility of features within the PZ. Views are intermittent and often enclosed close to the villages but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A **strong** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **high** landscape sensitivity overall. The settlements of Egmanton, Laxton and part of Moorhouse bring a strong sense of vernacular and historic character to the area.

Integrity:

Sensitivity High

Distinctiveness: Unique / Rare

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Strong

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- Maintain existing historic field patterns.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous riparian woodland.
- Retain and enhance stream channel diversity and marginal aquatic vegetation.
- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing any new development within historic enclosed boundaries, restoring hedgerow boundaries where necessary.
- **Conserve** features and setting of open field farming system as a medieval system still evident in present landscape.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to within the settlements of Egmanton and Laxton.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 16: Scarthingmoor Village
Farmlands with Ancient woodland
Policy: Reinforce**

An area of both undulating and flat topography, the views in this area vary greatly from broad long distance views with intermittent wooded skylines, to enclosed views along tracks and small roads (due to mature hedgerows).

The surrounding industrial nature of the land is evident in the dominance of linear features in the area, with multiple pylons and power lines connecting to High Marnam power station and Cottam power station. The area is enclosed and defined by the A1 along most of its south-western boundary, the Great North Road runs linearly to the A1, and a busy railway runs from south-east to north-west in the eastern section of the area and imposes a significant presence in this area.

The land use reflects this intensive nature, with a predominance of intensive arable fields. Fields tend to be regular and geometric, but they do vary in size and use, as some smaller areas of scrub, pasture and horsey cultural fields are also present. Industry re-presents itself on a smaller scale, with the presence of numerous small, mainly disused oil boreholes.

Field boundaries are principally defined by hawthorn hedgerows, most of which are well maintained. However, some are patchy in places and outgrown resulting in many of the fields having mature Ash, Field Maple, Willow and Oak trees along the boundary lines. There are also some post and rail and temporary electric fences present, associated with the horseyculture.

A number of drains and streams intersect the area, and as a result, some riparian vegetation is present, most notably along the sides of Goosemoor Dyke and Grassthorpe Beck.

Some ornamental planting is evident in the planting of Poplars etc. around isolated farm buildings.

A Biological SINC exists in the area:

- 5/2227 - Goosemoor Dyke 'A stream of interest for Water beetles'

There is also a Mature Landscape Area designation, lying predominantly over the central northern section of the area (MLA 52).

The primary residences within the area are mainly isolated traditional vernacular red brick farmhouses with associated outbuildings, some of which are made of more modern materials (corrugated iron etc). The area lies just north of Weston, although there are no other core settlements in the area itself.

Drivers of change within this Policy Zone include:

- Spread of horsey culture leading to further fragmentation and loss of hedgerows and 'cluttering' appearance of associated temporary structures such as sheds and electric fencing;
- Increased intensification of arable agriculture could impact on hedgerows resulting in their degradation and possible loss of field patterns;
- Residential development associated with Weston periphery.

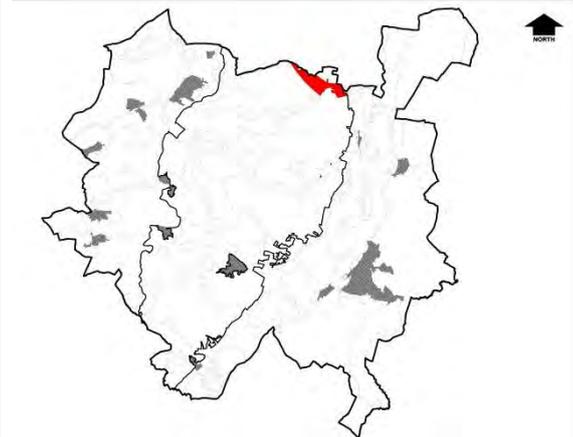
MN PZ 16 Scarthingmoor Village Farmlands with Ancient woodland

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands with Ancient woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 16
Landscape Character Parcel: MN37



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography, with some flat areas to the north.
- Numerous small mainly disused oil boreholes.
- Numerous streams and drains and associated riparian vegetation.
- Linear sections of mixed deciduous woodland
- Intensive arable farming
- Improved permanent pasture adjacent to isolated farms

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements with blocks of woodland, arable and pastoral fields; there are **some** detracting features with pylons and pylon lines, a railway line and 2 busy roads bisecting the area (Great North Road and A1). Overall this gives a visually **coherent** area. There is a Biological SINC designation (5/2227 - Goosemoor Dyke). In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with linear sections of woodland and scrub connecting into a hedgerow network, along with numerous riparian habitats. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact with some mature species-rich hedgerows with

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

<p>outgrown hedgerow tree species. A visually coherent area with a strong functional integrity gives a good landscape condition.</p>	<p>Functional Integrity: Strong</p>																
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Low																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as low.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is insignificant with intermittent areas of linear woodland sections giving a generally low visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed close to the villages but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A moderate sense of place and low visibility leads to a low landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Insignificant</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Low</p>																
ACTIONS – Reinforce																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain any existing historic field patterns. Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous riparian woodland. Retain and enhance stream channel diversity and marginal aquatic vegetation. Conserve hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). Conserve historic field pattern by containing any new development within historic enclosed boundaries, restoring hedgerow boundaries where necessary. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments. Contain new development within existing field boundaries. Conserve the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements (Weston). 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
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Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 17: Wellow Park Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

The area lies to the north of the village of Wellow, and to the east of the Industrial periphery of Boughton. Some of the nature of these settlements is evident to the periphery of this DPZ, with a mineral railway forming the northern boundary of the area and connecting to an industrial works site and marl pit to the north, and a small amount of residential development to the south.

The remainder of the area is dominated by the presence of Wellow Park (Woodland) as it encompasses more than 70% of the site. The woodland itself is composed of primarily mixed deciduous trees (Ash, Birch, Sweet Chestnut, Oak, Field Maple, and Hawthorn, along with the occasional conifer). Some evidence of a coppicing regime can be seen within the woods and management is good throughout. Wellow Park itself is designated as a Mature Landscape Area, along with some of the surrounding fields. It is also designated as a SSSI site.

A Biological SINC exists in the area:

- 1/59 – Wellow Wood ‘An extensive area of semi-natural woodland with important animal and plant communities’.
- A Geological SINC also exists in the area:
- 2/1023 – Kirton Brick Pit, Ollerton ‘A working brick pit exposing the Mercia Mudstone Group (Keuper Marl) and the Colwick Formation (Waterstones)’, along with some proposed Geo SINC designations.

The remainder of the area is used for intensive arable farming, displaying a regular geometric field pattern. These fields are bounded by well maintained, mature Hawthorn hedgerows, resulting in views that tend to be intermittently enclosed by roadside vegetation and the large area of Wellow woodland. Occasional medium to long distance views are possible in the south of the area, where vegetation allows. These views are generally towards wooded skylines and are interrupted to some extent by pylons and power lines bisecting the south of the area, running from north to south.

Little residential settlements are present in the area, aside from some development to the outer fringes of Wellow, the buildings of which are recent in age but use vernacular red brick materials. There is also an individual vernacular farm to the south of the area (Park Farm).

Drivers for change in the area include:

- Further built development to the periphery of Wellow;
- Intensification or change of management of the woodland (currently a coppicing regime exists);
- Extension of industrial works to the north of the area, may infringe on woodland.

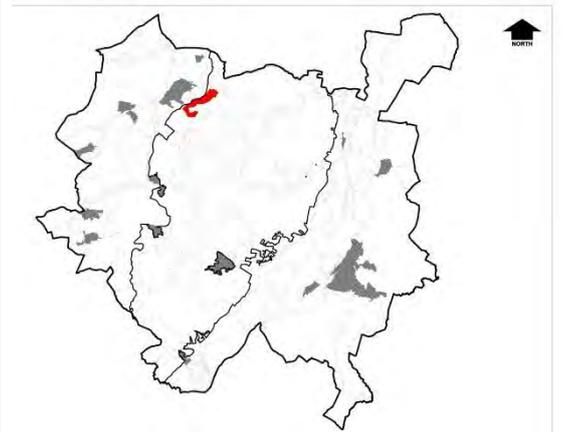
MN PZ 17 Wellow Park Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodland

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy Zone: MN PZ 17
Landscape Character Parcel: MN39



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography
- Large area (70%) covered by mixed deciduous woodland
- Some intensive arable farming
- Good networks of hedgerows leading into Wellow Wood
- Some Industrial features to periphery of area including industrial works & marl pit, mineral line and pylons/pylon lines
- Little residential settlement except from some modern bungalows to periphery of Wellow and isolated farm.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Very Good**

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed mainly of woodland, with some arable fields; there are **few** detracting features with pylons and pylon lines, a mineral railway line and an industrial works site. Overall this gives a **visually unified** area. There is a Biological SINC designation (1/59 Wellow Wood) along with a Geological SINC designation (2/1023 Kirton Brick Pit, Ollerton). In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with large sections of woodland and some arable fields with good hedgerow networks leading into the woodland. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact with some mature

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Strong

Cultural Integrity: Good

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

<p>species-rich hedgerows with outgrown hedgerow tree species. A visually coherent area with a very strong functional integrity gives a very good landscape condition.</p>	<p>Functional Integrity: Very Strong</p>																
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Low																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as low.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is apparent with enclosed areas of woodland giving a generally low visibility value within the DPZ. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the dominant presence of Wellow Wood, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the DPZ. A moderate sense of place and low visibility leads to a low landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover: Enclosed</p> <p>Visibility: Low</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain any existing historic field patterns. Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous woodland through consistent management. Maintain coppicing regime within Wellow Woods. Conserve hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). Conserve historic field pattern by containing any new development to periphery of Wellow within historic enclosed boundaries, restoring hedgerow boundaries where necessary. Prevent the spread of Industrial works from infringing on Wellow Wood. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments. Contain new development within existing field boundaries. Conserve the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlement of Wellow. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 18: Laxton Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve**

The rolling and undulating nature of this area means that views are sometimes relatively open with medium distance views towards an intermittently wooded skyline (with pylons and power lines running north to south interrupting the view to the south of the area).

The presence of Laxton village in the east of the area gives an unusual historic element to the area. Laxton is the last remaining working mediaeval open field system in England. Fields, divided into strips, are farmed in common between the landowners of the village. Today, there are three open fields remaining; the Mill Field, the South Field and the West Field. There was also a fourth field, the East Field, which was considerably smaller than the others, and farmed as part of the West Field. This was fully enclosed, and today is a number of small fields. Laxton is unique because the open field system is still alive and in daily use. Although the village is now recognised as an important heritage site, it is home to working farmers who rely on the land for their income. The system is protected today by a Parliamentary undertaking given by the Crown Estate Commissioners on their 1981 purchase of the Laxton estate, and by a Countryside Stewardship agreement held. The sykes, four areas of grassland, are also protected by SSSI status.

A number of Listed buildings are present in the area

Therefore, the fields surrounding the village to the north are small and geometric, as opposed to the remainder of the farming area, which is dominated by arable farming in medium scale fields of irregular geometric pattern. Pastoral fields are also present in and around Laxton village.

Boundaries associated with the fields, roads and tracks are all strong, mature and well maintained. The majority of hedgerows along field boundaries are Hawthorn, although those running along the side of tracks and lanes tend to be species-rich and include species such as; Ash, Rubus, Hawthorn, Field Maple, Ilex, Convolvulus, Hazel etc. Some post and rail fencing can be seen around the village edges.

These hedgerows form an excellent network throughout the area and connect into Wellow Wood to the west of the area and Norton wood to the north. Both woodlands are mixed deciduous broadleaved with occasional coniferous planting. Species include; Ash, Birch, Beech and Hawthorn. Evidence of a coppicing regime can be seen in Wellow Wood.

A number of Biological SINCs exist:

- 5/314 – West Field Grasslands ‘A species-rich ‘syke’ grassland’.
- 1/74 – Laxton West Field sykes ‘Species-rich grassland strips and farm tracks adjoining West Field – of botanical, zoological and historical significance’.
- 2/612 – Norton Wood ‘A locally typical deciduous woodland with an open canopy’.
- 1/59 – Wellow Wood ‘An extensive area of semi-natural woodland with important animal and plant communities’.

Main threats in the area include:

- Loss of the historic open field system;

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

- Intensification of arable farming leading to fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows resulting in loss of field pattern;
- Residential and/or agricultural development within or to periphery of Laxton

MN PZ 18 Laxton Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 18
Landscape Character Parcel: MN40



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Rolling, undulating topography.
- Numerous historic elements throughout area including remains of Laxton and Jordan Castles.
- Part of the historic village of Laxton.
- Open field farming system – only place in England where this is still practised.
- Conservation and Mature Landscape Area.
- Large part of deciduous Wellow Wood.
- Intensive arable and low intensity pastoral farming in medium scale fields.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements composed of some woodland, arable fields and part of the village of Laxton; there are **few** detracting features with a mast near the covered reservoir. Overall this gives a visually **strongly unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (5/314 – West Field grasslands, 1/74 – Laxton West Field sykes, 2/612 – Norton Wood and 1/59 – Wellow Wood). In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with large sections of woodland and arable fields with good hedgerow networks leading into the woodland.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact with some mature species-rich hedgerows with outgrown hedgerow tree species. A visually **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Functional Integrity: **Very Strong**

(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Very High

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **very high**.

The components of the landscape are **unique / rare** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **strong** sense of place overall.

Distinctiveness: Unique / Rare
Continuity: Historic
Sense of Place: Strong
Landform: Dominant
Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent
Visibility: High

The landform is **dominant** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **high** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the presence of Wellow Wood and a good network of hedgerows, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A **strong** sense of place and **high** visibility leads to a **very high** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- Maintain any existing historic field patterns – historic open field system around Laxton.
- **Conserve** features and setting of open field farming system as a medieval system still evident in present landscape.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous woodland through consistent management.
- Maintain coppicing regime within Wellow Woods.
- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).

Built Features

- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 19: Moorhouse
Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve**

A gently undulating area with some flatter areas to the east. Topography tends to lead down towards Moorhouse Beck, which is the defining feature of the area.

Views reflect this topography, with outlooks tending to be somewhat enclosed by the surrounding higher ground, hence some views to the periphery of the area (looking from the higher ground) are medium distance. Views can be interrupted to some extent to the east of the site by pylons and power lines running east to west, and by the distant sight of Cottam Power station to the east.¹

Vegetation is predominantly riparian (Alder, Willow, Oak, Field Maple, Poplar, Tilia, Ash and some Elm) associated with Moorhouse Beck and its various tributaries. There are also some small pockets of oak and ash dominated mixed deciduous woodland throughout the area. Areas of flood meadow and permanent pasture run alongside the water courses and a number of these have Biological SINCS designations:

- 1/75 – Laxton South field Sykes ‘Species-rich grassland strips and farm tracks adjoining South Field – of botanical and historical significance.’
- 2/615 – Laxton Mill Field Sykes ‘Extremely herb-rich grassland strips around the Mill Field, of historical and botanical importance.’

Intensive arable fields are also present throughout the area, along with some pastoral fields in the vicinity of the only settlement in the area - Moorhouse. Some horseculture is evident in vicinity of Moorhouse.

Fields tend to be irregular and geometric in shape. Mature, well maintained hedgerows tend to form the boundaries to the fields. Hedgerows along tracks and lanes are generally species-rich (Oak, Ash, Hawthorn and Elder). These hedgerows form excellent networks throughout the area, and connect into small blocks of woodland and linear sections of riparian vegetation. Some field boundaries are occasionally composed of post & wire, post & rail and temporary electric fencing when land use (horseculture) dictates.

Transport networks throughout the area are predominantly windy, narrow, hedgeline lines and tracks, however, there is a small section of the busy A1 included, and this forms the north-eastern boundary.

Drivers of change in the area include:

- Spread of horseculture leading to the general degradation of the area through temporary structures such as shelters, electric fencing, post & wire and post & rail fencing.
- Changes in farming practices i.e intensification of arable agriculture / transition from pastoral to arable.
- Residential or Agricultural development around the periphery of Moorhouse.

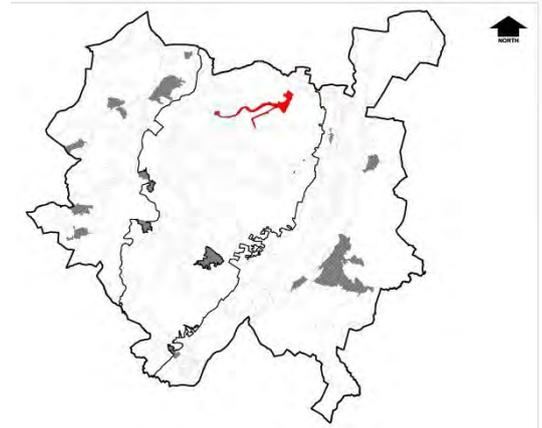
MN PZ 19 Moorhouse Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 19
Landscape Character Parcel: MN40



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Rolling, undulating topography.
- Mature Landscape Area.
- Long linear sections of riparian habitat.
- Intensive arable and low intensity pastoral farming in medium scale fields.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements composed of some riparian vegetation, permanent pasture, arable fields and part of the village of Moorhouse; there are **few** detracting features including pylons and power lines. Overall this gives a visually **strongly unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (1/75 – Laxton South Field Sykes, 2/615 – Laxton Mill Field Sykes).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with large sections of riparian vegetation and arable fields with good hedgerow networks leading into the woodland. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact with some mature species-rich hedgerows with outgrown hedgerow tree species. A visually **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity High																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as high.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is dominant with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally high visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the riparian vegetation and a good network of hedgerows, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A moderate sense of place and high visibility leads to a high landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Dominant</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: High</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain any existing historic field patterns. • Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous riparian woodland / vegetation through consistent management. • Conserve hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). • Conserve the sparsely settled and open rural character of the Policy Zone by concentrating new development of appropriate design and scale around the existing settlement of Moorhouse. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments around Moorhouse. • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 20: Ossington Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

A large area encompassing numerous varied landscape uses. Arable farming is the principal land use, with some pastoral farming, small industry and some commercial land use evident. Landform is gently undulating and rounded, resulting in views being medium to long distance throughout most of the area, with frequent wooded skylines. Vegetation within the area (woodlands and hedgerows) often encloses the views, especially along fields and tracks.

Three settlements are present – Weston, most of Ossington, and part of Sutton on Trent. These towns differ to a large extent, with Ossington composed predominantly of characteristic, vernacular buildings, Weston having an historic core with vernacular buildings, and more recent buildings to the periphery with some infill, and Sutton on Trent being composed mainly of more recent developments.

A number of vernacular, isolated farmhouses with associated agricultural buildings are scattered throughout the area.

Associated with the vernacular nature of the settlements, there are a number of Listed Buildings designated throughout the area including the Grade 1 Church of the Holy Rood and, Church of All Saints.

There are a number of linear features which bisect the area, including pylons and power lines, the A1 and a railway. Most of these elements lie to the east, towards the more industrial area east of the A1.

There are, however, numerous areas of semi-natural habitat throughout the Policy Zone, with numerous small scale blocks of mixed deciduous woodland (including species such as Ash, Ilex, Birch, Sweet Chestnut, Elm, Hawthorn and Oak). There are also areas of mixed deciduous and coniferous plantations (Speakers Plantation, Lake Plantation, Pamela Plantation, Wednal Plantation and Commonsides Plantation).

A number of Biological SINCs are present in the area:

- 2/606 – North Wood ‘A rather disturbed but notable mature deciduous woodland’
- 2/614 – Lake Plantation ‘A mature broadleaved plantation around Ossington Lake’
- 2/600 – Carlton Wood ‘A mature, mainly deciduous plantation on an historical woodland site’

Various other vegetation exists throughout the area – mature ornamental planting (around Ossington specifically) with excellent trees, open water and a stream running north-south at Ossington, with associated riparian vegetation. The condition of the landscape is excellent towards the west (around Ossington), with good woodlands and hedgerows etc. This gradually declines to some extent towards the east as the area near Sutton on Trent is more arable in nature and not as conducive for wildlife, although blocks of woodland still exist that provides good ecological bases.

Significant contributing factors to the value of the habitat for wildlife are the presence of hedgerows. Most of the boundaries to fields and tracks/roads are composed predominantly of well-maintained mature Hawthorn hedgerows. Some fencing (post & rail and post & wire) is evident around the settlements of Weston, Sutton on Trent and Ossington.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

Threats to the area include:

- Reduction of woodland due to land use changes;
- Reduction in quality of woodland due to lack of management;
- Further development of settlements;
- Increase of Industrial land use (adjacent to A1)

MN PZ 20 Ossington Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 20
Landscape Character Parcel: MN42



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Undulating, rolling topography.
- Strong intact landscape of woods and riparian vegetation around Ossington
- Some areas of open water and streams with associated riparian vegetation
- Intensive arable and some low intensity pastoral farming in medium to large scale fields
- Numerous blocks of deciduous woodland
- Some linear features bisect the area (mainly the east) such as pylons and pylon lines, the A1 and a Railway

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of some blocks of woodland, arable fields and the settlement of Ossington; there are **few** detracting features including pylons and power lines, part of the A1, a railway, some commercial and industrial buildings and a small scrapyard. Overall this gives a **visually unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/606 – North Wood, 2/614 – Lake Plantation, 2/600 – Carlton Wood).

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with numerous blocks of woodland, some sections of riparian

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

<p>vegetation and arable fields with good hedgerow networks leading into the woodland. Cultural integrity is variable in that the field pattern is sometimes intact with some mature species-rich hedgerows with outgrown hedgerow tree species, whilst field patterns can sometimes be lost and hedgerows fragmented. A visually unified area with a coherent functional integrity gives a good landscape condition.</p>	<p>Functional Integrity: Coherent</p>												
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate												
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is apparent with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally moderate visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the blocks of woodland and a good network of hedgerows, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A moderate sense of place and moderate visibility leads to a moderate landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>												
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce													
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain any existing historic field patterns. Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous woodland through consistent management. Conserve and maintain hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). Infill hedgerows where necessary. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments around Moorhouse. Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"> Low Moderate High </p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE										
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE										
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE										

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 21: Norwell Woodhouse
Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve**

This gently undulating landscape is predominantly of an arable nature. Most of the fields are medium scale and irregular geometric, although there are some large and small fields. Some of the smaller scale fields surrounding the settlements of Norwell, Norwell Woodhouse and Ossington are pastoral and feature some horsiculture and post & rail and post & wire fencing.

The majority of the boundaries associated with the arable fields are composed of well maintained, mature, species-rich hedgerows (Hawthorn, Oak, Rubus, Field Maple, Ilex, Rosehip etc). Aside from a couple of large scale fields with hedgerows exhibiting some deterioration and fragmentation, they are generally all in excellent condition. These hedgerows form a good network throughout the area, connecting into the numerous blocks of woodland (predominantly Oak, Sycamore, Ash, Birch and some Willow species) that exist – High Wood, Broadwaters Wood, Carlton Woods and Victoria Plantation.

The views from the roads and tracks are therefore quite enclosed; however, many of the views (topography allowing) are medium to long distance with frequently wooded skylines. These are intermittently interrupted by pylons and power lines (specifically one running through the area north-south) and include views towards Newark, Beet Factory, power stations and the Trent Valley.

The settlements within the area are all present only in part. They all tend to be of a strongly vernacular nature, and aside from some agricultural buildings made of more modern materials and design, there are few exceptions to the vernacular nature of the area.

There has been little development in the area aside from that associated with agriculture – Chicken Sheds.

There are a number of Listed Buildings throughout the area as well as Scheduled ancient monuments and ridge and furrow present

There are numerous ecological bases which have Biological SINC designation. These include:

- 2/600 – Carlton Wood ‘A mature, mainly deciduous plantation on an historical woodland site’;
- 2/603 – Broadwaters Wood ‘A characteristic and still mostly deciduous Mercia Mudstone Wood’;
- 2/796 – Highland Lane Verges ‘A notable grassland community on the verges of a farm lane’;
- 2/793 – Spring Farm Pond, Ossington ‘A pond with aquatic, marginal, scrub and woodland communities’;
- 5/658 – Ossington Airfield ‘Arable-land with weed flora including a rare species’;
- 2/602 – High Wood, Laxton ‘An old woodland site containing a notable remnant ground flora’;
- 2/794 – Ossington Green Lane ‘A notable grassland community along a green lane’;
- 2/609 – Laxton Wood Roadside Verge ‘An interesting verge with an unusual mixture of woodland and grassland herbs’;
- 5/1145 – Kneesall Dumble ‘a section of wooded dumble of botanical note’;

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- 2/610 – Kneesall Green Verge ‘A herb-rich grassland community on a damp roadside verge’;
- 5/1219 – Mainwood Farm arable ‘A field supporting a notable and scarce arable weed’

Areas under threat and drivers for change in the Policy Zone include;

- Reduction of woodland due to land use changes;
- More chicken sheds;
- Further intensification of arable land use leading to loss of hedgerows

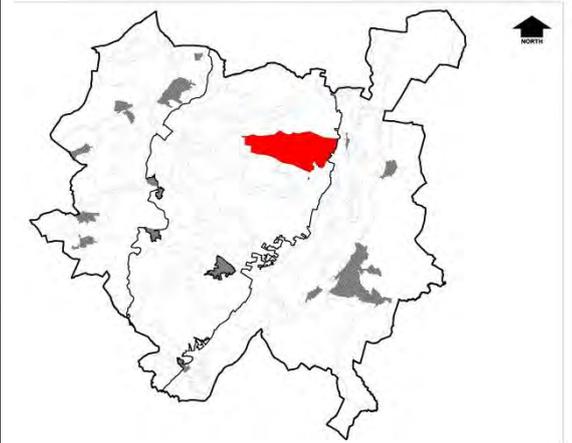
MN PZ 21 Norwell Woodhouse Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 21
Landscape Character Parcel: MN48



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Undulating, rolling topography.
- Predominantly intensive arable land use, with some pastoral and horse culture,
- Settlements of Norwell, Norwell Woodhouse and Ossington – generally all vernacular and historic
- Frequent blocks of broadleaved woodland of varying sizes
- Boundaries predominantly mature species-rich hedgerows, some are occasionally fragmented in places
- Views tend to be medium to long distance with frequently wooded skylines

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of some blocks of woodland, arable fields and parts of the settlements of Norwell Woodhouse, Norwell and Ossington; there are **few** detracting features including pylons and power lines, and some chicken farms. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINCS designations (2/600 – Carlton Wood; 2/603 – Broadwaters Wood; 2/796 – Highland Lane Verges; 2/793 – Spring Farm Pond; 5/658 – Ossington Airfield; 2/602 – High Wood, Laxton; 2/794 – Ossington Green Lane; 2/609 – Laxton Wood Roadside Verge; 5/1145 – Kneesall Dumble; 2/610 – Kneesall Green Verge; 5/1219 – Mainwood Farm Arable).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

numerous blocks of woodland, some sections of riparian vegetation and arable fields with good hedgerow networks leading into the woodland. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is mainly intact with some mature species-rich hedgerows with outgrown hedgerow tree species, whilst field patterns can sometimes be lost and hedgerows fragmented. A visually **unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the blocks of woodland and a good network of hedgerows, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- Maintain any existing historic field patterns and earthworks.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous woodland through consistent management.
- **Conserve** and enhance the setting of heritage assets.
- **Conserve** and maintain hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). Infill hedgerows where necessary.

Built Features

- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments around Ossington, Norwell and Norwell Woodhouse.
- Promote measures for **conserving** and reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings (such as chicken sheds).

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 22: Wellow Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

A gently undulating and rolling landscape with flatter areas to the south and to the east of the area. Land rises steadily towards the north-west from 60 – 85m, with Gallow Hole dyke forming part of the southern boundary in the west of the Policy Zone. Views tend to be medium range open views, contained to some extent by higher land to the north east, New Park wood to the east, Kneesall Wood to the west, and the settlements of Wellow, Ompton and Kneesall. Pylons bisecting the area north-south and east-west near Ompton and Wellow interrupt views to some extent in these directions.

There is some sense of enclosure along lanes and tracks due to strong, well trimmed hedgerows, for example, there is much enclosure by tree and hedgerow cover along minor road between Rufford and Wellow Lane. The area appears to be relatively well wooded, but this is more due to the presence of mature trees and hedgerows rather than woodlands. There are, however, a number of small blocks of woodland and an area of Kneesall Wood within the area.

There are a number of Biological SINC designations throughout the Policy Zone:

- 5/1004 – Kneesall Churchyard Grassland 'Noteworthy neutral grassland in a churchyard';
- 2/784 – Kneesall Wood 'A large area of mostly semi-natural broadleaved woodland'
- 5/313 – Wellow dam and grassland 'a mosaic of scrub and damp, species-rich grassland with notable species around a fishing pond'

A disused railway line with associated semi-natural scrub vegetation, species rich hedgerows and mature parkland trees provide a variety of habitats.

The area to the west of the Policy Zone is degraded to some extent due to the presence of Rufford Golf Course. This has resulted in a lack of hedgerows (therefore good networks), a lack of woodland and the presence of non-native planting. Rufford Abbey is a registered historic park and garden and there are several Listed Buildings throughout the area.

The presence of a nearby riding stables and associated horsey culture contributes to the degraded impact on the landscape.

The settlements within the area (Wellow, Ompton and Kneesall) are all predominantly historic and vernacular. Wellow is dominated by vernacular buildings and historic elements such as the Maypole in the village centre, Ompton and Kneesall present similar characteristics, along with numerous isolated vernacular farms throughout the area.

Drivers of change in the area include:

- Further loss of hedgerows due to intensification of arable agriculture;
- Increase in horsey culture;
- Further Industrial development in Rufford Parkland;
- Further residential development to periphery of settlements.

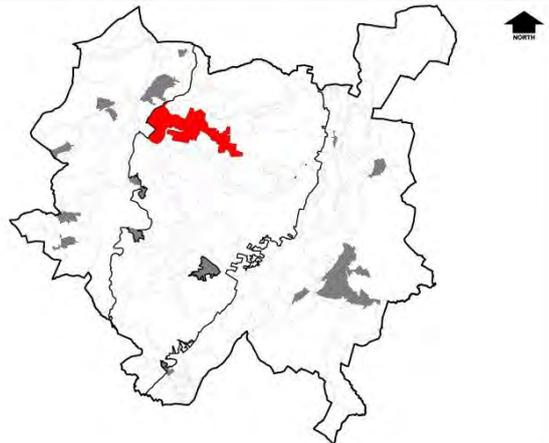
MN PZ 22 Wellow Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 22
Landscape Character Parcel: MN43, MN44, MN45



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating, rounded topography.
- Stream/Drains runs through Ompton (Gallow Hole Dyke) with associated vegetation.
- Predominantly arable farmland with occasional parkland trees.
- Some areas of regular geometric pastoral fields in the vicinity of Kneesall.
- Some small areas of mixed deciduous woodland within the field systems.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**. The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of some blocks of woodland, arable fields and parts of the settlements of Wellow, Ompton and Kneesall; there are **few** detracting features aside from pylons and power lines and a Golf Course. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (5/1004 – Kneesall Churchyard Grassland; 2/784 – Kneesall Wood; 5/313 – Wellow Dam and Grassland). In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with woodland, sections of riparian vegetation associated with drains and pond at Wellow Green and arable fields with good hedgerow networks leading into the woodland. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is mainly intact with some mature species-rich hedgerows, whilst field patterns can sometimes be lost and hedgerows fragmented. A visually **unified** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is apparent with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally moderate visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the blocks of woodland and a good network of hedgerows, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A moderate sense of place and moderate visibility leads to a moderate landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain any existing historic field patterns. • Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous woodland through consistent management. • Conserve and maintain hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). Infill hedgerows where necessary. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments around Wellow, Ompton and Kneesall. • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 23: Gallow Hole Dyke
Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve**

A gently undulating and rounded landform, with topography sloping down towards Gallow Hole Dyke. Views tend to be medium to long distance with intermittently wooded skylines from the higher areas of land. Views become more enclosed closer to the water course, where vegetation and topography limit them to some extent. The area is defined by the presence of Gallow Hole Dyke running through it. The vegetation and land use tends to reflect its presence in the area.

Much of the land running alongside the Dyke is used as pastoral fields, with permanent pasture in places. The remainder of the adjacent land is used as arable fields, with low hawthorn hedges used as boundaries. Post & wire fencing can be seen in the vicinity of the isolated farms / kennels near the area, of which there are a few.

There are no settlements in the Policy Zone, and very few buildings. Only a pumping station (of architectural note) and the periphery of North Laithes farm are present. As such, there is very little in the way of vernacular built form, however there is a great deal of characteristic vegetation.

Riparian vegetation follows the line of the Dyke and is very complex and mature resulting in a good ecological corridor. Species such as Willow, Oak, Elm, Hawthorn, Field Maple, Birch and Ash are present. Surprisingly though, there is no Biological SINCD designation for the area. Other vegetation found in the Policy Zone is associated with the disused railway bisecting the area – species-rich semi-natural scrub and primary vegetation provides good habitat.

As the area is relatively undisturbed, there are few detracting features. However, there are a few elements: a pumping station to the east of the area, and the close proximity to Rufford Golf course.

There are also very few roads or lanes which contributes to the undisturbed nature of the area, although Wellow road and Red Hill lane bisect the area, running north-south.

There are a number of threats to the area:

- Loss of hedgerows due to arable land use;
- Poor management and the subsequent fragmentation of historic hedgerows;
- Reduction of natural riparian vegetation due to land use changes.

MN PZ 23 Gallow Hole Dyke Meadowlands

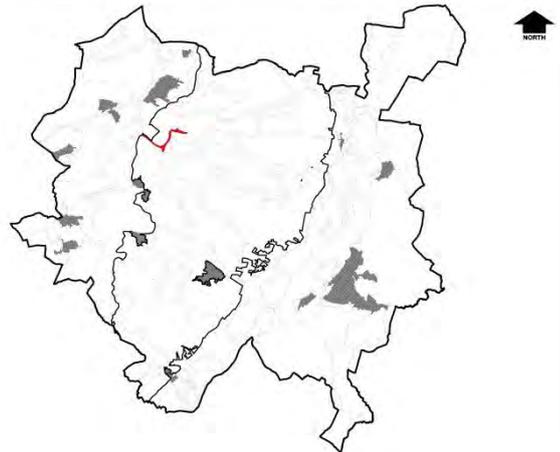
PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 23
Landscape Character Parcel: MN46

Condition



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating rounded topography
- Gallow Hole Dyke and its associated riparian vegetation defines the area
- Pastoral and arable fields lie in the land adjacent to the Dyke. Some permanent pasture also exists.
- Strong, well-trimmed Hawthorn hedgerows form the majority of field boundaries
- A pumping station is a feature of the area due to its unusual architecture

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of linear sections of riparian woodland, areas of open water and arable fields; there are **few** detracting features aside from pylons and power lines and pumping station. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are no Biological SINCS designations.

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with sections of riparian vegetation associated with the dyke and areas of open water, and arable fields with good hedgerow networks leading into the riparian woodland. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is mainly intact with some mature species-rich hedgerows. A visually **unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Strong

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Very Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

very good landscape condition.

(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity High

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **high**.

The components of the landscape are **unique / rare** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the mature and complex riparian vegetation, and the architectural feature of the pumping station. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **strong** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the linear sections of riparian woodland and a good network of hedgerows, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A **strong** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **high** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness:	Unique / Rare
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Strong
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- Maintain any existing historic field patterns.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous riparian woodland through consistent management.
- **Conserve** and maintain hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).

Built Features

- Limit any development in this area due to the likelihood of a high impact on the character of the Policy Zone.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High
Sensitivity			

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 24: Rufford Park Estate
Farmlands with Plantations
Policy: Create**

Predominantly flat plateau area contained by ridge to east and Rufford estate woodland to the north, by landform to the west and urban fringe to the south (some longer range views out of the area to the ridge northeast of Gallow Hole Dyke). Other areas further north are gently undulating upwards towards the south and to the west. Resulting views are generally medium range, terminated by landform, tree belts or treed ridgelines.

A highly variable area in terms of its cultural integrity and sense of place, a number of different land uses are apparent throughout the Policy Zone. Further to the north, agriculture dominates, with arable fields and chicken sheds apparent. Some scattered residential buildings are associated with the farming and stud farm. The history of the area has informed the field pattern due to the area previously being parkland. This has resulted in minimal field boundaries and a very open character, aside from the plantations that encompass the fields to the west and south.

Towards the south, it is also predominantly arable farmland with cattle and sheep grazing on restored mine areas. A business park development on the former colliery site. Deciduous woodland planting on reclaimed pit slopes. Some horsiculture on reclaimed areas. Sports pitches on fingers of Bilsthorpe. One farm on minor road to Eakring.

A number of Biological SINC designations exist in the area:

- 5/2161 – Bilsthorpe Colliery ‘An important site for breeding waders’;
- 2/671 – Cutt’s Wood ‘A mature deciduous compartment of semi-natural character’

There are no settlements in the area itself – Bilsthorpe forms the southern boundary to the Policy Zone and Eakring lies to the east. This may contribute to the lack of a sense of place in the area. There is one Listed Building in the area, Park Lodge .

Aside from this, all other buildings are industrial and/or agricultural, and some scattered residential buildings associated with farming or the stud farm.

Vegetation throughout the site includes some internal hedgerows that are generally well maintained and mature (although many are lost). Some very isolated hedgerow trees – mainly ash. Road hedges tend to be mature and well maintained – Hawthorn, Hazel, Elder, Rosa sp, Suckering Ash Trees (no large trees). There are also some linear tree lines present – possibly short rotation Christmas Tree crops, but they are not a significant feature. There is some deciduous planting on the disused pit – includes Willow, Poplar and Horse Chestnut. There is also some scrubby woodland in association with the dismantled railway line. Further towards the north, there is linear woodland along the ridge that forms the western edge of the boundary, and also runs from west to east along the centre of the Policy Zone. There are woods shown on the Sanderson Plan as being within Rufford Estate. There is also a small regular area of woodland in the north of the area along Gallow Hole Dyke. Parkland trees of Oak/Sycamore/Limes.

Woodlands generally contain Oak/Holly/Lime/Beech/Hawthorn/Birch/Pine. Tree belts include Lombardy Poplars and Poplars along Gallow Hole Dyke. All of the hedge lines are gone in this northern part of the Policy Zone.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

Threats to the area include:

- Further deterioration of remaining parkland character through loss of mature parkland trees and woodland;
- Poor management or removal of internal and roadside hedgerows. Lack of long term management of pit plantings;
- Potential increase in industry; proposed Wind Farm.

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

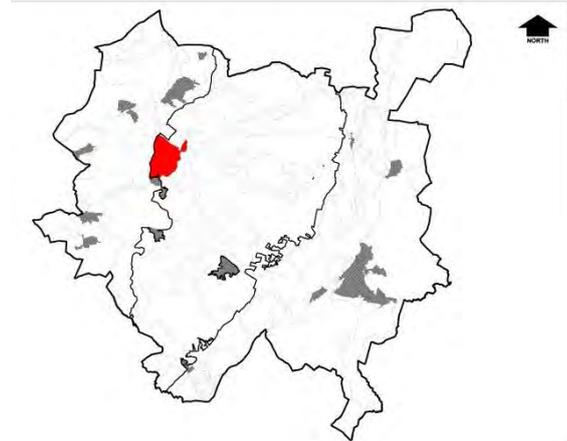
MN PZ 24 Rufford Park Estate Farmlands with Plantations

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Estate Farmlands with Plantations
Policy Zone: MN PZ 24
Landscape Character Parcel: MN47 & MN50



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating rounded topography
- Connecting belts of mixed woodland and plantations
- Highly intensive arable land
- Numerous agricultural buildings (chicken sheds etc.)
- Industrial units, sewage works, electricity substation.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **poor**.

The area has an **incoherent** pattern of elements composed Industrial estates, chicken sheds, woodland, disused workings and arable fields; there are **some** detracting features including pylons and power lines, chicken sheds, electricity substation, disused workings, sewage works and industrial units. Overall this gives a visually **interrupted** area. There are a couple of Biological SINC designations (5/2161 – Bilsthorpe Colliery and 2/671 – Cutt’s Wood).

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with areas of semi-natural scrub, woodland and hedgerows forming relatively good networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern intact or missing in places, with some mature hedgerows. A visually **interrupted** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **poor** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Poor
Pattern of Elements:	Incoherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Interrupted
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as very low.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are indistinct to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the variety of components that have no connection to the landscape. The time depth is recent (last 50 years) giving a very weak sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is apparent with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally moderate visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the numerous blocks and linear sections of woodland, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the PZ. A very weak sense of place and moderate visibility leads to a very low landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Very Low</p> <p>Distinctiveness: Indistinct</p> <p>Continuity: Recent</p> <p>Sense of Place: Very Weak</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p> <p>(Where one criterion is 'very poor' or 'very weak', this pushes the policy description into the next lowest category)</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Create																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain management of existing woodlands, plantations and pit planting. • Utilise existing industrial nature of site and create suitable agricultural/industrial developments. • Create new hedgerows and restore existing, seek opportunities to recreate historic field pattern where feasible. • Enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally, in particular, towards the north within Rufford Park and around the industrial estate to the south, to create increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new industrial economy within the area, such as creation of a wind farm (already proposed). 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESTORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESTORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 25: Maplebeck Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve**

A gently undulating and rounded landform, with relatively open, medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines at high points throughout the area. This is, however, dependent on topography and vegetation in places. Lanes and tracks are often sunken, hedgerows bounding roads and tracks tend to be mature, species-rich hedges, and topography in places often limits views to within the Policy Zone.

Land use is dominated by arable agriculture with predominantly medium scale irregular geometric field systems. There are also some smaller fields of pasture and grazing (some horseyculture), generally in the vicinity of the settlements within the area.

Hedgerows form the principle boundaries to the fields in the area and they all tend to be mature, well maintained and species-rich. Some post & rail and post & wire fencing is also present around the boundaries to the smaller scale pastoral and horseyculture fields.

The settlements of Maplebeck, Kersall, part of Eakring and part of Kneesall, all have historic cores and the majority of housing is historic, characteristic and vernacular. Some newer development can be seen to the peripheries and infill is evident in places. Numerous isolated vernacular farmhouses are scattered throughout the area. Several listed Buildings exist throughout the Policy Zone and Kneesall, Kersall, Maplebeck and Eakring all have conservation areas within their historic core.

Numerous blocks of mixed deciduous woodland (Parkhill Plantation, Hagley's Plantation, Hare Hill, Kneesall Gorse, Brickyard Plantation, Lound Wood)

Mixed woodland species include Oak, Ash, Hawthorn, Willow, Birch and Beech.

There are numerous Biological SINIC designations throughout the area:

- 5/546 – Lound Wood 'A plantation with relict ancient woodland flora and zoological interest'.
- 1/58 – Mansey Common 'An excellent herb-rich grassland with developing scrub'.
- 2/544 – Hagley's Plantation 'A mature broadleaved wood of some botanical value'
- 1/76 – Eakring Meadows 'An important sequence of wet meadows and scrub of considerable botanical and zoological interest'.
- 5/1000 – Eakring Road Verges, Kneesall 'A notable neutral grassland and a rich meadow'.
- 2/611 – Brickyard Plantation, Kneesall 'A mature deciduous plantation with a species-rich ground flora'.
- 2/601 – Hare Hill 'A valuable woodland site with herb-rich sides'.
- A number of Mature Landscape area designations also exist around Kersall and Eakring villages.

Drivers for change in the Policy Zone include:

- Fragmentation of the hedgerows leading to a loss of existing historic field pattern;
- Horseyculture infringing into fields;
- Development to periphery of settlements;

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

- Development of agricultural buildings associated with scattered farms throughout the area.

MN PZ 25 Maplebeck Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy Zone: MN PZ 25
Landscape Character Parcel: MN49



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating rounded topography
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines
- Numerous blocks of mixed deciduous woodland
- Predominantly medium scale arable field systems
- Settlements of Maplebeck, Kersall, part of Kneesall and part of Eakring
- Hedgerows generally strong and well-maintained with numerous outgrown hedgerow trees.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, blocks of woodland and vernacular settlements; there are **few** detracting features including one section of pylons and power lines and a small section of the A616. Overall this gives a visually **strongly unified** area. There are a few Biological SINC designations (5/546 – Lound Wood; 1/58 – Mansey Common; 2/544 – Hagley’s Plantation; 1/76 – Eakring Meadows; 5/1000 – Eakring Road Verges; 2/611 – Brickyard Plantation, Kneesall; 2/601 – Hare Hill).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with areas of semi-natural scrub, woodland and hedgerows forming good networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with some mature hedgerows. A visually **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very**

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

<p>good landscape condition.</p>																															
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity High																														
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as high.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the variety of components that have a connection to the landscape. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is dominant with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally high visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the numerous blocks and linear sections of woodland, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A moderate sense of place and high visibility leads to a high landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Distinctiveness:</td> <td>Characteristic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Continuity:</td> <td>Historic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sense of Place:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landform:</td> <td>Dominant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extent of Tree Cover</td> <td>Intermittent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visibility:</td> <td>High</td> </tr> </table> <p>(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)</p>	Distinctiveness:	Characteristic	Continuity:	Historic	Sense of Place:	Moderate	Landform:	Dominant	Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent	Visibility:	High																		
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Sense of Place:	Moderate																														
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Visibility:	High																														
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve																															
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain any existing historic field patterns. • Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous riparian woodland through consistent management. • Conserve and maintain hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the character by limiting development in this area due to the likelihood of a high impact on the character of the Policy Zone. • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles. • Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments around the conservation areas of Kneesall, Kersall, Maplebeck and Eakring. 	<p>Condition</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;">Good</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: none;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: none;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;">Moderate</td> <td style="border: none;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: none;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: none;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;">Poor</td> <td style="border: none;">CREATE</td> <td style="border: none;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: none;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;">Low</td> <td style="border: none;">Moderate</td> <td style="border: none;">High</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td colspan="3" style="border: none;">Sensitivity</td> </tr> </table>		Good						REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE		Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE		Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE			Low	Moderate	High			Sensitivity		
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**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 26: Eakring Brail Wood Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve**

A gently undulating rounded landform, resulting in medium to long distance views with frequent wooded skylines and some pylon lines in the distance. Views are, however, often enclosed due to both topography and mature, species-rich hedgerows bounding lanes and tracks throughout the area. Numerous woodland blocks contribute to an intermittent sense of enclosure.

Much of the land use in the area is dedicated to intensive arable farming on irregular geometric field patterns. There are some areas of pastoral and grazing fields. These tend to be in small, irregular geometric fields in the vicinity of Eakring and Kirklington and around isolated farms.

The majority of field boundaries are composed of well maintained, mature, Hawthorn hedgerows, although they are fragmented in a few places. Around the fields dedicated to pastoral and horsey cultural uses, post & rail, post & wire and temporary electric fencing is sometimes used.

Although Eakring and Kirklington lie adjacent to the Policy Zone, only a small peripheral section of Eakring and isolated farmhouses are present within the area itself. Although Eakring is a conservation area, no Listed Buildings exist within the area.

Numerous blocks of fragmented mixed deciduous woodland (Eakring Brail Wood, Redgate Wood, Fox Holes, Hunger Hills, Long Spring Wood, Summer House Plantation, Broadclose Wood, Crowhill Wood, The Rookery). Species tend to include Oak, Ash, Beech, Hawthorn, Acer, Willow and some coniferous species.

There are numerous Ecological bases with Biological SINC designations:

- 5/2213 – Eakring North Meadow ‘A meadow of importance for moths’
- 5/310 – Mill Hill Green Lane ‘A species-rich green lane’
- 2/547 – Eakring Brail Wood ‘An old woodland site retaining considerable interest in spite of large scale replanting’
- 1/55 – Redgate Woods ‘A substantial area of deciduous woodland with a diverse character and a notable flora’
- 2/522 – Crowhill Wood and Summerhouse Plantation ‘A large area of secondary scarp woodland’
- 5/373 – Kirklington Scarp Grassland ‘Steep neutral grassland communities’

There are a number of drivers for change in this Policy Zone. They include:

- Reduction of woodland due to land use changes;
- Poor management and fragmentation of historic hedgerows;
- Loss of hedgerows due to intensification of arable agriculture;
- Horseculture infringing on surrounding fields.

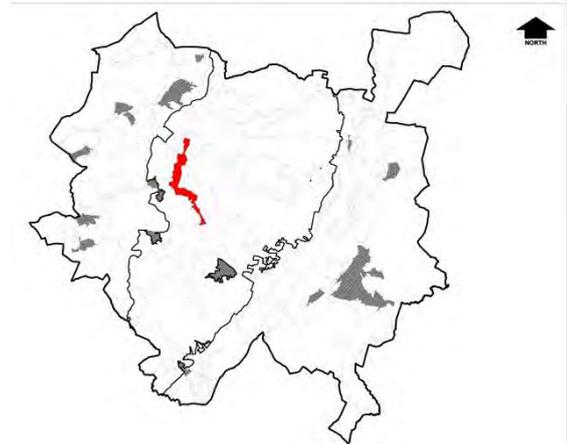
MN PZ 26 Eakring Brail Wood Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy Zone: MN PZ 26
Landscape Character Parcel: MN51



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines.
- Numerous blocks of mixed deciduous woodland.
- Predominantly medium scale arable field systems.
- Part of settlement of Eakring.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, blocks of woodland and vernacular settlements; there are **few** detracting features including one section of pylons and power lines and a small section of the A616. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a few Biological SINC designations (5/2213 – Eakring North Meadow; 5/310 – Mill Hill Green Lane; 2/547 – Eakring Brail Wood; 1/55 – Redgate Woods; 2/522 – Crowhill Wood and Summerhouse Plantation; 5/373 – Kirklington Scarp Grassland).

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with areas of semi-natural scrub, woodland and hedgerows forming good networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with some mature hedgerows. A visually **unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

<p>condition.</p>																	
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic of the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the variety of components that have a connection to the landscape. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is apparent with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally moderate visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often enclosed due to the numerous blocks and linear sections of woodland, but longer distance views are apparent around the edges of the Policy Zone. A moderate sense of place and moderate visibility leads to a moderate landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Distinctiveness:</td> <td style="width: 35%;">Characteristic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Continuity:</td> <td>Historic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sense of Place:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landform:</td> <td>Apparent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extent of Tree Cover</td> <td>Intermittent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visibility:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> </table>	Distinctiveness:	Characteristic	Continuity:	Historic	Sense of Place:	Moderate	Landform:	Apparent	Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent	Visibility:	Moderate				
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LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain any existing historic field patterns. Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous riparian woodland through consistent management. Conserve and maintain hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit any development in this area due to the likelihood of a high impact on the character of the Policy Zone. Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing buildings using vernacular building styles. Conserve the local character by maintaining use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments around the conservation area of Eakring. 	<p>Condition</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 27: Kirklington Village
Farmlands
Policy: Create**

A rolling and undulating landform with dry valleys. Camp hill forms the highest point to the east. Some flatter areas with present to the south near Upper Hexgreave. This results in views often being medium to long distance; however, they can also be enclosed in places due to topography and hedgerows lining the roads and tracks within the area.

With the settlement of Bilsthorpe in the north west of the area, and the periphery of Kirklington included in the Policy Zone, the remainder of the area is composed of industrial units, isolated farmhouses and agricultural buildings such as chicken sheds. These buildings and settlements vary in character and age greatly, with Kirklington being generally vernacular and Bilsthorpe being mostly modern residential housing. The remainder of the buildings are made up of a mixture of modern and historic. Belle Eau Industrial estate is a feature within the area and in scale and materials, is not vernacular.

The land use is predominantly arable agriculture and the field sizes tend to reflect this, with medium to large scale intensive arable irregular geometric field patterns. Boundaries to these fields are generally hawthorn hedgerows, of varying conditions; some being well maintained, others fragmented or lost. A few fields are smaller and used for pasture. Boundaries to these fields are often post & wire or post & rail fencing.

The disused mineral workings in the north-west of the site introduce some semi-natural vegetation to the area, with scrub and deciduous woodland. Another semi-natural area is the area of open water near Kirklington and the stream that supplies it. This is lined with riparian vegetation such as Willow, Ash and Elm.

Fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland exist within field systems and surrounding Kirklington. They include species such as Oak, Ash, Hawthorn, Beech, Birch and Sycamore.

A number of ecological bases can be found throughout the Policy Zone, such as:

- Southwell Trail Nature Reserve (to west of area);
- New woodlands associated with disused workings;
- Riparian vegetation around open water at Kirklington;
- Kirklington Hall School parkland and parkland trees;
- Hedgerows and field margins provide a relatively good network.

There are a couple of Biological SINC designations around the area:

- 5/2161 – Bilsthorpe Colliery ‘An important site for breeding waders’
- 2/541 – Farnsfield Disused Railway ‘a sizeable linear habitat of dry grassland and scrub’

There are a number of drivers for change in the area. These include:

- Further urban development sprawl (especially from Bilsthorpe);
- Further industrial development or intensification of existing industry;
- Reduction of existing woodland due to land use changes or lack of management;

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

- Fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows due to intensification of arable agriculture and/or poor management.

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

MN PZ 27 Kirklington Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 27
Landscape Character Parcel: MN52



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating rounded topography, with some flat areas.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines.
- Numerous small linear blocks of mixed deciduous woodland.
- Predominantly medium scale arable field systems.
- Part of settlement of Eakring.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very poor**.

The area has an **incoherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, industrial buildings, busy roads, agricultural buildings, chicken sheds, and caravan sites; there are **many** detracting features including a section of the A614, Scrap yard and recycling area, caravan park, poultry houses, disused coal workings and industrial units. Overall this gives a **significantly interrupted** area. There are a couple of Biological SINC designations (5/2161 – Bilsthorpe Colliery; 2/541 – Farnsfield Disused Railway).

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with areas of semi-natural scrub, woodland and hedgerows forming relatively good networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is often missing, with a mixture of hedgerows – some mature and some fragmented or missing. A **significantly interrupted** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **very poor** landscape

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Poor
Pattern of Elements:	Incoherent
Detracting Features:	Many
Visual Unity:	Significantly interrupted
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

(Where one

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

condition.

criteria is 'very poor' or 'very weak', this pushes the policy description into the next lowest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **indistinct** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the lack of components that have a connection to the landscape. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **open** areas of woodland giving a generally **high** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent and often open due to very low of missing hedgerows and some areas of flat topography. A **weak** sense of place and **high** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness:	Indistinct
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Weak
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Open
Visibility:	High

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Create

Landscape Features

- **Create** new hedgerows and restore existing, seek opportunities to recreate historic field pattern where feasible, contain new development within historic boundaries.
- Maintain management of existing woodlands, plantations and pit planting, whilst enhancing tree cover and planting generally to **create** increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone.
- Utilise existing industrial nature of site and **create** suitable agricultural/industrial developments.

