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Our Ref

Your Ref

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Dear Councillor,

**Environmental and Development Services Committee**

A Meeting of the **Environmental and Development Services Committee** will be held at **Grove Hall**, on **Thursday, 12 August 2021 at 18:00**. You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,



Chief Executive

To:- **Labour Group**

Councillor Taylor (Chair), Councillor Heath (Vice-Chair) and  
Councillors Dunn, Singh and Tilley.

**Conservative Group**

Councillors Brown, Corbin, Haines, Redfern and Smith.

**Independent Group**

Councillors Fitzpatrick and MacPherson.

## **AGENDA**

### **Open to Public and Press**

- |           |   |                      |
|-----------|---|----------------------|
| <b>1</b>  | Apologies and to note any Substitutes appointed for the Meeting.                              |                      |
| <b>2</b>  | To note any declarations of interest arising from any items on the Agenda                     |                      |
| <b>3</b>  | To receive any questions by members of the public pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No.10.   |                      |
| <b>4</b>  | To receive any questions by Members of the Council pursuant to Council procedure Rule No. 11. |                      |
| <b>5</b>  | CORPORATE PLAN 2020-24 - PERFORMANCE REPORT (2021-2022)<br>QUARTER 1 - 1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE)    | <b>4 - 42</b>        |
| <b>6</b>  | LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SURVEY 2021   | <b>43 - 72</b>       |
| <b>7</b>  | REMOVAL OF RECYCLING CENTRES  | <b>73 - 77</b>       |
| <b>8</b>  | LOCAL PLAN PART 1 – FIVE-YEAR REVIEW  | <b>78 - 91</b>       |
| <b>9</b>  | CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY  | <b>92 - 112</b>      |
| <b>10</b> | ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE POINT INFRASTRUCTURE  | <b>113 -<br/>118</b> |
| <b>11</b> | DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT NATIONAL NIGHT FLIGHT POLICY<br>CONSULTATION                         | <b>119 -<br/>128</b> |
| <b>12</b> | ACTION PLAN FOR NATURE  | <b>129 -<br/>231</b> |
| <b>13</b> | COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME  | <b>232 -<br/>236</b> |

### **Exclusion of the Public and Press:**

- 14** The Chairman may therefore move:-  
That in accordance with Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in the header to each report on the Agenda.
- 15** To receive any Exempt questions by Members of the Council pursuant to Council procedure Rule No. 11.

REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 5
DATE OF MEETING:	12 <sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	LEADERSHIP TEAM	OPEN DOC:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	FRANK MCARDLE (EXT. 5700) ALLISON THOMAS (EXT. 5775)	
SUBJECT:	CORPORATE PLAN 2020-24: PERFORMANCE REPORT (2021-2022 QUARTER 1 – 1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE)	
WARD (S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: G

## 1.0 **Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Committee approves progress against performance targets set out in the Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024.
- 1.2 That the Risk Register for the Committee's services are reviewed.
- 1.3 That the new Risk Register templates are reviewed following approval at the Audit Sub Committee in June 2021 and note that they will replace the existing Risk Registers.

## 2.0 **Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To report progress against the Corporate Plan under the priorities of Our Environment, Our People and Our Future.

## 3.0 **Executive summary**

- 3.1 The Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 was approved following extensive consultation into South Derbyshire's needs, categorising them under three key priorities: Our Environment, Our People and Our Future. The Corporate Plan is central to the Council's work – it sets out its values and vision for South Derbyshire and defines its priorities for delivering high-quality services.
- 3.2 This Committee is responsible for overseeing the delivery of the key priorities and the following key aims:

### **Our Environment**

- *Improve the environment of the District*
- *Tackle climate change*





- *Enhance the attractiveness of South Derbyshire*

### **Our People**

- *Supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable*

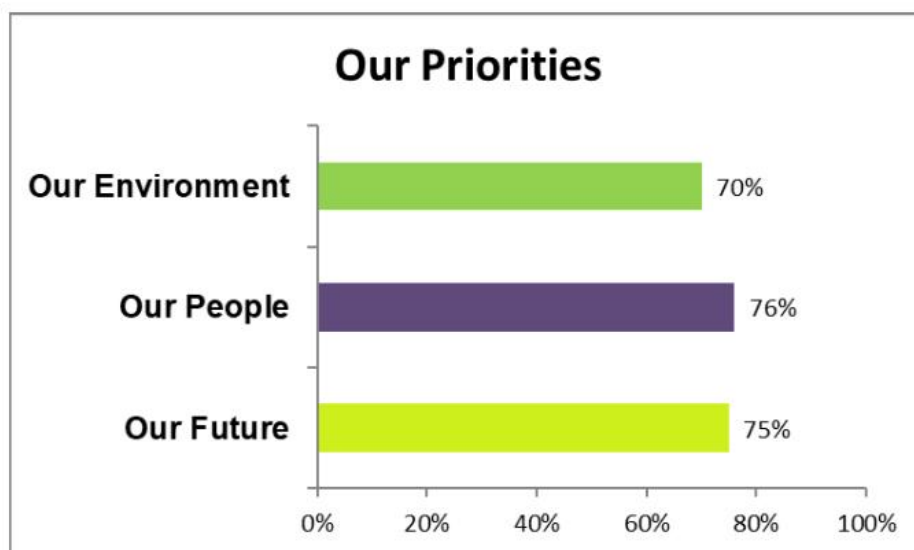
### **Our Future**

- *Support economic growth and infrastructure*

## **4.0 Detail**

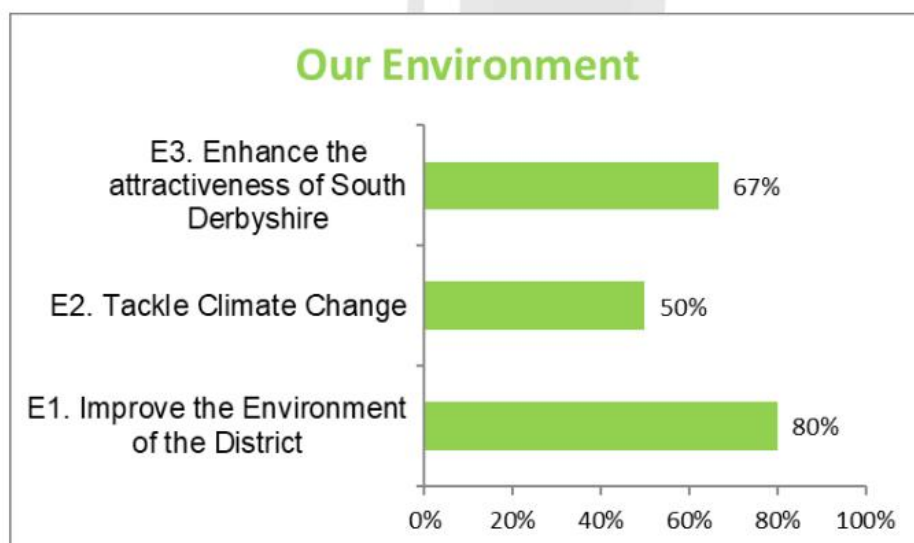
### **4.1 Overall Council performance against the priorities – Quarter 1 2021-2022.**

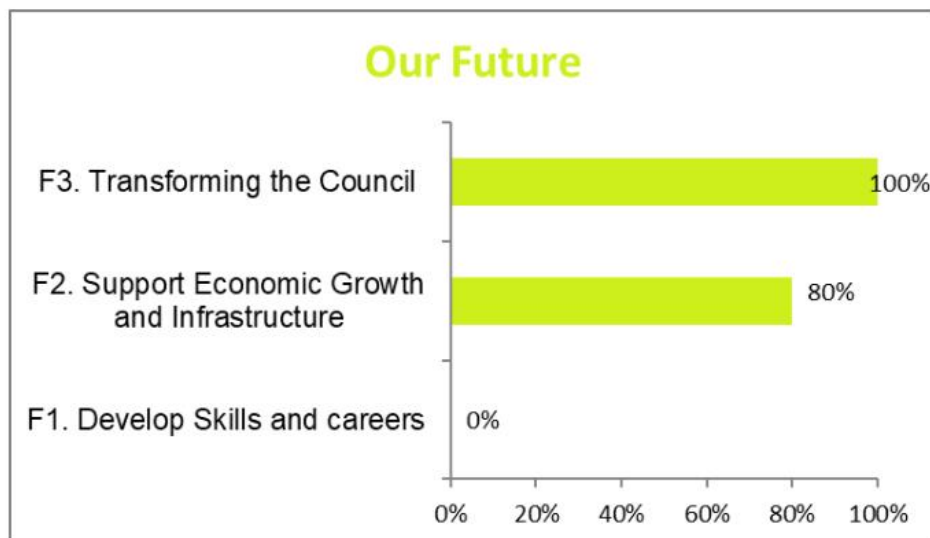
The below chart provides an overview for the percentage of measures that are on track to achieve the annual target.



### **4.2 Overall Council performance against key aims – Quarter 1 2021-2022.**

The below charts provide an overview for the percentage of measures that are on track to achieve the annual target within each key aim of the Corporate Plan.





- 4.3 Of the 35 measures which support the progress of the Corporate Plan 20-24, 16 are green, five are amber, nine are red and five are grey.

Overall, 74% of the key aims within the Corporate Plan are on track. 70% are on track for Our Environment, 76% are on track for Our People and 75% are on track for Our Future.

- 4.4 This Committee is responsible for overseeing the delivery of 12 Corporate measures.

Below outlines the 10 measures for this Committee that are on track (green, amber or grey) for the quarter:

- Household waste collected per head of population
- % of collected waste recycled and composted
- Improve the quality of the District through the Local Environmental Quality Survey
- Reduce South Derbyshire District Council carbon emissions



- Proportion of good quality housing development schemes
- % of eligible new homes and commercial developments to achieve net gain in Biodiversity by a minimum of 10% compared to the site's predevelopment baseline.
- Continue to undertake interventions per year to keep families out of fuel poverty
- Speed of decision on discharging conditions for housing applications
- % of planning applications determined within the statutory period
- Secure new facilities and contributions through Section106 to mitigate impacts of development. Achieve all necessary highway, education, healthcare, and recreation contributions

4.5 Below outlines the two measures for this Committee that are not on track (red) for the quarter:

- Number of fly tipping incidents.
- % of new homes to meet water efficiency targets as set out in the Part G optional standard of 110 litres of potable water usage per person per day

For more detailed information please refer to **Appendix B**, Performance Measure Report Index.

4.6 An overview of performance can be found in the Performance Dashboard in **Appendix A**. A detailed description of each performance measure including mitigating actions and actions to sustain and improve performance is included in the detailed Performance Measure Report Index in **Appendix B**.

4.7 Questions regarding performance are welcomed from the Committee in relation to the Corporate performance measures that fall under its responsibility and are referenced in the detailed Performance Measure Report Index in **Appendix B**

4.8 The Risk Register for the Committee's services is detailed in **Appendix C**. This includes the register and risk mitigation plans for the relevant departmental Risk Register. Each risk has been identified and assessed against the Corporate Plan aims which are considered to be the most significant risks to the Council in achieving its main objectives. The Risk Register(s) detail a risk matrix to summarise how each identified risk has been rated.

## 5.0 **Financial and Implications**

None directly.

## 6.0 **Corporate Implications**

### 6.1 **Employment Implications**

None directly.



## 6.2 Legal Implications

None directly.

## 6.3 Corporate Plan Implications

This report updates the Committee on the progress against the key measures agreed in the Corporate Plan and demonstrates how the Council's key aims under the priorities, Our Environment, Our People and Our Future contribute to that aspiration.

## 6.4 Risk Impact

Key risks impacting on this Committee are detailed in **Appendix C**, alongside the treatment and mitigating actions in place to manage these risks.

The following provides a summary of the risks that have changed since the last quarter for this Committee:

- SD14- Performance of kerbside recycling contractor. The mitigating actions have been updated.

Please refer to the Service Delivery Risk Register in **Appendix C** for further detail.

Following an Internal Audit review of the Council's system for assessing and managing risk, an updated Risk Management Framework and new Risk Register templates were approved by the Audit Sub Committee in June with the following changes:

- The Council will move from four Risk Registers to three. The Strategic Risk Register will be made redundant and the existing risks identified in this register will be moved to the Corporate Risk Register.
- The risk register template has been revised and updated in line with best practice, the new template is based on the register used by Central Midlands Audit Partnership Board. Key changes include the addition of a risk category, risk cause and risk effect, current risk rating, risk rating after mitigating actions and risk owner. The new risk register template is included in **Appendix D**.

## 7.0 Community Impact

### 7.1 Consultation

None required.

### 7.2 Equality and Diversity Impact

Not applicable in the context of the report.



### 7.3 Social Value Impact

Not applicable in the context of the report.

### 7.4 Environmental Sustainability

Not applicable in the context of the report.

### 8.0 Appendices

Appendix A – Performance Dashboard 2020-2024

Appendix B – Performance Measure Report Index

Appendix C – Service Delivery Risk Register

Appendix D – New Risk Register Template



## Performance Dashboard 2020 - 2024

Priority	Key Aim		Outcome	PI Ref	How success will be measured	Frequency	(Q4) Jan 20 - Mar 20 Outturn	April 2020 - March 2021 (Outturn)	April 21-June 21 (Qtr. 1)	Annual Target 2021-2022	Plan Target 2020-2024	Head of Service	Strategic Lead	Committee		
Our Environment	Keeping a clean, green District for future generations	E1. Improve the environment of the District	E1.1 Reduce waste and increase composting and recycling	E1.1A	<a href="#">Household waste collected per head of population</a>	Quarterly	404 kgs (Cumulative Apr-Mar)	460kgs	128kgs	Sustain Current levels	Sustain during Y1 and Y2. See a downward trend in Yrs. 3 and 4	Adrian Lowery, Head of Operational Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
				E1.1B	<a href="#">% of collected waste recycled and composted</a>	Quarterly	45% (Cumulative Apr-Mar)	47%	53%	>45%	Sustain during Y1 and Y2. See an upward trend in Yrs. 3 and 4	Adrian Lowery, Head of Operational Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
			E1.2 Reduce fly tipping and litter through education, engagement and zero tolerance enforcement action where appropriate	E1.2A	<a href="#">Number of fly tipping incidents</a>	Quarterly	714 (Cumulative April-Mar)	Q1-4 Target < 714 Actual - 1003	Q1 Target < 191 Actual - 211	Downward trend as a 4-year mean <764	Downward trend over 4 years	Matt Holford, Head of Environmental Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
				E1.2B	<a href="#">Improve the quality of the District through the Local Environmental Quality Survey</a>	Annual	The first survey was completed in January 2020 the result was 89.67% above grade C+.		94.74% above grade C+	>95% (Grade C or above)	>95%	Adrian Lowery, Head of Operational Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
			E1.3 Enhance biodiversity across the District	E1.3A	<a href="#">% of eligible new homes and commercial developments to achieve net gain in Biodiversity by a minimum of 10% compared to the sites pre development baseline.</a>	Annual	Not possible to provide as outputs not held in software until April 2020. Monitoring underway and baseline data to be provided Q1 and Q2.	66.7%	66.7%	85% (4-year target)	85%	Steffan Saunders, Head of Planning and Strategic Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
		E2. Tackle climate change	E2.1 Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030	E2.1A	<a href="#">Reduce South Derbyshire District Council carbon emissions</a>	Annual	No update required for Q4. First update to be provided Q1 2020-21.	Nine actions completed	Achieved	Produce and implement a Head of Service Q4 Climate and Environment report that tracks performance against quantified targets and outturns	Achievement of Actions contained in the South Derbyshire Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020-24 (C&EAP)	Matt Holford, Head of Environmental Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
			E2.2 Work with residents, businesses and partners to reduce their carbon footprint	E2.2A	<a href="#">% of new homes to meet water efficiency targets as set out in the Part G optional standard of 110 litres of potable water usage per person per day</a>	Bi Quarterly (Q2 & Q4)	Baseline figure of 50% based on 18 qualifying decisions in Q4.	100%	70.5%	85%	85%	Steffan Saunders, Head of Planning and Strategic Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
		E3. Enhance the attractiveness of South Derbyshire	E3.1 Enhance the appeal of Swadlincote town centre as a place to visit	E3.1A	<a href="#">Increase Swadlincote Town Centre visitor satisfaction</a>	Annual	49% of respondents would recommend Swadlincote Town Centre - May 2019.		Reported Annually in Q3	58%	National small towns average 72%. Target to be above the National average by 2023/24	Mike Roylance, Head of Economic Development and Growth	Frank McArdle, Chief Executive	F&M		
			E3.2 Improve public spaces to create an environment for people to enjoy	E3.2A	<a href="#">The number of Green Flag Awards for South Derbyshire parks</a>	Annual	2	Three sites have been submitted for the award, Maurice Lea and Eureka parks and Swadlincote Woodlands which is a new site.	Achieved	Four Year Target - 4	Increase from two green flag park awards to four by 2024	Mary Bagley, Head of Cultural and Community Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	H&CS		
				E3.2B	<a href="#">Proportion of good quality housing development schemes</a>	Annual	92%	Data unavailable	Reported Annually in Q4	90%	% of schemes which score high	Steffan Saunders, Head of Planning and Strategic Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
		Our People	with communities and meeting the future needs of the District	P1. Engage with our communities	P1.1 Support and celebrate volunteering, community groups and the voluntary sector	P1.1A	<a href="#">Number of new and existing Community Groups supported</a>	Quarterly	36	153	24	upward trend	Year 1 (Proxy)- collate baseline data. Year 2-4 we will show an increase on baseline in year 1	Mary Bagley, Head of Cultural and Community Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	H&CS
					P1.2 Help tackle anti-social behaviour & crime through strong and proportionate action	P1.2A	<a href="#">Number of ASB interventions by type</a>	Quarterly	2,893 ASB reports (Cumulative Apr-Mar)	ASB reports in Q4: Target <704 Actual - 1413. Cumulative Target <2893 Actual - 5233	Moderate (3%) increase. April to May reports of ASB target < 598, Actual 616 Police data for June 2021 has not yet been received	'Moderate' or 'High'	Proxy Measure to show service activity	Matt Holford, Head of Environmental Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	H&CS
P2. Supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable	P2.1 With partners encourage independent living and keep residents healthy and happy in their homes.			P2.1A	<a href="#">Number of households prevented from Homelessness</a>	Quarterly	103 cases	265	85	Proxy	Proxy Measure to show service activity	Paul Whittingham, Head of Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	H&CS		
				P2.1B	<a href="#">Continue to undertake interventions per year to keep families out of fuel poverty.</a>	Quarterly	Numbers of interventions in 2019/20 were not recorded	Q1-4 Target - 300 interventions Actual - 276	Q1 Target - 30 interventions Actual - 30	210 interventions	300 interventions (2020-21) Target to be reviewed thereafter.	Matt Holford, Head of Environmental Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS		
	P2.2 Promote health and wellbeing across the District			P2.2A	<a href="#">Deliver the objectives identified in the South Derbyshire Health &amp; Wellbeing Group</a>	Bi monthly	Not applicable for Q4	Achieved	Achieved	100% of actions delivered	100% of actions identified delivered	Mary Bagley, Head of Cultural and Community Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	H&CS		
				P2.3 Improve the condition of housing stock and public buildings.	P2.3A	<a href="#">Deliver the Planned Maintenance Housing programme over four years</a>	Quarterly	£2,717,193.80	114.10%	111.5%	100% against the annual plan 2020-21	100%	Paul Whittingham, Head of Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	H&CS	
	P2.3B				<a href="#">Develop and deliver the Public Buildings programme over four years</a>	Quarterly	Project Plan for 2020-21 developed	Carried out further surveys on 12 more of the Public Buildings portfolio.	Carried out further surveys on 11 more of the Public Buildings portfolio.	30% of surveys to be undertaken.	100%	Steve Baker, Head of Corporate Property	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M		
	P2.3C				<a href="#">Average time taken to re-let Council homes</a>	Quarterly	Q4 157 days YTD 122 days	Target 21 days - actual 200 days	Target 21 days- actual 190 days	Median Quartile Performance (Benchmark via Housemark)	Median Quartile Performance (Benchmark via Housemark)	Paul Whittingham, Head of Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	H&CS		
	P2.4 Support social mobility to ensure people have the opportunity to access skilled jobs, higher and further education.			P2.4A	<a href="#">South Derbyshire's ranking in the Social Mobility Commission's Social Mobility Index increases</a>	Annual	311	No new data available	Proposed revision to measure due to data non-availability	Develop the Social Mobility Action Plan	Deliver the objectives identified in the South Derbyshire Partnership Social Mobility Action Plan	Mike Roylance, Head of Economic Development and Growth	Frank McArdle, Chief Executive	F&M		
P3. Ensuring consistency in the way the Council deal with service users	P3.1A			<a href="#">Increase the number of customers who interact digitally as a first choice</a>	Quarterly	1,219 Covid-19 business grants forms, 1,262 council tax & benefits forms and 12,343 online web form submissions. <b>14,844 in total (annual figure).</b>	22,242	5,301	>22,242 (upward trend year on year)	Upward Trend	Elizabeth Barton, Head of Customer Services	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M			
	P3.2 Have in place methods of communication that enables customers to provide and receive information.			P3.2A	<a href="#">Reduce face-to-face contact to allow more time to support those customers who need additional support</a>	Quarterly	2,463 enquiries dealt with at Customer Services Desk. Visitors to office 4,490. Please note this was up to 20 March 2020, when offices closed due to Covid-19. <b>Quarter 4 figures.</b>	No visitors due to Covid-19	No visitors due to Covid-19	Downward trend (based on 2019 pre-Covid-19)	Downward trend in Face to Face interactions	Elizabeth Barton, Head of Customer Services	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M		



Priority		Key Aim	Outcome	PI Ref	How success will be measured	Frequency	(Q4) Jan 20 - Mar 20 Outturn	April 2020 - March 2021 (Outturn)	April 21-June 21 (Qtr. 1)	Annual Target 2021-2022	Plan Target 2020-2024	Head of Service	Strategic Lead	Committee
	Working v	P3. Deliver Excellent Services	P3.3 Ensuring technology enables us to effectively connect with our communities.	P3.3A	<a href="#">Number of customer telephone calls answered by Customer Service</a>	Quarterly	Total Calls <b>95,896</b> (cumulative April- March)	98,099	Total calls handled: 26,756	Downward trend <95,896	Downward Trend	Elizabeth Barton, Head of Customer Services	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M
				P3.3B	<a href="#">Increase digital engagement (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook)</a>	Quarterly	Total FACEBOOK fans: 22,440, total TWITTER followers: 11,448, No Instagram account yet, total ALL SOCIAL MEDIA fans: 33,888. Social Media queries: 287	All social media fans:43,850	All social media fans: 44,989.	upward trend	Upward Trend	Fiona Pittam, Head of Organisational Development & Performance	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M
			P3.4 Investing in our workforce	P3.4A	<a href="#">Increase the level of staff engagement</a>	Annual	No Q4 Update. First Staff survey to take place in 20/21.	The employee survey has been postponed until 2021/22	Reported Annually in Q4	Annual Increase in the % of Staff completing the survey	Annual Increase in the % of Staff completing the survey	Fiona Pittam, Head of Organisational Development & Performance	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M
				P3.4B	<a href="#">Number of apprenticeships</a>	Annual	4 (1.2% of head count)	5 (1.47% head count)(New ICT Apprentice, plans in place for others detailed in linked document)	3 (0.9% head count)	>2.3%	>2.3% of head count	Fiona Pittam, Head of Organisational Development & Performance	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M
				P3.4C	<a href="#">Average number of staff days lost due to sickness</a>	Quarterly	10.65 (cumulative April - March)	12.93	2.11 days	Downward trend	Downward Trend	Fiona Pittam, Head of Organisational Development & Performance	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M
				P3.4D	<a href="#">% of employees that consider that the Council has a positive health and safety culture</a>	Annual	No Q4 update for 19/20. First Staff survey to take place in 20/21.	The employee survey has been postponed until 2021/22	Reported Annually in Q4	No annual target	Upward Trend	Fiona Pittam, Head of Organisational Development & Performance	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	F&M
			Our Future	Growing our District and our skills base	F1. Develop skills and careers	F1.1 Attract and retain skilled jobs in the District	F1.1A	<a href="#">Increase the number of employee jobs in South Derbyshire</a>	Annual	32,000	32,000	Reported Annually in Q4	>32,000	Upward Trend
F1.2 Support unemployed residents back into work														
F2. Support economic growth and infrastructure	F2.1 Encourage and support business development and new investment in the District	F2.1A			<a href="#">Annual net growth in new commercial floorspace (sqm)</a>	Annual	2885 sqm	4,140 sqm	Reported Annually in Q4	net annual growth in commercial floorspace of 12,269.5 sqm	net annual growth in commercial floorspace of 12,269.5 sqm	Mike Roylance, Head of Economic Development and Growth	Frank McArdle, Chief Executive	F&M
		F2.1B			<a href="#">Total Rateable Value of businesses in the District</a>	Quarterly	£67,486,786	67,341,926	£87,150,426	>£67,486,786	Upward Trend	Mike Roylance, Head of Economic Development and Growth	Frank McArdle, Chief Executive	F&M
	F2.2 Enable the delivery of housing across all tenures to meet Local Plan targets	F2.2A			<a href="#">Speed of decision on discharging conditions on housing applications</a>	Quarterly	80%	100%	93.7%	90% within 8-13 weeks or as agreed with the applicant	90% within 8-13 weeks or as agreed with the applicant	Steffan Saunders, Head of Planning and Strategic Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS
		F2.2B			<a href="#">% of planning applications determined within the statutory period</a>	Quarterly	93%	98%	91%	>90%	>90%	Steffan Saunders, Head of Planning and Strategic Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS
	F2.3 Influence the improvement of infrastructure to meet the demands of growth.	F2.3A			<a href="#">Secure new facilities and contributions through Section106 to mitigate impacts of development. Achieve all necessary highway, education, healthcare, and recreation contributions</a>	Annual	No Q4 update for 19/20. New indicator, data will be collected from April 2020 onwards as retrospective data is not possible to collect.	94%	Reported Annually in Q4	90%	90%	Steffan Saunders, Head of Planning and Strategic Housing	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	E&DS
	F3. Transforming the Council	F3.1 Provide modern ways of working that support the Council to deliver services to meet changing needs.			F3.1A	<a href="#">Deliver against the Transformation Action Plan</a>	Quarterly	No Q4 update for 19/20. Transformation plan to report from Q1 onwards	Committee report (F&M 29th April) outlines details of the year end position.	The annual plan has been agreed and project teams established or continued to deliver the 2nd year objectives	Deliver 100% against action plan	Deliver 100% against action plan	Anthony Baxter, Head of Business Change and ICT	Kevin Stackhouse, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources
F3.2 Source appropriate commercial investment opportunities for the Council		F3.2A			<a href="#">Develop our approach towards the commercialisation of services which include grants, sponsorship, fees and charges and operating models and increase the income generated from these activities</a>	Quarterly	Preliminary discussion between Operational Services and Finance have taken place, working group and action plan not yet established	See progress in detailed performance report.	Business Transformation has concluded one to one meetings with all HoS to establish baseline and potential commercial opportunities.	deliver 100% against the action plan and sustain an upward trend in income generation	Y1 – Form a working group & Action Plan Y2 – deliver against action plan and sustain an upward trend in revenue	Adrian Lowery, Head of Operational Services	Allison Thomas, Strategic Director, Service Delivery	F&M

# Corporate Plan 2020-2024

## Performance Measure Report Index

### Environmental and Development Services Committee

**Team: Organisational Development and Performance**

**Date: August 2021**

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Our Environment | Our People | Our Future

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# Performance Measure Report Index

## Corporate Plan 2020-2024

### Summary

The Corporate Plan 2020-2024 has 35 Corporate Measures which underpin the Council's three priorities Our Environment, Our People, Our Future.

The following Committees are responsible for overseeing the delivery of the following key aims and outcomes:

Environmental and Development Services Committee (E&DS) are responsible for 12 Corporate measures under the key aims:

- E1. Improve the environment of the District
- E2. Tackle climate change
- E3. Enhance the attractiveness of South Derbyshire
- P2. Supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable
- F2. Support economic growth and infrastructure

Housing and Community Services Committee (H&CS) are responsible for seven Corporate measures under the key aims:

- E3. Enhance the attractiveness of South Derbyshire
- P1. Engage with our communities
- P2. Supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable

Finance and Management Committee (F&M) are responsible for 16 corporate measures under the key aims:

- E3. Enhance the attractiveness of South Derbyshire
- P2. Supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable
- P3. Deliver Excellent Services
- F1. Develop skills and careers
- F2. Support economic growth and infrastructure
- F3. Transforming the Council



# Environmental and Development Services Committee (E&DS) are responsible for the following 12 Corporate measures

## Our Environment

### Measure

- Household waste collected per head of population
- % of collected waste recycled and composted
- Number of fly tipping incidents
- Improve the quality of the District through the Local Environmental Quality Survey
- % of eligible new homes and commercial developments to achieve net gain in Biodiversity by a minimum of 10% compared to the site's predevelopment baseline.
- Reduce South Derbyshire District Council carbon emissions
- % of new homes to meet water efficiency targets as set out in the Part G optional standard of 110 litres of potable water usage per person per day
- Proportion of good quality housing development schemes

## Our People

### Measure

- Continue to undertake interventions per year to keep families out of fuel poverty

## Our Future

### Measure

- Speed of decision on discharging conditions on housing applications
- % of planning applications determined within the statutory period
- Secure new facilities and contributions through Section106 to mitigate impacts of development. Achieve all necessary highway, education, healthcare, and recreation contributions



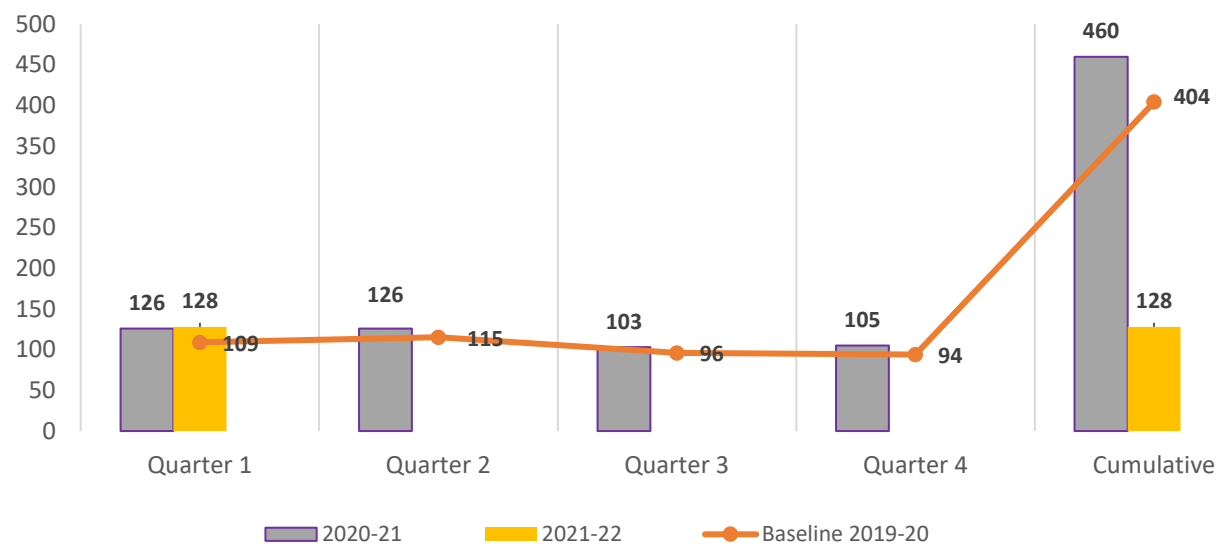
**PRIORITY: OUR ENVIRONMENT**

**OUTCOME: E1.1 Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill**

Measure and Ref	E1.1A- Household waste collected per head of population (kg)			Committee	E&DS
Definition	This indicator is the number of kilograms of household waste collected per head of population.  ‘Household waste’ means those types of waste which are to be treated as household waste as defined by the Environmental Protection Act 1990.			Why this is important	To measure the change in household waste disposal levels as a result of householders’ waste reduction and recycling activities
What good looks like	Top performing authorities outturn <400kgs per year				
History with this indicator	The Council employs 40 staff and utilises 15 vehicles and a number of external contractors to deliver waste collection services.			Mitigating actions	A consultation is being considered to review the way the Council collects household waste, to encourage more recycling in the district.
2019/20 baseline data		The estimated figure reported in Q4 was 407 kgs. This figure has now been validated and the confirmed out turn for Q4 is 404 kgs.			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	Sustain Current levels	126 kgs	250kgs	355kgs	460kgs
2021/22	Sustain Current levels	128kgs*			
2022/23	Downward Trend				
2023/24	Downward Trend				
Performance Overview – Quarterly update				Actions to sustain or improve performance	
*Estimated figure not all tonnage data from recycling activities is available. The figure of 128 kgs is marginally above the figure reported this time last year. The target for 2021/22 is to sustain the current levels. The increase directly relates to the lockdown measures put in place due to the Covid 19 pandemic, in particular more waste being generated at home.				The review of waste collection services completed in quarter 2 in 2020/21 identified a number of service delivery options and identified removal of bring banks and the Saturday freighter service to reduce the amount of waste collected. Consultation on removal of	



### E1.1A Household waste collected per head of population (kgs)



bring banks was completed in June and a report will be prepared for August EDS.

#### Benchmarking

Annual benchmarking will be provided when available through the Government's Wastedataflow reporting tool.

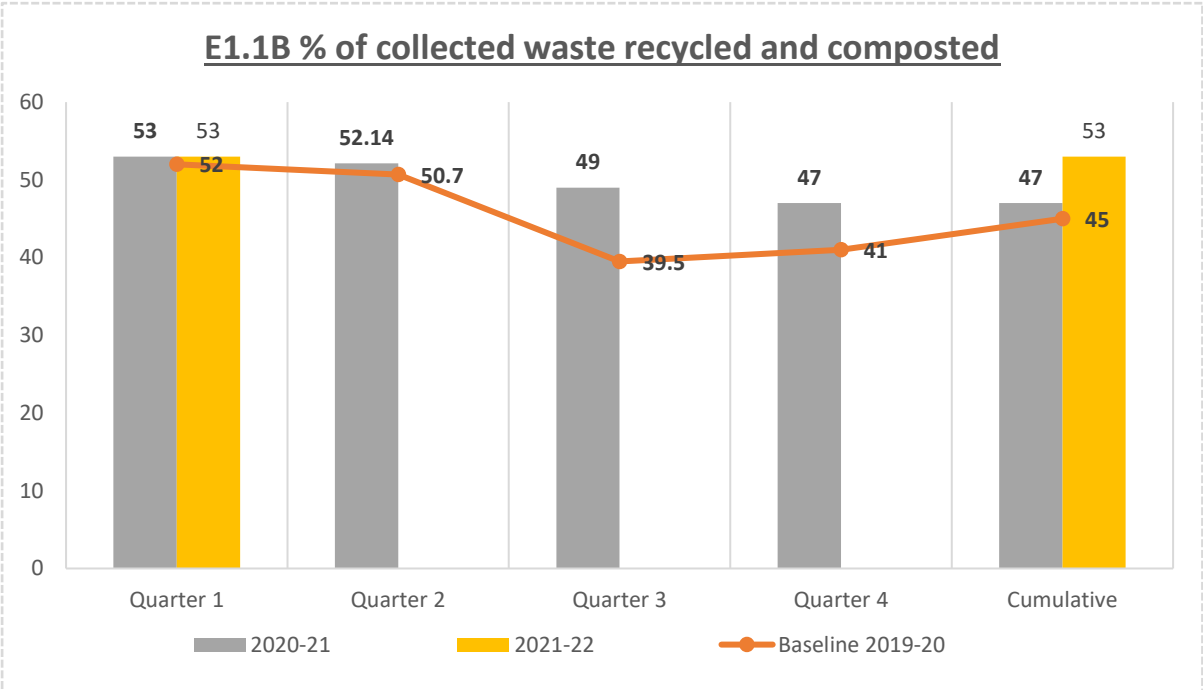


PRIORITY: OUR ENVIRONMENT					
OUTCOME: E.1.1 Reduce waste and increase composting and recycling					
Measure and Ref	E1.1B - % of collected waste recycled and composted			Committee	E&DS
Definition	Kerbside collected household waste is waste presented for collection by households in the black, green and brown bins and the normal alternate week collections.  Recycled or composted is waste presented in the green and brown bins.			Why this is important	To establish the success of the Council’s recycling scheme and to ensure the compost scheme continues to perform
What good looks like	The top performing authorities achieve >60%, the top 25% achieve >50%				
History with this indicator	Currently on a downward trend, the tonnages collected have remained stable, however increasing residual waste is pushing the percentage down.			Mitigating actions	The current contract expires in 2021 and full waste service review will be undertaken in 2020 to establish future delivery standards and delivery model.
2019/20 baseline data		The estimated figure reported in Q4 was 46%. This figure has now been validated and the confirmed out turn for Q4 is 45%.			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	>45%	53%	52%	49%	47%
2021/22	>45%	53%*			
2022/23	>45%				
2023/24	60%				
Performance Overview – Quarterly update				Actions to sustain or improve performance	
*Estimated figure not all tonnage data from recycling activities is available. The outturn for Q1 of 53% is comparable with the same period last year and estimated on a general increase in tonnages of 1.9%. This is mainly due to the increased tonnages collected on the kerbside				The review of waste collection services completed in quarter 2 of 2020/21 identified a number of service delivery options and identified removal of bring banks and the Saturday freighter service to reduce the	



recycling scheme during to the pandemic and further lockdowns. Unfortunately, residual waste tonnages have also risen.

amount of waste collected. Consultation on removal of bring banks was completed in June and a report will be prepared for August EDS.