Built Features

- **Create** new industrial economy within the area.
- **Create** new areas of planting in order to minimise impact of industry on character of Policy Zone.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 28: Caunton Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

A rolling and undulating topography, the views within the Policy Zone tend to be medium to long distance, enclosed in places by surrounding woodland and hedgerows. The presence of a pylon lines running from north to south in the east of the area interrupts the views in this area.

A landscape dedicated predominantly to intensive arable land use, generally in medium scale irregular geometric field patterns. There are, however, some areas of pastoral fields, tending to be smaller in scale, with irregular geometric field patterns. A little horseyculture is evident in the vicinity of settlements and individual farms, and associated field boundaries can be seen (temporary electric fencing, post & rail fencing). The majority of field boundaries are composed of well maintained hawthorn hedgerows, with some being patchy and fragmented in places and relatively low. Those along track sides are, however, generally species-rich, mature and with some outgrown hedgerow tree species such as Oak and Ash. Along with the hedgerows, trees also exist within a number of blocks of mixed deciduous (occasional coniferous planting) woodland. Species include; Oak, Ash, Birch, Beech, Sycamore, Hawthorn, Field Maple and Conifers.

There are a number of Ecological Bases:

Hedgerows and field margins, connecting into isolated patches of deciduous woodland form good networks;

Some riparian vegetation exists along drains and ditches.

There are numerous areas with Biological SINC designation:

- 2/998 – Beesthorpe Plantation ‘A small area of semi-natural deciduous woodland with a notable ground flora’
- 2/604 – Brunk Wood ‘A primary woodland site with a typically diverse flora’
- 5/387 – Brunk Wood Grasslands ‘An unimproved neutral grassland in a series of fields of varying degrees of improvement’
- 2/605 – Park Wood ‘An old coppice woodland with notable species’

Mature Landscape Area designations are present throughout the area, including; Norwell Woodhouse, Caunton, west of Norwell and Brunk Wood.

Settlements in the Policy Zone include the north side of Caunton (Conservation Area), the south side of Norwell Woodhouse, and individual isolated farms which are generally vernacular although some variety in age can be seen. No Listed Buildings are allocated in the area. Some infill development is apparent in Caunton; however the development tends to respect the local vernacular style. There are occasionally some modern buildings throughout the area, tending to be associated with agriculture. The presence of Beesthorpe Hall adds interest to the locale.

Drivers for change in the Policy Zone include:

- Intensification of arable agriculture leading to further fragmentation of hedgerows and subsequent loss of field pattern.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- Horsey culture infringing into fields.
- Further residential development of the settlements.

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

MN PZ 28 Cauntton Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodland

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 28
Landscape Character Parcel: MN53



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating rounded topography, with some flat areas.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines.
- Intensive arable fields with generally strongly trimmed hedges.
- Occasional blocks of mixed deciduous woodland.
- Busy A616 runs through the area NW – SE.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, blocks of woodland and isolated farmhouses; there are **few** detracting features including a section of the A616 and a pylon line. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a few Biological SINC designations (2/998 – Beesthorpe Plantation; 2/604 – Brunk Wood; 5/387 – Brunk Wood Grasslands; 2/605 – Park Wood).

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with areas of semi-natural scrub, woodland and hedgerows forming relatively good networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is often missing, with a mixture of hedgerows – some mature and some fragmented or missing. A **unified** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity	Moderate																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the number of components that have a connection to the landscape. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is apparent with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally moderate visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A moderate sense of place and moderate visibility leads to a moderate landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness:</p> <p>Continuity:</p> <p>Sense of Place:</p> <p>Landform:</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover</p> <p>Visibility:</p>	<p>Characteristic</p> <p>Historic</p> <p>Moderate</p> <p>Apparent</p> <p>Intermittent</p> <p>Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce																		
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce fragmented hedgerows through re-planting and infill. • Maintain existing historic field patterns. • Conserve and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous blocks of woodland. • Conserve hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming). • Conserve historic field pattern by containing any new development within historic enclosed boundaries, restoring hedgerow boundaries where necessary. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to within the settlements of Caunton. • Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments. • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center; background-color: #d3d3d3;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>		Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 29: Caunton Meadowlands Policy: Conserve

A gently rolling and undulating landscape, with topography tending to lead towards 'The Beck', which runs through the area from west – east. The Beck has a large impact on the area as a whole due to the riparian vegetation that follows its path (Willow, Alder, Elm, Acer, Oak and Ash), and the pastures that exist alongside it with Willow scrub, alder and oak. Areas of open water are also evident due to the high levels of saturation in the soil in the vicinity of the stream (south of Kersall).

Land use adjacent to 'The Beck' tends to be dedicated to agriculture, both arable and pastoral. Fields tend to be small to medium scale and irregular geometric. Boundaries are predominantly formed by mature, well maintained, species-rich hedgerows, which regularly include outgrown hedgerow species. Hawthorn, Oak, Ash, Rubus, Convolvulus, Elder, Field Maple and Ilex can all be found. Some fencing (post & wire and post & rail) is present, generally forming the boundaries to smaller fields surrounding settlements, and often in conjunction with hedgerows. Some fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland, with occasional coniferous species exist throughout the area. Species generally include Oak, Ash, Sycamore, Beech, Birch, Hawthorn and Acer.

The settlements of Caunton and Norwell occupy a proportion of the Policy Zone, and are highly vernacular in nature. Some ornamental planting exists in the vicinity of housing, especially associated with Caunton Manor House. Views tend to be medium distance towards frequently wooded skylines, but are often enclosed due to the aforementioned topography, hedgerows and riparian vegetation. Views are bisected intermittently by the presence of a pylon line and pylons running north-south through the area.

Numerous Listed buildings throughout the Policy Zone and a Scheduled ancient monument at Norwell. Caunton, Norwell, Maplebeck and Kersall have Conservation Areas at the centre.

Biological SINCs:

- 2/604 – Brunk Wood 'A primary woodland site with a typically diverse flora'
- 5/387 – Brunk Wood Grasslands 'An unimproved neutral grassland in a series of fields of varying degrees of improvement'
- 2/605 – Park Wood 'An old coppice woodland with notable species'
- 2/795 – Park Wood Meadow 'A rather coarse but species-rich hay meadow'
- 5/2257 – The Beck, Norwell 'A stream of interest for Water Beetles and Water Bugs'
- 2/798 – Norwell Meadows 'Species-rich hay meadow'
- 1/76 – Eakring Meadow 'An important sequence of wet meadows and scrub of considerable botanical interest'
- 2/786 – Elm Farm Meadow 'A species-rich damp meadow'
- 5/657 – Kersall Grassland 'A damp grassland with characteristic species'
- 5/1015 – Wood Lane Grassland 'A notable neutral grassland with a valuable scrub community'
- 5/1000 – Eakring Road Verges, Kneesall 'A notable neutral grassland and a rich hedgerow'

'The main threats to the Policy Zone include:

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- Increased intensity of agriculture leading to fragmentation or loss of hedgerows resulting in loss of existing field pattern.
- Horsey culture infringing into fields.
- A616 runs through centre of area and associated development may impact significantly on the area.

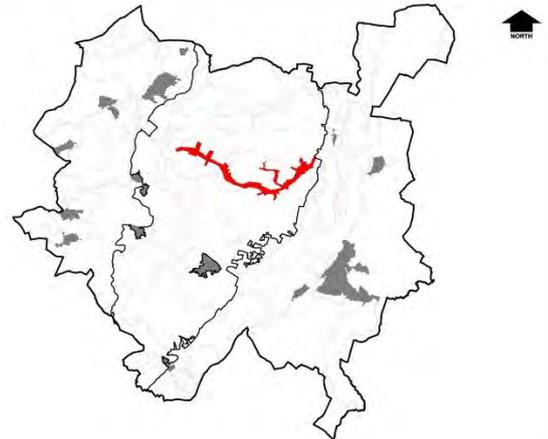
MN PZ 29 Caunton Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 29
Landscape Character Parcel: MN54 & MN55



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography, tending to slope towards 'The Beck'.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation following the line of 'The Beck'.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, permanent pasture, linear sections of riparian vegetation and parts of the settlements of Caunton and Norwell; there are **few** detracting features including the A616, a small section of pylon line and some horseyculture. Overall this gives a visually **strongly unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/604 – Brunk Wood; 5/387 – Brunk Wood Grasslands; 2/605 – Park Wood; 2/795 – Park Wood Meadow; 5/2257 – The Beck (Norwell); 2/798 – Norwell Meadows; 1/76 – Eakring Meadow; 1/76 – Eakring Meadow; 2/786 – Elm Farm Meadow; 5/657 – Kersall Grassland; 5/1015 – Wood Lane Grassland; 5/1000 – Eakring Road Verges).

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with areas of riparian vegetation and hedgerows forming relatively good networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature and intact. A **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity High

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **high**.

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Dominant
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	High

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the number of components that have a connection to the landscape. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **dominant** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **high** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **high** visibility leads to a **high** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- Maintain existing historic field patterns.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity of linear sections of riparian vegetation.
- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to within the settlements of Caunton and Norwell.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 30: Knapthorpe Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy: Conserve**

An area of undulating and rolling topography, the views tend to be medium to long distance, aside from where vegetation and topography limits them. With the exception of some pastoral land use, the majority of land use is dedicated to intensive arable agriculture. The field patterns are generally of irregular geometric pattern and tend to be bounded by hawthorn hedgerows. These are by and large well maintained, although some are fragmented in places, especially along the boundaries of larger fields.

The field patterns towards the settlements of Bathley, Knapthorpe and Averham become smaller, more regular and of a more pastoral nature. Most of the boundaries here are species-rich historic hedgerows, however, there are numerous instances where post & rail and post & wire fencing has been used, especially in conjunction with pastoral and horseycultural fields. Some horseyculture exists to the south of the area due to the Equestrian Centre at Averham Park Farm.

Along with some linear sections of woodland along field boundaries, there are many fragments of mixed deciduous woodland throughout the area. These include; Duke's Wood, Mather Wood, Lady Wood, Readyfield Wood, John's Plantation, Newbottles Plantation, Doncaster's Plantation, Cold Harbour Plantation, Warner Wood, Arnolds Wood, Fox Covert, Roe Wood, Cheveral Wood, Spring Wood, Kelham Hills, Dumble Plantation, Coppice Wood, Park Spring Wood and Muskham Wood.

Some other types of vegetation exist in the area, such as riparian vegetation along the path of numerous small streams and drains that run through the area. There are various Biological SINC designations:

- 1/71 – Coppice, Mather and Lady Woods 'A rich and varied deciduous woodland on damp clay soils – of botanical and zoological interest'
- 2/589 – Muskham Wood 'A good woodland habitat'
- 2/591 – Park Spring's Wood 'A woodland that retains considerable botanical and zoological interest, especially along its sides'
- 2/596 – Worner Wood 'A mature deciduous woodland with a characteristic species composition'
- 5/2257 – The Beck, Norwell 'A stream of interest for Water Beetles and Water Bugs'
- 1/89 – Roe Wood 'A fine example of the central Nottinghamshire woodland series with a very rich woodland flora and fauna'
- 2/595 – Cheveral Wood 'A sizeable mature deciduous woodland'

MN PZ 30 Knapthorpe Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodland

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy Zone: MN PZ 30
Landscape Character Parcel: MN56, MN57, MN59



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Numerous blocks of mixed deciduous woodland.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, permanent pasture, blocks of deciduous woodland and the vernacular settlements of Knapthorpe, Winkburn and part of Bathley; there are **few** detracting features including the A616 & A617, pylon lines and pylons, poultry sheds and some horseculture. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (1/71 – Coppice, Mather and Lady Woods; 2/589 – Muskham Wood; 2/591 – Park Spring’s Wood; 2/596 – Worner Wood; 5/2257 – The Beck, Norwell; 1/89 – Roe Wood; 2/595 – Cheveral Wood; 2/770 – Gorse Hill Lane; 2/590 – Spring Wood, Kelham; 2/855 – Kelham Hills; 5/185 – Choulers Gorse).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with areas of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows forming relatively

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

good networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature and intact, although there are exceptions, where field pattern has been lost and hedgerows are fragmented. A **unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the number of components that have a connection to the landscape. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

L:ANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- Maintain existing historic field patterns.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity of linear sections of riparian vegetation.
- **Conserve** existing deciduous blocks of woodland through careful management.
- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to within the settlements of Bathley, Knapthorpe, Averham and Winkburn..
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for **conserving** and reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 31: Eakring Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy: Conserve**

A rolling and undulating landscape used predominantly for arable land use in irregular geometric field patterns (also some organic field patterns). Occasional pastoral land use is also noted. Field scale varies, although the majority of the fields are medium to large scale. Boundaries tend to be well maintained, species-rich hawthorn hedgerows, specifically around Eakring.

Woodland is present throughout the area in fragmented blocks and occasional linear tracks along field boundaries. Species tend to be mixed deciduous with some coniferous planting, including; Oak, Ash, some Sycamore, Beech, Hawthorn and Acer.

Views are therefore interrupted to some extent by vegetation (both hedgerows and woodland). Views can be medium to long distance depending on topography, with views to the south including Cottam and Southwell Power Stations.

Part of the settlement of Eakring lies within the Policy Zone, and is generally vernacular in nature, aside from small amounts of modern infill development. Isolated farms are present throughout the area and also tend to be vernacular in nature. The National Grid building lies to the periphery of Eakring and is a relatively modern development, of architectural interest. Elsewhere in the area, there is evidence of the industrial heritage in the form of disused Bore Holes, particularly in Duke's wood. There is also an educational centre with reference to the Oil heritage within the wood.

There are a few listed buildings and Eakering has a conservation area.

Numerous disused bore holes in Duke Woods

There are a variety of ecological bases throughout the Policy Zone, including good field margins and hedgerow networks, blocks of deciduous woodland connecting into the hedgerows and a small amount of riparian vegetation following the lines of streams and drains. Along with Mature Landscape Area designations that exist around Redgate Wood and Winkburn Park, there are a number of biological SINC designations:

- 5/363 – Eakring Grassland 'An unimproved neutral grassland with scrub'
- 5/1011 – Mill Lane Grassland 'A horse paddock with a species-rich neutral grassland community'
- 2/739 – Mill Lane, Eakring 'A species-rich green lane'
- 5/310 – Mill Hill Green Lane 'A species-rich green lane'
- 2/547 – Eakring Brail Wood 'An old woodland site retaining considerable interest in spite of large scale replanting'
- 1/55 – Redgate Woods 'A substantial area of deciduous woodland with a diverse character and notable flora'
- 1/58 – Mansey Common 'An excellent herb-rich grassland with developing scrub'
- 2/550 – Dilner Wood 'An ancient woodland site of some note'
- 5/1151 – Whitestub Lane 'A green lane with a diverse woody flora'
- 5/190 – Broadclose Wood 'A deciduous woodland with characteristic species'
- 1/89 – Roe Wood 'A fine example of the central Nottinghamshire woodland series with a very rich woodland flora and fauna'

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- 5/189 – Hockerton Moor Wood ‘A small semi-natural deciduous woodland surrounded by arable’

Drivers for change in the Policy Zone include:

- Further intensification of agriculture leading to fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows resulting in loss of field pattern.
- Residential development to periphery of Eakring.
- Reduction of woodland due to land use changes.
- Poor management and fragmentation of historic hedgerows.

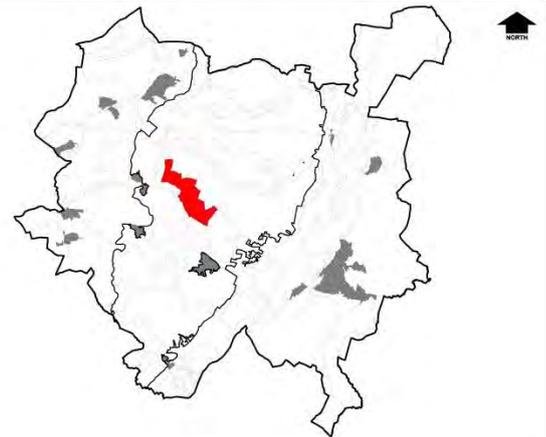
MN PZ 31 Eakring Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodland

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodland
Policy Zone: MN PZ 31
Landscape Character Parcel: MN58



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Numerous blocks of mixed deciduous woodland.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, permanent pasture, blocks of deciduous woodland and part of the vernacular settlement of Eakring; there are **few** detracting features including the A617, masts and the National Grid building, and poultry sheds. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (5/363 – Eakring Grassland; 5/1011 – Mill Lane Grassland; 2/739 – Mill Lane, Eakring; 2/547 – Eakring Brail Wood; 1/55 – Redgate Woods; 1/58 – Mansey Common; 2/550 – Dilner Wood; 5/1151 – Whitestub Lane; 5/190 – Broadclose Wood; 1/89 – Roe Wood; 5/189 – Hockerton Moor Wood).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with areas of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows forming relatively

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Strong

Cultural Integrity: Variable

Functional Integrity: Strong

(Where one

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

good networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature and intact, although there are exceptions, where field pattern has been lost and hedgerows are fragmented. A **unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the number of components that have a connection to the landscape. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** existing deciduous blocks of woodland through careful management.
- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to within the settlement of Eakring.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for **conserving** and reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 32: Upton Village
Farmlands
Policy: Conserve**

An area dominated by the historic and vernacular settlement of Upton, which lies on the A612 Nottingham-Newark road. Topography varies within the area, changing from very gently undulating in the north, to flat landform south of Upton. Views from Upton itself are medium to long distance towards the south and the Trent valley. Views within the village itself and along tracks are limited by ornamental vegetation and mature, species-rich hedgerows.

Field patterns surrounding the village are small, geometric and historic, and generally pastoral in nature. Fields further to the north of Upton tend to be medium scale, regular and irregular geometric, and of a more arable nature.

This distinction in land use is enhanced by the presence of leisure and agricultural buildings (Chicken Sheds and an Equestrian Centre) towards the north of the Policy Zone, degrading the area to some extent by the presence of associated infrastructure such as post and rail and post and wire fencing, and more intensively managed hawthorn hedgerows. Further to the south, surrounding the village of Upton, however, the historic field system and predominantly pastoral land use mean that hedgerows are in excellent condition, being well maintained, mature and species-rich. Allotments can also be found in the vicinity of the village. Associated with the hedgerows, many outgrown hedgerow tree species follow the line of the hedgerows.

There are few detracting features within the Policy Zone, although those that are present include the busy A617 road running east to west in the north of the area. Pylon lines also run from north-west to south-east, and a small scrap yard exists within Upton itself.

The settlement of Upton is historic and highly vernacular with numerous Listed Buildings set within a conservation area.

The historic Upton Hall is based in the village and is home to the British Horological Institute.

Vegetation within the village tends to reflect the historic and vernacular nature of the village, and all gardens are well maintained with mature ornamental planting (slightly over-mature within Upton Hall). There are no Biological SINC designations in the Policy Zone.

Main threats or drivers for change in the area include:

- Increased intensity of arable farming leading to fragmentation or loss of hedgerows, resulting in loss of field pattern;
- Increase in horseculture leading to infringement on existing field patterns and land use;
- Further agricultural development such as more poultry sheds;
- Poor management and fragmentation of historic hedgerows;
- Reduction in woodland (ornamental planting and outgrown hedgerow trees) due to land use changes or lack of management.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

MN PZ 32 Upton Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH	CONTEXT														
	<p>NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands Policy Zone: MN PZ 32 Landscape Character Parcel: MN60</p> 														
<p>CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gently undulating topography. Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc. Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture, within historic field systems. Some agricultural and leisure development (poultry sheds and Equestrian Centre). 	<p>SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS</p>														
<p>LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #e0ffe0;"> <th style="width: 60%;">Condition</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Very Good</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pattern of Elements:</td> <td>Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detracting Features:</td> <td>Few</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual Unity:</td> <td>Strongly Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecological Integrity:</td> <td>Strong</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Integrity:</td> <td>Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Functional</td> <td>Very Strong</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Condition	Very Good	Pattern of Elements:	Unified	Detracting Features:	Few	Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified	Ecological Integrity:	Strong	Cultural Integrity:	Good	Functional	Very Strong
Condition	Very Good														
Pattern of Elements:	Unified														
Detracting Features:	Few														
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified														
Ecological Integrity:	Strong														
Cultural Integrity:	Good														
Functional	Very Strong														
<p>Landscape Condition</p> <p>The Landscape Condition is defined as very good.</p> <p>The area has a unified pattern of elements composed of arable fields, permanent pasture, blocks of deciduous woodland and the vernacular settlement of Upton; there are few detracting features including the A617, pylon lines and poultry houses. Overall this gives a visually strongly unified area. There are no Biological SINC designations.</p> <p>In ecological terms the area provides a strong habitat for wildlife, with areas of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows forming good networks. Cultural integrity is good in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature, well</p>															

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

maintained and species-rich. A **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Integrity:

(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity High

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **high**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA due to the number of components that have a connection to the landscape. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

Distinctiveness: Characteristic
Continuity: Historic
Sense of Place: Moderate
Landform: Dominant
Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent
Visibility: High

The landform is **dominant** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **high** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **high** visibility leads to a **high** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing limiting any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.
- **Conserve** the biodiversity and setting of the designated SINCS, seek to enhance where appropriate

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to within the settlement of Upton.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for **conserving** and reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings by using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 33: Hockerton
Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve**

An area defined by the streams running through it – ‘The Wink’ and ‘Car Dyke’. The streams have associated riparian vegetation running along their paths – including species such as; Alder, Oak, Willow and some Elm. Vegetation in the remainder of the area is composed predominantly of well maintained hawthorn hedgerows that form the boundaries to medium scale intensive arable irregular geometric fields. Permanent pasture also exists alongside some areas of the streams.

Boundaries are typically composed of hawthorn hedgerows, in varying states of repair. Hedgerows to more intensive arable fields are often strong but fragmented in places. Post & rail and post & wire fencing is present in places. Many of the boundaries to fields bordering the streams are formed by the stream itself and its associated vegetation.

Topography is gently undulating and rolling resulting in views that tend to be medium distance towards frequently wooded skylines, although views are often enclosed by riparian vegetation and hedgerows. Hedgerows form the majority of the boundaries to the fields and are generally mature hawthorn hedgerows, with some outgrown hedgerow tree species such as Oak, Ash and Hawthorn.

An unusual element within the Policy Zone is Hockerton Housing project – the first earth sheltered ecological housing development in the UK. This is an area of communal living within sustainable housing and includes a lake, SUDS systems, allotments, wind turbines, solar panels and earth sheltered houses.

The vegetation surrounding this area is diverse and ornamental in places, but predominantly riparian due to the lake, streams and the SUDS system. There is little in the way of built development, other than the Hockerton Housing project and an isolated farmhouse which is vernacular in nature.

There are no Biological SINC designations in the area, although there are two Mature Landscape Area designations – one to the south of the area (Upton MLA) and one to the north of the area (Winkburn MLA).

The main threats or drivers for change in the Policy Zone include:

- Fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows due to increased intensification of agriculture – particularly arable.
- Fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows due to poor management.
- Reduction of mature woodland (such as streamside trees) due to land use changes.

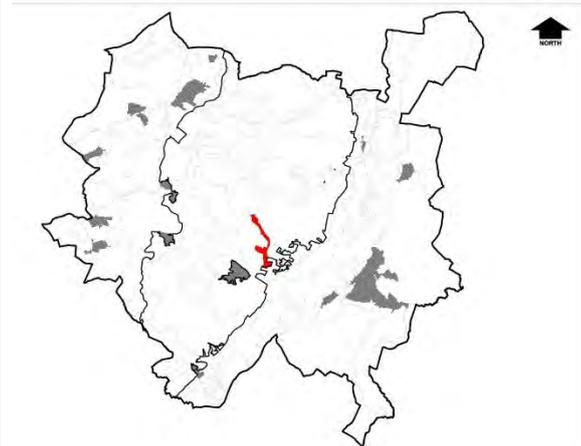
MN PZ 33 Hockerton Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 33
Landscape Character Parcel: MN61



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Very gently undulating and rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.
- Riparian vegetation following line of ‘The Wink’ and ‘Car Dyke’.
- Hockerton Housing project, lake and SUDS system.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, riparian vegetation and some pastoral fields; there are **few** detracting features including the A617 and pylon lines. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are no Biological SINC designations.

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with areas of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows forming good networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature, well maintained and species-rich. A **unified** area with a **strong** functional

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional: Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Integrity:

(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity High

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **high**.

The components of the landscape are **unique / rare** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA principally due to the Hockerton Housing project. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **strong** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **strong** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **high** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness: Unique/Rare

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Strong

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing limiting any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.
- **Conserve** tree cover and landscape planting, enhance and reinforce where appropriate to increase the green infrastructure throughout the Policy Zone.
- **Conserve** the biodiversity and setting of the designated SINCS, seek to enhance where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to around the nearby settlements of Hockerton and Winkburn.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for **conserving** and reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 34: Hockerton Village Farmlands

Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

A gently rolling and undulating topographical area, many views are medium to long distance towards wooded skylines, although some are limited and enclosed by the mature, species-rich hedgerows that exist along fields, road and track sides. Views are interrupted intermittently by pylons and power lines that bisect the area east-west. There are very few detracting features, although the A617 road forms the north-west boundary of the area.

The geology of the area tends to dictate the vegetation that exists upon it – it straddles two distinct geological areas, predominantly Keuper Marl (species-rich meadows and woodlands) and also Sherwood Sandstone (scrub and acidic grassland).

Land use within the area is dominated by arable farming. Field patterns often reflect this intensive use, being medium scale and irregular geometric, generally with well trimmed hawthorn hedgerows, although some are fragmented in places. Some smaller scale pastoral fields (generally within the vicinity of the settlements of Edingley, Kirklington, Hockerton and Normanton). Boundaries to these fields are generally mature, species-rich hedgerows (Hawthorn, Rubus, Ilex, Elder, Rosehip, Malus (apple), Acer etc). Post and rail and some temporary electric fencing exist, often in conjunction with hedgerows around pastoral fields, where some horseyculture also exists. Within the settlements, shrub hedging, walls and post and wire fencing can also be seen.

Small fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland (predominantly broadleaved species, with some coniferous planting – Oak, Ash, Birch, Horse Chestnut, Hawthorn and some Beech) are apparent throughout the area including Park Plantation and The Rookery. Linear sections of woodland are present most prominently along Southwell Trail (Nature Reserve).

Riparian vegetation is evident throughout the Policy Zone due to the presence of numerous streams and drains (Cotton Mill dyke, Edingley Beck, etc.). Woodland near Mill Farm, west of Kirklington, is highly riparian in nature (Willow Carr, Alder, some Elm) due to the areas of open water associated with Mill Farm and Sluice etc.

There are several areas designated as Biological SINCs:

- 2/761 – Glebe Farm Pasture, Hockerton ‘A notable grassland community’
- 2/534 – Kirklington Mill Ponds ‘An attractive mosaic of rich aquatic and woodland habitats’
- 2/541 – Farnsfield Disused Railway ‘A sizeable linear habitat of dry grassland and scrub’
- 2/720 – Edingley Beck Meadow ‘A poorly drained species-rich meadow’
- 2/537 – Edingley Beck Pasture ‘A notable horse-grazed pasture’
- 5/1025 – Edingley Grassland ‘A horse grazed pasture with a notable neutral grassland community’
- 2/536 – Mansfield Road Pasture, Edingley ‘An attractive pasture with a characteristic flora’

The settlements within the area include Hockerton and parts of Edingley, Kirklington and Normanton. All of these are generally red brick vernacular and have historic cores, although

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

some infill is apparent, especially in Edingley and Kirklington. There are a number of Listed Buildings within the settlements.

There are a number of threats and drivers for change in the Policy Zone:

- Increased intensity of agriculture leading to fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows;
- Further residential development;
- Increase in horsey culture;
- Reduction of woodland due to land use change and lack of management;
- Loss of historic field pattern due to intensification of agriculture and loss of hedgerows

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Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

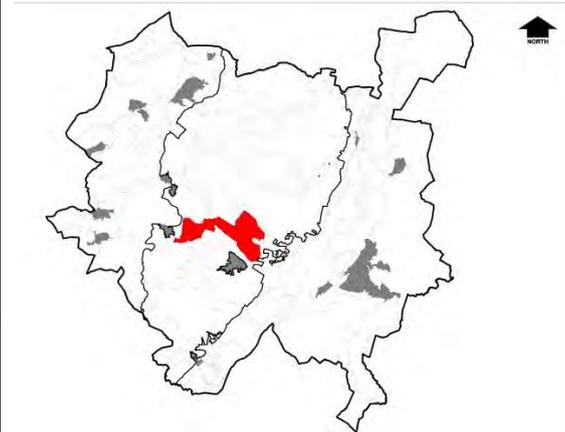
MN PZ 34 Hockerton Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 34
Landscape Character Parcel: MN62 & MN64



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Very gently undulating and rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.
- Some riparian vegetation following the line of streams and drains.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, riparian vegetation, the settlements of Edingley, Kirklington and Hockerton; there are **few** detracting features including the A617, small industrial units at Hockerton pylons and pylon lines. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are some Biological SINC designations (2/761 – Glebe Farm Pasture; 2/534 – Kirklington Mill Ponds; 2/541 – Farnsfield Disused Railway; 2/720 – Edingley Beck Meadow; 2/537 – Edingley Beck Pasture; 5/1025 – Edingley Grassland; 2/536 – Mansfield Road Pasture).

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with areas of mixed deciduous woodland, riparian vegetation and hedgerows forming good networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

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that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature, well maintained and species-rich, although field pattern has been lost in places, along with some hedgerow fragmentation. A **unified** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland, riparian vegetation and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing limiting any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.
- **Conserve and Reinforce** hedgerows where these are fragmented or in poor condition, particularly internal hedgerows. Seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern/boundaries where these have been lost and introduce more hedgerow trees. **Reinforce** with new planting to replace post and wire fencing.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to around the settlements of Edingley, Kirklington, Hockerton and Normanton.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for **conserving and reinforcing** the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 35: Maythorne
Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Create**

A Policy Zone composed of a number of different elements, including intensive arable farming, pastoral farming, areas of wetland, industrial land use, and leisure industries such as fishing ponds, nurseries, Ornamental Water Garden and Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse owned by the National Trust

This landscape has a rolling and undulating topography leading to generally medium distance views with frequently wooded skylines, interrupted intermittently by pylons and power lines running east-west in the north of the area.

The presence of the River Greet has a large impact on the area, influencing both the vegetation and the land use. Riparian vegetation such as Willow, Alder, Hawthorn and elm follow the path of the river, whilst permanent pastures exist alongside it. There are numerous areas of open water in the area and these areas of flooding have been utilised by local businesses such as the Ornamental Water gardens in Normanton.

Land use in the remaining areas is dedicated to intensive arable farming, and medium to large scale fields reflect this use. Boundaries to these fields tend to be formed by well-trimmed Hawthorn hedgerows, fragmented in places. Mature, species-rich hedgerows bound pastoral fields and tracks and lanes.

Hedgerows link to the numerous fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland that are present throughout the Policy Zone. Some Willow Carr is evident near the river, specifically near Maythorne Farm, where evidence of coppicing can be seen.

A number of areas have also been designated as Biological SINCs:

- 5/174 – Halam Osier Beds ‘A poorly drained deciduous plantation with a noteworthy flora’
- 5/175 – Halam Beck Woodland ‘Notable plant communities along a watercourse’
- 5/173 – Edingley Greet Woodland ‘Low-lying deciduous woodland with a noteworthy flora’

The settlements of Maythorne and part of Normanton are present in the area and are generally vernacular in nature, with red brick houses; however there is new development evident around Maythorne, including residential development, a caravan site, fishing pond and horseculture.

Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse lies 1.5km east of the centre of Southwell on the northern side of Upton Road (A612). It is a Grade II* Listed building which is set within a Grade II* Historic Park and Garden. Its relationship with Southwell and its wider landscape setting is described within Southwell Landscape Setting (2012) <http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/landscapesetting/> and planning policy relating to its setting is found within the adopted *Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document (DPD)* July 2013

Three industrial estates exist in PZ, along with a converted Mill, now owned by the National Trust.

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Threats and drivers for change in the area include:

- Reduction of woodland due to arable land use;
- Poor management and fragmentation of historic hedgerows;
- Short rotation coppicing and biomass crops.

MN PZ 35 Maythorne Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Meadowlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 35
Landscape Character Parcel: MN63



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Very gently undulating and rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.
- Numerous leisure industries such as fishing pond, nursery, ornamental water gardens, and a caravan park.
- Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse, a Grade II* Listed building which is set within a Registered Historic Park and Garden

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**.

The area has an **incoherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, riparian vegetation, Industrial Estates, and the settlements of Maythorne and part of Normanton; there are **some** detracting features including a caravan park, 3 industrial estates, pylons and pylon lines. Overall this gives a visually **interrupted** area. There are some Biological SINC designations (5/174 – Halam Osier Beds; 5/175 – Halam Beck Woodland; 5/173 – Edingley Greet Woodland).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with areas of mixed deciduous woodland, riparian vegetation and

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
Pattern of Elements:	Incoherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Interrupted
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Variable

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

hedgerows forming good networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature, well maintained and species-rich, although field pattern has been lost in places, along with some hedgerow fragmentation. The presence of the Workhouse and its position in relation to Southwell and surrounding land rising up from the River Greet gives this more localised area a stronger cultural integrity than that of the wider policy zone.

An **interrupted** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives an overall **moderate** landscape condition.

Functional Integrity: Strong

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

Continuity: Historic

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland, riparian vegetation and hedgerows.

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

It should be noted that landscape sensitivity varies through the policy zone. The area along the River Greet adjacent to Southwell is more sensitive providing the wider landscape setting to Southwell and the Workhouse. (Refer to Southwell Landscape Setting (2012) <http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/landscapesetting/>)

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing limiting any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.
- **Create** woodland to contain and soften urban development, preferably in advance of development.
- **Create** new hedgerows along roadsides, and restore existing, where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to around the settlements of Normanton and Maythorne.

Condition

Condition	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
		Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- Consider the impact of proposed development and ensure it does not adversely impact on the wider setting of Southwell and the Workhouse.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- **Conserve** the ecological diversity and setting of the designated SINC, **create** enhancements where appropriate.
- **Create** new development which reflects the local built vernacular and addresses the policy approach set by the Core Strategy and Allocations and Development Management DPD, taking account of the Southwell Landscape Setting Study (November 2012).

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 36: Halam Village
Farmlands
Policy: Conserve**

The area is located west of Southwell encompassing part of the settlement of Halam, the periphery of the settlements of Edingley and Farnsfield, and several isolated farms. There are no major roads running through the area, although there are a number of B roads – Mansfield Road and Lower Kirklington Road, connecting the settlements.

A rolling and undulating topography, although topography is generally flat around Farnsfield. This results in medium distance views towards frequently wooded skylines. Views are often enclosed by hedgerows and woodland vegetation along tracks and roads, also by the settlements within the Policy Zone. Species-rich hedgerows and sunken lanes form the basis of the strong landscape character of the area.

Land use is relatively variable, with open arable farmland dominating. Pastures are evident closer to settlements, and permanent pasture follows the path of Halam Beck. Field boundaries tend to be formed by well-maintained Hawthorn hedgerows along arable fields, mature, well-maintained, species-rich hedgerows (Hawthorn, Oak, Ash, Rubus, Elder, Rosehip, Ilex and Convolvulus) along pastoral boundaries, tracks and lanes. Some boundaries along pastoral fields also include post and rail fencing used in conjunction with the hedgerows. Horsey culture is apparent in some pastoral fields, and temporary electric fencing associated with this is evident in places.

Small blocks and linear sections of woodland occur throughout the area, often to the edges of fields and tend to be mixed deciduous. Species include Oak, Ash, Sycamore, Horse Chestnut and occasional Willow along watercourses. Some more ornamental tree species occur in the vicinity of settlements.

Semi-natural habitat is varied throughout the area, with small amounts of riparian vegetation associated with dykes, and Bracken along wide verges in the western part of the area. Numerous watercourses provide excellent ecological links, and with the hedgerows in the area remaining strong and intact, habitat for wildlife is strong. Along with three MLA designations (Farnsfield MLA, Edingley MLA and Halam MLA), there are also a number of Biological SINC Designations:

- 2/715 – Radley Lane Dumble ‘Woodland and scrub along a stream cutting’
- 2/725 – Cutlersforth Lane ‘Broad herb-rich verges’
- 2/497 – Brockley Farm Meadow ‘A species-rich damp hay meadow’
- 5/172 – Edingley Cutting ‘A valuable deciduous woodland in a road cutting’
- 2/541 – Farnsfield Disused Railway ‘A sizeable linear habitat of dry grassland and scrub’

Geological SINC Designations:

- 2/1021 – Edingley Hill Road Cutting ‘Arable geosinc’

The settlements of Edingley, Halam and Farnsfield are present in the area, and the majority of buildings are red brick and vernacular, aside from some modern infill and peripheral development. There are very few detracting features, although those that are apparent include; a small section of pylon line, a small commercial development in converted farm

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buildings at Goldhill Farm; Chicken Sheds and a small pumping station. There are a number of several Listed Buildings throughout the area as well as scheduled ancient monuments. Farnsfield has a conservation area within its historic core.

Threats and drivers for change in the Policy Zone include:

- Further intensification of arable farming leading to potential fragmentation and loss of hedgerows;
- Potential loss of historic field pattern due to poor management or fragmentation of historic hedgerows;
- Further residential development;
- Increase and encroachment in horsey culture;
- Reduction of woodland due to land use changes.

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

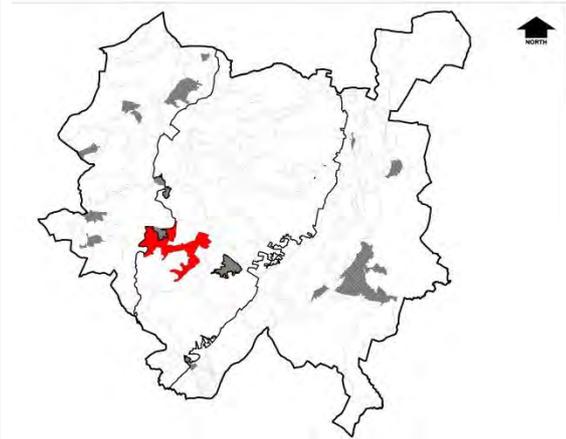
MN PZ 36 Halam Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 36
Landscape Character Parcel: MN65 & MN66



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Very gently undulating and rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, riparian vegetation, Industrial Estates, and parts of the settlements of Farnsfield, Edingley and Halam; there are **few** detracting features including a small section of pylon line, small amounts of commercial, chicken sheds and a small pumping station. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are some Biological SINC designations (2/715 – Radley Lane Dumble; 2/725 – Cutlersforth Lane; 2/497 – Brockley Farm Meadow; 5/172 – Edingley Cutting; 2/541 – Farnsfield Disused Railway) along with a Geological SINC designation (2/1021 – Edingley Hill Road Cutting).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with areas of mixed deciduous woodland, riparian vegetation and hedgerows forming good networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature, well maintained and species-rich. A **unified** area with a **very**

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

(Where one criterion is 'very

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

strong functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

good’ or ‘very strong’, this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic to** the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland, riparian vegetation and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing limiting any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to around the settlements of Farnsfield, Edingley and Halam.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- **Conserve** the ecological diversity and setting of the designated SINC.
- **Conserve** and enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally to improve visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 37: Halam Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve**

An area of rolling and undulating topography resulting in medium to long distance views towards frequently wooded skylines, interrupted intermittently by pylons and power lines running east-west to the south of the area. A predominantly arable agricultural landscape with medium to large scale fields of irregular geometric pattern, smaller scale pastoral fields with some horseyculture are also apparent, generally closer to settlements.

Settlements in the area are principally composed of isolated vernacular red brick farm houses. Part of Halam village is included in the Policy Zone, and a number of Listed Buildings are present.

Boundaries to fields tend to be composed of well maintained hedgerows (patchy and fragmented in places to some of the larger fields), with some outgrown hedgerow tree species occurring along the line of hedgerows. Hedgerows to larger fields are predominantly Hawthorn, although hedgerows to tracks and lanes can often be species-rich, including species such as Hawthorn, Oak, Ash, Rubus, Ilex, Convolvulus, Elder, Rosehip, Hazel, Elm and Blackthorn. Some Bracken can be seen along roadsides and within hedgerows. Post & rail fencing can be seen to the boundaries of the pastoral fields, with some temporary electric fencing to areas of horseyculture – mainly to periphery of Halam and around isolated farmhouses.

Fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland occur throughout the area (Combs Wood, Bird Wood, Margaret's Spring, Shaftbecks Bank, Horse pasture Wood, Loath Hill, Jacksons Wood, Far Levs Holt, Godson Plantation, Middlehey and Eatmoor Plantation), with some linear woodland towards the west. Species tend to include Oak, Ash and some Horse Chestnut. One large block of Beech woodland also exists. Historic Orchards are present on the outskirts of the settlement of Halam (Halam Orchard, Godbers Orchard, and Little Temple Orchard). Some small areas of open water exist throughout the area, and along with some streams and drains, there is some associated riparian vegetation.

Some areas throughout the Policy Zone are designated as Biological SINCs:

- 2/528 – Combes Wood 'A mixed plantation with a locally notable woodland herb community'
- 2/713 – Rob Lane 'A most interesting green lane and wooded cutting'
- 2/538 – Rob Lane Bank 'Scattered scrub over a relict grassland community with associated secondary woodland'
- 5/170 – Hartswell Scrub 'Scrubby woodland on a slope with a noteworthy flora'
- 2/704 – Hartswell Farm Meadow 'a sloping meadow with associated stream and marsh communities'
- 2/705 – greaves Lane Pasture 'A notable damp pasture'
- 5/169 – Margaret's Spring 'Conifer Plantation with a noteworthy ground flora'
- 2/711 – Honeyknab Lane 'Hedges and species-rich verges along a little-used lane'
- 2/543 – Oxton Dumble 'A densely wooded riparian cutting'
- 2/529 – Jackson's Wood 'A valuable semi-natural scarp woodland'
- 2/715 – Radley Lane Dumble 'Woodland and scrub along a stream cutting'
- 2/714 – Wolfeley Hill Lane 'An attractive green lane with species-rich hedgerows'

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- 2/496 – Wolfeley Hill Lane Meadow ‘a meadow with a diverse grass content and some herb interest’
- 2/716 – Carvers Hollow Pasture ‘A steeply sloping species-rich pasture’
- 2/967 – Edingley Meadows ‘Two species-rich hay meadows’
- 1/57 – Newhall Reservoir ‘An excellent example of species-rich grassland on calcareous soils’
- 5/2155 – Brockley Farm Field Margin ‘A species-rich grassland on a field margin’
- 5/171 – Brockley Farm Track Verges ‘Species-rich roadside verges with a notable flora’
- 2/497 – Brockley Farm Meadow ‘A species-rich damp hay meadow’

Numerous Mature Landscape Area Designations exist: South of Halam, South of Edingley, New Holbeck Farm and Turncroft Farm.

There are a number of threats and drivers for change in the area. These include:

- Reduction of woodland due to land use changes;
- Loss of hedgerows due to poor management and fragmentation, and/or intensification of arable agriculture, leading to loss of historic field pattern.
- Horsey culture infringing into surrounding fields;
- Further development of Southwell encroaching into agricultural space.
- Potential Biomass agriculture.

MN PZ 37 Halam Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 37
Landscape Character Parcel: MN67



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Very gently undulating and rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Very Good**.

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements composed of arable fields, blocks of deciduous woodland and isolated farms; there are **few** detracting features including a section of pylon line and a caravan park. Overall this gives a visually **strongly unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/528 – Combes Wood; 2/713 – Rob Lane; 2/538 – Rob Lane Bank; 5/170 – Hartswell Scrub; 2/704 – Hartswell Farm Meadow; 2/705 – Greaves Lane Pasture; 5/169 – Margaret’s Spring; 2/711 – Honeyknab Lane; 2/543 – Oxton Dumble; 2/529 – Jackson’s Wood; 2/715 – Radley Lane Dumble; 2/714 – Wolfeley Hill Lane; 2/496 – Wolfeley Hill Lane Meadow; 2/716 – Carvers Hollow Pasture; 2/967 – Edingley Meadows; 1/57 – Newhall Reservoir; 5/2155 – Brockley Farm Field Margins; 5/171 – Brockley Farm Track Verges; 2/497 – Brockley Farm Meadow).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Very Strong

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Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

areas of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows forming good networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows generally being mature, well maintained and species-rich. A **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **high**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **dominant** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **high** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **high** visibility leads to a **high** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity High

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Dominant
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	High

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** hedgerows and prevent fragmentation (through lack of management and intensification of arable farming).
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing and limiting any new development within historic enclosed boundaries.
- **Conserve** the ecological diversity and setting of the designated SINC.
- **Conserve** and enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally to improve visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by limiting any new development to around the settlement of Halam.
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of existing farm buildings using vernacular building styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 38: Halloughton Village
Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

A gently undulating and rounded landform, with medium to long distance views towards frequently wooded skylines. These views are interrupted intermittently by power lines and pylons running east-west to the south of the area. These views are, however, often enclosed by hedgerows, vegetation (woods and riparian vegetation) and settlements.

A predominantly arable agricultural landscape, with some smaller scale pastoral fields along with some horseculture (generally around the periphery of Southwell and Halloughton). Some agriculture is dedicated to commercial production, in the form of a Mushroom farm and strawberry production under polytunnels. A large proportion of the of the landscape is also dedicated to leisure activities, with Norwood Park Golf Course, Brinkley Golf Course, South Hill Cricket Ground, Southwell Recreation Ground, Leisure Centre, Rugby/Football Ground, Norwood Park, allotments and Nurseries present in the area.

Boundaries to the fields are chiefly formed by well maintained hedgerows. Arable fields tend to be composed of Hawthorn, and can be patchy and fragmented in places, especially to the larger scale fields. Other hedgerows along tracks and lanes are mostly species-rich and include species such as Hawthorn, Ash, Oak, Rubus, Convolvulus, Elder, Rosehip, Hazel etc. Boundaries to pastoral fields (often near settlements) may also include post & rail, post & wire and temporary electric fencing.

Fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland, some with occasional coniferous planting occur throughout the area. Some linear sections of woodland along field boundaries are apparent, along with riparian woodland habitat associated with the streams and drains (Westhorpe Dumble and Halloughton Dumble). There is also an historic Orchard associated with Norwood Park, and some ornamental planting associated with settlements.

Settlements throughout the area are Halloughton, South Hill, Brinkley, fringe areas of Southwell and isolated farmhouses. The buildings tend to be vernacular, with a few exceptions of more modern developments, principally around the north west of Southwell. There are a variety of built features throughout the area including; Brackenhurst Agricultural and Horticultural college, and Historic Norwood Hall. A number of Listed Buildings exist in the Policy Zone.

There are a number of Biological SINC designations:

- 2/540 – Halloughton Dumble ‘A long and striking landscape feature with characteristic woodland plant communities’
- 2/525 – Halloughton Verge ‘A herb-rich roadside verge’
- 2/729 – Brackenhurst ‘a notable array of herb species in an ornamental setting with a pond of zoological importance’
- 2/730 – Potwell Dyke Grasslands ‘A mosaic of species-rich fen communities and a notable calcareous grassland’
- 5/2104 – Southwell Cemetery ‘A cemetery supporting a notable base-rich grassland’
- 5/176 – Potwell Dyke Marsh, Southwell ‘A relict species-rich unmanaged marshy grassland by a small stream’
- 2/524 – Westhorpe Dumble ‘A characteristic Dumble’

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- 2/759 – Crew Lane Grasslands, Southwell ‘Noteworthy base-rich semi-improved grasslands’
- 2/756 – Brinkley Farm Meadow ‘A locally typical species-rich grassland’

This policy zone lies directly to the south and west of Southwell and provides the wider landscape setting for this Minster town. The relationship between the Southwell, the Minster and the surrounding area is described within Southwell Landscape Setting (2012) <http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/landscapesetting/> and planning policy relating to its setting is found within the adopted *Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document* (DPD) July 2013.

Possible threats or drivers for change in the Policy Zone include:

- Increase in intensity of commercial agriculture (for example, development of mushroom farming).
- Increase in horsey culture leading to encroachment into existing fields.
- Increase in number of leisure amenities.
- Further built development, specifically residential housing impacting adversely on the setting of Southwell and its Minster.
- Potential Biomass crops.

MN PZ 38 Halloughton Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 38
Landscape Character Parcel: MN68



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Very gently undulating and rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.
- Small commercial agriculture – Mushroom Farm, Strawberry Poly-tunnels.
- Small industrial estate
- Leisure facilities surrounding Southwell – Golf Course, Horsey culture, Sports Fields.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields, blocks of deciduous woodland and isolated farms; there are **some** detracting features including pylon lines running E-W, a Golf Course, Small Industrial Estate, Mushroom Farm, Strawberry Polytunnels and Horseyculture. Overall this gives a visually **coherent** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/540 – Halloughton Dumble; 2/525 – Halloughton verge; 2/729 – Brackenhurst; 2/730 – Potwell Dyke Grasslands; Southwell Cemetery; 5/176 – Potwell Dyke Marsh, Southwell; 2/524 – Westhorpe Dumble; 2/759 – Crew Lane Grasslands; 2/756 – Brinkley

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

Farm Meadow).

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with areas of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows forming generally good networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is by and large intact, with hedgerows often being mature, well maintained and species-rich. A **coherent** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **good** landscape condition.

Integrity:

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

Continuity: Historic

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape Features

Condition

- **Conserve and reinforce** hedgerows where these are gappy and in poor condition, particularly internal hedgerows. Seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern/boundaries where these have been lost and introduce more hedgerow trees. **Reinforce** with new planting to replace post and wire fencing.
- **Conserve and Reinforce** the ecological diversity of Norwood Park and other designated SINCs where appropriate.
- Ensure that new planting takes into consideration the medium and longer views across the shallow ridgelines around Southwell which allow views across to the Minster and landscape beyond.

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Built Features

- **Conserve** the local built vernacular and **reinforce** this in new development.
- **Conserve and reinforce** the rural character of the Policy Zone by concentrating new development around existing settlements of Southwell and Halloughton.
- Recognise the contribution of existing heritage assets within Southwell, visible from the northern part of this DPZ, to the wider landscape character
- Ensure that development proposals address the policy approach set by the Core Strategy and Allocations and Development

Sensitivity

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

Management DPD, taking account of the Southwell Landscape
Setting Study (November 2012)

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 39 Thurgarton Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve**

The Policy Zone lies approximately 11 miles (18 km) to the northeast of Nottingham, and around 3 miles (5 km) to the south of Southwell. The River Trent is about a mile away, to the southeast of Thurgarton. Gonalston is to the southwest and Bleasby to the southeast. The A612 road runs through Thurgarton, coming south out of Southwell.

A relatively large Policy Zone, with numerous fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland throughout it. Predominantly rolling and undulating topography, with some areas of relatively flat landscape, views are often medium to long distance with frequently wooded skylines. Some areas are enclosed to some extent due to woodland vegetation and hedgerows along tracks and lanes.

Land use is dedicated principally to intensive arable agriculture, within regular geometric field patterns. Some smaller scale regular and irregular geometric pastoral fields exist in the vicinity of settlements and isolated farmhouses. Boundaries to arable fields are composed of generally well maintained Hawthorn hedgerows. Some are patchy and fragmented in places, especially within the larger arable fields, and post and wire fencing often acts as infill. Pastoral fields, roads and tracks, are regularly bounded by well maintained species-rich hedgerows, including species such as Oak, Ash, Hawthorn, Elder, Rubus, Ilex, Convolvulus, Hazel etc. Post and rail fencing can be seen around pastoral fields which are often used for horseculture, and temporary electric fencing associated with this is evident in places.

Fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland of varying scale are apparent throughout the Policy Zone. Some smaller blocks, often linear in nature, occur within the field systems, along with larger blocks of woodland and plantations with occasional coniferous planting. Epperstone Park, Birkhouse Wood, Rosselle Wood, Bentley Wood, Thirstly Coppice, Foxhole Wood, Halloughton Wood, Halloughton Wood Gorse, Souther Wood, Spital Wood and The Gorse. Linear sections of riparian woodland associated with numerous streams and drains throughout the area are also apparent, with the principal stream being Halloughton Dumble.

Along with Mature Landscape Area designations (around Epperstone Park and Gonalston), the Policy Zone has a number of Biological SINC designations:

- 2/966 – Old Mill House Meadow, Bleasby ‘A species-rich hay meadow’
- 2/691 – High Cross and Goverton Hill Verge ‘A notable grassland community on broad roadside verges’
- 2/540 – Halloughton Dumble ‘A long and striking landscape feature with characteristic woodland plant communities’
- 2/532 – Halloughton Wood ‘An old woodland site of some zoological and botanical note’

The area has a number of small scale settlements within it. Parts of Thurgarton, Goverton, Gonalston and Birkhouse exist, along with numerous isolated buildings (generally farmhouses). Most of the traditional village cores and isolated dwellings are of vernacular style and materials, however, some more modern developments are apparent to the periphery of settlements. Thurgaton Priory and Manor House provide an historic element to the area, and with this, there are a number of Listed Buildings throughout the Policy Zone:

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

Drivers for change within the area may include:

- Encroachment of horsey culture on existing fields;
- Further residential development within and to fringes of the settlements;
- Change of farming practices (i.e. transition of pastoral farming to arable farming);
- Intensification of arable farming and lack of management of hedgerows, may lead to fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows and subsequent loss of historic field patterns;
- Reduction of woodland due to land use changes;

MN PZ 39 Thurgarton Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 39
Landscape Character Parcel: MN69 & MN70



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Very gently undulating and rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.
- Numerous blocks of woodland and plantation, of varying scale.
- Predominantly vernacular settlements and dwellings.
- Good network of mainly intact and well maintained hedgerows.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **Very Good**.

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields, blocks of deciduous woodland and isolated farms; there are **few** detracting features including views to pylon lines running E-W and N-S, and disused works at Thurgarton. Overall this gives a visually **strongly unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/966 – Old Mill House Meadow; 2/691 – High Cross and Goverton Hill Verge; 2/540 – Halloughton Dumble; 2/532 – Halloughton Wood).

In ecological terms the area provides a **strong** habitat for wildlife, with

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Strong
Cultural Integrity:	Good

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

areas of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows forming generally good networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is by and large intact, with hedgerows often being mature, well maintained and species-rich. A **strongly unified** area with a **very strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Functional Integrity: **Very Strong**

(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity High

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **high**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

Distinctiveness: **Characteristic**

Continuity: **Historic**

Sense of Place: **Moderate**

The landform is **dominant** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **high** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **high** visibility leads to a **high** landscape sensitivity overall.

Landform: **Dominant**

Extent of Tree Cover: **Intermittent**

Visibility: **High**

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** permanent pasture and seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral.
- **Conserve** hedgerow planting along roadsides, seek to reinforce and enhance as appropriate.
- **Conserve** the biodiversity and setting of the designated SINCs, seek to enhance where appropriate.
- **Conserve** and enhance woodland/plantation blocks, seek to reinforce green infrastructure as appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements.
- **Conserve** and respect the local architectural style and local built vernacular in any new development.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 40 Epperstone Village
Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

The Policy Zone is located in the valley of the Dover Beck, 7 miles (11 km) south-west of Southwell. The topography of the area is generally gently undulating, although there is an area of flat landform to the east of Woodborough, which lies just outside the boundary of the Policy Zone. The area is bisected by the busy A6097 Oxtun by-pass, running north-west to south-east, and the B6388 Southwell Road.

The predominant land use is arable, although there are pastoral fields located near Epperstone and next to the streams of Dover Beck, Order Beck and Grimesmoor Dyke. Horseyculture exists in some of these pastoral fields. The boundaries to the arable fields tend to be mature, well maintained, species-rich hedgerows (species usually comprise Hawthorn, Oak, Ash, Elder, Rubus, Convolvulus, Ilex, Hazel etc) often with some outgrown hedgerow tree species (Oak, Ash and Acer). Fencing, especially post & rail, is often used around pastoral fields, sometimes in conjunction with hedgerows.

Some small fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland exist within fields and alongside developments – Fox Covert, Godson Plantation, barrier planting along Oxtun by-pass, and numerous linear section of riparian woodland along streams. These areas of woodland are generally composed of a variety of vegetation exists throughout the area, with ornamental planting (many mature tree species such as Ash, Oak, Willow and Horse Chestnut) within and around Epperstone, and riparian vegetation associated with the streams.

- Along with a Mature Landscape area designation around Epperstone, there are numerous Biological SINC Designations:
- 2/542 – Epperstone Park ‘A large ancient coppice site retaining botanical interest in spite of widespread felling and replanting’
- 2/98 – Park Farm Dumble ‘A characteristic dumble community of botanical significance’
- 2/708 – Birkhouse Wood Reservoir ‘A covered reservoir with a good collection of meadow species’
- 2/540 – Halloughton Dumble ‘A long and striking landscape feature with characteristic woodland plant communities’
- 2/526 – Rosselle Wood ‘An old woodland site of botanical value’
- 2/531 – Epperstone Dumble (North) ‘A good dumble with characteristic flora’
- 2/707 – Ricketwood Farm Hedgerows ‘Shrub-rich hedgerows’
- 1/113 – Epperstone Dumble (South) ‘The best remaining example of this unusual riparian woodland feature in Nottinghamshire’
- 2/510 – Thirstly Coppice ‘An attractive and characteristic Mercia Mudstone woodland and associated dumble’
- 2/513 – Thurgarton Beck Dumble ‘A short stretch of brook with a character and flora similar to that of a dumble’
- 2/521 – Bentley Wood ‘A degraded but valuable old woodland’
- 2/515 – Spital Wood and Dumble ‘An old coppice and riparian woodland with a mixed deciduous canopy’
- 2/686 – Spitalwood Dumble Pastures ‘Herb-rich grasslands’
- 2/543 – Oxtun Dumble ‘A densely wooded riparian cutting’

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands

- 2/539 – Oxton Lakes ‘An old ornamental pond system with aquatic and marginal plant communities’
- 2/718 – Order Beck Pasture ‘A notable density of herbs with common grasses in a horse-grazed paddock’
- 2/965 – Dover Beck Grassland, Epperstone ‘A notable species-rich grassland adjacent to Dover Beck’
- 2/964 – Gonalston Road Grassland, Epperstone ‘A species-rich damp grassland with valuable drains’
- 2/679 – Ivy Cottage Pastures ‘Two herb-rich pastures with sizeable communities of hydrophilic species along Dover Beck’
- 2/519 – Lowdham Pasture ‘A sloping pasture with species-rich grassland’

The settlement of Epperstone and part of the settlement of Oxton lie within the Policy Zone and are both designated Conservation Areas. There is little new development aside from some new build residential development to periphery and commercial development at Crifton Farm. Within the village of Epperstone, there are numerous Listed Buildings.

A number of commercial sites are present in the Policy Zone. A fishery and a plant nursery lie to the east of the area, and the Crifin Enterprise Centre (includes office space, industrial storage and workshops) to the west of Epperstone. Leisure sites are also present, including sports grounds and playing fields, allotments in the vicinity of Epperstone, and Rifle Range recreation facilities also in the vicinity of Epperstone.

Principal threats and drivers for change in the Policy Zone include:

- Intensification of arable agriculture resulting in potential fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows, leading to loss of existing field pattern.
- Poor management and consequent fragmentation of hedgerows.
- Reduction of woodland due to land use changes.
- Encroachment of horsey culture into existing agricultural fields.
- Further residential development within and to periphery of Epperstone.
- Further development of leisure facilities in and around Epperstone.
- Further industrial development with Crifin Centre as precedent in the area.

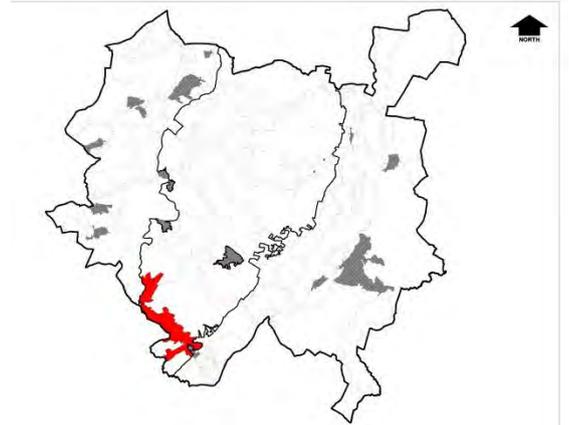
MN PZ 40 Epperstone Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Ancient Woodlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 40
Landscape Character Parcel: MN71 & MN72



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Very gently undulating and rounded topography.
- Medium distance views to frequently wooded skylines, although often enclosed by vegetation – hedgerows, woodland etc.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.
- Village of Epperstone designated as conservation area.
- A number of peripheral leisure industries in vicinity of Epperstone.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields, blocks of deciduous woodland and isolated farms; there are **few** detracting features including busy roads and some small industrial units along with a caravan site. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/542 – Epperstone Park; 2/98 – Park Farm Dumble; 2/708 – Birkhouse Wood Reservoir; 2/540 – Halloughton Dumble; 2/526 – Rosselle Wood; 2/531 – Epperstone Dumble (North); 2/707 – Ricketwood Farm Hedgerows; 1/113 – Epperstone Dumble (South); 2/510 – Thirsty Coppice; 2/513 – Thurgarton Beck Dumble; 2/521 – Bentley Wood; 2/515 – Spital Wood and Dumble; 2/686 – Spitalwood Dumble Pastures; 2/543 – Oxtton Dumble; 2/539 – Oxtton Lakes; 2/718 – Order Beck Pasture; 2/965 – Dover Beck Grassland,

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Weak
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

Epperstone; 2/964 – Gonalston Road Grassland, Epperstone; 2/679 – Ivy Cottage Pastures; 2/519 – Lowdham Pasture). MLA designation around Epperstone.

In ecological terms the area provides a **weak** habitat for wildlife, with a highly intensive arable land use. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is by and large intact, with hedgerows often being mature, well maintained and intact. A **unified** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the Mid-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Conserve and reinforce** hedgerows where these are fragmented and in poor condition, particularly internal hedgerows. Seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern/boundaries where these have been lost and introduce more hedgerow trees. **Reinforce** with new planting to replace post and wire fencing.
- **Conserve and Reinforce** the ecological diversity of all designated SINCs where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve and reinforce** the rural character of the Policy Zone by concentrating new development around existing settlements of Southwell and Halloughton.
- **Conserve** the local built vernacular and **reinforce** this in new development.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone MN PZ 41: Lambley Village
Farmlands
Policy: Conserve**

A varied undulating arable landscape rising up from the Cocker Beck and Lambley Dumble which bisect the area from west to east.

Views reflect this topography, with outlooks tending to be somewhat enclosed by the surrounding higher ground towards woodlands, some ancient, often predominately sited on hill tops.

There are few detracting elements which include Lowdham prison adjacent to Ploughmans wood and surrounded by brick walls and associated infrastructure, an old mine site with restored pit heaps in the south-west corner of the area and some small garden centres and nurseries.

Vegetation is riparian along the streams and dumbles (Alder, Willow, Oak, Field Maple, Poplar, Ash and some Elm) and deciduous ancient woodlands, including some SINCS, on the hill tops, (Oak, Ash, Field Maple, Crack willow, Hawthorn, Wild Cherry, Holly and Wych Elm)

- 2/675 - Ploughman's Wood 'A large and noteworthy area of mature deciduous woodland'
- 2/517 - Bulcote Wood 'An old but degraded damp woodland retaining a notable ground flora in parts'

Intensive arable fields are also present throughout the area. Some horseyculture is present predominately in the western area.

Fields tend to be irregular and geometric in shape. Mature well maintained hedgerows with mature hedgerow trees tend to form the boundaries to the fields. Hedgerows along tracks and lanes are generally species-rich (Oak, Ash, Hawthorn, Elder, Blackthorn and Rose). These hedgerows form excellent networks throughout the area, and connect into small blocks of woodland and linear sections of riparian vegetation.

Transport networks throughout the area are predominately windy, narrow hedge lined lanes and tracks. The A612 forms the south-western boundary of the area and the A6097 forms the north-eastern boundary.

Several listed buildings exist in the area and Lowdham and Bulcote have conservation areas.

Drivers of change in the area include:

- Potential for sporadic development along existing country roads could lead to consolidation and ribbon development.
- More infill development on edge of villages.
- Spread of horseyculture, particularly in the west, leading to the general degradation of the area through temporary structures such as shelters, electric fencing, post and rail and post and wire fencing.

MN PZ 41 Lambley Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: MN PZ 41
Landscape Character Parcel: LCP 74, LCP 75



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

A varied undulating arable landscape characterised by remnant ancient woodlands and small rural villages

Characteristic features

- Varied undulating topography
- Ancient woodlands, often prominently sited on hill tops
- Well-defined pattern of hedged fields
- Streams defined by lines of trees and permanent pasture
- Traditional pattern of farms and small rural villages
- Red brick buildings with pantile roofs
- Quiet country lanes
- Small remnant orchards and permanent pastures around villages

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**

The area has a **unified** pattern of elements mainly woodland and arable fields, there are few detracting features including a restored landfill site in the south-west corner and a few small garden centres. Overall this gives a **strongly unified** area. Ploughmans wood is designated as a SINC – ref 2/675, a large notable area of mature deciduous woodland and Bulcote wood, SINC – ref 2/517 an old but degraded damp woodland retaining a notable ground flora in places. In ecological terms the woodlands provide a **moderate** habitat for wildlife. The overall cultural integrity is **good** with the traditional

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Mid Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

villages cores contained by the natural form and shape of the landscape and many of the fields shown on Sanderson's map of 1835 retained.

A **visually unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition

Functional Integrity: Strong

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity High

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **Moderate**

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

The components of the landscape area **characteristic** of the Mid Nottinghamshire LCA. The time line is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

Continuity: Historic

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving high visibility of features within the PZ. Views are generally contained due to landform.

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

A **moderate** sense of place and a **high** visibility leads to a **high** landscape sensitivity overall.

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: High

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** existing historic field pattern.
- **Conserve** and enhance the ecological diversity of deciduous woodland, particularly Ploughmans and Boughton Park ancient woodland.
- **Conserve** and **reinforce** hedgerows where these are gappy and in poor condition, particularly internal hedgerows. Seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern/boundaries where these have been lost and introduce more hedgerow trees.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the vernacular character of the existing villages of Bulcote and Lowdham.
- Limit development to periphery of village to prevent urban sprawl
- Maintain use of vernacular materials, style and scale in any new developments

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Chapter 4: The Trent Washlands Regional Character Area



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Trent Washlands

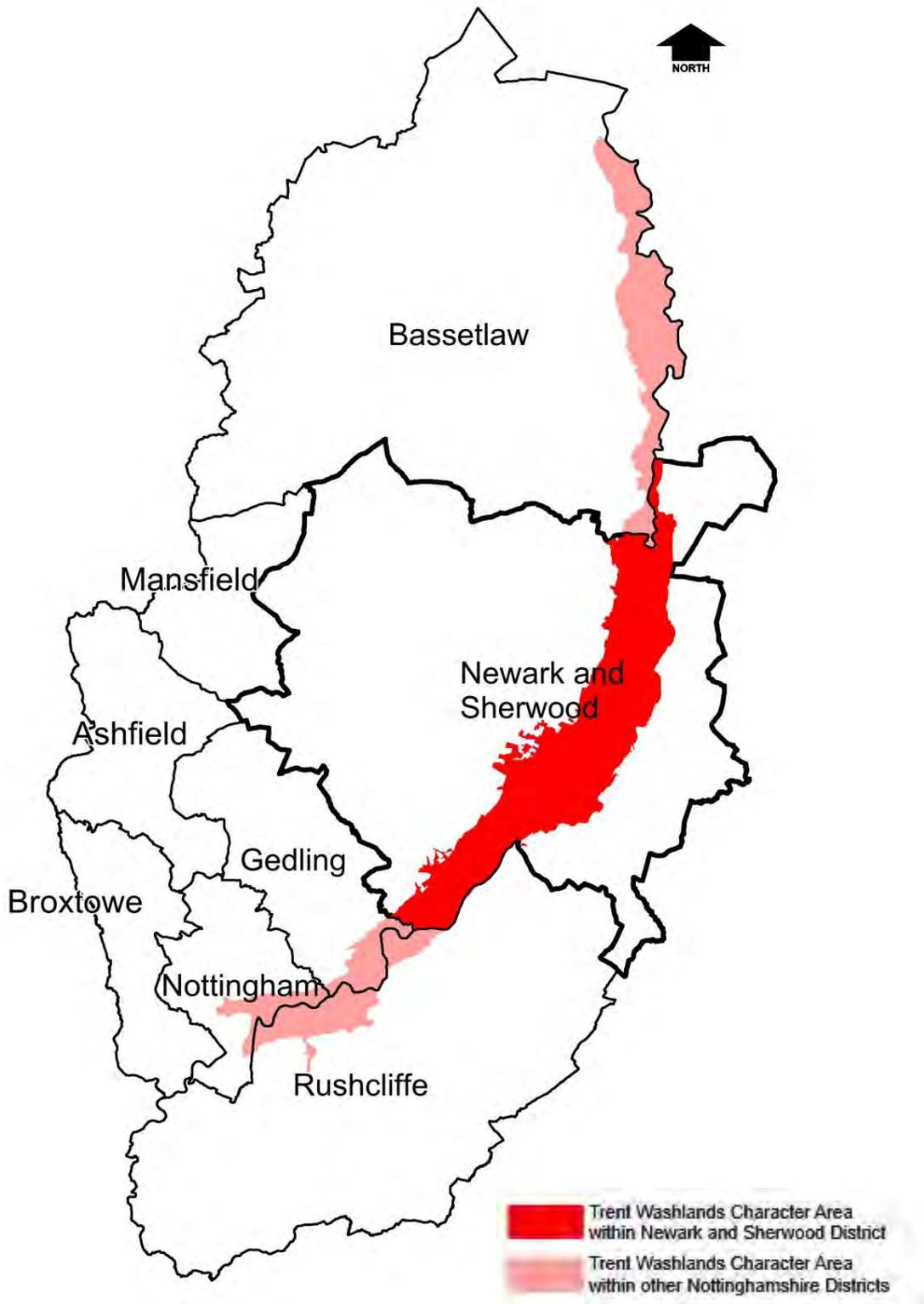


Figure 4.1 Trent Washlands Character Area within Nottinghamshire and Newark and Sherwood District

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

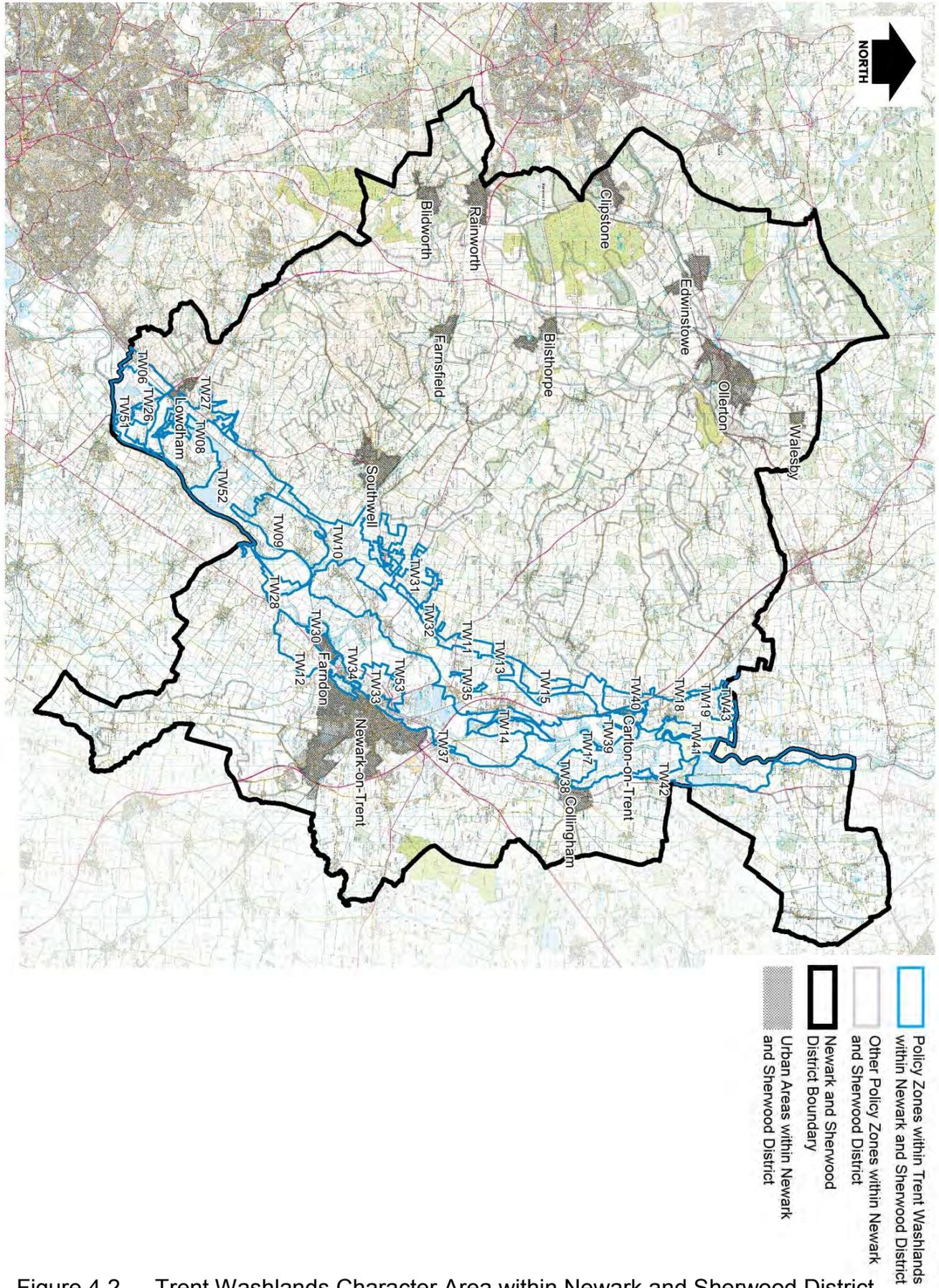


Figure 4.2 Trent Washlands Character Area within Newark and Sherwood District

4.1 Physical and human influences

4.1.1 Introduction

The **Trent Washlands** is principally formed from the broad valleys of the River Trent. The region is defined by alluvial and river terrace drift deposits and occupies around 10% of the County. The Trent flows in a great arc through a number of counties including Staffordshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire before eventually discharging into the North Sea, via the Humber. Stoke-on-Trent, Burton on Trent, Nottingham, Newark and Gainsborough are the main population centres located along its course.

The extent of Trent Washlands Character Area within the District of Newark and Sherwood is shown on Figure 4.1

4.1.2 The shape of the land

In Nottinghamshire the valley of the Trent strikes through the County from end to end over a distance of 80 kilometres. Throughout its length this valley, which has an average width of 2-3 kilometres, is floored by a succession of river-borne materials, each reflecting a stage in the development of the river system. The materials consist primarily of older flood gravels of varying age, covered in places by more recently deposited alluvium. While the gravels are predominantly coarse and composed mainly of Bruner Pebble Bed debris, the alluvium is of much finer texture, varying from silty loam to light clay.

The gravels include both outwash material derived from the retreating pleistocene ice fronts, and more recent riverine deposits. Together these form a series of low terraces which occur mainly along the edge of the valley, but also as "islands" in the midst of the river floodplain. Most of these terraces are raised by a metre or more, providing areas of naturally dry land surrounded by river alluvium. In places the alluvial floodplain forms extensive areas of flat, low-lying land that would have been subject to periodic flooding prior to the advent of arterial drainage schemes. Alluvial deposits also flank the many smaller tributary streams which flow into the valley, mainly from the low mudstone hills to the west.

The Trent Valley in Nottinghamshire has been cut almost entirely in Mercia Mudstone, and for part of its length the region is flanked on either side by steep slopes to form a shallow trench. These slopes are particularly well developed between Long Eaton and Newark, where for long stretches they represent an old line of degraded river bluffs. In places, especially on the east bank, steep, often wooded river cliffs are a prominent feature rising above the flat alluvial floodplain. They are best developed between Gunthorpe and East Stoke.

Downstream from Newark, the region broadens out, while the slopes rising from its edge gradually decrease in height and steepness until the valley becomes almost indiscernible from the adjacent lowland areas. In its lowest section beyond Gainsborough the valley opens out onto a broad plain which stretches away northwards to the Humber estuary. This almost level area of former washland, lying at, or in places just below, sea level, is floored by a variable thickness of silty marine alluvium.

4.1.3 Soils

Soils developed on glaciofluvial deposits and river terraces within the main river corridor have predominately coarse loamy textures, often with sandy sub-soils overlying gravel. The larger and more extensive terraces that flank the river corridor downstream from Newark are

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dominated by deep permeable sandy and coarse sandy soils in glaciofluvial drift. The alluvial soils of the Trent consist of mottled clayey and clay loam soils, developed in greyish and brownish alluvium. Downstream of Gainsborough deposits of shallow coarse silty material overlie the marine alluvium.

4.1.4 Landscape History

This is the region with the most dynamic and complex environment in Nottinghamshire, where both human and natural activities have interacted not just to create successions of landscapes, but to change the actual form of the land. The region contains a rich resource of archaeological remains, many of which are visible on the surface as differential crop growth over buried ditches, pits and other infilled disturbances of the subsoil. The geology and soils of the region are particularly favourable to the development of these cropmarks, which have been recorded through aerial reconnaissance and photography. We now know that invisible archaeological remains also exist, buried in or beneath alluvium deposited by the Trent, and that organic remains which would normally decay may be preserved in the wet conditions of this burial. Such preservation is also a feature of ancient river channels which are to be found buried in many locations on the flood plain of the Trent. It is possible to deduce a great deal about past ecological circumstances and human land use from the tree trunks, brushwood, leaves, pollen, beetles, spiders, molluscs and other remains of flora and fauna found in the deposits filling these palaeochannels, or within flood deposits and archaeological remains. Much new evidence about the palaeoenvironments of the region has been gathered in recent years, giving new insight into the development of the river valley landscape.

Research into the environmental and human history of the **Trent Washlands** continues. This brief overview of that history cannot do justice to the detail of new evidence being revealed or to the studies involved, which are already considerable. A full description of the landscape history of the **Trent Washlands** is included as Appendix R of this document.

4.2 Landscape Evolution and Change

4.2.1 Introduction

This section examines the main forces that have brought about change and evolution within the **Trent Washlands** over recent decades. It does this by discussing how the current structure and pattern of land use has developed, paying particular regard to agriculture, woodland, transport, industrial/residential development, mineral extraction and tourism. It also considers the trends and pressures that may produce landscape change in the future, such as climate change, which has the potential to affect all of the above trends.

4.2.2 Agriculture



The traditional character of the Trent Valley between the border of Derbyshire and Newark has been one of mixed farming, serving the demands of the large population centres. Before the Second World War permanent pastures flanked the meandering river channel and carpeted the low-lying alluvial areas. These were the natural flood plains and washlands. Arable production was confined to the low terraces where the risk of inundation was less, occupying around 40% of the total area. Downstream of Newark the proportion of arable land was significantly less, with over 75% of the valley set to permanent pasture. An almost continuous ribbon of grassland therefore extended along the alluvial deposits of the Trent.

The character of the valley has changed radically in recent decades. Modifications involving floodbanks, the isolation of the Colwick loop, and the building of sluices have now allowed the encroachment of arable farming to the flood banks. Agricultural intensification has led to a dramatic increase in the area of arable land and the loss of almost 70% of permanent grassland within the region. Much of this was prime water meadow.

Through its agricultural land classification work, DEFRA has identified most of the region as being of medium quality agricultural land. However, there are significant areas of high quality agricultural land, located on the river terraces between Gunthorpe and Hoveringham in the south, between Bleasby and South Muskham in the middle and between North Muskham and Low Marnham in the north, where the cropping potential of the arable land is generally good, particularly where free from flooding on the terraces. Much of the existing grassland area adjacent to the Trent is classified as low quality, due to flooding constraints.

There has also been an important change in the way grasslands are managed, with the making of silage rather than hay. Many grass fields have been agriculturally improved, though not necessarily by ploughing and reseeding. The use of fertilisers and herbicides is now widespread, which has led to a general decline in the floristic interest of the grassland.

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However, less improved permanent grassland still forms a significant, although decreased, component of the region.

Cereals are the principal crops grown, accounting for almost two thirds of production. Other significant crops include oil seed rape, sugar beet, potatoes, horticultural crops, peas, and crops for stock feed. Livestock operators are found within most of the parishes in the region. There is a wide range of farm sizes.

With regard to the future, the general national trend towards farm diversification is likely to lead to a change in traditional field patterns and farming methods in the **Trent Washlands**. Equestrian activities are an increasingly popular form of countryside recreation, and coupled with commercial livery services, are often considered acceptable within an agricultural setting. These uses can introduce new opportunities for employment and diversification of the rural economy, providing an acceptable conversion of former agricultural premises. However, the cumulative effect of equestrian activities can redefine the agricultural landscape, particularly through the division of existing fields into individual paddocks, defined by post and wire fencing and provision of stables and liveryies.

Support for energy crops is likely to change the agricultural landscape of England, with predictions that biomass crops could cover 20% of farmland by 2040. The use of Willow as an energy crop is already being recorded as a land use in the Trent Valley, and is likely to increase.

4.2.3 **Woodland/tree cover**

Historically the **Trent Washlands** have been the least wooded part of Nottinghamshire with the total woodland cover standing at 1.73 % in 2009 compared to 7.27% for the county. The character and pattern of woodland cover vary throughout the region. The largest areas of woodland in this region are located on the steep valley bluffs of the Trent Trench. Small willow holts are a feature of the River Meadowlands, wet woodlands are found within old sand and gravel workings, and a scattered distribution of small broad-leaved woodlands occurs elsewhere. The region has the lowest proportion of coniferous woodland in the County, at 1.5%. Mixed woodlands account for 5.5% of the total, new plantations 8.0% and broad-leaved woodlands 84.5%.

Dutch elm disease had a major impact upon the landscape during the period 1960-1980, leading to the loss of virtually all hedge and roadside elms. Despite this loss hedgerow trees still form the principal component of the region's tree cover, with Ash, Oak and Willow the dominant species.

4.2.4 **Transportation**

A number of roads have an impact including the A1 which runs in a north-south direction through part of the region along with a short section of the A46 south east of Farndon.

The River Trent is a major transport route along which 250,000 tonnes of mainly gravel excavated from the Trent Valley is exported.

A number of railway lines dissect the area with the east coast main line running in a north-south direction through the region and the Nottingham to Lincoln line runs via Newark.

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The River Trent is a commercial waterway downstream from Nottingham providing a direct link to Gainsborough and the Humber Ports along with commercial waterways in Yorkshire. There are two recreational marinas based at Newark and Farndon located on the Trent.

4.2.5 Urban and industrial development

The main urban areas within the district are centred on Nottingham and Newark. Past industrial and residential expansion of these areas has led to the coalescence of outlying villages and the loss of historical settlement pattern and rural character.

The settlement pattern within the Trent Washlands is one of small rural villages, with the historic market town of Newark-on-Trent lying to the south. Newark Urban Area (Newark, Balderton and Fernwood) is the major centre within Newark & Sherwood and is the main location for services, jobs, retail, education and a focus for transport for most of the District. Reflecting this status the Newark Urban Area is the focus for housing and employment growth within the District, with 9913 dwellings being identified for the Urban Area between 2006-2026. To facilitate this growth a series of site allocations have been made for a range of uses including residential, employment and retail. Significantly this has included sustainable urban extensions to the south and east of Newark and around Fernwood.

Sutton-on-Trent, the western extent of Collingham and the south east of Lowdham are also located within the Trent Washlands Character Area. These settlements are defined as 'Principal Villages' within the Local Development Framework's Settlement Hierarchy and offer a good range of day to day facilities as well as acting as a secondary focus for service provision. To help support this role site allocations, through the Local Development Framework, have also been made in these locations.

Whilst they may not be the focus for significant levels of growth it is clear that economic and social factors will continue to exert pressure on rural areas of the District and it is likely that the demand for rural housing will continue to grow, driven by the increasing number of people who want to live in a rural location. The refurbishment and conversion of old farm buildings to high quality residential dwellings is now widespread. If the trend continues there may be further consequences for the future pattern and character of the rural landscape.

Employment development will be directed toward the built-up areas of the District and only acceptable in the open countryside where the need for a rural location and the contribution towards rural employment can be demonstrated. The conversion of existing buildings in rural locations to beneficial uses, diversification of rural businesses where this contributes to the local economy and tourism development / accommodation which meets identified needs are also provided support in local planning policy.

Continued uncertainty in the agricultural sector and declining incomes will ensure that rural tourism and farm diversification play an increasing role in the economy of the area. This is likely to result in the conversion of existing agricultural buildings, and in some cases demands for new built development.

4.2.6 Energy

The two functioning coal-fired power stations located in the **Trent Washlands**, Cottam, and West Burton are both within Bassetlaw District. Although located outside of the district the power stations, cooling towers and associated web of high voltage power lines constitute the most dominant and visually intrusive landscape features within the **Trent Valley** river valley corridor.

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The Staythorpe combined cycle gas turbine station (CCGT) opened in May 2011 on the site of a former energy site. It produces enough electricity to power around 2.8 million homes. The nature, location and scale of further developments will be dependent on future national and international economic factors. It is likely, however, that the development of gas powered plants will proceed, gradually replacing coal production capacity and reducing the life expectancy of existing power generation plant.

4.2.7 **Renewable Energy**

The United Kingdom is legally bound to meeting challenging targets for the generation of energy from renewable sources (15% by 2020) and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (to 34% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050). A framework of national policy, reflecting the need to increase the supply and usage of energy from low-carbon sources and to ensure that adverse impacts are satisfactorily addressed, has been put in place to help deliver these aims. Significantly, this carries the expectation that applications be approved, unless material considerations indicate otherwise, if their impacts (such as that on the landscape) are (or can be made) acceptable. Core Policy 10 'Climate Change' of the Core Strategy and Policy DM4 'Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation' in the Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document's set out local planning policy on this issue.

Given this policy context there are likely to be future applications for renewable energy developments, such as wind-farms, in the Trent Valley. These structures have the potential to change the landscape character of the **Trent Washlands**, The power generation industry will continue, therefore, to be a dominant feature of the region.

4.2.8 **Minerals: sand and gravel**

Mineral extraction has had a considerable impact on the landscape character of the region. Nottinghamshire is the largest producer of sand and gravel in the East Midlands accounting for over one third of regional production. Around 80% of the County's sand and gravel production is derived from the alluvial (river terrace) sand and gravels of the Trent and the Idle Valleys. The latter is now substantially exhausted suggesting that extraction will become increasingly concentrated in the Trent Valley if current production levels are to be sustained.

The Trent Valley deposits have an average thickness of 5 - 8 metres producing yields of 50 - 80,000 tonnes per hectare although levels above and below that can occur. Active quarries are currently found at Langford Lowfields, Cromwell, and Besthorpe. Within Newark and Sherwood district the Trent Washlands also contains a significant number of former quarries including Hoveringham, and Crankley Point in Newark. Individual quarries commonly exceed 150 hectares and some are over 400 hectares The total area of existing, former and permitted sand and gravel quarries in Nottinghamshire exceeds 40 km².

The degree to which the workings and associated processing plant affect the quality of the landscape varies from site to site. Tree and earth bank screens have been successful on certain sites. However, there are still many which have a detrimental effect on landscape quality. Plant, buildings, workings and the transportation of materials are visually intrusive. Dust, noise, pollution and dereliction of land are often associated with mineral extraction.

Past mineral workings have been reclaimed to a variety of different after uses including nature conservation, recreation and agriculture. The emphasis on preferred reclamation options has, however, changed through time in response to changes to Government policy and practicalities. Before the 1970s the majority of workings were reclaimed to water, usually to

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quite poor standards – indeed some were effectively just abandoned leaving a flooded 'hill and dale' landscape where natural regeneration took place. Reclamation to agriculture did not occur to any significant degree until the first Pulverised Fuel Ash (PFA) disposal schemes were established in the 1960s following the building of coal fired power stations. Agriculture reclamation accounted for around 30% of the reclaimed land in the Trent Valley before the 1980s. The 1984 Nottinghamshire Sand and Gravel Local Plan, sought to ensure that most allocations could be reclaimed to agriculture and encouraged the continued development of PFA infilling schemes. The proportion of land reclaimed to agriculture doubled to 60% during the 1980s. The main strategy of the Plan was to avoid the proliferation of further water areas and to conserve the best and most versatile agricultural land.

This approach was continued into the County's first Minerals Local Plan prepared in the 1990s but by the time it was adopted in late 1997 the use of PFA in reclamation schemes was in a rapid decline for a range of reasons. These include the closure of two of the five coal fired power stations, reduced power outputs from those that remained, the abandonment of old worn out PFA pipeline pumping schemes in favour of on-site disposal and finally much more PFA was being sold as a secondary aggregate and cement product. As a result most PFA agricultural reclamation schemes dwindled and today no PFA is being used to reclaim sand and gravel workings - a situation which is unlikely to change much in the foreseeable future. These factors also coincided with a change in Government policy which has reduced the emphasis on agricultural production which is now reflected in the current Minerals Local Plan adopted in 2005. There is still, however, a strong presumption to protect the highest quality agricultural land and concerns remain about water-based reclamation where there is already an abundance of water.

The new Minerals Core Strategy, which will replace the Minerals Local Plan under the 'Local Development Framework' arrangements, will be looking ahead to 2026. The projected shortfall that will be need to be met to sustain the minimum 7 year land bank of permitted reserves up until 2026 has yet to be finalised, but could exceed 60 million tonnes. However, the actual tonnage that is likely to require allocation is likely to be much less because this should not have to consider reserves that are simply required to sustain the land bank beyond 2026. Nevertheless it is possible that almost 40 million tonnes will need to be allocated. For the whole of the **Trent Washlands** this could translate into the allocation of between 6-800 hectares depending on average yields. It is clear that sand and gravel operations will continue to have a major impact on the landscape of this area.

4.2.9 Climate Change

Research has identified trends and emerging patterns of global climate change. Within the UK, implications for climate change include:

- Global temperature increases of between 1.8 and 4 degrees centigrade above the 1990s levels by the end of the 21st Century, with UK increases anticipated at 2 to 3.5 degrees by 2080.
- Greater warming in the South and East of the UK, rather than the West and North.
- Increasing temperatures resulting in milder winters and high summer temperatures.
- An increase in sea levels by 26-86 cm, by 2080. Extreme high water incidences 10 to 20 times more frequent, increasing coastal flood risks.

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- Changes in rainfall patterns, with wetter winters and drier summers. The greatest changes are anticipated for the South and East of the UK, where summer rainfall could reduce by 50%, and snowfall reduced by 60 – 80% by 2080. (1)

These changes have the potential to impact on all other drivers for change in the future. The issues of the most relevance to the landscape character of the **Trent Washlands** include:

Built Development:

- Increased development on land away from locations such as river corridors and low lying areas that are at risk from flooding.
- Sustainable design and layout of new development to result in less use of water, energy and raw materials.

Infrastructure:

- Pressure for renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind turbines to reduce emissions.
- Demand for new riverine defence works in response to tidal surges and high waves.

Minerals and Waste:

- Reducing the amount of waste land filled and increasing the amount of waste recycled and composted.

Agricultural and Land Management:

- Increased risk of river flooding and loss of land as a result of rising sea levels and coastal erosion.
- Changing weather conditions leading to longer growing seasons and the ability to grow different types of crops.
- The introduction of energy crops to provide an sustainable source of fuel.
- Gradual changes in flora and fauna in response to warmer, wetter conditions and more disturbed weather patterns.

Forestry and Woodland:

- Sustainability of forest tree species may alter due to changes in climatic conditions.
- Lengthy period of drought and dry conditions may lead to an increased risk of upland forest fire.

Tourism and Recreation:

- Increased number of visitors to the countryside due to higher temperatures.

(1) www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/about/ukeffect

4.3 Species List - Trent Washlands

The following list includes native tree and shrub species that are commonly found within the **Trent Washlands County Character Area** and are suitable for inclusion in planting schemes. These are important for determining the area's regional character. A range of native species may also be appropriate to particular locations or sites. In these cases professional advice should be sought.

All plant material should be of local provenance or at least of British origin. The document 'Using local stock for planting native trees and shrubs' - Forestry Commission - Practice Note August 1999 by George Herbert, Sam Samuel and Gordon Patterson; provides guidance in this respect. A list of suppliers is provided on the Flora Locale website – www.floralocale.org

TREES	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ streamsides
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	■	□	■	■
Crab apple	Malus sylvestris	□	□	□	
Elm (English)	Ulmus minor var.vulgaris		□		
Maple (Field)	Acer campestre		□	□	
Oak (English)	Quercus robur	■	□	■	
Willow (Crack)	Salix fragilis	□		□	■
Willow (White)	Salix alba				■

SHRUBS	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ streamsides
Blackthorn	Prunus spinosa	□	□		
Buckthorn (purging)	Rhamnus cathartica		□		
Dogwood (Common)	Cornus sanguinea		□		

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Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	■	■	■	■
Hawthorn (Midland)	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>		□		□
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	□	□		□
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	□	□		
Privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>		□		
Rosa (Dog)	<i>Rosa canina</i>		□		

■ Dominant species

□ Other species present

4.4 Visual Character of the Landscape

4.4.1 Introduction

The historical pattern of land use and settlement within the region is closely linked to the physical character of the valleys, with settlements along the Trent situated on the margins of the valley and the raised river terraces. The free-draining soils, water supplies and ease of communication have attracted people and settlement to the region at all dates.

The Trent flows through the large urban centres of Nottingham and Newark in Nottinghamshire. The urban edges of Nottingham and Newark have radically altered the character of the Trent river corridor locally and the number impact of power stations and pylon lines, mineral extraction, urban encroachment, road and rail developments and agricultural intensification has led to alterations in the traditional pattern of land use and a fragmentation of landscape structure within much of the Trent river corridor.

Away from the urban areas settlement is characterised by a nucleated pattern of villages and isolated farmsteads. These have retained their distinctive vernacular character, being of red brick and pantile roof construction. Modern houses have, however, been constructed in most settlements, introducing a suburban character to many villages, especially those situated close to the main cities and towns.

Arable cultivation now dominates large areas of the river corridors, whereas previously it was confined to the river terraces. Within the Trent corridor a narrow band of riverside grassland is all that remains of a once extensive tract of meadowland and pasture. The meandering river channels are dominant components of the river corridor landscapes; however, along the Trent, high floodbanks often shield the river from view. Within the Trent corridor the river is most visible where associated with the steep wooded bluffs of the Trent Trench, upstream of East Stoke. In this area, and many others, the traditional riverine character of the valleys has been retained. The strength and unity of this character is greatest where there are features such as flood meadows, grazing animals, wooded bluffs, willow holts, mixed hedgerows, historical settlements, permanent pastures and irregular field pattern. Many areas are also rich with archaeological and historical features including deserted medieval villages, Roman fort sites, ridge and furrow, and crop marks.

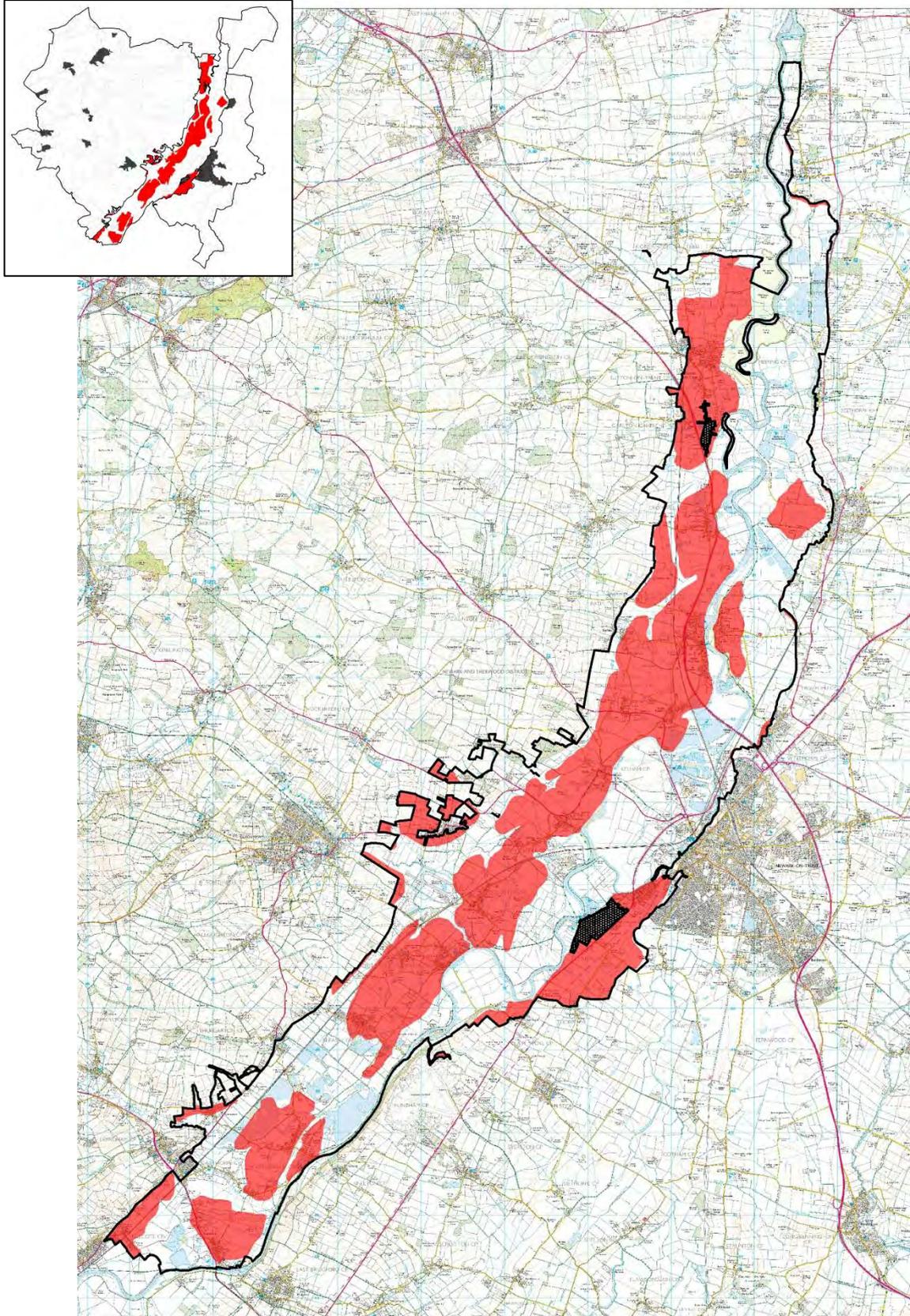
The **Trent Washlands** can be subdivided into two distinct landscape types which occur in Newark and Sherwood. These are the:

- Village Farmlands
- River Meadowlands

These have been classified generically, which means that, theoretically, the landscape types could occur at any location within the country where there are similar physical resources and historical patterns of land use. In reality the landscape types possess a distinctively local character, because they share the broad characteristics of the regional character area, or represent a particular aspect of that character

Village Farmlands

Figure 4.3 Location of the Village Farmlands within the Trent Washlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands Village Farmlands



This is a flat low-lying agricultural landscape characterised by a traditional pattern of hedged fields and nucleated village settlements. It has the following characteristic features:

- Broad flat river terraces
- Regular pattern of medium-to large-sized fields, breaking down and becoming open in many areas
- Hedgerow trees main component of tree with cover with Ash being the principle species
- Willow pollards
- Predominantly arable with permanent pasture around settlements and roads
- Nucleated villages with traditional red brick and pantile roofed buildings
- Sand and gravel quarries

Landscape description

These are flat, intensively farmed landscapes located on river terrace deposits within the Trent river corridors. Topographically, the low lying terraces are of variable prominence, with the better-pronounced terraces rising up to 2 metres above the level of the surrounding alluvium. In the Trent Valley the majority of the terraces are located along the western flank of the river, downstream from Lowham as far north as Sturton le Steeple within Bassetlaw District. The river terraces provide dry sites for the nucleated pattern of village settlements, just above the level of the river floodplain. Other settlements within the river corridors are found at the valley margins along the fringe of the mudstone landscapes. Most of the smaller villages and farmsteads have retained their traditional character, being of red brick and pantile roof construction. However, modern housing styles have introduced a suburban character to certain of the larger villages. Narrow hedged lanes link many of the settlements. These run across the terraces to the river in a number of places. The river itself is often not a dominant feature as the flat terrain, flood banks and hedgerows often screening it from view.

There has been a strong tradition of cropping on the high quality terrace soils. This tradition has continued, with the terraces now dominated by intensive arable production, typically within a regular pattern of medium to large fields. This pattern is now highly variable due to field rationalisation. Where hedgerows are intact and well managed, summer views are rarely of any distance, the level landform and hedgerows helping to restrict longer distance views. More open views across the landscape are experienced in many areas, due to a break down in the field pattern, leading to a loss of continuity and character.

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Where the field pattern is well defined the occurrence of hedgerow trees enhances the enclosed nature of the landscape and gives structure and form. Ash is the most numerous and widespread species, Oak is also found throughout. Willow is found along stream lines, ditches, and in many hedgerows. Willow pollards are a special feature found throughout the landscape and are particularly prevalent in the more intact enclosed areas. Mature Horse Chestnut trees are found in many parts of the landscape, especially in roadside hedges close to settlements. Hedgerows are mainly strong, trimmed, and Hawthorn, becoming low and gappy on the margins of the more degraded areas. Although hedgerows are dominated by Hawthorn, mixed species hedges are found locally throughout.

Although the village farmlands are dominated by arable farming, grassland landscapes are an important feature, usually being located adjacent to the red brick villages. These pastoral areas have a particularly strong character and are often associated with small irregular field patterns, mature hedgerow trees, strong and often mixed hedgerows, willow pollards, and small pockets of parkland. Some of the grassland contains ridge and furrow. These areas represent the most diverse and undisturbed parts of the landscape and are particularly worthy of protection. They are often associated with areas of historical and wildlife interest.

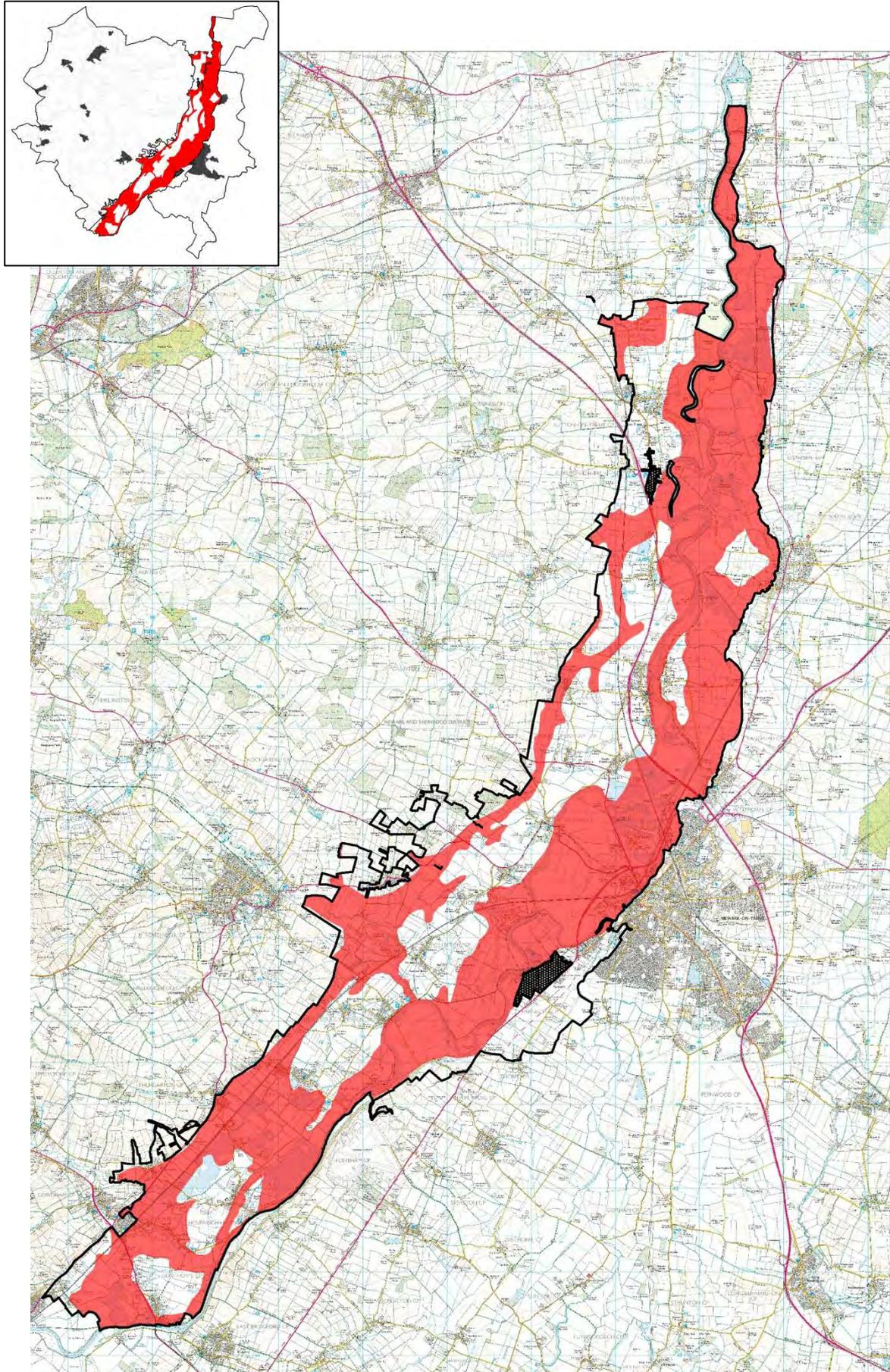
Small-scale broad-leaved woodlands are scattered throughout the landscape. These are generally small in size and do not constitute a major component of the landscape character. Hedgerow trees are the most important element of the landscape's overall tree cover.

There are relatively large tracts of landscape where field patterns have become poorly defined, fragmented or lost. The loss of field pattern has led to the development of more open landscapes with field edges defined by roads, stream lines and ditches. Remnant field hedgerows and hedgerow trees are often out of scale with the landscape and swamped by growing crops in summer. Occasional Ash trees provide reminders of the former landscape structure. Power stations, pylon lines and mineral workings are even more prominent and visible when viewed from these open areas.

The Village Farmlands landscapes have a distinctly urban fringe character adjacent to the western edge of Newark. Residential edges, industrial parks, railway lines and sewage works are a feature of these areas, along with landscaped embankments and formal parks.

River Meadowlands

Figure 4.4 Location of the River Meadowlands within the Trent Washlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands River Meadowlands



This is a flat low-lying riverine landscape characterised by alluvial meadows, grazing animals and remnant wetland vegetation. It has the following characteristic features:

- Meandering river channels, often defined by flood banks
- Sparsely populated with few buildings
- Permanent pasture and flood meadow
- Steep wooded bluffs
- Willow holts
- Long sinuous hedges
- Pollarded willows
- Regular pattern of medium to large size arable fields, breaking down and becoming open in many areas
- Hedgerow trees main component of tree cover

Landscape description

These landscapes are located on flat, low-lying alluvial floodplains within the Trent river valleys, and the lower reach of the Devon. Few buildings are found in these sparsely settled landscapes because of the risk of inundation by flood waters. The River Meadowlands are characterised by areas of alluvial meadow and riverside pasture, flood meadows, extensive common grasslands, meandering river channels and steep wooded bluffs. The character and unity of the river corridors have broken down in recent decades, largely as a result of flood protection works which have allowed the arable conversion of large tracts of alluvial meadowland.

Significant areas of intact river corridor have survived along various sections of the Trent. These areas possess a peaceful, undisturbed pastoral character with meandering river channels, permanent pastures, flood meadows, willow holts and grazing animals. This gives the landscape a strong sense of place and a feeling of naturalness. Along the Trent Trench steeply inclined wooded bluffs form a dramatic backdrop to the river and contain ash, oak, sycamore, poplar, alder and willow species. The bluffs are particularly pronounced on the east bank where they are undercut by the river. The flood meadows are sometimes associated with shingle beds. Old willows are locally important throughout the landscape. Remnant patches of marginal wetland

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

Trent Washlands River Meadowlands

vegetation fringe the river channels in some areas, enhancing the riparian character of the valleys. Willow holt are located at a number of points along the rivers; these increase diversity in the landscape and add to the strong sense of place.

The grasslands are often defined by long sinuous hedges which now mark the boundary with the arable landscapes. Much of the grassland runs in a strip parallel to the river protected by floodbanks; this is particularly so in the Trent Valley downstream from Cromwell where the river becomes tidal. The raised floodbanks confine views to the river channel and exclude the surrounding landscape and disrupt visual continuity. The pasture itself is featureless except for patches of fringing riparian scrub. Extensive areas of intact river meadowland are found near Sutton on Trent. These "Holme" grasslands are located on both sides of the river and have a spacious, open and treeless character.