**Benchmarking**

Annual benchmarking will be provided when available through the Government's Wastedataflow reporting tool.



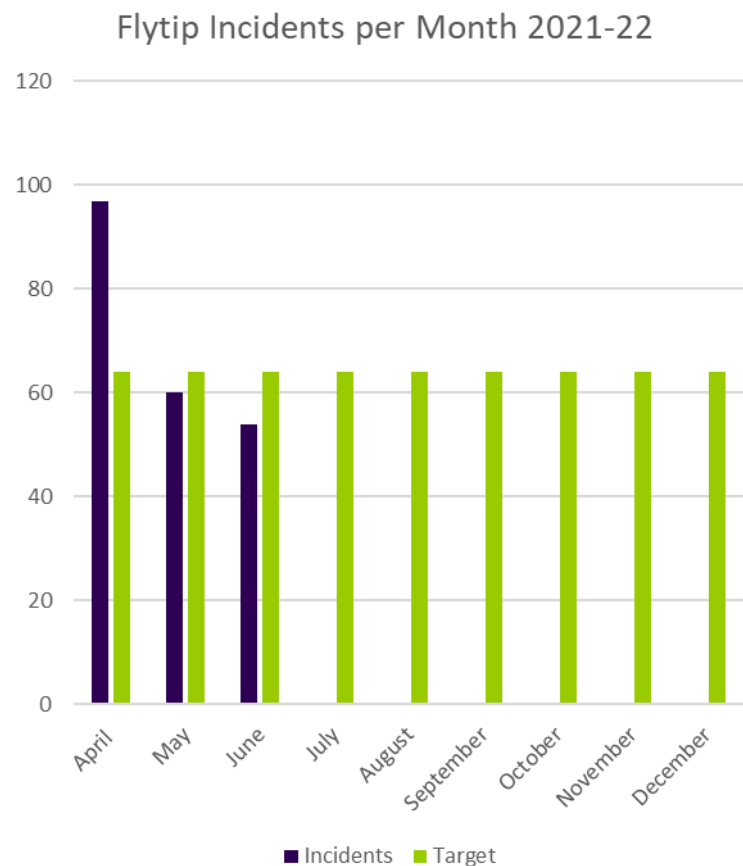
**PRIORITY: OUR ENVIRONMENT**

**OUTCOME: E1.2 - Reduce fly tipping and litter through education, engagement and zero tolerance enforcement action where appropriate**

Measure and Ref	E1.2A - Number of fly tipping incidents					Committee	E&DS		
Definition	A reduction in fly-tipping incidents is defined as a numerical reduction in the sum of the number of fly tipping incidents reported to the Council, plus the number of fly tips proactively collected by Council staff while performing their duties, compared to the reference period.					Why this is important	Prevent an increase in fly-tipping incidents through education, engagement and enforcement action where appropriate		
What good looks like	The purpose of this Indicator is to see a downward trend in fly tipping incidents as a rolling average over the four-year period of the Corporate Plan.					Mitigating actions	A new gate to finally implement the PSPO at Lowes Lane, Swarkestone was installed in August 2020.		
History with this indicator	There have been long term reductions in fly tipping incidents both nationally and locally since 2000, however this trend has reversed in very recent years. Between 2016 and 2019 fly tipping incidents nationally have increased.								
2019/20 baseline data		714 reported incidents							
	Annual target	Q1 Target (Apr-June)	Q1 Outturn (Apr – Jun)	Q2 Target (Apr - Sept)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Target (Apr - Dec)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Target (Apr 20 - Mar 21)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	Downward trend	<179 incidents	260	<357 incidents	528	<536 incidents	732	<714 incidents	1003
2021/22	Downward trend (as a 4-year mean)	<191 incidents	211	<382 incidents (Q1-2)		<573 incidents (Q1-3)		<764 incidents (Q1-4)	
2022/23	Downward trend								
2023/24	Downward trend								
Performance Overview – Quarterly update						Actions to sustain or improve performance			
Fly tipping incidents have markedly increased during COVID-19. Analysis of the location and type of fly tipped material has not identified any clear cause or set of causes which can be readily addressed. Based on the investigations of the Community Safety Enforcement Team an estimated 75% of fly tipping sources and offenders are from outside South Derbyshire. Despite									



the Q1 target being exceeded there are encouraging signs given that incidents dropped significantly during May and June 2021.



#### Benchmarking

There is no formal benchmarking process for fly tipping.





**PRIORITY: OUR ENVIRONMENT**

**OUTCOME: E1.2 Reduce fly tipping and litter through education, engagement and zero tolerance enforcement action where appropriate**

Measure and Ref	E1.2B - Improve the quality of the District through the Local Environmental Quality Survey		Committee	E&DS
Definition	Percentage of inspected areas above a grade C for cleanliness as defined in the government code of Practice for Litter and refuse.		Why this is important	Gives assurance that the cleansing regimes and resources deployed are delivering the Council's service standards.
What good looks like	>95% above grade C			
	This table below provides an overview of the grading:			
	Grade A	No issues present		
	Grade B+	No formal description		
	Grade B	Predominantly free with some minor instances of the issue		
	Grade B-	No formal description		
	Grade C	Widespread with some accumulations of the issue		
	Grade C-	No formal description		
	Grade D	Heavily affected by the issue		
In order to present a fair picture plus and minus grades are used where a location is better than the lower grade but not sufficiently to attain the higher grade.				
History with this indicator	New indicator		Mitigating actions	To be determined following confirmation of baseline data
2019/20 baseline data		89.67% above grade C		



	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	>95%	Reported in Q4	Reported in Q4	Reported in Q1 21/22	Reported in Q1 21/22
2021/22	>95%	94.75%			
2022/23	>95%				
2023/24	>95%				
<u>Performance Overview – quarterly update</u>  The second survey was completed in March 2021. The previous target of 90% was increased to a challenging 95% and this was marginally missed.  A second survey will be undertaken in September 2021.				<u>Actions to sustain or improve performance</u>  Overall, the outturn is very promising and reflects improvements over the previous year’s outturn. Focus will be maintained on areas of concern which are principally detritus. A report on the full survey findings will be prepared for August EDS.	
Benchmarking					



PRIORITY: OUR ENVIRONMENT					
OUTCOME: E1.3 - Enhance biodiversity across the District					
Measure and Ref	E1.3A - % of eligible new homes and commercial developments to achieve net gain in Biodiversity by a minimum of 10% compared to the site’s predevelopment baseline.			Committee	E&DS
Definition	Policy BNE3 of the Local Plan and Chapter 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework seeks to ensure that the impacts of development on biodiversity are minimised and preferably provide net gains. This would be negotiated during the application process			Why this is important	It is likely that soon this will be a statutory requirement. It demonstrates that the Council is being proactive in delivering an aspiration of the Local Plan.
What good looks like	The purpose of the PI is to see the pursuit of net biodiversity gains on all eligible sites otherwise suffering a net loss.				
History with this indicator	Notwithstanding the Council’s ‘encouragement’ of biodiversity gains in the Local Plan, this will be a new government initiative that would make it a statutory requirement.			Mitigating actions	The Council is currently investigating how best to source the expertise necessary.
2019/20 baseline data		Insufficient baseline data available			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	85% (4-year target)	No data	66.7%	66.7%	66.7%
2021/22	85% (4-year target)				
2022/23	85% (4-year target)				
2023/24	85% (4-year target)				
<u>Performance Overview – quarterly update</u>  Only one qualifying application (requires major application with ecology survey and not a variation of a previously approved scheme where a biodiversity impact has been previously accepted) appears to have been determined within this time period. This provided insufficient information to demonstrate the scheme achieved a ‘no net loss’ and there was no condition attached to the permission to secure such, therefore is not counted in the quarter one calculation.  The Council is reliant on Derbyshire Wildlife Trust performing metric calculations until an ecologist is appointed in Cultural and Community Services as part of the implementation of the Service restructure, which is understood not to be until later this year.				<u>Actions to sustain or improve performance</u>  Requires recruitment of ecologist within Cultural and Community Services to carry out assessments. Or alternatively, should capacity be an issue with this post, there may be some work with other authorities across Derbyshire to find a solution due to the amount of work this will create in the long term.	



		Requires legislation/guidance to be issued for methodology and update to Policy to give validity to such requests. Derbyshire Wildlife Trust using established methodology in interim.
<b>Benchmarking</b>	No data	



PRIORITY: OUR ENVIRONMENT					
OUTCOME: E2.1- Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030					
Measure and Ref	E2.1A- Reduce South Derbyshire District Council carbon emissions			Committee	E&DS
Definition	Clear progress with the delivery of the commitments in the South Derbyshire Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021-30 (C&EAP)			Why this is important	To enable emissions from all relevant identified Council sources to be controlled over the Corporate Plan timeframe
What good looks like	Delivery of the commitments in the C&EAP within the approved timescales				
History with this indicator	The first C&EAP (2020-24) was approved in Jan 2020. Nine committed actions were implemented in 2020/21, consisting of the completion of four actions and the commencement of five long term projects.			Mitigating actions	
2019/20 baseline data		The baseline carbon emissions from SDDC activities have been calculated as 2,500 tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> e in 2018/19			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	9 actions complete	3 actions complete	6 actions complete	9 actions all in progress and on track	Zero further actions for Q4. All actions for the year have been completed or are long term actions which are on-track
2021/22	Produce and implement Climate and Environment report	Q1 Target – EDS approval of the 2021-30 C&EAP. Achieved	Q2 Target – Commencement of an overall performance tracking system for the committed actions for each Head of Service	Q3 – Produce and implement a Head of Service Q3 Climate and Environment report that tracks performance against quantified targets and outturns	Q4 – Produce and implement a Head of Service Q4 Climate and Environment report that tracks performance against quantified targets and outturns
2022/23					
2023/24					
Performance Overview – quarterly update				Actions to sustain or improve performance	
The Council’s new <a href="#">Climate and Environment Action Plan</a> was approved by EDS Committee on 27 May 2021					



<b>Benchmarking</b>	One of the commitments in the Action Plan is to review the content and quality of the Plan against best practice guidance produced by third parties.
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PRIORITY: OUR ENVIRONMENT					
OUTCOME: E2.2 - Work with residents, businesses and partners to reduce their carbon footprint					
Measure and Ref	E2.2A - % of new homes to meet water efficiency targets as set out in the Part G optional standard of 110 litres of potable water usage per person per day			Committee	E&DS
Definition	Part G of the Building Regulations sets out an optional standard for potable water conservation which is reiterated in Policy SD3 of the Local Pan. A planning condition will be attached to all new permissions to pursue adherence to this standard (where relevant)			Why this is important	Local infrastructure and environmental constraints require the need for the Council to contribute to the suppression of water demand and hence wastewater discharges across the district.
What good looks like					
History with this indicator	No history			Mitigating actions	Through the use of planning conditions attached to planning permissions
2019/20 baseline data		50% based on 2019/20 Q4			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	85%	78%	89%	100%	100%
2021/22	85%	70.5%			
2022/23	85%				
2023/24	85%				
<u>Performance Overview – quarterly update</u>				<u>Actions to sustain or improve performance</u>	
This figure has dropped significantly from the improving trend of the last quarter, possibly due to staff shortages and the turnover of staff. Room for improvement across the spectrum of applications. Colleagues to be reminded of the need to be mindful of this in their drafting of reports and signing officers to ensure checked for such.				Officer training/memory prompt combined with further software development to automate inclusion of conditions.	
Benchmarking		No data.			



**PRIORITY: OUR ENVIRONMENT**

**OUTCOME: E3.2 - Improve public spaces to create an environment for people to enjoy**

Measure and Ref	E3.2B - Proportion of good quality housing development schemes			Committee	E&DS
Definition	The % of new residential developments that score well against the Council’s quality criteria based on latest Building for Life standards and the National Design Guide, which measure several aspects of the quality of a development (including the provision and quality of public spaces).			Why this is important	This PI directly measures how good the quality of developments are and therefore whether it is more likely to result in an improvement to the quality of open and other spaces.
What good looks like					
History with this indicator	This PI will differ from the similar PI which only looked at an earlier Building for Life standard. In previous years, the 90% target was often met and where not, only marginally missed.			Mitigating actions	Through the employment of a design specialist in the Planning Delivery Teams and extra training for all development management (planning) staff.
2019/20 baseline data		Annual score of 92% based on old methodology – to be reported annually in Q4			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	90%				
2021/22	90%				
2022/23	90%				
2023/24	90%				
<u>Performance Overview – quarterly update</u>				<u>Actions to sustain or improve performance.</u>	
Data unavailable due to the Senior Planning Design Officer post being vacant since October 2020.				Revisions to assessment methodology to allow for smaller schemes to be measured. Continued training and peer review of schemes.	
There was an initial unsuccessful recruitment effort for the Senior Design Officer role. However, an appointment has now been made with a confirmed start date of 5 August 2021. One of the first tasks will be to update this performance indicator.					
Benchmarking		No data.			





**PRIORITY: OUR PEOPLE**

**OUTCOME: P2.1 - With partners encourage independent living and keep residents healthy and happy in their homes**

Measure	P2.1B - Continue to undertake interventions per year to keep families out of fuel poverty					Committee	E&DS		
Definition	Number of interventions made by the Council (and partners over whom the Council has influence) to improve fuel efficiency in residential properties.					Why this is important	Fuel poverty is a public health observatory key performance indicator and reflects both the thermal efficiency of housing stock and the affluence of the population		
What good looks like	Increasing the numbers of fuel efficiency interventions in order to directly contribute to reductions in the numbers of families in fuel poverty.					Mitigating actions			
History with this indicator	The Council has never previously collated data on the different measures taken to take families out of fuel poverty.								
2019/20 baseline data		It is estimated that 7.9% (equivalent to 3,393 properties) of households in South Derbyshire are in fuel poverty (based on public health observatory statistics) and that in 2019/20 an estimated 90 interventions were made to help residents reduce fuel poverty							
	Annual target	Q1 Target (Apr-June)	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Target (Apr - Sept)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Target (Apr - Dec)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Target (Apr 20 - Mar 21)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	300 interventions	125 interventions	111 interventions	85 interventions	105 interventions	35 interventions	31 interventions	55 interventions	29 interventions
2021/22	210 interventions	30 interventions	30 interventions	105 interventions		40 interventions		35 interventions	
2022/23	To be set at year end 2020								
2023/24	To be set at year end 2020								
Performance Overview – quarterly update						Actions to sustain or improve performance			
2021/22 Type of Intervention Completed									
Nature of Intervention			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total		
Health Homes grant			5				5		
Regulatory Intervention			19				19		



Healthy Homes Assistance Fund & Hospital Discharge Fund	1				1	
EPC enforcement	0				0	
Green Homes Grant / HUG	0				0	
Flood Resilience Grant	5				5	
Other					0	
SUM	30	0	0	0	30	
Benchmarking	There is no national, regional or local data against which we can benchmark this indicator					



**PRIORITY: OUR FUTURE**

**OUTCOME: F2.2 - Enable the delivery of housing across all tenures to meet Local Plan targets**

Measure and Ref	F2.2A - Speed of decision on discharging conditions for housing applications			Committee	E&DS
Definition	The purpose of the performance indicator is to measure the percentage of planning condition applications determined in the statutory period of eight or 13 weeks or as may be otherwise agreed with applicants.			Why this is important	Unnecessary delays in the determination of applications holds up the delivery of development and therefore a potential disincentive to inward investment
What good looks like	All applications determined as soon as possible without compromising quality.				
History with this indicator	New			Mitigating actions	A recent service review introduced new and improving performance management processes and software
2019/20 baseline data		80% based on Q4 (up to 85% if including first 27 days of 2020/21 Q1, following new procedure with team)			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	90% within 8-13 weeks	100%	100%	100%	100%
2021/22	90% within 8-13 weeks	93.7%			
2022/23	90% within 8-13 weeks				
2023/24	90% within 8-13 weeks				
<b><u>Performance Overview – quarterly update</u></b>  Despite pressures on planning delivery resources, the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and difficulties in obtaining timely responses from consultees, proactive dialogue with applicants has seen decisions issued in time and/or with agreed extension to determination periods in the overwhelming majority of instances with only one decision this quarter being taken ‘out of time.				<b><u>Actions to sustain or improve performance</u></b>  Key staff to see indicator feature in annual Personal Development Reviews. Team Leaders regularly monitoring performance. Recruitment to the Team Leader role imperative to keep up to date monitoring in place.	
Benchmarking					



**PRIORITY: OUR FUTURE**

**OUTCOME: F2.2 - Enable the delivery of housing across all tenures to meet Local Plan targets**

Measure and Ref	F2.2B - % of planning applications determined within the statutory period			Committee	E&DS
Definition	The purpose of the performance indicator is to measure the percentage of planning applications determined in the statutory period of eight or 13 weeks or as may be otherwise agreed with applicants.			Why this is important	Unnecessary delays in the determination of planning applications holds up the delivery of development and therefore a potential disincentive to inward investment
What good looks like	All applications determined as soon as possible without compromising quality.				
History with this indicator	Generally, the Council has performed well for most recent years against a notional target of 90%			Mitigating actions	A recent service review introduced new and improving performance management processes and software
2019/20 baseline data		93%			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	90%	94%	99%	98%	98%
2021/22	90%	91%			
2022/23	90%				
2023/24	90%				
<b><u>Performance Overview – quarterly update</u></b>				<b><u>Actions to sustain or improve performance</u></b>	
Whilst slightly lower than in previous quarters, we continue to work just above the annual target. A small number of applications have been determined outside of their statutory timeframes due possibly to sheer number of applications and one of the assistants’ posts being vacant during the majority of this time. Interviews have been carried out for this role and an appointment made with an imminent start date.				Further software development to improve efficiency of processes, etc. Continued performance monitoring of individual staff and workloads. Resourcing of the Development Management Team has been an issue, although it is hoped the department will be fully staffed by September.	
Benchmarking					



**PRIORITY: OUR FUTURE**

**OUTCOME: F2.3 - Influence the improvement of infrastructure to meet the demands of growth.**

Measure and Ref	F2.3A - Secure new facilities and contributions through Section106 to mitigate impacts of development. Achieve all necessary highway, education, healthcare, and recreation contributions			Committee	E&DS
Definition	Statute allows the Council to seek financial and other contributions from developments to mitigate the impact of the development on public infrastructure subject to viability of individual developments.			Why this is important	Without some contribution towards mitigating the impact of new developments, infrastructure would have to accommodate the extra load without direct funding to bear the burden
What good looks like	Securing all proven necessary mitigation to accommodate new developments				
History with this indicator	New			Mitigating actions	Negotiation through Section 106 agreements subject to compliance with the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations 2010 and Local Plan policy
2019/20 baseline data		New indicator, data will be collected from April 2020 onwards as retrospective data is not possible to collect.			
	Annual target	Q1 Outturn (Apr-June)	Q2 Outturn (Apr - Sept)	Q3 Outturn (Apr - Dec)	Q4 Outturn (Apr 20 - Mar 21)
2020/21	90%				94%
2021/22	90%				
2022/23	90%				
2023/24	90%				
<u>Performance Overview</u>  The annual target has been achieved. It should be noted however that the margins for this indicator are very tight; the numerically low number of obligations generated within a calendar year means that just one obligation can make a difference of 6% or more.				<u>Actions to sustain or improve performance</u>  No change required to current processes.	
Benchmarking					



## SERVICE DELIVERY RISK REGISTER (AS AT Q1 2021/22)

Appendix C

Risk	Rating and current position	Risk treatment	Mitigating actions	Change since last quarter	Risk Owner
SD1 - Loss of income to the Housing Revenue Account	Rent reduction controls relaxed and rent increase now in place. Reduction of income through the Impact of COVID19 on Universal Credit (UC) claims is now greater.  Likelihood is high and impact is now moderate	Treat the risk through continuous action and review.	A revised Income Management Policy has been approved by Housing and Community Services Committee and new operational/ IT procedures implemented.  Increased focus on collection of rent and other housing debt.  New dwellings mitigate revenue lost through Right to Buy (RTB). New Builds can still be purchased under (RTB) after three years for Secure Tenancies.  The uptake of UC has continued to rise sharply through the pandemic. The impact on Council tenants' arrears increased and has now levelled out.  The Housing Service has made operational changes to deal with this increase which have been subject to a successful audit review.	No change to rating or mitigating actions	Housing Services
SD2 - Failure to collect financial contributions or to enforce the delivery of obligations within Section 106 Agreements.	Failure to collect financial contributions or to enforce obligations within Section 106 Agreements. Slight increase in likelihood of requests to defer payments or review viability of development schemes in response to COVID-19 impacts.  Likelihood is unlikely but the impact is significant.	Treat the risk through continuous action and review.	Implementation of new software is now complete.  Team Leader overseeing the process with dedicated officer monitoring and reviewing progress of agreements relating to 'live' sites.  The Service has been recently audited and has put in place actions to address the minor recommendations.  Continued use of District Valuer in vetting additional requests for viability review. Discretion over enforcement or payment plans can ensure collection of fees over longer period if cashflow a problem for developers.  <a href="#">Page 34 of 236</a>	No change to rating or mitigating actions	Planning and Strategic Housing

			Once S106 funds are received, Planning Policy team send regular reminders to colleagues including external bodies to minimise the risk of S106 money going unspent.		
SD3 – Safety standards	<p>Failure to comply with basic safety standards in flats/blocks with communal areas.</p> <p>Work has been undertaken to put specialist fire asbestos, legionella contracts in place.</p> <p>Likelihood is medium and impact has potential to be significant.</p>	Treat the risk through continuous action and review.	<p>Revised and updated Housing Safety policies were agreed by Housing and Community Services Committee in November 2020 for safety regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire</li> <li>• Lift</li> <li>• Electrical</li> <li>• Gas</li> <li>• Asbestos</li> <li>• Legionella</li> </ul> <p>A recent Internal Audit of Housing Safety has confirmed that the systems in place provide “reasonable assurance” in this area.</p> <p>Contracts are in place to deliver property improvements for all aspects of property safety.</p>	No change to rating or mitigating actions	Housing Services
SD4 – Universal Credit	<p>Loss of income to the Housing Revenue Account through full roll out of Universal Credit (UC) from November 2018.</p> <p>There is still uncertainty as to the financial impact of this, but the Council has plans in place working with internal/ external stakeholders to manage this process.</p> <p>Likelihood is high and the impact is moderate.</p>	Treat the risk through continuous action and review.	<p>Welfare Reform Group, including key internal/external partners, meets on a monthly basis to manage roll-out against an agreed action plan.</p> <p>Invested in I.T. solutions to maximise opportunities to collect income and support those in financial difficulty.</p> <p>The Impact of COVID19 on Council tenants has seen a rise in the number of UC Claimants although the rate of increase slowed as lockdown was eased.</p> <p>Delays in UC payments have led to a rise in rent arrears. The Housing Service, in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), has made operational changes to mitigate this risk. The increase in rent arrears during the pandemic has now begun to level out.</p>	No change to rating or mitigating actions	Housing Services

<p>SD5 – Reduction in funding for Cultural and Community Services</p>	<p>Reduction of Council funding into Cultural and Community Services. Unable to source external funding to service.</p> <p>There is likely to be additional funding needed to replace income lost through Covid-19.</p> <p>Likelihood is moderate and the impact is moderate</p>	<p>Treat the risk through continuous action and review of funding streams and Cultural and Community Services Restructure.</p>	<p>Forward budget planning over a number of years. Approvals for reserve spend to secure staffing positions up to March 2022 initially for Active Communities.</p> <p>Maintain current funding contribution that the Council makes towards the Active Communities service.</p> <p>The Council receives an annual agreement from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for £25,000 per year Community Safety Funding.</p> <p>The Council receives £35,000 per year Basic Command Unit funding from the Chief Superintendent. This is received annually with no long-term commitment.</p> <p>Rolls Royce new three-year sponsorship of the Environmental Education Project confirmed.</p> <p>Continually seek external funding opportunities to support service delivery. This will extend to Covid-19 new funding pots.</p> <p>Successful partnership funding has been achieved with the Green Social Prescribing Programme.</p> <p>Government Funding for the Leisure Centres has been received.</p> <p>Monthly assessment of income lost through Covid-19 restrictions on service.</p>	<p>No change to rating. Mitigating actions for approvals for reserve spend amended from March 2021</p>	<p>Cultural and Community Services</p>
<p>SD6 - Ageing infrastructure at Rosliston Forestry Centre</p>	<p>Need to upgrade Infrastructure at Rosliston Forestry Centre.</p> <p>Regular meetings held at operational and strategic levels with the Forestry Commission.</p> <p>Likelihood is moderate but the impact would be moderate.</p>	<p>Treat the risk through continuous action and review.</p>	<p>Condition survey updated as part of procurement exercise for new contractor.</p> <p>Focus on implementing infrastructure requirements identified in external consultant's report.</p> <p>Capital Programme bid successful with the majority of the projects needed supported.</p> <p>Work commenced on the delivery of capital projects.</p>	<p>No change to rating or mitigating actions</p>	<p>Cultural and Community Services</p>



			<p>Collaboration with Head of Corporate Property on improvements to the Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM).</p> <p>Engage tenants and keep Senior Leadership Team informed</p> <p>Covid-19 pandemic has enabled an opportunity to do some minor health and safety works whilst the site was closed to the public.</p> <p>Vision for site to be reviewed in light of the pandemic.</p>		
SD7 - Failure to meet housing delivery targets set out in the five-year supply.	<p>Failure to meet housing delivery targets.</p> <p>Local Plan is in place which sets out the five-year supply. Latest monitoring for 19/20 indicates the Council was performing above target.</p> <p>Likelihood is low but could move to moderate in light of COVID-19 impacts pushing delivery back in the Plan period, but the impact would be significant.</p>	Treat the risk through continuous action and review.	<p>Monitoring/review of performance ongoing.</p> <p>Active pursuit of schemes and opportunities. Increased focus on facilitating prompt commencement of development.</p> <p>Develop action plan(s) where necessary.</p> <p>Current five-year housing land supply rate at 5.76 years - most sites started are building at a rate above that originally anticipated such that c.1300 were completed in 2019/20 - work to accelerate progress on two sites continues.</p> <p>Support government proposals to offer flexibility in supply and delivery requirements considering COVID-19 effects.</p>	No change to rating or mitigating actions	Planning and Strategic Housing
SD9– Melbourne Sports Park	<p>Failure to deliver against external funder requirements at the Melbourne Sports Park (MSP). Ongoing discussions with national funders.</p> <p>MSP negatively affected by Covid-19 with no income generation for 3+ months. Some external grants success to support this impact but not all.</p>	Treat the risk through continuous action and review.	<p>Regular Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) Steering Group meetings.</p> <p>Matter under regular review at MSP Board meetings. Key funder in attendance at AGP steering group meetings.</p> <p>MSP Board not meeting business plan income targets so close monitoring required.</p> <p>Scheme to deliver additional car parking on site completed. Drainage scheme on MSP site and adjacent landowners complete. Improved rugby pitches playability should increase income generation from bar and catering.</p>	No change to rating, mitigating actions updated.	Cultural and Community Services

	Likelihood is low /medium, but the impact would be significant.		Work on three new tennis courts completed. Improvements to third rugby pitch and training area underway. These projects will aid future viability.		
SD11– Tree Management	<p>Failure to manage the Council's tree stock in line with adopted Tree Management policy.</p> <p>Likelihood is low but the impact would be significant.</p>	Treat the risk through continuous action and review.	<p>Review of approved Tree Management Policy completed. New Tree Strategy and Policy planned to go to Committee in Autumn 2021.</p> <p>Zurich Municipal has provided support to assess the Council's risk on the Tree policy prior to going to Committee for approval.</p> <p>Implementation of the Cultural and Community Services restructure will enable greater staff resources for tree work.</p>	No change to rating, mitigating actions updated.	Cultural and Community Services
SD12 –Ageing Infrastructure at Greenbank Leisure Centre	Infrastructure at Greenbank Leisure Centre including pipework to pool and roof structure needs investment.	Treat the risk through continuous action and review	<p>Building condition survey is being updated and a planned maintenance programme put in place by Head of Corporate Property.</p> <p>Complete the necessary works identified in external consultant's report.</p> <p>Improvements made to pool pipework and roof.</p> <p>Ensure that there is capital funding to complete the necessary works.</p>	No change to rating or mitigating actions	Cultural and Community Services
SD14- Performance of kerbside recycling contractor	The sub-contractor collecting materials on behalf of the recycling contractor went into liquidation in February. The Council implemented contingency plans and the collections are now being delivered by the Council. The recycling contractor continues to deal with the collected materials and is committed to undertake this role until the contract end date.	Treat the risk through continuous action and review	<p>The Council has stepped-in to deliver the collection element of the contract at short notice. Additional vehicles have been hired and agency workers employed. Contingency Plans should be sufficient to deliver the service with minimal disruption for the foreseeable future. Interim arrangements beyond the current contract term are being developed as per Committee's endorsement. The uncertainty around recycle reprocessing costs could result in costs to the Council escalating. Progress is being made on the tender process for a replacement contractor.</p>	No change to rating, mitigating actions updated.	Operational Services

			Recycling contract is out to tender and submissions will be evaluated in Q2, with a report on outcomes going to a special F&M Committee in August.		
SD15 Leisure Centres	Due to the National Lockdowns and control of coronavirus measures there is a risk that the Council's Leisure Centre provider can no longer sustain its business.	Treat the risk through continuous action and review	Application to Government for National Leisure Recovery Fund successful and distribution being arranged. Monthly assessment of Leisure Provider's finances and assessment of Council support through monthly contract meetings. Contingency plans are also being developed should the contractor not be in a position to deliver the contract at short notice. Final settlement of financial negotiations during Covid closure nearly complete.	No change to rating, mitigating actions updated.	Cultural and Community Services

	SERVICE DELIVERY RISK MATRIX			
Likelihood				
4 High		SD1, SD4, SD15		
3 Medium		SD5	SD3, SD12,	
2 Low		SD6	SD7, SD9, SD11	
1 Unlikely		SD14	SD2	
	1 Minor	2 Moderate	3 Significant	4 Catastrophic
	Impact			

#### Risk Description

**SD1** Loss of income to the Housing Revenue Account

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**SD2** Failure to collect financial contributions/enforce obligations within S106 Agreements.

- SD3** Safety standards
- SD4** Universal Credit
- SD5** Reduction in funding for Cultural and Community Services
- SD6** Ageing infrastructure at Rosliston Forestry Centre
- SD7** Failure to meet housing delivery targets set out in the five-year supply.
- SD9** Melbourne Sports Park
- SD11** Tree Management
- SD12** Green Bank Leisure Centre
- SD14** Performance of kerbside recycling contractor
- SD15** Leisure Centres

## Appendix D - Template Risk Register

REF	RISK TITLE & DESCRIPTION	RISK CAUSE	RISK IMPACT	RISK CATEGORY  Strategic Resource Operational Financial Knowledge management Compliance, Partnership	Current Risk Rating (See table below for guidance)			CONTROLS IN PLACE TO MITIGATE THE RISK	Risk Rating after mitigations (See table below for guidance)			FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED	SUMMARY OF CHANGE SINCE LAST QUARTER	RISK OWNER
					LIKELIHOOD	IMPACT	RISK RATING		LIKELIHOOD	IMPACT	RISK RATING			
CR1	Universal Credit (UC)	The implementation of UC could have an impact on resources in Benefits and Customer Services.	<p>UC is being rolled out on a phased basis for working age claimants. During 2019/20, this started to have a much bigger impact with claims for HB reducing by over 30%. However, the overall volume of work has broadly stayed the same as changes in UC are impacting on the Council's Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS).</p> <p>More recently, the impact of Covid-19 has increased claims under the CTRS.</p>	Financial	4	3		<p>Greater automation is currently being progressed to process change of circumstances.</p> <p>The Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme is being redesigned to make it easier to understand and administer. Proposals for a new scheme, in principle, were originally planned for June 2020. However, due to Covid-19, this has been delayed until next year.</p> <p>Where spare capacity arises, off-site support, which is used to deal with peaks in workload, will be transferred in-house to utilise spare capacity.</p>	4	2		When future vacancies arise, these will be reviewed in the light of the longer-term position.		Head of Customer Services
CR2	Fraudulent activities	The possibility of fraud being undetected.	<p>National studies show fraud leads to a significant loss of resources within the Public Sector as a whole. The likelihood is considered high because fraud has been detected and prevented locally.</p> <p>In addition, authorities are being asked to be extra vigilant due to the potential for fraud to increase during Covid-19.</p>	Financial	4	3		<p>Public agencies such as the DWP and HMRC increasingly share data with local authorities on a real time basis. This allows compliance checks to take place to spot and eliminate the potential for fraud and error in a timely manner.</p> <p>The Council works in partnership with another Derbyshire authority to share a software package that enables data matching in Council Tax and Business Rates.</p> <p>Single Person Discount checks on Council Tax are also regularly undertaken.</p> <p>In addition, the Council has a Shared Service Arrangement with Derby City Council which delivers a dedicated Fraud Unit. This Unit is resourced to prevent and detect fraud across all services, including raising awareness amongst Council Officers.</p> <p>The Fraud Unit have an annual work programme which is considered and approved by the Audit Sub-Committee. Outcomes are also reported to the Audit Committee.</p>	4	2		The Fraud Unit have an annual work programme which is considered and approved by the Audit Sub-Committee. Outcomes are also reported to the Audit Committee.		Head of Customer Services

## Risk Matrix Template

The table below outlines how the impact and likelihood of the risk is scored using the threshold and description as guidance.

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Very High (4)</b>	4	8	12	16	12-16	<b>Significant Risk</b>
	<b>High (3)</b>	3	6	9	12	6-9	<b>Medium Risk</b>
	<b>Medium (2)</b>	2	4	6	8	1 - 4	<b>Low Risk</b>
	<b>Low (1)</b>	1	2	3	4		
		<b>Remote (1)</b>	<b>Possible (2)</b>	<b>Probable (3)</b>	<b>Highly Probable (4)</b>		
		<b>Likelihood</b>					

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Thresholds and Description</b>
1 – Low	Limited impact on service objectives if any, section objectives unlikely to be met, financial loss less than £500k, no media attention
2 – Medium	Slight delay in achievement of service objectives, minor injuries, financial loss over £500k, adverse local media attention, breaches of local procedures
3 – High	Significant threat to council objectives. Non-statutory duties not achieved, permanent injury, financial loss over £1million, negative national media attention, litigation expected, serious issues raised through inspection, breakdown of confidence of partners.
4 – Very high	Objectives cannot be delivered. Statutory duties not achieved, death, financial loss over £5million, adverse national media attention, litigation almost certain, prosecutions, breaches of law, inspection highlights inadequate service, council unable to work with partner organisation
<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Thresholds and Description</b>
1 – Remote	May occur only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. once in 10 years)
2 – Possible	Unlikely to occur but could at some time (e.g. once in 3 years)
3 – Probable (in 2 years)	Fairly likely to occur at some time or under certain circumstances (e.g. once in 2 years)
4 – Highly probable (in 12 months)	Will probably occur at some time or in most circumstances (e.g. once in 12 months)

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM:6</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – SERVICE DELIVERY</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS’ CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>ADRIAN LOWERY, 5764, <a href="mailto:adrian.lowery@southderbyshire.gov.uk">adrian.lowery@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a></b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SURVEY 2021</b>	
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS09</b>

## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Committee notes the content of the Local Environmental Quality Survey report attached at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 1.2 That the Committee approves an additional survey to take place in September/October 2021.
- 1.3 That the Committee agrees future performance information from the Local Environmental Quality Surveys is included within the Corporate Plan Performance Reports.