Large areas of the River Meadowlands have now been converted to arable land. This encroaches to the river channel edges in many areas disrupting the unity of the river corridors, particularly along the Trent. Away from the river the landscape is defined by medium to large scale regular and semi-irregular field patterns. Field rationalisation has led to the loss of hedgerows in many areas, producing open landscapes with a very weak riverine character.

Despite only the occasional small deciduous woodland and Willow holt, the overall impression is of a well treed landscape. Ash, Oak and Willow hedgerow trees are the most important components of the overall tree cover. These enhance the sense of enclosure and allow filtered views down the valleys. Numerous Willow-lined streams flowing into the main river channels are also prominent landscape features, as are old Willow pollards which occur widely.

Although there are a few buildings located within the River Meadowlands, numerous mineral extraction sites and large power stations are located close by. These developments have a large impact upon the character of the landscape, further increasing the sense of disunity.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

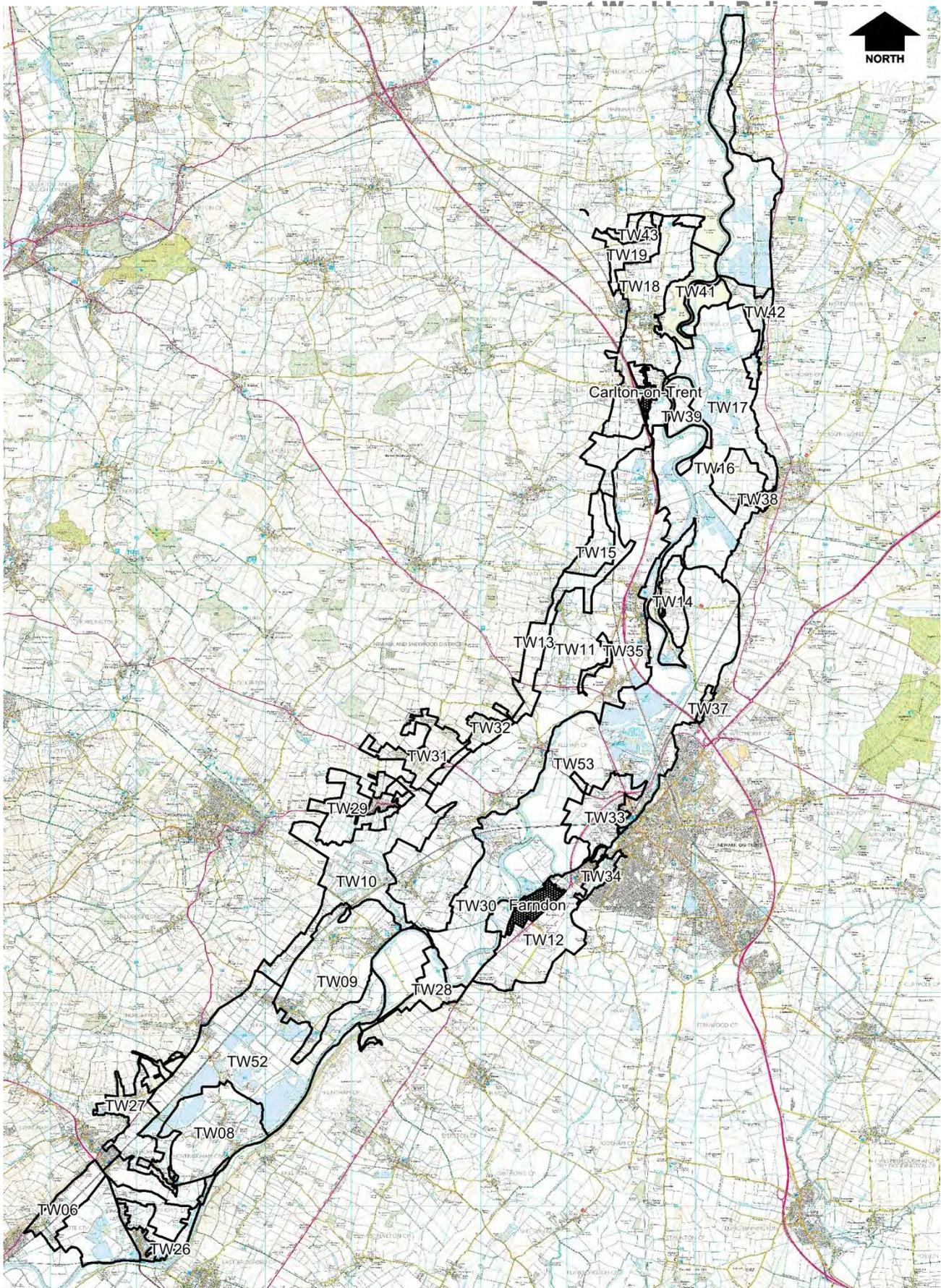


Figure 4.5

Policy Zones within the Trent Washlands

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands Policy Zones

4.5 Landscape Policy Sheets

4.5.1 Policy Zones Contents Sheet

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Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 6: Bulcote Village Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

This small, flat, linear area lies to the east of the village of Burton Joyce, lying to the northern fringes of the floodplain. The busy A612 forms the north western boundary with the steeply rolling landscape of the Dumble Farmlands dominating views to the north. The A6097 forms the north eastern boundary. A railway line runs north east to south west, bisecting the area.

Bulcote Village lies to the south of the area with isolated farms off the A612. The village is a historic settlement dominated by red brick and pantile roofed buildings. Bulcote is a designated Conservation Area and there are several listed buildings within the village, mature trees are also present within the gardens of the larger properties. The area also lies within the Nottingham Green Belt.

Bulcote Farm is a large scale development run by Severn Trent Water / Stoke Bardolph Estate.

The area is dominated by intensive arable farming with a regular geometric field pattern. A strong hedgerow runs along the A612. Internal hedgerows are more gappy and fragmented in places. Hedgerows are largely Hawthorn with older, mixed species hedgerows including Holly within Bulcote.

Fields are generally medium-sized. The historic field pattern has largely disappeared.

There is little woodland cover with trees largely along transport routes. A woodland block has recently been planted to the south of the railway line at Burton Joyce – approximately 20 years old. Species include Ash, Oak, Beech and Lime. There is a Lime avenue along the track to the south of Bulcote Farm.

Views from the A612 are generally open east towards the Trent Valley. Views to the west are enclosed by steep hills.

TW PZ 6 Bulcote Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat, large scale intensive arable landscape
- Medium-sized fields with hedgerows intact but fragmented in places
- Landscape fragmented by railway
- Linear planting along transport routes
- Nuclear village of Bulcote with red brick and pantile roofed buildings to the historic core
- Large scale isolated farms

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**. The area has been bisected by the railway line. There are **some** detracting features, including the busy A612 to the western boundary and large scale agricultural sheds at Bulcote Farm and Beechcroft Farm which are out of scale and character. Pylons dominate the skyline to the east, outside the PZ boundary. The visual unity of the area is **coherent**.

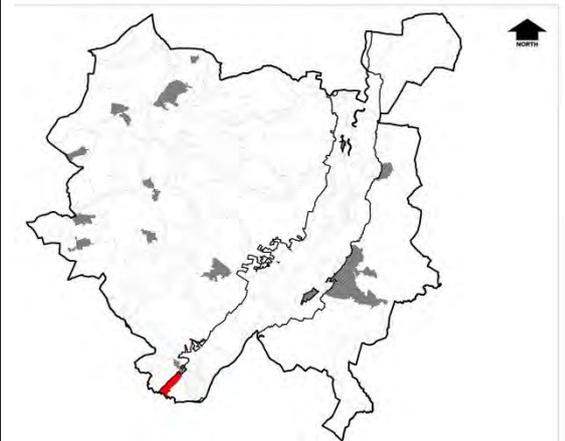
There are no SINCs or other ecological designations. Tree cover is largely along transport routes and there is mature vegetation within Bulcote village. A block of mixed species trees has been planted to the south of Burton Joyce, including Oak, Ash, Beech and Lime.

The area is predominantly intensive arable land with a small area of pasture adjacent to Bulcote Farm. Hedgerows to the A612 and other roads are strong and of mixed species. Hedgerows are predominantly trimmed. Internal field boundaries are largely Hawthorn, which has become gappy in places. Hedgerow trees are apparent, largely Ash. The area is a **moderate** habitat for wildlife.

The historic field pattern has broken down - field sizes are generally medium to large scale. The historic core of Bulcote is characterised

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 6
Landscape Character Parcel: TW10



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

by red brick and pantile roofed buildings, with more recent non-vernacular development to the fringes, the cultural integrity is therefore **variable**.

A **moderate** habitat for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is visually **coherent** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The historic time depth has largely been degraded by intensive arable farming and fragmented by the railway line but The PZ still retains some distinctive **historic** features **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands RCA; it has **moderate** sense of place.

A settlement existed at Bulcote before the Norman Conquest – named as it was an ideal location for rearing cattle on the pastures of the Trent. The historic core of the village is characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings and mixed species hedgerows with Holly. The old road winding through Bulcote contrasts with more recent straight transport routes.

There are open views to the hillier landscape to the north of the A612. Views within the PZ are fairly open due to trimmed hedgerows and the flat landscape. Views out of and into the PZ are more restricted on minor roads due to taller hedgerows; overall visibility is **moderate**.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Insignificant
Extent of Tree Cover	Open
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape features

- **Conserve** existing meadowland hedgerows and seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture and/or provide field margins to increase biodiversity and link existing habitats.
- Strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream corridors.

Built features

- **Conserve** the historic character and setting of village settlement of Bulcote – new development should respect the scale, design

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

and materials used traditionally.

- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries.
- **Create** small scale woodlands and carry out appropriate tree planting to reduce the visual impact of large scale agricultural sheds and commercial development along the A612.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 8: Gunthorpe and Hoveringham Village Farmlands

Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

A flat valley landscape dominated by intensive arable land use. There are also small pockets of pasture. Field sizes vary from small paddocks adjacent to the village of Hoveringham to larger arable fields. Hoveringham Pastures lies to the west of the River Trent and is a designated SSSI and SINCR due to the species rich grassland.

The historic field pattern has largely been modified by the intensification of arable farming. The field pattern is semi-irregular with varied hedgerows – some trimmed Hawthorn hedges, gappy in places, some tall and well maintained. Hedgerows to the Hoveringham Pastures area are tall and bushy with mixed species, including Maple, Elder, Hawthorn etc. Outgrown Hawthorn hedges are also a feature within the policy zone.

There are small deciduous woodland copses and hedgerow trees are also common – mostly Ash with some stag-headed Oaks. Linear tree planting along roadsides and riparian trees along watercourses are also common features.

A large mineral extraction area to the east of Hoveringham has been restored to open water with recent tree planting to the fringes. A smaller mineral extraction area has been restored to a boat club to the north west of Hoveringham.

Ferry Farm Park to the east of Hoveringham is a small tourist attraction with a restaurant, play / picnic area, unusual farm animal breeds etc.

Hoveringham is dominated by red brick and pantile roofed properties. There are many Listed Buildings within Hoveringham and it also has a designated Conservation Area.

Within the villages, along roads and footpaths, views are enclosed by hedges and trees. There are open views to steep wooded bluffs to the east and to wooded slopes in the west. The large expanse of open water to the west of Hoveringham allows long distance views and pylons dominate the skyline.

TW PZ 8 Gunthorpe and Hoveringham Village Farmlands

<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p> 	<p>CONTEXT NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands Policy Zone: TW PZ 8 Landscape Character Parcel: TW13 and TW14</p>														
<p>CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A flat valley landscape with distant views to wooded bluffs to the east and wooded slopes to the west • Landscape dominated by intensive arable farming with some pasture adjacent to settlements • Historic villages characterised by vernacular and non-vernacular housing • Isolated farms and narrow winding roads • Large scale mineral extraction areas restored to open water 															
<p>LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS</p> <p>Landscape Condition</p> <p>The landscape condition is defined as good. There are few detracting features these include the busy A6097 to the west of Gunthorpe and pylons to the west. The large area of open water to the west of Hoveringham is featureless and pylons add to the negative impact; overall the area is visually unified.</p> <p>Hoveringham Pastures are designated as a SSSI and SINC. Lansic Lane Meadows to the west of Hoveringham is a species-rich hay meadow and is also designated as a SINC. Some hedgerows have been removed to create larger arable fields and as a result of mineral extraction. Historic field boundaries are more intact around the villages with small fields of pasture. Although some hedgerows are gappy, many are tall and bushy, particularly to the smaller areas of pasture. There are small isolated copses and blocks of deciduous woodland. Hedgerow trees are common and riparian trees / vegetation along watercourses provide a good network of wildlife corridors; this is a moderate habitat for wildlife. Overall the cultural integrity is variable, as some historic boundaries have been lost.</p> <p>A moderate habitat for wildlife and a variable cultural integrity leads</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Condition</th> <th>Good</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pattern of Elements:</td> <td>Coherent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detracting Features:</td> <td>Few</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual Unity:</td> <td>Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecological Integrity:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Integrity:</td> <td>Variable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Functional Integrity:</td> <td>Coherent</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Condition	Good	Pattern of Elements:	Coherent	Detracting Features:	Few	Visual Unity:	Unified	Ecological Integrity:	Moderate	Cultural Integrity:	Variable	Functional Integrity:	Coherent
Condition	Good														
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent														
Detracting Features:	Few														
Visual Unity:	Unified														
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate														
Cultural Integrity:	Variable														
Functional Integrity:	Coherent														

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

to a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is visually **unified** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The historic time depth is evident and the area contains features **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands RCA leading to a **moderate sense of place**. The historic field pattern is largely intact around the villages and there is evidence of ridge and furrow. Hoveringham has a designated Conservation Area and is characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings. Gunthorpe is characterised by a mix of both vernacular and more recent non-vernacular development to the fringes. There are many Listed Buildings within the villages. Large properties adjacent to the River Trent are not in keeping with the local character.

Views within the PZ are contained within villages and along roads but there are some long distance open views to steep wooded bluffs to the east and medium distance wooded slopes to the west, visibility in and out of the PZ is **moderate** overall. A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Insignificant
Extent of Tree Cover	Open
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape features

- **Conserve** existing hedgerows and seek opportunities to **restore** the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting.
- **Conserve** pastoral landscape and seek opportunities to **restore** arable land to permanent pasture/wet grassland.
- **Reinforce** and enhance ecological diversity of riparian vegetation to stream corridors.
- **Reinforce** ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- Promote measures for strengthening the existing level of tree cover.

Built features

- Restoration of mineral extraction areas should seek to avoid the creation of large featureless water bodies.
- **Conserve** the historic character and setting of village settlements of Gunthorpe and Hoveringham – new development should respect the scale, design and materials used traditionally.
- Commercial development should also respect the local character.
- **Conserve** the historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.
- **Create** small scale woodlands/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development.

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 9: Bleasby, Morton and Fiskerton Village Farmlands

Policy: Conserve

This area is largely flat with gentle undulations and contains the nucleated villages of Morton, Fiskerton and Bleasby. There is also a small group of houses at Gibsmere to the south and isolated farms.

This is a mixed farming area, with pasture prominent along roadsides and adjacent to villages. Field sizes vary from very small areas of pasture / paddocks to larger arable fields to peripheral areas. The historic field pattern is more in evidence around the villages and long narrow strip fields are also prominent. Much of the field pattern around the villages has remained intact since enclosure of the open fields. This took place in Morton between 1839 and 1841.

There are small isolated blocks of mixed deciduous woodland. Hedgerow trees are also common, largely Ash. Hedgerows are generally strong and tall with mixed species.

The historic settlements of Bleasby, Morton and Fiskerton (designated Conservation Areas with several Listed Buildings) are characterised by winding roads and red brick, pantile roofed buildings. The wall and metal railings to the bank of the Trent in Fiskerton give the river a suburban character in this location.

There are several SINC sites, including Bleasby Meadow (a damp alluvial grassland) and Wilson's Lane Meadows (species rich Trent Valley meadow).

The minor roads are fairly narrow and views are restricted by tall hedgerows. There are longer distance views along the Trent from Fiskerton and views of wooded hills to the north west.

There is a good network of footpaths, including the long distance Trent Valley Way along the western bank of the river.

TW PZ 9 Bleasby, Fiskerton and Morton Village Farmlands

<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p> 	<p>CONTEXT NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands Policy Zone: TW PZ 9 Landscape Character Parcel: TW15</p>														
<p>CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat, with some areas gently undulating • Mixed farming area with pasture concentrated around settlements and roads • Historic field pattern intact around villages with small enclosures, larger arable fields to peripheral areas • Historic nucleated villages of Morton, Fiskerton and Bleasby with red brick and pantile roofed buildings to the historic cores • Isolated farms and narrow winding roads 															
<p>LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS</p>														
<p>Landscape Condition</p> <p>The landscape condition is defined as very good. There are few detracting features. The railway line runs north east to south west along the western edge of the area. Pylons also run to the west of the railway line – these are outside the boundary but are visible from the PZ. There are small areas of horticulture with fields sub-divided by post and rail fences. There is a small caravan park to the north east of Gibsmere; overall this is a strongly visually unified area.</p> <p>There are several SINC's within the area, including Fiskerton-cum-Morton Pond and species rich meadows. Some hedgerows have been lost to create larger arable fields, but generally the historic field pattern is intact. Pasture is common and hedgerows are generally strong. Many of the hedgerows are mixed species and are well maintained. There are small isolated blocks of deciduous woodland. Hedgerow trees are common as well as riparian trees / vegetation along watercourses. The fragmented woodland and hedgerows provide a strong network of wildlife corridors.</p> <p>The historic villages are characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings and as the historic field pattern is generally intact the cultural integrity is good.</p> <p>A strong network for wildlife and a good cultural integrity leads to a</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Condition</th> <th>Very Good</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pattern of Elements:</td> <td>Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detracting Features:</td> <td>Few</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual Unity:</td> <td>Strongly unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecological Integrity:</td> <td>Strong</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Integrity:</td> <td>Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Functional Integrity:</td> <td>Very strong</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Condition	Very Good	Pattern of Elements:	Unified	Detracting Features:	Few	Visual Unity:	Strongly unified	Ecological Integrity:	Strong	Cultural Integrity:	Good	Functional Integrity:	Very strong
Condition	Very Good														
Pattern of Elements:	Unified														
Detracting Features:	Few														
Visual Unity:	Strongly unified														
Ecological Integrity:	Strong														
Cultural Integrity:	Good														
Functional Integrity:	Very strong														

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

very strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **strongly visually unified** with a **very strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The **historic time–depth** is evident. The historic field pattern is largely intact, particularly around the villages. Fiskerton, Morton and Bleasby are designated Conservation Areas with several Listed buildings. Recent development has been in keeping with the local character of the Trent Washlands LCA. Overall the sense of place is **moderate**.

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Insignificant
Extent of Tree Cover	Open
Visibility:	Moderate

Within the PZ views are often limited by strong roadside hedgerows which have often been allowed to grow tall. There are some open views along the Trent from Fiskerton and long distance views to wooded hills in the north west; overall the visibility in and out of the PZ is **moderate**.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Landscape features

- **Conserve** existing hedgerows and seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting.
- **Conserve** pastoral landscape and seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture/wet grassland.
- Promote measures for strengthening the existing level of tree cover.
- Strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream corridor.

Built features

- **Conserve** the historic character and setting of village settlements of Bleasby, Fiskerton and Morton – new development should respect the scale, design and materials used traditionally.
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.
- **Create** small scale woodlands/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: where one criteria is ‘very good’ this shifts the policy description into the next highest category

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 10: River Greet Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

This area is largely flat with gently undulating areas to the south west of Fiskerton Station. The landform rises up gently to Upton Village to the north of the area. The landscape is fragmented by the railway line running north east to south west.

Meandering streams are a strong feature with riparian trees and vegetation – Beck Dyke and the River Greet are most prominent.

Intensive arable farming is the dominant land use with some grazing and horticulture. Field sizes vary from very large to the north west and north east of the racecourse, to smaller fields adjacent to the railway line and to the south around Poplar Farm. There are small pockets of pasture, largely concentrated in the smaller fields to the south near the railway line. Hedgerow trees are also common in this area. Fiskerton and Upton have conservation areas with historic cores.

Tree cover is largely along streams with some small blocks of woodland and scattered hedgerow trees. Hedgerows are generally strong and well maintained. Mixed species hedgerows are common, particularly along roads and tracks. Some are trimmed with hedgerow trees, largely Ash. Some hedgerows are gappy to internal boundaries.

Pylons from Staythorpe power station cross the area in a few locations.

Southwell Racecourse dominates the landscape to the centre of the area, with associated car parking, hotel and a training centre etc. These are large scale features, not in keeping with the local character. A disused mineral railway line runs south of the racecourse – this is now a macadam track with a tall hedgerow to the edges. An equestrian centre to the south of the racecourse is large scale and untidy in some areas, but generally well screened.

Other features include the sewage works to the west, the household waste recycling centre off the road which crosses the railway line at Fiskerton Station. To the south east of the recycling centre lies a former quarry area restored partly to open water. The concrete hardstanding, weighbridge and rusty gates remain at the entrance.

There are few residential properties, largely isolated farms.

TW PZ 10 River Greet Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Flat, with some areas gently undulating
- Intensive arable farming area with small pockets of pasture
- Small isolated blocks of deciduous woodland
- Southwell Racecourse is a prominent large scale development
- Isolated farms and narrow winding roads

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

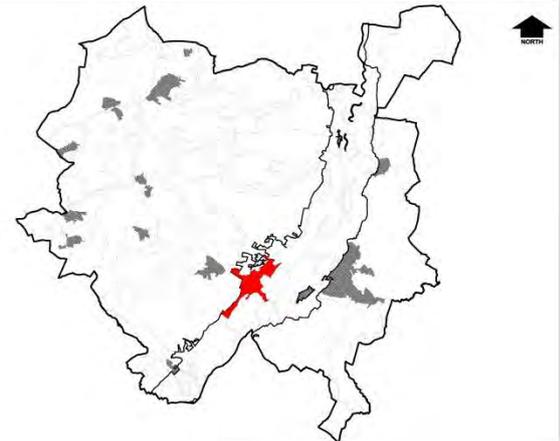
The Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**. There are **some** detracting features. The railway line runs north east to south west through the area. Pylons also cross the area in several places. The racecourse is a large scale development which is not in keeping with local character and is untidy in appearance in some areas with large scale sheds, chain link fencing and Leylandii hedging. A former quarry area has been restored to open water with some tree planting but the site appears to have been abandoned, leaving the weighbridge, concrete hardstanding and other site infrastructure in place. Overall the PZ is **visually coherent**.

There are several SINC designations, largely species rich grassland, damp meadow and others associated with drains and ponds. Although the historic field pattern has been considerably degraded, the remaining hedgerows are generally intact, particularly along roads and tracks. The cultural integrity is therefore **variable**. Hedgerows are largely mature with mixed species and together with riparian vegetation along watercourses, which form a **moderate** network for wildlife.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually coherent** with a coherent functional integrity / habitat for

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 10
Landscape Character Parcel: TW 16



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The **historic time–depth is evident** in places where smaller field boundaries have survived the intensification of farming. Isolated farmhouses are generally **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands LCA. More recent developments at the racecourse and equestrian centre are out of character. The landscape appears degraded / neglected in places, particularly around the racecourse and the former quarry area. The sense of place is **moderate**.

Views are often limited by strong roadside hedgerows which have often been allowed to grow tall. There are open views along the Trent from Fiskerton and long distance views to wooded hills in the north west. Overall the visibility of the PZ is **moderate**.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape features

- **Conserve** existing hedgerows and seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting.
- **Conserve** pasture areas and seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture/alluvial wet grassland.
- **Conserve** and enhance ‘meadowland’ hedgerows.
- Promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries.
- Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting to reduce the visual impact of large scale agricultural sheds or developments associated with the racecourse.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 11: Cromwell, North and South Muskham
Policy: Conserve and Create**

This is a predominantly flat, large scale, arable landscape with large semi-irregular fields; often with low trimmed gappy hedgerows. Smaller fields of pasture / hay lie adjacent to settlements.

Hedgerows are mostly Hawthorn with some mixed species hedgerows, particularly along roadsides and near to / within villages. Hedgerows are often missing, or very gappy within large arable fields. The historic field pattern has largely been lost as a result of intensive arable farming and fragmentation has occurred as a result of provision of transport routes.

Woodland cover is insignificant – tree cover is largely roadside planting and hedgerow trees – including Ash, Oak and some Willow. Tree planting has also taken place to the periphery of mineral workings which have been restored to open water.

Some mineral extraction has taken place to the north and restoration has largely been to open water. Fishing lakes have been created to the north of Cromwell and at Sapphire Lakes to the south west of Cromwell. Mineral workings between the railway line and the A1 to the east of South Muskham are a designated SINC – Reference 5/1247. Greenaway Fish Ponds to the north of Rolleston are historic and are a designated SINC.

Villages are nucleated with some linear development along main roads. Villages are characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings to the historic cores. Newer housing to the peripheries are often non-vernacular in style. The villages of Averham and Kelham have designated Conservation Areas and contain many Listed Buildings. There are also several Scheduled Ancient Monuments within this area.

Kelham Hall (now Newark and Sherwood District Council offices) is surrounded by mature tree cover and the parkland landscape is still in evidence.

The golf course to the east of Southwell Racecourse, the hotel to the west of Kelham Hall and the National Grid station at Staythorpe / Averham with its associated pylons are all prominent features in this area.

There is some commercial development including fishing lakes, a brewery and camping site at Cromwell, and stables; as well as petrol stations to serve A1 traffic. Recent development is not always in keeping with the rural landscape.

Historic roads connecting the villages are generally meandering, whereas the A1 which cuts through the landscape to the north has resulted in some fragmentation of farmland.

Views are often open across the flat landscape and more enclosed along narrow roads with hedgerows and within villages.

TW PZ 11 Cromwell, North and South Muskham, Kelham, Averham, Staythorpe and Rolleston Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- A flat, large scale intensive arable landscape.
- Medium to large-sized semi-irregular fields with hedgerows intact but fragmented in places.
- Smaller field sizes adjacent to villages with pasture
- Former mineral extraction areas restored to open water, often with tree planting to periphery.
- Landscape fragmented by busy roads and railway.
- Winding roads between the villages with strong hedgerows.
- Nucleated villages with red brick and pantile roofed buildings to the historic core.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

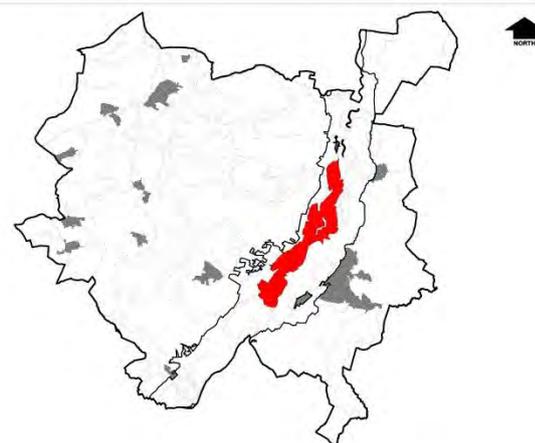
The Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**. The landscape has been fragmented in places by transport routes, including the busy A1 to the north east of the area. There are **some** detracting features which include the National Grid power station to the south of Averham, pylons, the railway line and busy roads. There is some commercial development, not always in keeping with a rural landscape. Overall the area is **visually coherent**.

There are several SINC, including former gravel extraction areas, fish ponds and drains with notable plant communities, damp grasslands etc. The historic field pattern has largely disappeared but, where hedgerows have been allowed to grow tall and bushy, they provide a **moderate** network for wildlife. There are a few small isolated woodland blocks, but tree cover is largely along transport routes, to the periphery of restored gravel workings and with occasional hedgerow trees.

The villages are characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings, with more recent non-vernacular development to the fringes. Taken together with the loss of field pattern, the cultural

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 11
Landscape Character Parcel TW17 and TW20



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

integrity is **variable**.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually coherent** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The historic time-depth has been degraded by intensive arable farming, transport routes and mineral extraction. However, the historic settlement with small areas of pasture and narrow county roads are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands LCA. The historic parkland landscape still exists around Kelham Hall. The villages of Kelham and Averham are designated conservation areas. Overall the sense of place is **moderate**.

Views are often open due to lack of tree cover and the flat valley landform. Within villages, and along winding often narrow country roads with hedgerows, views are more enclosed. The visibility of the PZ is **moderate**.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape features

- **Conserve** and restore the traditional pattern of hedged fields – seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern.
- **Conserve** the historic woodland and parkland landscape around Kelham Hall.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture/wet alluvial grassland close to the River Trent.
- Promote measures for strengthening the existing level of tree cover.
- Strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream corridors.

- **Built features**
- Restoration of mineral workings should provide varied habitats rather than large expanses of open water.
- **Conserve** the character and setting of village settlements of Cromwell, North and South Muskham, Averham, Staythorpe and Rolleston.
- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around above existing settlements.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new development within historic enclosed boundaries, restoring hedgerow boundaries where necessary.
- **Conserve** historic sites within the landscape including Scheduled Ancient monuments and associated earthworks
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.
- **Create** small scale woodlands/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development.

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 12: Farndon Village Farmlands
Policy: Create

This is a flat, open, arable landscape with some small scale pastoral landscapes around the junction of the A46 and the B6166 to the north and to the southern edge near the small village of Thorpe.

The pasture tends to be grazed by horses and runs directly to the west and east of the A46. However, on the whole, this is an intensively farmed arable landscape with the major agricultural land use being cereal and oil seed rape production.

There are several commercial buildings within this landscape such as a plant nursery, farm shop, small industrial sheds and garages. Some of these developments are enclosed by tall coniferous hedges which are easily discernible in this flat open landscape. The historic core of Farndon lies within a Conservation Area and there are several Listed buildings in this area. Detached houses with suburban gardens run either side of the A46 to the northern half of this area.

This is a modified landscape within a few small fields reflecting the open field layout to the north of the A46. Loss of internal hedgerows within the arable landscape has led to an open landscape. Hedgerows with some hedgerow trees are strongest along lanes. There are a few small isolated blocks of woodland such as Lady Masham Fox Covert to the south.

Pylons and power lines cross the area within the southern section of this area and there is a sewage works within the central section of this area.

There are some longer views out across large arable fields to the built edge of Newark to the north and the A46 and Farndon to the west.

TW PZ 12 Farndon Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands,
Policy Zone: TW PZ 12
Landscape Character Parcel TW18



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- A predominantly large scale, flat arable landscape
- Small woodland plantations
- Views dominated by power lines and pylons to the south
- Suburban influences of housing on the edge of Newark and Farndon

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is defined as **poor**. There is a **coherent** pattern of landscape elements with **some** detracting features which include power lines, commercial buildings, busy roads and road junctions. Overall the area is **visually coherent**.

There is very limited tree cover within this area, with some trees within highways land near the roundabout junction on the A46 and within the gardens of properties in Farndon. Trees are also found adjacent to the grass verges along the minor road to Thorpe and deciduous woodland within Lady Masham Fox Covert. There are some small isolated areas of woodland and scrub to the south of the area. There is one SINC in this area, which is the water course of the River Devon designated for its riparian features and locally diverse aquatic flora. The ecological integrity is defined as **weak**.

The field pattern shows that a few of the historic field boundaries are intact but many intervening boundaries have been removed. Primary hedgerows have also been removed in some locations and where they do exist they are often gappy. The overall cultural integrity is described as **variable**

A **weak** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **weak** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Poor
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual unity	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Weak
Cultural Integrity	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Weak

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

visually coherent with a **weak** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **poor** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **low**. The features that are characteristic of the Trent Washlands which give the area its local distinctiveness have largely been removed. The field boundaries that still remain and which are shown on the Sanderson Plan tend to be those that follow dykes (Dodge Dyke) and minor water courses down to the River Devon. The continuity / time-depth is described as **recent** which gives a **very weak** sense of place.

The landform is **apparent** and generally there is little tree cover which leads to **high** visibility.

A **very weak** sense of place with a **high** degree of visibility leads to **low** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity

Low

Distinctiveness:	Indistinct
Continuity:	Recent
Sense of Place	Very Weak
Landform	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Open
Visibility:	High

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Create

Landscape features

- Seek opportunities to **recreate** historic field boundaries where these have been lost.
- Seek opportunities to **restore** arable land to permanent pasture.
- **Reinforce** hedgerows where these are gappy and in poor condition particularly along road sides.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors with native planting.

Built features

- Enhance the appearance and visual unity of urban fringes and settlement edges with new tree and woodland planting to create filtered views.
- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 13: Manor Farm River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This is largely a flat landscape to the west of the Trent Valley, gently undulating to the south and west. The gently rolling landscape of the Mid-Nottinghamshire Farmlands lies to the west.

The landscape is dominated by arable farming, with some pasture around Bathley and to the south. The historic field pattern has largely disappeared in the north – fields are large and open with the railway line running north to south. The field pattern is more intact to the south and, where remaining, hedgerows are generally bushy and well maintained. To the north, hedgerows are more gappy.

There is a small block of mixed deciduous woodland to the north, but tree cover is largely riparian species along watercourses and elsewhere hedgerow trees are common – largely Ash and Oak. There are also occasional mature trees within fields – mostly Oak.

There are no SINC's or other ecological designations, but watercourses and hedgerows provide a reasonable network for wildlife.

There are isolated farms and properties within Bathley village which lie outside the area.

TW PZ 13 Manor Farm River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- A large scale arable landscape, gently undulating to the west
- Medium to large scale regular field pattern, with larger open fields to the north of Bathley
- Smaller field sizes to the south with some pasture adjacent to Bathley
- Hedgerow trees are a common feature.
- Streams and ditches with riparian trees and vegetation
- Isolated farms and nucleated village

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is defined as **good**. The landscape has been fragmented to the north by the railway line running north to south through the area. There are **few** detracting features within the area; the main feature being pylons. Overall the area is **visually coherent**.

There are no SINC's or other ecological designations in the area. The historic field pattern has largely disappeared to the north and hedgerows are often gappy. Elsewhere hedgerows are bushy and well maintained, particularly to the south. Tree cover is mostly within hedgerows and along watercourses, with occasional isolated Oak trees within fields. Hedgerows and watercourses provide a **moderate** network for wildlife.

The cultural integrity is **variable**, in that the field pattern has been eroded to the north but persists in the south; also large scale sheds to farms are not in keeping with the rural landscape

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually coherent** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 13
Landscape Character Parcel TW21



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition

Good

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

wildlife gives a good landscape condition.																	
Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate. The historic time–depth has been degraded by intensive arable farming. However, there are still small pockets of pasture with intact hedgerows. Some pasture areas have been sub-divided with post and wire fences to provide grazing for horses.</p> <p>Only part of the village of Bathley is within the PZ, this part contains red brick and pantile roof buildings characteristic of the Trent Washlands LCA. The area as a whole has a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>There are open views, particularly to the north. Views are more enclosed to the south due to greater tree cover and views are enclosed by valley side hills to the west. The landform is apparent and generally there is intermittent tree cover which leads to moderate visibility. A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to moderate landscape sensitivity</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve and restore the traditional pattern of hedged fields – seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern. Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture. Reinforce and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors. Promote measures for reinforcing the existing level of tree cover through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting. Promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands. Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. Conserve and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape. <p>Built features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve the character and setting of village settlement of Bathley with small scale pastoral landscapes on the fringes. Conserve the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries. Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings. Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 14: Holme Village Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This is a flat, mixed farming area. Medium sized semi-irregular arable fields are enclosed by low hedgerows to the east of Holme village. To the west, around the village, the historic field pattern has been retained with small areas of pasture enclosed by tall mixed species hedgerows. Tree species include Ash and Elm, with Elder, Field Maple and Hawthorn as smaller tree species.

Narrow winding lanes are enclosed by tall mixed species hedgerows which enclose views within the village. There are long distance views to the north, east and south. Views to the west are more enclosed.

There is a small block of mixed deciduous woodland to the east and there are occasional hedgerow trees.

Holme is characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings. There are several Listed Buildings within the village. Recent housing development is in keeping with the local character

There are large scale farm buildings with a variety of materials. Some farm buildings are derelict, giving a feeling of neglect.

TW PZ 14 Holme Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- A flat valley landscape with medium sized semi-irregular arable fields to the east
- Small scale pasture adjacent to the village
- Mixed species hedgerows along roads, tracks and enclosing pasture
- Nucleated village characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape condition is defined as **very good**. The pattern of elements of the area is **coherent** and there are **few** detracting features – those present include large scale farm sheds which are often in a poor state of repair and built from a variety of materials, such as breeze block and corrugated metal. Some red brick buildings within the village are also derelict. Overall the area is **visually unified**.

There are no SINC's or other ecological designations in the area. Mixed species hedgerows are largely intact and well maintained. Hedgerows provide a **moderate** network for wildlife. Some hedgerows to the south are gappy and in decline.

Tree cover is mostly within hedgerows. There are occasional mature trees within areas of pasture adjacent to the River Trent. A small block of mixed deciduous woodland lies to the east.

Recent housing development has been in keeping with the local character and the historic field pattern is still in evidence, particularly around Holme village. Overall the cultural integrity is **good**.

A **moderate** ecological network and a **good** cultural integrity lead to a

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 14
Landscape Character Parcel: TW 25



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The landscape sensitivity is defined as **low**. The historic time–depth is strong within the village. The historic field pattern shown on Sanderson’s 1835 map is still in evidence and mixed species hedgerows are well maintained, giving a **moderate** sense of place. The key elements of the PZ are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands.

Views within the village and along roads and tracks are fairly enclosed by tall hedgerows. Views to the north, east and south are more open. The landform is **insignificant** with **intermittent** tree cover giving a low visibility in and out of the area.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **low** degree of visibility leads to a **low** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity

Low

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Insignificant
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and reinforce

Landscape features

- **Conserve** and **reinforce** the traditional pattern of hedged fields.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture/wet grassland.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors.
- Promote measures for strengthening the existing level of tree cover.

Built features

- **Conserve** the character and setting of village settlement of Holme with small scale pastoral landscapes.
- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular materials and styles.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB Where one criterion is ‘very good’ this shifts the policy description into the next highest category.

**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 15: Foxholes Farm Village Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

This is largely a flat valley landscape, rising gently to the west. The field pattern is semi-irregular with small to medium sized arable fields and small pockets of pasture.

Tall hedgerows with trees are common; these include Ash and Oak, particularly to the south. Some hedgerows are gappy or missing and the historic field pattern has largely been degraded due to intensive arable farming.

A small block of woodland, dominated by Oak, lies to the south of Foxholes Farm,

Winding watercourses with riparian trees and vegetation are a common feature.

A small area of open water lies to the south which is probably a former quarry area.

Pylons run north to south to the west and the railway line runs north to south in the east.

Views are generally medium distance and more open to the north where there is little tree cover.

TW PZ 15 Foxholes Farm Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- A flat valley landscape with small to medium sized semi-irregular fields
- Landscape dominated by intensive arable land use with small pockets of pasture
- Meandering watercourses with riparian trees and vegetation
- Trimmed Hawthorn hedges with some mixed species hedgerows along roads and tracks
- Isolated farms

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is defined as **good**. There are **few** detracting features – these include pylons to the south west and the railway line to the eastern edge. Overall the area is **visually unified**.

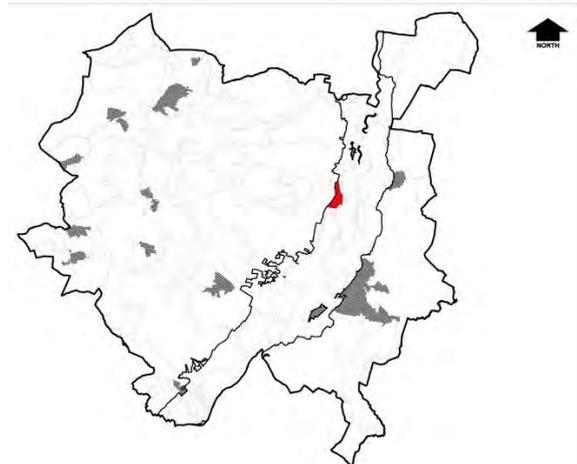
There are no SINCs or other ecological designations in the area. Mixed species hedgerows are largely intact and well maintained. Hedgerows and streams provide a **moderate** network for wildlife. Some hedgerows are gappy or missing in places, particularly to the north. Tree cover is mostly within hedgerows and along watercourses – Ash, Oak and Willow. A small triangular copse dominated by Oak lies to the south of Foxholes Farm.

Foxholes Farm has traditional brick buildings, with some more modern large scale sheds. A small group of houses lies to the south east – these are mostly red brick and vary in age. Cultural integrity is defined as **variable** due to the loss of the historic field pattern in some areas.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape SubType: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 15
Landscape Character Parcel TW23



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

is **visually unified** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The historic time–depth has been degraded by the removal of hedgerows due to the intensification of arable farming. However, the historic field pattern is more intact to the south west of Foxholes Farm where small fields are intact with tall strong hedgerows. The sense of place is **moderate**.

Views are generally medium distance from the north. Views are more enclosed to the south around Foxholes Farm due to tree cover and tall hedgerows. The landform is **apparent** and generally there is **intermittent** tree cover which leads to **moderate** visibility.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape features

- **Conserve** and reinforce the traditional pattern of hedged fields – seek opportunities to replace historic field boundaries
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors
- Promote measures for strengthening the existing level of tree cover

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 16: Westfield Farm Village Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Create**

This is a flat, arable landscape that rises slightly to the south along Westfield Lane. Tracks and narrow lanes run east west across this area in the direction of the River Trent. These lanes are often enclosed with established mixed hedges of Hawthorn, with Elm and Ash. There are some gappy hedges which are often the internal hedges within arable areas.

This is a relatively isolated and unsettled landscape reflecting its position within the Trent Valley flood plain. There is a communications mast off Westfield Lane and a farm house (Ferry Lane Farm) off Carlton Ferry Lane. A line of pylons tracks northward across this area.

The majority of this area reflects the open field layout with some modified fields to the north west edge.

There are 2 SINCs - Horse Pool and Westfield Verges - that are noted for their flora including species that are characteristic of blown sand. There are also wide grass verges with a range of wild flower species along Carlton Ferry Lane.

TW PZ 16 Westfield Farm Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- A flat, arable landscape crossed by lanes running down to the River Trent
- Actively worked mineral site with sand cliffs
- Flooded mineral site to the north
- Hawthorn hedges with hedgerow trees along lanes

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The landscape condition is defined as **moderate**. There is a **coherent** pattern of landscape elements with **some** detracting features which include power lines that run north to south, mineral extraction to the north eastern corner and a telephone mast. The area is **visually coherent**.

The historic field pattern shows that the majority of the area reflects the open field layout with **some** modified fields to the north west edge. The cultural integrity is **variable** in that although historic field patterns are present in some areas they have been lost in others due to mineral extraction.

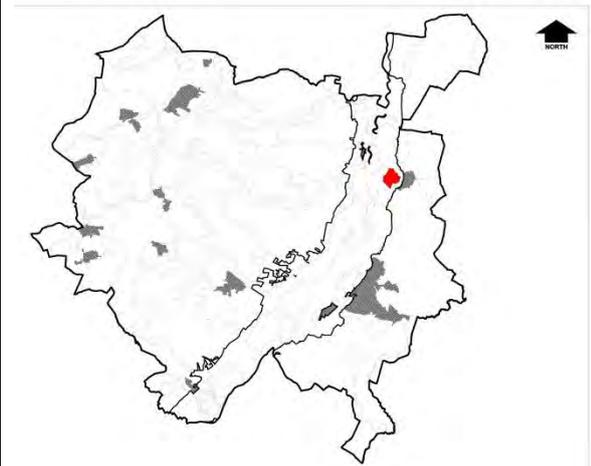
Lanes, bridle ways and footpaths are all points of access from the River to the settlements on slightly higher ground out of the immediate flood plain of the River Trent. These are often enclosed by established hedges with occasional Ash trees.

There are 2 SINCS - Westfield Lane Verges noted for the verges supporting flora characteristic of blown sand and Horse Pool Collingham to the west which is a small pool with a rich diversity of aquatic plants. Fields are generally arable with a few fields of pasture. The ecological network is **moderate**.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 16
Landscape Character Parcel TW24



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Some

Visual Unity: Coherent

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Variable

Functional Integrity: Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

to a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually coherent** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The key elements of this landscape are generally **characteristic** and **historic**, which gives a **moderate** sense of place.

The landform and elements are **apparent** with a slight rise up to higher ground on which there is a telephone mast. The presence of hedgerow trees (mostly Ash) and the outgrown form of some of the hedges tends to restrict longer views out into the wider landscape and so the visibility is **moderate**. Tree cover is also found within a small copse to the south but generally the cover is **intermittent**.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense Of Place	Moderate
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Landform	Apparent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape features

- **Create** new wetland habitats through positive habitat creation and management within former mineral extraction sites.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture.
- **Conserve** and extend the diversity of highway grass verges by appropriate management.
- **Create** a more wooded landscape by introducing hedgerow trees where appropriate.
- **Conserve** and restore the traditional pattern of hedged fields.
- Strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream corridors.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 17: Besthorpe River Meadowlands
Policy: Create and Reinforce

This is a large scale, low lying landscape which follows the meandering course of the River Trent. Mineral extraction and intensive arable farming are the dominant land uses within this area. Several sand and gravel quarries are situated to the eastern bank along the Trent River Valley. There is a large active quarry to the north of Girton Grange and open areas of water at Cromwell. Some of the smaller water bodies are used for recreational purposes such as sailing and fishing and some have established nature reserves such as Besthorpe Nature Reserve.

Arable fields are medium to large and at the time of survey were used for cereal and oil seed rape production. Areas of pasture are fragmented and relatively small with some linear stretches along the river. Grassed flood bunds follow the line of the Trent and several small water courses and ditches drain into the river.

Some of these former gravel extraction sites, such as those around Girton, have been restored to open water and others to wetland habitats surrounded by both recent woodland planting and some regenerating scrub. Hedgerow trees are more frequent in primary hedgerows, the most common species being Ash. Hawthorn, Ash and Willow tend to follow lines of water courses.

There is little settlement in this area being a low lying flood plain. Villages tend to be situated on the slightly higher land on the periphery of the adjoining policy area Collingham, Besthorpe and Girton all have conservation areas and there are several Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the area. There are open views south west from the area around Besthorpe to low wooded hills. Pylons tend to be particularly prominent against the skyline and the cooling towers of High Marnham power station, although they are outside this area, are visible.

TW PZ 17 Besthorpe River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- A flat, low lying landscape against the River Trent.
- Medium to large scale fields in arable production.
- Hawthorn hedgerows with hedgerow trees along lanes and tracks.
- Deciduous woodland scrub associated with restored quarry sites.
- Open long distance views often with pylon lines and power stations on the skyline.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

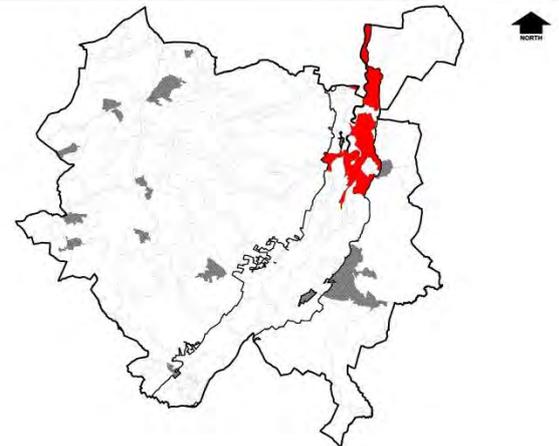
The landscape condition is defined **moderate**. This is a long stretch of the River Trent corridor that is either actively being worked for sand and gravel, restored to wetlands and open water, or is in intensive arable production. As such the pattern of elements is **coherent** with **some** detracting features including the active quarries, the railway viaduct, and pylons and power lines. This generally leaves a landscape that is **visually coherent**.

There are several SINC's and a SSSI in the area which are associated with the older more established habitats around some of the former sand and gravel quarries. However the arable fields are intensively farmed with gappy hedgerows and few hedgerow trees giving an ecological integrity of **moderate**. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that much of the historic field pattern has been lost due to mineral extraction.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually coherent** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 17
Landscape Character Parcel TW25 and TW28



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
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Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
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Detracting Features:	Some
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Visual Unity:	Coherent
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Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
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Cultural Integrity:	Variable
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Functional Integrity:	Coherent
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**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Low																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as low. Although the wetland and riparian vegetation is characteristic of the Trent Washlands, this is a landscape that has been substantially modified by sand and gravel extraction and the removal of the historic field pattern. It therefore has a weak sense of place. Elsewhere woodland scrub around the restored gravel sites, hedges and hedgerow trees gives an intermittent level of tree cover.</p> <p>A weak sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to low landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Recent</p> <p>Sense of Place: Weak</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Create and Reinforce																	
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek opportunities to recreate the historic field pattern where appropriate. Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture. Promote measures for strengthening the level of tree cover through appropriate small scale woodland planting and hedgerow tree planting. Reinforce and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors. Conserve pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands. This is a priority habitat for this area. Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of isolated farm buildings using vernacular building styles. Conserve the sparsely settled rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements of Besthorpe and Girton. Conserve historic field pattern where it exists by containing new small scale development within historic boundaries, maintain existing hedgerows, restore and reinforce poor hedgerow boundaries where necessary. Conserve and respect the local vernacular of red brick and pantile roof construction in any new development. Promote sensitive design and setting of new agricultural and industrial/commercial buildings. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
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Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 18: Low Marnham, Carlton and Sutton on Trent River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

The northern part of the Policy Zone is a flat, open landscape which is largely in arable use. The area to the south, around the linear settlements of Carlton on Trent and Sutton on Trent, is a smaller scale landscape with fields of pasture. Both villages have conservation areas and contain several listed buildings. There is also an orchard and garden nursery between these villages.

Newer infill development is found within these areas and there are a few isolated dwellings that are generally farms to the south of Low Marnham.

Tree cover consists of narrow belts of trees along the A1 and planting around water bodies. There are some mature parkland trees associated with Carlton Hall.

A few hedgerows have hedgerow trees mostly Ash with a few Oak, Poplar and Willow. Ingram Lane connects Grassthorne to Sutton and is a very narrow lane with mixed species hedgerows.

The field pattern is made up of semi-regular fields to the south east and around Low Marnham with a modified field pattern elsewhere.

There are long distance views out across the arable landscape to the wooded skylines to the east with some views of the cooling towers at High Marnham power station to the north.

TW PZ 18 Low Marnham, Carlton and Sutton on Trent Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- A flat, low lying landscape.
- Medium scale fields in arable production.
- Smaller fields of pasture around villages
- Red brick and pantile roofed villages.
- Narrow lanes often enclosed by mixed species hedges.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **moderate**. There are **some** detracting features in this area which include industrial units west of the A1 and west of Carlton on Trent. There is also a short section of the A1 and a railway line within this area, overall it is a **visually coherent** area.

There is one small SINC site - Low Marnham Grassland - within this area but away from the settlements of Carlton and Sutton, fields are in intensive arable use. Field boundaries are trimmed within arable areas with some thicker hedges along lanes and within fields of pasture. Hedgerow trees tend to be Ash. The ecological integrity of the area is **moderate**.

The built features are generally the village settlements that have traditional redbrick village cores with more recent infill housing. Field patterns tend to be more intact in those fields around the village settlements with large modified fields to the north giving a **variable** cultural integrity.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity /habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually coherent** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 18
Landscape Character Parcel TW26



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Some

Visual Unity: Coherent

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Variable

Functional Integrity: Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity	Moderate																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate. The small woodland copses and the hedged lanes are characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA and the red brick houses and walls within the core of the village settlements are generally historic which gives a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>There are some longer distance views out across the flat landscape to the cooling towers of High Marnham power station to the north but, generally, this is a landscape with moderate visibility where only the limited tree cover around villages and within hedges screens views.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to moderate landscape sensitivity</p>	<p>Distinctiveness:</p> <p>Continuity:</p> <p>Sense of Place:</p> <p>Landform:</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover</p> <p>Visibility:</p>	<p>Characteristic</p> <p>Historic</p> <p>Moderate</p> <p>Insignificant</p> <p>Open</p> <p>Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create																		
<p>Landscape Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to recreate the historic field pattern. • Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture. • Promote measures for strengthening the level of tree cover by creating small scale woodlands and hedgerow tree planting where appropriate. • Reinforce and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors. • Conserve pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands. • Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. <p>Built Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of isolated farm buildings using vernacular building styles. • Conserve the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements of Low Marnham, Carlton and Sutton on Trent. • Conserve historic field pattern by containing new small scale development within historic boundaries, maintain existing hedgerows, restore and reinforce poor hedgerow boundaries where necessary. • Conserve and respect the local vernacular of red brick and pantile roof construction in any new development. • Promote sensitive design and setting of new agricultural or industrial/commercial buildings. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Sensitivity</p>		Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE															
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE															
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE															
	Low	Moderate	High															

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 19: Grange Farm River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

This is a flat, valley landform with some long distance views to wooded skylines. The area surrounding Grassthorpe is largely an area of intensive arable farming. Fields are generally small to medium in size.

Hedgerows are generally trimmed and gappy in places. Hedgerow trees and roadside trees are common, including Ash and Sycamore.

There are isolated farms; Grange Farm has a red brick vernacular style house with more recent farm buildings.

TW PZ 19 Grange Farm River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Land use predominantly arable farming
- Small to medium-sized semi-irregular fields
- Trimmed Hawthorn hedgerows, which are gappy in places
- Hedgerow trees and roadside trees are common
- Isolated farms

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **moderate**. The **only** detracting feature is a railway line to the south west edge of the Policy Zone. Overall the area is **visually unified**.

There are no SINCs or other ecological designations in the area. Hedgerows are generally trimmed and are gappy in places. The ditch to the north of Grange Farm has little riparian vegetation. Tree cover is mostly within hedgerows and along watercourses; the ecological integrity is therefore **weak**.

The historic field pattern has deteriorated with the removal of hedgerows for arable production, therefore the cultural integrity is **variable**.

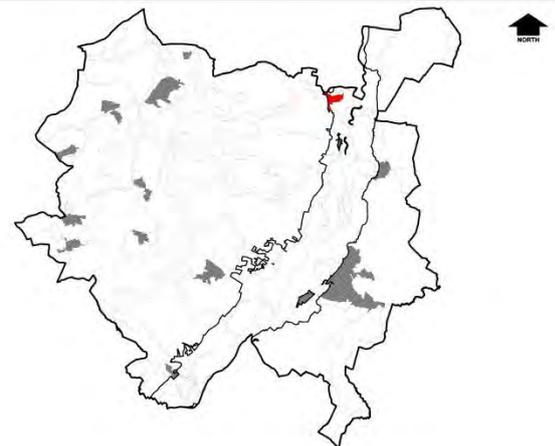
A **weak** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **weak** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually coherent** with a **weak** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **moderate** landscape condition

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The historic time-depth

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 19
Landscape Character Parcel TW27



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Weak

Cultural Integrity: Variable

Functional Integrity: Weak

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

has been degraded by the loss of the historic field pattern although some red brick vernacular buildings remain such as Grange Farm which are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands RCA, the **sense of place** is **moderate**.

The **limited** tree cover together with the **flat** landform mean that visibility in and out of the PZ is **moderate**.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity

Continuity: Historic
Sense of Place: Moderate
Landform: Insignificant
Extent of Tree Cover: Open
Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape features

- **Conserve** the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to recreate the historic field pattern.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture.
- Promote measures for strengthening the level of tree cover through appropriate small scale woodland planting and hedgerow tree planting.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors.
- **Conserve** pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 26: Gunthorpe Village Farmlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This is a flat valley landscape dominated by improved and unimproved pasture in small to medium sized fields. The historic field pattern is still in evidence around Gunthorpe village and adjacent to the River Trent. Small floristically rich meadows adjacent to the Trent are enclosed by tall gappy hedgerows, largely Hawthorn, with Oak and Ash trees.

There are small fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland, and pollarded Willows are a feature in this area.

Mixed species hedgerows are common. There is a good example along Peck Lane, possibly an Ancient Hedgerow.

There are roadside trees to the A6097 including Horse Chestnut, Lime and Hornbeam.

A small fishing lake lies to the south east of Gunthorpe.

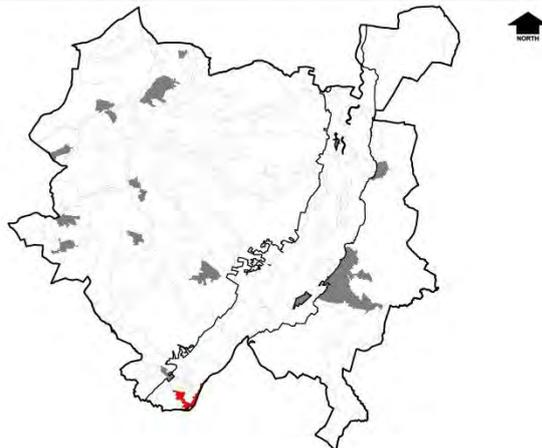
There are pubs, cafes and car parks with associated signage along the river to the south of Gunthorpe. Development around Gunthorpe Lock appears to have been piecemeal. The Trent Valley Way recreational footpath runs along the river bank.

The River Trent between Gunthorpe and Fiskerton is designated as a SINC due to its high wildlife value.

Gunthorpe lies adjacent to the busy A6097. There are many Listed Buildings within the historic core of the village, but more recent development is a mixture of vernacular and non-vernacular styles which are not in keeping with the local character.

Views are restricted within Gunthorpe and along roads due to hedgerows and tree cover. There are medium distance views to wooded scarp slopes to the north west and south east.

TW PZ 26 Gunthorpe Village Farmlands

<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p>	<p>CONTEXT</p>														
	<p>NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands Draft Policy Zone: TW PZ 26 Landscape Character Parcel TW12, TW13</p> 														
<p>CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dominated by pasture, both improved and semi-improved • Small to medium-sized semi-irregular fields • Mixed species hedgerows and outgrown Hawthorn hedgerows • Hedgerow trees and roadside trees are common • Nucleated village with vernacular and non-vernacular development • Medium distance views 															
<p>LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS</p>														
<p>Landscape Condition</p> <p>The overall condition of this landscape is defined as good. The pattern of elements within this area is coherent and there are few detracting features which include pylons to the north west and the busy A6097 to the western edge of Gunthorpe. Commercial development around Gunthorpe Lock appears to have been piecemeal - largely pubs and car parks/signage. Overall this is a visually unified area.</p> <p>The historic field pattern is well maintained, although hedgerows have been allowed to deteriorate in places, therefore overall the cultural integrity is variable. A series of small, floristically rich meadows lie to the west of the River Trent. Tall gappy Hawthorn hedges are common here with Oak and Ash trees. The River Trent in this location is designated as a SINC due to its high wildlife value. Bushy, mixed species hedgerows with trees and small copses provide a moderate network for wildlife.</p> <p>A moderate network for wildlife and a variable cultural integrity leads to a coherent functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is visually unified with a coherent functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a good landscape condition.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Condition</th> <th>Good</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pattern of Elements:</td> <td>Coherent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detracting Features:</td> <td>Few</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual Unity:</td> <td>Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecological Integrity:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Integrity:</td> <td>Variable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Functional Integrity:</td> <td>Coherent</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Condition	Good	Pattern of Elements:	Coherent	Detracting Features:	Few	Visual Unity:	Unified	Ecological Integrity:	Moderate	Cultural Integrity:	Variable	Functional Integrity:	Coherent
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Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate. There is a moderate sense of place with floristically rich meadows along the River Trent and old mixed species hedgerows being common – a good example is along Peck Lane. Piecemeal development to the south of Gunthorpe and non-vernacular development has however eroded the sense of place around the village.</p> <p>The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands and the continuity/time depth is described as historic (post 1600)</p> <p>There are medium distance views to wooded scarp slopes to the north west and south east. The landform is apparent and there is intermittent tree cover which leads to a moderate visibility</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to moderate landscape sensitivity</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve and Reinforce																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern. • Conserve pasture and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity and restore wet grassland regimes. • Reinforce and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors. • Promote measures for reinforcing the existing level of tree cover. <p>Built features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote measures for reinforcing the local character by a more unified approach to river side/commercial development. • Reinforce local character by ensuring that future development respects the local style, scale and traditional materials of the policy zone. • Conserve the integrity and rural character of the landscape by concentrating the new developments around the existing urban fringe of Gunthorpe. • Conserve the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries. • Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings. • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles. • Create small scale woodlands / tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 27: Caythorpe and Gonalston
Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve**

This is a flat, low-lying landscape located within the valley floor of the River Trent. The area is located to the north-east of the settlement of Lowdham, and to the south of the settlement of Gonalston. Caythorpe village lies within the area to the south. The Nottingham to Newark railway line runs from the south west to the north east across the centre of the area.

The area comprises of predominantly small irregular fields of improved and unimproved pasture and meadow surrounding the village settlements of Caythorpe and Gonalston. There are larger arable fields to the south and north-west, and a small orchard is located to the centre of the area.

The area has a low woodland cover. However, the tree belts and scrub concentrated around settlements and alongside ditches and water bodies gives the impression of a more wooded landscape. The area is visually contained by low hills to the far north-west and south-east.

The field boundaries are enclosed by hedgerows with hedgerow trees (Ash, Willow). Hedgerows with trees (Oak, Birch) also follow narrow lanes and the railway line. The fields of pasture are enclosed by thicker hedgerows and isolated field trees.

The area contains several SINC's including Gonalston Marsh, Caythorpe Grassland and Damp Meadow, Caythorpe.

The small nucleated settlement of Gonalston village has a number of red brick buildings and no recent development. The linear settlement of Caythorpe has a more varied style and use of materials. There are several listed buildings within this area. The area is crossed by a number of footpaths and bridleways.

TW PZ 27 Caythorpe and Gonalston River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat, low-lying topography
- Dominated by pasture, both improved and unimproved and herb-rich meadows
- Small irregular fields
- Mixed species hedgerows with hedgerow trees
- Medium distance views

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**. The pattern of landscape elements is **unified** and the area has **few** detracting features, there are pylons to the east of Caythorpe and the busy A612 crosses the area to the west. There is a car sales garage and farm shop to the west of Gonalston. Overall the area is **strongly visually unified**.

This is an intact landscape with strong hedgerow field boundaries and mature tree cover. The historic field pattern is well maintained, although there has been some encroachment of arable fields to the north west, overall the cultural integrity is **good**.

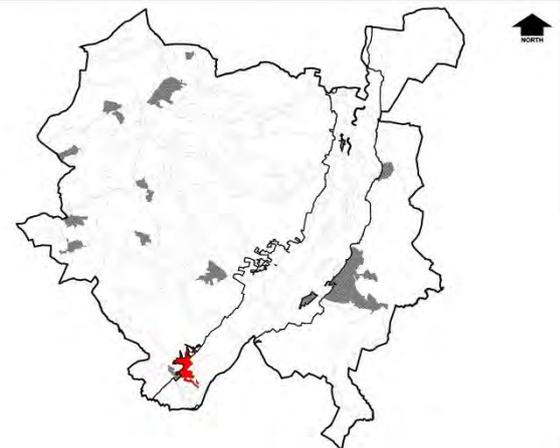
The area contains several SINC's including Gonalston Marsh, Caythorpe Grassland and Damp Meadow, Caythorpe.

The areas of improved and unimproved pasture, damp meadows, mature trees, bushy hedgerows and hedgerow trees provide a **moderate** network of wildlife habitats.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **strongly visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 27
Landscape Character Parcel TW12



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands and the continuity / time depth is described as **historic** (post 1600). The area has a **moderate** sense of place created by small irregular fields of herb rich meadows and damp pasture adjacent to small settlements. There has been some piecemeal development to the south of Caythorpe. The historic core of Gonalston appears to not have been added to recently.

There are medium distance views to wooded scarp slopes to the northwest and south east. The landform is **apparent** and there is **intermittent** tree cover which leads to a **moderate** visibility.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape features

- **Conserve** the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern.
- **Conserve** pastoral character and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity of alluvial grassland.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors.
- Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- **Conserve** and reinforce the local character of Caythorpe and Gonalston by ensuring future development respects the local style, scale, and the use of traditional materials.
- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.
- **Conserve** and enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting around farmsteads and rural settlements.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criterion is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category.

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 28: East Stoke River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve

This is a small-scale pastoral landscape located on both sides of the River Trent, to the north of the settlement of East Stoke. The river flows from the north to the south through the centre of the policy zone area. The area includes the grounds of Stoke Hall; the country house itself is located outside the policy zone area. A raised flood bank follows the meander of the river and forms the eastern boundary of the area.

This flat, low-lying riverside landscape contains predominantly pasture, broadleaved woodland and remnant historic parkland.

The area has intermittent woodland cover. On the eastern side of the river there is a small area of Willow and Ash Woodland. The remainder of the area is predominantly meadow and improved pasture with mature trees (Thorn, Field Maple and Oak).

On the western side of the river there is a large area of improved pasture with Willow, Ash and Hawthorn trees, to the north. To the south, there is an area of remnant historic parkland with improved pasture and parkland trees (Oak, Cedar, Ash, Sycamore, Horse Chestnut) associated with Stoke Hall. The area also has a pond and ditch surrounded by Hawthorn and Willow trees.

There are medium distance views to the north, east and west. Views to the south are enclosed by wooded hills and the settlement of East Stoke. To the east, pylons are a visually dominant feature within the landscape.

The area has strong, well maintained, mixed species hedgerows (Hawthorn, Elder, Ash, Blackthorn, Elm and Sycamore) to the periphery of the policy zone area.

There is one SINC site located to the east of the area called Gawburn Loop. This is a characteristic meander of the River Trent with typical marginal communities, as well as three SINC sites: Flintham Wood, Primrose Plantation and College Wood Pasture which are all wooded river bluffs.

The historic settlement of East Stoke village is located to the far south of the area, outside the policy zone area. The policy zone area is included within the village's conservation area and contains a few listed buildings. There is a Scheduled Ancient Monument east of Stoke village.

TW PZ 28 East Stoke River Meadowlands

<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p>	<p>CONTEXT NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands Policy Zone: TW PZ 28 Landscape Character Parcel TW12</p>														
															
<p>CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat, low-lying topography • Permanent pasture • Flood meadow with mature Thorn, Field Maple and Oak. • Remnant historic parkland with parkland trees • Pollarded willows • Medium distance views to low wooded hills 	<p>SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS</p>														
<p>LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS</p> <p>Landscape Condition</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Condition</th> <th>Very Good</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pattern of Elements:</td> <td>Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detracting Features:</td> <td>Few</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual Unity:</td> <td>Strongly Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecological Integrity:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Integrity:</td> <td>Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Functional Integrity:</td> <td>Strong</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Condition	Very Good	Pattern of Elements:	Unified	Detracting Features:	Few	Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified	Ecological Integrity:	Moderate	Cultural Integrity:	Good	Functional Integrity:	Strong
Condition	Very Good														
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Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified														
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate														
Cultural Integrity:	Good														
Functional Integrity:	Strong														
<p>The overall condition of this landscape is defined as very good. The pattern of landscape elements is unified and the area has few detracting features. Overall this gives a strongly visually unified area.</p> <p>The historic field pattern is still evident within the area therefore the cultural integrity is good.</p> <p>The area contains 4 SINCs: Gawburn Loop, which is a characteristic meander of the River Trent with typical marginal communities; as well as Flintham Wood, Primrose Plantation and College Wood Pasture which are all wooded river bluffs. The areas of broadleaved woodland, permanent pasture, flood meadow, parkland trees, mature trees, bushy hedgerows and hedgerow trees provide a moderate network of wildlife habitats.</p> <p>A moderate network for wildlife and a good cultural integrity leads to a strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is strongly visually unified with a strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a very good landscape condition</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sensitivity</th> <th>Moderate</th> </tr> </thead> </table>	Sensitivity	Moderate												
Sensitivity	Moderate														
<p>Landscape Sensitivity</p>	<p>Sensitivity Moderate</p>														

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands and the continuity/time depth is described as **historic** (post 1600). There is a **moderate** sense of place with deciduous woodland including wooded river bluffs, herb rich meadows, damp pasture and parkland trees adjacent to the River Trent.

There are medium distance views to wooded scarp slopes to the south and open views to the north, east and west. The landform is **apparent** and there is **intermittent** tree cover which leads to a **moderate** visibility.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape features

- **Conserve** the areas of pastoral character and seek opportunities to enhance the ecological diversity of alluvial grassland.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation.
- **Conserve** and seek opportunities to renew ornamental parkland planting and individual parkland trees.
- **Conserve** pollarded Willows and seek opportunities to re-pollard Willows to maintain the traditional riparian character of the landscape.
- Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture.
- Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Moderate	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
Poor			
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category.

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 29: Upton Hall River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve

Part of Upton Hall former Mature Landscape Area within the Trent Washlands, this is an area dominated by improved pasture with some arable farming to the east.

The area lies to the south of Upton village, which is a designated Conservation Area. The land slopes gently south to the River Greet.

Fields are regular, generally running north-south, and are small to medium in size. Hedgerows are generally strong and are either trimmed or tall and bushy. Hedgerow trees are also common – largely mature Ash. Hedgerows along tracks and roads are mixed species including Field Maple, Ash, Hawthorn, and Blackthorn.

Carr Dyke and the River Greet are prominent features with riparian vegetation and intermittent trees.

Isolated properties, Upton Mill and Upton Grange, are characteristic of the area.

There are open views to the south west and south east. Views are more contained to the north, due to landform.

TW PZ 29 Upton Hall River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Dominated by pasture
- Small to medium-sized regular shaped fields
- Strong hedgerows, mixed species hedgerows along roads and tracks
- Trees are largely along watercourses and within hedgerows
- Isolated properties

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**. The pattern of landscape elements is **unified** and the area has **few** detracting features, the only one being the line of pylons which run from east to west. Overall this gives a **strongly visually unified** area.

The historic field pattern is well maintained and hedgerows are in good condition, therefore overall the cultural integrity is **good**.

There are no SINCS or other ecological designations within the area but strong mixed species hedgerows and riparian vegetation provide a **moderate** network for wildlife.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The features which

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 29
Landscape Character Parcel TW16



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
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Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands. The **historic time-depth is evident** with the historic field boundaries running north-south in a geometric pattern. Carr Dyke and the River Greet are prominent features with strong lines of riparian trees and vegetation. Old mixed species hedgerows are a feature along roads and tracks, contributing to the **moderate** sense of place.

Views within the area are restricted due to strong hedgerows and vegetation along watercourses. There are open views to the south west and south east.

The landform is **apparent** and there is **intermittent** tree cover which leads to a **moderate** visibility.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape features

- **Conserve** the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors.
- **Conserve** pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture.
- Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Moderate	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
Poor			
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 30: Farndon River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This small-scale pastoral landscape lies on the eastern side of the River Trent, to the west of the settlement of Farndon. The area also includes a small area of damp pasture on the western side of the River.

This flat, low-lying riverside landscape contains predominantly permanent pasture with small areas of Willow holt and broadleaved woodland.

The area has an intermittent woodland cover. To the north, a Willow holt (Willow with some Ash) and scrub follows the meander of the River Trent. There is an area of deciduous woodland along the western edge of Farndon village; and the river's raised flood bank has areas of Willow and Balsam Poplar. To the east, there are two small areas of open water surrounded by Ash, Hawthorn and pollarded Willow. Further south, there are linear fields of flood meadow adjacent to Farndon village and larger, more irregular shaped fields of damp pasture and trees along the banks of the River Trent.

The area has medium distance views, with occasional long distance views to low wooded hills. Views to the south are enclosed by wooded hills and the settlement of East Stoke. To the south-west, pylons are a visually dominant feature within the landscape.

The fields are enclosed by large, trimmed, Hawthorn hedgerows with Ash and Willow hedgerow trees. The area has a series of meadows with varied grasses and flora including Sorrel, Cuckoo Flower, Buttercup, Campion and Hogweed.

There are several SINC sites within the area including Farndon Willow Holt, Wyke Lane Grassland and Ponds, and Trentside Grassland, Rolleston.

Farndon Willow Holt and Water Meadows is a Nature Reserve and is currently being restored by the Wildlife Trust.

The historic settlement of Farndon village is located to the east of the area, outside the policy zone area. The village has a number of listed buildings. The policy zone area is included within the villages' conservation area.

TW PZ 30 Farndon River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat, low-lying topography
- Permanent pasture and flood meadow
- Linear fields of flood meadow adjacent to settlements
- Willow holt
- Trimmed, Hawthorn hedgerows with Ash and Willow hedgerow trees
- Medium and long distance views to low wooded hills

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **unified** and the area has **few** detracting features. Overall this gives a **strongly visually unified** area.

This is an intact landscape that is in very good condition with a generally strong field pattern and mature tree cover; therefore the cultural integrity is **good**.

The area contains several SINC's including Farndon Willow Holt, Wyke Lane Grassland and Ponds, and Trentside Grassland, Rolleston. The areas of broadleaved woodland, Willow holt, unimproved pasture, damp meadows, bushy hedgerows and hedgerow trees provide a **strong** network of wildlife habitats.

A **strong** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a very **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually unified** with a **very strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 30
Landscape Character Parcel TW12



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Low																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as low.</p> <p>The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands and the continuity / time depth is described as historic (post 1600). The area has a moderate sense of place with deciduous woodland, herb rich meadows and damp pasture adjacent to the village and the River Trent.</p> <p>The historic settlement of Farndon village is located to the far east, outside the policy zone area. The policy zone area is included within the Villages Conservation Area.</p> <p>There are medium distance views to wooded scarp slopes to the north west and south east. The landform is apparent and tree cover provides a degree of enclosure, which leads to a low visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a low degree of visibility leads to low landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Enclosed</p> <p>Visibility: Low</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting where appropriate. • Conserve pastoral character and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity of alluvial grasslands. • Conserve and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors. • Conserve and maintain Willow holts and seek opportunities to establish new holts in areas where conditions are favourable. • Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture. • Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting. • Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. • Conserve and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape. <p>Built features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the historic field pattern by containing small scale development within historic boundaries. • Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings. • Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p> <p>NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 31: Battle Bridge River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

Part of Micklebarrow Hill former Mature Landscape Area within the Trent Washlands, this is a small area dominated by species rich pasture, with some arable land.

Located adjacent to the busy A612 to the north east of Upton, this is a relatively flat area. Fields are small and enclosed by tall bushy hedgerows which are in good condition, although gappy in places.

The area appears to be enclosed due to tall hedgerows and riparian trees along the ditch to the south, Ash, Willow etc. and trees along a track including mature Hawthorn, Elder and Damson.

There is evidence of ridge and furrow in the field adjacent to Battle Bridge with associated species rich grassland.

The Battle Bridge itself is non-vernacular with a concrete base and metal railings painted green.

Views are generally enclosed due to the tall busy hedgerows.

TW PZ 31 Battle Bridge River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 31
Landscape Character Parcel TW16



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Dominated by species rich pasture with some evidence of ridge and furrow
- Small regular shaped fields
- Strong mixed species hedgerows

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **coherent** and the area has **few** detracting the only one being the busy A612 to the west. Overall this gives a **visually unified** area.

The historic field pattern is well maintained and hedgerows are in good condition; therefore cultural integrity is **good**.

There are no SINCs or other ecological designations within the area but strong mixed species hedgerows provide **moderate** wildlife corridors. The pasture areas are also floristically rich.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity /habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **low**.

The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

Sensitivity Low

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA. The area has a **moderate** sense of place and the **historic time-depth is evident** – the field pattern is intact and ridge and furrow is apparent in a field to the east of the A612.

The landform is **apparent** and strong tree cover and tall bushy hedgerows provide a degree of enclosure which leads to a **low** visibility of the area from outside the PZ.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **low** degree of visibility leads to **low** landscape sensitivity.

Sense of Place: Moderate
Landform: Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover: Enclosed
Visibility: Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape features

- **Conserve** the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern.
- **Conserve** ridge and furrow features.
- **Conserve** pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture.
- Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation.
- Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criterion is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category.

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 32: Kelham Hills River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve

Part of Kelham Hills former Mature Landscape Area within the Trent Washlands, this is an area of mixed farming with small to medium sized fields of pasture and arable land.

A small pond lies to the north east of the area and pylons cross the site to the north east corner.

The historic field pattern is largely intact with tall and bushy mixed species hedgerows.

Views are contained due to the wooded hillside to the west and tall hedgerows.

TW PZ 32 Kelham Hills River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Area of mixed farming, largely improved and semi-improved grassland
- Small to medium-sized fields with strong mixed species hedgerows
- Views contained by the wooded Kelham Hills to the west and tall hedgerows

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **unified** and the area has **few** detracting the only one being the pylons to the north east. Overall this gives a **strongly visually unified** area.

The historic field pattern is well maintained and hedgerows are in good condition, although gappy in places; therefore cultural integrity is **good**.

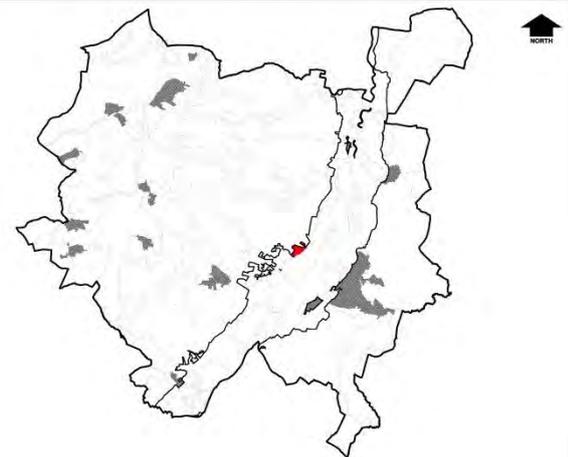
There are no SINC's or other ecological designations within the area but strong mixed species hedgerows provide **moderate** wildlife corridors.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 32
Landscape Character Parcel TW21



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands RCA. The area has a **moderate** sense of place and the **historic time-depth is evident** in the historic field pattern.

Views within the area are restricted due to strong hedgerows and the wooded hillside to the west. The landform is **apparent** and **intermittent**. Tree cover provides a limited degree of enclosure, which leads to a **moderate** visibility of the area from outside the PZ.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape features

- **Conserve** the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern.
- Seek opportunities to return arable land to pasture.
- **Conserve** pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation.
- Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Moderate	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
Poor			
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 33: Newark West River Meadowlands
Policy: Create

This is a small-scale pastoral landscape located to the north west of Newark. The River Trent flows from the south west to the north west along the eastern edge of the character area, along the urban edge of the town.

The area is dissected by a network of roads. The A46 cuts across the area on elevated embankments from the south west to the north east. The A616 Great North Road, the B6326 and the A617 also cross the northern part of the area. This comprehensive network of roads converges at the A46 roundabout located to the north east of the policy zone. The Nottingham to Newark railway line crosses the centre of the area from the east to the west.

This flat, low-lying landscape has been divided and fragmented by numerous roads, a railway line, a caravan park, and other industrial and residential development. The remaining areas are predominantly pasture, flood meadow, arable fields and riparian habitat along the River Trent.

The area has low woodland cover. The main roads are enclosed by narrow belts of deciduous woodland (Willow, Sycamore, Oak, Horse Chestnut), with Sycamore trees along minor roads and ditches. To the west, there are Alder, Ash and Willow trees along Old Trent Dyke. To the east, there are areas of riparian Willow, Ash and Thorn. To the south, there is a small stand of Poplar trees.

Views to the north are contained by the Sugar Beet Factory, which forms a visually dominant feature within the landscape. To the east the views are contained by the urban edge of Newark and to the south by the settlement of Farndon. There are open views to the west.

The intensively farmed arable fields are enclosed by Hawthorn hedgerows with some Ash occurring as hedgerow trees. Minor roads and lanes are enclosed by mixed deciduous hedgerows of Hawthorn, Willow, Ash, Elm, Dogwood. Hedgerows are generally intact but are gappy and lost in some localised parts.

The area contains several SINC sites including Kelham Road Grasslands (1 and 2), Newark Grassland, Great North Road Grasslands (1 and 2), Dairy Farm Railway Strip, Newark, Kelham Road Redoubt, Newark, and Newark Trent Grassland.

There are 4 Scheduled Ancient Monuments within this landscape whose earthworks were constructed by the Parliamentary forces during the English Civil War. These are:

Civil War Redoubt 550m south east of Valley Farm, Moated Site 750m north west of Dairy Farm and Civil War Redoubt 680m north west of Dairy Farm. Civil War Sconce 650m north west of Devon Bridge. Known as the Sandhill Sconce this mound was built to protect the southern approaches to Newark during the English Civil War (1642-51).

Newark is located to the far east of the area, outside the policy zone area. The town's urban fringe is generally contained by the River Trent; however, there has been some encroachment into the area by industrial and commercial development.

The Trent Valley Way crosses the area to the north.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

TW PZ 33 Newark West River Meadowlands

<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p> 	<p>CONTEXT NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands Policy Zone: TW PZ 33 Landscape Character Parcel TW19</p> 														
<p>CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flat, low-lying topography A highly fragmented pastoral landscape Flood meadow Fragmented riparian habitat along the River Trent Some arable fields Views dominated by highways, industry and urban fringe Many detracting features including roads and railways 4 Civil war earthworks which are all Scheduled Ancient Monuments 	<p>SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #ADD8E6;"> <th style="text-align: left;">Condition</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Very Poor</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pattern of Elements:</td> <td>Incoherent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detracting Features:</td> <td>Many</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual Unity:</td> <td>Significantly Interrupted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecological Integrity:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Integrity:</td> <td>Poor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Functional Integrity:</td> <td>Weak</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Condition	Very Poor	Pattern of Elements:	Incoherent	Detracting Features:	Many	Visual Unity:	Significantly Interrupted	Ecological Integrity:	Moderate	Cultural Integrity:	Poor	Functional Integrity:	Weak
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<p>LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS</p> <p>Landscape Condition</p> <p>The overall condition of this landscape is defined as very poor. The pattern of landscape elements is incoherent. The area has many detracting features including the A46 roundabout and associated roads (A617, A616, and A6326), the railway line, a caravan park, a large car park, and industrial and residential development. Overall this gives a significantly visually interrupted area.</p> <p>Despite this, this landscape contains 4 historic sites which contain earth works dating from the English Civil War constructed between 1645-46. Therefore although the overall historic field pattern has predominantly been lost due to the provision of the highway network, and arable farmland, there are still localised areas where the cultural integrity is stronger relating to the earthworks position to Newark, the surrounding historic road network and the River Trent.</p> <p>The area contains several SINC sites including Kelham Road Grassland (1 and 2), Newark Grassland, Great North Road Grasslands (1 and 2), Dairy Farm Railway Strip, Newark; Kelham Road Redoubt, Newark; and Newark Trent Grassland. The highly fragmented areas of deciduous woodland, pasture, meadow and</p>															

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

<p>mixed species hedgerows provide a moderate network of wildlife habitats</p> <p>A moderate network for wildlife and a poor cultural integrity leads to a weak functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is significantly visually interrupted with a weak functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a very poor landscape condition.</p>																	
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Very Low																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as low. The area has a very weak sense of place as it has been highly fragmented by provision of major roads, the railway, and recent industrial and residential developments. It contains few distinctive features of the Trent Washlands RCA and the time depth of the majority of the built features is recent.</p> <p>The Civil War earth works are a notable exception and although they are not all prominent in the landscape they are significant features in the context of the development of the wider surrounding landscape and historic setting of Newark.</p> <p>Views are contained by the Sugar Beet Factory to the north, which forms a visually dominant feature within the landscape. To the east, views are enclosed the urban edge of Newark, and to the south, by the settlement of Farndon. There are open views across arable farmland and pasture to the west. Views within the area are restricted due to strong hedgerows and vegetation along watercourses. There are open views to the south west and south east. The landform is insignificant and limited tree cover provides a degree of enclosure, which leads to a moderate visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A very weak sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to very low landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Indistinct</p> <p>Continuity: Recent (Historic earthworks)</p> <p>Sense of Place: Very Weak</p> <p>Landform: Insignificant</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Open</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Create																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve and protect the integrity of the Civil War earthwork sites using non-invasive land use/management practices across the site. Raise awareness of the historical contribution these make to the setting of Newark Seek opportunities to recreate the traditional pattern of hedged fields to reinforce the historic field pattern. Conserve existing pasture and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity of alluvial grassland. Conserve and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors. Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

- Seek opportunities to enhance visual unity through planting of small-scale trees and woodland where appropriate.
- Seek opportunities to enhance tree cover with planting of hedgerow trees.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- New development should be sited, designed and landscaped to blend with the surrounding farmed landscape.
- Seek opportunities to enhance the urban fringe with new tree and woodland planting.
- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 34: Sconce and Devon Park River
Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve**

This is a small-scale predominantly pastoral landscape located along the south-west edge of Newark. The area encompasses Sconce and Devon Park, a small area of improved pasture, and a marina to the north of Farndon Road. The area lies on both sides of the River Devon, to the south of the River Trent. The River Devon flows northwards through the centre of the area to join the River Trent in the north. The B6166 runs from the south west to the north east across the north eastern corner of the area.

This is a predominantly flat, low-lying landscape with areas of amenity grassland, permanent pasture, marsh, deciduous woodland and scrub along the banks of the River Devon.

The area has a moderate woodland cover. To the north, where the River Devon joins the River Trent, there is a small Willow holt and mature Lime trees adjacent to the marina. There are Alder, Oak, Poplar and pollarded Willows along the banks of the River Devon.

The Sconce and Devon Park has a number of mature trees and shrubs (Ash, Lime, Hawthorn, Holly, Elder, Rosa spp., Willow, Horse Chestnut, Elm and Sycamore) along its footpaths and boundaries. The Park has a small area of deciduous woodland (Oak with some Willow) to the east, and a large area of amenity grassland. The park also has a number of areas of permanent pasture. The Queen's Sconce is a historic earthwork with unimproved acidic and neutral grassland communities. The Sconce is located to the centre of the policy zone area.

The views are enclosed by Newark's urban area. The field boundaries are enclosed by Hawthorn hedgerows, with some post and wire fencing. There are also Hawthorn hedgerows along the raised flood bank adjacent to the River Trent.

The area contains several SINC sites, including Queen's Sconce, Newark, Devon Park, Newark, and Devon Nurseries.

Newark's conservation area extends to include Sconce and Devon Park. The Park is also a Local Nature Reserve. The Queen's Sconce is a scheduled ancient monument located to the north-east of the area. The Sconce is a distinctively star-shaped mounded area which dates from the English Civil War (1642-51). The mound was built to protect the southern approaches to Newark. It covers 3 acres of land and requires restoration. Other land uses within the area include Newark Marina, and a garden centre and nursery.

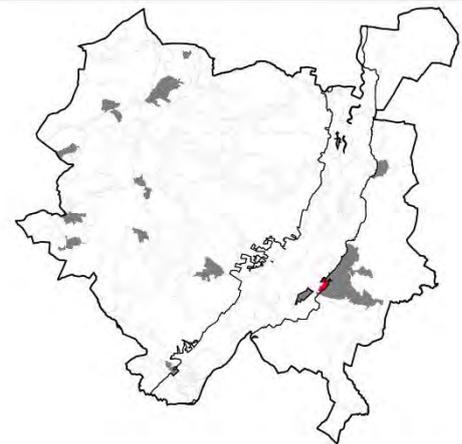
TW PZ 34 Sconce and Devon Park River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 34
Landscape Character Parcel TW18



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat, low-lying topography
- Sconce and Devon Park
- Deciduous woodland (Oak and Willow)
- Pollarded Willows
- Permanent Pasture
- Trees and riparian habitat associated with the River Devon
- Historic earthworks with areas of unimproved acid and neutral grassland communities

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**. The pattern of landscape elements is **coherent**. The area has **few** detracting features; to the north the busy B6166 crosses the River Devon and there are boat houses associated with the Marina. Overall this gives a **visually unified** area.

This is a predominantly intact landscape, although some of the historic field pattern has been lost to the development of amenity grassland areas within the Park; therefore the cultural integrity is **good**.

The area contains several SINC sites including Queen's Sconce, Newark; Devon Park, Newark; and Devon Nurseries. The areas of deciduous woodland, hedgerows, permanent pasture, meadow, marshland and scrub along the banks of the River Devon provide a **moderate** network of wildlife habitats.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually unified** with a

Strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands and the continuity/time depth is described as historic (post 1600). The area has a **moderate** sense of place with both historic earth works and permanent pasture as well as more recent development.

Views within the area are restricted by Newark's urban area. The landform is **apparent** and **intermittent** tree cover provides a limited degree of enclosure which leads to a **moderate** visibility of the area from outside the PZ.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape features

- Seek opportunities to recreate the traditional pattern of hedged fields to reinforce the historic field pattern.
- **Conserve** existing pasture and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors.
- **Conserve** and protect pollarded Willows and seek opportunities to re-pollard existing Willows where appropriate.
- **Conserve** and retain the ecological and visual character of Willow holts, and seek opportunities to establish new holts in areas where conditions are favourable.
- Redevelopment of the Park should seek to retain the historic field pattern and ecological diversity of the area.
- Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category

**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 35: South Muskham Village Farmlands
Policy: Conserve**

This is a linear area dominated by Moorhouse Lane Drain which is designated as a SINC due to its notable plant community.

This is a mixed farming area with arable land to the north and pasture to the south. A floristically rich meadow to the north has been lost to arable production. Fields are linear and semi-irregular with sinuous boundaries along the drain.

Riparian trees and vegetation are prominent – a strong line of Willows and Hawthorn line the drain to the central section.

A bridleway runs along the lane to Moor House to the north, with mature trees in the hedgerow – including Oak and Ash.

An old mixed species hedgerow along Crow Lane to the south includes Ash, Dogwood, Dog Rose, Wild Privet, Hazel, Oak etc.

A small water body to the south west is surrounded by mature trees and scrub.

Views within the LCP are generally restricted due to tree cover within hedgerows and along watercourses.

TW PZ 35 South Muskham Village Farmlands

<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p>	<p>CONTEXT</p>														
	<p>NCC Landscape Sub Type: Village Farmlands Policy Zone: TW PZ 35 Landscape Character Parcel TW20</p> 														
<p>CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A species rich drain is a prominent feature • Mixed farming area with species rich pasture and arable land • Small linear fields adjacent to a species rich drain • Species rich hedgerows with trees along tracks and roads 															
<p>LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS</p>														
<p>Landscape Condition</p> <p>The overall condition of this landscape is defined as very good.</p> <p>The pattern of landscape elements is coherent. The area has few detracting features the only being the busy road to the east (B6325). Overall this gives a visually unified area.</p> <p>The historic field pattern is intact with strong bushy hedgerows with trees, particularly along tracks and roads; therefore the cultural integrity is good.</p> <p>Moorhouse Drain is designated as a SINC due to its notable plant community.</p> <p>Riparian trees and vegetation, together with strong mixed species hedgerows provide a moderate network for wildlife.</p> <p>A moderate network for wildlife and a good cultural integrity leads to a strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is visually unified with a good functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a very good landscape condition.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Condition</th> <th>Very Good</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pattern of Elements:</td> <td>Coherent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detracting Features:</td> <td>Few</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual Unity:</td> <td>Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecological Integrity:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Integrity:</td> <td>Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Functional Integrity:</td> <td>Strong</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Condition	Very Good	Pattern of Elements:	Coherent	Detracting Features:	Few	Visual Unity:	Unified	Ecological Integrity:	Moderate	Cultural Integrity:	Good	Functional Integrity:	Strong
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**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The area has a moderate sense of place. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands and the historic time-depth is evident in that the historic field pattern is mostly intact, although former species rich pasture to the north has been converted to arable use.</p> <p>Views within the area are restricted due to strong hedgerows and the wooded hillside to the west. The landform is insignificant and limited tree cover provides a degree of enclosure which leads to a moderate visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to a moderate landscape sensitivity.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Distinctiveness:</td> <td>Characteristic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Continuity:</td> <td>Historic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sense of Place:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landform:</td> <td>Insignificant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extent of Tree Cover:</td> <td>Open</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visibility:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> </table>	Distinctiveness:	Characteristic	Continuity:	Historic	Sense of Place:	Moderate	Landform:	Insignificant	Extent of Tree Cover:	Open	Visibility:	Moderate				
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LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern. • Conserve pasture and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity and to restore wet grassland regimes. • Seek opportunities to return arable land to permanent pasture. • Promote measures for strengthening the existing level of tree cover. • Strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream corridors. • Conserve and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape. 	<p>Condition</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Sensitivity</p> <p>NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 36: Holme Pastures River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

The linear area to the west of Holme Village is dominated by pasture and open flood meadows adjacent to the River Trent. The historic field pattern has been retained around the village with small regular shaped fields of pasture enclosed by tall mixed species hedgerows. Species include Elm, Field Maple, Ash, Hawthorn and Elder.

A flood alleviation bund runs between the River Trent and the main street of the village. There are small areas of pasture here with occasional mature trees, including Ash, Lime and Willow.

A species rich meadow lies to the south with Willow, Ash and Hawthorn trees along the side of the dyke, and around the north and east of Winthorpe Lake. Winthorpe Lake is a former gravel extraction area and is designated as a SINC.

Holme is characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings. There are several Listed Buildings within the village. Recent housing development is in keeping with the local character

There are large scale farm buildings with a variety of non-vernacular materials. Some farm buildings are derelict, giving a feeling of neglect.

A small plantation of mixed species conifers lies to the south of the village. This is not in keeping with the local landscape character.

Views are generally enclosed due to trees and tall mixed species hedgerows within the village. Along the Trent the open pastures allow longer distance views.

TW PZ 36 Holme Pastures River Meadowlands

<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p>	<p>CONTEXT NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands Policy Zone: TW PZ 36 Landscape Character Parcel TW22</p>														
															
<p>CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat valley landscape with small regular fields • Small scale pasture adjacent to the village • Mixed species hedgerows along tracks and enclosing pasture • Open pasture adjacent to the River Trent • Flood alleviation bund with mature Ash, Lime and Willows • Nucleated village characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings 															
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Cultural Integrity:	Good														
Functional Integrity:	Strong														
<p>The overall condition of this landscape is defined as very good. The pattern of landscape elements is unified. The area has few detracting features the only ones being farm buildings which have fallen into disrepair. Some materials used for constructing the farm buildings are not in keeping with the local character; overall this gives a strongly visually unified area.</p> <p>The historic field pattern is still in evidence and hedgerows are in good condition. Recent housing development has been in keeping with the local character; therefore the cultural integrity is good.</p> <p>Winthorpe Lake is designated as a SINC. Mixed species hedgerows are largely intact and well maintained. Hedgerows provide a moderate network for wildlife. Tree cover is mostly within hedgerows with occasional mature trees within areas of pasture adjacent to the River Trent.</p> <p>A moderate network for wildlife and a good cultural integrity leads to a strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is strongly visually unified with a strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a very good landscape condition.</p>															

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Low																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as low. The historic time–depth is strong within the village. The historic field pattern shown on Sanderson’s 1835 map is still in evidence and mixed species hedgerows are well maintained, the area has a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA.</p> <p>Views with the village and along roads and tracks are fairly enclosed by tall hedgerows. There are more open views along the Trent valley. The landform is insignificant and tree cover is intermittent, which leads to a low visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a low degree of visibility leads to low landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Insignificant</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Low</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve the traditional pattern of hedged fields. Conserve pasture land and flood meadows. Conserve and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and river corridors. Promote measures for strengthening the existing level of tree cover. <p>Built features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve the character and setting of village settlement of Holme with its small scale pastoral landscapes. Conserve the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries. Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings. Promote measures for reinforcing the t Traditional character and scale of farm buildings using vernacular materials and styles. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p> <p>NB: Where one criteria is ‘very good’ this pushes the policy description into the next highest category</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 37: Winthorpe West River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve**

This is a flat, pastoral landscape located along the western edge of the settlement of Winthorpe, within the floodplain of the River Trent. Winthorpe Hall is an 18th century country house centrally located to the east of the area. The Hall currently functions as a care home. The busy A1 runs from the east to the west along the southern edge of the area. The River Trent and the Nottingham to Newark railway line lie to the far west, outside the Policy Zone area.

The area has a moderate tree cover. The Hall is immediately surrounded with formal gardens and an extensive area of historic parkland with significant groups of parkland trees (Ash, Oak, Beech, Horse Chestnut, Birch, Sycamore, and Yew), to the south, east and west. To the north, there is a cricket ground and an area of rough grassland enclosed by well maintained, strong hedgerows (Hawthorn, Field Maple, and Elm). The cricket ground has areas of ridge and furrow earthworks. To the north-west, fields are edged with pollarded Willows. To the far west, there are larger intensively farmed arable fields.

There are open views to the north, west and south of the area. To the east, the views are enclosed by a wooded area and Winthorpe village.

Winthorpe Hall is a Grade II* listed building and the area is included within the Winthorpe village's conservation area.

The area does not contain any SINC sites.

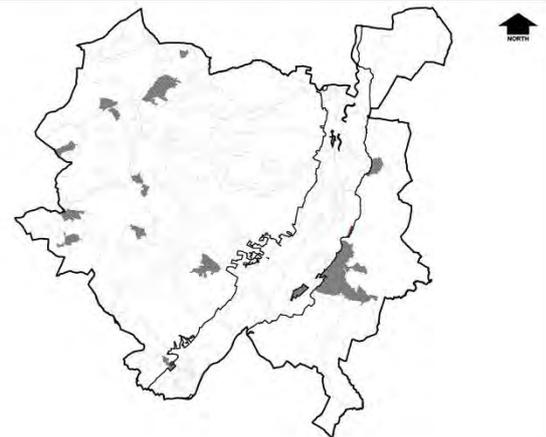
TW PZ 37 Winthorpe West River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 37
Landscape Character Parcel TW19



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat topography
- Historic parkland and parkland trees
- Permanent pasture
- Strong, mixed species hedgerows
- Pollarded willows
- 18th Century country house

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **unified**. The area has **few** detracting features. The busy A1 runs from the east to the west along the southern edge of the area. Road traffic noise is a prevalent feature to the south of the area. Overall this gives a **strongly visually unified** area. The historic field pattern is well maintained and hedgerows are in good condition. To the far west, the field pattern has been lost to arable farmland; therefore the cultural integrity is **good**.

There are no SINC's or other ecological designations within the area. The strong mixed species hedgerows, permanent pasture and parkland with groups of mature trees provide a **moderate** network of wildlife corridors.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **strongly visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The area is included within the Winthorpe Villages Conservation Area. The village's close association with Winthorpe Hall has left a legacy of estate cottages with little vernacular architecture. The cricket ground has areas of ridge and furrow earthworks. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity / time depth is historic (post 1600)</p> <p>Views within the area are restricted due to strong hedgerows and vegetation along watercourses. There are open views to the south west and south east. The landform is insignificant and has poor tree cover, which leads to moderate visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to moderate landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Insignificant</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Open</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting. • Conserve pastoral character and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity of alluvial grasslands. • Conserve and renew ornamental parkland planting and individual parkland trees. • Seek opportunities to restore arable land to estate parkland and permanent pasture. • Conserve the pastoral character of traditional parkland landscapes. • Conserve areas of ridge and furrow and seek opportunities to manage these areas to maintain their historic interest. • Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation. • Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. • Conserve and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape. <p>Built features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p> <p>NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 38: Collingham West River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

This generally flat, low-lying landscape lies within the Trent Valley floodplain, to the west of the settlement of Collingham; on the eastern side of the River Trent. The Fleet Stream flows northwards along the eastern side of the area.

The area has medium-sized arable fields to the west. To the east, adjacent to the village, there are smaller fields of improved and unimproved pasture.

The area has an intermittent tree cover. To the north and west there are hedgerow trees within field boundaries (Oak and Ash). To the south and east Ash and Willow trees are associated with watercourses and the Fleet Stream.

The views are contained by Collingham village, to the north and east. There are open views across the River Trent to the south and west. The fields are enclosed by strong, well maintained, mixed species hedgerows (Hawthorn, Elder, Ash, Rosa spp., Elm, Bramble spp, Wild Privet and Field Maple).

The area has no SINC sites. The area is included within Collingham village conservation area. The village has a historic core and a number of listed buildings. To the east, the Westfield farmhouse is built using locally vernacular red brick materials.

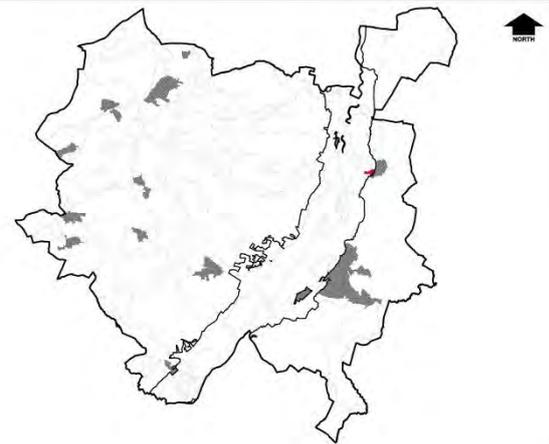
TW PZ 38 Collingham West River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 38
Landscape Character Parcel TW25



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat topography
- Medium-sized arable fields
- Improved and unimproved pasture adjacent to settlements
- Trees and riparian vegetation associated with ditches and watercourses
- Strong, well maintained, mixed species hedgerows

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**. The pattern of landscape elements is **unified**. The area has **few** detracting features. Overall this gives a **strongly visually unified** area.

The historic field pattern is generally well maintained and hedgerows are in good condition, therefore the cultural integrity is **good**. To the far west, the field pattern has been lost to arable farmland.

The area has no SINC sites. The strong, mixed species hedgerows, permanent pasture, and mature trees provide a **moderate** network of wildlife corridors.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity /habitat for wildlife. An area which is **strongly visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Low												
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as low. The area is included within the Villages Conservation Area. The village has a historic core and has red brick buildings, a number of which are listed. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity / time depth is historic (post 1600)</p> <p>There are open views to the far south and west across the River and a large sand and gravel quarry. To the north and east, views are contained by Collingham village. The landform is insignificant and has poor tree cover which leads to moderate visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a low degree of visibility leads to low landscape sensitivity</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Insignificant</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Low</p>												
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce													
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting. • Conserve pastoral character and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity of alluvial grasslands. • Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture. • Conserve and seek measures to protect the character of village side pastoral sites. • Reinforce and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors. • Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting. • Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. • Conserve and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape. <p>Built features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries. • Conserve and reinforce the local character by ensuring future development respects the local style, scale and use of traditional materials. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> Low Moderate High </p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p> <p>NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
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Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE										
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE										

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 39: Carlton Holme River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve

This is a low-lying arable landscape located to the east of the River Trent. The settlement of Carlton-on-Trent lies to the far west, outside the Policy Zone area. The River Trent meanders along the western edge of the area.

The area is dominated by medium-scale, intensively farmed, arable fields with a narrow, linear strip of flood meadow and permanent pasture running alongside the River.

The area has a strong network of hedgerows. The irregular-shaped arable fields and lanes are enclosed by well trimmed, mixed species hedgerows with some hedgerow trees (Ash, Willow). There is some fragmentation of field boundaries to the south.

There are open views beyond the area to the south-west. The views along Carlton Ferry Lane are fairly enclosed due to tall hedgerows. A grass flood defence bund following the course of the River Trent encloses views to the west.

This extensive area was once a “holme” grassland which was traditionally grazed by holders of “rights of common”. The irregular field pattern is all that remains of this once pastoral landscape.

TW PZ 39 Carlton Holme River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 39
Landscape Character Parcel TW25



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat topography
- Extensive area of Intensively farmed arable fields
- Linear strip of flood meadow and permanent pasture alongside the River Trent
- Strong, well maintained, mixed species hedgerows with some hedgerow trees
- Grass flood defence bunds

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **unified**. The area has **few** detracting features. Overall this gives a **strongly visually unified** area.

The historic field pattern is evident; however a significant proportion has been lost to arable farmland. The area is well maintained and the hedgerows are in good condition therefore the cultural integrity is **good**.

The area has no SINC sites. The area's strong, mixed species hedgerows, permanent pasture, flood meadow and mature trees provide a **moderate** network of wildlife corridors.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **strongly visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate												
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity / time depth is historic (post 1600). It has a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>There are open views beyond the area to the south-west. The views along Carlton Ferry Lane are fairly enclosed due to tall hedgerows. The flood bank following the course of the River Trent encloses views to the west. The landform is insignificant and has limited tree cover, which leads to moderate visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to moderate landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Insignificant</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Open</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>												
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve													
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting where appropriate. • Conserve pasture and seek opportunities to reinforce the species diversity. • Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture and “holme” grassland. • Seek opportunities to restore the open pastoral and sparsely settled character of the “holme” grasslands. • Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation. • Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting. • Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. <p>Built features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;"> Low Moderate High </p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;">Sensitivity</p> <p>NB: Where one criteria is ‘very good’ this pushes the policy description into the next highest category</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
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Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE										

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 40: Carlton River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve

This is a small-scale pastoral landscape surrounding the settlement of Carlton-On-Trent, which lies within the floodplain of the River Trent. The River meanders from the south to the north along the eastern side of the area. The A1 runs from the north to the south along the western boundary of the area. A watercourse called The Beck flows along the eastern edge of the village to the River Trent in the east.

This predominantly flat, low-lying landscape has small fields of pasture surrounding the village, and linear strips of flood meadow and riparian vegetation associated with watercourses. There are occasional historic orchards within the village's historic core, and a garden centre and industrial buildings adjacent to the A1. There are localised flood banks along the river.

The area has an intermittent tree cover. The riparian vegetation along the River and The Beck includes mature Willow and Hawthorn trees. To the west, the Dyke is edged with Ash and Hawthorn. There are mature parkland trees (Horse Chestnut) associated with Carlton Hall and older properties within the village. To the south, there are narrow belts of trees along the A1 and an area of Willow, Ash and Hawthorn scrub.

The views to the north are enclosed by Sutton-on-Trent village. To the east, there are long distance views across an arable farmland to wooded skylines. The views to the west are contained by the river's grass flood bank and riparian vegetation surrounding The Beck. There are open views to the south.

The area has a strong pattern of well maintained, mixed species hedgerows (Hawthorn, Elm, Holly, Bramble spp, Rosa spp., Field Maple, Ash, Elder) with few hedgerow trees (Ash, Oak, Poplar and Willow) along narrow lanes and field boundaries.

The majority of the area is included within the conservation area of Sutton-on-Trent village.

TW PZ 40 Carlton River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 40
Landscape Character Parcel TW26



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat topography
- Permanent pasture
- Riparian vegetation associated with watercourses
- Linear strips of flood meadow
- Remnant historic parkland
- Strong, mixed species hedgerows

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **coherent**. The area has **few** detracting features; the busy A1 runs from the north to the south along the western edge of the area. Road traffic noise is a prevalent feature to the west of the area. Overall this is a **visually unified** area.

The historic field pattern is well maintained and hedgerows are in good condition. To the far west the field pattern has been lost to arable farmland; therefore the cultural integrity is **good**. The majority of the area is included within the Carlton-on-Trent's Conservation Area. Although the area has no SINC sites within the PZ the strong, mixed species hedgerows, permanent pasture, water meadow, scrub and mature trees provide a **moderate** network of wildlife corridors.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area which is **visually coherent** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The area is included within the Villages Conservation Area. The village has a historic core with red brick buildings, a number of which are listed. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity / time depth is historic (post 1600). It has a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>Views to the north are enclosed by the village of Sutton-on-Trent. There are long distance views across an arable farmland to wooded skylines to the east. Views to the west are contained by a grass flood bank along the River and riparian vegetation surrounding The Beck. There are open views to the south. The landform is apparent and has intermittent tree cover, which leads to moderate visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to moderate landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Characteristic</p> <p>Continuity: Historic</p> <p>Sense of Place: Moderate</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and the traditional pattern of hedged fields and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting. • Conserve pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands. • Conserve and seek measures to protect the character of village-side pastoral sites. • Conserve and renew ornamental parkland planting and individual parkland trees. • Seek opportunities to restore arable land to estate parkland and permanent pasture. • Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation. • Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. <p>Built features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the historic character and setting of village settlement of Carlton – new development should respect the scale, design and materials used traditionally. • Conserve the integrity and rural character of the landscape by concentrating the new developments around the existing village of Carlton. • Conserve the existing historic field pattern by locating new small 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p> <p>NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

scale development within the existing field boundaries.

- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.
- **Create** small scale woodlands/tree planting to soften new development, preferably in advance of development.

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 41: Sutton Holme River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve

A flat, low-lying pastoral landscape situated on both sides of the River Trent, to the south-east of the settlement of Sutton-on-Trent. The village is located along the south western edge of the Policy Zone area. A stream meanders from the north to south through South Holme Meadow, located to the east of the village.

This is an extensive area of common lands or “holme” grasslands on level ground which has been traditionally grazed by holders of “rights of common”. These large irregular-shaped fields of pasture and species-rich river meadow are located on both sides of the river. Further south and to the west, along the edge of the village, the fields are smaller and enclosed by tall, bushy hedgerows with hedgerow trees (Ash). To the west, there is an area of marshland and associated wetland vegetation surrounded by an ancient hedgerow (Rosa spp., Purging Buckthorn, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Field Maple, Ash, Hazel, Elder and Bramble spp).