## **2.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To inform the Committee of the outcome from the second Local Environmental Quality Survey undertaken by Keep Britain Tidy.

## **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 Keep Britain Tidy was appointed to undertake a Local Environmental Quality Survey for South Derbyshire. The survey took place in January 2021, with the report completed at the end of March 2021.
- 3.2 The surveys were based on the old National Indicator NI195, used by the Audit Commission to compare Local Environmental Quality as part its Comprehensive Performance Assessment of local authorities under the government’s Best Value regime. 300 sites were surveyed, covering ten land use types based on the Code of Practice for Litter and Refuse.
- 3.3 Survey sites are a 50m section of the street or area, referred to as a transect, with all public property within that site being considered.

- 3.4 The survey in South Derbyshire assessed the four key elements Litter, Detritus, Graffiti and Flyposting. Weeds and Dog fouling were additional elements surveyed at the request of the Council.
- 3.5 To assess the standards on each site, each indicator was assigned a grade. The grading system follows the same principles as the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse which identifies four grades of cleanliness: A, B, C and D. This survey uses these plus an additional three intermediate grades, giving a total of seven grades as detailed in the table below. The intermediate grades are not individually defined; put simply, if cleansing at any given site is not at an A standard, but is performing better than a B standard, it would be identified as a B+.

Grade	Description
A	None of the issues present
B+	Not formally defined
B	Predominantly free with some minor instances of the issue
B-	Not formally defined
C	Widespread with some accumulations of the issue
C-	Not formally defined
D	Heavily affected by the issue

- 3.6 According to the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse, any grade below a B grade is classed as being below an acceptable standard of LEQ.
- 3.7 The grades have been processed and presented in an NI195-style format. This is a percentage of sites which are below an acceptable standard, i.e. below a B grade. In keeping with the old NI195 monitoring methodology, any site receiving a B- grade is given a half-weighting, so only half of all sites graded B- will count towards the score, whereas all sites graded C, C- or D receive 'full' weighting. This allows for the fact that sites which are given a B- grade are only just below an acceptable standard and are not as bad as a C grade.
- 3.8 The split of Land Uses surveyed in South Derbyshire are shown in the table below. It is important to consider these sample sizes when reviewing the breakdown of NI195-style scores by Land Use. A number of Land Uses have small samples (below 30) which can mean a particular element can look like it has a significant issue in South Derbyshire but due to the sample size it may only affect a few survey sites.

Land Type	Use	Definition	Number
Main	Retail and Commercial	Consists of the main town and city retail and commercial centres. Urban tourist 'hot spots' which are wholly or partially separated from a main town or city retail and commercial centre are also included in this land use. Main Retail and Commercial areas contain a choice of outlets in a range of different retail and commercial sectors (such as fashion clothing,	7



	financial services, restaurants, bars and entertainment), and will include national and international brand names. Normally, there is also a range of public facilities, including libraries, museums, law courts and places of worship.	
Other Retail and Commercial	Covers retail and commercial areas which are primarily located outside main city and town retail and commercial centres (but excludes out-of-town or edge-of-town 'retail park/retail shed' developments, which are included with industry, warehousing and science parks). Other Retail and Commercial areas usually contain a range of facilities that mainly meet the needs of local residents. Most premises contain individual private businesses, sometimes branches of regional chains (such as bakers), and occasionally national brand names. They can also be home to civic facilities, areas of office and hotel development, and areas of mixed retail, office, hotel and entertainment uses.	11
High Obstruction Housing	Housing areas where the proportion of dwellings with purpose-built off-street parking facilities is less than or equal to 50%. Can also include occasional small retail premises, offices, manufacturing, and warehousing sites. Includes various housing types, such as: - terraced housing - alleyways behind and between housing areas where there is direct access to properties - flats and maisonettes with only limited off-street parking - semi-detached and short terraced dwellings with limited or no purpose made off-street vehicle parking, or parking provision which is not large enough for the use of modern vehicles.	24
Medium Obstruction Housing	Housing areas where more than 50% of dwellings have purpose-made off-street parking/garaging facilities for up to two modern-day family cars. This land use includes housing types such as: - private housing, often where passageways at the side of houses are too narrow for most current-day cars - council housing originally built with no off-street parking, where limited off-street parking has since been provided for some properties - modern developments with limited off-street parking - modern developments of flats with parking underneath - terraced housing with garage facilities or rear access parking for up to two cars.	64
Low	Housing areas where more than 50% of properties	87

Obstruction Housing	<p>have purpose-made off-road garaging/parking within the property boundary for three or more cars. In these areas, there is generally a low risk of obstruction to mechanical channel sweeping operations.</p> <p>The space available should be capable of accommodating all the parking requirements of residents (including, where applicable, boats and caravans, etc.) and most of the demand from visitors to the premises.</p> <p>This category includes maisonettes and flats, as long as the parking is contained within the property boundary. In low obstruction housing areas, it is likely that there will be few or no vehicles parked on-street, and significant on-street parking is the exception rather than the rule.</p>	
Main Roads	Main Roads are all 'A' roads. However, if a main road is situated within Main Retail and Commercial, Other Retail and Commercial, or High Obstruction Housing area, then that transect should be recorded as that land use and not as a Main Road, due to the potential obstruction caused.	22
Rural Roads	This class comprises of all highways that are located outside built-up areas and are not included in the Main Roads or Other Highways land use classes, whether 'rural' in character or not.	20
Industry and Warehousing	Includes industrial and warehousing developments, out-of-town retail parks (including food and non-food developments), and science parks (containing offices, laboratories and manufacturing processes). The following sub-types would be classified as 'industry, warehousing, retail sheds and science parks' sites: classic estates primarily dedicated to heavy industry and warehousing, retail sheds and areas with large retail units, hospitals, business/science parks and campus (such as university or college properties).	9
Other Highways	Formal lay-bys, informal lay-bys, stub roads, underpasses, footbridges, un-metalled bridleways, metalled bridleways, narrow routes and alleyways, cycle ways and 'other' - this includes any other highway which is not listed above.	23
Recreation Areas	Is a combination of public open space and watersides. 'Public open space' includes parks, recreation areas, grassed areas, picnic sites, and paved areas (which are not classed as either main or other retail or commercial locations). Officially signed and/or marked public footpaths and deconsecrated cemeteries should also be included in this land use category. 'Watersides' includes all	33

	publicly accessible areas adjacent to ponds, lakes, reservoirs, canals, rivers and estuaries.	
Grand Total		300

3.9 South Derbyshire again achieved excellent scores for low levels of Graffiti and Flyposting, weeds and Dog Fouling with 1% or less failure for these elements. The level of litter was 5% of survey sites failing. Detritus was the worst performing element of the survey at 11.11%.

3.10 The surveyors noted that some Rural Roads had been affected by recent flooding bringing slit and mud onto the road exacerbating the problem.

### **Litter**

3.11 Out of the 300 sites surveyed, 41 had no litter at all on them and received an A grade this is an improvement on 2020 where only 24 sites had no litter, the number of sites having a very small amount of litter and receiving a B+ grade improved from 135 sites in 2020 to 152 sites. However, more sites were graded below a B than the previous survey going from 14 to 25.

3.12 Surveyors noted that a lot of litter appeared to be from recycling collections. The survey was undertaken at a time when the recycling collections were still outsourced.

### **Detritus**

3.13 Detritus was again identified as the biggest issue in South Derbyshire, although the number of sites failing for detritus had improved from 13.655 to 11.11%.

3.14 Rural Roads had the highest percentage of failing survey sites at 42.5% followed by high Density Housing at 20.83%

3.15 Surveyors noted that a lot of detritus was formed from broken down leaf and blossom fall.

### **Graffiti and Flyposting**

3.16 Graffiti and Flyposting are not a widespread issue in South Derbyshire with 1% or less of survey sites failing for these issues. Flyposting had zero failures and only one site failed for Graffiti, an improvement on last year where three sites failed.

3.17 The surveyors did note that some of the Covid-19 distance signs were starting to look weathered and could impact on the feel of the area.

### **National Comparison**

3.18 In comparison with the last Local Environmental Quality Survey for England, South Derbyshire performed well above the average for litter at 95% at an acceptable standard in comparison with 86% nationally. Despite the issues highlighted relating to detritus, South Derbyshire compares favourably with the national average with 89% of sites meeting an acceptable standard against 75% nationally. Graffiti is not an issue with 99% of sites at an acceptable standard in comparison with a national average of 97%.

- 3.19 There are no national comparisons for weeds and dog fouling as these are combined in the national survey with detritus and litter respectively.

### **Weeds**

- 3.20 The surveyors identified that weeds are not a widespread issue in South Derbyshire and has seen a great improvement from last year dropping from 2.29% to under 1%.

### **Dog Fouling**

- 3.21 For all areas Dog Fouling did not fail on any transects compared to three last year. Only 16 had any dog fouling on them compared to 25 last year.
- 3.22 However, surveyors did notice two full and overflowing dog bins which need timely emptying to ensure people make the right choice in bagging and binning their dog waste.

### **Additional Survey**

- 3.23 The overall survey results are very encouraging; however, they only give a view of the District at one point in time. Litter, weeds, detritus, and dog fouling can all have a seasonal element to them. A second survey in September/October will give half yearly assessment and combined with a January survey a more balanced view of the environmental quality of the District.

## **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Budget provision has been made in the Medium-Term Financial Plan for continued membership of Keep Britain Tidy and for the two surveys per year to be undertaken.

## **5.0 Corporate Implications**

### **Employment Implications**

- 5.1 None

### **Legal Implications**

- 5.2 None

### **Corporate Plan Implications**

- 5.3 E1.2B - Improve the quality of the District through the Local Environmental Quality Survey, gives assurance that the cleansing regimes and resources deployed are delivering the Council's Service Standards.
- 5.4 Increasing the number of surveys will improve the data and remove seasonal impacts from the year end outturn.

- 5.5 The results of the survey will be used to provide additional focus to the work of the Street Cleansing Team. The Service had set a target to improve the survey scores so that over 95% of survey sites achieve a score above grade C in future years.

### **Risk Impact**

- 5.6 None

## **6.0 Community Impact**

### **Consultation**

- 6.1 None

### **Equality and Diversity Impact**

- 6.2 None

### **Social Value Impact**

- 6.3 None

### **Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.4 None

## **7.0 Background Papers**

CODE OF PRACTICE ON LITTER AND REFUSE

LITTER IN ENGLAND, THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SURVEY OF ENGLAND 2017/18

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE 13 AUGUST 2020 AGENDA ITEM 8 LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SURVEY 2020

THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SURVEY OF SOUTH DERBYSHIRE 2021

## Appendix 1

# About Keep Britain Tidy

---

Keep Britain Tidy is an independent environmental charity with three goals – to eliminate litter, improve local places and prevent waste.

We understand that we cannot reach our goals by working alone, so we work with businesses, schools, communities, individuals, government - local and national – and other charities and voluntary organisations.

We know that if people care for the environment on their own doorstep – the local park, the street in which they live, the river that runs through their area – then the environment, the community and the individual will all benefit.

How can we expect people to understand and care about global environmental issues if they don't understand the importance of, or care about, their own local environment?

Keep Britain Tidy is a charity with a wealth of experience and expertise. We have been working and campaigning to eliminate litter, improve local places and prevent waste for many years. We want to share that experience and expertise with others, supporting businesses, communities, schools and government.

We fund our work by offering services and expertise to those who can benefit from them, by delivering accreditation schemes for parks, beaches, schools and public spaces and by developing relationships with partners in the corporate sector to support our research and campaign activities.

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# 1. Introduction

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## Project Background

Keep Britain Tidy (KBT) used the updated survey methodology for this survey which uses Low Super Output Areas (LSOA) and randomly assigned survey points within each chosen LSOA. This removes any land use based bias and means the data can be used with other National data sets collected using LSOA methodology. Land uses are still assigned to each survey site and the Land use definitions can be found in Appendix 2.

The sites were graded by Keep Britain Tidy's experienced surveying team who are trained in undertaking a range of LEQ surveys. Surveyors have undertaken surveys for the annual Local Environmental Quality Survey of England (LEQSE) as well as bespoke client projects, and are trained in carrying out LEQ standards in accordance with a strict quality assurance policy.

Survey sites are a 50m section of the street or area, with all public property within that site being considered. Handheld devices were used to collect the data. This allowed GPS to capture the position of each survey site, a feature which can be used to assist in mapping trends and producing data graphics. Photographs were also taken to highlight specific LEQ issues and surveyor observations of the general condition of the area were used to provide further insight. These observations covered any points of interest from the survey locations

themselves, as well as areas within the district which were not included in the specific 50m survey sites.

The survey in South Derbyshire assessed the four key elements Litter, Detritus, Graffiti and Fly-posting. Weeds and Dog Fouling were additional elements surveyed at the request of the council. Photographs were taken of any failing elements.

Following the outbreak of the Covid-19 Corona Virus in 2020 an additional count was added specifically for any Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Litter relating specifically to this. PPE was added to the Litter types list and a separate count was made for face masks, gloves and other related items

To assess the standards on each site, each indicator was assigned a grade. The grading system follows the same principles as the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (CoPLR) which identifies four grades of cleanliness: A, B, C and D. This survey uses these plus an additional three intermediate grades, giving a total of seven grades as detailed in Figure 1. The intermediate grades are not individually defined; put simply, if cleansing at any given site is not at an A standard, but is performing better than a B standard, it would be identified as a B+.

Grade	Description
A	None of the issues present
B+	Not formally defined
B	Predominantly free with some minor instances of the issue
B-	Not formally defined
C	Widespread with some accumulations of the issue
C-	Not formally defined
D	Heavily affected by the issue

**Figure 1. Description of the grades used in the survey**

According to the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse, any grade below a B grade is classed as being below an acceptable standard of LEQ.

The grades are then processed and presented in an NI195-style format. This is a percentage of sites which are below an acceptable standard, i.e. below a B grade. In keeping with the old NI195 monitoring methodology, any site receiving a B- grade is given a half-weighting, so only half of all sites graded B- will count towards the score, whereas all sites graded C, C- or D receive 'full' weighting. This allows for the fact that sites which are given a B- grade are only just below an acceptable standard and are not as bad as a C grade.



## Land Uses in South Derbyshire

The split of Land Uses surveyed in South Derbyshire are shown in the table below. It is important to consider these sample sizes when reviewing the breakdown of NI195-style scores by Land Use. A number of Land Uses have small samples (below 30) which can mean a particular element can look like it has a significant issue in South Derbyshire but due to the sample size it may only affect a few survey sites.

Land Use	Count
Main Retail and Commercial	7
Other Retail and Commercial	11
High Obstruction Housing	24
Medium Obstruction Housing	64
Low Obstruction Housing	87
Industry and Warehousing	9
Main Roads	16
Rural Roads	26
Other Highways	23
Recreation Areas	33
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>300</b>

***Figure 2. Number of Survey Sites by Land Use***

## 2. Survey Results

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The data, once collected, can be analysed in a number of ways. It is important to understand the overall performance of the area. Therefore, two methods have traditionally been used to analyse the grades assigned to sites and to provide this overview. The methods are:

- NI195-style scores. Reviewing the percentage of sites below an acceptable standard (below a B grade); this focusses on grades at the lower end of the scale. This score is weighted to account for only half of all B- grades.
- Standard Quality Intervals (SQI). This reviews the overall grading pattern by converting the grades to a 16 point scale and provides an overview of whether an element is at a Good, Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory or Poor standard.

Both of these methods are closely linked to the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (CoPLR). This states that sites should not fall below a grade B standard and sites should be cleansed to a grade A standard. Measuring the percentage of sites below an acceptable standard highlights where sites are failing and standards need addressing. The SQI method analyses the grading pattern across all of the sites for a particular element. This conversion is based on a calculation that expects to see all sites at a grade B or above, with a proportion of sites at 'A' and 'B+' standard.

An SQI is an interval (measured in terms of quality, rather than time) over which an observant person can reliably detect that a difference in the standard of an aspect of the visible environment has occurred. The range in the 'Satisfactory' category is from +1 to +4 SQI, and the 'Good' category is +5 to +8 SQI. Similarly, the range in the 'Unsatisfactory' band is from 1 to -4 SQI and in the 'Poor' category is from -5 SQI to -8 SQI. There is no zero point on this scale.

In terms of the graphical output, SQIs are displayed in either a Gauge Chart or a Matrix Chart (Figures 5 and 6). Further explanation of these charts can be found in Appendix 3.

## All Areas NI-195 Style Results

Classification	Litter	Detritus	Graffiti	Fly-posting	Weeds	Dog Fouling
All Areas	5.00%	11.11%	0.17%	0.00%	0.74%	0.00%
Main Retail and Commercial	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Other Retail and Commercial	0.00%	4.55%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
High Obstruction Housing	16.67%	20.83%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Medium Obstruction Housing	7.03%	3.13%	0.00%	0.00%	0.78%	0.00%
Low Obstruction Housing	1.15%	7.47%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Main Roads	6.82%	18.18%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Rural Roads	0.00%	42.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Industry and Warehousing	11.11%	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Other Highways	13.04%	15.38%	0.00%	0.00%	11.54%	0.00%
Recreation Areas	0.00%	0.00%	1.52%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

**Figure 3. NI195 Style Results for South Derbyshire by Land Use**

Looking at the above table South Derbyshire has excellent scores for Graffiti, Fly-posting, Weeds and Dog Fouling with 1% or less failure for these elements. Litter has an 5% failure, Detritus has the most failures at 11.11%.

Survey Year	Litter	Detritus	Graffiti	Flyposting	Weeds	Dog Fouling
<b>2021</b>	<b>5.00%</b>	<b>11.11%</b>	<b>0.17%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.74%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
2020	4.00%	13.65%	1.00%	0.50%	2.39%	0.83%

**Figure 4. NI195 Style Results for the recent surveys**

Looking at figure 4 we can see that all elements have improved this year apart from Litter that has seen a 1% increase to 5.00%



**Image 1, Litter – High Obstruction Housing – Windsor Close**



## Litter

Litter is the only element that saw an increase in failures in 2021. The 2021 survey had more A grades up from 24 to 41, there was an increase in B+ grades up from 135 to 152. In 2021 more transects were graded below a B, 25 in total up from 14 in 2020, these were 20 B- and 5 C graded there were no C- grades or D grades in 2021, compared to 1 C- in 2020.

High Obstruction Housing and Other Highways had the highest percentage of failures for Litter. Surveyors also noted that a lot of Litter in housing areas seemed to originate from the household waste stream, with much of it being recyclables such as cardboard.



***Image 2, Litter - Other Highway - Wellwood Road***

## Detritus

Detritus is still the biggest issue in South Derbyshire with 11.11% of survey sites failing compared to 13.65% in 2020. A total of 50 out 270 (non-metalled, paved surfaces have N/A for Detritus) transects failed for Detritus. Rural Roads was the worst performing element at 42.50% followed by High Obstruction Housing at 20.83%. Surveyors noted that along with Detritus from mud and grime a lot of Detritus was formed from broken down leaf and blossom fall.





**Image 3, Detritus - Ashby Road**

### **Graffiti and Fly-posting**

Graffiti and Fly-posting both scored excellently in South Derbyshire with zero failures across all land uses for Fly-posting and only one transect failed for Graffiti which was on a Recreation Area with a Graffiti on a sports club house.



**Image 4, Graffiti behind Mount Road playing field**

Although very relevant at the moment the Covid-19 distance signage is getting weathered and losing its impact and starting to impact the 'look' of an area so it may need refreshing a rain filled sign is shown image 5.





**Image 5, Weathered Covid-19 Signage**

## Weeds

Weeds are not a wide spread issue in South Derbyshire. It has seen a great improvement from last year's survey with a 1.5% drop and is now under 1% failure rate overall. Only three transects failed for this issue two of these were from weeds spreading on to a footpath in Other Highways and the other being Weeds in a channel on housing.



**Image 6, Weeds - Winchester Drive**  
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## Dog Fouling

For all areas Dog Fouling didn't fail on any transects this year compared to 3 last year, this year 16 transects had Dog fouling on them compared to 25 last year. The Surveyors did notice lots of anti-dog fouling signage which may be having an impact of people's behaviour in South Derbyshire. However surveyors did notice two dog bins that were over full that looked and smelt bad, timely emptying of these bins is essential for people to make the right choice in bagging and binning dog poo.



**Image 7, Overfull dog bin - Linton Recreation Area (top end)**



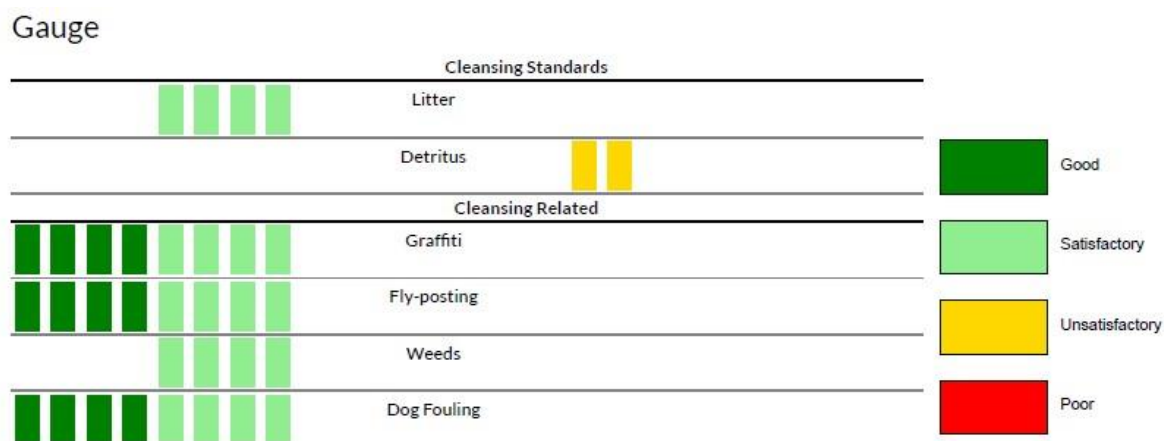
**Image 8, Overfull dog bin - Off Trent Lane towards Cycle Lane**

## PPE

PPE was only seen on eight transects or 2.7% of transects this is a low level compared to data collected from other Local Authorities. Seven transects had 1 mask on them the remaining transect had 3 gloves on them and the surveyor noted it looked like a hot spot for people dropping this litter.



## Gauge Chart



**Figure 5, Gauge Chart of all elements - All areas**

In the gauge chart it can be seen that litter is +4 SQL 'Satisfactory', an increase of 1SQL from last year. Graffiti, Fly-posting and Dog Fouling are an excellent +8 SQL 'Good', the same as last year. Weeds are +4SQL 'Satisfactory' same as last year. Detritus is -2SQL 'Unsatisfactory' which is 1SQL lower than last year's survey.



**Image 9, Detritus from Leaf and Blossom Fall**



## Matrix Chart



**Figure 6, Matrix Chart**

When looking at the Matrix Chart there needs to be some caution when looking at land uses due to the sample size. It can be seen for Litter, Industry & Warehousing is the only Land use that is 'Unsatisfactory', five are 'Satisfactory' and four are 'Good'. Graffiti, Fly-posting and Dog Fouling across all Land uses are 'Good'. Weeds have three land uses that are 'Good' and seven that are 'Satisfactory'.

Detritus is the only element that has a 'Poor' land use on Rural Roads, across seven land uses it is 'Unsatisfactory' it is 'Satisfactory' on Recreation Areas and 'Good' on Main Retail & Commercial.

## Surveyor Observations

Surveyors noted that the combined housing Land uses have the most failures for Litter, they noted that quite a lot of the litter seemed to come from the household waste stream especially cardboard and drinks containers. This could be a by-product of more packaging from online shopping but maybe something that needs monitoring to improve LEQ in the area.



***Images 10, Litter from Household waste stream***

Surveyors noted that Detritus is still a problem in South Derbyshire, this year there seemed to be a lot originating from Leaf & Blossom Fall this could be down to reduced sweeping or during a wet autumn making sweeping up leaf fall more problematic. Although Weeds have improved from last year if this Detritus is still there in summer months it could give a medium for Weeds to grow in and this element could get worse.



**Image 11, Detritus and Litter - Acacia Ave**

## 4. Conclusions and Recommendations

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Following on from last year's results we can still see that overall South Derbyshire has no issues with Graffiti and Fly-posting. Surveyors did note the Covid-19 distancing poster were getting weathered and may need replacing or removing as they may start to affect the 'Look' of an area.

Litter has gotten slightly worse in 2021 compared to 2020 with 5% of transects failing compared to 4%. Tackling Litter on housing transects especially litter from the Household waste stream may help to improve the Litter results.

Detritus is still the main issue in South Derbyshire, although it has seen an improvement on the 2020 survey with a fall from 13.65% to 11.11%. The 2021 survey had less Rural Road transects than 2020 but 13 out of 20 transects that were surveyed had an issue with Detritus on them so it looks like there still is an issue on this land use. All land uses had Detritus failures in 2021 apart from Main Retail & Commercial so it is an issue on all Land Uses. Surveyors noted that along with Mud and Grime, Leaf and Blossom Fall was a source of Detritus timely cleaning of leaf fall before it is broken down may help to improve the Detritus results along with regular sweeping in all Land Uses.

Weed growth has also improved in 2021 and less than 1% of transects fail for this issue.

Dog fouling has seen a great improvement in 2021 with no failures and dog fouling only being recorded on 16 transects compared to 25 in 2020. Surveyors noted 2 overfull dog bins that impacted the LEQ of the local area, making sure that these are emptied will help people dispose of dog waste correctly.

Keeping up the current cleansing regimes on Litter, Graffiti, Fly-posting and Weed Growth will keep these excellent results.

For further information about our range of services contact our Litter & Place Services team via [network.enquiries@keepbritaintidy.org](mailto:network.enquiries@keepbritaintidy.org)

## Appendix 1: Definition of Terms

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**Alcoholic drinks related** – all items associated with alcoholic drinks; this includes cans, bottles, wine cartons, identifiable bottle tops and ring pulls, labels from bottles, beer/spirit/shot glasses, etc.

**ATM slips** – financial receipts associated with automated cash machines.

**Bagged dog faeces** – dog faeces that are placed in a bag and left, whether the bag is on the ground or in a shrub/tree, etc.

**Balloons** – full or in part, inflated or deflated, including the stick or ribbon.

**Clinical packaging** – any packaging associated with any clinical waste, such as condom packets, pill packets, plaster packaging, etc.

**Clinical wastes** – any material that could have come into contact with human or bodily fluids. This includes excrement or material associated with medical, dental or veterinary activities, and materials of similar kinds which may have emanated from domestic or other residential properties, e.g. cotton buds, plasters, discarded nappies and other sanitary products, pill packets, condoms and needles used by drug abusers.

**Clothing** – including underwear, shoes, gloves, hats, and any other identifiable items of clothing, even if ripped or damaged.

**Commercial wastes** – materials discarded by all types of business, such as retail, catering, commercial, industrial and transport enterprises. Some premises, such as restaurants and hotels, can discard wastes that are similar to domestic refuse but which are treated differently because of their source and the large quantities that are usually involved.

**Confectionery material** – all types of confectionery material, such as sweet wrappers, chocolate wrappers, lollipop/iced lollipop sticks, chewing gum wrappers, etc., but not the confectionery itself.

**Construction waste** – includes all materials which appear to have originated directly from construction works (e.g. building and civil engineering projects). However, if materials appear to have been intentionally dumped or abandoned, they should be recorded as 'fly tipping'.

**Detritus** – comprises dust, mud, soil, grit, gravel, stones, rotted leaf and vegetable residues, and fragments of twigs, glass, plastic and other finely divided materials. Detritus includes leaf and blossom fall which has substantially lost its structure and has become mushy or fragmented (i.e. it can no longer be considered as recent leaf and blossom fall).

**Discarded food/drink** – small amounts of dropped or spilt food and drink. If there is evidence that it has been discarded from a food outlet or retail premises, it is classified as commercial waste. If the amounts of spilt food/drink are deemed large enough to attract vermin or produce an unpleasant odour due to decay, then they should be classified as putrescible waste.



**Domestic waste** – all materials normally found in domestic (household) waste containers; this can include waste stored in bags and wheeled bins. Domestic refuse can be spillage from a collection vehicle or waste arising from the dwelling.

**Fast food related** – packaging and paraphernalia related to freshly prepared, ready-to-eat food and drink, which is dropped by customers while sitting in, or passing through, an area. This includes wrappings, boxes, drinks containers, plastic straws, plastic cutlery, branded paper napkins, all sandwich cartons, salt sachets, etc. Fast-food premises include hot food takeaway premises, coffee shops, and all other retail outlets that sell pre-prepared foods (with short shelf lives) in a format that can be consumed in public places, including bakeries, supermarkets and mobile catering units.

**Flyposting** – any printed material which is unauthorised and either informally or illegally fixed to any structure. It includes all sizes of material, from small self-adhesive stickers to large posters – often advertising popular music recordings, concerts and other events. It excludes formally managed and approved advertising hoardings and any other authorised legally placed signs and notices (unless they are out-of- date).

**Fly-tipping** – comprises quantities of dumped materials, where there is evidence of attempted abandonment or concealment of the materials in question. The sources may vary, for example domestic refuse, bulky household goods, commercial or construction wastes, or travel/vehicle related wastes (old tyres, abandoned/burnt out cars).

**General litter** – items dropped or discarded by people (e.g. pedestrians, cyclists or drivers and passengers in vehicles) in public spaces. This category includes the types of materials that most people regard as litter – smokers' materials, sweet papers, fast-food packaging, drinks containers, etc.

**Graffiti** – any informal or illegal marks, scratchings, carvings, drawings or paintings that have been deliberately made by a person or persons on any physical element comprising public space.

**Harmful Waste** – any waste which has the potential to be harmful to people, animals and the environment, e.g. broken glass, batteries, aerosols, paint and oil tins, etc.

**Industry related** – waste which appears to have originated directly from commercial production, assembly or repair of goods and/or materials. Found most frequently on industrial estates, this often includes nuts, bolts, metal/plastic/wood fragments, and vehicle parts outside commercial garages.

**Lottery related** – scratch cards, lottery tickets and receipts.

**Newspaper/magazines** – part or whole newspapers and/or magazines including those which have been purchased, those which are available free of charge, and any supplements and inserts.

**Non-alcoholic drinks related** – all items associated with non-alcoholic drinks including cans, bottles, cartons, identifiable bottle tops and ring-pulls, straws, labels from bottles, etc. This excludes those items arising from fast food outlets, which should be classified as fast food litter.

**Other Packaging** – any packaging material which is deemed to have been dropped by a member of the public, rather than originating from a commercial or domestic source, but which is not captured by another category. For example, a soft drinks bottle is packaging but will be recorded as non-alcoholic drinks related litter. Examples of ‘other packaging’ include cellophane wrapping from around CDs and blister packaging from toys.

**Paper tissues** – paper tissues or toilet paper which appears to have come into contact with bodily fluids; this would be regarded as clinical waste. Branded paper napkins from fast food outlets which are deemed not to have come into contact with bodily fluids would be classified as fast food litter.

**Post Office related** – includes small, thick elastic bands used by the Post Office to fasten groups of mail together, which are often discarded by postal workers. This also includes information cards, for example, those used to advise that a parcel is waiting at a collection point.

**Putrescible Waste** – any items of waste in sufficient quantities that it may attract vermin, or produce an unpleasant smell due to decay. Putrescible waste can include carrion and large amounts of food, e.g. food spilt from a domestic or commercial waste collection.

**Retail litter (all types)** – waste that appears to have originated from all types of retail premises; for example, from fast food outlets, bakeries, cafés, fruit and veg. stores, butchers, convenience stores, clothing and electrical stores.

**Smokers’ materials** – all types of items discarded by people using tobacco products, including cigarettes and cigarette ends, cigars, matchsticks/boxes, cigarette and cigar boxes/wrappers, disposable lighters, etc.

**Snack packs** – all items of packaging litter (excluding the contents) that are associated with pre-baked/preprepared snack foods, e.g. crisp packets, biscuit packaging, cake wrappers or containers, etc.

**Solid gum** – discarded, chewed chewing gum that has not been squashed into the pavement. This could include gum stuck to litter bins, posts or other street furniture.

**Staining** – any material that discolours surfaces comprising public spaces in an unplanned way, including chewing gum after it has been trodden into a paved surface, and general mud and grime that can build up in the absence of rainfall or street washing.

**Supermarket plastic bags** – supermarket chain branded plastic carrier bags.

**Telephone cards** – mobile phone pre-pay cards, international calling cards, etc.

**Till receipts** – receipts from any retail outlet.

**Travel related** – bus, train, tram and other public transport tickets, car parking pay-and-display stickers and fixed penalty tickets or sleeves.

**Vehicle parts** – these include any part of a motorised vehicle, including bodywork, engine parts, numberplates, wheel trims, exhaust (or part of exhaust) or window glass, which appear to have

originated from a vehicle. They may have been displaced by either wear and tear (i.e. falling off), roadside repairs or due to accidents. However, if the vehicle parts appear to have been deliberately dumped then they should be assessed as 'fly-tipping'. If they appear to have originated from a commercial garage, they should be classified as 'industry' under commercial waste.

**Wastes placed out** – waste either contained or uncontained which is judged to have been placed out for an expected collection. If there is any evidence that the waste has been intentionally dumped or abandoned, then it should be recorded as fly-tipping.

**Weed growth** – any plant that is growing in a location where it is not intended, including where plants or grass are encroaching on paved areas in an unplanned way – usually in colonising accumulations of detritus or along cracks and joints in paving. 'Weed growth' includes weeds that have been sprayed with weed killer and may be dead but have not yet been removed.

## Appendix 2: Land Use Definitions

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All land uses include publically accessible land which can be managed by either local authorities or private land owners.

### Main Retail and Commercial Areas

This land use consists of the main town and city retail and commercial centres. Urban tourist 'hot spots' which are wholly or partially separated from a main town or city retail and commercial centre are also included in this land use.

Main Retail and Commercial areas contain a choice of outlets in a range of different retail and commercial sectors (such as fashion clothing, financial services, restaurants, bars and entertainment), and will include national and international brand names. Normally, there is also a range of public facilities, including libraries, museums, law courts and places of worship.

### Other Retail and Commercial Areas

This land use class covers retail and commercial areas which are primarily located outside main city and town retail and commercial centres (but excludes out-of-town or edge-of-town 'retail park/retail shed' developments, which are included with industry, warehousing and science parks).

Other Retail and Commercial areas usually contain a range of facilities that mainly meet the needs of local residents. Most premises contain individual private businesses, sometimes branches of regional chains (such as bakers), and occasionally national brand names. They can also be home to civic facilities, areas of office and hotel development, and areas of mixed retail, office, hotel and entertainment uses.

### High Obstruction Housing Areas

Housing areas should be classified as 'High Obstruction Housing' if the proportion of dwellings with purposebuilt off-street parking facilities is less than or equal to 50%. In these areas, there is a high

risk of obstruction to mechanical channel sweeping operations (e.g. obstruction from parked cars). High Obstruction Housing areas can also include occasional small retail premises, offices, manufacturing, and warehousing sites.

This land use class includes various housing types, such as:

- terraced housing
- alleyways behind and between housing areas where there is direct access to properties
- flats and maisonettes with only limited off-street parking
- semi-detached and short terraced dwellings with limited or no purpose made off-street vehicle parking, or parking provision which is not large enough for the use of modern vehicles.

## Medium Obstruction Housing Areas

Housing areas should be classified as 'Medium Obstruction Housing' if more than 50% of dwellings have purpose-made off-street parking/garaging facilities for up to 2 modern-day family cars.

This land use includes housing types such as:

- private housing, often where passageways at the side of houses are too narrow for most currentday cars
- council housing originally built with no off-street parking, where limited off-street parking has since been provided for some properties
- modern developments with limited off-street parking
- modern developments of flats with parking underneath
- terraced housing with garage facilities or rear access parking for up to 2 cars.

## Low Obstruction Housing Areas

This land use includes all types of housing where more than 50% of properties have purpose-made off-road garaging/parking within the property boundary for three or more cars. In these areas, there is generally a low risk of obstruction to mechanical channel sweeping operations.