The area has a distinctly open and spacious character with few vertical features. Trees and riparian vegetation are limited to ditches and watercourses (Willow, Ash, Hawthorn, Elder, Purging Buckthorn). The flood banks located along the eastern and western banks of the River Trent, and adjacent to the village provide some topographical relief within this open landscape.

There are generally open views, limited by the settlement of Sutton-on-Trent and by the river flood banks.

The area has several SINC sites including South Holme Dyke, Sutton-on-Trent and North Holme Meadows, Sutton-on-Trent, which have a notable series of species-rich hay meadows and alluvial grassland.

TW PZ 41 Sutton Holme River Meadowlands

<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p> 	<p>CONTEXT NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands Policy Zone: TW PZ 41 Landscape Character Parcel TW26, TW28</p> 														
<p>CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat, open topography • Extensive areas of “holme” grassland • Species-rich flood meadow and pasture • Marshland and associated wetland • Trees and riparian vegetation associated with ditches and watercourses • Ancient hedgerows 															
<p>LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS</p> <p>Landscape Condition</p> <p>The overall condition of this landscape is defined as very good.</p> <p>The pattern of landscape elements is unified. The area has few detracting features. Overall this is a strongly visually unified area.</p> <p>The historic field pattern is evident. This is an intact, well maintained landscape; therefore the cultural integrity is good.</p> <p>The area has several SINC sites, including South Holme Dyke, Sutton-on-Trent, and North Holme Meadows, Sutton-on-Trent, which have a notable series of species-rich hay meadows and alluvial grassland. The areas mature trees, permanent pasture, flood meadow and marshland provide a moderate network of wildlife corridors.</p> <p>A moderate network for wildlife and a good cultural integrity lead to a strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife, a strongly visually unified area with a strong functional integrity / habitat for wildlife lead to a very good landscape condition.</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Condition</th> <th>Very Good</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pattern of Elements:</td> <td>Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detracting Features:</td> <td>Few</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual Unity:</td> <td>Strongly Unified</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecological Integrity:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural Integrity:</td> <td>Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Functional Integrity:</td> <td>Strong</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Condition	Very Good	Pattern of Elements:	Unified	Detracting Features:	Few	Visual Unity:	Strongly Unified	Ecological Integrity:	Moderate	Cultural Integrity:	Good	Functional Integrity:	Strong
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Detracting Features:	Few														
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Ecological Integrity:	Moderate														
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Functional Integrity:	Strong														

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The historic time depth is evident throughout the area, the majority of the field pattern remains unchanged since the Sanderson Plan of 1835. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity / time depth is historic (post 1600). It has a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>The area has open views, limited by the Village to the west, and by the flood defence bunds that run alongside the River. The landform is apparent and has intermittent tree cover which leads to moderate visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to moderate landscape sensitivity.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; padding: 5px;">Distinctiveness:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Characteristic</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Continuity:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Historic</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Sense of Place:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Landform:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Apparent</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Extent of Tree Cover</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Intermittent</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Visibility:</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> </tr> </table>	Distinctiveness:	Characteristic	Continuity:	Historic	Sense of Place:	Moderate	Landform:	Apparent	Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent	Visibility:	Moderate				
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Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent																
Visibility:	Moderate																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS																	
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and protect the open pastoral and sparsely settled character of the “holme” grasslands. (This is also a RSPB priority habitat in this area) • Conserve the areas pastoral character and seek opportunities to reinforce the ecological diversity of alluvial grassland. • Conserve historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries. • Reinforce and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of streams and ditch corridors. • Conserve ancient hedgerows and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern. • Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture. • Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting. • Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows. 	<p>Condition</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Sensitivity</p> <p>NB: Where one criteria is ‘very good’ this pushes the policy description into the next highest category</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
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Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 42: Girton West River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve

This low-lying landscape lies within the Trent Valley floodplain, to the west of the River Trent. The area surrounds the settlement of Girton to the north, and extends southwards along the western side of the settlement of Besthorpe to the south. The River Trent flows along the north-west edge of the area. The Fleet Stream flows northwards through the centre of the area to join the River Trent in the north west. A large, linear waterbody extends along the centre of the policy zone in-between the two settlements.

The area has a flat topography with localised shallow undulations in fields of pasture to the north west of Girton village. Grass flood banks follow the line of the River Trent and run along the west side of the Fleet Stream.

The area has an irregular field pattern of permanent pasture and species-rich meadow to the north and east; and fields of improved pasture to the south and west. To the east of Girton village, there are a series of small, linear species-rich meadows divided by lines of Willow, Thorn and Ash, which form a distinctive feature within the landscape. To the west, the waterbody has a species-rich emergent and aquatic community.

The area has intermittent tree cover. The watercourses are edged with riparian vegetation, with Willow, Thorn and occasional lines of Poplar trees. The area has strong hedgerows (Elm, Hawthorn, and Ash) with hedgerow trees (Ash and Willow) to field boundaries and along lanes. To the north, there are ancient hedgerows (Ash, Hawthorn, Elder, Purging Buckthorn, Crab Apple, Rosa spp., Elm, Oak, Elm, Hazel and Field Maple) along the lanes,

The settlement of Girton has a historic core with a stone church and red brick buildings with pantile roofs. There are open views to the north, west and south. The views to the east are enclosed by the settlements of Girton and Besthorpe. Pylons are prominent feature across the skyline.

The area contains several SINCs including The Fleet Grassland, Girton, The Fleet, Girton and Girton Grasslands.

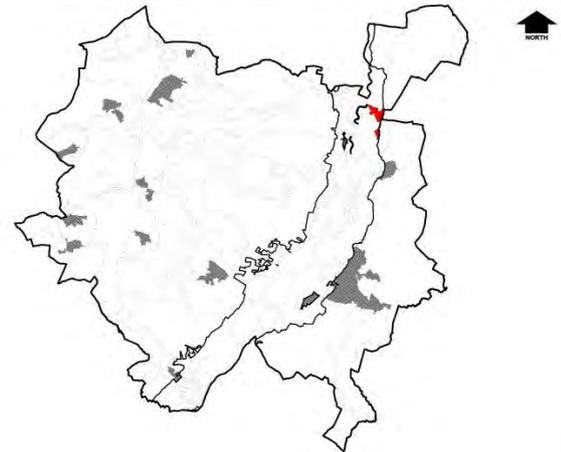
TW PZ 42 Girton West River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 42
Landscape Character Parcel TW25



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat, open topography with localised shallow undulations
- Irregular fields of species-rich flood meadow and pasture
- Narrow, linear strips of species-rich meadow divided by lines of Willow, Thorn and Ash trees adjacent to Girton village
- A linear water body with species-rich emergent and aquatic communities
- Trees and riparian vegetation associated with ditches and watercourses (Willow, Ash).
- Strong hedgerows with hedgerow trees to field boundaries, some ancient hedgerows to south

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **coherent**. The area has **few** detracting features, the only ones being views of pylons and mineral extraction infrastructure. Overall this is a **visually unified** area. The historic field pattern is evident. The area is well maintained and the hedgerows are in good condition, therefore the cultural integrity is **good**.

The area has several SINC sites, including The Fleet Grassland, Girton, The Fleet, Girton and Girton Grasslands. The areas mature trees, hedgerows, permanent pasture, species-rich meadow and marshland provide a **moderate** network of wildlife corridors.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area that is **visually unified** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The historic time depth is evident throughout the area, the field pattern remains unchanged since the Sanderson Plan of 1835. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity / time depth is **historic** (post 1600), it has a **moderate** sense of place.

There are open views to the north, south and west. The views to the east are enclosed by the settlements of Girton and Besthorpe. The landform is **apparent** and has **intermittent tree cover** which leads to **moderate** visibility of the area from outside the PZ.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility leads to **moderate** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve

Landscape features

- **Conserve** the traditional pattern of hedged fields to the south-west of the area and seek opportunities to reinforce the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting where appropriate.
- **Conserve** pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors.
- Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new development within historic boundaries.
- **Conserve** the local character by ensuring future development respects the local style, scale and use of traditional materials.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 43: Grassthorpe River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

This is largely a flat valley landscape rising gently to the west. The field pattern is semi-irregular with small sized fields of species-rich pasture.

Grassthorpe is a nucleated village characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings. There are three Listed Buildings within the village. Grassthorpe Beck is a prominent feature within the village with metal railings to the bridge across the road and mature trees along the road and beck.

Mixed species hedgerows are generally tall and bushy, some are trimmed. Species include Hawthorn, Field Maple, Elm, Elder, Blackthorn etc

Hedgerow trees are common, including Ash, Horse Chestnut, Beech, Lime and Sycamore within the village.

Views are generally restricted within the village by trees and hedgerows along roads and tracks.

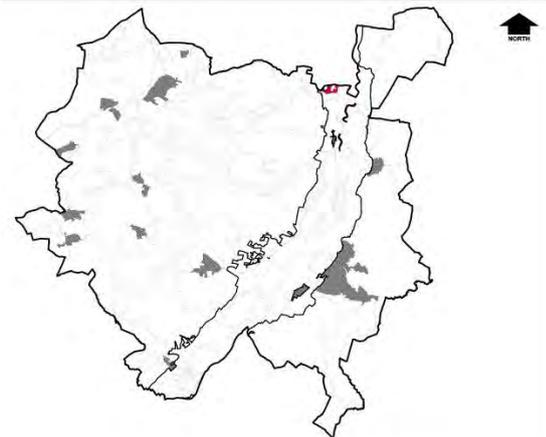
TW PZ 43 Grassthorpe River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 43
Landscape Character Parcel TW27



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Small to medium-sized irregular fields of species rich pasture
- Strong mixed species hedgerows
- Hedgerow trees including Ash, Sycamore and Horse Chestnut
- Large mature trees along Grassthorpe Beck/Town Lane are a prominent feature
- Nucleated village characterised by red brick and pantile roofed buildings
- Restricted views within Grassthorpe and along roads/tracks with tall hedgerows

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **very good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **coherent**. The area has **few** detracting features; these include isolated farm buildings which are in a poor state of repair, giving a neglected appearance. Overall this is a **visually unified** area.

Vernacular style houses are dominant in Grassthorpe. There are three Listed buildings within the village. The historic field pattern is still evident and hedgerows are generally well maintained, therefore the cultural integrity is **good**.

There are no SINCs or other ecological designations in the area. Mixed species hedgerows are largely intact and well maintained. Hedgerows are gappy in places. Hedgerows and streams provide a **moderate** network for wildlife. Tree cover is mostly within hedgerows and along watercourses.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **good** cultural integrity leads to

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Very Good

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area that is **visually coherent** with a **strong** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **low**.

The historic time depth is evident throughout the area. The field pattern remains unchanged since the Sanderson Plan of 1835. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity / time depth is **historic** (post 1600), it has a **moderate** sense of place.

Views within Grassthorpe and along roads and tracks are generally restricted by trees and hedgerows. The landform is **apparent** and has **high tree cover** which gives a degree of enclosure which leads to **low** visibility of the area from outside the PZ.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **low** degree of visibility leads to **low** landscape sensitivity.

Sensitivity

Low

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Enclosed

Visibility: Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** and **reinforce** the traditional pattern of hedged fields.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors.
- **Conserve** pastoral character and promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.

Built Features

- Promote measures for **reinforcing** the traditional vernacular character of farm buildings.
- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlement of Grassthorpe.
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new small scale development within historic boundaries, maintain existing hedgerows, restore and reinforce poor hedgerow boundaries where necessary.
- **Conserve** and respect the local vernacular of red brick and pantile roof construction in any new development.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

NB: Where one criteria is 'very good' this pushes the policy description into the next highest category

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 51: Stoke Lock River Meadowlands
Policy: Conserve and Create

This is a flat valley landscape that is dominated by arable land use. Arable farming has generally led to the loss of internal field boundaries although there are still some smaller fields used for arable crops with strong hedgerows. There are also small areas of pasture, particularly immediately alongside the River Trent, which are crossed by the long distance footpath "The Trent Valley Way"

The area has the impression of being well wooded due to tall hedgerows particularly along farm tracks. However, woodland tends to be actually limited to localised areas such as around Stoke Lock, west of Shelford Manor and some of the former gravel extraction sites.

Field sizes vary from small paddocks adjacent to the village of Gunthorpe and the Cocker Beck watercourse to larger fields in the arable areas.

The historic field pattern has largely been modified by the intensification of arable farming. The hedgerows are generally trimmed hawthorn hedges, with ash hedgerow trees.

There is some commercial development along the A6097 with caravan sales and van hire to the north eastern edge of this area. However, settlements tend to be located to the edge of this area outside the immediate flood plain on slightly higher ground.

TW PZ 51 Stoke Lock River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 51
Landscape Character Parcel TW9



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat, low lying landscape with flood alleviation embankments against the River Trent.
- Open views from the Trent to wooded hills in the north and south.
- Intensive arable fields with pasture between the flood bunds and river.
- Abandoned gravel workings with establishing scrub vegetation.
- Some strong hedgerows particularly along farm tracks.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **moderate**. This area lies to the east of Burton Joyce and west of Shelford. It extends south to Netherfield pits and north up to the edge of Gunthorpe. Lying directly either side of the Trent, this area is relatively undeveloped and the pattern of landscape elements is **coherent**. Although it has **some** detracting features these tend to be scattered, such as the pylons across the river bluff to the north west of Shelford, the former railway sidings and industrial unit to the south west and the caravan retail site to the west of the A6097. Overall this is a **visually coherent** area

There are several SINC sites within this area including Netherfield Pits (also a local nature reserve) and Gunthorpe Lakes - both areas of old gravel workings, Burton Meadows Loop and Shelford Carr. However, the intervening landscape is fairly medium to large intensive arable fields with only narrow margin of less intensive grazing pasture against the River Trent giving an overall ecological integrity of **moderate**. Tree cover is generally riparian vegetation such as Willow and Ash against the river and water courses. Some woodland is also found around Stoke Lock consisting of Sycamore, Cherry, Hazel and

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
Trent Washlands**

<p>Lime. Field boundaries tend to be variable with some intact and well maintained and others fragmented with post and rail fencing</p> <p>Gravel extraction sites have left a highly modified landscape in some areas but there are other areas that are more intact closer to settlement edges. The cultural integrity is therefore variable.</p> <p>A moderate network for wildlife and a variable cultural integrity leads to a coherent functional integrity/habitat for wildlife. An area that is visually coherent with a coherent functional integrity/ habitat for wildlife has a moderate landscape condition.</p>		
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity	Moderate
<p>Landscape sensitivity is defined as moderate. Settlements tend to be located on the edge of this area on slightly higher land outside the flood plain. Isolated and generally red brick houses and cottages are found to the west of the A road in Gunthorpe and to the eastern side of Stoke Bardolph, including the lock cottage at Stoke. The Holmes farm house lies within the centre of this area on a river bluff.</p> <p>The absence of development immediately alongside the River Trent respects the low lying flood plain of this river. Hedgerows are strong in places particularly along tracks where mixed hedges are more common. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are characteristic of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity/time depth is historic (post 1600). The area has a moderate sense of place.</p> <p>This is a flat landscape with some open areas of grazing next to the River Trent. This flat landscape allows longer distance views up and down the Trent Valley. To the east and west the views are contained by the low often wooded hills. The apparent landform and intermittent tree cover which leads to moderate visibility of the area from outside the PZ.</p> <p>A moderate sense of place with a moderate degree of visibility leads to a moderate landscape sensitivity.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness:</p> <p>Continuity:</p> <p>Sense of Place:</p> <p>Landform:</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover</p> <p>Visibility:</p>	<p>Characteristic</p> <p>Historic</p> <p>Moderate</p> <p>Apparent</p> <p>Intermittent</p> <p>Moderate</p>
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Conserve and Reinforce		
<p>Landscape features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the traditional pastoral character and undeveloped flood plain adjacent to the River Trent. • Enhance the ecological diversity of the river meadowlands and seek opportunities to recreate wet grassland. • Reinforce and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and water courses. • Conserve and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedges. • Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture. 		

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

- Enhance visual unity through appropriate small-scale tree and woodland planting.

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Condition				
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE	
		Low	Moderate	High
		Sensitivity		

Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 52: Thurgarton River Meadowlands
Policy: Create and Reinforce

This area is a largely flat and low lying landscape forming the valley floor of the River Trent.

Intensive arable farming is the dominant land use with some grazing to the northern edge west of Bleasby and around Coneygre Farm. There are also some isolated fields of pasture around Holme Dyke to the north eastern edge. Field sizes vary from large to the south east of the railway line to smaller fields to the north west of the line.

Bleasby and Thurgarton have Conservation Areas and there are several listed buildings within the area.

There are several large open water bodies between Hoveringham and Bleasby created by previously worked sand and gravel quarries. Scrub has colonised many of these areas two of which, Jubilee Ponds, Bleasby and Thurgarton Gravel Pit, are SINC sites noted for their diverse habitats. The whole of the River Trent and its banks are also a SINC site.

There are medium distance views out to the eastern bank of the River Trent and the low wooded scarp slope on the eastern bank. Views to the west are of rising farmland and woods between Thurgarton and Lowdham. Tree cover is concentrated around the settlements with wetland woodland and scrub around some of the restored former mineral sites.

A passenger railway line runs diagonally from the south west to the north east across this landscape and pylons also criss-cross this area. Settlements such as Thurgarton and Goverton tend to be to the periphery of this landscape on the slightly higher ground. There are a few farms, including Coneygre Farm and some industrial works south of Thurgarton Station.

TW PZ 52 Thurgarton River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat low lying landscape with linear stretches of pasture against the River Trent.
- Open views from the Trent to wooded hills in the north and south.
- Intensive arable fields.
- Abandoned gravel workings with establishing scrub vegetation and some wet woodland.
- Some strong hedgerows particularly along narrow lanes and fields of pasture.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

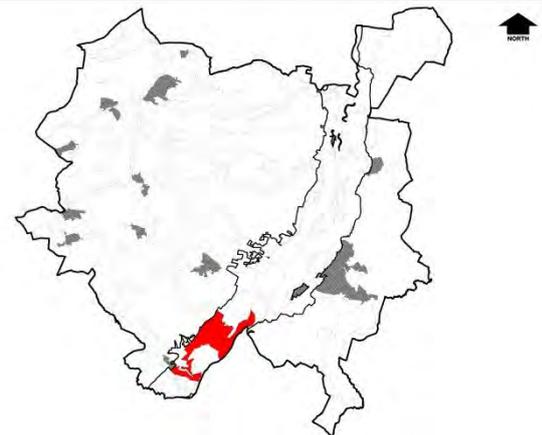
Landscape Condition is described as **Moderate**. This area lies to the east of Burton Joyce and west of Shelford. It extends south to Netherfield Pits and north up to the edge of Gunthorpe village. Lying directly either side of the Trent this area is relatively undeveloped and although there are **some** detracting features they tend to be scattered, such as the pylons across the river bluff to the north west of Shelford, the former railway sidings, industrial unit to the south west, and the caravan retail site to the west of the A6097.

The overall pattern of visually unifying features is **coherent**, with several SINC sites within this area including Netherfield Pits and Gunthorpe Lakes, both areas of old gravel workings; Burton Meadows Loop and Shelford Carr. However the intervening landscape has fairly medium to large intensively managed arable fields with only a narrow margin of less intensive grazing pasture against the River Trent giving a **moderate** ecological network overall.

Gravel extraction sites have left a highly modified landscape in some areas but there are other areas where the historic field pattern is

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape SubType: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 52
Landscape Character Parcel TW12



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
-----------	----------

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
----------------------	----------

Detracting Features:	Some
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Visual Unity:	Coherent
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Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
-----------------------	----------

Cultural Integrity:	Variable
---------------------	----------

Functional Integrity:	Coherent
-----------------------	----------

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

more intact closer to settlement edges, field boundaries tend to be variable with some intact and well maintained and others fragmented with post and wire fencing, cultural integrity is therefore **variable**.

Tree cover is generally riparian vegetation such as Willow and Ash along river and water courses. Some woodland is also found around Stoke Lock consisting of Sycamore, Cherry, Hazel and Lime.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity /habitat for wildlife. An area that is **visually coherent** with a **coherent** functional integrity /habitat for wildlife has a **moderate** landscape condition

Landscape Sensitivity

Settlements tend to be located on the edge of this area on slightly higher land outside the flood plain. Isolated and generally red brick houses and cottages are found to the west of the A road in Gunthorpe and to the eastern side of Stoke Bardolph including the lock cottage at Stoke. The Holmes farm house lies within the centre of this area on a river bluff.

The absence of development immediately alongside the River Trent respects the low lying flood plain of this river. Hedgerows are strong in places particularly along tracks where mixed hedges are more common. Other than the areas immediately adjacent to the river, the area has a **weak** sense of place due to **recent** development.

Adjacent to the river, this is a flat landscape with some areas of grazing which allow longer distance views up and down the Trent Valley. The landform begins to rise at the extent of the Policy Zone and, to the east and west, the views are contained by the low often wooded hills. The apparent landform and intermittent tree cover gives a **moderate** visibility in and out of the area.

A **weak** sense of place with a **moderate** degree of visibility gives a **low** landscape sensitivity

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Create and Reinforce

Landscape features

- **Conserve** the traditional pastoral character and undeveloped flood plain adjacent to the River Trent.
- Enhance the ecological diversity of the river meadowlands.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and water courses.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedges.
- **Create** traditional flood meadows by appropriate alluvial grassland management using a combination of grazing, and cutting of hay crops.
- Seek opportunities to convert arable land to permanent pasture.

Sensitivity

Low

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Recent
Sense of Place:	Weak
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment Trent Washlands

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

**Trent Washlands Policy Zone TW PZ 53: Averham Weir River Meadowlands
Policy: Create and Reinforce**

This area is a large scale, flat and low lying landscape which follows the meanders of the River Trent.

Intensive arable farming is the dominant land use with several dykes draining the fields to the River Trent. Sand and gravel extraction sites are located south east of Staythorpe Power Station.

The area to the west of Newark is dominated by the tower and buildings of a large sugar refinery, with areas of restored wetlands and areas of open water to the north. Marinas are found to the western edge of Farndon and also within Newark. There are some small narrow areas of pasture along the River Trent and along the edge of some older settlements. There are several Scheduled Ancient Monuments and listed buildings/structures. Villages have Conservation Areas to their historic core.

To the south of this area settlements and roads are largely absent. However, to the north, railway lines and some busy A-roads criss-cross this landscape especially to the north west of Newark

Woodland is limited to a few isolated Willow holts, narrow bands of woodland scrub along transport routes, restored mineral extraction sites and sites adjacent to the River Trent near Averham Weir.

Hedgerows tend to be more intact around the medium to smaller scale fields, particularly those that are still pasture. Willow and Ash are often found within outgrown hedges. Within the arable areas hedgerows have often been removed and replaced by post and wire fences. There is limited tree cover within this area.

There are medium distance and occasional longer distance views out to the low wooded hills around Kelham. To the north there are views of the sugar factory on the outskirts of Newark with views of many power lines cutting across the skyline.

TW PZ 53 Averham Weir River Meadowlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat low lying landscape with some linear stretches of pasture against the River Trent.
- Intensive arable production
- Abandoned gravel workings with establishing scrub vegetation and some wet woodland.
- Some mixed hedgerows along generally along roads or surrounding fields of pasture.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **moderate**. This is a landscape that is made up of large scale arable fields within which there are **some** detracting features such as the large structures associated with the Sugar beet factory, part of Staythorpe power station and mineral extraction sites both active and abandoned. The visual unity is **coherent** due to the large scale elements that make up this landscape which are found throughout this area.

Despite the intensity of land use within this area there are several SINC sites, many of which are associated with the river corridor and which have good marginal communities or grassland banks giving a **moderate** ecological network.

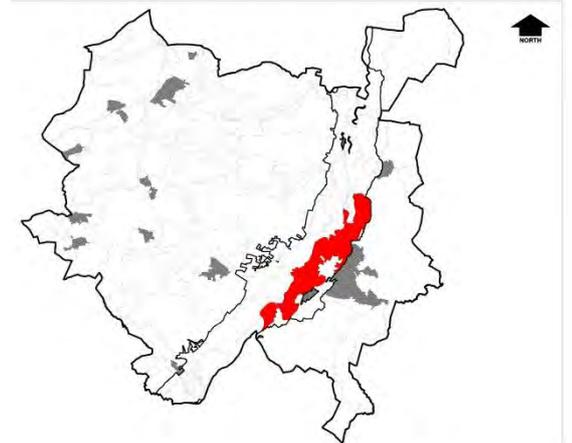
Tree cover is limited within this area to either established riparian tree

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands

Policy Zone: TW PZ 53

Landscape Character Parcel TW19



SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

cover adjacent to the Trent or tree planting alongside roads. Field boundaries are generally intact along roads but have been removed from many internal arable fields leaving a landscape with a **variable** cultural integrity.

This landscape has an overall moderate condition. The loss of field pattern and the industrial processes are compensated by some smaller areas of intact meadowland and wet woodland closer to the river and some of the restored mineral extraction sites.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife. An area that is **visually coherent** with a **coherent** functional integrity/ habitat for wildlife has a **moderate** landscape condition

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **low**.

Recent gravel extraction and intensive arable farming have left a highly modified landscape with an **indistinct** feel.

This area is devoid of settlements, although there are a few isolated residential buildings. It is the large silos and processing units of the Sugar Beet factory, and Staythorpe power station that tend to dominate this area and lead to a recent time depth/continuity with a **weak sense of place**.

The lack of internal hedgerows and the intensity of land use mean that overall the landscape is generally open with high visibility up and down the river corridor and across to low hills on the edge of the Trent Valley. A **very weak** sense of place with a **high** degree of visibility leads to a **low** landscape sensitivity

Sensitivity

Low

Distinctiveness:	Indistinct
Continuity:	Recent
Sense of Place:	Very weak
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Open
Visibility:	High

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Create and Reinforce

Landscape features

- Manage existing riverside pasture to promote ecological diversity.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and water courses by native planting or allowing natural regeneration.
- Manage riparian trees by traditional practices such as willow pollarding.
- **Conserve** and reinforce the pattern and special features of meadowland hedges.
- Convert arable land to permanent pasture particularly alongside the river edge to extend the visual and ecological continuity.
- **Create** traditional flood meadowlands by appropriate alluvial grassland management using a combination of grazing and cutting of hay crops.
- Retain and enhance river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

Built features

- **Conserve** the existing field pattern by locating new small scale development within the existing field boundaries.
- Conserve and protect historic assets within this area.
- Promote sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.
- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of farm buildings using vernacular styles.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Chapter 5: East Nottinghamshire Farmlands Regional Character Area



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Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

East Nottinghamshire Farmlands

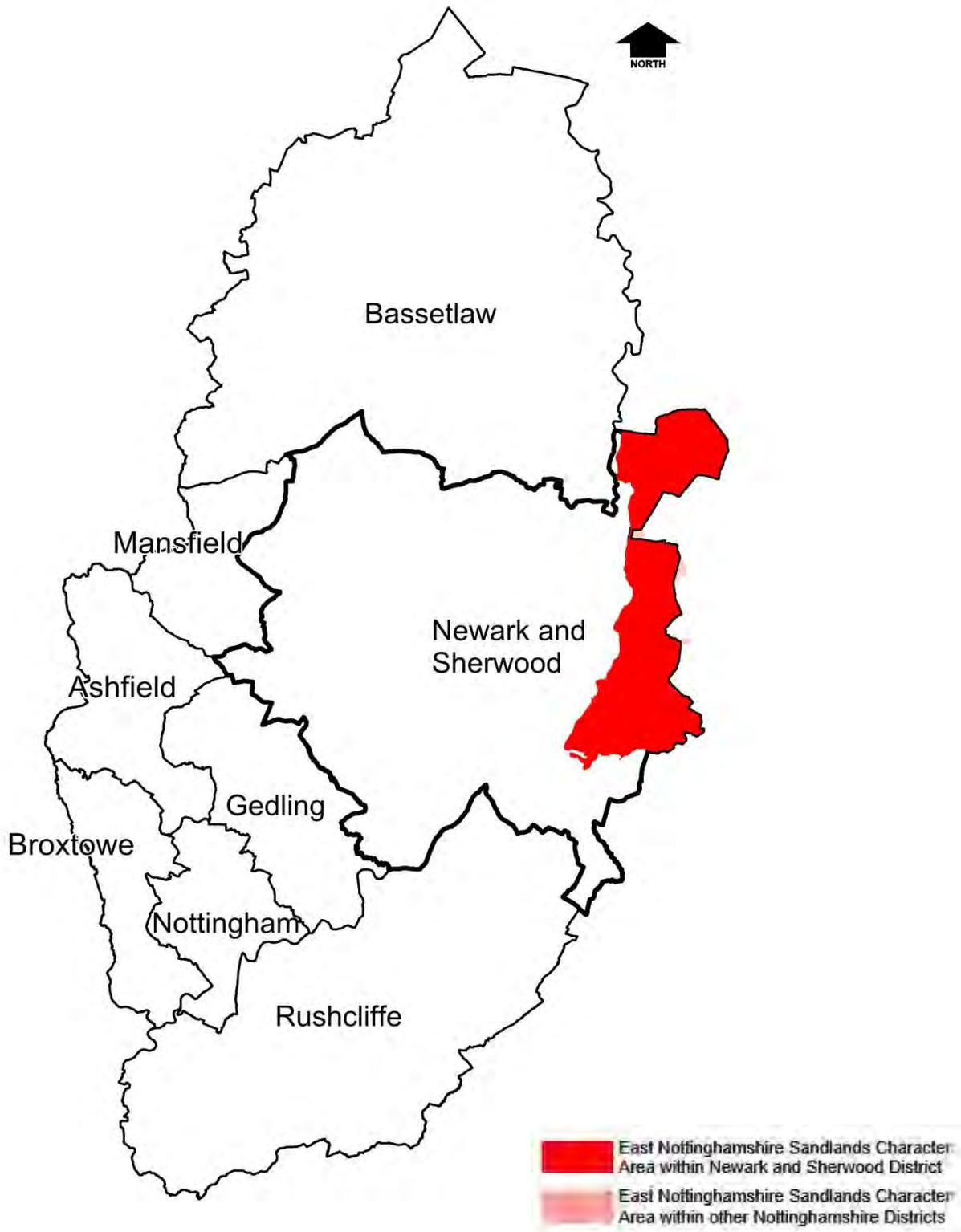
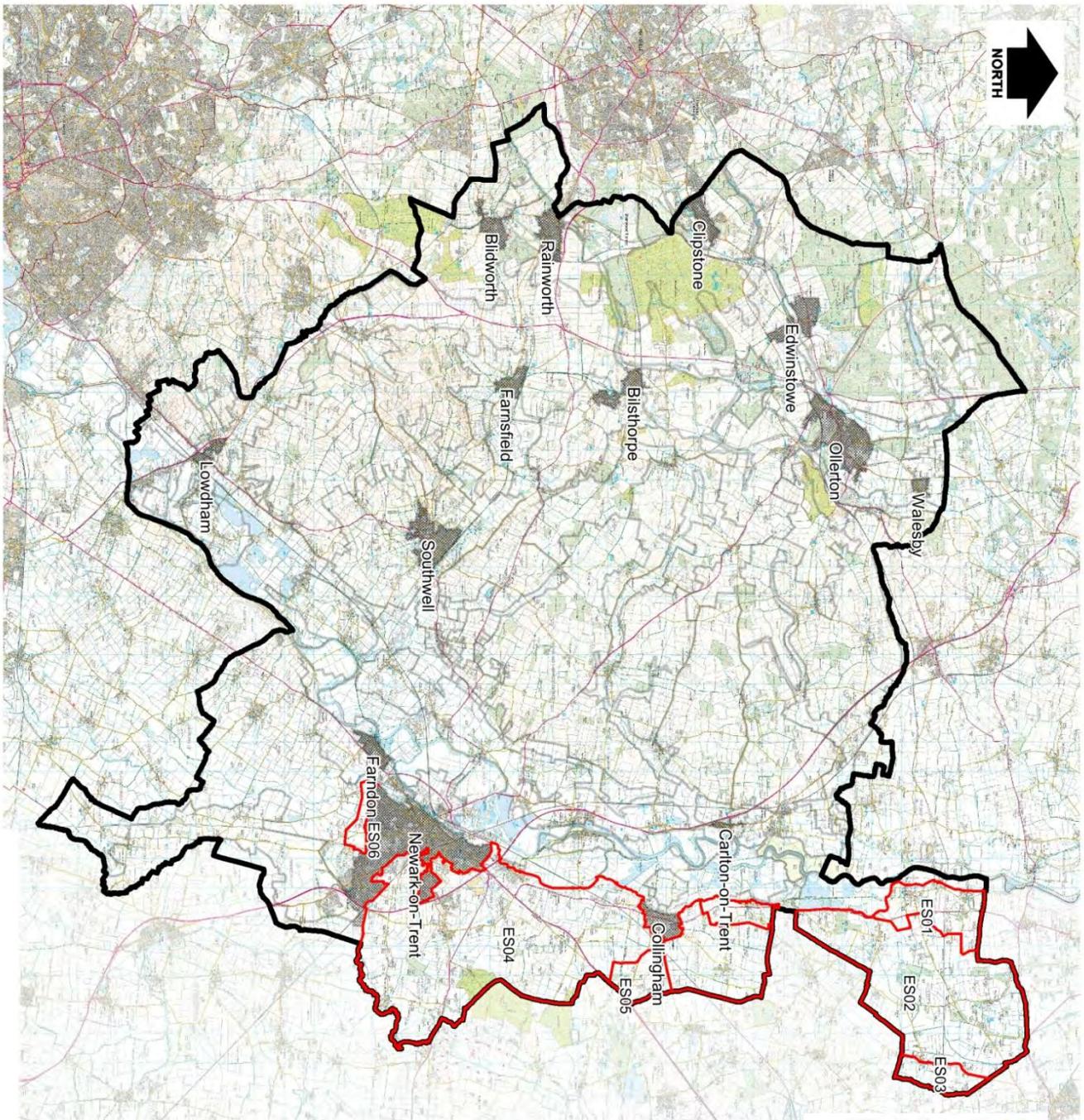


Figure 5.1 East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Character Area within Nottinghamshire and Newark and Sherwood District

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands



- Policy Zones within East Nottinghamshire Sandlands within Newark and Sherwood District
- Other Policy Zones within Newark and Sherwood District
- Newark and Sherwood District Boundary
- Urban Areas within Newark and Sherwood District

Figure 5.2 East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Character Area within Newark and Sherwood District

5.1 Physical and Human Influences

5.1.1 Introduction

The East Nottinghamshire Sandlands is a remote rural area, lying along the eastern fringe of the County within the broad vale of the Trent. The vale stretches deep into Lincolnshire where it is overlooked by the prominent north-south scarp of Lincoln Edge. The region includes all the lands within the County that lie to the north of the historic market town of Newark-on-Trent, and to the east of the Trent Washlands. Historically the area was considered to be of poor agricultural value, with parts still covered by damp, low-lying moorland and 'waste' towards the end of the 18th century. However, a tradition of arable farming has developed on the light soils following drainage and enclosure, with over 80% of the farmland now used for cropping. The region has a simple and undeveloped rural character with few dramatic features, due to the subdued relief and the lack of major modern developments outside the Newark area.

The extent of the East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Character Area within the District of Newark and Sherwood is shown on Figure 5.1

5.1.2 The Shape of the Land

The East Nottinghamshire Sandlands form part of a broad, low-lying vale that extends from the Trent Valley to the foot of the Jurassic escarpment in Lincolnshire. The greater part of this vale has a foundation of Lower Lias beds, consisting mainly of bluish grey mudstones, and clays. To the north of Newark these beds are overlain to a large extent by fluvio-glacial sands and gravels. This covering of drift has flattened the landform, producing an almost level, triangular-shaped plain stretching northwards and eastwards into Lincolnshire.

In places the underlying clays and mudstones stand proud of the mantle of fluvio-glacial drift to form low, rounded hills, rising up to 20 metres above the surrounding plain. The most prominent of these hills are associated with a narrow outcrop of rhaetic beds. These are the same beds which form the low escarpment along the western edge of the Vale of Belvoir. To the north of Newark the continuity of this feature is very fragmented, but it is still recognisable as a series of discontinuous scarps and elongated hills at Newark, Wigsley, Thorney and beyond into Lincolnshire.

Reddish Mercia mudstones also outcrop in several places within the region, most notably at North and South Clifton. The Trent has cut into the soft mudstone below North Clifton, forming a steep-sided river cliff reminiscent of those found in the Trent trench to the south of Newark.

Blown sand, believed to have been accumulated by strong westerly or south-westerly winds at the end of the ice age, forms a series of deposits along the eastern edge of the Trent Valley between Collingham and Gainsborough. These deposits occur as a succession of low ridges and hillocks overlooking the River Trent. Between Besthorpe and Girton the sand assumes the form of well-developed dunes.

The region is drained to the west and east by the rivers Trent and Witham respectively. Drainage water is carried by numerous small streams and a network of artificial drains and dykes. In the north, many of these feed into the Fosdyke Navigation, within Lincolnshire.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

5.1.3 Soils

Slightly stony sandy gley soils have developed in the glacio-fluvial drift. These exhibit prominent mottling, an indication of a history of poor natural drainage. Groundwater levels have now been lowered by arterial land drainage so that most soils are now well drained. Soils developed on the exposed Lower Lias beds consist mainly of stone less, or slightly stony silty clay loams and clay loams. These soils have slowly permeable subsoils which are subject to seasonal waterlogging, although they respond well to drainage. On the outcrops of Triassic mudstone slightly stony sandy loam brown earth soils have developed. These lie over slowly permeable clayey subsoils. Well-drained, stone less sands are typical on the blown sands and are highly susceptible to summer drought.

5.1.4 Landscape History

The Landscape history of the **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands** is complex, being affected by the local variation in geology and soils. The parishes along the Trent share a history with the **Trent Washlands**, into which they extend, while those in the south follow the pattern of the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands**. They also share to one degree or another in the landscapes of the clays and sands which characterise the eastern sides of the region. As an entity, the **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands** have been little studied from the viewpoint of land use in history and, as is so often the case in such situations in the County, the depth and complexity of that history have been underappreciated.

For a detailed analysis of East Nottinghamshire Sandland's history refer to Appendix R

5.2 Landscape Evolution And Change

5.2.1 Introduction

This section examines the main forces that have brought about change and evolution within the **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands** over recent decades. It does this by discussing how the current structure and pattern of land use has developed, paying particular regard to agriculture, woodland, transport, industrial/residential development and mineral extraction. It also considers the trends and pressures that may produce landscape change in the future.

5.2.2 Agriculture



The pattern of farming and land use has historically been related to the physical characteristics of the region, particularly the variable pattern of soils. Since enclosure, arable farming has been the principal land use with cash roots such as carrots, potatoes and sugar beet the main crops prior to the Second World War. Arable farming still dominates the economy of the region, although major changes in the pattern of crop production have taken place. The intensification of agriculture has resulted in a concentration on cereal and sugar beet production, with smaller amounts of other root crops now grown. Over 80% of the region's farmland is now used for cropping. The agricultural character of the region has been affected by field rationalisation over recent decades, leading to the fracture and loss of field pattern in some areas. The condition of hedgerows has also deteriorated as a result of inappropriate management.

On the glacio-fluvial drift, sandy gley soils are the most common. On the level areas of the broad terrace where the drift is shallow, the underlying clays become easily waterlogged, placing constraints on the agricultural use of the land. This is particularly so in the northern parishes of Thorney, Harby and Wigsley where ponds and meres are a characteristic feature. Groundwater levels are dependent on seasonal rainfall and depth to the impermeable Lias clays and marls below; however most soils are now adequately drained and despite low inherent fertility, are suitable for a wide range of arable and horticultural crops. The drift in which the soils are formed is underlain by material associated with the Mercia mudstone to the west and Liassic clays to the east and varies in depth from a few centimetres to several metres. In places relatively extensive pockets of Liassic clay are exposed, supporting soils of mainly fine loamy texture with slowly permeable subsoils. These soils have traditionally been used for grassland and winter sown cereals, there being little opportunity for spring cultivation.

The agricultural value of the land has always varied. In the late eighteenth century substantial tracts of low-lying moorland and "waste" extended across the area between Newark and Lincoln. In the early part of the twentieth century the area became famous for the production

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

of carrots, which favoured the light soils. A large proportion of land was given over to the crop around Collingham, North Clifton, South Clifton, Besthorpe and Harby. Yields were exceptionally high with the product being distributed as far afield as London and Manchester.

The area has always supported poor quality pasture, with livestock operations forming a minor component of the agricultural economy. The area lying to the east of Newark around the parishes of Coddington, Barnby and parts of Balderton where soils are capable of sustaining higher quality pasture is an exception. Grassland now accounts for 13% of the total area of the region. Much of this is still concentrated in the area to the east of Newark. Elsewhere it generally occurs within small-scale fields along settlement edges.

Soils derived from accumulations of blown sand occur in two areas, between Collingham and Spalford, and in North and South Clifton. The blown sands support a mix of land uses including arable cultivation, pasture, woodland and heath. Crops are grown over 57 % of the total land area, despite the fact that productivity is severely limited by drought. Continuous arable cropping has led to soil erosion in places, by exposing the weak-structured top soils to wind blow. Permanent pastures cover 19 % of the land area, the bulk of which is concentrated around Spalford and the New Lane area. The grass heath areas have a hummocky and in places, dune-like character, with the areas now managed for rough grazing and nature conservation purposes.

Changes in national and European agricultural policies have focused on farm diversification and measures to reduce the overall level of agricultural production. It is unlikely, therefore, that further agricultural expansion will take place in the near future, although there may be an intensification of production on existing land. Incentives that encourage more environmentally friendly forms of farming offer the opportunity to enhance the traditional character of region, by introducing more woodland and, in appropriate areas, by restoring areas of semi-natural heath.

5.2.3 Woodland/Tree Cover



The pattern of woodland is highly variable, with the level of cover being significantly higher on the Lincolnshire sections of the terrace, where the larger and older broadleaved woodlands are mainly confined to clay soils on the Lias. On the sandy soils of the terrace a scattered distribution of smaller scale broadleaved woodlands is evident, mainly in the form of straight-edged plantations.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

In Nottinghamshire the landscape has a progressively more wooded appearance towards the east with large-scale plantations lying along the County boundary between Coddington and Swinderby.

A relatively large amount of woodland is found in the parishes of Thorney and Wigsley, where numerous small-scale oak and birch woodlands are connected by lines of mature and semi-mature oak trees running along field boundaries. Elsewhere in the region the woodland cover is relatively sparse, with the exception of the small Scots pine, oak and birch woodlands established on the blown sands, and the coniferous plantation at Spalford Warren and the large plantation at Stapleford Woods. The overall level of woodland cover within the region now stands at 5.5%. Broadleaved woodland accounts for 50% of the total, coniferous 40% and mixed species woodland 9%.

Prior to drainage and enclosure much of the terrace was covered in wet low lying moorland, thicket and scrub. Numerous thickets, and copses of birch and bracken survived in the eastern parts of the region in the 1930s and were used primarily as shelter for game. Little of this habitat remains today. Only one Ancient Woodland, Kelwick Wood, as defined by the 1990 English Nature Inventory of Ancient Woodland, is found within the region. This is classified as ancient replanted woodland. The main hedgerow tree species are ash and oak, with oak dominating in the parishes to the north of the region. Few young trees are coming through to replace the mainly mature hedgerow trees, due in part to the excessive trimming of hedges. Small, mature parkland landscapes occur at three locations, Coddington, Barnby Manor and Thorney. The condition of the parkland trees is variable.

5.2.4 **Transportation**

Four major roads run through the region, the A1, the A1133 to Gainsborough, the A17 to Sleaford and the A46 to Lincoln. There are currently plans for the construction of a By-pass at Collingham, and a widening scheme (upgrade to dual-carriageway status) of the A46 has recently been completed. Elsewhere the dispersed pattern of rural settlement is linked by a network of narrow and often straight country roads. The East Coast Main Line and the Nottingham to Lincoln line are the only active railway lines.

5.2.5 **Urban and Industrial Development**

The settlement pattern in the region is one of small rural villages, with the historic market town of Newark-on-Trent lying to the south. The largest settlement outside of the Newark urban area is Collingham, which has retained its distinctive character. Large-scale new development has been relatively well controlled so that the region's rural character, and the historic settlement pattern of small red brick villages, is still intact.

Newark Urban Area (Newark, Balderton and Fernwood) is the major centre within Newark & Sherwood and is the main location for services, jobs, retail, education and a focus for transport for most of the District. Reflecting this status the Newark Urban Area is the focus for housing and employment growth within the District, with 9913 dwellings being identified for the Urban Area between 2006-2026. To facilitate this growth a series of site allocations have been made for a range of uses including residential, employment and retail. Significantly this has included sustainable urban extensions to the south and east of Newark and around Fernwood.

Collingham is defined as a 'Principal Village' within the Local Development Framework's Settlement Hierarchy and offers a good range of day to day facilities as well as acting as a

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

secondary focus for service provision. To help support this role site allocations, through the Local Development Framework, have also been made in Collingham.

Whilst they may not be the focus for significant levels of growth it is clear that economic and social factors will continue to exert pressure on rural areas of the District and it is likely that the demand for rural housing will continue to grow, driven by the increasing number of people who want to live in a rural location. The refurbishment and conversion of old farm buildings to high quality residential dwellings is now widespread. If the trend continues there may be further consequences for the future pattern and character of the rural landscape.

Employment development will be directed toward the built-up areas of the District and only acceptable in the open countryside where the need for a rural location and the contribution towards rural employment can be demonstrated. The conversion of existing buildings in rural locations to beneficial uses, diversification of rural businesses where this contributes to the local economy and tourism development / accommodation which meets identified needs are also provided support in local planning policy.

Continued uncertainty in the agricultural sector and declining incomes will ensure that rural tourism and farm diversification play an increasing role in the economy of the area. This is likely to result in the conversion of existing agricultural buildings, and in some cases demands for new built development.

5.2.6 **Energy**

The power stations that lie out-with the region and their associated web of high voltage power lines constitute the most dominant and visually intrusive landscape features within and out-with the **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**.

5.2.7 **Renewable Energy**

The United Kingdom is legally bound to meeting challenging targets for the generation of energy from renewable sources (15% by 2020) and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (to 34% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050). A framework of national policy, reflecting the need to increase the supply and usage of energy from low-carbon sources and to ensure that adverse impacts are satisfactorily addressed, has been put in place to help deliver these aims. Significantly, this carries the expectation that applications be approved, unless material considerations indicate otherwise, if their impacts (such as that on the landscape) are (or can be made) acceptable. Core Policy 10 'Climate Change' of the Core Strategy and Policy DM4 'Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation' in the Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document's set out local planning policy on this issue.

Given this policy context there are likely to be future applications for renewable energy developments, such as wind-farms, in the **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**. These structures have the potential to change the landscape character of the **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**, particularly in the more sparsely settled northern areas. The power generation industry will continue, therefore, to be a dominant feature of the region.

5.2.8 **Minerals: sand and gravel**

Rich deposits of sand and gravel cover substantial areas of the Village Farmlands, with the main area of extraction lying outside the region, on the western side of Lincoln. The only

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

quarry occurring within Nottinghamshire is found at North Scarle, where production ceased in the 1980s. This quarry is included in a pulverised fuel ash reclamation scheme, although some lagoons still remain to be reclaimed to agriculture. Mineral extraction has therefore had a minimal impact upon the character of the region.

5.2.9 **Climate Change**

Research has identified trends and emerging patterns of global climate change. Within the UK, implications for climate change include:

- Global temperature increases of between 1.8 and 4 degrees centigrade above the 1990s levels by the end of the 21st Century, with UK increases anticipated at 2 to 3.5 degrees by 2080.
- Greater warming in the South and East of the UK, rather than the West and North.
- Increasing temperatures resulting in milder winters and high summer temperatures.
- An increase in sea levels by 26-86 cm, by 2080. Extreme high water incidences 10 to 20 times more frequent, increasing coastal flood risks.
- Changes in rainfall patterns, with wetter winters and drier summers. The greatest changes are anticipated for the South and East of the UK, where summer rainfall could reduce by 50%, and snowfall reduced by 60 – 80% by 2080. **(1)**

These changes have the potential to impact on all other drivers for change in the future. The issues of the most relevance to the landscape character of the **East Nottinghamshire Farmlands** include:

Built Development:

- Increased development on land away from locations such as river corridors and low lying areas that are at risk from flooding.
- Sustainable design and layout of new development to result in less use of water, energy and raw materials.

Infrastructure:

- Pressure for renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind turbines to reduce emissions.
- Demand for new riverine defence works in response to tidal surges and high waves.

Minerals and Waste:

- Reducing the amount of waste land filled and increasing the amount of waste recycled and composted.

Agricultural and Land Management:

- Increased risk of river flooding and loss of land as a result of rising sea levels and coastal erosion.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

- Changing weather conditions leading to longer growing seasons and the ability to grow different types of crops.
- The introduction of energy crops to provide an sustainable source of fuel.
- Gradual changes in flora and fauna in response to warmer, wetter conditions and more disturbed weather patterns.

Forestry and Woodland:

- Sustainability of forest tree species may alter due to changes in climatic conditions.
- Lengthy period of drought and dry conditions may lead to an increased risk of upland forest fire.

Tourism and Recreation:

- Increased number of visitors to the countryside due to higher temperatures.

(1) www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/about/ukeffect

5.3 Species List - East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

The following list includes native tree and shrub species that are commonly found within the **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands** and are suitable for inclusion in planting schemes. These are important for determining the area's regional character. A range of native species may also be appropriate to particular locations or sites. In these cases professional advice should be sought.

All plant material should be of local provenance or at least of British origin. The document 'Using local stock for planting native trees and shrubs' - Forestry Commission - Practice Note August 1999 by George Herbert, Sam Samuel and Gordon Patterson; provides guidance in this respect. A list of suppliers is provided on the Flora Locale website – www.floralocale.org

TREES	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ streamsides
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	□	□	■	■
Aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>	□			
Birch (Downy)	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	□			□
Birch (Silver)	<i>Betula pendula</i>	■	□	□	
Crab apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>		□		
Elm (English)	<i>Ulmus minor var.vulgaris</i>		□		
Elm (Wych)	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	□	□	□	
Maple (Field)	<i>Acer campestre</i>		■	□	
Oak (Common)	<i>Quercus robur</i>	■	□	■	
Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	□			
Willow (Crack)	<i>Salix fragilis</i>	■		□	■
Willow (White)	<i>Salix alba</i>			□	□

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**

SHRUBS	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ streamsides
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Dogwood (Common)	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Guelder Rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	■	■	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hawthorn (Midland)	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Osier	<i>Salix viminalis</i>				<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosa (Dog)	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	■		

■ Dominant species

□ Other species present

5.4 Visual Character of the Landscape

5.4.1 Introduction

The **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands** share many of the characteristics of the wider Trent Vale. The region, however, possesses a distinctive character of its own. This is closely related to the physical characteristics of the region, which produce differences in the pattern of land use, fields, woodland and settlement. For the most part, the region has a simple agricultural character, although variations in the scale and distribution of woodland create much local diversity. Historical variations in the use of the land are also very evident within the landscape, with some late enclosure areas easily recognisable by the well-ordered layout of roads, fields and farmsteads. There are also reminders of the former areas of moorland and “waste”, reflected in the occurrence of heathy vegetation along roadside verges and woodland edges. This heathy character is particularly pronounced on the accumulations of blown sand that cover parts of the area. The settlement pattern of small red brick villages is still very much intact within this low-lying vale, forming an integral feature of the region’s remote rural character. The region is now dominated by arable farming although many ancient features remain. These include old village pastures, ridge and furrow, field ponds, narrow country lanes and parklands.

The **East Nottinghamshire Sandlands** can be subdivided into two distinct landscape types which occur in Newark and Sherwood. These are the:

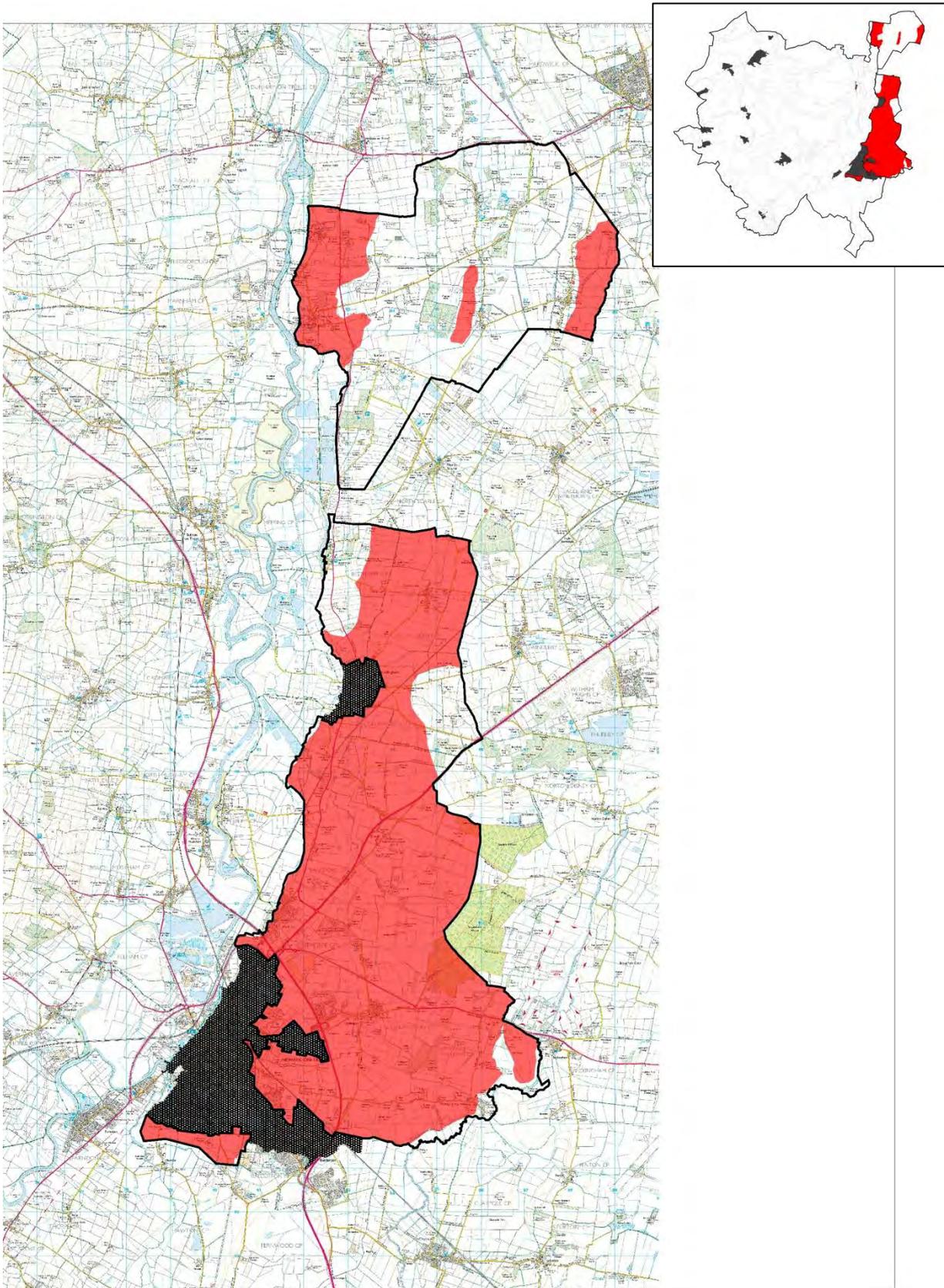
- Village Farmlands
- Village Farmlands with Plantations

These have been classified generically, which means that, theoretically, the landscape types could occur at any location within the country where there are similar physical resources and historical patterns of land use. In reality the landscape types possess a distinctively local character, because they share the broad characteristics of the regional character area, or represent a particular aspect of that character

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Village Farmlands**

East Nottinghamshire Sandlands: Village Farmlands

Figure 5.3 Location of Village Farmlands within East Nottinghamshire Sandlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Village Farmlands



This is a varied, but typically well-wooded landscape characterised by small geometric plantations and remnant heathy vegetation. It has the following characteristic features:

Characteristic features

- Free-draining sandy soils
- Variable pattern of land use and land holding
- Mixed small-scale geometric plantations with birch, oak and Scots pine
- Acidic grassland and grass heaths
- Bracken, gorse and broom along hedgerows and roadside verges

Landscape description

This landscape has evolved on free-draining, drought-susceptible sandy soils on pockets of blown sand between Besthorpe and North Clifton. The landscape has a distinctive character which arises from the variable pattern of landholding and the diverse range of land uses that the area supports, including permanent and rough pasture, grass heath, commercial forestry and arable farming. This varied character is also reflected in the pattern of settlement, which includes the small nucleated villages of North Clifton, Spalford and Besthorpe, along with a concentration of smallholdings, farmsteads and light industrial/agricultural buildings.

Acidic grassland and scrub communities are found throughout the landscape. At Besthorpe and Spalford Warren, areas of tussocky grass heath have developed, with communities on Spalford Warren of particular biological importance. The heathy character of the landscape is reinforced elsewhere by the presence of gorse, bracken and broom species in roadside verges, hedgerows and pasture fields. Rabbit warrens are very noticeable within the grassland areas on sloping land, marked by eroding patches of loose sand. Place names such as Rabbit Hill Lane and Sand Lane pay testimony to the physical characteristics of the area.

The landscape has a well-wooded character arising from the many small-scale geometric plantations. An exception is the larger coniferous plantation established on Spalford Warren by the Forestry Commission. No hardwood belts have been planted along its edges and it consequently appears as quite a harsh and abrupt straight-edged feature. Elsewhere

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Village Farmlands

woodlands often directly about areas of grass heath and scrub with birch, oak and Scots pine constituting the main species. Pine shelter belt plantings are a feature near North Clifton.

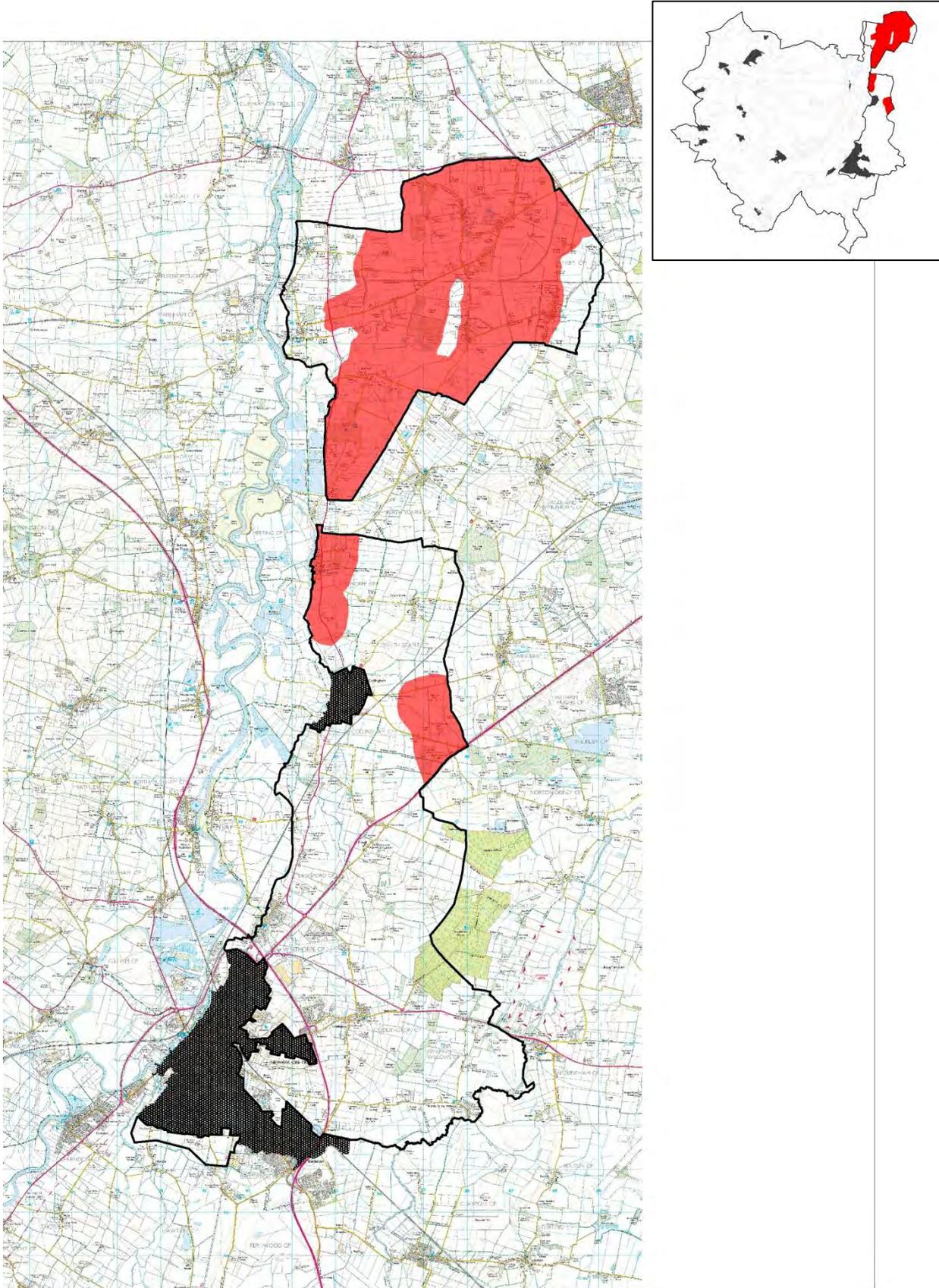
The grassland areas are characterised by a small-scale, irregular pattern of hedged fields. Many of the hedges are now back-fenced due to under management, with oak forming the principal hedgerow tree species. An area of species-poor pasture and grass heath is found immediately to the south of Spalford Warren. Certain areas of the blown sands are now intensively managed as arable land. The weak soil structure has led to severe wind erosion problems and a significant loss of topsoil. Low, gappy, agricultural hedgerows running along raised sandy banks provide striking evidence of this.



**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Village Farmlands with Plantations**

East Nottinghamshire Sandlands: Village Farmlands with Plantations

Figure 5.4 Location of Village Farmlands with Plantations within East Nottinghamshire Sandlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Village Farmlands with Plantations



This is an enclosed and in places well-wooded, low-lying landscape with a remote rural character. It has the following characteristic features

- Remote rural character
- Broad low lying terrace
- Gently sloping hills associated with Liassic outcrop
- Acidic sandy soils
- Intensively managed arable farmlands
- Enclosed medium distance views, often to wooded edges
- Variable pattern of woodland and hedgerow trees
- Regular pattern of hedged fields and rural lanes
- Small rural villages and isolated farmsteads
- Vernacular style red brick and pantile roofed buildings

Landscape description

These are intensively farmed, enclosed agricultural landscapes, with a largely remote rural character located on broad river terrace deposits to the east of the River Trent. The area shares many of the characteristics of a more extensive tract of landscape that runs eastwards into Lincolnshire. The Village Farmlands with Plantations is mostly confined to sandy soils on the flat, low-lying terrace, although the level landform is interrupted in places by outcropping beds of Liassic clay. These are marked by the presence of gently sloping, low hills. The pattern of land use and settlement has historically been determined by the physical environment of the terrace with the principal landscape components consisting of intensively managed arable farmlands, small red brick settlements and a variable pattern of woodland cover.

Much of the area was still uncultivated towards the end of the eighteenth century because of limitations imposed on its agricultural use by the high water table. Little now remains of the once extensive areas of damp low-lying moorland and “waste”, although its former character

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Village Farmlands with Plantations

is widely reflected in local place names, examples being Coddington Moor, Stapleford Moor, Langford Moor and Thorney Moor. After drainage and enclosure the region developed a distinctively agricultural character that has endured to the present day. With adequate fertiliser the relatively poor sandland soils are capable of growing a wide range of crops. Arable cultivation therefore forms the predominant land use, with pasture confined to settlement edges. With the exception of the Newark urban fringe, the landscape has a robust and undeveloped rural character.

One of the distinctive features of the Village Farmlands with Plantations is the small rural villages and the dispersed pattern of isolated farmsteads. Many of the settlements lie along the edge of the terrace, close to the division with the lower-lying alluvial lands of the Trent Valley. Buildings within the villages are constructed from traditional red brick and pantile materials. The vernacular style is an important component of the region's character, although there has been a degree of modern infill in most settlements.

The villages often link with small and intimate landscapes containing features such as species-rich hedgerows, permanent pastures, ridge and furrow and old field ponds. Many of the farmhouses and farm buildings are constructed from the same traditional building materials, most having being built at around the same time as the surrounding lands were enclosed. A network of narrow and often straight rural lanes links the various small settlements and farmsteads. These usually have well-maintained hedgerows that restrict summer views across the level terrace. Collingham is the biggest settlement outside Newark, the predominance of traditional red brick buildings producing a strong sense of place and unity. The landscape has largely escaped the influence of urban and industrial development, the only exception to this being the landscapes that fringe the northern and eastern edges of Newark and Balderton, where residential housing, major road developments and light industrial units have an impact locally.

The farmlands are enclosed by a well-ordered pattern of hedged fields and lanes which reflect the relatively late enclosure of much of the farmland. The regular and medium to large-scale field pattern tends to be the most dominant landscape element. Many of the fields are bounded by drains and ditches, highlighting the fact that many of the underlying sandy soils are naturally prone to seasonal waterlogging. Field patterns are largely intact, although there are areas where they have become poorly defined. Many hedgerows are over managed, with their low and gappy form reducing the sense of enclosure. This produces more open views across the flat terrain and the gently sloping Lias hills. Thorn hedgerows predominate, although mixed species hedges are found locally, particularly along the narrow country lanes.

In the north east the Village Farmlands with Plantations have a very distinct character, particularly the area centred on the village of Thorney. Numerous small and medium-sized woodlands frame and enclose the farmlands. These are mostly broadleaved with birch and oak the principal species. Several woodlands have bracken understories. A small number of coniferous and mixed woodlands are also found. The flat river terrace topography confines views to the many wooded edges. The woodlands are linked by sinuous lines of oak trees sweeping along field boundaries and roadside edges. These mature and semi-mature trees are a special and important feature of the landscape, creating a strong sense of local identity. The village of Thorney occupies a central position within this area. The village is surrounded by a small area of pastoral landscape including parkland associated with Thorney Hall. This provides a contrast to the adjacent arable farmlands. Modern poultry units are distributed through the area.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Village Farmlands with Plantations

Elsewhere the tree cover of the Village Farmlands with Plantations is variable. The landscape becomes progressively more wooded eastwards from the Trent Valley, where tree cover is relatively sparse. Hedgerow trees are an important feature within much of this landscape with ash and oak the dominant species. Lines of willow along stream lines, drains and ditches also form important features, adding to the sense of enclosure. The eastern fringes of the Nottinghamshire terrace are strongly influenced by large plantation woodlands that often straddle the boundary with Lincolnshire. The long sinuous woodland edges add diversity and interest to the intensively farmed character of the surrounding areas.

In the south eastern area of the region, woodlands are of variable scale and species composition. The coniferous plantation at Stapleford Woods is the largest, with its straight edges providing a rather harsh frame to the adjacent farmlands. Internally the coniferous plantations are of more interest, with hardwood belts and acidic plant communities established along rides and roadside edges.

Elsewhere woodlands are smaller scale and predominantly broadleaved, with ash, oak, birch, sycamore, poplar and beech being the main species found. The broadleaved woodlands help to reduce landscape scale, providing views of varying distance across flat terrain.



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Policy Zones

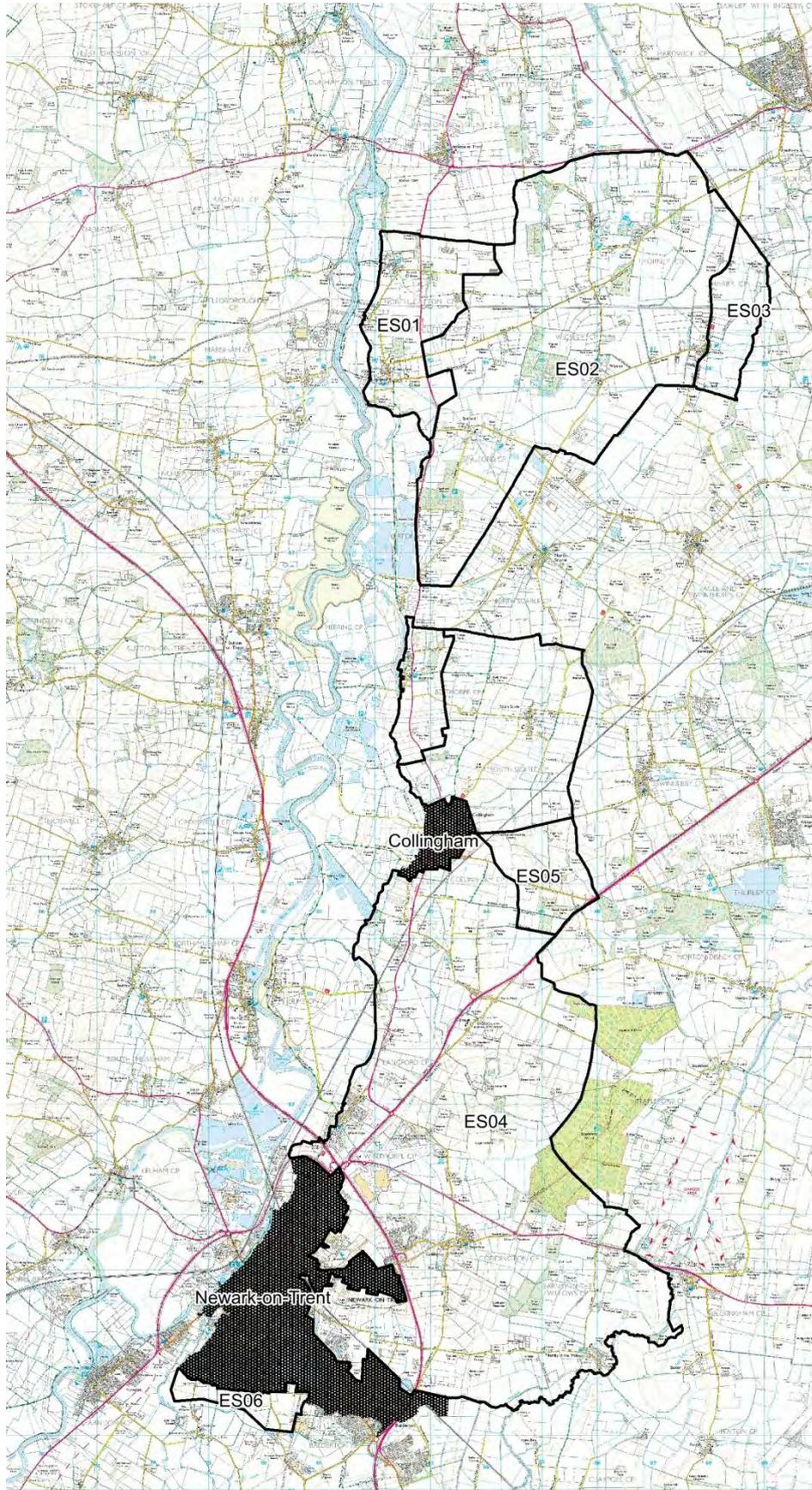


Figure 5.5 Policy Zones within East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Policy Zones**

5.5 Landscape Policy Sheet

5.5.1 Policy Zones Contents Sheet

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East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Policy Zone ES PZ 01: North Clifton Village Farmlands

Policy: Create

The Policy Zone lies to the north of Newark, with the river Trent running near the western boundary and the busy A1133 road running north to south through the centre. The land is generally flat, with some undulating topography around villages. This results in medium to long distance views interrupted by frequent shelterbelts and mixed plantations. Views are somewhat dominated to the west and north by power stations and power lines in adjacent areas.

A generally degraded area heavily influenced by its intensive land use, much of the land is dedicated to intensive agriculture. Large arable fields form the majority of the land pattern, and exhibit some loss of historic field pattern. There is also some pastoral land use and smaller fields associated with this land use are noted in the vicinity of the settlements. Hedgerows are generally well maintained and strongly trimmed, however, many are fragmented and some are completely lost, especially to arable field boundaries. Post and wire and some post and rail fencing is used as infill where this has occurred. Commercial agriculture is evident within the area, with a number of poultry sheds present towards the north of the Policy Zone.

Mixed woodlands, Coniferous plantations (often with native edges) and shelterbelts are frequent throughout, providing some mitigation for the intensive agriculture. A variety of ecological bases also exist, including Bracken along acid grassland verges and a disused railway line, and Biological SINC designations reflect this:

- 5/133 – Marnham to Harby Dismantled Railway ‘A long length of dismantled railway line with a rich diversity of characteristic and notable herbs’
- 5/2171 – North Clifton Church ‘A notable blown-sand grassland in a churchyard’
- 5/136 – South Clifton Road Verges ‘Broad grassy roadside verges with a notable blown-sand flora’
- 1/87 – Old Trent Oxbow, Spalford ‘An excellent aquatic and bankside flora developed along an abandoned river channel’
- 2/832 – A1133 Verge, Spalford ‘A diverse grassland community on a broad roadside verge’

Two settlements lie within the Policy Zone; North Clifton and South Clifton. Both of these villages have historic vernacular cores, although infill and new build to the periphery is evident. South Clifton has been designated as a Conservation Area, and some Listed Buildings associated with the historic cores also exist:

Threats of drivers for change in the Policy Zone include:

- Increase in number of Poultry Houses.
- More plantations.
- Further loss of pastoral fields.
- Further loss of hedgerows due to lack of management and/or increased intensification of arable agriculture.

ES PZ 01: North Clifton Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: ES PZ 01
Landscape Character Parcel: ES01



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat with occasional undulating landform around villages.
- Medium distance views to frequent shelterbelts and mixed plantations.
- Dominant views to the west and north of power stations and power lines.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **poor**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields, blocks of deciduous woodland and isolated farms; there are **some** detracting features including busy roads and some small industrial units along with a caravan site. Overall this gives a visually **coherent** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (5/133 – Marnham to Harby dismantled railway; 5/2171 – North Clifton Church; 5/136 – South Clifton Road Verges; 1/87 – Old Trent Oxbow, Spalford; 2/832 – A1133 Verge, Spalford). There are no MLA designations in the area.

In ecological terms the area provides a **weak** habitat for wildlife, with a highly intensive arable land use. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is by and large intact, with hedgerows often being

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Poor
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Weak
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Weak

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**

mature, well maintained and intact. A **coherent** area with a **weak** functional integrity gives a **poor** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **low**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the East Sandlands LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **insignificant** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **low** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **low** visibility leads to a **low** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity Low

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Insignificant
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Create

Landscape Features

- **Create** new hedgerows and restore existing, seek opportunities to recreate historic field pattern where feasible, contain new developments within historic field boundaries.
- Enhance and reinforce tree cover and planting generally, in particular, along busy A1133 road, to **create** increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone, and limit the impact of views towards power stations (High Marnham).
- Conserve the ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINCS.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral.

Built Features

- Conserve what remains of the rural landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlement.
- **Create** new development which reflects the local built vernacular.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Policy Zone ES PZ 02: Wigsley Village
Farmlands with Plantations
Policy: Create**

Located to the north of Collingham and to the south of Newton on Trent, the A57 forms the northern boundary and the River Trent lies along the western boundary. A large scale arable landscape, with generally flat topography, views tend to be medium to long distance towards wooded rising ground, with views towards the west including Marnham power station and associated power lines.

Although the landscape is dominated by arable agriculture (including turf growing), small areas of historic pastoral fields also exist. Commercial agriculture is prominent towards the north of the Policy Zone, including poultry houses, piggeries etc. Field patterns are often lost with larger fields towards the north, however, fields tend to be smaller and more historic towards the south, around Besthorpe. Field boundaries to arable fields are predominantly strongly trimmed hawthorn hedgerows, fragmented and often lost in places, with numerous outgrown hedgerow tree species. Hedgerows around villages and pastoral fields are more often well maintained and relatively species-rich, featuring species such as; Hawthorn, Ilex, Elder, Hazel and Convolvulus. Post and rail fencing can be seen around the pastoral fields, where some horse-culture is evident.

Leisure industry is apparent throughout the area in the form of fishing lakes, caravan parks, sports grounds, a disused airfield (south of Wigsley), and these activities introduce an element of ornamental planting to the area.

There are numerous fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland (Oak, Birch, some Field Maple and Sycamore), coniferous plantations and shelterbelts. These woodland areas help to mitigate the loss of field pattern and the intensive arable land use to some extent.

A variety of habitats are present throughout the Policy Zone, with areas of wetland and open water around Besthorpe, and associated riparian vegetation. A small amount of Parkland is present around Thorney Hall (south of Thorney village). Water courses that flow towards the River Witham and/or Fosdyke Navigation are multi-functional providing a flood relief function and drainage as well as opportunities for biodiversity and habitat creation.

Biological SINCE designations are frequent throughout the area:

- 2/653 – Road Wood ‘A locally characteristic acidic woodland site of botanical and zoological value’.
- 1/94 – Darnsyke Marsh ‘An excellent community of tall marshy grassland and aquatic and emergent plant species’.
- 5/141 – Lodge Farm Grassland, Thorney ‘A mosaic of damp neutral to acidic grassland with seasonally wet hollows with species-rich marsh vegetation and a pond with a notable plant community’.
- 5/143 – Spring Wood, Thorney ‘A partly wet acidic woodland with characteristic species’.
- 5/137 – The Ring, Thorney ‘A narrow strip of deciduous woodland on sandy soil, bordered by a species-rich drain’.
- 5/139 – Disney Nook Lane Drain, Thorney ‘A shallow, slow flowing drain with a notable aquatic flora’.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

- 5/142 – Gibbet Wood, Thorney 'A partly cleared, sand-land deciduous woodland with a noteworthy flora'.
- 2/652 – Ox Pasture Drain 'A broad drainage channel with an outstanding array of aquatic species'.
- 5/140 – Crow Wood Drain 'A shallow drain with a notable aquatic flora bordering on open acidic woodland'.
- 2/654 – West Wood 'A remnant of locally characteristic acid woodland'.
- 5/133 – Marham to Harby Dismantled Railway 'A long length of dismantled railway line with a rich diversity of characteristic and notable herbs'.
- 5/138 – Thorney Drain 'A shallow field drain in an arable area with notable emergent vegetation and bank-side grassland'.
- 5/319 – Plot Wood 'A characteristic sand-land woodland'.
- 2/835 – Wigsley Park Wood 'A typical open woodland of light freely-draining soils'.
- 2/836 – Wigsley Wood 'An historical wood that retains both faunal and floral interest'.
- 2/834 – Wigsley Airfield Pool 'A notable aquatic community in and around a pond of recent origin'.
- 5/205 – Wigsley Dismantled Airfield 'A mosaic of diverse habitats on an abandoned airfield'.
- 5/2262 – Wigsley Drain 'A drain of interest for Water Beetles'.
- 2/830 – Sand Lane, Spalford 'An unusual association of botanical interest on a roadside verge'.
- 2/651 – Gainsborough Road Verges, Spalford 'Dry sandy roadside verges with a plant community of very restricted distribution in the country'.
- 2/831 – Spalford Arable Field 'A representative community of sandy arable weeds'.
- 1/88 – Spalford Warren 'An important grass-heath habitat of a type of very restricted inland occurrence – although largely planted with conifers, substantial areas of sandland'.
- 5/2228 – Gainsborough Road Gravel Pit, Girton 'A former gravel pit of interest for Water Beetles'.
- 5/200 – A1133 Verge, Girton (East Side) 'Dry sandy roadside verges with a notable plant community'.
- 2/827 – Gainsborough Road Grasslands, Girton 'Good examples of characteristically species-poor acid grassland developed on blown sands'.
- 2/646 – Girton Grasslands 'An excellent sequence of damp species-rich grasslands'.
- 2/650 – Sand Lane Grasslands, Besthorpe 'An area of acidic grasslands and scrub developed on Quaternary blown sands with notable communities of birds and calcifuge plants'.
- 2/829 – Besthorpe Road Verge 'A short length of verge with a notable plant association'.
- 2/826 – Primrose Hill 'Coarse acidic grassland developed on periglacial drift deposits'.
- 2/644 – The fleet, Girton 'A large aquatic site with a species-rich emergent and aquatic plant community'.

There are a number of settlements within this Policy Zone. These include Thorney, Thorney Moor, part of Harby, Wigsley, part of Spalford and Besthorpe. All the villages have an historic core apparent to a greater or lesser extent, with vernacular red brick buildings. However, there is new development evident throughout all the villages, with considerable infill and peripheral development, many of the bungalows and housing being associated with the farming industry. This has resulted in a loss of sense of place within some of the settlements. Besthorpe is designated as a Conservation Area, and as such has considerably less development than the other villages within the area. There are a number of Listed Buildings

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

present in the Policy Zone and two Scheduled Ancient Monuments. A number of threats and drivers for change exist in the Policy Zone. These include:

- Poor management and subsequent fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows.
- Intensification of arable agriculture leading to fragmentation and/or loss of hedgerows and subsequent loss of existing field pattern.
- Potential Biomass crops.
- Subdivision of fields with piecemeal untidy appearance (due to horsey culture).
- Further intensification of commercial agriculture, chicken sheds, piggeries, turfing etc.
- Increase in horsey culture.
- Further loss of woodland belts leading to a more open landscape and a higher impact of existing land use.

ES PZ 02: Wigsley Village Farmlands with Plantations

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Plantations
Policy Zone: ES PZ 02
Landscape Character Parcel: ES02, ES03 & ES05



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat with occasional undulating landform around villages.
- Medium distance views to frequent shelterbelts and mixed plantations.
- Dominant views to the west of power stations and power lines.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture.
- Numerous fragmented blocks of mixed deciduous woodland, coniferous plantations and some remnant Parkland.
- Watercourses drain land to the east, (Ox Pasture Drain and Wigsley Drain).

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields, blocks of deciduous woodland and isolated farms; there are **some** detracting features. Overall this gives a visually **coherent** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/653 – Road Wood; 1/94 – Darnsyke Marsh; 5/141 – Lodge Farm Grassland; 5/143 – Spring Wood, Thorney; 5/137 – The Ring, Thorney; 5/139 – Disney Nook Lane Drain; 5/142 – Gibbet Wood, Thorney; 2/652 – Ox Pasture Drain; 5/140 – Crow Wood Drain; 2/654 – West Wood; 5/133 – Marnham to Harby Dismantled Railway; 5/138 – Thorney Drain; 5/319 – Plot Wood; 2/835 – Wigsley

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition Moderate

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Some

Visual Unity: Coherent

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Variable

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**

Park Wood; 2/836 – Wigsley Wood; 2/834 – Wigsley Airfield Pool; 5/205 – Wigsley Dismantled Airfield; 5/2262 – Wigsley Drain; 2/830 – Sand Lane, Spalford; 2/651 – Gainsborough Road Verges, Spalford; 2/831 – Spalford Arable Field; 1/88 – Spalford Warren; 5/2228 – Gainsborough Road Gravel Pit, Girton; 5/200 – A1133 Verge, Girton (East side); 2/827 – Gainsborough Road Grasslands, Girton; 2/646 – Girton Grasslands; 2/650 – Sand Lane Grasslands, Besthorpe; 2/829 – Besthorpe Road Verge; 2/826 – Primrose Hill; 2/644 – The Fleet, Girton). There are a number of MLA designations in the area; Thorney, Spalford and Besthorpe.

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with a highly intensive arable land use but good connections and numerous SINCS. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is often lost due to arable agriculture, with hedgerows often being mature, well maintained and intact, although fragmented in places. A **coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Functional Integrity:

Coherent

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **very low**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the East Sandlands LCA. The time depth is **recent** (last 50 years) giving a **weak** sense of place overall.

The landform is **insignificant** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **low** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to numerous blocks of woodland and hedgerows. A **weak** sense of place and **low** visibility leads to a **very low** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity

Very Low

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Recent

Sense of Place: Weak

Landform: Insignificant

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Create

Landscape Features

- **Create** new hedgerows and restore existing, seek opportunities to recreate field pattern where feasible, contain new development within historic boundaries.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral and/or introduce field margins to link habitats and increase biodiversity.
- Enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally, in particular along A1133, to **create** increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone. Conserve the ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINCS
- **Conserve** the fabric of historical sites and their wider setting by ensuring land management practices preserve the interest and understanding of the site.
- Maintain water courses and manage land either side of them to provide flood relief and promote biodiversity. Carry out

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

maintenance operations in a way that works alongside the biodiversity objectives for the area where possible.

Built Features

- Conserve what remains of the rural landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements.
- **Create** new development which reflects the local built vernacular.

East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Policy Zone ES PZ 03: Harby Village Farmlands

Policy: Restore and Create

A relatively small Policy Zone encompassing the eastern part of the village of Harby and the surrounding fields. The topography is very flat in nature and as such, views tend to be medium to long distance towards woodland shelterbelts, interrupted intermittently by power lines and pylons running from north to south through the area. The relatively busy B1190 road runs to the north-east of the area, the busy A57 road runs east-west to the north, whilst Ox Pasture drain runs north-south to the west.

There are numerous streams and drains in the area, along with some areas of open water, and associated riparian habitat (including some Willow) is common. Other habitats are provided by the disused railway line in the form of semi-naturalised scrub, and in an area to the north-east near Wallrudding Farm, where a small extraction site exists.

There are a couple of Biological SINCs in the area:

- 2/837 – North Harby Verge ‘A species-rich roadside verge, cut for hay’.
- 5/133 – Marnham to Harby Dismantled Railway ‘A long length of dismantled railway line with a rich diversity of characteristic and notable herbs’.

The primary land use is that of arable agriculture, and the scale of the fields reflects this land use, with medium to large scale fields. There are some smaller pastoral fields to the east of Harby. Boundaries to these fields are predominantly Hawthorn hedgerows with some outgrown hedgerow tree species such as Oak and Ash, generally strongly trimmed and often fragmented or lost altogether. Post and wire fencing is used as infill where this has occurred.

The village of Harby itself has an historic core, including the remains of Queen Eleanor’s Palace although there are no Listed Buildings within the Policy Zone. There is some new residential infill and peripheral development, specifically a stretch of ribbon development to the north of Harby (brick built estate housing along Station Road).

There are a number of drivers for change in the Policy Zone. These include:

- Further fragmentation of hedgerows due to loss of existing field pattern, further intensification of arable farming and lack of management.
- Possible Biomass crops and Turf growing.
- Loss of tree cover as many of the existing trees are of a similar maturity.
- Further residential development and expansion of Harby.

ES PZ 03 Harby Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: ES PZ 03
Landscape Character Parcel: ES04



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat with occasional undulating landform around village.
- Medium distance views to frequent shelterbelts and mixed plantations.
- Dominant views to the west of power stations and power lines.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture in the vicinity of the village.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **poor**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields and isolated farms; there are **few** detracting features. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a couple of Biological SINC designations (2/837 – North Harby Verge; 5/133 – Marnham to Harby Dismantled Railway). There are no MLA designations in the area.

In ecological terms the area provides a **weak** habitat for wildlife, with a highly intensive arable land use. Cultural integrity is **poor** in that the field pattern is often lost due to arable agriculture, with hedgerows often being mature, well maintained and intact, although fragmented

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Poor
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Weak
Cultural Integrity:	Poor
Functional	Very Weak

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**

in places. A **coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the East Sandlands LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **insignificant** with **open** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are open due to the lack of woodland and some loss of hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Integrity:
(Where one criterion is 'very poor' or 'very weak', this pushes the policy description into the next lowest category)

Sensitivity Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Insignificant

Extent of Tree Cover: Open

Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Restore and Create

Landscape Features

- **Create** new hedgerows and **restore** existing, seek opportunities to **restore** field pattern where feasible, contain new development within historic boundaries.
- Seek opportunities to **restore** arable land to pastoral.
- Enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally, in particular along A1133, to **create** increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone.
- Conserve the ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINCS, **create** enhancements where appropriate.

Built Features

- Conserve what remains of the rural landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements.
- **Create** new development which reflects the local built vernacular.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Policy Zone ES PZ 04: Winthorpe Village Farmlands

Policy: Conserve and Create

A relatively large Policy Zone, located to the east and north-east of Newark. The A46 (running NE-SW) and the A1 (running N-S) bisect the area, along with a railway line and power lines/pylons, resulting in a number of linear features throughout the area.

A flat and gently undulating arable landscape with numerous woodland blocks and the settlements of Winthorpe, South Scarle, Langford, Brough, Coney Green, Coddington and Barnby in the Willows. A generally intensive land use is evident throughout the area, with the majority occupied by highly intensive, medium to large scale arable fields. This intensive land use is reflected in the field boundaries, being primarily composed of strongly trimmed Hawthorn hedgerows, fragmented or lost in places, and post and wire fencing used as infill. A number of pastoral fields within historic field patterns of smaller scale are evident in the vicinity of settlements and isolated farm houses. Boundaries to these tend to be composed primarily of well maintained, species-rich hedgerows (including Oak, Ash, Hazel, Rubus, Rosehip, Field Maple etc.) and outgrown hedgerow trees (Oak and Ash), with occasional post and rail fencing where horsey culture exists.

Numerous areas of mixed deciduous woodland exists with some small blocks of woods, small areas of parkland woodland, deciduous woodland belts along roads, part of Stapleford Wood, and new woodland planting along the A46. A variety of other habitats are also present in the Policy Zone (including some Bracken, acid grassland, and Riparian vegetation with some Bullrush) and these include numerous Biological SINC designations:

- 2/829 – Besthorpe Road Verge ‘A short length of verge with a notable plant association’
- 5/320 – Moor Lane Verge, South Scarle ‘A wide roadside verge with a diverse and notable flora’
- 5/197 – Ox Pasture Plantation, Besthorpe ‘A partly cleared damp woodland with a species-rich flora’
- 5/323 – Green Lane Pond and Drain, Collingham ‘A deep pond with a rich diversity of marsh and sub-aquatic species’
- 2/807 – Wheatley Hill Verges ‘Notably herb-rich verges along little-used lanes’
- 5/322 – South Scaffold Lane, Collingham ‘A Green Lane with a characteristic grassland flora and species-rich hedgerow’
- 5/366 – Langford Marsh ‘A pond and marsh of botanical interest’
- 2/642 – The Fleet, Winthorpe ‘A notable mosaic of aquatic, marginal and marshy grassland habitats’
- 2/811 – Turfmoor ‘A tract of commercial forestry with notable acidic communities along the rides – a site of particular invertebrate zoological interest’
- 2/639 – Langford Moor area ‘Valuable plant and animal communities along rides and in drainage ditches throughout this coniferous forestry plantation’
- 5/2237 – Moor Brats Drain, Coddington ‘A drain of interest for Water Beetles’
- 2/805 – Beacon Hill Gypsum Workings ‘A mosaic of grassland and scrub on old gypsum workings’
- 2/643 – Beacon Hill ‘Area of notable moth habitat’
- 2/638 – Ballast Pit, Newark ‘A long disused ballast pit supporting open water and Carr communities’

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

- 2/810 – Newark Golf Course ‘A good mixed habitat association of acidic grassland, heath and deciduous woodland’
- 5/207 – Coddington Plantation ‘An unmanaged mainly deciduous woodland of high botanical value’
- 5/333 – Balderton Ballast Pit ‘A long established ballast pit with a noteworthy aquatic and bank-side flora’
- 2/640 – Railway pond, Balderton ‘Important scrub and open water habitats developed on a long disused ballast pit’
- 5/2221 – Barnaby Manor Farm Drain ‘A field drain noteworthy for Water Beetles’
- 5/2254 – River Witham ‘A section of the River Witham of interest for Water Beetles’
- 5/331 – Witham Bank, Barnaby ‘a flood bank with notable open grassland communities’
- 2/809 – Witham Pastures ‘A sequence of damp grasslands on alluvial soils’
- 5/206 – Shire Dyke, Barnaby ‘Drain with noteworthy aquatic, swamp and bank side vegetation’

A variety of leisure land uses are evident across the Policy Zone, principally due to the proximity to Newark and other settlements. These include: Golf Courses, Sports Fields, Equestrian Centres, Carting Track, Newark Air Museum, Beacon Hill Conservation Park and Newark Showground. Along with leisure land use, there is also industrial land use in the form of Sewage Works, Railway lines and Mineral works (Sand & Gravel Pit near Collingham). All these elements combined have resulted in a diverse area of varied land use, typical of urban fringe locations.

The settlements of South Scarle, Coney Green, Langford, Winthorpe, Brough, Coddington, periphery of Balderton and Barnby in the Willows, generally have historic vernacular cores. However, peripheral and infill residential development of mixed quality is evident to a greater or lesser extent to most of the settlements. There are a number of designated Conservation Areas including South Scarle, Winthorpe, Coddington, Barnby in the Willows, and Langford. There are numerous Listed Buildings within this Policy Zone as well as several Scheduled Ancient Monuments including the site of Langford Medieval village.

A number of threats and drivers for change exist in the area. These include:

- Increased Industrial development
- Growth-point housing around Newark and other areas
- Increased horsey culture resulting in encroachment on existing fields
- Increased intensity of agriculture resulting in degradation of hedgerows leading to loss of historic field pattern
- Lack of management of hedgerows leading to fragmentation and loss
- Increase of monoculture agriculture such as turf or biomass

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

ES PZ 04 Winthorpe Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
 Policy Zone: ES PZ 04
 Landscape Character Parcel: ES06, ES08, ES09, ES10, ES11



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat with occasional undulating landform around village.
- Medium distance views to frequent shelterbelts and mixed plantations.
- Dominant views to the west of power stations and power lines.
- Mixture of intensive arable fields with strongly trimmed hedges and some low intensity farming with permanent improved pasture in the vicinity of the village.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields and isolated farms; there are **some** detracting features. Overall this gives a visually **coherent** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/829 – Besthorpe Road Verge; 5/320 – Moor Lane verge, South Scarle; 5/197 – Ox Pasture Plantation, Besthorpe; 5/323 – Green Lane Pond and Drain, Collingham; 2/807 – Wheatley Hill Verges; 5/322 – South Scaffold Lane, Collingham; 5/366 – Langford Marsh; 2/642 – The Fleet, Winthorpe; 2/811 – Turfmoor; 2/639 – Langford Moor Area; 5/2237 – Moor Brats Drain, Coddington; 2/805 – Beacon Hill Gypsum Workings; 2/643 – Beacon Hill; 2/638 – Ballast Pit, Newark; 2/640 – Railway Pond, Balderton; 5/2221 – Barnaby Manor Farm Drain;

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

5/2254 – River Witham; 5/331 – Witham Bank, Barnaby; 2/809 – Witham Pastures; 5/206 – Shire Dyke, Barnaby). There are also a number of MLA designations in the area: Coddington, Barnby in the Willows, Beaconfield Farm, Coddington Moor, Winthorpe, Langford and Besthorpe.

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with a highly intensive arable land use. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is often lost due to arable agriculture, with hedgerows often being mature, well maintained and intact, although fragmented in places. A **coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the East Sandlands LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** areas of woodland giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to the blocks of woodland and networks of hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Apparent
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent
Visibility:	Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- **Create** new hedgerows and **conserve** existing, seek opportunities to **conserve** field pattern where feasible, contain new development within historic boundaries.
- Seek opportunities to **conserve** existing pastoral fields and historic field patterns.
- **Conserve** and enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally, in particular along A1133, to **create** increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone.
- **Conserve** the fabric of historical sites and their wider setting by ensuring land management practices preserve the interest and understanding of the site.
- **Conserve** the ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINCs, **create** enhancements where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** what remains of the rural landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements.
- **Create** new development which reflects the local built vernacular.

Condition

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE
	Low	Moderate	High

Sensitivity

**East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Policy Zone ES PZ 05: Potter Hills Village
Farmlands with Plantations
Policy: Conserve**

A relatively small Policy Zone located to the east of Collingham and bounded to the south by the busy A46 road. The area is bisected in the north-western corner by a small section of railway line, although this is one of the only linear features within the area as there are no power lines or pylons. Located within the Policy Zone are a number of isolated farm buildings, but no settlements. Only two minor roads serve the area and run north-west to south-east.

Landform is predominantly gently undulating, especially to the south of Cross Lane, becoming more flat towards the north. Drains and watercourse are frequent in the area, resulting in a fishpond near North Potter Hill Farm and associated riparian vegetation. Views are generally long distance from the south-east corner towards the north-west beyond Collingham Village. Views are sometimes enclosed by hedgerows along lanes and tracks and also due to woodland plantations to the south of the area.

The landscape is a mix of mainly arable with some pastoral farmland. Arable fields tend to be medium scale whereas pasture is more often contained in smaller and subdivided fields located near isolated farms and Stables. Hawthorn hedgerows within fields are the principal boundaries, with species-rich hedgerows along roads and lanes, with outgrown Oak and Ash tree species. Post and rail fencing is also evident where horse culture exists, particularly around the Potter Hill Stables.

Woodland is more prominent to the south of the area than the north, with Potter Hill Plantation and Potter Hill Spinneys exhibiting mixed deciduous woodland. There is only one Biological SINC in the area:

- 5/322 – South Scaffold Lane, Collingham ‘A Green Lane with a characteristic grassland flora and species-rich hedgerow’

The nearest settlement to the area is Collingham to the west, however there are no settlements within the Policy Zone itself. A number of isolated farms, a Railway crossing cottage and Equestrian Stables are present. There is a Listed Building designation within the area:

There are a number of threats and drivers for change in the Policy Zone and these include:

- Increase in horse culture, leading to degradation of field boundaries and subdivision of fields.
- Increased intensity of arable farming leading to loss of hedgerows and field pattern.
- North-west corner, west of Collingham, urban edge has the potential for some infill development.
- Potential for loss of woodland and tree lined roads due to intensification of arable agriculture.

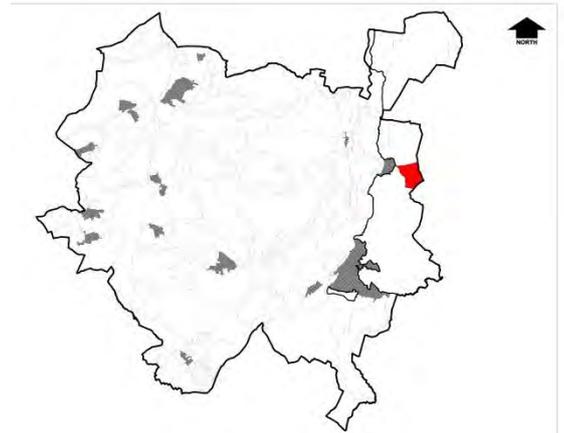
ES PZ 05 Potter Hills Village Farmlands with Plantations

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands with Plantations
Policy Zone: ES PZ 05
Landscape Character Parcel: ES07



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Gently undulating topography with flatter area towards the north.
- Predominantly intensive arable land use, with well-trimmed hawthorn hedgerows to boundaries.
- Some pastoral fields and horsey culture.
- Blocks of mixed deciduous woodland

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields and isolated farms; there are **few** detracting features. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There is one Biological SINC designation (5/322 – South Scaffold Lane, Collingham). There are no MLA designations in the Policy Zone.

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with a relatively intensive arable land use with good hedgerow networks leading into woodland plantations. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows often being mature, well maintained and undamaged. A **unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Good
Functional Integrity:	Strong
(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)	

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**

Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Moderate																								
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as moderate.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are characteristic to the East Sandlands LCA. The time depth is historic (post 1600) giving a moderate sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is apparent with intermittent areas of woodland giving a generally moderate visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to the blocks of woodland and networks of hedgerows. A moderate sense of place and moderate visibility leads to a moderate landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Distinctiveness:</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Characteristic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Continuity:</td> <td>Historic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sense of Place:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landform:</td> <td>Apparent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extent of Tree Cover</td> <td>Intermittent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visibility:</td> <td>Moderate</td> </tr> </table>	Distinctiveness:	Characteristic	Continuity:	Historic	Sense of Place:	Moderate	Landform:	Apparent	Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent	Visibility:	Moderate												
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Sense of Place:	Moderate																								
Landform:	Apparent																								
Extent of Tree Cover	Intermittent																								
Visibility:	Moderate																								
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve	Condition																								
<p><u>Landscape Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve existing hedgerows, restore and reinforce poor hedgerow boundaries where necessary (i.e. areas of horseyculture). Seek opportunities to conserve existing pastoral fields and historic field patterns. Conserve and enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally, in particular along A1, to create increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone. Conserve the ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINC. <p><u>Built Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve what remains of the rural landscape by limiting any new development. 	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td style="width: 33%; border: 1px solid black;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: 1px solid black;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="width: 19%; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #d3d3d3;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 5px;">Good</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px 10px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px 10px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px 10px;">High</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="3" style="padding-top: 10px;">Sensitivity</td> </tr> </table>		REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Good				Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High		Sensitivity		
	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE																						
Good																									
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE																						
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE																						
	Low	Moderate	High																						
	Sensitivity																								

**East Nottinghamshire Sandlands Policy Zone ES PZ 06: Bowbridge Lane
Village Farmlands
Policy: Reinforce**

The area is a linear shaped Policy Zone, and is located directly south of Newark, being enclosed to the north by residential buildings and some industrial works, and to the east by Balderton residential buildings, sports grounds and industrial works. Two roads bisect the area; Hawton Road and Bowbridge Lane, leaving the remainder of the area relatively undisturbed.

The landform is predominantly flat, resulting in long distance views towards the surrounding industrial and residential developments. Although there are relatively few detracting features within the area (pylon lines), there are many surrounding detracting features that impact on the area visually.

Intensive arable farmland dominates the Policy Zone and the medium scale fields are delineated by hedgerows which are generally well maintained, although often fragmented within field systems. Hedgerows along road-sides have been allowed to grow taller and are strong and species-rich (Hawthorn, elder, Field Maple, Oak, Ash, Blackthorn, Rosa sp. etc.) Some horsey culture exists to the west of the area within small scale pastoral fields. Post and rail fencing is evident to these fields.

Towards the east of the area, the habitat structure is more diverse, with a number of Biological SINCE designations:

- 5/332 – Balderton scrubby Grassland ‘A mosaic of scrub and species-rich grassland’
- 5/208 – Balderton Dismantled Railway South ‘A dismantled railway with substantial areas of grassland and scrub’
- 2/637 – Lowfield Grassland, Balderton ‘A small species-rich remnant of a once notable grassland’
- 5/1254 – Hawton House Pond ‘Large field pond of interest’
- 2/804 – Balderton Works Meadow (I) ‘A small remnant of species-rich grassland’
- 5/2129 – Balderton Works Meadow (II) ‘Notable neutral horse paddocks with a rich flora’
- 2/803 – Lowfield Lane Grasslands, Balderton ‘Damp alluvial grasslands’
- 2/588 – River Devon (North of Cotham) ‘A historically interesting water course with valuable riparian features and a locally diverse aquatic flora’
- 2/974 – Hawton Civil War Fort ‘A notable pasture community on an archaeological site’
- 5/2173 – Hawton Works Grassland ‘A large area of grassland with notable plant species’
- 5/2229 – Hawton Old Gypsum Works Ponds ‘Ponds for interest for Water Beetles and Water Bugs’

Some riparian vegetation and hedgerow tree cover can be noted along the drain that runs near the dismantled railway to the east of the area. Species found here include Willow, Ash, Acer, Hawthorn, Birch, Rowan, Hazel, Brambles, Elder and Rosa spp. Some leisure activity is also evident in this area, with a cycle path following the line of the disused railway line.

A number of threats and drivers for change have been identified within the Policy Zone and these include:

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment East Nottinghamshire Sandlands

- Encroachment of built development (both residential and industrial)
- Encroachment of horsey culture into existing fields
- Land use change resulting in loss of semi-natural vegetation
- Loss of hedgerow field boundaries due to lack of management and/or intensification of arable agriculture
- Industrial development
- Expansion and development of access roads to Newark that run through the Policy Zone (Bowbridge Lane and Hawton Road)

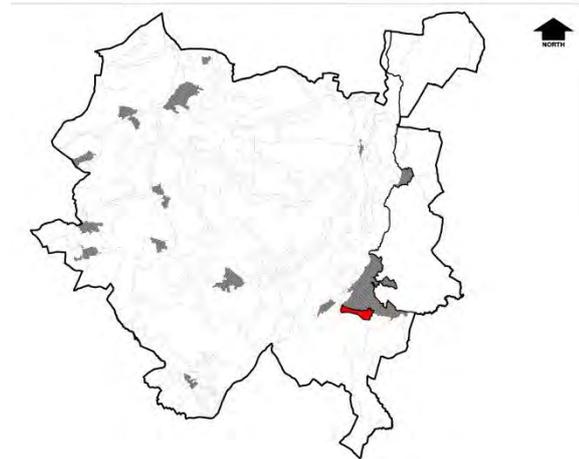
ES PZ 06 Bowbridge Lane Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: ES PZ 06
Landscape Character Parcel: ES13



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat and open topography situated on urban edge.
- Predominantly intensive arable land use, with well-trimmed hawthorn hedgerows to boundaries.
- Some pastoral fields and horsey culture.
- Views interrupted by power lines and pylons running east to west through the area.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields and isolated farms; there are **few** detracting features. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (5/332 – Balderton Scrubby Grassland; 5/208 – Balderton Dismantled Railway South; 2/637 – Lowfield Grassland, Balderton; 5/1254 – Hawton House Pond; 2/804 – Balderton Works Meadow (I); 5/2129 – Balderton Works Meadow (II); 2/803 – Lowfield Lane Grasslands, Balderton; 2/588 – River Devon (North of Cotham); 2/974 – Hawton Civil War Fort; 5/2173 – Hawton Works Grassland; 5/2229 – Hawton Old Gypsum Works Ponds). There are no MLA designations in the Policy Zone.

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with a relatively intensive arable land use with good hedgerow networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows sometimes fragmented, although

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Good
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity:	Unified
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable
Functional Integrity:	Coherent

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
East Nottinghamshire Sandlands**

generally well maintained. A **unified** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **low**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the East Sandlands LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **insignificant** with **intermittent** tree cover giving a generally **low** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to the networks of generally mature hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **low** visibility leads to a **low** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sensitivity

Low

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Insignificant

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Low

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS - Reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Reinforce** hedgerows where gappy or fragmented, and where post and rail fencing is present, with new planting to infill and replace fencing.
- **Reinforce** the ecological diversity of designated SINC sites where appropriate.
- Enhance visual unity and soften surrounding built development through landscape planting.

Built Features

- **Reinforce** the existing rural character of the Policy Zone by enforcing the local built vernacular in any new developments.