The space available should be capable of accommodating all the parking requirements of residents (including, where applicable, boats and caravans, etc.) and most of the demand from visitors to the premises.

This category includes maisonettes and flats, as long as the parking is contained within the property boundary. In low obstruction housing areas, it is likely that there will be few or no vehicles parked on-street, and significant on-street parking is the exception rather than the rule.



## Industry (Industry, Warehousing, Retail Sheds and Science Parks)

This class includes industrial and warehousing developments, out-of-town retail parks (including food and non-food developments), and science parks (containing offices, laboratories and manufacturing processes).

The following sub-types would be classified as 'industry, warehousing, retail sheds and science parks' sites: classic estates primarily dedicated to heavy industry and warehousing, retail sheds and areas with large retail units, hospitals, business/science parks and campus (such as university or college properties).

## Main Roads

Main Roads are all 'A' roads. However, if a main road is situated within Main Retail and Commercial, Other Retail and Commercial, or High Obstruction Housing area, then that transect should be recorded as that land use and not as a Main Road, due to the potential obstruction caused.

## Rural Roads

This class comprises of all highways that are located outside built-up areas and are not included in the Main Roads or Other Highways land use classes, whether 'rural' in character or not.

## Other Highways

Other Highways are made up of the following:

- Formal lay-bys, informal lay-bys, stub roads, underpasses, footbridges, un-metalled bridleways, metalled bridleways, narrow routes and alleyways, cycle ways and 'other' - this includes any other highway which is not listed above.

## Recreation Areas

This land use is a combination of public open space and watersides. 'Public open space' includes parks, recreation areas, grassed areas, picnic sites, and paved areas (which are not classed as either main or other retail or commercial locations). Officially signed and/or marked public footpaths and deconsecrated cemeteries should also be included in this land use category. 'Watersides' includes all publicly accessible areas adjacent to ponds, lakes, reservoirs, canals, rivers and estuaries.

## Appendix 3: Explanation of scoring methods and charts

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## NI195

National Indicator 195 was a statutory requirement for all local authorities until 2010. The indicator takes the grades from sites and produces a percentage of sites deemed to be below an acceptable standard. In accordance to CoPLR, any site graded below a grade B is classed as unacceptable.

NI195-style scores are weighted scores which classify a B- grade as a half-fail, so only 50% of sites graded as B- are included in the NI195-style percentage. All sites below a B- grade are classed as 'whole' fails, so no weighting is applied to C, C- and D grades. The combined percentage for sites below a B grade produces the NI195-style score.

## Overall Quality Standards

Local Environmental Quality Survey results can be presented in a number of ways, using different levels of detail for different purposes. Throughout this report the overall standards achieved are summarised as being 'Good', 'Satisfactory', 'Unsatisfactory' or 'Poor'. These are defined as follows:

**'Good'** – an exceptionally high standard that is unlikely to be maintained in all places at all times. This standard should be achieved after a service intervention (such as street sweeping) has taken place where the overall physical condition of the infrastructure in the survey area is satisfactory.

**'Satisfactory'** – this classification indicates that a survey area is not completely free of the environmental issue that is being reported – for example, there will be some Graffiti present – however the extent to which it is present is unlikely to be noticed by most people walking or travelling through the survey area.

**'Unsatisfactory'** – the environmental element in question is present to such a degree that many people passing through an area will notice it and some may regard it as worthy of criticism.

**'Poor'** – the condition of the environmental element in question has deteriorated to such a degree that few people would fail to notice it and most people would regard that standard as a matter for criticism.

The aim for Local Environmental managers, therefore, is to ensure that the condition of environmental elements does not fall below the lower end of the 'Satisfactory' scale before the next service intervention takes place. The threshold for a 'Satisfactory' standard is set at a point which is achievable in normal circumstances, given suitable equipment and diligence, and where most members of the public would perceive the standard to be satisfactory for the element in question.

## Standard Quality Intervals

Each of the four Quality Categories ('Good', 'Satisfactory', 'Unsatisfactory' and 'Poor') covers a range of standards, and can be sub-divided into four Standard Quality Intervals (SQIs). These are shown as sets of coloured blocks on the relevant charts. Each SQI block represents an interval over which a reasonably acute person should see that a small, qualitative difference in standard has occurred for the local environmental element being examined, e.g. Litter, Detritus, Fly-posting or Graffiti.

The SQI scale runs from +8 SQI at the upper end of the 'Good' category to -8 SQI at the bottom end of the 'Poor' category. There is no zero data point.

Dark Green is a 'Good' standard (+5 SQI to +8 SQI)

Light Green is a 'Satisfactory' standard (+1 SQI to +4 SQI)

Yellow is an 'Unsatisfactory' standard (-1 SQI to - 4

SQI) Red is a 'Poor' standard (-5 SQI to -8 SQI).

## Gauge Chart

The Gauge Chart indicates the position of an environmental element within its overall quality category using a 'fuel gauge' graphic. Each of the four quality categories ('Good', 'Satisfactory', 'Unsatisfactory', and 'Poor') is sub-divided into four Standard Quality Intervals (SQI).

Each SQI represents an interval over which a reasonably acute person should see that a small, qualitative difference in standard has occurred for the local environmental element being examined.

The scale on a Gauge Chart runs from +8 SQI at the upper end of the 'Good' category (with +4 SQI being the top end of the 'Satisfactory' scale) to -8 SQI at the bottom end of the 'Poor' category (with -4 SQI being the lower end of the 'Unsatisfactory' category). This is the same scale as detailed under 'Standard Quality Intervals'.

## Matrix Chart

The Matrix Chart provides a strategic overview of standards by element across all relevant Land Uses. The standard applicable to a particular element and Land Use is simply shown at an overall Standard Quality Interval (SQI), using the relevant colour – dark green (Good), light green (Satisfactory), amber (Unsatisfactory), or red (Poor).



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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 7</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021</b>	<b>CATEGORY: (See Notes) DELEGATED or RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - SERVICE DELIVERY</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>ADRIAN LOWERY, 5764 <a href="mailto:Adrian.lowery@southderbyshire.gov.uk">Adrian.lowery@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a></b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>REMOVAL OF RECYCLING CENTRES</b>	
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS07, EDS08.</b>

## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Committee notes the outcome of the consultation exercise regarding residents' views on removal of the Council's seven recycling bring sites.
- 1.2 That, on the basis of the responses received, the Committee agrees that the Council gives notice to remove all recycling centres provided either directly by the Council or by contractors on behalf of the Council; with the removal to be effective from 1 October 2021.
- 1.3 That the Council publicises all recycling facilities, on the Council website, available to residents of the District.

## **2.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To provide feedback to Committee on the consultation to remove the Council's Recycling Centres following recommendations agreed from the review of Waste Collection Services undertaken in 2020 with the support of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and consultants Eunomia.
- 2.2 To give authority to the Head of Operational Services to make arrangements for the removal of the Recycling Centres operated either by or on behalf of the Council by the 1 October 2021 with associated publicity.

## **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 The Council commissioned consultants Eunomia to assist officers in reviewing its future waste collection services and service delivery options in the light of the likely requirements of the Government's Environment Bill and the impending cessation of

the Council's then recycling contract. The Eunomia report recommended that the Recycling Centres were removed, to ensure that residents were not unfairly paying for traders and those who were not correctly using this service given the high levels of contamination. The removal of the recycling Centres would also encourage residents to use the services which are provided by the District Council such as the kerbside recycling service, charged bulky waste service and Household Waste Recycling Services (HWRCs) operated by Derbyshire County Council.

- 3.2 This Committee, at its meeting on 12 November 2020, agreed to the removal of the seven Recycling Centres in the District subject to public consultation with residents served by the Centres due to the high levels of contamination and anti-social behaviour experienced at the sites and the fact that alternative provision for disposing of the materials collected at the Centres as detailed above was available.
- 3.3 The Head of Operational Services, Head of Organisational Development and Performance and the Communications Manager developed and agreed an approach to the consultation. This involved a postcard (Appendix A) delivered to every relevant property advising them of the Council's intention to remove the Recycling centre in their area and asking for their views. There was an option to write on the postcard and return this to the Council via freepost or to comment via the Council's Waste.Cleansing email address.
- 3.4 The Council currently operates six Recycling Centres at the following locations:
- BASS'S CRESCENT, CASTLE GRESLEY
  - STATION ROAD, HATTON
  - MAIN STREET, HILTON
  - LIMETREE AVENUE, MIDWAY
  - HIGH STREET, MELBOURNE
  - INGLEBY LANE, TICKNALL
  - TWYFORD ROAD, WILLINGTON
- 3.5 The Council issued over 13,000 postcards and received 401 responses; a return rate of 3.04%, only 1.67% of residents consulted raised any objection to the removal of the Recycling Centres.
- 3.6 The following table shows the breakdown by area of postcards issued and responses

	Postcards Issued	Total Returned	% Returned
BASS'S CRESCENT, CASTLE GRESLEY	1337	14	1.05%
STATION ROAD, HATTON	1623	61	3.76%
MAIN STREET, HILTON	3592	118	3.29%
LIMETREE AVENUE, MIDWAY	2801	60	2.14%
HIGH STREET, MELBOURNE	2200	82	3.73%
INGLEBY LANE, TICKNALL	315	12	3.81%
TWYFORD ROAD, WILLINGTON	1317	54	4.10%
TOTAL	13185	401	3.04%

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Whilst there will be marginal savings arising from the removal of the centres, more importantly resources will be freed up to allow for more cleansing activities around the District, improving general litter response and fly tip removal.

#### **5.0 Corporate Implications**

##### **Employment Implications**

- 5.1 None

##### **Legal Implications**

- 5.2 None

##### **Corporate Plan Implications**

- 5.3 The Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 has two Key performance indicators one to reduce the kilograms of waste collected per head of population and the other to increase the percentage of waste recycled or composted.

##### **Risk Impact**

- 5.4 None

#### **6.0 Community Impact**

##### **Consultation**

- 6.1 The report is the conclusion of a public consultation on removal of Recycling Centers

##### **Equality and Diversity Impact**

- 6.2 There have not been any equality or diversity issues raised as part of the consultation or the review of waste collection services given materials that could be deposited at the Centres can all be disposed of via the Council's kerbside collections, over 60 Charity outlets across the District who deal with textile recycling, the Council's bulky waste collection service or at the County Council run Household Waste Recycling Centre in Newhall.

##### **Social Value Impact**

- 6.3 There are alternative facilities or service provision for the recycling of all materials collected through these centers, the anti-social behavior often associated with these sites can be a serious issue for residents in the immediate vicinity of the sites.

##### **Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.4 The Recycling centers are constantly misused leading to contamination of sites, illegal deposits of waste and the potential for hazardous waste to be inadvertently collected.

# Have your say on the future of household recycling sites in South Derbyshire



South Derbyshire District Council is proposing to close its seven household recycling sites. Your nearest site is:

## Bass’s Crescent, Castle Gresley

Closing these sites will:

- Reduce the amount of contaminated recycling sent to landfill
- Reduce litter, fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour
- Save fuel by reducing the number of miles travelled to empty the bins.



Our Environment | Our People | Our Future  
[www.southderbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.southderbyshire.gov.uk)

To make your comments on the closure of these recycling sites, email: [waste.cleansing@southderbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:waste.cleansing@southderbyshire.gov.uk) or leave your comments below and return through the post free of charge by Friday 4 June.

Your fortnightly recycling collections are not affected. You should continue to use your green bin for recycling. You can leave extra recycling in a small cardboard box next to your green bin with paper and card in a separate box to mixed recycling. There is no limit to the number of extra boxes that will be collected.







<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 8</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021</b>	<b>CATEGORY: (See Notes) DELEGATED or RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>ALLISON THOMAS - STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY)</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>KAREN BEAVIN, 07501 698400 <a href="mailto:karen.beavin@southderbyshire.gov.uk">karen.beavin@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a></b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>LOCAL PLAN PART 1 – FIVE-YEAR REVIEW</b>	
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS 03</b>

## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Committee considers the assessment of the Local Plan Part 1 set out in Appendix A.
- 1.2 That the Committee authorises a full review of the adopted Local Plan Part 1.
- 1.3 That the Committee authorises the inclusion of the Infinity Garden Village (IGV) and Freeport sites for detailed policy consideration as part of the Local Plan review.
- 1.4 That a new Local Development Scheme be produced and brought to a future meeting of this Committee for approval.

## **2.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To review the policies within the Local Plan Part 1 (the Plan), as is legally required five years post adoption, to determine whether a full or partial review of the Plan is required.

## **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 The requirement to review a Local Plan is set out in paragraph 33 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which states:

*“Policies in local plans and spatial development strategies should be reviewed to assess whether they need updating at least once every five years and should then be updated as necessary. Reviews should be completed no later than five years from the adoption date of a plan and should take into account changing*

*circumstances affecting the area, or any relevant changes in national policy. Relevant strategic policies will need updating at least once every five years if their applicable local housing need figure has changed significantly; and they are likely to require earlier review if local housing need is expected to change significantly in the near future.”*

- 3.2 In order to assist with this assessment of the Plan’s policies, officers have completed the relevant part of the Planning Advisory Service’s Local Plan Assessment Toolkit (Appendix A). The assessment has highlighted a few areas which indicate that a full review of the Plan would be prudent at this point, the key points from which are set out below.
- 3.3 Since the adoption of the Plan the NPPF has been reviewed twice, most recently in February 2019. For the development plan, that is the adopted Local Plan and any made Neighbourhood Plans, to reflect national planning policy requirements reduces the ‘friction’ that a mis-match causes for decision making.
- 3.4 The Council currently has a five-year supply of deliverable housing land. To maintain this position allows the Council to uphold the ‘plan-led system’ and provides the greatest certainty for communities. For a rolling five-year supply to be assured particularly towards the back end of the Plan period, it is recommended to commence a review of the Plan to establish where the next strategic housing sites should be located.
- 3.5 The Covid-19 pandemic will have affected businesses within the District and whilst there will, of course, be those that have been adversely affected, there will also be opportunities that a review of the Plan at this stage could assist in bringing to fruition.
- 3.6 South Derbyshire is part of the Derby Housing Market Area (HMA) and whilst HMA partners recognise the value and expediency of producing separate local plans, the recent introduction of the 35% uplift in Derby City’s housing requirement again requires timely consideration, as set out at A2 in Appendix A.
- 3.7 The Southern Derby Area and IGV is covered by policy INF13 of the current Part 2 Local Plan. This site and the freeport site are already subject to significant activity with pressing and expensive infrastructure requirements, a need for effective collaboration with public and private sector partners and a need to plan these locations in a coordinated way to ensure the best outcomes for the local communities affected and the District as a whole. This work has been progressed up to this point via the IGV Liaison Group which has cross-party political representation and has officer and member representation from South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC), Derby City Council and Derbyshire County Council, in addition to Local Parish Council’s. There is also representation from local landowners and education and health authorities.
- 3.8 The policy background to the IGV is primarily Policy INF13 of the current SDDC Part 2 Local Plan. The Policy requires ‘in order to implement the development comprehensively and support the required infrastructure delivery a joint development framework document will be prepared to guide the development and cross boundary collaboration between the Council, Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council and developers.’ Further requirements include green and blue infrastructure, transport infrastructure including a new junction onto the A50 at Deepdale Lane, and a new secondary school.

- 3.9 Progress has been made on all of these requirements with the Development Framework document finalised in 2020, funding secured for the school, planning permission granted for the A50 junction and a Levelling up Fund bid of £50m submitted to assist in the delivery of this.
- 3.10 It will be necessary to progress with the work to deliver on much needed infrastructure including new health provision that is within walking distance of the site. With this in mind it is proposed to continue in the collaborative working with partners and subject to existing delegation arrangements be supportive in principle of new bids submitted by others on the delivery of infrastructure in advance of further progress on the local plan. In terms of development in the wider area this is subject to ongoing design work which will be accelerated with the successful recruitment of the Senior Planning Officer (Design) post. This design work together with the provision of transport, health, and education provision, together with any uplift in housing numbers, will all remain matters to be determined as part of the Local Plan review.
- 3.11 The freeport will be an equally important site that the Local Plan review will need to address. The freeport site (known as East Midlands Intermodal Park (EMIP)) is to the South West of the A38 / A50 junction and there is a rapidly evolving process underway including the other freeport sites at Radcliffe on Soar power station in Rushcliffe and East Midlands Airport, to secure the economic benefits that a freeport status will bring. It is also essential to plan to ensure benefits for local communities, that flooding issues are successfully addressed, and that the transport infrastructure (including rail) is planned in a coordinated way.
- 3.12 The fact that the planning approval process is still unclear for the freeport adds weight to the significance of planning in a coordinated way, to ensure sufficient policy requirements are in place in the Local Plan and to secure the local benefits that may get missed without a local policy framework in place.
- 3.13 Should the Committee approve a full review of the Plan the next step would be to draft a formal timetable for the review as part of a new Local Development Scheme.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Failure to undertake a timely review could result in planning applications being upheld at appeal and the associated costs being awarded to the appellants.

#### **5.0 Corporate Implications**

##### **Employment Implications**

- 5.1 None directly arising from this report.

##### **Legal Implications**

- 5.2 None directly arising from this report.

## **Corporate Plan Implications**

- 5.3 Delivery of a timely and deliverable Local Plan is necessary for delivering objectives within the Corporate Plan.

### **Risk Impact**

- 5.4 Failure to undertake a timely review incurs the financial risk set out above, together with the uncertainties for communities that significant speculative planning applications can cause.

## **6.0 Community Impact**

### **Consultation**

- 6.1 A review of the Plan would require significant consultation with the communities and businesses within the District. A review of the Statement of Community Involvement will be undertaken as part of commencing a review of the Local Plan.

### **Equality and Diversity Impact**

- 6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment will accompany the Plan on submission.

### **Social Value Impact**

- 6.3 An up-to-date local plan has a direct bearing on the communities in the District.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.4 Up to date local plan policies assist in ensuring development is located in the most suitable, sustainable locations and that provision is made for appropriate infrastructure to support this.

## **7.0 Conclusions**

- 7.1 That having carried out an assessment of the Plan using the Planning Advisory Service's recommended toolkit and in recognising the value of maintaining a five-year supply to the end of the current Local Plan period, that a full review of the Local Plan Part 1 should be formally commenced.

## **8.0 Background Papers**

Appendix A – Assessment of Local Plan Review Factors

## Appendix A - Assessment of Local Plan Review Factors

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
A	PLAN REVIEW FACTORS		
A1.	The plan policies still reflect current national planning policy requirements.	Disagree	<p>The Part 1 Plan broadly covers the 2019 NPPF (the NPPF) content but lacks detail or needs updating in a number of key areas. These include the approach to strategic policies, climate change policies, changes to the definition of affordable housing and housing needs for different groups.</p> <p>The social objective in the NPPF now includes reference to ensuring a sufficient range of homes, which is expanded on in paragraph 61 and is a subtle shift from the 2012 NPPF's policy objective of delivering a wide choice of homes; revised local plan policies can be prescriptive to address the needs of groups with specific housing requirements. The environmental objective now includes reference to making effective use of land.</p> <p>The NPPF requires Local Plans to make explicit which policies are strategic policies, and these should be limited to those necessary to address the strategic priorities of the area and any cross-boundary issues. Currently, the Local Plan Part 1 makes reference to cross-boundary collaboration in BNE1 Design Excellence.</p> <p>The NPPF states that major development (i.e. sites of 10 homes or more, or 0.5ha+)... should expect at least 10% of the homes to be available for affordable home ownership. The NPPF also introduced entry-level exception sites. First Homes are also to be introduced on market-led schemes</p>

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
			from December 2021 with the opportunity for local plan policy to set local eligibility criteria and discount thresholds.
A2.	There has not been a <u>significant</u> change in local housing need numbers from that specified in your plan (accepting there will be some degree of flux).	Partly agree	Whilst the standard methodology for the calculation of housing need has not resulted in a significant change to South Derbyshire's annual housing requirement, the introduction of the 35% uplift for the twenty largest cities in England has directly affected Derby City's housing need. Derby City Council will have the capacity for new housing within the City boundary independently assessed; in the event that Derby City is unable to meet all of its housing need within the City boundary, Derby City Council will need to cooperate with its HMA partners and neighbouring authorities to establish how any unmet need will be accommodated.
A3.	You have a 5-year supply of housing land	Agree	<p>The Council has a 5-year supply of housing land as demonstrated in the <a href="#">Housing Position Paper, January 2021</a>.</p> <p>Maintaining a 5-year supply of housing land through an up-to-date local plan provides the greatest certainty for both communities and housebuilders. Therefore, the timely review of the adopted Local Plan, with a view to allocating housing sites to be delivered beyond 2028, is the proactive mechanism to maintain the 5-year supply.</p>

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement												
A4.	You are meeting housing delivery targets	Agree	The latest available <a href="#">Housing Delivery Test measurement</a> (2020) for South Derbyshire was 167% and the forecast for 2021 is also above the 95% threshold, as set out in paragraph 75 of the NPPF.												
A5.	Your plan policies are on track to deliver: (i) affordable housing targets	Disagree	<p>Affordable housing completions for the period 2019/20 were 291. This is an increase on the number recorded in the 2018/19 period when 225 affordable homes were completed. 22.52% of homes completed in the period were classed as affordable.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Gross Affordable Housing Completions 2019-20</th></tr> <tr> <th>Social Rented Homes</th><th>Shared Ownership</th><th>Affordable Rented Homes</th><th>Affordable Homes Total</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>112</td><td>75</td><td>104</td><td>291</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (January 2020) demonstrated an increase in affordable housing need to 325 affordable homes for rent per annum; adding in the requirement for 10% affordable home ownership on sites, this equates to around half of South Derbyshire's housing requirement each year.</p>	Gross Affordable Housing Completions 2019-20				Social Rented Homes	Shared Ownership	Affordable Rented Homes	Affordable Homes Total	112	75	104	291
Gross Affordable Housing Completions 2019-20															
Social Rented Homes	Shared Ownership	Affordable Rented Homes	Affordable Homes Total												
112	75	104	291												



	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
	<p>Your plan policies are on track to deliver:</p> <p>ii) other plan objectives including commercial floorspace/jobs targets over the remaining plan period.</p>	Agree	<p>The total industrial and business land need outside the Derby Urban Area within South Derbyshire between 2011 - 2028 is 47.27ha. On 31 March 2020, the amount of new land developed since 1 April 2011 was 36.77ha, with a further 0.93ha under construction at the time of the survey.</p> <p>A further 72.95ha had planning consent and 18.71ha did not yet have planning consent but was allocated for industrial and business development in the Local Plan Part 1.</p> <p>Net additional floor space delivered in the 2020/21 monitoring period was 2,885 sqm.</p>
A6.	<p>There have been no significant changes in economic conditions which could challenge the delivery of the Plan, including the policy requirements within it.</p>	Disagree	<p>The Covid-19 pandemic will have had an affect on economic conditions within South Derbyshire. The full impact will only be realised over the coming months and indeed years, however, the timely gathering of evidence leading to a local plan review, will assist in putting the District 'on the front foot' and the best economic position post Covid-19.</p> <p>The announcement of the Freeport site, which extends into South Derbyshire, may shift the economic conditions of the area over time.</p>

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
A7.	There have been no significant changes affecting viability of planned development.	Disagree	<p>Delivery of the larger housing allocations under Policies H6 (Drakelow Park) and H15 (Wragley Way) have seen delays, when compared with that anticipated at the Local Plan's adoption, due to viability constraints.</p> <p>Again, going forward, the Covid-19 pandemic may have a knock-on effect on viability.</p>
A8.	Key site allocations are delivering, or on course to deliver, in accordance with the local plan policies meaning that the delivery of the spatial strategy is not at risk.	Agree	<p>The vast majority of housing allocations have delivered as projected in the Local Plan. In respect of the two housing allocations identified in A7 above, the Council is working proactively with partners to ensure the required homes are delivered with the Plan period.</p> <p>The robustness and deliverability of the overall strategy, of accommodating Derby's unmet need on sites adjoining Derby City as well as facilitating growth in the Key Service Villages in the District, has been borne out since the Local Plan Part 1's adoption.</p>

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
A9.	There have been no significant changes to the local environmental or heritage context which have implications for the local plan approach or policies.	Partly agree	<p>The Environment Bill is set to introduce a mandatory requirement for development to deliver biodiversity net gain. The Environment Bill is expected to become an Act by winter 2021 and policies to support this new requirement will be included in the next Local Plan.</p> <p>The National context of climate change has 'changed gear' since the adoption of the Local Plan Part 1 and to adequately address current objectives through planning, to commence a local plan review is an appropriate response.</p>
A10.	There are no new sites that have become available since the finalisation of the adopted local plan which require the spatial strategy to be re-evaluated.	Agree	The spatial strategy as set out in the Local Plan Part 1 remains appropriate for the Plan period. There are no 'strategic level' sites in public ownership in the District.

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
A11.	Key planned infrastructure projects critical to plan delivery are on track and have not stalled / failed and there are no new major infrastructure programmes with implications for the growth / spatial strategy set out in the plan.	Partly agree	<p>The majority of strategic housing allocations have been delivered or are being delivered.</p> <p>A key piece of infrastructure for the delivery of Policy H6 (Drakelow) is the Walton bypass, which includes a bridge over the River Trent. An application to vary and remove various conditions to facilitate the delivery of the site was approved, subject to a revised Section 106 agreement, in May 2021.</p> <p>The delivery of Policy H15 (Wragley Way) is affected by the complexities of delivering the South Derby Integrated Transport Link (Policy INF4) and the new junction onto the A50.</p> <p>The Woodville-Swadlincote Regeneration Route (Policy INF4) is currently under construction.</p> <p>The A38 grade separation works may potentially influence housing delivery around the Derby fringe.</p>

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
A12.	All policies in the plan are achievable and effective including for the purpose of decision-making.	Agree	<p>All of the policies in the Local Plan are considered to be deliverable. In producing the annual Housing Position Paper, anticipated delivery on each housing allocation is reviewed and where sites have not come forward as originally planned, positive intervention measures have been taken to facilitate delivery within the Plan period.</p> <p>Decision making policies are largely contained within the Local Plan Part 2.</p>

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
A13.	There are no recent or forthcoming changes to another authority's development plan or planning context which would have a material impact on your plan / planning context for the area covered by your local plan.	Partly agree.	As per A2 above.

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
A14.	There are no local political changes or a revised / new corporate strategy which would require a change to the approach set out in the current plan.	Agree	<p>The recent local political changes do not necessitate an immediate change to the current local plan; any change in policy direction will be worked through the Local Plan review.</p> <p>Whilst a new Corporate Plan has been published by the Council since the adoption of the Local Plan Part 1, the new Corporate Plan is not in conflict with it.</p>

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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 9</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021</b>	<b>CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>ALLISON THOMAS, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – SERVICE DELIVERY</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>MEMBERS’ CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>MATT HOLFORD, <a href="mailto:heather.foster@southderbyshire.gov.uk">heather.foster@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:matthew.holford@southderbyshire.gov.uk">matthew.holford@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a> , 01283 595856</b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS01</b>

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## **1. Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Committee approves a revised Climate and Environment Strategy (STEMS-07-ST2).

## **2. Purpose of Report**

- 2.1 To seek Committee approval of a revised Climate and Environment Strategy following the approval of the Climate and Environment Action Plan by this Committee in May 2021 and a governance review.

## **3. Detail**

### **Background**

- 3.1 At full Council on 27 June 2019 the following pledges were made in declaring a Climate Emergency:
- Declare a Climate Emergency;
  - Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030; and
  - Achieve Carbon Neutrality for South Derbyshire before the Government target of 2050;
  - Call on the UK Government to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target realistic;
  - Work with partners across the District and region to deliver this goal through all relevant strategies;
  - Report back to Council within six months and have a standard Environmental and Development Service Committee agenda item on improvements the Council is taking to address this emergency



- 3.2 At full Council on the 16 January 2020, approval was given for the Council's first Climate and Environmental Strategy and Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020-2024. The Strategy provides the high-level aspirations for the Council to achieve the above pledges. The Plan contains the detailed actions required to deliver the Strategy.
- 3.3 The Council is accredited to the ISO14001 environmental management system and one of the commitments in this system under 'change management' is that the Council has set a minimum of three-year review period for relevant policies and strategies, unless there is a significant change which would necessitate an earlier review.
- 3.4 On 27 May 2021, at this Committee, the second revision of Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021- 2030 (STEMS-07-ST2-F1) was approved. This provided a detailed breakdown route-map to zero carbon with estimated costs to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030, as far as reasonably practicable.

### **Climate and Environment Strategy (STEMS-07-ST2)**

- 3.5 The second revision of the Climate and Environment Action Plan was a significant revisional update, requiring all associated documentation in the internal Energy and Climate Procedure (STEMS-07) to be reviewed as part of the ISO change management process.
- 3.6 This review has been undertaken and has highlighted that the Strategy needed to reference how the impacts of climate change will affect socio-economic inequalities.
- 3.7 Evidence suggest that climate change disproportionately affects those who suffer from socio-economic inequalities, including the poorest and minority groups. It is key to understand the climate impacts and decisions in the District that will impact people from different cultures and background. Therefore, the Council's actions to address the climate and ecological emergency needs to understand existing disparities and to ensure that equality, diversity and inclusion considerations are embedded in the Council's approach to carbon reduction in South Derbyshire.
- 3.8 Climate change places compounded stress on the environment, as well as on economic, social and political systems. Whether it comes in the form of unbearable heat waves, harsh winters, or extreme weather events, climate change undermines development gains and leads to shortages in basic necessities:
- Minority groups tend to live in place that are worst hit by the impacts of climate change, therefore, their poverty exacerbates their vulnerability.
  - Climate change threatens air quality, depletes water sources and limits food supply. It disrupts livelihoods, forces families from their homes and pushes people into poverty.
    - Three out of four people living in poverty rely on agriculture and natural resources to survive.
    - By 2050, climate change is set to increase those people at risk of hunger by 20%
    - Climate change could add 12 percent to 2030 food prices in Africa, where food consumption of the poorest households amounts to over 60 percent of their total spending.

- Poor people get less social support. Only a third of sub-Saharan Africans have access to financial services, while less than 10 percent of the poor in low-income countries are covered by social safety nets.
- Poor people lose more to disasters, as they are often more vulnerable. When Hurricane Mitch hit Honduras in 1998, poor people lost three times more than others, and when heavy rains flooded Mumbai in 2005, poor households lost twice as much.
- The next strongest drivers of climate-linked poverty are health effects such as higher incidences of malaria, diarrhoea and inhibition of normal growth stunting, and lower labour productivity due to extreme heat.

3.9 These socio-economic inequalities have been reflected in the Climate and Environment Strategy “adaptation and mitigation” section to ensure the Council’s recently approved Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan 2021 – 2025 is referenced and supported.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications to the approval of the revision of the Climate and Environment Strategy.
- 4.2 The financial implications of the approved 2021-2030 Climate and Environment Action Plan were considered by this Committee on 27 May 2021 and approved by Finance and management Committee on 10 June 2021.

#### **5. Corporate Implications**

##### **Employment Implications**

- 5.1 None.

##### **Legal Implications**

- 5.2 The adoption of the Strategy may offer additional leverage to support the Council in “Calling on Government to make 2030 targets a reality” as well as better positioning the Council in the event of new duties on Councils which may emerge from either the Environmental Bill or other future legislation.

##### **Corporate Plan Implications**

- 5.3 The proposals align with the key aim within the Corporate Plan:

- “Our Environment”
  - “Improve the environment of the District” to “enhance biodiversity across the district”
  - “Tackle Climate Change” to “Work with residents, businesses and partners to reduce their carbon footprint”.
- “Our People”
  - Engaging with our communities

- Supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable
- “Our Future”
  - Support economic growth and infrastructure to help with decarbonisation aims with developing skills and transforming the Council.

5.4 The proposal supports the Council’s Environmental Management System (STEMS), to ensure ‘change management’ is undertaken as part of significant change and all associated documents are updates as part of this update.

### **Risk Impact**

- 5.5 The proposals will have a beneficial mitigating action against the corporate risk of “Managing the environmental impact of incidents across the District.”
- 5.6 The proposals will also mitigate against the growing reputational risk for public sector organisations which do not have coherent carbon reduction plans.

## **6. Community Implications**

### **Consultation**

- 6.1 The proposed Climate and Environment Action Plan will be the subject of further consultation over the next 12 months.

### **Equality and Diversity Impact**

- 6.2 Beneficial - See section 3 of this report. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed as part of the revision of this Strategy.

### **Social Value Impact**

- 6.3 Beneficial.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.4 The Strategy reflects the positive environmental aspirations of the Council and has been identified as an opportunity within the ISO14001 risk and opportunity register.

## **7. Conclusion**

- 7.1 That the Committee approves the revised Climate and Environment Strategy (STEMS-07-ST2).

## **8. Background Papers**

[Finance and Management Committee, 10 June 2021](#)

[Environment and Development Services Committee, 27 May 2021.](#)

[Environment and Development Services Committee, 16 January 2020.](#)

[Environment and Development Services Committee, 16 August 2018.](#)

[Environment and Development Services Committee, 17 April 2019.](#)

[Environment and Development Services Committee, 15 August 2019.](#)

[Full Council, 27 June 2019](#)

[Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021 -2030](#) – Version 2

[Climate and Environment Strategy 2020](#) – Version 1

[Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020-2024](#) – Version 1

# Climate and Environment Strategy



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## Foreword

We in South Derbyshire have always understood the close bond between our environment and our prosperity. “Our earth, our wealth” has been the maxim on the Council’s crest since it was founded in 1974.

This has never been as true as it is now. The origins of the maxim were in the District’s long associations with the earth beneath it – the coal and clay which formed the basis of our local industry and the fertile soils which supported our agriculture.

What is now clear is that the future challenges and opportunities are in the air above us. The Climate Emergency has brought sharply into focus that business as usual isn’t an option. We all need to make the change to a low carbon future to secure the benefits we’ve enjoyed in the past.

This is daunting, but with the right mind-set it is also incredibly exciting and will create enormous opportunities. If we go into the future with optimism and a willingness to adapt, invest and change then our earth will absolutely continue to be our wealth.

This Strategy and the Plans we have developed is just the start of this change.

**Frank McArdle**

Chief Executive

**Cllr Kevin Richards**

Council Leader



## Our Aspiration

South Derbyshire District Council understands the need for urgency in tackling climate change.

On 27 June 2019 the Council declared a Climate Emergency. This committed to:

- ***Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before the Government target of 2050;***
- ***Call on the UK Government to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target realistic;***
- ***Work with partners across the District and region to deliver this goal through all relevant strategies;***
- ***Report back to Council within six months and have a standard Environmental and Development Services Committee agenda item on environmental improvements the Council is taking to address this emergency.***

These commitments underpin everything within this Strategy and the associated Action Plans which have been developed to help deliver them.

## Why the urgency?

Climate change is likely to have significant impacts on the district of South Derbyshire - on our environment, on our economy and on the whole social fabric. It will have a big impact on how the Council can deliver services in the years to come.

Since 1880 the earth has warmed by 0.85°C, which has been explicitly linked to recent human activities and in particular the burning of fossil fuels. These activities have released carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, which traps excessive levels of heat in the earth's atmosphere and affects the global climate.

The evidence is compelling. The concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in 2018 was 409 parts per million (ppm). Up until the 1960s the highest concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> over the course of the previous 800,000 years was just 300 ppm.

In 2018, The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published a [Special Report](#) detailing the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. It is predicted that this will lead to significant losses to ecosystems and biodiversity, along with huge impacts on human health and the economy.

The IPCC report called for a need for far more urgent climate action than was previously predicted, which ignited the social movement behind the 'emergency' and a greater impetus to act now to limit a global temperature rise to below 1.5°C.



Current trajectories show we are on path to 3.5°C rise. The consequences of this are dire.

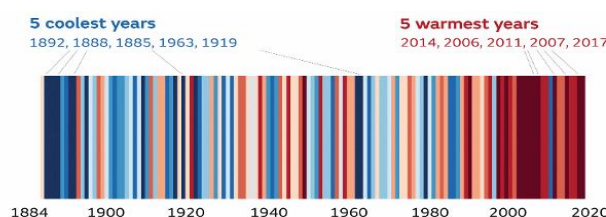


Figure 1 - UK Temperature Map

Source: Met Office  
(<https://metoffice.gov.uk>)

## What action has been taken to tackle climate change?

In 1992, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) set up global targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the [Kyoto Protocol in 1997](#) and most recently the [Paris agreement in 2015](#), of which the UK is a signatory.

The Paris Agreement set out to:

*“keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5°C.”*

In response, the IPPC published a [Special Report](#). In May 2019 the UK Government declared an environment and climate emergency. The government also altered the [Climate Change Act 2008](#) to amend the statutory target to reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions from 80% to net-zero by 2050.

South Derbyshire District Council declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019 in support of these aims.

The 2015 Paris Agreement developed the concept of ‘carbon budgets’ for all countries. In September 2019 this data was published as carbon budgets for all council administrative areas across the UK. This data has highlighted the urgency for action. The data for the area of South Derbyshire states:

***“If CO<sub>2</sub> emissions remain at the same levels as 2017, the entire District’s carbon budget will have been used by 2026”.***

## UK nature and climate crisis

The UK has seen alarming rates of ecological decline since 1970, with [“UK State of Nature 2019”](#) Report detailing that Britain has seen a 40% decline in UK species and the loss of 133 species.

Climate change will accelerate this loss. The [“UK State of the 2018 climate report”](#) identified that in the UK, the last 20 years have been the warmest on record (see figure 1) and six of the 10 wettest years on record have occurred since 1998.

Climate change brings with it the potential of invasive or non-native species that can affect the ecosystems that ensure our food security, health and wellbeing. This Climate and Environmental Strategy and the associated Action Plans have been produced to ensure that ecological affects are covered within the Council’s future actions.



## Our Core Vision, Values and Priorities

Sustainability is at the core of the Council's leadership commitment and policies. The Council has been accredited to the prestigious ISO14001 environmental management standard since 2008 and was most recently re-certified in December 2019.

The Council's recently adopted Corporate Plan 2020-2024 has principles of sustainability running right through it. The Plan sets out the Council's corporate vision to:

### ***To make South Derbyshire a great place to live, visit and invest***

The Corporate Plan sets out the three key values by which the Council will achieve its vision:

#### **Together we will:**

***Take pride in our place.*** We will promote responsible behaviour and are committed to creating a more sustainable district.

***Have respect for everyone.*** We will listen, be honest and act with integrity at all times.

***Achieve excellence in all we do.*** We will take pride in our District, always striving for continuous improvement.

The Corporate Plan has three priorities which underpin how the Council will achieve its vision:

- 1. Our Environment**
- 2. Our People**
- 3. Our Future**

The "Our Environment" priority of the Corporate Plan sets out explicit aims to help the Council achieve this priority, which are:

- **Improve the Environment of the District**
  - Reduce waste and increase composting and recycling.
  - Reduce fly tipping and litter through education, engagement and zero tolerance enforcement action where appropriate.
  - Enhance biodiversity across the District.
- **Tackle Climate Change**
  - Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030.
  - Work with residents, businesses and partners to reduce their carbon footprint.

To respond to the climate emergency appropriately, it is critical that all Council decisions consider and respond to the potential impact that they will have on the climate and wider environment. This will be embedded in decision making through policy and guidance, alongside a communication plan and training. Through procurement and partnership this responsibility will be extended to suppliers and partners engaged in activities with the Council.



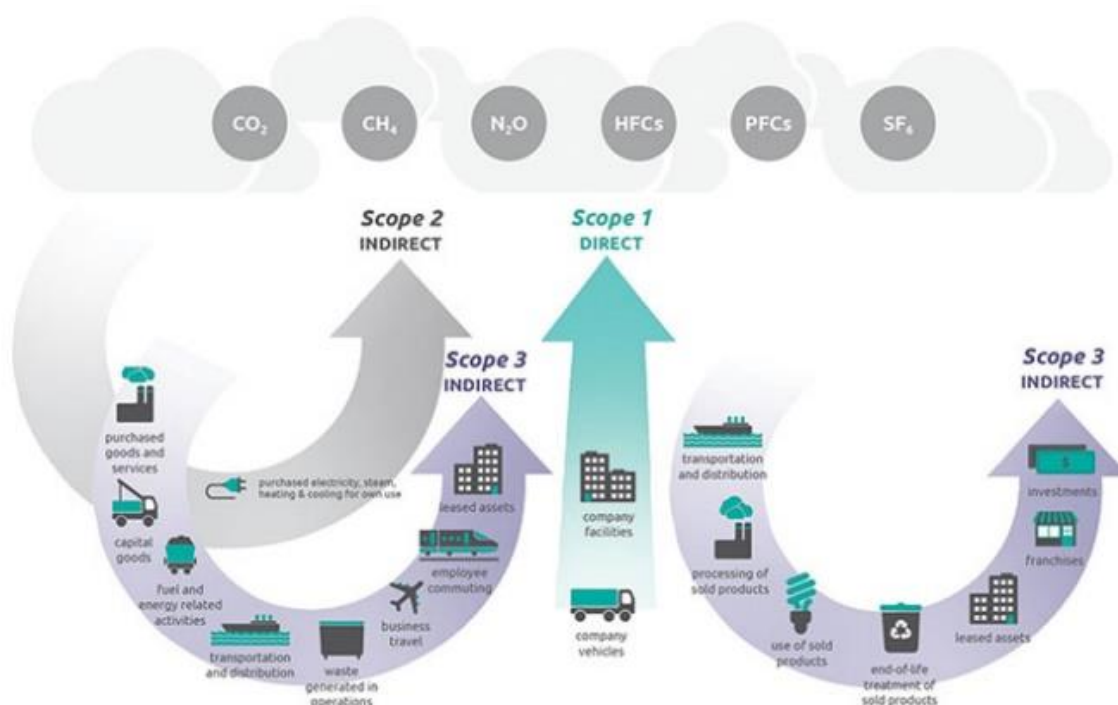
## Our Objectives and Targets

The 'Our Environment' Corporate Plan aims are supported by a range of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which will be monitored for the duration of the lifetime of the Corporate Plan. Performance against each of these KPIs is monitored and reported on a quarterly basis to the Council's Environmental and Development Services Committee.

The KPIs are as follows:

- Weight of household waste collected per head of population.
- Percentage of the collected waste which is recycled or composted.
- Number of flytipping incidents.
- Improvements to the District through the Local Environmental Quality Survey.
- Percentage of eligible new homes and developments to achieve a net gain in biodiversity by a minimum of 10% compared to sites predevelopment baseline.
- Reduce South Derbyshire District Council carbon emissions.
- Percentage of new homes to meet water efficiency targets as set out in the Part G optional standard of 110 litres of potable water usage per person per day.

## What are Carbon Emissions?



The first step in setting meaningful targets is to understand the baseline carbon impact of the Council's activities. This requires the development of a clear, consistent and repeatable method of calculating the Council's carbon equivalent emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

The Greenhouse Gas Protocol describe carbon emissions as falling within three classifications.



Scope 1 - **All Direct Emissions** from the activities of an organisation or under their control. Including fuel combustion on site such as gas boilers, fleet vehicles and air-conditioning leaks.

Scope 2 - **Indirect Emissions** from electricity purchased and used by the organisation. Emissions are created during the production of the energy and eventually used by the organisation.

Scope 3 - **All Other Indirect Emissions** from activities of the organisation, occurring from sources that it does not own or control. These are often the greatest share of the carbon footprint, covering emissions associated with business travel, procurement, waste and water.

These classifications can cause some confusion and therefore, for the sake of clarity and simplicity, the Council reporting processes will classify reporting of emissions from the Council activities into two classifications:

- Direct Emissions = Fuel used for energy - combustion
- Indirect Emissions = Purchased Electricity and associated emissions through value chain (procurement, business travel, commuting, waste disposal, investments etc)

### South Derbyshire District Council Buildings and Operational Emissions

Following the Climate Emergency declaration, the Council has developed an in-house method for calculating the CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions from its direct and indirect sources.

The Council's Emission direct (scope 1) and indirect (scope 2) for 2018/19 have been calculated at approximately **2,500 tonnes** of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

Whilst the data used for this CO<sub>2</sub>e calculation is comprehensive, it does not account for all the Council's activities. For example, the baseline accounts from "other" emissions at which account for 446 tCO<sub>2</sub>e but does not currently account for carbon associated with procurement (including contractors) etc. Data from these sources requires further collection, cleansing and analysis before it can be added to the baseline calculation.

Out of scope emissions:

- **Social housing – Indirect other emissions**

Initial analysis of the last Council housing stock review suggests that the total CO<sub>2</sub>e emission is estimated to be in the range 9,500 -13,200 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. Actions to improve the data capture from this source along with all of the other climate emergency actions are described in detail in the 2021-203 Climate & Environment Action Plan approved in May 2021.

- **Commercial property – Indirect other emissions**

All council commercial property is leased out to businesses in which they control the usage and utilities for the building. Actions to improve the energy efficiency of the buildings and opportunities for renewable on-site energy is part of the corporate asset strategy and supports this strategy.

These emissions will significantly increase the "indirect emissions" total over the lifetime of this Strategy and link with 3<sup>rd</sup> party usage, therefore are not included in the baseline but part of the action plan.

A summary of the key emissions sources associated with South Derbyshire District Council's activities in 2018/19 is provided in Figure 2.





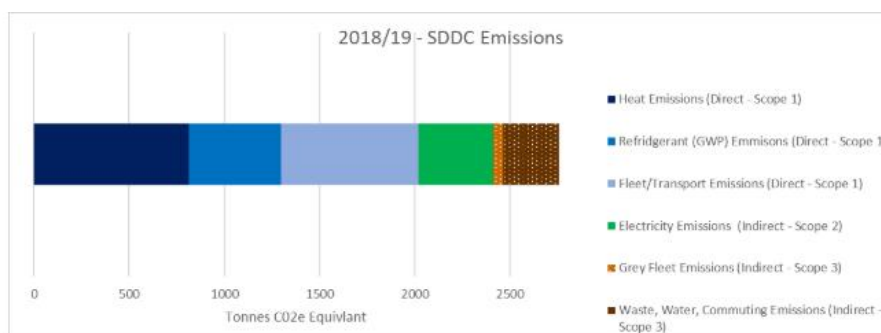


Figure 2 - SDDC 2018/19 Carbon Emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e)

## Overall Emissions Across Businesses and Communities in South Derbyshire

### District Emissions Inventory

[SCATTER](#) is a collaboration between government, consultants and academia led by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Research at the University of Manchester. SCATTER is an inventory and intervention tool detailing the estimated greenhouse gas emissions from all sources within the administrative boundary of each local authority area in the UK.

The 2017 breakdown of emissions within South Derbyshire is illustrated in Figure 3.

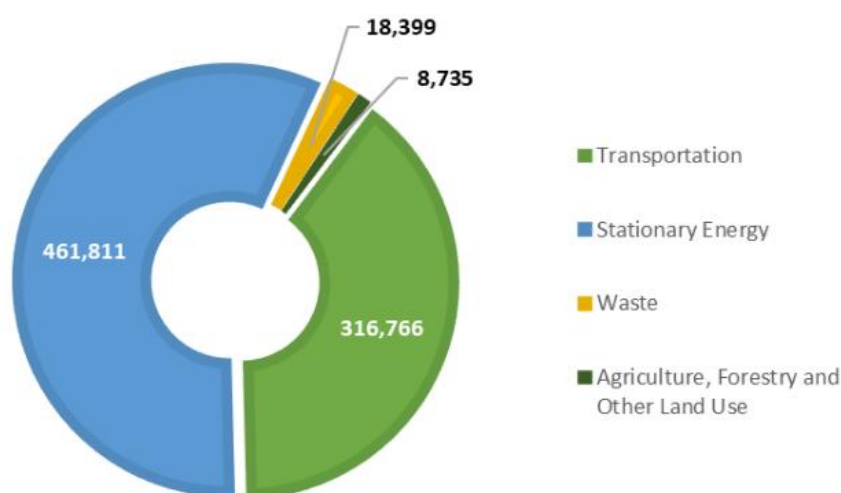
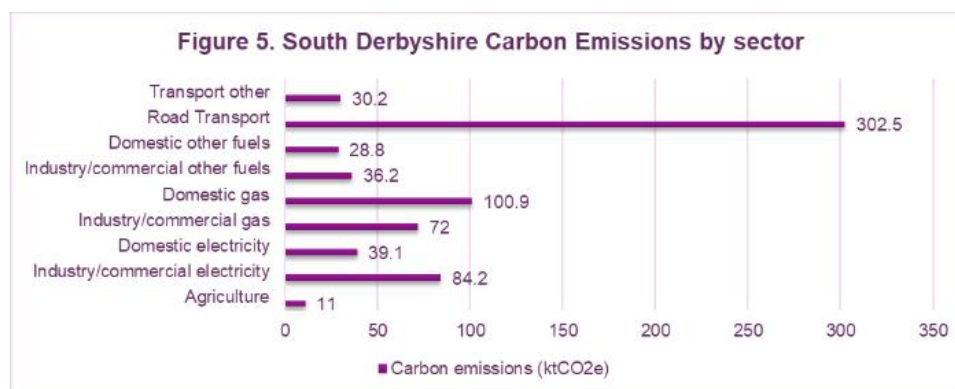


Figure 3 SCATTER data for the South Derbyshire District Emissions Inventory - Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>

SCATTER is being delivered in phases. The first phase was the creation of a predicted carbon inventory for all sources within each local authority area.

In 2020 BEIS, who collate and estimate UK local authority and region carbon dioxide emissions – 2018 baseline at **695,100 tCO<sub>2</sub>e**. Fine the break down below:





## The Carbon Budget for South Derbyshire

Carbon 'budgets' have also been produced of the total area emissions for each local authority administrative area through the [Tyndall](#) Carbon Budget tool. The tool is based on a 'grandfathering approach' (which includes historical emissions and current emissions data) with the aim of enabling the communities within each administrative area to understand the carbon budget available for all activities within the area.

Based on the current carbon budget calculation, if no action is taken within South Derbyshire, then the emissions from homes and businesses across the District will have used the available carbon budget within **six years**.

The Tyndall Carbon Budget provides recommended carbon budgets for set budget periods up until 2100 and are summarised in the following table. These figures illustrate the very rapid decarbonisation required across South Derbyshire in order to stay within the carbon budget. Figure 4 provides a graphical illustration of the scale of the carbon reduction required in South Derbyshire until the end of this century.

Carbon Period	Budget	Recommended Carbon Budget (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> )	Reduction in Annual Emissions (based on recommended pathway)
2018 - 2022		3.0	21.6%
2023 - 2027		1.5	63.3%
2028 - 2032		0.7	82.8%
2033 - 2037		0.3	91.9%
2038 - 2042		0.1	96.2%
2043 - 2047		0.1	98.2%
2048 - 2100		0.1	99.2%



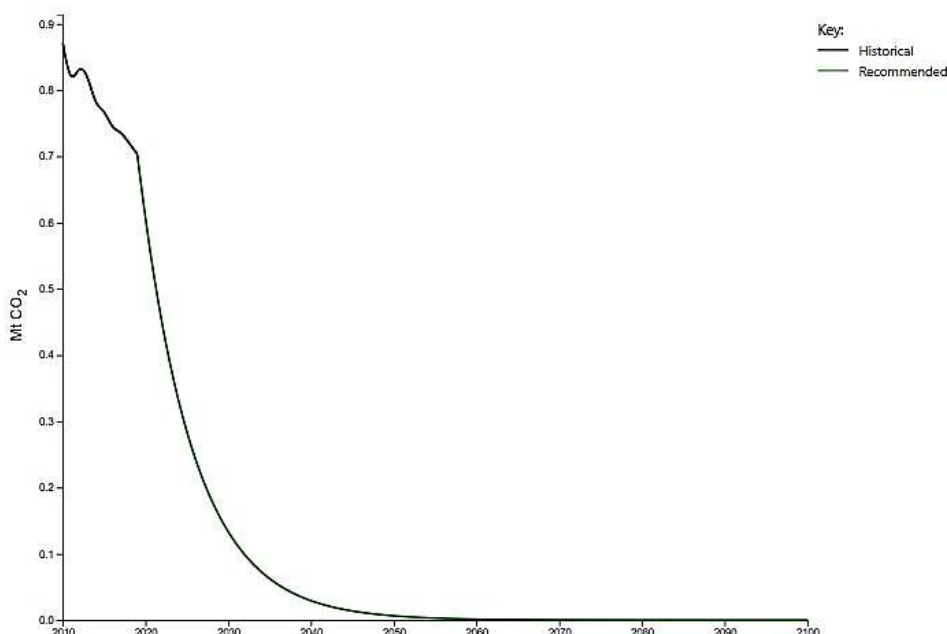


Figure 4 - Tyndall Centre

The Tyndall carbon budgets account for carbon emissions only, whereas the Council has been able to develop a calculation to determine its carbon equivalent emission. Nevertheless, the Tyndall carbon budget does include a broad range of data across all emissions sources, with the notable exceptions of aviation, shipping, military transport and lifestyle emissions.

Due to the proximity of East Midlands airport and the impact of lifestyle choices affecting emissions across district boundaries, aviation and lifestyle emissions are a shared responsibility within the District and neighbouring districts. There is an acknowledgement that in order to reach carbon neutrality there is a need for a District-wide, regional and national framework to address emissions.

### Approaching carbon reduction

The quicker that reductions are made in carbon emissions, the less the District will eat into its carbon budget and the less the adverse effects will be on global impacts. However, history is littered with examples of often well-meaning decisions made with unintentional environmentally damaging consequences. Therefore, it is critical that decisions are made with a high degree of awareness over the associated risks and likely consequences.

It is not currently technically or economically possible for activities across South Derbyshire District Council to be carried out without causing some CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions. In developing mitigation plans, the Council proposes to follow the below mitigation hierarchy:

- **Mitigation** – decarbonisation actions that reduce or remove carbon emissions, plus eliminating or reducing human impact on biodiversity.
- **Adaption**– infrastructure and biodiversity changes that alleviate the impact of climate change extreme weather events, such as flooding, storms, heat and cold temperature)
- **Sequestration** – actions that physically remove carbon emissions from the atmosphere (Last resort)
- **Biodiversity Restoration and net gain** – actions that provide ecological service support and enhancement.



- **Equality** – within decisions, prioritise the impact on those who will be disproportionately affected by climate change due to socioeconomic inequalities.

### The mitigation hierarchy

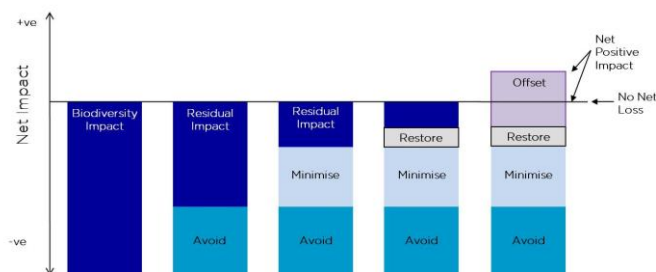
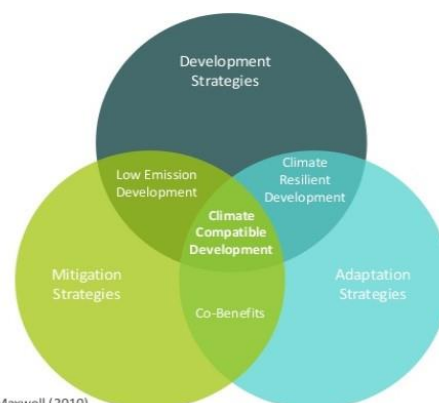


Figure 5 Mitigation Hierarchy



Source: Mitchell y Maxwell (2010)

Figure 6 Strengthening climate and biodiversity mitigation and adaption policies

## Climate change and socio-economic inequalities

Climate change disproportionately affects those who suffer from socioeconomic inequalities, including the poorest and minority groups. It is key, therefore, to understand that impacts regarding climate and the decisions made within our district will impact people of different racial, ethnic and socioeconomic groups. Our actions to address the climate and ecological crises need to understand existing disparities in reaching these groups. They must also ensure our plans include equality, diversity and inclusion in how we approach carbon reduction in South Derbyshire.

## Response to the Environment Emergency Declaration

As well as a climate emergency, the UK government declared an environmental emergency in May 2019. In order to respond fully to the environmental emergency, and in particular species decline, the Council believes that building mitigation measures for nature must also be a key part of the response to the climate emergency declaration.

The Environment Agency has advised that more needs to be done to prepare for the ecological impacts of climate change. The Agency has provided further advice to enable mitigation strategies to be developed in the event of global warming in the range 1.5 to 4°C.

The 2021-2030 Climate and Environment Action Plan associated with this Strategy also contains actions to address ecological change to a warming environment. Future iterations of this Action Plan will deliver further actions to address ecological change.



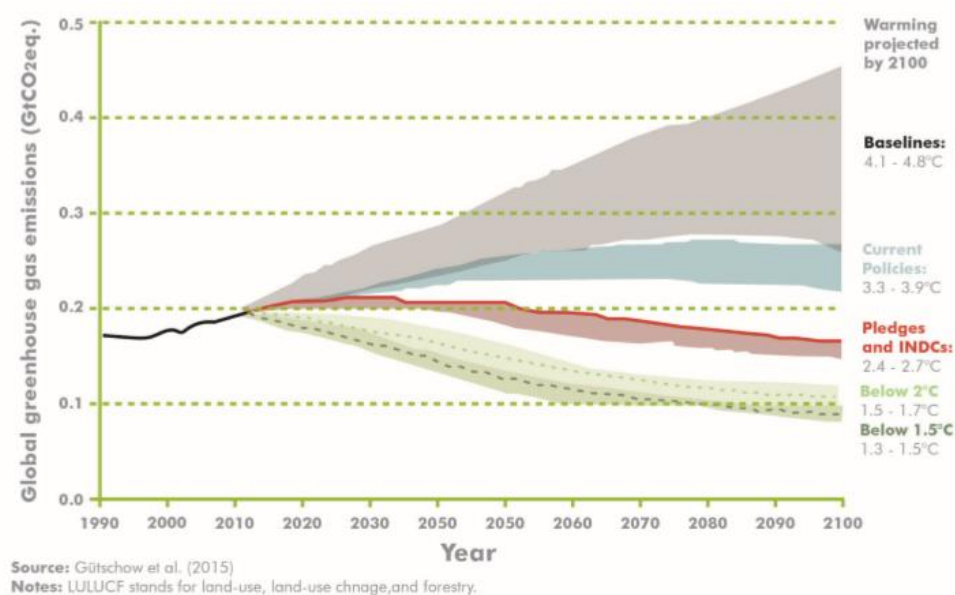


Figure 6 Met Office - Global Average Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Predicted Surface Temperature Change

## Proposed Delivery of the Climate and Environmental Strategy

### Action Plans

This Strategy provides the current evidence base which shows the extent to which South Derbyshire District Council will need to reduce its carbon equivalence emissions to meet the climate emergency aspiration. It also outlines the extent to which all emissions of carbon within South Derbyshire will need to be reduced in order to meet the Tyndall carbon budget.

The purpose of this Strategy is to take the Council through to the end date of the stated climate emergency aspirations – namely 2030. However, given the magnitude and timescale of the challenges presented by the climate emergency, it is recognised that work on both short-term and longer-term climate change actions beyond 2030 need to be developed. It is anticipated that there will be significant political, economic, social, technical and legal advances in the world of climate science over the next few years and the contents of this Strategy and the underlying Action Plans will need to be sufficiently agile to be able to change accordingly.

In 2020, South Derbyshire published an 'interim' Climate and Environment Emergency Action Plan (2020-24) setting short-term actions for the Council to get started on the carbon reduction journey and to provide some momentum and early direction to the work.

In 2021, the Climate and Environment Action Plan has been updated (2021-30) to include the pathway for the Council to be carbon neutral by 2030. The Council aims to publish a longer-term Climate and Environmental Plan (2020-2050) to provide a longer-term framework for actions to take the District up to and beyond the timescales of the climate emergency declaration. This will map out the direction for the longer journey.

### Other Relevant Corporate Strategies



Climate emergency action cuts across all Council activities. The Council, therefore, already has a number of key policies and strategies which effect, and will be affected by, the climate emergency. The content and evolution of all of these will need to be included in the climate emergency delivery. Some of the most relevant policies and strategies are as follows:

- [South Derbyshire Environmental Policy](#)
- South Derbyshire District Council Local Plan
- Supplementary Planning Documents
- South Derbyshire Economic Development Strategy 2021 - 2025
- Derbyshire Cycle Plan
- Derbyshire Air Quality Plan
- Derbyshire Climate and Environment Framework 2020
- Housing Strategy 2021 – 2025
- [Vehicle Management Strategy 2020](#)
- [Safer South Derbyshire Partnership, Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017- 2020](#)
- Procurement Strategy 2020-2024
- [Communications Strategy 2016 - 2021](#)
- [Information Technology and Digital Strategy 2017- 2020](#)
- [Staff Travel Plan](#) 2020-2024
- Economic Strategy
- Action Plan for Nature Strategy – Draft to be provided in 2021/22
- Corporate Property Asset Strategy 2020-2024
- Transformation Project 2020-2024
- [Procurement Strategy 2020-2024](#)
- [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2021-25](#)

## Working with Partners

South Derbyshire District Council has collaborated with the “Derbyshire Environment and Climate Change Framework” developed by [Derbyshire County Council](#). This is partnership involving all Derbyshire councils to help share best practice, drive change/awareness and support the development of all relevant strategies and action plans.

Action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions can only be achieved through coordinated and concerted effort from everyone – residents, voluntary organisations, businesses, public organisations and transport and agriculture sectors. Everyone needs to take action and every action, no matter how small or large, is important. The Derbyshire Environment and Climate Change Framework creates a nucleus from which coordinated and concerted activities can be developed.

## Resources & Funding

The upfront cost of delivery of the carbon budget is higher than the existing ‘business as usual’ committed investment in the environment. It is estimated that the cost to the UK economy of meeting the national carbon budget will equate to 1-2% of annual GDP. These costs are significant, however the later that the adaptations are made, the greater the costs will be and the more the carbon budget will have depleted. Put very simply, it is cheaper to mitigate in the shorter-term. The [2008 Stern Review](#) clearly set out the business case for urgent action on the climate crisis.





The costs of implementing the Climate & Environment Action Plan has been estimated and are included within the Plan which will be regularly updated to reflect changes in delivery, risks and opportunities.

Given the extensive implications of the Climate & Environment Action Plan, one of the first steps in its delivery is to take it to Council's Transformation Board in order to enable the contents of the Plan to be fully appraised.

### Communication and Engagement

Communication will form a crucial part of the success of the implementation of this Strategy. The Council will need to ensure that it helps maximise multi-channel communication within South Derbyshire in order to engage and motivate local communities, business and partners to ensure:

- A mutual understanding of climate change and how it affects Derbyshire and elsewhere;
- A shared knowledge of what could be done to tackle climate change and the barriers faced;
- The opportunity, to shape strategies and priorities, is available to everyone;
- Agreement on the role individuals, communities and organisation to tackle climate change;
- Appropriate support in place to enable work to be undertaken to tackle climate change.

South Derbyshire District Council has developed a separate Environmental Communication Plan (STEMS-05-F1) which will be reviewed annually along with the Climate and Environment Action Plan.

Considerable work is already being undertaken through a range of communications below:

Communication	Description
'Everybody's Talking about Climate Change' web-site	A web-site funded by the Local Authority Energy Partnership where residents and community groups can find out more about climate change action in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire ( <a href="http://everybodys-talking.org/">http://everybodys-talking.org/</a> )
Community Climate Action Network	A monthly newsletter funded by the Local Authority Energy Partnership Carbon Literacy
Climate Action Training	Half-day training provided by South Derbyshire District Council
Social media campaigns	World Environment Day annual campaign with Sustainability Delph Day
Liaison with a range of climate change interest groups via the Environmental Education Project team	Informal talks and discussions between local authorities and climate change interest groups Further cross-County and local engagement will take place to enable the two-way process of communication and action, outlined above, to take place. This will demonstrate how local action is linked to delivery of the key strategies



## Governance

The delivery of this Strategy is overseen by the Council's Corporate Environmental and Sustainability Group. This Group acts as the main Programme Board for activities across the organisation. The working group meets quarterly to review the process of actions.

## Definitions

Definition	Description
<b>Carbon Budget</b>	A carbon budget as defined by "Tyndall" can be defined as a quantity of greenhouse gas emissions that can be emitted from 2018 to 2100. This is the total carbon budget available to humanity.
<b>Climate Change</b>	The long-term and extreme changes in the weather patterns globally and regionally. .
<b>Climate Emergency</b>	Research suggests that humanity must reach net-zero emissions by 2030 at the latest in order to have a reasonable chance of limiting global warming to 1.5C (IPPC 2018 report)
<b>Carbon Equivalent</b>	Equivalent CO <sub>2</sub> ( <a href="#">CO2e</a> ) is the concentration of CO <sub>2</sub> that would cause the same level of radiative forcing as a given type and concentration of greenhouse gas. Examples of such greenhouse gases are methane, perfluorocarbons, and <a href="#">nitrous oxide</a> .
<b>Carbon Neutral / Carbon Neutrality</b>	Aim to deliver the lowest carbon dioxide emissions as possible by eliminating carbon emissions (e.g. reduction, innovation, sustainable design) and/or balancing emissions with carbon removal (e.g. via natural systems) For Tyndall budgets this is only accounting for CO <sub>2</sub> emissions For SDDC budgets this is accounting for all Scope 1 & 2 emissions
<b>Global Warming</b>	The rise in Earth's temperature which persists for a decade or longer.
<b>Greenhouse Gases</b>	The most important <b>greenhouse</b> gases in Earth's atmosphere are: carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ), nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> ) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF <sub>3</sub> ).
<b>Kt CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	Kilotonne carbon equivalent (1 kilotonne = 1,000 tonnes = 1,000,000 kg)
<b>Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	Megatonne carbon equivalent (1 megatonne = 1,000 kilotonnes = 1,000,000 tonnes = 1,000,000,000kg)

## Version Control

Version	Changes	Date
1	Version 1	07/01/2020
2	Updates inline with review and revision 2 of STEMS-07-F1 and updates of definitions	09/03/2021



<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 10</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021</b>	<b>CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>ALLISON THOMAS, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – SERVICE DELIVERY</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE POINT INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS15,</b>

## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Committee approves the Electric Vehicle (EV) Charge Point Infrastructure Plan to deliver a phased approach to delivering residential EV charging infrastructure in an equitable way and with due consideration to the geography of South Derbyshire.
- 1.2 That the Committee acknowledges the three phased approach will support the decarbonisation and continued future proofing of the District as the UK transport sector transitions to EV’s.
- 1.3 That the Committee welcomes that this EV Charge Point Infrastructure Plan exploits the current external funding opportunity from both the UK Government and third-party partnership. In doing so this Plan represents a further step in bridging the acknowledged gap between available Council funding and the Council’s climate neutral ambitions.

## **2.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To provide the Committee with details of current funding opportunities and how this can be exploited to support the transport sector transition to EV’s.
- 2.2 To seek Committee approval for a three phase EV Charge Point Infrastructure Plan to start the delivery of an equitable and District wide EV charge point Infrastructure and to enable the Council to facilitate the future proofing of South Derbyshire for the vehicle travelling population as the transport sector transitions to Electric Vehicles (EV’s).

## **3.0 Detail**

## Background

- 3.1 To date the Council has installed 17 EV charge points across three South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) owned car parks, all of which are in the Swadlincote urban core. This is with an aim to promote EV ownership and start the provision of an EV charge point infrastructure.
- 3.2 The acceleration of EV take up and the transition of petrol and diesel vehicles to Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEV) is inevitable with the Government's latest ban on the selling of new petrol and diesel cars likely to take effect in 2030.
- 3.3 Research undertaken by Midlands Connect forecasts the uptake of EV's across the Midlands will be up to 9% by 2025 and up to 40.5% by 2030. The National Grid is forecasting that there will be 10.6 million EV's on the UK roads by 2030 and up to 36 million by 2040.
- 3.4 Although experts agree that the majority of EV charging will be done at home and work locations, many residents in both urban and semi-rural locations do not have access to 'off-street' parking and consequently will have difficulties in home charging.
- 3.5 To support the forecasted acceleration of future EV uptake and the challenge for residents without 'off-street' parking the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) is allocating £20m of funding for 2021/22, administered by the Energy Savings Trust (EST) for eligible projects from Local Authorities that meet the funding requirements.

## District Council Proposals.

- 3.6 To continue to promote EV ownership, future proof the District, support the residents with out 'off-street' parking and take advantage of the Government and third-party funding opportunities the District Council proposes a three phased approach to the delivery of an equitable and geographical coverage of EV charging infrastructure across South Derbyshire:
- 3.7 **Phase 1** – Council owned car parks.
- 3.8 In addition to the three Council car parks where charge points have already been located, a further three Council car parks have been identified through officer analysis as potential candidate sites under the 2021/22 funding criteria. Through informal discussions with EST these have been established as having high potential to meet the OZEV requirements.
- 3.9 These three locations are at Melbourne Assembly Rooms, Hatton Station Road and Hilton Main Street. BP Pulse has agreed to survey these sites prior to bid submission to ensure they meet the Distribution Network Operators (DNO) technical and commercial requirements. The three locations will still have to be subjected to the funding application process, so there is no guarantee of success.
- 3.10 Feasibility studies have been completed on the remainder of the Council-owned public car parks and because of their limited size and/or inaccessibility to live voltage infrastructure they are currently commercially unfeasible. As the current OZEV funding requirements for commerciality and DNO costs may change in the future, a watching brief will continue in relation to these car parks. Additional Council car parks may therefore be brought forward in the future.
- 3.11 **Phase 2** – Identification of suitable Parish Council car parks.

- 3.12 Even if EV in the extra three Council-owned car parks have funding approved, the EV charge points from six Council-owned car parks will not give equitable geographical or demographic coverage across South Derbyshire.
- 3.13 An EV infrastructure charging review has identified several Parish Council car parks that could be suitable under the OZEV funding criteria. When aligned with Phase 1 they could deliver significant increase in geographical coverage across South Derbyshire as well as being more equitable, as they give better access to EV charging infrastructure for more semiurban/rural residents.
- 3.14 Although the Council can identify feasible car parks and support the process, the funding application can only be led and submitted by the relevant Parish Council. So, if all or some of these car parks meet the Operator requirements, an engagement programme with the Parish Councils needs to be established.
- 3.15 Our analysis initially identified 15 Parish Council car parks as being viable. EST agreed informally to review these sites for their suitability for OZEV funding and as a result six of these were identified as potentially suitable:
- Ashton on Trent Memorial Hall, Chellaston Lane
  - Etwall Frank Wickham Hall
  - Repton Village Hall
  - Netherseal Village Hall
  - Overseal Village Hall
  - Willington Village Hall
- 3.16 BP Pulse has informally agreed to survey these sites to establish if they meet the DNO and commercial requirements. For those car parks identified as meeting the requirements, it is proposed to engage with the relevant Parish Council to establish if they would be willing to submit a bid for funding and to identify what support the Council can give them.
- 3.17 **Phase 3** – Identify suitable ‘on-street’ parking locations across South Derbyshire.
- 3.18 In preparation for further potential funding opportunities there is a need to identify residents who live in urban areas who do not access to ‘off-street’ parking and are too far away from either Phase 1 or Phase 2 locations to effectively charge their EV’s. This could lead to further bid submission for Council owned land and/or identify Derbyshire County Council controlled land for suitable EV charge point sites.
- 3.19 The feasibility and implementation of Phase 3 will need to be in partnership with Derbyshire County Council Highways Department as they own the highways and street furniture.
- 3.20 The intended outcome of all three Phases is to obtain Committee approval to develop these EV Charge Point Infrastructure Plans to enable both the Council and relevant Parish Councils to submit funding applications in a managed and timely way.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 This proposal is for 100% funding application from third parties, where 75% of the funding for these EV charge points is through OZEV and 25% will come from BP Pulse, our Commercial Operator.
- 4.2 There are no financial implications for the Council associated with these three Phases.

- 4.3 The Commercial Operator BP Pulse, under the agreement drawn up by Derbyshire County Council, will operate the EV charge points for eight years and receive the operating revenues. After eight years, the operational responsibility and revenue will return to the Council.
- 4.4 For Phase 2, it is anticipated that the Parish Councils will require assistance to cover the costs of solicitor fees to agree the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which would need to be signed with OZEV.
- 4.5 The Council will be the accountable body. The funding application for Phases one and two will require the completion of any work approved this calendar year to be completed before 31 March 2022. Timescales for the completion of the work are largely in the hands of BP Pulse.
- 4.6 The funding is partially released at the point that the bid is confirmed as successful and fully released when the project is complete. If the project is not completed, then all funding is required to be returned to OZEV.