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Chapter 6: South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Regional Character Area



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South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

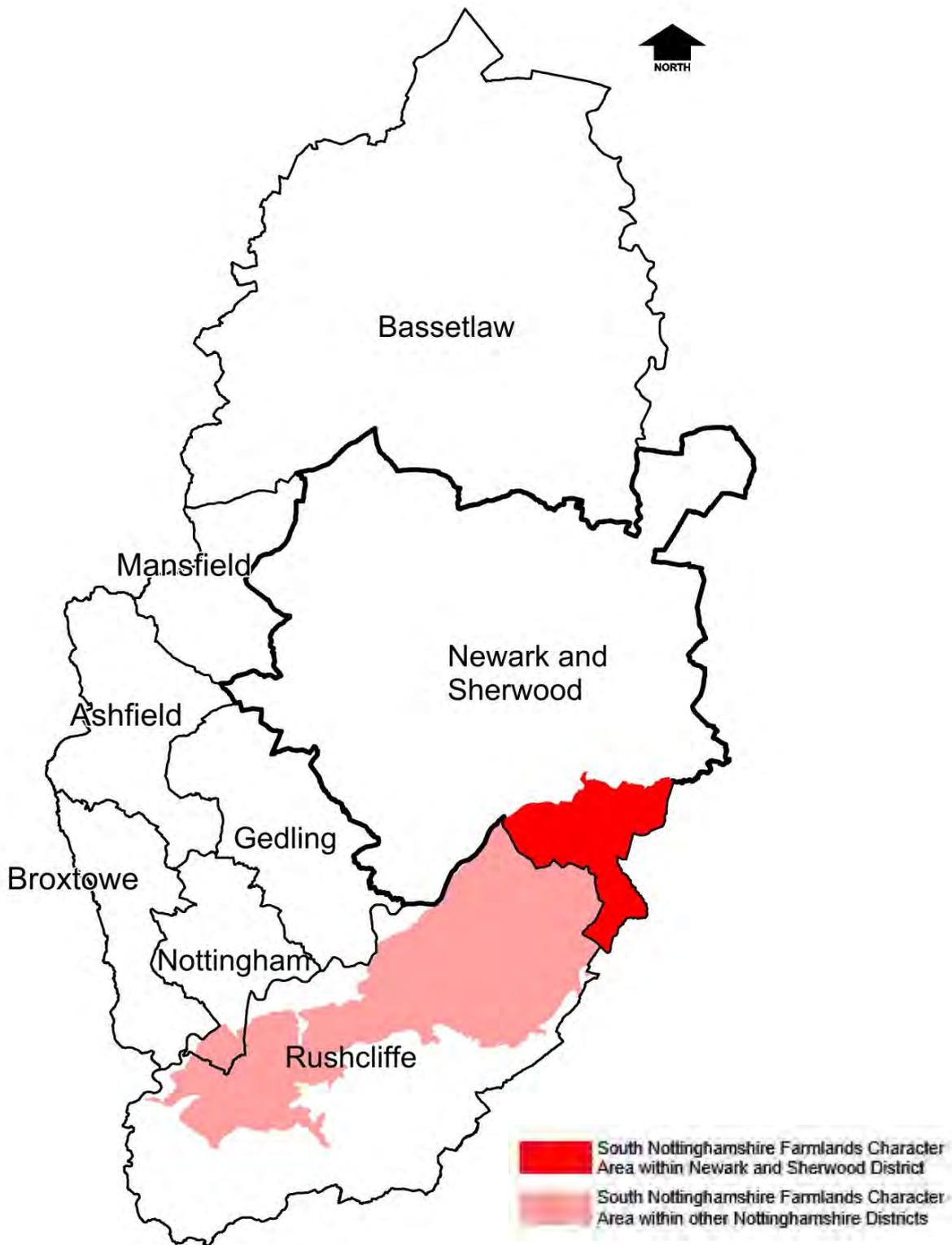


Figure 6.1 South Nottinghamshire Character Area within Nottinghamshire and Newark and Sherwood District

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

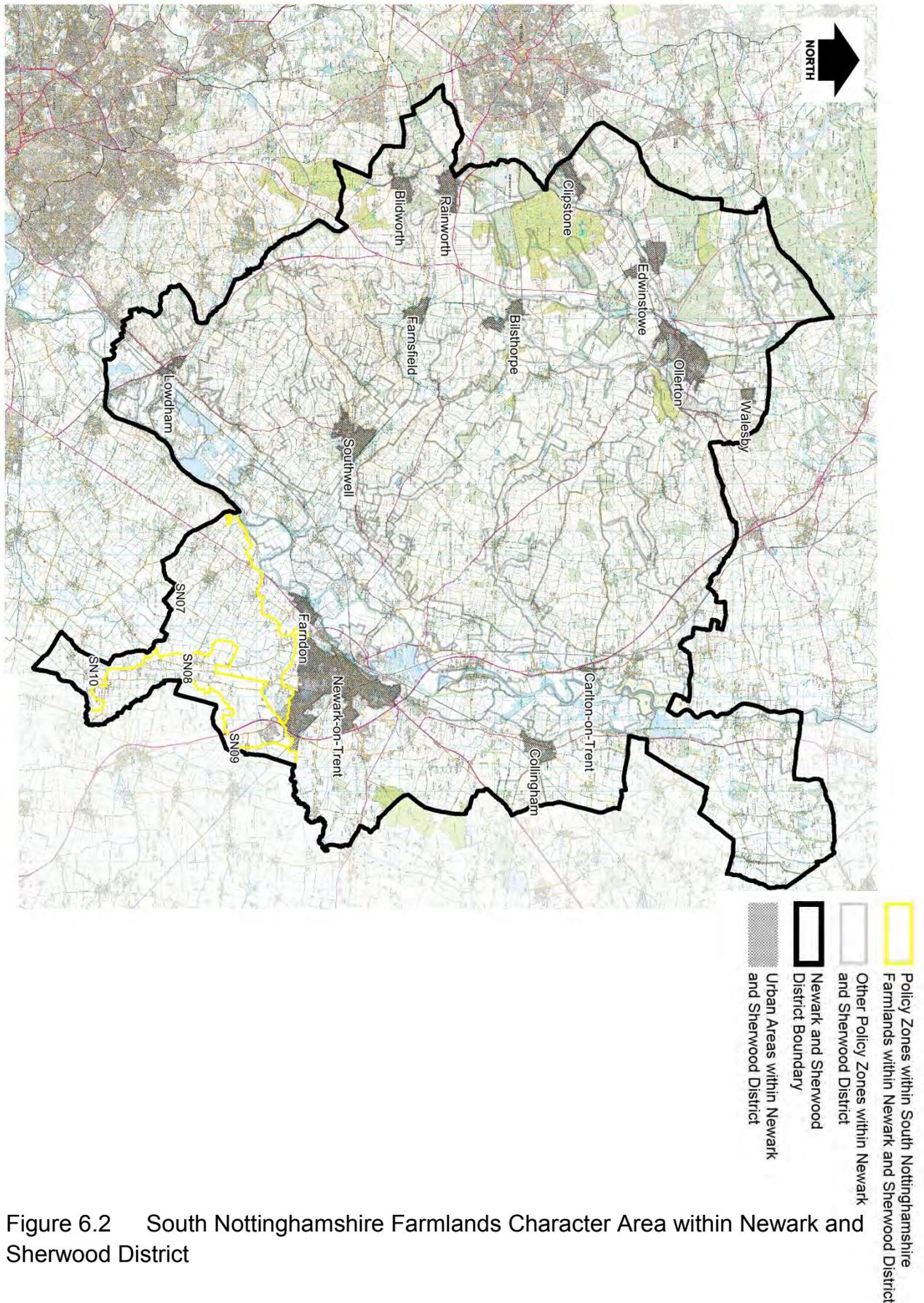


Figure 6.2 South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Character Area within Newark and Sherwood District

6.1 South Nottinghamshire Farmlands: Physical and Human influences

6.1.1 Introduction

The **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** extend over a relatively large tract of land between the southern edge of the Greater Nottingham conurbation and the urban edge of Newark. The valley of the River Trent forms their northern boundary. To the south behind a line of well-wooded hill and escarpment features, and outside the Newark and Sherwood District lie the higher lands of the **Nottinghamshire Wolds**. The south-eastern boundary of the region is formed by a low escarpment which marks the division with the flat claylands of the **Vale of Belvoir**. The **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** contain some of the finest quality agricultural land in the County. The drainage and cultivation of the alluvial levels in the south and north-east of the region have served to reinforce this arable tradition. The pre-eminence of arable cultivation is now one of the most important factors in determining the region's overall character: over 80% of the farmland is under arable cultivation.

The extent of the South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Character area within the District of Newark and Sherwood is shown on Figure 6.1

6.1.2 The Shape of the Land

The **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** are closely associated with a belt of Triassic rocks which lie to the south of the River Trent between Gotham and Newark. These Triassic beds continue in a broad belt to the north of the river, and comprise the largest single geological formation in Nottinghamshire. The main rock type of this formation is the Mercia Mudstone group, comprising a considerable thickness of reddish mudstone containing occasional bands of hard sandstone or "skerries". These are less well-developed than those occurring to the north of the Trent, resulting in a more restrained topography. Gypsum also occurs in quantity, especially in the upper part of the formation, which outcrops between Cotgrave and Newark. This outcrop of gypsum is marked by a number of mines and plaster works. The uppermost beds of the Mercia Mudstone pass into the shaley Rhaetic beds, which give rise to a low escarpment along the south-eastern boundary of the region.

In the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands**, the Mercia Mudstone forms a subdued, south-eastward sloping escarpment, which dips gently towards the **Vale of Belvoir** and the **Nottinghamshire Wolds**. The highest part of the region is thus along the edge of the Trent Valley, where a line of hills rising to just over 75 metres falls steeply into the broad trench cut by the River Trent in the underlying mudstone. To the rear of these hills, which are particularly prominent between East Stoke and Radcliffe, the land falls away more gradually towards the Rhaetic escarpment. Within this dip slope, alluvium has been deposited in a series of depressions that are believed to have been formed by a lowering of the land surface as a result of gypsum solution in the upper layers of the mudstone. This has created a distinctive topography of low-lying alluvial flats separated by narrow mudstone ridges. These ridges typically rise 5 to 10 metres above the surrounding alluvium and have historically provided dry sites for settlement.

Land to the south of Newark forms part of the Smite/Devon catchment with drainage following the easterly dip slope of the mudstone outcrop. These rivers converge before flowing into the Trent at Newark. The **Alluvial Levels** are drained by a series of dykes and artificial drainage ditches, which have removed the risk of flooding.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

Along its extreme eastern margin, the region extends over the Rhaetic escarpment on to the Lias, and includes part of an extensive alluvial flat at Bennington Fen. The small area of Lias is characterised by a level to gently rolling landform, whilst peaty surface horizons are still evident on the low-lying fen. This area may form part of a separate regional character area that is more fully represented within Lincolnshire. The area has been included within the South Nottinghamshire **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** because it is too small to warrant separate treatment, and because the landscape management priorities are similar.

On Figure 6.2 this area is shown as SN09. As this landscape largely falls within the neighbouring authority refer to the South Kesteven Character Assessment, Trent and Belvoir Vale character area for further information.

6.1.3 **Soils**

On the Triassic mudstones slightly stoney, sandy loam brown earth soils have developed, along with reddish, fine loamy or fine silty soils. These lie over slowly permeable clayey sub-soils. Deep clayey alluvial soils are widespread on the valley floors of the Smite and Devon and adjoining alluvial flats. Sub-soils are slowly permeable, with groundwater the primary source of waterlogging. Peaty and peaty loam soils were once a feature of the larger alluvial flats but these are now greatly diminished.

6.1.4 **Landscape History**

The landscape of the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** is superficially a creation of the enclosure movement of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, modified to meet the needs of the post-1945 economy and modern farming techniques. Behind this, however, stands over 2,000 years of settlement and land use which have influenced over successive generations the development of today's countryside. Together with the Trent Valley, this region was consistently the most densely settled and economically strong area of pre-industrial Nottinghamshire, from late prehistory to the end of the 18th century.

For a detailed analysis of the South Nottinghamshire Farmlands history refer to Appendix R.

6.2 Landscape Evolution and Change

6.2.1 Introduction

This section examines the main forces that have brought about change and evolution within the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** over recent decades. It does this by discussing how the current structure and pattern of land use have developed, paying particular regard to agriculture, woodland, transport, industrial/residential development and mineral extraction. It also considers the trends and pressures that may produce landscape change in the future.

6.2.2 Agriculture



The **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** contain some of the highest quality agricultural land in the County with slightly over 80% of the farmland under arable cropping. Large parts of the region have historically had a high proportion of land under cultivation; this is particularly the case to the south of Newark where the land is classified as high quality agricultural land by DEFRA. The mudstone soils have permeable topsoils and slowly permeable subsoils producing a risk of temporary winter waterlogging. However, the soils respond well to drainage and the climate is generally favourable. Cereals are the principal crops grown, although a wide range of other crops is also found. Winter cereals are sown in rotation with oilseed rape and short-term grass. Kale, sugar beet and potatoes are sometimes included within the rotation. Spring cultivation is possible in all but the wettest years which enables root crops to be grown. Soil nutrient reserves are naturally good, with rich resources of potassium, calcium and magnesium derived from the underlying mudstone.

Prior to drainage the valley bottoms and alluvial flats of the Devon catchment were almost entirely set to pasture. The slowly permeable soils were often waterlogged, with ground water levels fluctuating in response to changes in the river levels. These areas are now drained, with autumn and spring cereals the dominant arable crop. Root crops are sometimes grown although harvesting difficulties can occur due to the soil wetness. Farms and settlements in the area are located on the drier mudstone sites at the edge of the alluvium, taking advantage of the full range of soil resources.

In many areas arable intensification has altered the fabric of the landscape through the removal of hedges and the creation of large fields to facilitate the use of modern farm machinery. In places this has fragmented the overall unity of the landscape, leaving isolated features such as remnant gappy hedgerows and dead or dying trees set within open arable farmland. Such features not only appear out of scale with their surroundings, but often impart

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

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an impression of dereliction and decline. Although further agricultural expansion is now less likely, declining incomes and continued uncertainty in the short term may result in further intensification of production on existing farmland. In the longer term, new incentives may encourage more environmentally sensitive farming, with perhaps a return to more traditional mixed farming regimes.

In the last decade a number of factors have resulted in a reversal of some of the more damaging aspects of agricultural policy. Of particular significance has been the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which has led to a series of measures designed to reduce the level of agricultural surpluses. The most recent reforms have introduced a new regime which requires farmers compulsorily to set aside 15% of their arable land on a rotational basis. This is already beginning to have an effect on the appearance of the countryside, although at present the temporary nature of the scheme means that opportunities for landscape enhancement are limited. The introduction of a new non-rotational set-aside option, however, does allow some scope for the land to be managed in more environmentally beneficial ways.

6.2.3 Woodland/Tree Cover

The South Nottinghamshire Farmlands is a sparsely wooded region with a woodland cover figure of less than 2%. Most of this woodland is broad-leaved and concentrated in small pockets round villages such as Elston. Elsewhere there is a thin scattering of small woodlands. Dutch elm disease had a major impact upon the landscape during the period 1960-1980, leading to loss of virtually all hedge and roadside elms. Ash and oak are now the dominant hedgerow tree species.

6.2.4 Transportation

Two major roads run through the area; a short section of the A1 to the south east of Newark and a section of the A46 to the south west. The A46 is currently undergoing upgrade work to dual carriageway status and a new route is also being implemented. The A1 runs through a small section of the character area to the extreme north east. These roads provide the main access points to the network of country lanes that serve the many villages and settlements. The road network is heavily used within the commuter belt, to the south and east of Newark.

6.2.5 Urban and Industrial Development

Newark Urban Area (Newark, Balderton and Fernwood) is the major centre within Newark & Sherwood. The past industrial and residential expansion of the south of Newark has led to the coalescence of outlying villages and the loss of historical settlement pattern and rural character. The settlement pattern in the wider region is one of small rural villages, with the historic market town of Newark-on-Trent lying to the north. Large-scale new development has been relatively well controlled so that the region's rural character, and the historic settlement pattern of small red brick villages, is still intact.

The Newark Urban Area is the main location for services, jobs, retail, education and a focus for transport for most of the District. Reflecting this status the Newark Urban Area is the centre for housing and employment growth within the District, with 9913 dwellings being identified for the Urban Area between 2006-2026. To facilitate this growth a series of site allocations have been made for a range of uses including residential, employment and retail. Significantly this has included sustainable urban extensions to the south and east of Newark and around Fernwood (parts of which are located in the South Nottinghamshire Sandlands).

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

Whilst they may not be the focus for significant levels of growth it is clear that economic and social factors will continue to exert pressure on rural areas of the District and it is likely that the demand for rural housing will continue to grow, driven by the increasing number of people who want to live in a rural location. The refurbishment and conversion of old farm buildings to high quality residential dwellings is now widespread. If the trend continues there may be further consequences for the future pattern and character of the rural landscape.

Employment development will be directed toward the built-up areas of the District and only acceptable in the open countryside where the need for a rural location and the contribution towards rural employment can be demonstrated. The conversion of existing buildings in rural locations to beneficial uses, diversification of rural businesses where this contributes to the local economy and tourism development / accommodation which meets identified needs are also provided support in local planning policy.

Continued uncertainty in the agricultural sector and declining incomes will ensure that rural tourism and farm diversification play an increasing role in the economy of the area. This is likely to result in the conversion of existing agricultural buildings, and in some cases demands for new built development.

6.2.6 **Energy**

The power generating industry warrants separate consideration due to its enormous impact on the landscape of the region. There are two functioning coal-fired power stations located in the **Trent Washlands**, Cottam, and West Burton. Their combined output amounts to 20% of the UK's generating capacity. The proximity of productive coalfields, a good water supply, adequate communications and favourable topography were the main economic factors in their siting, coal is now imported from outside the region.

The power stations and associated web of high voltage power lines constitute the most dominant and visually intrusive landscape features within and out-with the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands**.

6.2.7 **Renewable Energy**

The United Kingdom is legally bound to meeting challenging targets for the generation of energy from renewable sources (15% by 2020) and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (to 34% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050). A framework of national policy, reflecting the need to increase the supply and usage of energy from low-carbon sources and to ensure that adverse impacts are satisfactorily addressed, has been put in place to help deliver these aims. Significantly, this carries the expectation that applications be approved, unless material considerations indicate otherwise, if their impacts (such as that on the landscape) are (or can be made) acceptable. Core Policy 10 'Climate Change' of the Core Strategy and Policy DM4 'Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation' in the Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document's set out local planning policy on this issue.

Given this policy context there are likely to be future applications for renewable energy developments, such as wind-farms, in the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands**. These structures have the potential to change the landscape character of the **South**

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

Nottinghamshire Farmlands, particularly in the more sparsely settled southern areas. The power generation industry will continue, therefore, to be a dominant feature of the region.

6.2.8 Minerals: sand and gravel

Gypsum mining has had a significant impact upon the landscape and countryside of the north-eastern section of the region. The minerals industry takes advantage of the Newark gypsum resource, which includes some of the world's finest deposits. Staple and Bantycok Quarries are located to the south of Balderton where they are serviced by the Jericho Works, a major manufacturing centre. A second manufacturing centre is located further south, at Staunton. Opencast gypsum extraction occurred at Kilvington Quarry until it was exhausted by 2004. Production was then transferred to Bantycok Quarry which has been dormant since 1991. British Gypsum state that high purity reserves at Bantycok will be sufficient for 6 years, following exhaustion of Kilvington, and therefore should last until 2015. 98 hectares of land to the south of Bantycok Quarry are allocated for gypsum extraction.

Although the mineral is extracted by opencast methods, the level landform helps to reduce the visual impact of the extraction sites, with the voids hidden from view. The surrounding landscapes, however, have a very open character which affords greater prominence to the overburden storage heaps and manufacturing plant. The general lack of trees and hedgerows along the gypsum outcrop near Newark means that there is scope for reclamation schemes to improve the environment, by including a greater level of planting than was present prior to extraction. The standards of reclamation have improved in recent years, as shown by the excellent restoration of Kilvington Quarry. Restoration is mainly to agriculture, although creation of lagoons of high wildlife value is also common. The high overburden to mineral ratio allows areas to be backfilled to original ground levels. 120 hectares of land are to be added to existing permissions at Bantycok Quarry; no other allocations are made within the forthcoming Minerals Local Plan.

6.2.9 Climate Change

Research has identified trends and emerging patterns of global climate change. Within the UK, implications for climate change include:

- Global temperature increases of between 1.8 and 4 degrees centigrade above the 1990s levels by the end of the 21st Century, with UK increases anticipated at 2 to 3.5 degrees by 2080.
- Greater warming in the South and East of the UK, rather than the West and North.
- Increasing temperatures resulting in milder winters and high summer temperatures.
- An increase in sea levels by 26-86 cm, by 2080. Extreme high water incidences 10 to 20 times more frequent, increasing coastal flood risks.
- Changes in rainfall patterns, with wetter winters and drier summers. The greatest changes are anticipated for the South and East of the UK, where summer rainfall could reduce by 50%, and snowfall reduced by 60 – 80% by 2080. **(1)**

These changes have the potential to impact on all other drivers for change in the future. The issues of the most relevance to the landscape character of the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** include:

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Built Development:

- Increased development on land away from locations such as river corridors and low lying areas that are at risk from flooding.
- Sustainable design and layout of new development to result in less use of water, energy and raw materials.

Infrastructure:

- Pressure for renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind turbines to reduce emissions.
- Demand for new riverine defence works in response to tidal surges and high waves.

Minerals and Waste:

- Reducing the amount of waste land filled and increasing the amount of waste recycled and composted.

Agricultural and Land Management:

- Increased risk of river flooding and loss of land as a result of rising sea levels and coastal erosion.
- Changing weather conditions leading to longer growing seasons and the ability to grow different types of crops.
- The introduction of energy crops to provide an sustainable source of fuel.
- Gradual changes in flora and fauna in response to warmer, wetter conditions and more disturbed weather patterns.

Forestry and Woodland:

- Sustainability of forest tree species may alter due to changes in climatic conditions.
- Lengthy period of drought and dry conditions may lead to an increased risk of upland forest fire.

Tourism and Recreation:

- Increased number of visitors to the countryside due to higher temperatures.

(1) www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/about/ukeffect

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
South Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

6.3 Species List - South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

The following list includes native tree and shrub species that are commonly found within the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** and are suitable for inclusion in planting schemes. These are important for determining the area's regional character. A range of native species may also be appropriate to particular locations or sites. In these cases professional advice should be sought.

All plant material should be of local provenance or at least of British origin. The document 'Using local stock for planting native trees and shrubs' - Forestry Commission - Practice Note August 1999 by George Herbert, Sam Samuel and Gordon Patterson; provides guidance in this respect. A list of suppliers is provided on the Flora Locale website – www.floralocale.org

TREES	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ stream sides
Alder (Common)	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	□			□
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	■	□	■	□
Cherry (Wild)	<i>Prunus avium</i>	□			
Crab apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	□	□		
Elm (Wych)	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	□	□	□	
Maple (Field)	<i>Acer campestre</i>	□	□	□	
Oak (Common)	<i>Quercus robur</i>	■	□	■	
Willow (Crack)	<i>Salix fragilis</i>	□	□	□	■
Willow (White)	<i>Salix alba</i>			□	■

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
South Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

SHRUBS	Botanical name	Woodlands	Hedges	Hedgerow trees	Wet areas/ Stream sides
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Dogwood (Common)	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Osier	<i>Salix viminalis</i>				<input type="checkbox"/>
Privet (Wild)	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Rosa (Dog)	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

■ Dominant species

□ Other species present

6.4 Visual Character of the Landscape

6.4.1 Introduction

This is a tract of rolling lowland landscape dominated by arable cultivation. The area contains some of the highest quality agricultural land in the District and has a very strong arable tradition. Areas of low-lying alluvial land to the south and north east have been drained and agriculturally improved which has reinforced the arable tradition. The settlement pattern has a strong impact on the character of the landscape with large nucleated commuter villages and towns introducing a suburban influence to an otherwise distinctly rural landscape. In the more remote parts of the **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** the traditional red brick character of the small villages has survived intact. A low level of woodland and regular pattern of medium to large-scale hedged fields has led to much of the landscape diversity and interest being associated with village side pastoral landscapes and isolated pockets of mature parkland.

The **South Nottinghamshire Farmlands** can be sub-divided into two distinct landscape types both of which occur in Newark and Sherwood. These are the:

- Meadowlands
- Village Farmlands

These have been classified generically which means that, theoretically, the landscape types could occur at any location within the country where there are similar physical resources and historical patterns of land use. In reality the landscape types possess a distinctively local character, because they share the broad characteristics of the regional character area, or represent a particular aspect of that character.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Meadowlands



This is a flat, low-lying, uninhabited and often inaccessible landscape with a strong sense of space, characterised by open areas of farmland and a remnant pattern of large hedged fields. It has the following characteristic features:

- Flat low-lying topography
- Seasonally wet alluvial and peaty soils
- Open, spacious views, sometimes enclosed by rising ground
- Remnant pattern of large hedged fields defined by thorn hedges or ditches
- Small broad leaved plantations
- Absence of farmsteads or other buildings

Landscape description

These are simple, but distinctive landscapes that have evolved from former areas of moor, fen and open pasture on low-lying alluvial land. The Meadowlands were largely enclosed by the beginning of the 19th century and remained under meadow and pasture until being agriculturally improved after the Second World War. The character of the Meadowlands is now controlled to a large degree by the predominance of arable farmland. One of the key features that distinguish the Meadowlands from the adjacent Village Farmland landscapes is their relatively uninhabited and inaccessible character. There is virtually no settlement within the levels themselves with the isolated farmsteads and villages preferring drier locations on the mudstone, to the edge of the alluvium. This historic settlement pattern reflects the properties of the alluvial and peaty soils, which are naturally prone to waterlogging.

Access to the farmlands is generally along a sparse network of narrow lanes and hedged trackways. The farmsteads adjoining the levels in the north east of the region are served by a number of straight narrow lanes, which run directly across the levels, and also link the small red brick villages on the adjoining mudstone.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Meadowlands

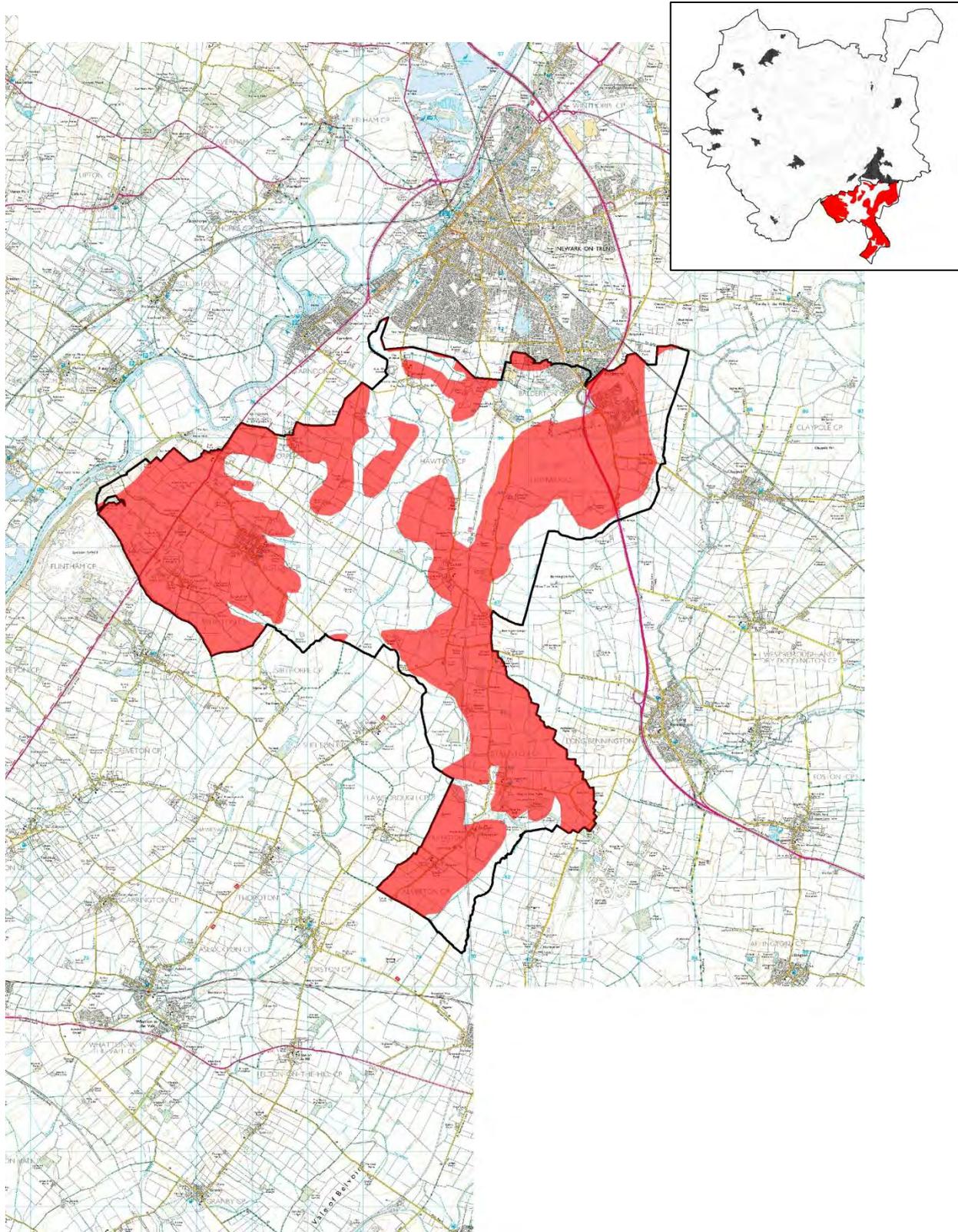
Another feature is occasional small geometric plantations and coverts. These sometimes form prominent landscape features, being highly visible across the broad levels. Elsewhere the only tree cover arises from the very occasional and sporadic hedgerow tree, and from trees and shrubs along the many small streams, ditches and dykes that drain the levels.

The Meadowlands are also distinguished by their very broad, open and spacious character. Relatively large areas of the flats have been enclosed by a pattern of medium to large-scale hedged fields. Field patterns are more prominent along the margins of the levels where they are sometimes well defined by ditches and low hawthorn hedges. The flat landform and low level of tree cover allow extensive views and the many pylon lines originating from the power stations in the Trent Valley assume great prominence. In other areas the enclosure pattern has fragmented or become totally lost. In places, the landscape has a distinctive "prairie" style character characterised by open, featureless landscapes with remnant thorn hedges. The Meadowlands in this part of the region flank the Devon which flow in a northerly direction to drain into the Trent close to Newark. The River has low channels that are cut well below the level of the surrounding farmlands which has enabled arable cropping to encroach to the river channel edges over most of their course. Consequently the rivers do not have a strong landscape identity or riparian character.

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Village Farmlands**

South Nottinghamshire Farmlands: Village Farmlands

Figure 6.4 Location of Village Farmlands within South Nottinghamshire Farmlands



Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Village Farmlands



This is gently rolling agricultural landscape with a simple pattern of large arable fields and village settlements. It has the following characteristic features:

Characteristic features

- Gently rolling topography
- Simple pattern of large arable fields
- Neatly trimmed hawthorn hedges
- Nucleated villages with traditional red brick and pantile roofed buildings
- Suburbanised commuter villages and small towns
- Small-scale pastoral landscapes along village edges

Landscape description

Corresponding with the Mercia Mudstone outcrop lying between Nottingham and Newark, this is a relatively large tract of land that dips eastwards from the Trent Trench to the lower-lying Meadowlands of the Devon catchment. The regular, medium to large-scale field pattern of low, trimmed and often gappy hedgerows is the dominant feature of the landscape. The gently rolling landform and general lack of tree cover allows medium distance views over predominantly arable landscapes of homogenous character. Longer distance views open up eastwards following the fall of the dip slope. The relationship between the solid and drift geology is the overriding factor in determining the structure and character of the landscape in the north-eastern areas of the Village Farmlands. Narrow bands of mudstone stand 5- 10 metres above sinuous channels and broad open flats of alluvium.

Intensive management of the arable farmlands has produced large areas where the field pattern is formed from low, neatly trimmed hawthorn hedgerows. These have often become gappy, although the overall enclosure pattern of medium to large fields is still very much intact. The dominance of arable cultivation and general lack of tree cover creates the

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment

South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Village Farmlands

impression of a landscape with a comparatively uniform character and weak “sense of place”. The strength of this impression varies throughout the landscape with the more distinctive and intimate landscapes being found adjacent to settlement.

A varied settlement pattern is evident arising from the series of small nucleated villages, and larger commuter villages. In the more remote areas the smaller, red brick villages often link directly with intimate pastoral landscapes containing small irregular field patterns, species-rich hedgerows and mature hedgerow trees. A profusion of mature garden trees along the village edges also helps to create intimate, well treed landscapes that are well integrated with the surrounding farmlands. Occasionally the pastures contain ridge and furrow. These landscapes have a strong “sense of place” and a unified and harmonious character.

To the north east it is the drier conditions prevailing on the mudstone that have determined the historic settlement pattern. The red brick villages and isolated farmsteads sit on the mudstone, often at the margin of the lower-lying alluvial deposits. On many farms large modern buildings have been erected which are highly visible due to the close proximity of the open alluvial landscapes.

Woodland is not a significant component of the Village Farmlands landscape although locally it does help to break down the rather uniform character. The woodland pattern is formed from a scattered distribution of small-scale, straight-edged blocks of mainly broad-leaved woodland. The sparse distribution of hedgerow trees also compounds the general lack of tree cover. Ash, oak and willow are the main hedgerow tree species with sycamore and horse chestnut more prevalent on the approaches to settlement. Lines of willow along ditch lines and small streams are also a notable feature within the landscape.

The landscape, therefore, is largely rural in character with suburban influences being introduced by the larger settlements. To the south of Newark and Balderton, urban fringe and industrial influences associated with gypsum mining have had a large impact. These influences are heavily etched into the landscape to the south of Balderton where the activities of the gypsum mining industry are made more visible by the open nature of the surrounding farmlands. A number of voids, earth mounds and restored areas are found with associated plant and buildings. Straight residential edges, industrial units, scrap-yards and areas of rough grass lie beyond the gypsum works to form the urban edge of Newark.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

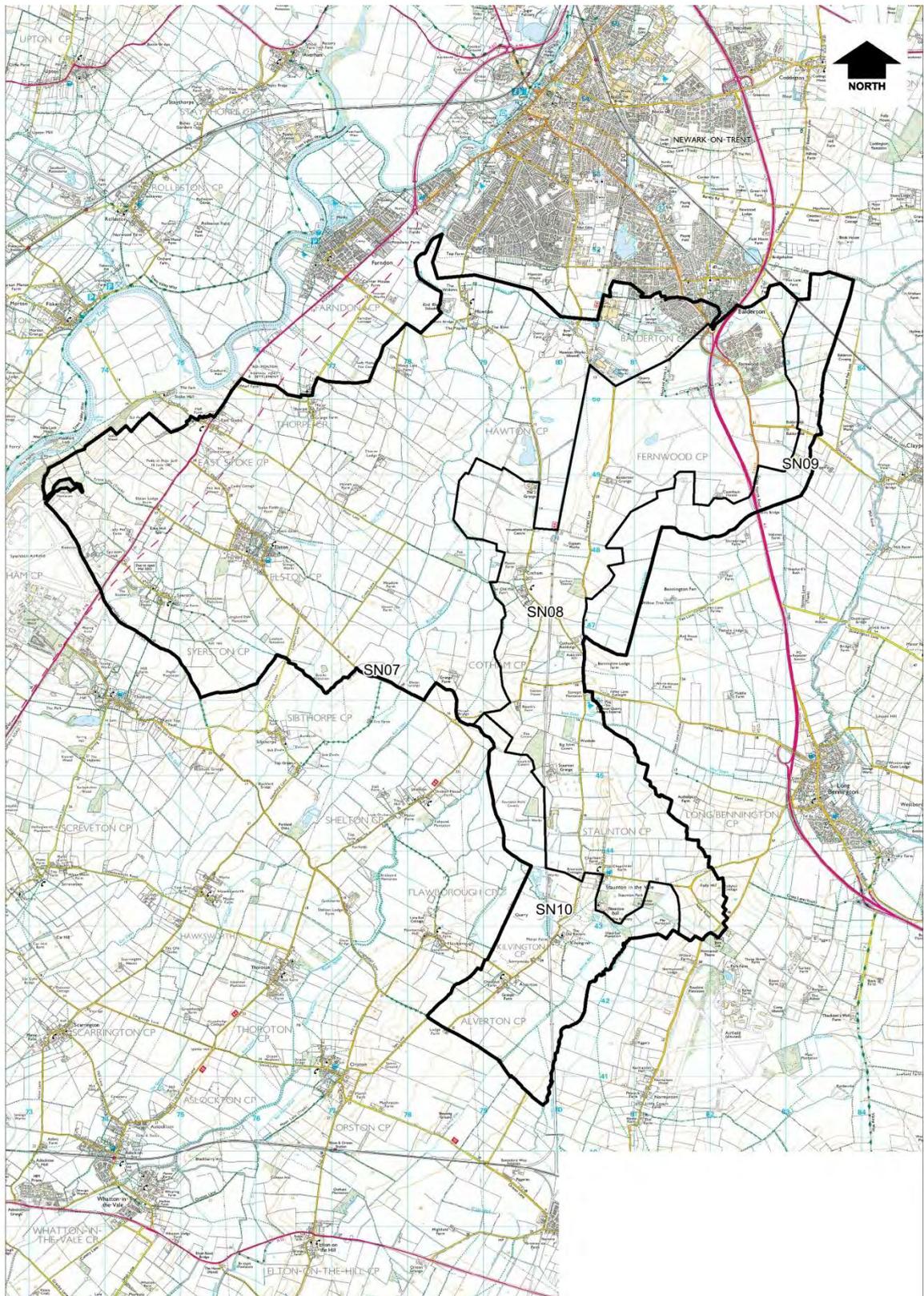


Figure 6.5 Policy Zones within South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

6.5 Landscape Policy Sheet

6.5.1 Policy Zones Contents Sheet

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SN PZ 07: Elston Village Farmlands	473
SN PZ 08: Cotham Village Farmlands	478
SN PZ 10: Alverton Village Farmlands	482

South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone SN PZ 07: Elston Village Farmlands

Policy: Conserve and Create

The area is located to the south of Newark and Farndon, and encompasses the villages of Syerston, Elston, East stoke, Thorpe, Hawton and part of Balderton (south of Newark). The River Trent forms part of the north-west boundary, whilst the Cotham Dismantled Railway forms much of the eastern boundary. The A46 bisects the area and a number of minor roads cut across the landscape throughout.

Pylons and power lines also intersect the landscape, particularly in the centre of the Policy Zone, running from north to south. Some restored mineral workings are apparent, with newly planted broadleaved woodland, fishing lakes and wetland areas. Some industry is evident to the north-east corner of the Policy Zone, whilst further to the south, the area is dominated by large arable fields with highly fragmented hedgerows and views interrupted by the numerous pylon lines.

The landform is generally flat, with open views out to higher ground, interrupted intermittently by wooded skylines and pylons & power lines. The existence of a relatively strong network of hedgerows and occasional woodland planting mean that views are often intermittent.

Arable farmland dominates the area, with some pastoral fields evident around the vicinity of the settlements. Field scales are generally medium to large when associated with arable land use, and small to medium when associated with pastoral land use. Field boundaries are predominantly formed by generally well maintained Hawthorn hedgerows and sometimes by ditches where hedgerows have been lost. Hedges to the larger scale intensive arable fields are sometimes fragmented or lost in areas, however, those bounding smaller scale pastoral fields are often mature and species-rich. Some horseyculture exists in these pastoral fields, and post and rail fencing and some temporary electric fencing is evident.

- Hedgerows and field margins provide a good network throughout the area, along with riparian links. Along with these vegetation links, there are a number of Biological SINC designations:
 - 2/803 – Lowfield Lane Grasslands, Balderton ‘Damp alluvial grasslands’
 - 5/2129 – Balderton Works Meadow (II) ‘Notable neutral horse paddocks with a rich flora’
 - 2/804 – Balderton Works Meadow (I) ‘A small remnant of species-rich grassland’
 - 5/208 – Balderton Dismantled railway South ‘A dismantled railway with substantial areas of grassland and scrub’
 - 2/637 – Lowfield Grassland, Balderton ‘A small species-rich remnant of a once notable grassland’
 - 5/222 – Hawton Tip grassland ‘A large area of ruderal and base-rich grassland developed on gypsum spoil’
 - 5/2258 – The Grange Ditch, Hawton ‘A drain of interest for Water Beetles’
 - 5/2168 – Cotham Flash ‘An area of open water and associated habitat of ornithological note’
 - 5/2229 – Hawton Old Gypsum Works Ponds ‘Ponds of interest for Water Beetles and Water Bugs’
 - 5/2173 – Hawton Works Grassland ‘A large area of grassland with notable plant species’

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- 2/974 – Hawton Civil War Front ‘A notable pasture community on an archaeological site’
- 2/588 – River Devon (North of Cotham) ‘A historically interesting water course with valuable riparian features and a locally diverse aquatic flora’
- 2/971 – Back Dyke Grassland, Cotham ‘A species-rich grassland adjacent to Back Dyke’
- 2/749 – Trent Lane Wood ‘A small but characteristic area of deciduous woodland’
- 5/345 – Primrose Plantation ‘A trentside woodland with notable plant species’
- 2/585 – Flintham Wood ‘A well-wooded river bluff’
- 2/694 – River Trent (Gunthorpe to Fiskerton) ‘A representative length of the Trent of high wildlife value’
- 2/695 – The Nabbs ‘A large and valuable community of gravel colonists and scrub developed on an island in the River Trent’

Isolated woodland occurs throughout the Policy Zone. Of particular note is the area of woodland south of Hawton (Fox Covert) at Pyketts farm, where new planting can be seen as part of restoration works, and include poplars grown for Biomass fuel. Several Industrial sites are located within the area, particularly in the north of the Policy Zone, south of Newark, (Jericho Gypsum Works, Hawson Gypsum Works and Lowfield Works). There is also a sewage works near Balderton.

There are a number of settlements in the Policy Zone including; Syerston, Elston, East Stoke, Thorpe, Hawton and part of Balderton (south of Newark). The majority of these settlements have historic cores with vernacular characters (aside from the more recent development of Balderton). Some infill and peripheral development is evident in the villages, East Stoke and Elston have conservation areas and there are numerous Listed Buildings within the settlements of Hawton, Thorpe, Elston, and Syerston. East Stoke is close to the site of historic battle (Stoke Field 1487) along with the remains of a deserted village surviving as earthworks, one of several Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the area.

A number of threats and drivers for change exist in the area and these include:

- The construction of the new A46 route through the west of the area is likely to have a highly disruptive impact, with loss of hedgerows and hedgerow trees.
- Encroachment of horse culture on existing fields.
- Intensification of arable farming and/or lack of management leading to further fragmentation and loss of hedgerows and consequent loss of existing field pattern.
- Redundant mineral workings provide opportunities for new landscape and vegetation.
- Further residential development, particularly to the fringes of Balderton.
- Further Industrial development.

SN PZ 07 Elston Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: SN PZ 07
Landscape Character Parcel: ES14 and ES15



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat and open topography with north-eastern section situated on urban edge.
- Predominantly intensive arable land use, with well-trimmed hawthorn hedgerows to boundaries, often fragmented in places.
- Some pastoral fields and horse culture, generally in vicinity of settlements.
- Views interrupted by power lines and pylons running east to west through the area, and by the busy A46.
- Predominantly vernacular settlements of Syerston, Elston, East Stoke, Thorpe and Hawton, along with the more recent development of Balderton.
- Historic landscapes, Stokefield battlefield, and several Scheduled ancient monuments.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **moderate**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields and isolated farms; there are **some** detracting features, including sewage works, industrial works, the busy A46 and new A46 under construction, and pylons and pylon lines. Overall this gives a visually **coherent** area. There are a number of Biological SINCS designations (2/803 – Lowfield Lane Grasslands, Balderton; 5/2129 – Balderton Works Meadow (II); 2/804 – Balderton Works Meadow (I); 5/208 – Balderton Dismantled Railway South; 2/637 – Lowfield Grassland, Balderton; 5/222 –

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Moderate
Pattern of Elements:	Coherent
Detracting Features:	Some
Visual Unity:	Coherent
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
South Nottinghamshire Farmlands**

Hawton Tip Grassland; 5/2258 – The Grange Ditch, Hawton; 5/2168 – Cotham Flash; 5/2229 – Hawton Old Gypsum Works Ponds; 5/2173 – Hawton Works Grassland; 2/974 – Hawton Civil War Front; 2/588 – River Devon (North of Cotham); 2/971 – Back dyke Grassland, Cotham; 2/749 – Trent Lane Wood; 5/345 – Primrose Plantation; 2/585 – Flintham Wood; 2/694 – River Trent (Gunthorpe to Fiskerton); 2/695 – The Nabbs). There is also the East Stoke and Balderton MLA included in the Policy Zone.

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with a relatively intensive arable land use with good hedgerow networks. Cultural integrity is **variable** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows sometimes fragmented, although generally well maintained. A **coherent** area with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **moderate** landscape condition.

Functional Integrity:

Coherent

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity

Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

Distinctiveness:

Characteristic

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the South-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

Continuity:

Historic

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** tree cover giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to the networks of generally mature hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Sense of Place:

Moderate

Landform:

Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover

Intermittent

Visibility:

Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Create

Landscape Features

- **Create** new hedgerows and restore existing, seek opportunities to recreate historic field pattern where feasible. Contain new development within historic boundaries.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral and/or include field margins to enhance landscape character and biodiversity
- Enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally, in particular along A46 roadside, to **create** increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone.
- **Conserve** the ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINCS.
- Conserve the historic landscape and its wider setting allowing for greater appreciation and understanding of its heritage assets.

Built Features

- **Create** new development which reflects the local built

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands

vernacular.

- **Conserve** what remains of the rural landscape by concentrating **creation** of new development around existing settlement.

**South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone SN PZ 08: Cotham Village
Farmlands
Policy: Create**

The area is located south of Newark, encompassing part of the busy A1 road in the northern sector of the Policy Zone, stretching down to Staunton in the Vale in the south. Along with the A1, several minor roads also transect the area. The disused Cotham railway/mineral line runs north-south through the Policy Zone, and partially bounds the western edge. The recently developed town of Fernwood is situated to the north-east, whilst the village of Cotham lies at the centre of the area, with a number of farms and isolated houses throughout. The settlement of Fernwood is entirely modern, whilst Cotham and the part of Staunton in the Vale that fall within the Policy Zone have historic cores, with some modern infill evident. A number of listed buildings exist in this area both in Staunton in the Vale and Cotham.

Topographically the area is a low lying, generally flat arable landscape. Open views are often visible, however hedges and pockets of woodland sometimes restrict long distance views. Frequent small to medium scale woodlands are evident particularly in the south. There is also occasional parkland in evidence at Balderton old hospital site and also Staunton Park, Staunton in the Vale.

The intensive nature of land-use in the Policy Zone is evident through the presence of numerous mineral works sites: Staunton Works in the south, Cotham Gypsum Works and Kilvington Quarry. Intensive arable farming is the dominant land use with medium to large scale fields. Some pastoral land and parkland is noted in the vicinity of settlements, particularly near Staunton in the Vale.

Field boundaries are composed predominantly of well-maintained Hawthorn hedgerows. These are often strongly trimmed, fragmented or lost altogether where fields are large and intensively arable. Hedgerows closer to village cores tend to be denser and more species-rich. Some Poplar trees are evident around the industrial works sites. Oak, Ash and Horse Chestnut outgrown trees are often present within mixed hawthorn hedges.

Other vegetation exists within the Policy Zone, with some scrubby field boundaries adjacent to drainage ditches, some riparian vegetation following drains, along with some areas designated as Biological SINCs:

- 2/750 – Mineral Line, Cotham ‘Scrub and base-rich grassland along a disused railway line’
- 1/104 – Cotham Station ‘Species-rich calcareous grassland and scrub developed on an ex-industrial site’
- 1/86 – Staunton Quarry ‘A valuable area of wetland, grassland and scrub communities on base-rich – of botanical and invertebrate zoological interest’
- 2/802 – Staunton Works ‘A disturbed area of land behind the Staunton Gypsum Works with notable botanical and zoological communities’
- 5/226 – Folly Hill Grassland and Pond ‘Notable species-rich meadows, partly tree planted’
- Geological SINC Designations also exist:
- 2/1024 – Bantycok Gypsum Pit, Newark ‘A quarry showing the complete geological succession of the area, from the Mercia Mudgroup (Keuper Marl) through to the Lower Lias, and also the mode of gypsum occurrence’

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zones

- 2/1025 – Old Stone Pits, Staunton in the Vale ‘An abandoned quarry containing an interesting spoil heap of fossiliferous Lower Lias Limestone’

A number of threats and drivers for change exist in the area. These include:

- Increased development of both industrial and residential, especially to the north of the area. Potential for planned settlement of Fernwood to expand.
- Increased intensity of agriculture particularly in the south.
- Loss of parkland and parkland trees.
- Fragmentation and loss of hedgerows, leading to subsequent further field pattern loss.

Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zones

SN PZ 08 Cotham Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: SN PZ 08
Landscape Character Parcel: ES12



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat and open topography with northern section situated on urban edge.
- Predominantly intensive arable land use, with well trimmed hawthorn hedgerows to boundaries, often fragmented in places.
- Some pastoral fields and horsey-culture, generally in vicinity of settlements.
- Views interrupted by power lines and pylons running east to west through the area, and by the busy A1 to north-eastern area.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very poor**.

The area has an **incoherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields and isolated farms, landfill sites and industrial works; there are **many** detracting features, including numerous industrial sites, mineral extraction and associated spoil heaps and tips, pylons and pylon lines and busy roads bisecting the area (A1). Overall this gives a visually **significantly interrupted** area. There are a number of Biological SINC designations (2/750 – Mineral Line, Cotham; 1/104 – Cotham Station; 1/86 – Staunton Quarry; 2/802 – Staunton Works; 5/226 – Folly Hill Grassland and Pond). Geological SINC designations also exist (2/1024 – Bantycok Gypsum Pit, Newark; 2/1025 – Old Stone Pits, Staunton in the Vale). There is also part of the Staunton in the Vale MLA included in the

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Poor
Pattern of Elements:	Incoherent
Detracting Features:	Many
Visual Unity:	Significantly Interrupted
Ecological Integrity:	Moderate
Cultural Integrity:	Variable

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zones**

<p>Policy Zone.</p> <p>In ecological terms the area provides a moderate habitat for wildlife, with a relatively intensive arable land use with good hedgerow networks. Cultural integrity is variable in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows sometimes fragmented, although generally well maintained. A significantly interrupted area with a coherent functional integrity gives a very poor landscape condition.</p>	<p>Functional Integrity: Coherent</p> <p>(Where one criterion is 'very poor' or 'very weak', this pushes the policy description into the next lowest category)</p>																
Landscape Sensitivity	Sensitivity Very Low																
<p>The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as very low.</p> <p>The components of the landscape are indistinct to the South-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is recent (50 years) giving a very weak sense of place overall.</p> <p>The landform is apparent with intermittent tree cover giving a generally moderate visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to the networks of generally mature hedgerows. A very weak sense of place and moderate visibility leads to a very low landscape sensitivity overall.</p>	<p>Distinctiveness: Indistinct</p> <p>Continuity: Recent</p> <p>Sense of Place: Very Weak</p> <p>Landform: Apparent</p> <p>Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent</p> <p>Visibility: Moderate</p>																
LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Create																	
<p><u>Landscape Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new hedgerows and restore existing, seek opportunities to recreate historic field pattern where feasible. Contain new development within historic boundaries. • Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral. • Enhance tree cover and landscape planting generally, in particular along the A1, to create increased visual unity and habitat across the Policy Zone. • Create small scale woodland to contain and soften built development, particularly around Fernwood. • Conserve the ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINCs. <p><u>Built Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new development which reflects the local built vernacular. • Conserve what remains of the rural landscape by concentrating creation of new development around existing settlement. 	<p>Condition</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Good</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CREATE & REINFORCE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">CONSERVE & RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Poor</td> <td style="padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc;">CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESORE & CREATE</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">RESTORE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Moderate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">High</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitivity</p>	Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE	Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE	Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE		Low	Moderate	High
Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE														
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE														
Poor	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE														
	Low	Moderate	High														

**South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zone SN PZ 10: Alverton Village
Farmlands
Policy: Conserve**

The area is relatively compact and extends from east of Shelton to the west of Normanton, encompassing the villages of Alverton, Kilvington and part of Staunton in the Vale. There are very few roads bisecting the area, aside from Grange Lane that connects the villages. The Kilvington Dismantled Railway draws a linear line through the centre of the Policy Zone, running north to south. A relatively large section to the west of the Policy Zone is occupied by a disused Quarry (west of Kilvington), now restored as a nature reserve, including a lake and new planting.

Landform is predominantly flat, being a broad flood plain, with some small undulation occurring in places. Views are long distance to the east towards the Vale of Belvoir, although areas of woodland and mature hedgerows often interrupt views.

The landscape is a mix of arable and pastoral farmland. Arable fields tend to be medium to large scale whereas pasture is contained in smaller fields located near to the villages. Well maintained hedgerows with trees are a common feature and form the majority of the field boundaries. Post & rail and post & wire fencing also feature in places, generally around the pastoral fields.

Woodland is also a feature of the area, where the restoration of the disused quarry exhibits areas of sensitive landscape improvement and recent woodland planting. A number of blocks of mixed woodland are also present along with shelterbelts along field boundaries. Species include Oak, Ash and Horse Chestnut. A number of Biological SINCs are designated throughout the Policy Zone and these include:

- 5/376 – Kilvington Lakes ‘A series of lakes of botanical and ornithological interest around former gypsum workings’
- 5/219 – Kilvington Railway ‘A representative section of dismantled railway with botanical interest’
- 2/842 – River Devon, Staunton ‘A notable length of water course’
- 2/813 – Staunton Park Pastures ‘Two damp grasslands of botanical interest’

There is also part of the Staunton in the Vale Mature Landscape Area designation present in the east of the Policy Zone.

The villages of Alverton, Kilvington and part of Staunton in the Vale that lie within the area are generally of a vernacular nature, all with historic cores. Remnants of a historic landscape exist in the area, particularly in the east around Staunton Hall and Manor farm. A number of Listed Buildings are present within the villages.

A number of threats and drivers for change exist in the area, and these include:

- Increase in residential development within and to periphery of settlements.
- Loss of woodland due to land use change.
- Intensification of agriculture and/or lack of management leading to fragmentation and loss of hedgerows, resulting in loss of field pattern.

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zones**

SN PZ 10 Alverton Village Farmlands

PHOTOGRAPH



CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village Farmlands
Policy Zone: SN PZ 10
Landscape Character Parcel: ES16 and ES17



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat and open topography due to being broad flood plain.
- Predominantly intensive arable land use, with well-trimmed hawthorn hedgerows to boundaries.
- Also permanent pasture and some horsey culture, generally in vicinity of settlements.
- Pylons and power lines run in the south-west of the Policy Zone.
- Vernacular settlements of Alverton and part of Staunton in the Vale.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The Landscape Condition is defined as **very good**.

The area has a **coherent** pattern of elements composed of predominantly arable fields and isolated farms; there are **few** detracting features, including an electricity sub-station and pylons & pylon lines. Overall this gives a visually **unified** area. There are a number of Biological SINCS designations (5/376 – Kilvington Lakes; 5/219 – Kilvington Railway; 2/842 – River Devon, Staunton; 2/813 – Staunton Park Pastures). There is also the Staunton in the Vale MLA included in the Policy Zone.

In ecological terms the area provides a **moderate** habitat for wildlife, with a relatively intensive arable land use with good hedgerow

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition **Very Good**

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional: Strong

**Newark and Sherwood Landscape Character Assessment
South Nottinghamshire Farmlands Policy Zones**

networks. Cultural integrity is **good** in that the field pattern is generally intact, with hedgerows sometimes fragmented, although generally well maintained. A **unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good** landscape condition.

Integrity:

(Where one criterion is 'very good' or 'very strong', this pushes the policy description into the next highest category)

Landscape Sensitivity

Sensitivity Moderate

The Landscape Sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The components of the landscape are **characteristic** to the South-Nottinghamshire LCA. The time depth is **historic** (post 1600) giving a **moderate** sense of place overall.

The landform is **apparent** with **intermittent** tree cover giving a generally **moderate** visibility value within the Policy Zone. Views are intermittent due to the networks of generally mature hedgerows. A **moderate** sense of place and **moderate** visibility leads to a **moderate** landscape sensitivity overall.

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve

Condition

Landscape Features

- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral.
- **Conserve** the ecological diversity and biodiversity of the designated SINCS.
- **Conserve** hedgerow trees and replace where necessary.
- **Conserve** permanent pasture and parkland area near to Staunton hall, seek opportunities to restore arable land to pasture.

Good Moderate Poor	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	CREATE	RESORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Built Features

- **Conserve** what remains of the rural landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements of Alverton, Kilvington and Staunton in the Vale.

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

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