## **5.0 Corporate Implications**

### **Employment Implications**

- 5.1 There are no employment implications, the EV charge-point infrastructure proposals will be led by the Climate and Environment Officer.

### **Legal Implications**

- 5.2 Potential legal implications associated with the return of the operational responsibility of the EV charging point installations from BP Pulse after eight years.

### **Corporate Plan Implications**

- 5.3 These Phased proposals meet the Corporate Plan key aims of:
  - 5.3.1 Striving to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2050
  - 5.3.2 Working with residents, business and partners to reduce their carbon footprint.
  - 5.3.3 Encourage and support business development and new investment in the District.

### **Risk Impact**

- 5.4 The primary risks are identified as:
  - 5.4.1 The need for timely submission of a bid, to reduce competition from other local authorities who are at a slower point in carbon reduction uptake.
  - 5.4.2 To identify and respond to possible resistance to the proposal from local communities.
  - 5.4.3 Long-term addition of the EV infrastructure to Council assets (risk) and income generation (opportunity).

## **6.0 Community Impact**



## **Consultation**

- 6.1 The EV infrastructure commissioned to date appears to have been generally well received. There has been some concerns expressed about the EV charge point infrastructure at Arnold Close car park, based on a perception of a possible reduction of car parking spaces for residents' cars that have been converted into EV charging spaces. Specific mitigations are being developed to respond to this.
- 6.2 With reference to the proposals in this report the proposed mitigation measures are as follows:
  - 6.2.1 Ensuring car parks submitted have enough car parking spaces to cater for current residents and EV charging.
  - 6.2.2 Consultation with Committee members through this report.
  - 6.2.3 Consultation prior to the bid submission with relevant Parish Councils following approval of this report.
  - 6.2.4 Proposed local community communication and consultation once this report has been approved.

## **Equality and Diversity Impact**

- 6.3 Currently electric vehicles (EV) are more expensive than comparable petrol/diesel cars and the secondhand market for EV's is very limited. This does create an equality impact as not everyone can afford EV's. This negative impact has been mitigated by ensuring that the EV parking bays are able to be used by all local residents, irrespective of the type of car for a period of time. This allowance will be monitored, and the status may be changed as and when the uptake of EV's increases to a level where dedicated and enforced EV charging point bays are required.
- 6.4 A positive impact is that the Council are future proofing their plans to ensure that residents that do not have off-street parking are able to access EV charge points across South Derbyshire in an equitable way.

## **Social Value Impact**

- 6.5 There are a number of social value impacts to this proposal:
  - 6.5.1 South Derbyshire District Council is promoting the transition from petrol/diesel cars to EV's inline with the UK Governments agenda.
  - 6.5.2 The Council is supporting the reduction of carbon emissions from the transport sector across South Derbyshire which supports the mitigation of the climate crisis, reduces air pollution and improves the health and wellbeing of residents.

## **Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.6 The carbon emissions from the Transport Sector are responsible for 47% of the total carbon emissions of South Derbyshire and are the single highest emitting sector. Any decarbonization action, such as the promotion and increase of EV usage supports the reduction in the overall carbon footprint of the District and the improvement of environmental sustainability across South Derbyshire.

- 6.7 EV charge point infrastructure promotes and supports the reduction of the carbon footprint of its residents as well as the vehicle travelling population in general that transverses South Derbyshire. This fits with the key priority of the Corporate Plan which is to make South Derbyshire 'a better place to live, work and visit at the heart of the National Forest'.

## **7.0 Conclusions**

- 7.1 Committee approval is required for Phase One to ensure the submission of a funding bid at the beginning of September 2021.
- 7.2 Committee approval for Phase Two will enable officers to start engagement with the relevant Parish Councils and if this is productive, will lead to the subsequent progress of funding submission as in 8.1.
- 7.3 Committee approval to start the feasibility study of Phase Three will enable positive engagement with Derbyshire County Council to enable other locations in South Derbyshire to be brought forward.

## **8.0 Background Papers**

Environment and Development Services Committee, 25 November 2019 - [Staff Travel Action Plan](#)

[Full Council, 27 June 2019, Climate and Environment Strategy 2020](#)

Environmental and Development Service Committee May 2021, [Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021 -2030](#)

[Environment and Development Services Committee, Bid for Electric Vehicle Recharge Points, 24 September 2020](#)

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 11</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>ALLISON THOMAS, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY)</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT NATIONAL NIGHT FLIGHT POLICY CONSULTATION</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL WARDS</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS17</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.0 That the proposed answers to questions, as set out at Annexe A, be forwarded to the Department for Transport (DfT) as the Council's response to the National Night Flight Policy consultation.

## **2.0 Purpose of Report**

- 2.1 To agree the Council's response to the DfT National Night Flight Policy consultation.

## **3.0 Executive Summary**

- 3.1 The Government is seeking views and evidence on policy options for its future night flight policy in relation to health and economic impacts, technological advances, potential changes to its aviation noise objective and airport 'designation' criteria.
- 3.2 In relation to national policy, the consultation paper explains the Government's current approach to managing aircraft noise and separates out the matters to be considered into a number of themes before posing a series of questions in relation to each. Proposed Council responses to these questions are set out at Annexe A.

## **4.0 Detail**

- 4.1 The DfT is seeking early views and evidence on policy options for the government's future night flight policy both at the designated airports (Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted) beyond 2024 and nationally. Airport designation allows for the Secretary of State to publish notices for the purpose of limiting, or of mitigating, the effect of noise and vibration connected with the taking off or landing of aircraft at the aerodrome.

- 4.2 It should be noted that Environmental and Development Services Committee last considered airport noise generation at its meeting of 16 August 2018 in responding to the EMA Draft Noise Action Plan (NAP) (minute EDS/33 refers).
- 4.3 The section of the consultation dealing with national night flight policy seeks views on:
- the health impacts of aviation noise at night
  - the economic value of night flights
  - the advantages or disadvantages that the emergence of new technology will have in the future in relation to night noise from aircraft
  - whether the government's aviation noise objective should include a night noise specific element
  - whether the government should set criteria for airport designation.
- 4.4 The Government's approach to managing aircraft noise is based on the principles of International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) "Balanced Approach to Aircraft Noise Management". This seeks to ensure that decisions on airport operations take into account both health and economic factors. It also means that where there is a noise problem at an airport, it should be managed in a cost-efficient manner and that operating restrictions should only be introduced if there are no other ways of achieving the desired benefits. The Balanced Approach and its principles are enshrined in UK law.
- 4.5 The Government states that its aviation policy framework recognises that the costs on local communities from aircraft noise are higher during the night, particularly the health costs associated with sleep disturbance, but that it also recognises the economic importance of certain types of flights, such as express freight services, which may only be viable if they operate at night.
- 4.6 In recognising these higher costs upon local communities, the Government states that it expects the aviation industry to make extra efforts to reduce and mitigate noise from night flights. For example, the use of best-in-class aircraft and best practice operating procedures are encouraged. It also expects the industry to seek ways to provide respite wherever possible and to minimise the demand for night flights where alternatives are available. The Government also commends voluntary approaches, such as at Heathrow, which ensures that early morning arrivals do not land before 4:30am.
- 4.7 The consultation paper separates out the matters to be taken into account in reviewing night flight policy into a number of themes and asks a series of questions in relation to each. The themes are set out below and the questions posed by the government are set out at Annexe A alongside proposed Council responses to each.

#### Health impacts and economic value of night flights

- 4.8 The Government recognises that noise from aircraft at night is often regarded by communities as the most disturbing form of airport operation and that there is evidence of adverse health impacts. It has therefore sought to balance adverse health implications against the benefits such flights bring to the UK economy.

#### Future technology

- 4.9 The Government wishes to explore how future technology can benefit communities, consumers and the industry. In recent decades, there have been significant advances in airframe and engine technology that have helped reduce noise at source. Studies have shown that newer aircraft, such as the Airbus A350 and Boeing 787, are significantly quieter than those they replace. Historically, these technological advances have benefited both noise and carbon reduction aims. However, it is unclear what the future technological advances will be and whether there will continue to be reductions in both forms of environmental emission.
- 4.10 To reduce noise at source the ICAO has set progressively higher certification standards for noise emissions from civil aircraft, known as 'chapters'. The chapters set maximum acceptable noise levels for different aircraft during landing and take-off. Most civil aircraft, currently operating, fall within Chapters 3 and 4, which are quieter than the previous Chapter 2 aircraft. All new aircraft manufactured from 31 December 2017 onwards must meet the requirements of Chapter 14.

#### Proposal to include a night noise reference in the Government's noise objective

- 4.11 The Government's current policy statement, as set out in the aviation policy framework, is:

*"The Government's overall policy on aviation noise is to limit and, where possible, reduce the number of people in the UK significantly affected by aircraft noise, as part of a policy of sharing benefits of noise reduction with industry."*

- 4.12 The Government seeks views and evidence on whether there should be specific reference to the balance between the impacts of night noise and the economic benefits of both passenger and cargo operations. It would be published when the Government publishes its revised noise objective.

- 4.13 Subject to views and evidence in response to this section, the following additional statement could be included in the noise objective:

*"There should be a balance between the local and national economic and consumer benefits of night flights, both in terms of passenger and freight operations, against their social and health implications, in line with ICAO's Balanced Approach."*

- 4.14 The Government states that the intent of including a night noise reference in the Government's objective would be to provide a framework that could be applied alongside the Balanced Approach, when competent authorities set individual noise abatement objectives at airports. The aim of this statement would be to ensure that both local and national factors are considered when a noise abatement objective is set at an airport.

#### Airport designation

- 4.15 Heathrow, Gatwick, and Stansted airports have been designated for the purpose of avoiding, limiting or mitigating the effect of noise from aircraft since 1971. The SoS powers to designate airports in England and Wales and to set noise controls, which include the current night flight restrictions, are contained within the Civil Aviation Act 1982.

- 4.16 Currently there are no criteria for deciding whether an airport should be designated in England and Wales. There could be a number of factors that could be used when assessing the need for government involvement by way of designation, including population affected, number of night flights, or the strategic importance of any airports.
- 4.17 It is not proposed to designate or de-designate any airports as part of this two-stage consultation process. However, the Government is open to considering criteria for designation, that could in future be used as the framework for the designation of an airport in England and Wales.

## **5.0 Financial Implications**

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications for the Council.

## **6.0 Corporate Implications**

### Employment Implications

- 6.1 None

### Legal Implications

- 6.2 None

### Corporate Plan Implications

- 6.3 Noise from night flights may potentially have implications for the following key aim of the Corporate Plan:
- “Improving the Environment of the District”: noise generated by night flights can be detrimental to environmental quality.
  - “Support Economic Growth and Infrastructure”: EMA and linked businesses, both on and off-site, are major employers.

### Risk Impact

- 6.4 None

## **7.0 Community Implications**

### Consultation

- 7.1 This is an open consultation being conducted by the DfT.

### Equality and Diversity Impact

- 7.2 Night noise arising from air traffic movements can potentially impact residents living in locations close to airports.

### Social Value Impact

- 7.3 Night flights at EMA are mainly generated by the air cargo industry, which is a large-scale employer in this location, drawing staff from the surrounding area, including Derbyshire.



### Environmental Sustainability

7.4 Noise from night flights may potentially have implications for the following themes of the Sustainable Community Strategy:

- “Healthier Communities”: sleep disturbance from aircraft noise can be harmful to human health.
- “Sustainable Development”: EMA and linked businesses, both on and off-site, are major employers, but noise generated by night flights can be detrimental to environmental quality.

## **8.0 Conclusions**

8.1 Proposed responses to the relevant questions posed by the DfT regarding national night flight policy are set out at Annexe A.

## **9.0 Background Papers**

“Open Consultation: Night flights restrictions at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports beyond 2024, plus national night flight policy”	DfT, 2021
“East Midlands Airport Noise Action Plan 2019-2023”	EMA, 2019
“East Midlands Airport Sustainable Development Plan”	EMA, 2015
“Social Responsibility Key Performance Indicator Report”	EMA, 2019
“Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region”	World Health Organisation, 2018

## ANNEXE A

**How fair a balance between health and economic objectives do you think our current night flight approach is? Please provide evidence to support your view.**

*From a local perspective, whilst the Council recognises and welcomes the economic benefits that East Midlands Airport (EMA) brings to South Derbyshire and the region, the airport's current Noise Action Plan (NAP) provides insufficient protection to local residents from night noise. It is therefore considered that the Government's approach should be amended to give greater emphasis to protection of the health and amenity of those living close to airports.*

*In responding to the consultation on the EMA Draft NAP the Council resolved that anticipated growth in both passenger and cargo flights must be inextricably linked to no growth in aircraft noise, particularly at night (report to the Environmental and Development Services Committee meeting of 16 August 2018, minute EDS/33). Although it was noted that EMA proposed a range of operational, flight charging/surcharging and communication measures intended to control the noise impact of forecast growth in night-time operations, it was clear from the noise forecasts that these would be insufficient to prevent further growth in noise levels in the short to medium-term.*

*The most recent EMA Corporate Social Responsibility Key Performance Indicator Report, published in 2019, shows the 55dB Lnight annual noise footprint measuring 10.4km<sup>2</sup> and the adopted NAP 2019-2023 anticipates that this will grow to between over 12km<sup>2</sup> and 14km<sup>2</sup> by 2025.*

**What are your views on the health impacts of aviation noise at night (including potential impacts on different groups in society)? Please provide evidence to support your view.**

*The World Health Organisation (WHO) is the leading authority in these matters.*

*Recognising that noise has a negative impact on human health and wellbeing, the WHO strongly recommends reducing noise levels produced by aircraft during night-time below **40dB Lnight**, as night-time aircraft noise above this level is associated with adverse effects on sleep (WHO Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region, 2018).*

*The WHO 2018 Noise Guidelines supersede the 2009 Guidelines which identified a Night Noise Guideline (NNG) of 40 dBL, night, outdoors and an Interim Target (IT) of 55 dBL, night, outside. The NNG was referred to as a **“health based limit value necessary to protect the public, including the most vulnerable groups such as children, the chronically ill and the elderly.”** The IT was recommended in situations where the achievement of the NNG was not feasible in the short run. The Guidance stated that **“It should be emphasised that this interim target is not a health-based limit value in itself as vulnerable groups cannot be protected at this level. It should therefore be considered only as a feasibility based intermediate target which can be temporarily considered by policy makers for exceptional local situations”**.*

*The 2018 Guidelines represent the **“next evolutionary step, taking advantage of the growing diversity and quality standards in this research domain”**. These strongly recommend **“reducing noise levels produced by aircraft during night time below 40***

***dB Lnight as night time aircraft noise above this level is associated with adverse effects in sleep***". The Guidelines go on to strongly recommend that ***"policy-makers implement suitable measures to reduce noise exposure from aircraft in the population exposed to levels above the guideline values for night noise exposure"***. In this context a "strong" recommendation is one that ***"can be adopted as policy in most situations"***. The Guideline ***"is based on the confidence that the desirable effects of adherence to the recommendation outweigh the undesirable consequences"***.

*It should be borne in mind that these levels are reduced indoors and the WHO indicates that differences between indoor and outdoor levels are usually estimated at around 10 dB for open, 15 dB for tilted or half-open and about 25 dB for closed windows.*

*The most recent night noise contour map on the EMA website, the 'Summer 2016 average night time', shows that most of Melbourne Parish, as well as parts on Stanton by Bridge, Swarkestone and Weston on Trent parishes, fall within the 48 dB Lnight contour and that the easternmost parts of Melbourne Ward fall within the 55 dB Lnight contour.*

*Properties that are subject to average night time noise levels of 55dB or more are eligible for financial assistance through the EMA Sound Insulation Grant Scheme (SIGS). It should be borne in mind that the threshold of the area encompassing homes eligible for assistance through the scheme is based upon noise levels measured during 2001, when the 55 dB L night contour footprint was slightly larger than it has been in more recent years, meaning that some homes currently subject to lower noise levels still meet the SIGS eligibility criteria.*

*It should also be noted that over the past five years the District Council has received only five complaints about aircraft noise, three relating to night flights and two relating to general aircraft noise.*

*Whilst the preparation of the current EMA NAP predated the publication of the 2018 WHO Guidelines, the NAP anticipates the publication of the new Guidelines and states that these will be taken into account when implementing the plan. It is considered that the WHO Guidelines underscore the need to prevent growth in night noise at EMA and to review the effectiveness of the SIGS, with a view to extending coverage to include properties beyond those currently eligible where the evidence supports this.*

**What are your views on the economic value of night flights (including the potential value on different businesses and aviation sectors)? Please provide evidence to support your view.**

*The social and economic benefits which EMA brings to the local community and beyond are recognised and welcomed, with almost 8000 employees directly employed on the airport site (most recent bi-annual employment survey results published in the EMA Corporate Social Responsibility Key Performance Indicators Report 2018/19), however, the Council has previously expressed the view that currently anticipated growth in both passenger and cargo flights, as identified in the EMA Draft NAP published for consultation in 2018, must be inextricably linked to no growth in aircraft noise, particularly at night. Conversely, the adopted NAP 2019-2023 forecasts further growth in the 55dB Lnight contour footprint (see above).*

**What are your views on changes to aircraft noise at night as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic? Please provide evidence to support your view.**

*The majority of night flights at the airport are generated by the air freight industry and statistics published by the Civil Aviation Authority show that total cargo (measured by weight) handled by the airport in 2020 was some 14% higher than in 2019. They also show that during the first five months of 2021, total cargo handled was some 30% higher than for the equivalent period in 2020. Anecdotally it is understood that this increase may be partly due to growth in online shopping during lockdown and the transport of medical supplies and equipment.*

**What are the advantages or disadvantages that the emergence of new technology will have in relation to night noise from aircraft within the next 10 years? Please provide evidence to support your view.**

*Whilst it is understood that modern aircraft are significantly quieter than older models, there can be a considerable time lag between new models being brought into service for passenger use and the production of freight versions of these. For example, there was a time difference of 14 years between the B777 entering service as a passenger jet (1995) and the first use of a freighter version (2009). Likewise there was a time difference of 20 years between the A300 entering service (1974) and the first use of a freighter version (1994). It is understood that aircraft manufacturers have been slow to announce plans for freighter versions of newer models.*

*Furthermore, freight operators are often slow to retire older noisier aircraft. This is evidenced by continuing delays in the withdrawal from use of non-Chapter 4 compliant aircraft for night flights at EMA, previous targets having been missed. It is notable that the NAP 2019-2023 includes no withdrawal target date for such aircraft.*

*The full noise reduction benefits that may arise through the emergence of quieter aircraft models are therefore unlikely to be realised for many years at EMA where most night flights are generated by the air freight industry.*

*The Council takes the view that operators should be encouraged to introduce newer, quieter aircraft and withdraw older noisier aircraft from service at EMA at the earliest opportunity to ensure that growth in air cargo throughput is not accompanied by any resulting growth in noise from night flights.*

*It is understood that other technological advances, such as the use of satellite-based navigation systems and increasing automation in the operation of aircraft and air traffic control systems can bring benefits in terms of reducing deviation from noise preferred departure routes and improving rates of climb. The fullest possible use must be made of these and any other technologies that may facilitate noise reduction.*

**Should we include a reference to night noise when we publish a revised aviation noise objective?**

*The proposed additional wording for the Government's night noise objective appears to represent a significant weakening of the position in relation to night noise limitation in favour of economic objectives and is therefore strongly opposed. The Council fully recognises and*

*welcomes the employment and other economic benefits generated by airports, but any revised wording should clearly state that there should be no growth in local night noise, recognising that the phasing out of the use of older aircraft and the full deployment of other technology and noise reducing operational practices can allow for some growth in cargo and passenger throughput whilst avoiding any increase in night noise.*

**What factors relating to night noise should we include if we do introduce a noise reference in our revised aviation noise objective?**

*Any revised wording should clearly state that there should be no growth in night noise at airports, recognising that the phasing out of the use of older aircraft and the full deployment of other technology and noise reducing operational practices can allow some growth in cargo and passenger throughput whilst avoiding any further growth in night noise.*

**Should the government set criteria for airport designation?**

*It would seem sensible to replace the current arbitrary approach to airport designation by identifying criteria.*

**What do you think are the advantages to the government setting criteria for airport designation?**

*It could bring openness, transparency and consistency to the decision-making process and thereby enhance public confidence in the system for controlling airport noise.*

**What do you think are the disadvantages to the government setting criteria for airport designation?**

*This would be dependent upon the Government's stance in regard to balancing economic and noise disturbance objectives. The EMA NAP 2019-2023 already accommodates continued growth in night noise above current levels against the stated wishes of the Council. Therefore, any strengthening of night noise controls and mitigation as a consequence of designation would be welcomed by the Council, whereas the opposite would be the case were night-time noise to be allowed to continue to increase. The Government's proposed new wording to be added to its aviation noise objective gives rise to concern in this regard.*

**What factors, if any, do you think we should consider when setting criteria for designation?**

- *Current and forecast land area falling within the 40dB Lnight noise footprint*
- *Current and forecast numbers of residents living within the 40dB Lnight noise footprint*
- *Current and forecast numbers of night-time (23.00 – 07.00) air traffic movements.*

**How should any criteria for designation be agreed?**

*The criteria for designation should be agreed through an open consultation process thus providing all parties with an interest, including local authorities, parish councils and amenity groups, the opportunity to express their views and influence the outcome.*

**What impact, if any, do you think the designation of an airport would have on communities; airports; airport users; airlines; business in and around airports**

*In regard to all the above the impact of designation would be dependent upon the Government's stance in relation to the balance of economic and noise disturbance objectives. Continued growth in night noise and the loosening of night noise controls and mitigation would be detrimental to communities situated in close proximity to airports. Conversely Government intervention to strengthen controls by prohibiting growth in night noise; requiring the early withdrawal of older, noisier aircraft, particularly those which are non-Chapter 4 compliant and in due course those which are non-Chapter 14 compliant; and enhancing other noise control and mitigation measures to ensure that they reflect WHO noise guidelines could provide better protection for local communities.*



<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 12</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021</b>	<b>CATEGORY: (See Notes) DELEGATED or RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>ALLISON THOMAS, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – SERVICE DELIVERY</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS’ CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>ALLISON THOMAS, 5775 <a href="mailto:allison.thomas@southderbyshire.gov.uk">allison.thomas@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a></b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT: WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ACTION PLAN FOR NATURE ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS01</b>

## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Committee notes the scope and content of the Action Plan for Nature prepared for the Council by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust.
- 1.2 That the Committee approves the Action Plan for Nature Work Programme.

## **2.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To update the Committee on the development of the Action Plan for Nature for South Derbyshire and the proposed work programme to deliver enhancements to biodiversity within the District.

## **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 The South Derbyshire District Council Corporate Plan sets out key aims for the period 2020-2024. These are:
  - Keeping a clean, green District for future generations by improving the environment of the District; tackling climate change and enhancing the attractiveness of South Derbyshire.
  - Working with communities and meeting the future needs of the District by engaging with our communities; supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable and delivering excellent services; and
  - Growing our District and our skills base by developing skills and careers; supporting economic growth and infrastructure and transforming the Council
- 3.2 The Council committed to preparing a Biodiversity Action Plan within the Corporate Plan (ref E1.3). This Plan, known as the Action Plan for Nature has now been finalised by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust with support from FPCR (an Environmental

Consultancy Company). Derbyshire Wildlife Trust have worked collaboratively with the Council's Biodiversity Working Group over the past year. A final copy of the Action Plan for Nature (APN) is appended to this report together with the work programme which has been compiled by the Biodiversity Working Group following receipt of the APN. In brief the Plan sets out to ensure that the Council can take an integrated approach to delivering biodiversity enhancements across the District by:

- providing an assessment of baseline biodiversity within the District;
- highlighting existing habitat networks and the District's key locations;
- identifying strategic gaps in biodiversity provision;
- proposing opportunities for habitat enhancement and creation, both strategically and spatially through modelling and stakeholder consultations;
- identifying spatial priorities for habitat and species recovery;
- outlining funding, community involvement, partnership and policy opportunities and highlighting any potential challenges.

3.3 The work programme then seeks to map out short to medium-term actions to improve biodiversity through a combination of changes and enhancements to the Council's own functions and management and joint working with other public bodies, charities and stakeholders that have a role in improving and managing the Natural Environment. The APN provides much of the evidence and guidance that underpins the work programme, although some of the activities are already ongoing reflecting the fact that the Council has already been actively working on its own initiative and with partners to improve the environment in accordance with the aims of the Corporate Plan. However, the APN and associated work programme sets out the full range of projects and activities the Council is seeking to deliver and the timeframe over which these will be brought forward.

3.4 The APN and associated work programme will help focus Council resources on those projects and locations which are likely to have the greatest benefits and will ensure that the Council can work productively both across Council Services and with external bodies to significantly improve biodiversity in the District and beyond. It should be noted however, that the APN and work program will, by design, have a limited shelf life. The legislative and policy backdrop in respect of biodiversity and environmental protection is currently subject to very significant change. The Environment Bill is currently making its way through parliament and is likely to be enacted later this year. In addition, significant changes to the planning system are currently proposed.

3.5 This report does not describe in detail the scope and content of changes proposed but the Government is seeking to restore natural habitats and increase biodiversity and the Environment Act will include a new legally binding target on species abundance to halt the very recent significant declines in species. However, it will take a number of years for all of the emerging legislation and policy to fall into place. In this period the Council will need to work, most likely at a sub-regional or city region level<sup>1</sup> with partners to create a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (a further proposed requirement of the Environment Bill) and eventually this may update the Council's approach to enhancing biodiversity and joint-working. In the interim, however, the APN and work programme will provide a clear list of priorities and actions that can help the Council deliver against the aims of the Corporate Plan and prepare for the greater role the Council will need to play in conserving and enhancing biodiversity.

## **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 It is expected that the actions outlined in the work programme can be delivered within existing staff resources, subject to the timely appointment the committed posts within the review of Cultural and Community Services. However, duties imposed through the enactment of the Environment Bill and other legislation, or through the addition of other unidentified biodiversity work could place additional resource burdens on the Council. These could have financial implications which will need to be kept under review.

## **5.0 Corporate Implications**

### **Employment Implications**

- 5.1 Changes to the management of sites can in some circumstances be more intensive than established management regimes, there will be a likely need for additional training in some services
- 5.2 The progression of many actions outlined in the work programme will fall to the Council's new biodiversity officer. Any failure to recruit to this post in a timely way could affect the delivery of some of the actions outlined.

### **Legal Implications**

- 5.3 All public authorities in England have a duty to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of their policy or decision making.

### **Corporate Plan Implications**

- 5.4 As previously noted the Corporate Plan commits to keeping a clean, green District for future generations and includes aims to improve the environment of the District; tackle climate change and enhance the attractiveness of South Derbyshire. Specifically, the Service Plan for the Service Delivery Directorate commits to the Delivery of Biodiversity Action Plan through the Biodiversity Working Group.

### **Risk Impact**

- 5.5 There is increased awareness from the public about the decline in biodiversity. Failure to adequately protect and enhance biodiversity within and around South Derbyshire will lead to further declines in the condition of the natural environment and could compromise the ability of the Council to deliver the Government's commitment to reversing the loss of biodiversity, as well as Corporate Plan aims to improve the environment of the District.

## **6.0 Community Impact**

### **Consultation**

- 6.1 Not applicable

### **Equality and Diversity Impact**

- 6.2 Not applicable

### **Social Value Impact**

- 6.3 Improving biodiversity and access to biodiversity is known support the health and wellbeing of local communities.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.4 The APN and work programme will help to improve the environmental sustainability of the Council's management of its own land as well as influence the delivery of environmental enhancements of that or other landowners and partners.

## South Derbyshire District Council's Action Plan for Nature

### 1.1 Introduction

- 1.2 This document supplements the Council's Action Plan for Nature. The Action Plan for Nature (APN) was drafted by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, with technical support from FPCR (An Environmental Consultancy) to provide information to South Derbyshire District Council on policy guidance objectives relating to biodiversity, to review the location and extent of natural habitats in South Derbyshire and identify those areas where new habitat creation should be prioritised in order to maximise the opportunities the Council has for supporting local nature recovery. A primary purpose of the APN is to provide a key piece of evidence to support the delivery of a new Local Plan. However, the information the APN includes is also a critical first step in helping the Council understand the condition of biodiversity in the District and the opportunities that exist to improve it. The information in the APN can be used to underpin a strategic approach, target how and where we prioritise our resources and actions to achieve maximum biodiversity delivery prior to the preparation of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) which will be a central requirement of the Environment Bill currently going through Parliament.
- 1.3 In order to help guide the Council's strategic approach to enhancing biodiversity the Biodiversity Working Group has identified a vision, towards which the Council and its partners will work. This is then supplemented by a mission which builds on the priorities outlined in the Council's Corporate Plan. These are outlined below.

## Our Strategic Approach

### 2.1 Vision

- 2.1.1 "South Derbyshire will be a District where the natural habitats and biodiversity of its open spaces, outdoor environment green spaces, are fully valued, properly managed and protected so that they can make their optimum contribution to the natural capital and ecosystem services of the District, the health and well-being of the community, whilst providing pleasure to today's residents and visitors and future generations."

### 2.2 Mission

- 2.2.1 To protect, improve, increase and sustain the District's biodiversity of habitats and species, on Council land; to provide connectivity through the National Forest and beyond; to improve the Council's skills and knowledge of the natural environment; contribute towards climate change adaptation and resilience; improve biodiversity and the intrinsic value and the services that habitats and species provides within and around South Derbyshire; enhance the health and wellbeing of local residents; and support economic prosperity of the District through continued environmental enhancement for the benefit of current and future generations.

## 2.3 Core Aims

The aims of the Action Plan for Nature and associated work programme are to:

1. Ensure the Council complies with all its duties to protect and enhance biodiversity and secure nature recovery
2. Value and improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of the District's habitats and biodiversity
3. Ensure that the District's natural capital, tree canopy, ecological network, ecosystem services, habitats and biodiversity contribute to a healthier and more attractive local environment
4. Effectively manage the impact of invasive/ undesirable species, pests and diseases on the natural environment, the Council's land and residents, businesses and organisations
5. Raise the profile, value and understanding of the importance, of habitats and biodiversity (and related matters) for the benefit of the District
6. Maximise all available financial and human resources to deliver agreed objectives and action plans for nature.

To achieve the vision, mission and aims, the Biodiversity Working Group has identified the following objectives:

- 1 To support climate change adaptation and the provisioning of natural capital and ecosystem services.
- 2 To support biodiversity enhancements to Council owned and managed sites.
- 3 To work proactively with the community and other stakeholders to protect existing ecologically important sites and areas and deliver biodiversity projects within and adjoining South Derbyshire
- 4 To improve skills and development capability in the Council, to put biodiversity at the heart of decision making and project implementation
- 5 To provide greater access to nature without compromising protection; to support the health and wellbeing of communities
- 6 To think creatively about how the delivery of biodiversity outcomes can be boosted in South Derbyshire

Following the preparation of the APN the Council, the Council's Biodiversity Working Group has now drafted a work programme highlighting how the delivery of programmes and projects will be prioritised in light of the objectives that have been identified. By necessity, it is essential that any programme or project plan retains flexibility to allow change as new opportunities arise, as funding or grants become available, or new partnerships are formed. But that does not mean that projects cannot be planned or prioritised. For this reason, an Action Plan for Nature Work Programme is included below to outline the strategic, or site-based projects the Council will seek to prioritise ahead of the preparation of a mandatory Local Nature Recovery Strategy as prescribed in the emerging Environment Bill. This work programme will seek to outline the timeframe over which priority projects are likely to come forward. This document will also outline the expected outcomes, the organisations the Council expects, or may need to work with and the proposals for monitoring success. Just as importantly it will consider what wider lessons officers expect to learn from individual projects in order to support longer term corporate



decision making about how sites are managed, deliver biodiversity net gain, assess opportunities to commercialise services or work with communities who may want to take a more active role in managing sites for biodiversity.

## Action Plan for Nature: Work Programme

Objective 1. To support climate change adaptation and the provisioning of natural capital and ecosystem services.						
Number	Action	Council lead	Potential Partners	Measure	Time Frame	Priority
1.1	Develop and deliver a ten-year tree planting programme for Council owned sites with relevant partners and support tree planting on private land.	HoCCS & (EEP)	National Forest Company Forestry England Woodland Trust National Trust	No of trees planted by the Council proportion of Tree planted by the Council surviving. Number of trees provided through Free Tree Scheme	Start autumn/ winter 2021	High
1.2	Develop and deliver a ten-year grassland/ meadow planting and improvement programme for Council owned or managed sites with relevant partners, following policy review	HoCCS	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Forestry England Parish Councils Derbyshire County Council	Square metreage of new meadow created on Council Open Space Square metreage of existing meadow improved Percentage of floral species improvement for Core Sites over 5 years	Start spring 2022	High
1.3	Develop and deliver a programme of hedgerow planting and improvement projects with relevant partners, to improve connectivity	HOCCS	National Forest Company Forestry England Woodland Trust Highways Parish Councils	Linear meterage new hedgerow Linear meterage of gapping-up Linear metreage hedge base improvement	Start autumn/ winter 2022	High
1.4	Work with partners to deliver Natural Flood Management projects to reduce flood risk and reconnect watercourses to their floodplain.	HoP&SH	Trent Rivers Trust Environment Agency Severn Trent Water Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Lead Local Flood Authority	Hectares of NFM interventions delivered	ongoing	High

## Objective 2. To support biodiversity protection and enhancements to Council owned and managed sites.

Number	Action	Who	Potential Partners	Measure	Time Frame	Priority
2.1	Deliver Swadlincote Woodlands Management Plan and gain Local Nature Reserve (LNR) status	HoCCS	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	Gain LNR status and deliver the appropriate elements of the Swadlincote Woodlands Action Plan.	2021	High
2.2	Identify all potential nature sites managed by the Council which have potential for biodiversity enhancement	HoCCS	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Derbyshire County Council	All potential sites included in list and updated as appropriate	April 2022 and ongoing	High
2.3	Develop and deliver a programme of habitat/species surveys for all identified Core <sup>1</sup> nature sites	HoCCS	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	Programme of surveys on 5-yearly basis for core sites  Less frequent programme of surveys for non-core sites to be agreed.	April 2022 and ongoing	High
2.4	Use strategic significance maps to prioritise land for habitat creation or enhancement.	HoCCS HoP&SH	--	Review maps and their relevance to nature sites	April 2022 and ongoing	High
2.5	Develop and deliver proportionate management plans and/or prescriptions as appropriate for each site with focus on Core sites	HoCCS	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	Prescriptions delivered as agreed	April 2022 and ongoing	High

<sup>1</sup> Sites actively managed for biodiversity

<b>2.6</b>	Develop management/ action plans to deal with invasive/ undesirable species, pests and diseases etc.	HoCCS HoH	--	Develop management plans/ prescriptions for priority sites on rolling programme	Sept 2021 and ongoing	<b>High</b>
<b>2.7</b>	Continue to implement and monitor road verge trials to inform long-term changes to the management of appropriate verges in the interests of biodiversity.	<b>HoOS</b> <b>HoCCS</b>	Derbyshire County Council Highways	Review complete and actions implemented	April 2023 and ongoing	<b>High</b>
<b>2.8</b>	Review Council owned sites that can be put forward for the creation of new ponds to accommodate great crested newts as part of Natural England's (NE) District Level Licencing (DLL) Scheme and support NE with the future management of the scheme	HoP&SH	Natural England Wildscapes	Review completed  Attendance of District Level Licencing Steering group meeting.	September 2021	<b>High</b>
<b>2.9</b>	Review management policies, specifications and methods for parks, green spaces (including local green spaces) and recreational/ amenity areas (and other non-core nature sites) and identify opportunities for the optimal rewilding of sites to improve biodiversity and increase ecological features on recreational or amenity sites.	HoCCS	--	Review completed and actions implemented	April 2023 and ongoing	<b>Medium</b>

**Objective 3: To work proactively with the community and other stakeholders to protect existing ecologically important sites and areas and deliver biodiversity projects within and adjoining South Derbyshire**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Potential Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Priority</b>
<b>3.1</b>	Use biodiversity opportunity mapping included in the APN to inform Local Plan preparation.	HoP&SH	--	Site allocations and policies to reflect BOM and other evidence included in the APN	TBC	<b>High</b>
<b>3.2</b>	Use recently prepared Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping to inform the preparation of any master-planning of existing large development sites allocated in the Adopted Plan	HoP&SH	--	Site masterplanning reflects BOM and other evidence	TBC	<b>High</b>
<b>3.3</b>	Continue to play an active role in the River Mease Partnership to deliver water quality and habitat improvements within the River Mease Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and its catchment	HoP&SH	North West Leicestershire DC Lichfield DC Environment Agency Natural England Severn Trent Water Trent Rivers Trust	Preparation and implementation of an updated Developer Contribution Scheme (DCS) to be adopted by the Council	Feb 23	<b>High</b>
<b>3.4</b>	Deliver Education programme for local schools (including raising awareness of the River Mease Special Area of Conservation).	HoCCS (EEP)	Mease Partnership (As above)		Autumn 23	<b>High</b>
<b>3.5</b>	Work constructively with Derbyshire County Council to deliver its Natural Capital Study and any future Local Nature Recovery Strategy or other requirements of the emerging Environment Act.	HoP&SH HoCCS HoES	Derbyshire County Council Other Derbyshire Districts/ Boroughs	Completion of NCS Completion of LNRS	Spring 23 TBC	<b>High</b>
<b>3.6</b>	Continue to develop the role of Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in providing guidance and support in delivering projects	<b>HoCCS</b>	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	SLA performance measures	Ongoing	<b>High</b>

				Set up regular meeting to discuss joint or individual projects being progressed in the District		
<b>3.7</b>	Continue to develop partnerships and devolved management to parish councils and others in managing suitable Council sites	<b>HoCCS</b>	Parish Councils	Number of sites managed by partners Quality improvement of sites as monitored.	Ongoing	<b>Medium</b>
<b>3.8</b>	Continue to develop working relationships with relevant wildlife groups, local groups and organisations to support plan objectives	<b>HoCCS</b>	--	Number of relevant groups involved	April 2022 and ongoing	<b>Medium</b>
<b>3.9</b>	Explore the engagement of farmers and other landowner in the River Mease catchment re opportunities to deliver BNG through the Farmers' Facilitation Meeting	<b>HoCCS</b>	Natural England Environment Agency Trent River Trust	Attendance of FFM as recommended in APN if considered appropriate	April 2022	<b>Medium</b>
<b>3.10</b>	Encourage and support individuals and groups in identifying and submitting species records	HoCCS (EEP)	South Derbyshire Environmental Forum Network Derbyshire Biological Records Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No of records submitted to DBRC</li> <li>No of species Identification training opportunities shared/ delivered in South Derbyshire</li> </ul> <p>Baseline data from DBRC / SDDC webpage analytics and from the SD Env Forum network data</p>	April 2022	<b>Medium</b>



**Objective 4. To improve skills and development capability in the Council to put biodiversity at the heart of decision making, service delivery and project implementation**

Number	Action	Who	Potential Partners	Measure	Time Frame	Priority
4.1	Map and keep updated management information on Core and non- Core <sup>2</sup> nature sites.	HoOS HoCCS	--	Initial mapping and data gathering ongoing	December 2021	High
4.2	Establish processes in planning and community services to ensure that any mandatory BNG requirements introduced as part of the Environment Act can be integrated into decision taking.	HoP&SH HoCCS	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	Council processes updated and 10% biodiversity gain secured on all development sites caught by BNG requirements.	Autumn 2023	High
4.3	Develop training programmes for staff and volunteers directly involved in delivering site biodiversity improvements	HoCCS & EEP HoOS	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust TCV: The Conservation Volunteers South Derbyshire Environmental Forum Network	Training modules developed and delivered	Autumn 2021	High
4.4	Develop training modules for all staff relating to Biodiversity duty etc.	HoCCS & EEP HoES	--	Training modules developed and delivered	April 2022 and ongoing	Medium

<sup>2</sup> Sites which are not currently actively managed for biodiversity (for example local parks), but could subject to changed management to provide some contribution towards biodiversity.

**Objective 5: To provide greater access to nature without compromising protection; to support the health and wellbeing of communities**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Potential Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Priority</b>
<b>5.1</b>	Explore opportunities and funding for social (green) prescribing/ identify exercise routes and active environmental engagement opportunities at suitable sites	HoCCS/ EEP	NHS/CCGs	Programme developed/ delivered No of site improvements delivered by volunteers on GSP programmes	April 2022 and ongoing	<b>High</b>
<b>5.2</b>	Deliver environmental volunteering opportunities for individuals, groups, schools, businesses on council owned/ managed land and community owned/ managed sites.	HoCCS/ EEP	South Derbyshire Environmental Forum Network	No of volunteer hours No of site improvements completed No of businesses engaging with sites	April 2022 and ongoing	<b>High</b>
<b>5.3</b>	Continue to develop the role of The Conservation Volunteers in maintaining and improving nature sites	HoCCS	The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)	Number of volunteer hours Projects completed	Ongoing	<b>High</b>
<b>5.4</b>	Review each nature site with a view to allowing/ deterring access as appropriate with plans for required amendments	HoCCS	--	Review completed and implemented	April 2022 and ongoing	<b>Medium</b>
<b>5.5</b>	Support wildlife groups, schools and community groups etc. in developing suitable projects on appropriate Council sites	HoCCS & EEP	Schools Parish Councils	Number of groups involved/ projects completed	April 2022 and ongoing	<b>Medium</b>

<b>5.6</b>	To support improved accessibility to sites designated as local green spaces where opportunities arise	HoP&SS	Parish Councils	No of designated Local Green Spaces where improvements to accessibility have been delivered.	ongoing	<b>Medium</b>
<b>5.7</b>	Support individuals, businesses and communities to improve their own land – garden or site- for biodiversity through training, networking and provision of encouragement and information	HoCCS/EEP	South Derbyshire Environmental Forum Network	No of events which involve wildlife education No of individuals and communities taking part in Free Tree scheme (see also 1.1)	Ongoing	<b>Medium</b>

**Objective 6: To think creatively about how the delivery of biodiversity outcomes can be boosted in South Derbyshire**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Potential Partners</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Priority</b>
<b>6.1</b>	Develop a communications plan to promote and champion biodiversity protection and improvement in the District	HoCCS Comms	--	Comms plan created and delivered	April 2022 and ongoing	<b>High</b>
<b>6.2</b>	Review potential to use green space/ nature sites in BNG schemes	HoCCS HoP&SH HoOS	--	Review completed	September 2023 and ongoing	<b>High /Medium</b>
<b>6.3</b>	Consider the potential to acquire/ adopt land for BNG enhancement or habitat creation or work with partners to deliver local schemes.	HoCCS HoP&SH HoF HoOS	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust National Forest River Mease Partnership	Local scheme implemented	September 2023 and ongoing	<b>Medium</b>

**Notes:**

HoCCS: Head of Cultural and Communities Services

HoOS: Head of Operational Service

HoP&SH: Head of Planning and Strategic Housing

EEP: Environmental Education Project

HoES: Head of Environmental Services

# SOUTH DERBYSHIRE ACTION PLAN FOR NATURE



2021

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## Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone that has been involved in the production of this report, at what has been a strange and hard time for collaborative working. In particular, the author would like to thank Kevin Exley at South Derbyshire District Council for all his input and patience. Thank you for the invaluable habitat modelling support provided by FPCR, in particular John Williams and Sam Arthur. Finally, thank you to all the organisations that were involved in the production of the stakeholder opportunity maps.



Produced by

**Derbyshire**  
Wildlife Trust



On behalf of

**South  
Derbyshire**  
District Council



With support from

## Summary

The Action Plan for Nature provides a strategic and spatial plan for nature's recovery in the South Derbyshire District. Habitat networks were analysed from existing datasets and the CEH Land Cover mapping was used to provide full coverage of broad habitats across the district. Data analysis and modelling was completed using QGIS and Condatis which determined strategically important areas within the district for habitat enhancement, restoration or creation, based on the three broad habitat types existing within the district; Grassland, Woodland and Wetland. Use of Condatis flow models suggested key areas for habitat protection and expansion based on species movement and connectivity bottlenecks, providing spatial priorities for connectivity enhancement. The key strategic areas identified in the modelling shows the suitability of sites for enhancement or creation and will be especially useful for determining biodiversity net gain schemes or planning decisions, in order to strengthen the nature recover network and contribute positively towards ecosystem services. This information should feed into the Local Recovery Plan and determine future planning policy.

A number of geographical areas were identified as being strategically significant for enhancement or creation of all three broad habitat types and should provide the basis for nature recovery efforts going forward. These are the Trent Valley, Dove Valley and the Calke Park/Staunton Harold/Foremark area. Two areas, Radbourne Park and Drakelow, were highlighted as being bottlenecks for species dispersal for more than one broad habitat type, which suggests they are of high importance for habitat protection, enhancement and surrounding habitat creation. The maps provided in the report provide a more detailed analysis of strategic areas.

Further spatial and feasibility data was provided through stakeholder consultation with major landowners to determine biodiversity opportunities, either through identification of land, funding or partnerships. This identified a number of current or future opportunities which can then be assessed against the strategic area mapping for their suitability and priority.

## Introduction

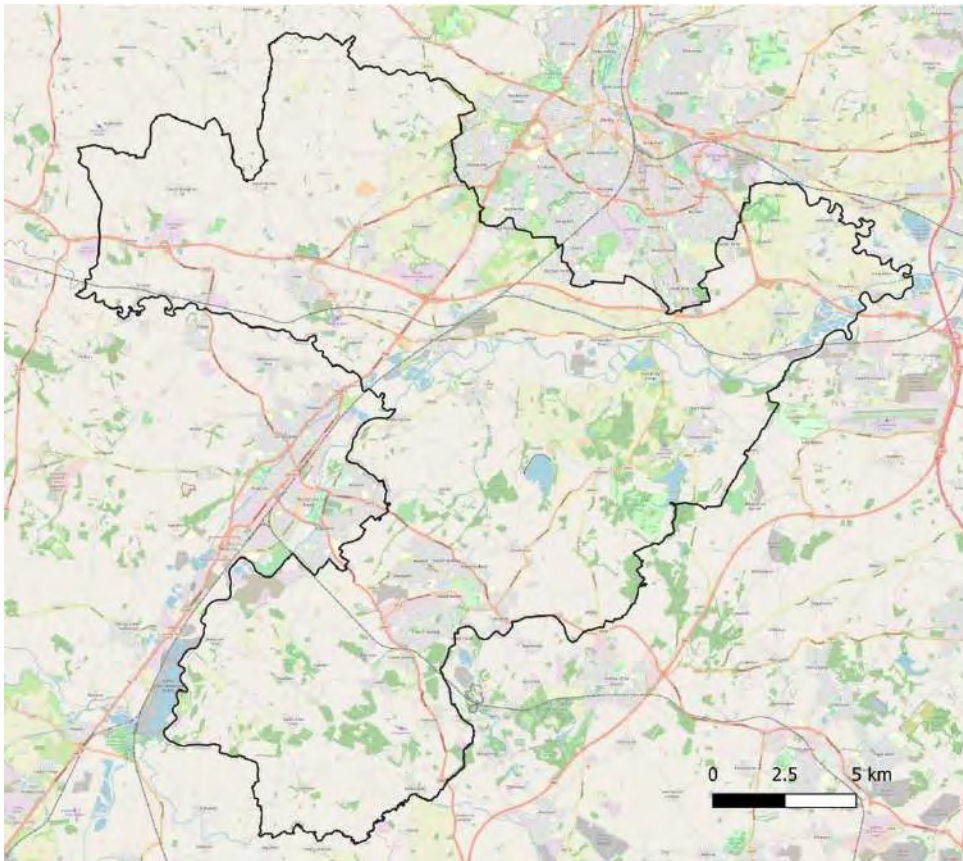
This report has been prepared by Molly Gorman at the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, with support from FPCR and on behalf of South Derbyshire District Council. It provides a working document for the production of a Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Nature for the South Derbyshire District. This will guide policy making and ensure an integrated approach to delivering biodiversity enhancements across the District. The strategy will be adopted and used by the council to identify key strategic opportunities for new habitat creation, particularly through improved ecological connectivity to be delivered through partnership working and development management. The report will:

- provide an assessment of baseline biodiversity within the district;
- highlight existing habitat networks and the districts key locations;
- identify strategic gaps in biodiversity provision;
- recognise opportunities for habitat enhancement and creation, both strategically and spatially through modelling and stakeholder consultations;
- identify spatial priorities for habitat and species recovery;
- outline funding, partnership and policy opportunities and highlight any potential challenges;

## Context

South Derbyshire is 33,812 hectares in size and is the third largest local authority area in Derbyshire. It borders Staffordshire, North-West Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire and surrounds Derby City on the northern boundary. Major features of the District include the National Forest and Trent Valley, both of which form broad swathes through the district from West to East.

**Figure 1: South Derbyshire District boundary**



### **District Facts and features**

Total population of 109,516.

Contains a third of the National Forest.

High levels of mineral extraction.

Grand country houses and parklands - Calke Park and Elvaston Castle.

Two major reservoirs – Foremark and Staunton Harold.

Major road barriers – A50, A38, A511 and A444.

The UK has suffered major declines in the health of nature over the last 50 years, with 44% of all species decreasing in abundance (State of Nature, 2019). Fragmentation, degradation and the loss of habitats has been widespread and linked to increased development pressure and intensification of agricultural practices (Jongman, 2004). In South Derbyshire, over 96% of semi-natural, non-statutory permanent grasslands were lost between 1983 and 1999. This represented a reduction in area from 875ha to just 40ha (Catchpole, 2006).

Nature is essential to the long-term provision of ecosystem goods and services (Catchpole, 2006). Loss of nature is directly linked to increased natural ecological disturbances, threats to crop pollination and climate change. Whilst there is a legal requirement to consider biodiversity in local planning, outlined below, the dependency of humans on nature as a whole for quality of life means this is a fundamental issue in all areas of planning.

The South Derbyshire Action Plan for Nature aims to provide a recovery for nature and biodiversity; allowing projects to be strategically planned to maximise the benefit to nature, targeting key areas of connectivity and identifying where development is best placed to limit negative impacts. However, if integrated into policies, procedures and partnerships, it has the potential to deliver huge combined benefits, delivering essential ecosystem services such as flood reduction, pollination, cleaner water, carbon storage and access to nature for health and wellbeing.

## Policy

The requirement for Nature Recovery Network mapping stemmed from the Lawton review (2010) 'Making Space for Nature' which identified the need for 'better, bigger, more and connected' wildlife sites to reverse habitat fragmentation and create an ecological network in which habitats and species are protected and resilient. From this the Government set out targets of 'creating or restoring 500,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat' in the 25-Year Environment Plan and recently identified the need to put the conservation of biodiversity through a spatial planning system on a statutory footing in the proposed Environment Bill. Further emphasis on the protection and conservation of biodiversity through the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) guidance and the promotion of Biodiversity Net Gain schemes further drives the need for a Nature Recovery Network map to identify where habitat creation or enhancement would be best placed to improve connectivity and strategic networks.


Most recently, the government expressed support for the Wildlife Trust's 30 by 30 campaign to '*connect and protect at least 30% of our land and sea for natures recovery by 2030*' and signed the Leaders Pledge for Nature, committing to put nature and biodiversity on a road to recovery by 2030.



## Biodiversity Net Gain


Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is likely to be a key opportunity in the District's Nature Recovery given the rate of settlement growth and as a result of policy (and potentially mandatory) drivers for improvement in biodiversity with every major development. The mitigation hierarchy, to firstly avoid, then mitigate or, as a last resort, compensate for biodiversity losses, still applies to projects and the use of a metric<sup>1</sup> allows this to be measurable. The metric assesses habitat loss, habitat condition and habitat distinctiveness to determine relative biodiversity loss or gain. Habitat distinctiveness aims to provide habitats with relative biodiversity value which can be used to identify priority areas for protection i.e very high distinctiveness ancient woodland, or easily recreated or enhanced habitats i.e. low distinctiveness modified grassland. Mapping districts using habitat distinctiveness allows the LPA to make quick assessments of areas that might be more suitable for development (low distinctiveness habitats) or areas that are best avoided or would require high levels of compensation (medium/high distinctiveness habitats). Equally, habitat distinctiveness models can identify opportunities to focus BNG compensation projects on most suitable areas, based on the mitigation hierarchy and the Lawton principles.

**Table 1: Mitigation Hierarchy**

<div> <div>Priority</div>  </div>	Mitigation Hierarchy	
	<b>Avoid</b>	Where possible avoid habitat loss or damage
	<b>Minimise</b>	Where possible minimise habitat loss or damage
	<b>Remediate</b>	Where possible restore any lost or damaged habitat
	<b>Compensate</b>	Damaged or lost habitats should be compensated for as a last resort

<sup>1</sup> The Defra Biodiversity 2.0 Metric was published in July 2019 and is designed to provide ecologists, developers, planners and other interested parties with a means of quantifying changes in biodiversity value (losses or gains) brought about by development or changes in land management. The Biodiversity 3.0 Metric to be published in 2021 will update this.

**Table 2: Lawton Principles**

<div> <div>Priority</div> <div>  </div> </div>	Lawton principles		
	Better	Compensation should...	Protect high distinctiveness habitats. Where habitats are in decline, use BNG to ensure long term management
	Bigger		Target BNG habitat creation or enhancement to, ideally contiguous with, existing high distinctiveness habitats
	More		Increase the number of stepping stone sites by enhancing moderate or low distinctiveness habitats through BNG
	Connected		Enhance or create corridors between sites of high and moderate distinctiveness using BNG


Further development of an Eco-metric is intended for the future which will also include consideration of the impacts on the extent and condition of natural capital stocks and the ecosystem services that flow from them.

## Methodology

### Mapping

#### Baseline Habitat Maps

A review of existing data sets was carried out using QGIS to form an aggregated habitat inventory. This included a wide range of open source data from DEFRA agencies as well as habitat inventories from the Derbyshire Biological Records Centre. A full list of reviewed datasets can be found in Appendix A. Priority was given to the most accurate and specific input layers. Accuracy was determined through comparison with satellite imagery.

High Priority 	GCN Ponds from eDNA records
	Open Zoomstack water
	DWT reserves
	LWS sites
	Priority habitats inventory
	Potential LWS
	Open Mosaics (DBRC)
	Key grassland sites (DBRC)
	National Forest woodland inventory
Low Priority	CEH Land Cover map

Habitat mapping of South Derbyshire district to a UKHAB level 4 or equivalent is very limited, with data held mainly for the designated sites. In order to run the network model a full cover dataset was required and the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology Land Cover Map (LCM2019) data set was obtained to fill in any data gaps. This maps land parcel polygons greater than 0.5ha and linear features longer than 20m into habitat classes based on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan broad habitats. Habitats present within the mapping are shown in Appendix B. Where applicable, habitats were converted to UKHAB classifications for consistency, shown in Table 3.

Species records from DBRC were mapped and analysed for key species and population hotspots. The modelling, described below, considered dispersal distances of species known to populate the district, but ultimately based on a hypothetical species representing average dispersal characteristics.

**Table 3: UKHAB categories**

Layer	Original Category	UKHAB Category
LWS Sites	Unimproved neutral grassland	Grassland - Lowland meadows
LWS Sites	Wet Grassland	Grassland - Floodplain Wetland Mosaic
LWS Sites	Semi-improved - calcareous grassland	Grassland - Calcareous grassland
LWS Sites	Parkland	Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland
Priority Habitats Inventory	Good quality semi improved	Grassland - Other Neutral Grassland
National Forest Inventory	Coppice	Woodland and Forest - Other woodland - broadleaved
National Forest Inventory	Woodland ground prep	Woodland and Forest - Other woodland - Young trees planted
National Forest Inventory	Low density	Heathland and Scrub - Mixed scrub
National Forest Inventory	Shrub	Woodland and Forest - Other woodland - broadleaved
CEH	Inland Rock	Other Inland rock
CEH	Urban	Urban - Sealed Surface
CEH	Sub Urban	Urban - Suburban
CEH	Swamp	Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)

Where polygons contained a mosaic of habitat types they were treated as the closest approximation for habitat type and distinctiveness but given a value for other broad habitat groups if appropriate. All habitats were rated for service provided to Wetland, Woodland and Grassland using a Boolean true/false value e.g. wet woodland would be assessed as providing a service as a wetland and a woodland. Heathland would be assessed as being both grassland and woodland. Broadleaved woodland would only provide a service to the woodland category.

## Habitat Distinctiveness

Habitat distinctiveness was mapped using QGIS. The habitats included in the aggregated habitat inventory were assigned to distinctiveness bands based on an assessment of distinguishing features. This includes parameters such as species richness, diversity, rarity (at local, regional, national and international scales) and the degree to which a habitat supports species rarely found in other habitats (Treweek et al 2010). Whilst this mapping is based solely on habitats rather than species, the categories provide a representation of the overall biodiversity value of species communities.

**Table 4: Habitat distinctiveness bands**

Distinctiveness	Broad habitat type	Likely characteristics
High	Priority habitat (Section 41 NERC Act)	High species richness and diversity, potential for rare species, limited examples of this habitat.
Medium	Semi-natural habitat	Moderate species richness and diversity, unlikely to record rare species, numerous examples of this habitat.
Low	Modified habitats/ intensive agricultural land	Low species richness and diversity, common and widespread habitat and species.

## Habitat Buffers

A simple but effective method of determining isolated areas is through the use of buffers. By assuming an average dispersal distance of 250m, areas of a particular habitat that are functionally isolated can be determined. Where two isolated areas were more than the average dispersal distance but less than double that distance a highlighted area was produced, indicating a location where additional habitat would create a bridge between these areas.

## Strategic Significance

Strategic significance was mapped to determine the most strategic areas for habitat creation for each broad habitat type; Grassland, Woodland and Wetland. A 10km buffer was applied to the district to ensure that habitats adjacent to the district boundary were also considered and to create consistency with other LPA nature recovery strategies. The district was divided into 500m squares. Within each of these squares, a proportion of the different broad habitat types was calculated. This data was shown divided into different categories representing the levels of viability for habitat creation and therefore their significance for enhancing the habitat network:

- 0-5% Coverage – too little habitat within the square for viable habitat creation, **low strategic significance**
- 5-20% Coverage – ideal conditions for habitat creation to improve viability, **high strategic significance**
- >20% Coverage – already a high proportion of the broad habitat within this area. May benefit from some additional habitat but it is more likely to be already viable for associated species, **moderate strategic significance**

## Ecological Network Modelling

Connectivity modelling was completed using Condatis. Condatis is an open source ecological network model designed to strategically prioritise habitat creation, restoration and even loss<sup>2</sup>. Condatis is intended to:

- Highlight pathways that allow both dispersal and multiplication of species as they cross a landscape;
- Pinpoint bottlenecks in the habitat network; and
- Rank the feasible sites for habitat creation and restoration to enhance the existing habitat network efficiently.

The 500m square representation of different habitats was fed into Condatis. Condatis measures the amount of flow through each square and the distance travelled across its links to other habitat cells. This was based on a hypothetical species with low fecundity and low-moderate dispersal distances (1.5km) in both South to North and West to East directions. This gives a broad overview of species flow through the district. Again, a 10km buffer area was used to ensure consideration had been given to habitats and species flow beyond the district boundary. Habitats were assessed for bottlenecks where flow was most constricted. These are areas where there are restricted opportunities for colonisation and movement through the landscape and the areas of highest

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<sup>2</sup> More information on Condatis can be found at <http://wordpress.condatis.org.uk/>

strain for species movement. They also indicate important areas for habitat creation as areas around these bottlenecks would disproportionately increase range-shifting connectivity.

Lastly these scenarios were run through Condatis' prioritisation function to create the Low – High opportunity ranks. A map of potential areas where habitats could be created was put together by removing unsuitable areas. This produced a map of the areas where Condatis estimates that habitat could most effectively be created, restored or protected to aid species flow through the district. The higher the rank the better the value for creation of habitats. The method shows how additional habitat cells can increase the speed of species' movement across a landscape of existing habitat and can also be used to highlight areas of an existing network that cannot afford to be lost due their contribution to connectivity. The North-South (N-S) and East-West (E-W) models have been overlaid in order to show the highest priority areas that would be of benefit to species movement in all directions (darkest green). The slightly less dark green areas would be good for either N-S or E-W with the light green squares indicating moderate value.



## Stakeholder Consultation

Major stakeholders within the district were contacted in order to identify opportunities for enhancement or creation of habitats, or ascertain potential partnerships that could be developed off the back of the Action Plan for Nature. Organisations included National Forest, Woodland Trust, National Trust, Forestry England, Forestry Commission, Trent Rivers Trust, Environment Agency, Severn Trent, RSPB and colleagues within Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and South Derbyshire District Council. A full list of stakeholder contacts is provided in Appendix C.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the intended stakeholder workshops were not feasible. Stakeholder input was completed by email and online meetings. Stakeholders were given maps showing aerial imagery and core sites (designated sites, priority habitats and woodland inventory) classified into broad habitat types. Stakeholders were asked to think about the following:

- Better – any known areas of existing but degraded habitat which require enhancement.
- Bigger – any known areas onto which existing habitat could be expanded.
- More - new distinct areas of habitat to increase the overall resource.
- Connected – opportunities to enhance existing or creating new connections between existing habitats usually through linear habitats – hedgerows, disused railways or road verges.
- Interested parties –
  - Any known landowner that might be open to habitat enhancement or creation.
  - Any opportunities to convert farmers on higher level stewardship into a Biodiversity Net Gain scheme.
  - Farmers in unproductive areas where there may be a financial incentive to enter a BNG scheme.
- Any existing or proposed projects within the organisation that are aimed at enhancing habitats, linking sites or creating more quality habitat outside those identified on the maps.
- Any plans for land acquisition within the organisations.
- Opportunities for partnership working or links with clubs/ community groups looking to improve biodiversity.

## Limitations

There were a number of limitations to the overall productivity and output of the project, primarily related to the Covid-19 pandemic. This prevented stakeholder workshops which were intended to spark dialog between organisations. Input via email and online meetings was provided by the majority of stakeholders, however, a small number of stakeholders did not respond and opportunities to meet with groups such as farmers, communities or volunteers were restricted.

Although key species were considered throughout the project and species recommendations have been made, the main approach to the mapping was based on habitat distribution rather than the distribution of species, with hypothetical species used in the modelling. This is due to the availability and accuracy of species information. Mapping based on species can risk under or over representation due to sampling biases, whereas habitat data, particularly from aerial imagery, tends to be more accurate. It should, however, be noted that there are also a number of limitations to habitat data, described below.

- Aerial mapping at a large scale may cause errors in habitat type classification, or omissions in small areas of habitats or mosaics. No ground truthing was completed during this project due to the scale of the area. Datasets were cross-referenced with satellite imagery, however, there are still likely to be small errors in the data. Differentiating between certain habitat types from satellite imagery is extremely difficult e.g. differentiating between modified grassland and lowland neutral grassland.
- Features such as hedgerows are poorly recorded so connective corridors through agricultural landscapes are under-represented. Satellite imagery isn't good enough to pick up this level of detail.
- Out of date maps – habitats may have changed in the period between data collection and analysis;
- Cross over of datasets – some sites featured in a number of GIS layers with varying boundaries and habitat detail.
- Spatial quality - Condatis only uses a value for % cover in a 500m grid square. It values one large, completely isolated woodland the same as a series of smaller woodlands that could potentially join that grid square to other woodlands in the grids adjacent.
- Condatis doesn't allow for barriers to dispersal to be taken account of, such as major A roads.

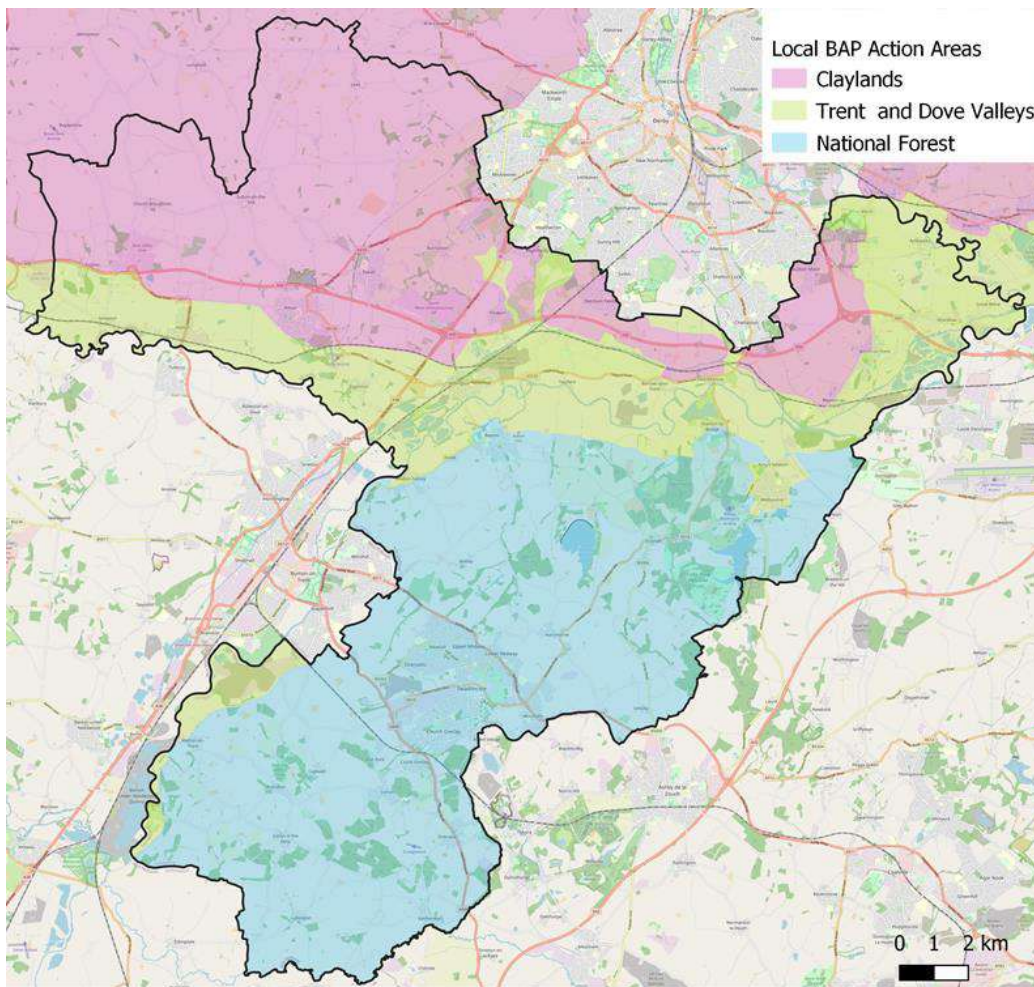
Given the size of the maps they have been inputted to this report as raster jpg or pdf. This will reduce the clarity of maps when zoomed in. However, all maps are available separately which will allow the reader to zoom in, as well as a separate GIS workspace available on request. Tables can also be provided in a separate excel workbook for ease of use.

## Baseline Biodiversity Data

### Lowland Derbyshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan

The current Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) 2011-2020 examines the state of nature throughout lowland Derbyshire and sets targets for maintenance, restoration and expansion of habitats and species. South Derbyshire is covered by three Action Plans split by the landscape character areas; National Forest, Trent and Dove Valley and The Claylands. The South Derbyshire Action Plan for Nature aims to build on the work of the LBAP, updating and combining the baseline data for the district and targeting the spatial opportunities.

**Figure 2: LBAP Action Areas**

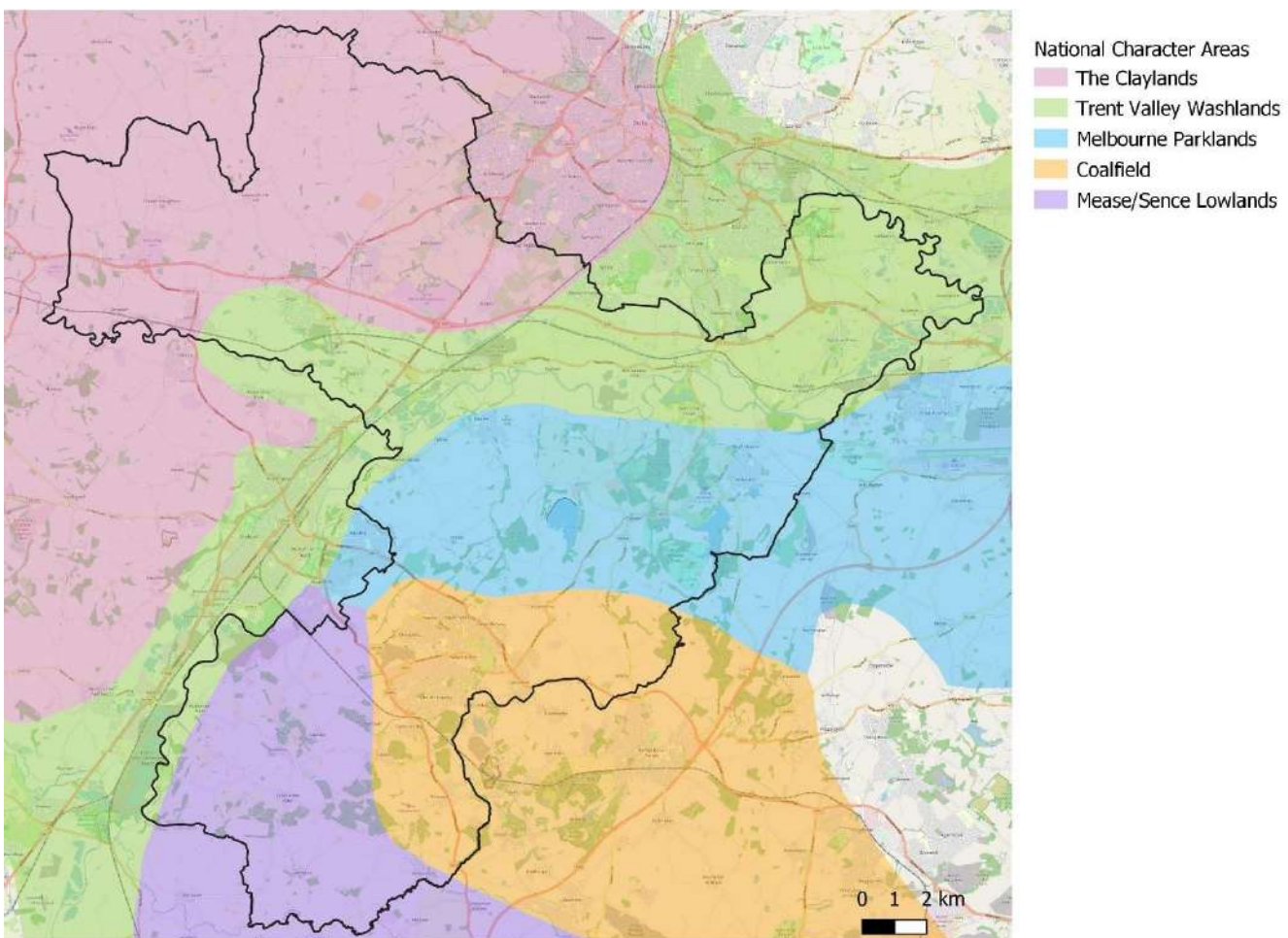




## National Character Areas

The LBAP areas are simplified from the National Character Areas. South Derbyshire is predominantly agricultural in land use with mixed arable and pasture farming. A band of woodland exists in the centre of the district and small urban settlements are scattered with the largest town, Swadlincote, towards the south of the district. At a more detailed level the district varies from floodplain corridors to parklands of grand country houses. The district comprises five National Character Areas (NCAs) which are split relatively equally between; the Claylands, Trent Valley Washlands, Melbourne Parklands, the Coalfields and Mease/ Sence Lowlands, shown in Figure 3. Each NCA has their own strategic environmental opportunities. These are summarised in Table 5 and in full in Appendix D.

**Figure 3: South Derbyshire District National Character Areas**



**Table 5: Strategic Environmental Opportunities for National Character Areas**

NCA Name	Environmental Opportunities
<b>The Claylands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance hedgerow networks.</li> <li>• Safeguard woodlands, veteran trees, wood pasture and parklands.</li> <li>• Create new woodlands and wood pasture.</li> </ul>
<b>Trent Valley Washlands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen ecosystem services through carefully planned development.</li> <li>• Enhance flood plain habitats to deliver biodiversity and ecosystem services.</li> <li>• Connect and expand pasture areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Melbourne Parklands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Forest planting.</li> <li>• Restore the historic parklands and woodlands.</li> <li>• Conserve and manage the hedgerows and hedgerow trees.</li> <li>• Promote sustainable agricultural practices.</li> <li>• Improve the water supply contribution to biodiversity and recreation.</li> </ul>
<b>Coalfields</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and manage the flood plain habitats.</li> <li>• Conserve existing woodlands.</li> <li>• Create new woodlands.</li> <li>• Restore and reinstate hedgerows and hedgerow trees.</li> </ul>
<b>Mease/Sence Lowlands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance rivers, streams, ponds, canals and other wetland habitats.</li> <li>• Conserve ancient woodlands, veteran trees and parklands.</li> <li>• Create new woodlands.</li> </ul>

## Core Habitat Areas

200 hectares of land within South Derbyshire is currently designated at a statutory level, meaning the sites are of International or National importance. This is just **0.6%** of land within the district.

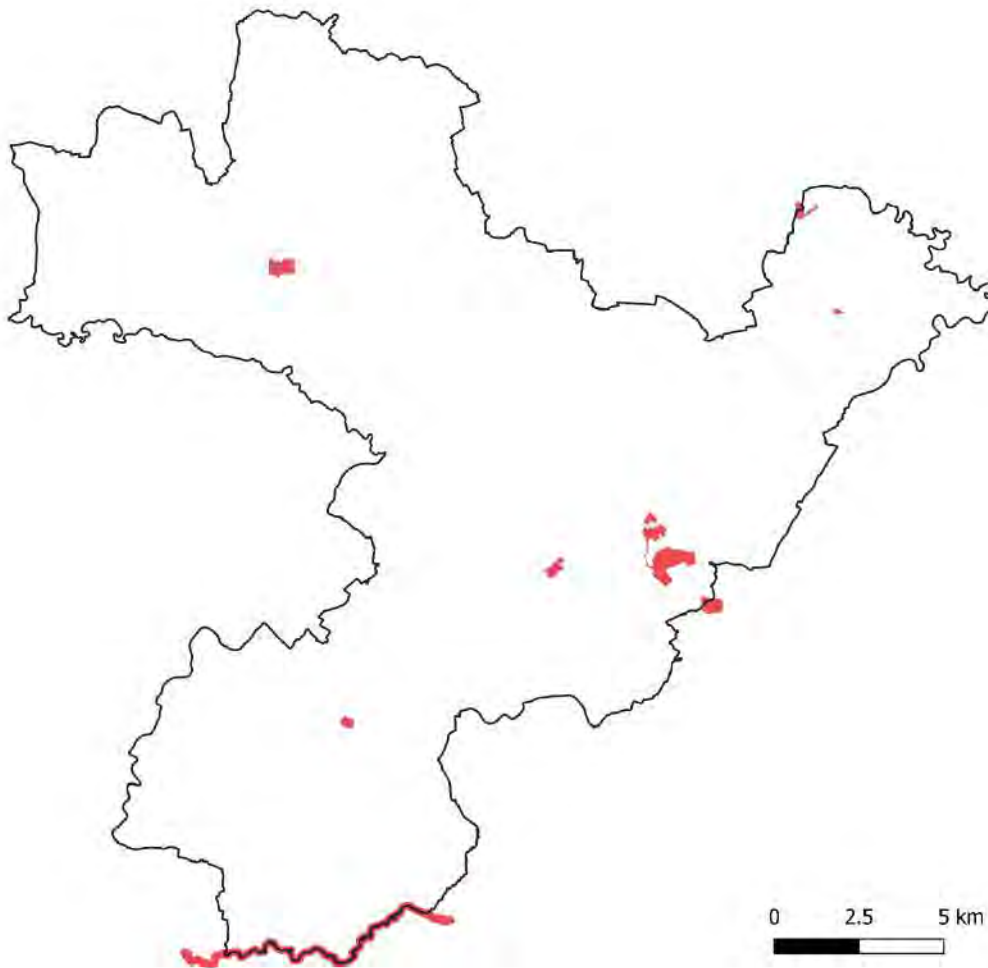
River Mease Special Area of Conservation (SAC) forms the southern boundary of the District. SACs are designated under the EC Habitats Directive and form part of the Natura 2000 Network of internationally important wildlife sites. It is in **unfavourable condition** owing to the high phosphate, sedimentation and heavy metal deposits.

Six Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) include Dimmingsdale, Carver's Rocks, Ticknall Quarries, Hilton Gravel Pits and Calke Park which is also a designated National Nature Reserve (NNR). Four of these are in **unfavourable recovering condition**.

Three Local Nature Reserves (LNR) exist within the district; Badgers Hollow, Aston Brickyard and Elvaston. Although their condition is not assessed as LNR's, they are also Local Wildlife Sites and were all favourable condition during their last assessment. However, these assessments were undertaken in 2018, 2016 and 2013 respectively so condition may have changed in this time. A fourth site, Swadlincote Woodlands, is currently under consideration for designation as a LNR.

These core sites provide some of the highest nature conservation and biodiversity value, but do not form a network within South Derbyshire given their sparse and fragmented nature, as portrayed in Figure 4.

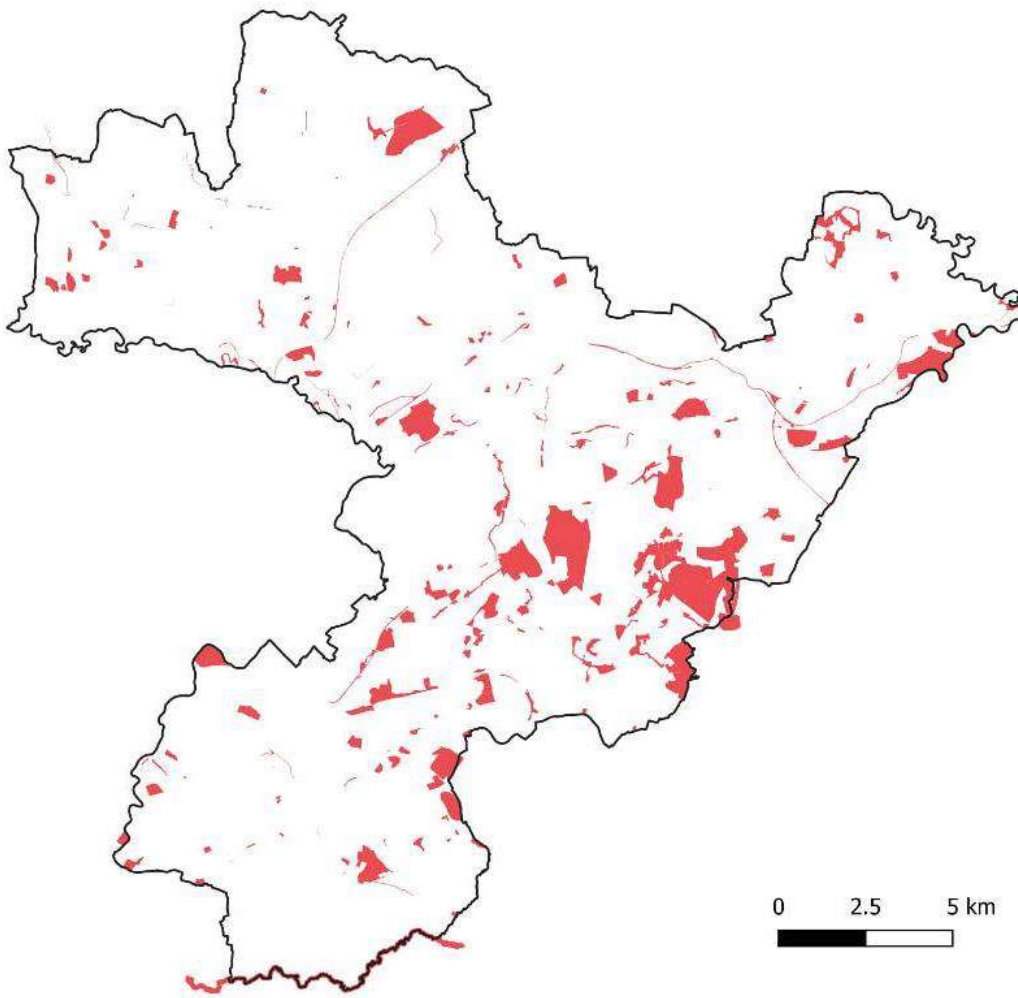
**Figure 4: Statutory designated sites**



The network of core sites develops once Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) and potential Local Wildlife Sites (pLWS) are considered, as shown on Figure 5. LWS's are non-statutory designated sites of county importance. The sites are selected based on their habitat type and quality. They are often of high ecological value but are not afforded statutory protection in the planning system. Likewise, pLWS's are often of high ecological value and likely to meet the selection guidelines for LWS but have not undergone the formal selection process. LWS and pLWS make up approximately 2,352 hectares over 264 sites, making up approximately **7%** of the district. Of the LWS, 83 are in **unfavourable condition** and 35 have not been recently assessed. Full details of LWS and pLWS sites are provided in a separate document.

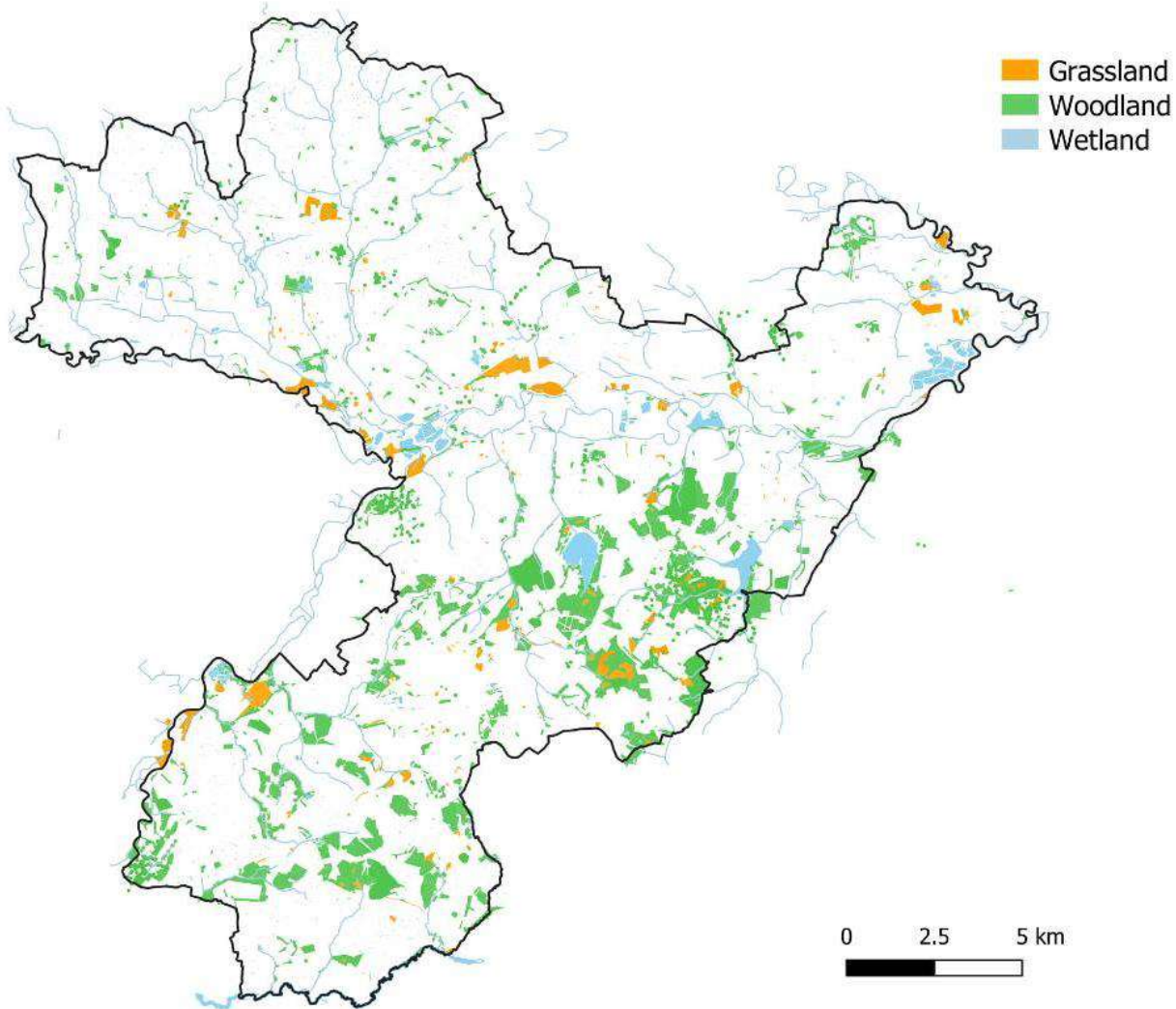


**Figure 5: Statutory and non-statutory designated sites**



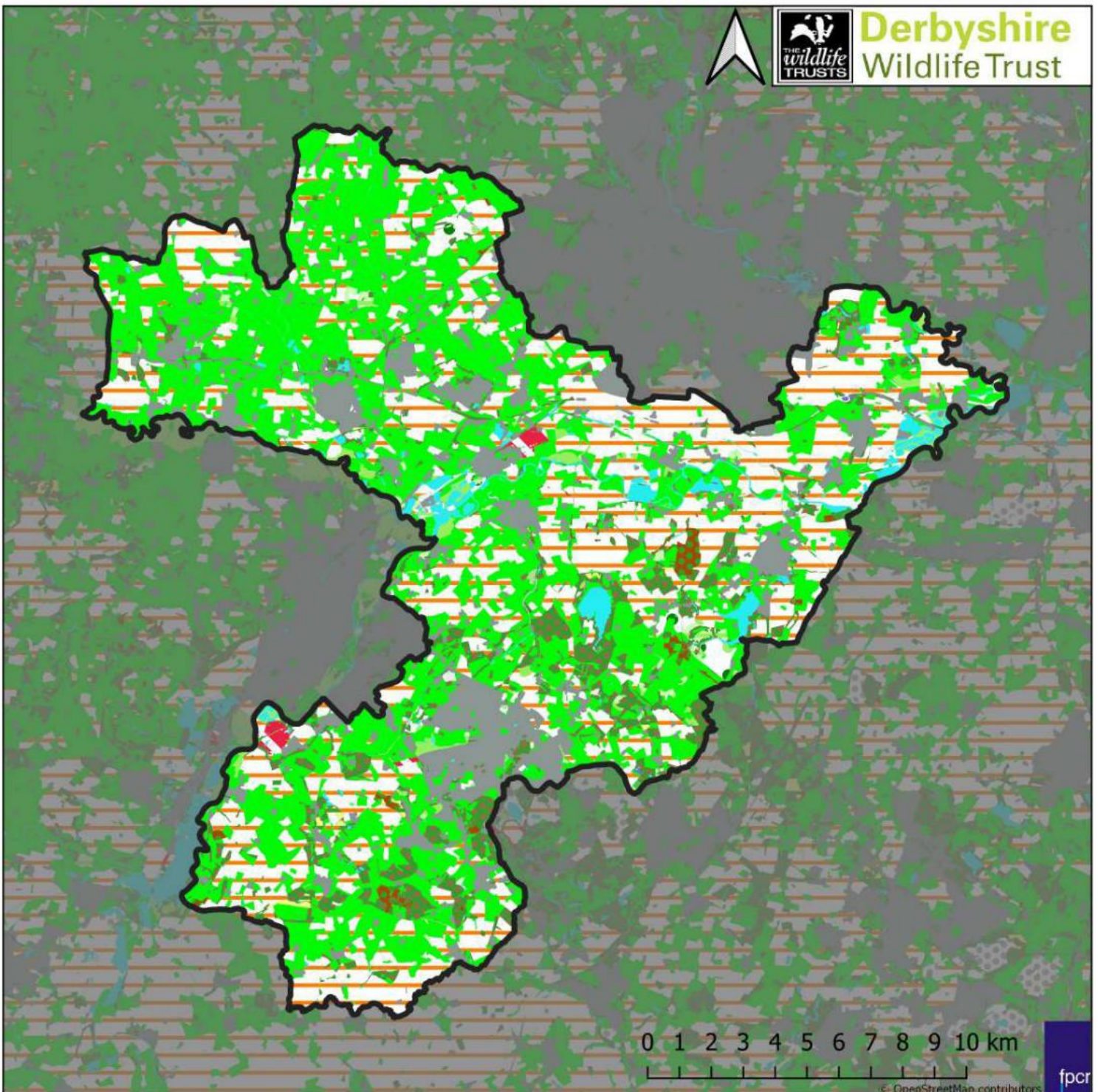
Beyond the designated sites are the other core areas of habitat that are more likely to be large enough to support viable species populations and small patches of habitat that act as corridors or discrete 'stepping stone' sites. These include woodlands on the National Forest inventory, Ancient Semi-Natural and Planted Ancient Woodlands (PAWs), UK BAP priority habitats, nature reserves, rivers and Local Green Spaces. When classified into their broad habitat type this starts to build up a picture of the existing ecological network, shown in Figure 6.

**Figure 6: Sites by broad habitat type**



When the core habitats data is combined with a full land cover map (CEH), cross-referenced with satellite imagery and prioritised based on accuracy, the aggregated habitat inventory is formed to level 4 of the UKHAB classification system, shown on the map below.





## Habitats

### Legend



South Derbyshire Boundary

#### Habitats



Artificial hard structures



Cereal crops



Floodplain Wetland Mosaic (CFGM)



Lowland calcareous grassland



Lowland dry acid grassland



Lowland Heathland



Lowland meadows



Mixed scrub



Modified grassland



Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land



Other coniferous woodland



Other inland rock and scree



Other lowland acid grassland



Other neutral grassland



Other woodland; broadleaved



Other woodland; mixed



Ponds (Non- Priority Habitat)



Reedbeds



Traditional orchards



Wet woodland



Wood-pasture and parkland

## Percentage Habitat Cover

The following three maps provide a break-down of the aggregated habitat inventory based on the three main broad habitat types that exist within the district; grassland, woodland and wetland. These maps show the percentage cover of each 25ha square and provide an indication of where the existing important areas and where creation of the broad habitat could improve connections between these grids.

### Grassland

The grassland map excludes modified grasslands, given their intensively managed nature. When modified grassland is removed and only priority habitat grassland remains in the dataset, the map shows the sparse and fragmented nature of grasslands in the district. The main grassland areas exist around Calke Park, Drakelow, Willington and Radbourne Park. There are also a number of small, scattered grasslands of interest, however, there is little to no connectivity between them and therefore unlikely to support viable species populations.

### Woodland

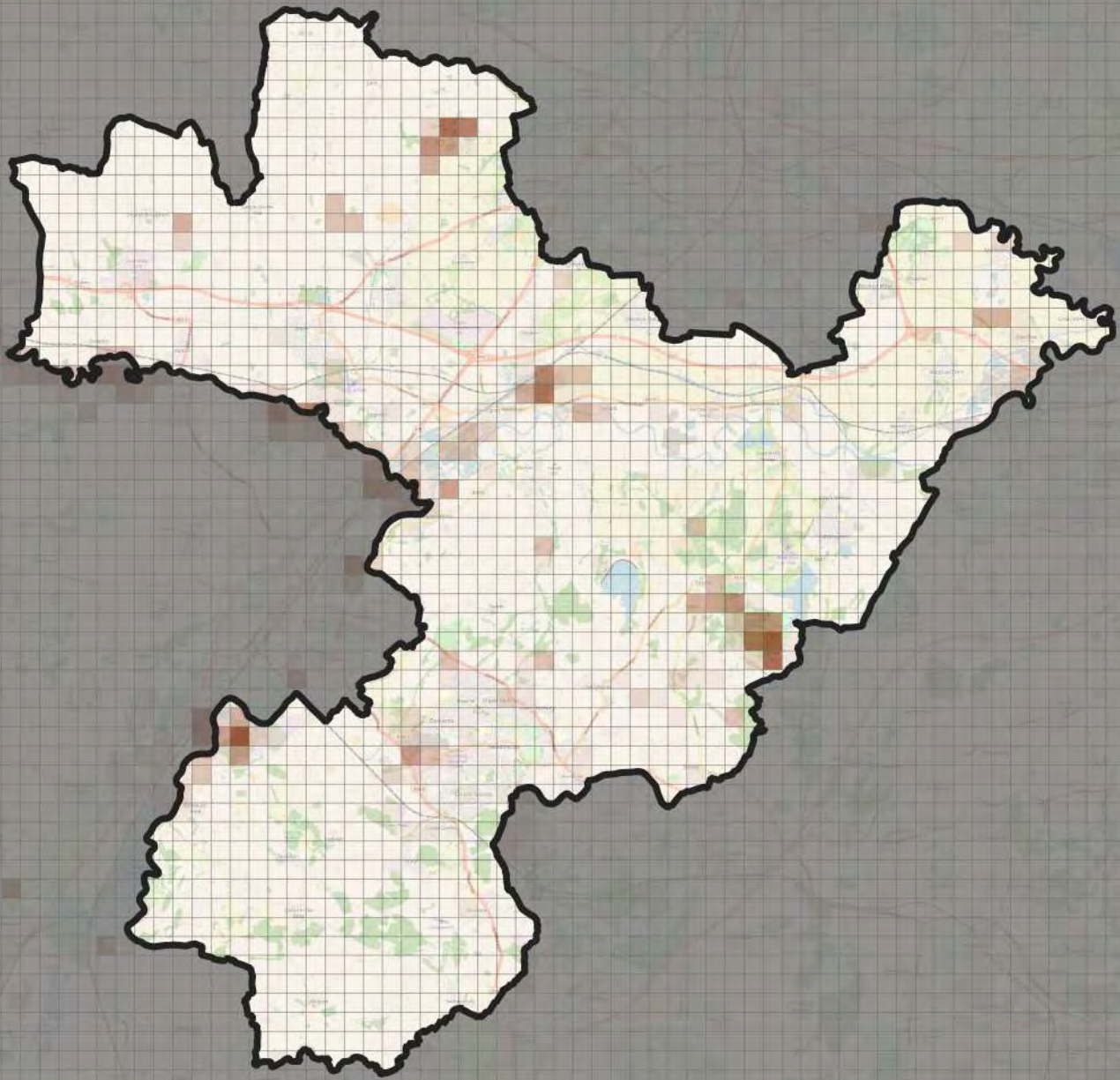
The woodland cover map shows a higher density of woodland habitat within the district, owing to the National Forest which covers the middle band of the district, and a few larger standalone woodlands. The main areas of woodland habitat exist at Drakelow, Repton Wood, Robin Wood, Radbourne Park, Grangewood, Elvaston, Hayes Park, Kings Newton 4x4 site and the former Willington Power Station. It should be noted that for the woodland mapping, both conifer and broadleaf woodland habitats were considered and it is accepted that the biodiversity value will differ hugely between these woodland types. Future restoration plans, to convert many of the conifer woodlands to broadleaf woodlands (such as at Robin and Repton), should address this and it is accepted that these sites can still perform an important function in maintaining species distribution and abundance.

### Wetland

Wetland habitats are focused along the main three river valleys in the district including the Dove, the Derwent and the Trent. Major wetland areas on the Trent are highlighted at Willington wetlands, Swarkestone Quarry and Witch's Oak water. Other high densities of wetland habitats exist at Drakelow, Foremark reservoir, Staunton Harold reservoir and Swadlincote golf course. This map was overlaid with the rivers and streams to show how these areas are connected, but without these the map portrays a fragmented wetland habitat system that is

enclosed by agricultural areas, rather than natural riparian habitats. In many cases the rivers, which are not well connected with their floodplains, may act as a barrier to connectivity rather than a continuity of habitat.





0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 km




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## Grassland - Percentage Cover

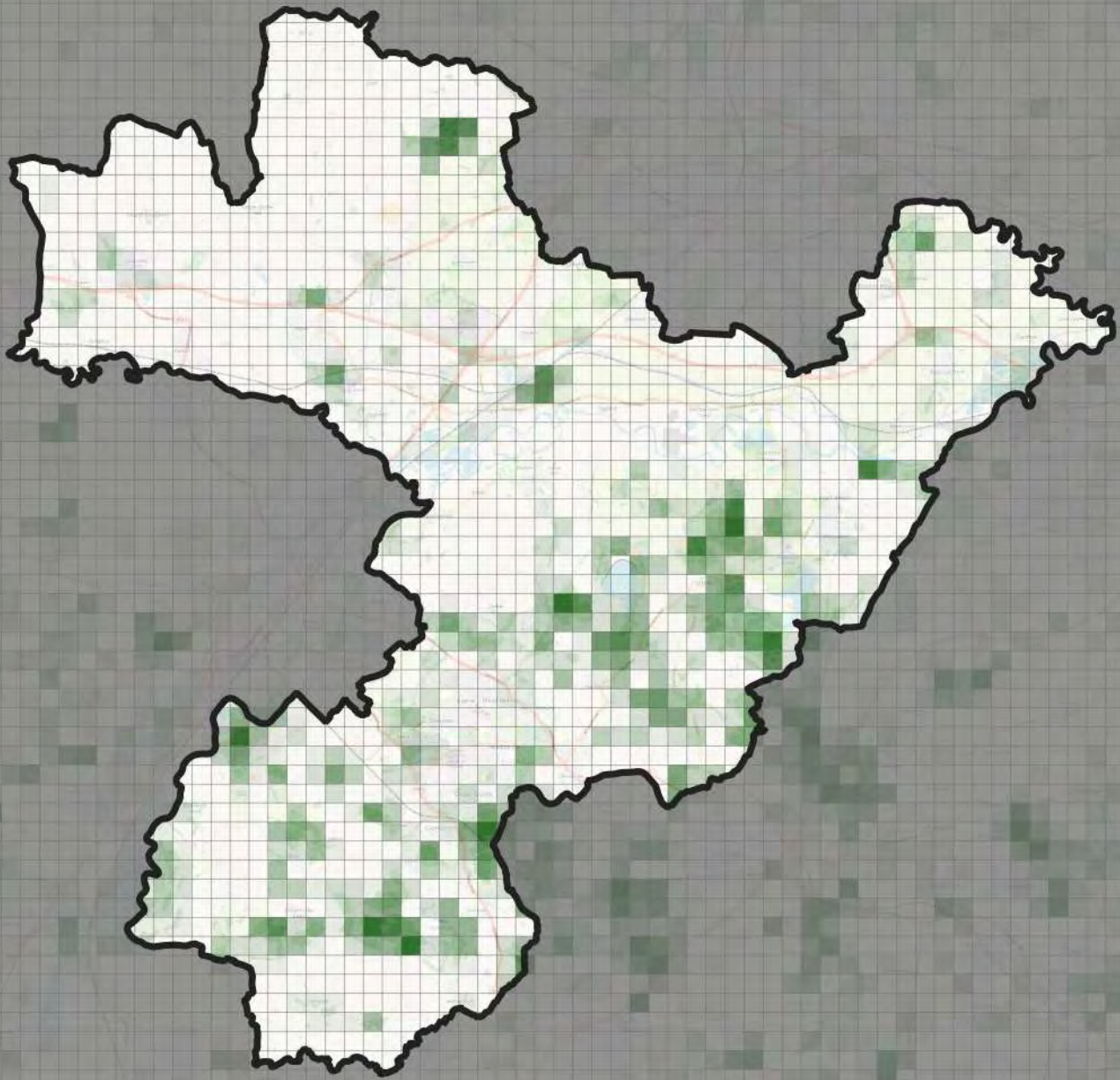
### Legend

 South Derbyshire Boundary

### Percentage Cover







0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 km

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## Woodland - Percentage Cover

### Legend

 South Derbyshire Boundary

#### Percentage Cover

 0 - 10

 10 - 20

 20 - 30

 30 - 40

 40 - 50

 50 - 60

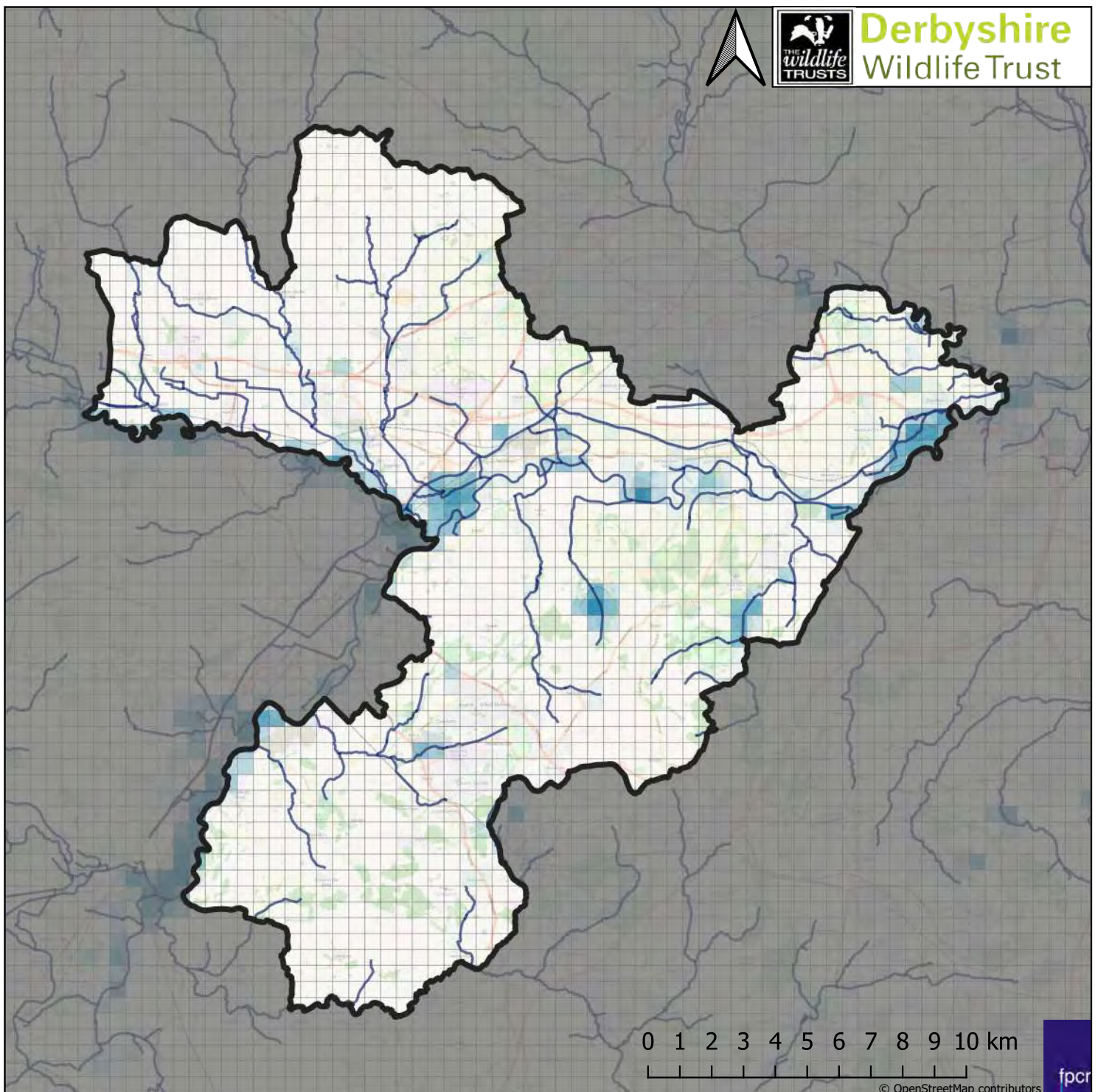
 60 - 70

 70 - 80

 80 - 90

 90 - 100





## Wetland - Percentage Cover

### Legend



South Derbyshire Boundary



Rivers and Streams

### Percentage Cover



0 - 10



10 - 20



20 - 30



30 - 40



40 - 50



50 - 60



60 - 70



70 - 80



80 - 90

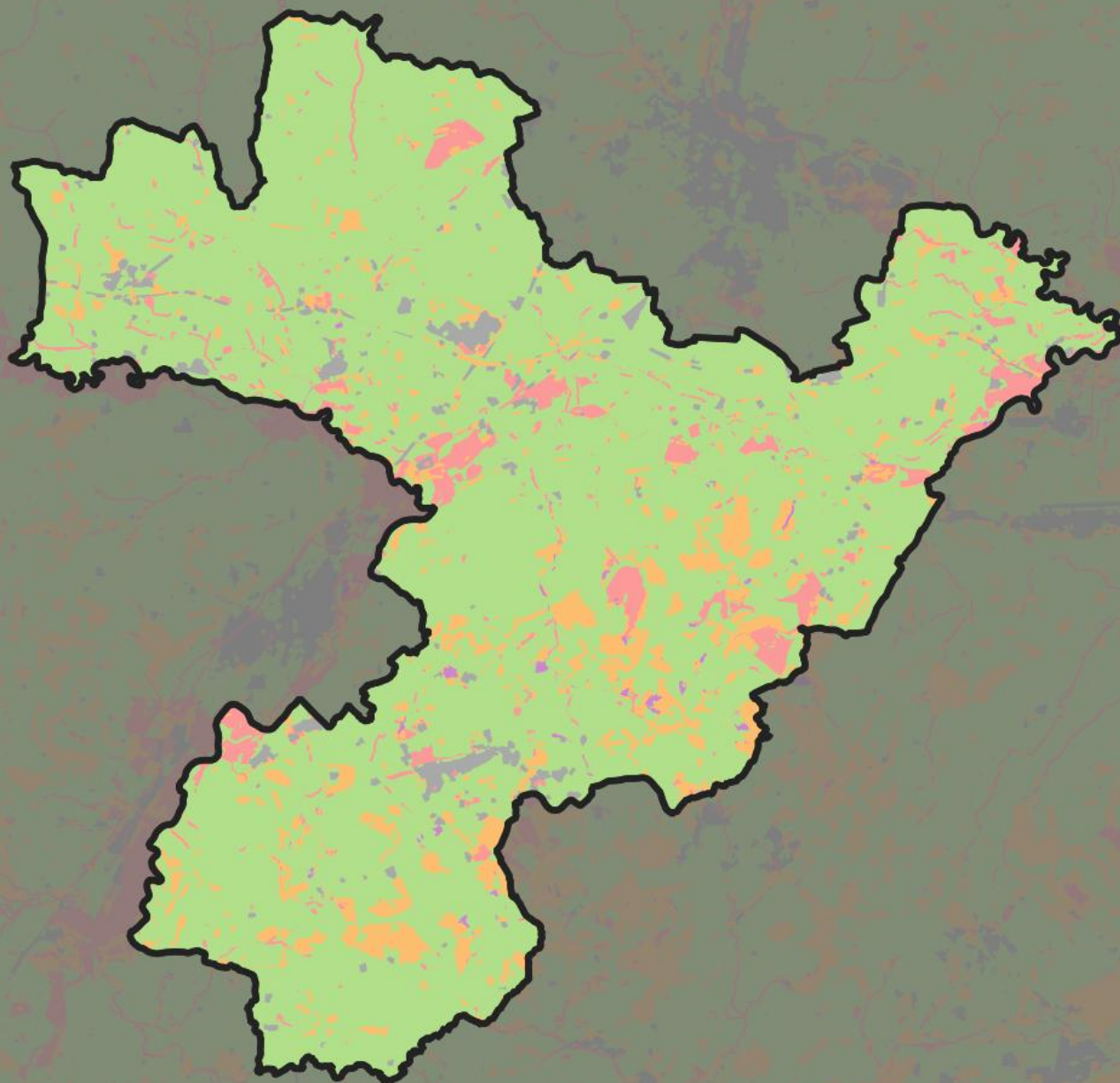


90 - 100

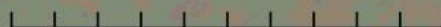
## Habitat Distinctiveness Mapping

The following map provides an assessment of the inventory's habitat distinctiveness. This gives an overview of the areas most suitable for habitat creation or enhancement, particularly through the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) system. As the map clearly shows, the majority of the district is of low distinctiveness, owing to the abundance of agricultural land, and therefore offers plenty of scope for habitat creation. Areas shown as orange (Moderate distinctiveness), are of ecological value but with good potential to enhance existing habitats. Depending on the units required and available funding, this will not always be suitable for the BNG system but does highlight areas where enhancements through partnership projects e.g. grassland enhancement, or habitat restoration e.g. PAWS conversion, should be prioritised. Areas shown in red on the map are of high distinctiveness and would not be suitable for use in the BNG system.





0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 km



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## Habitat Distinctiveness

### Legend



South Derbyshire Boundary

### Distinctiveness



V.High



High



Medium



Low



V.Low

## Habitat Network Modelling

### Grassland Network

#### Habitat Connectivity and Bottlenecks

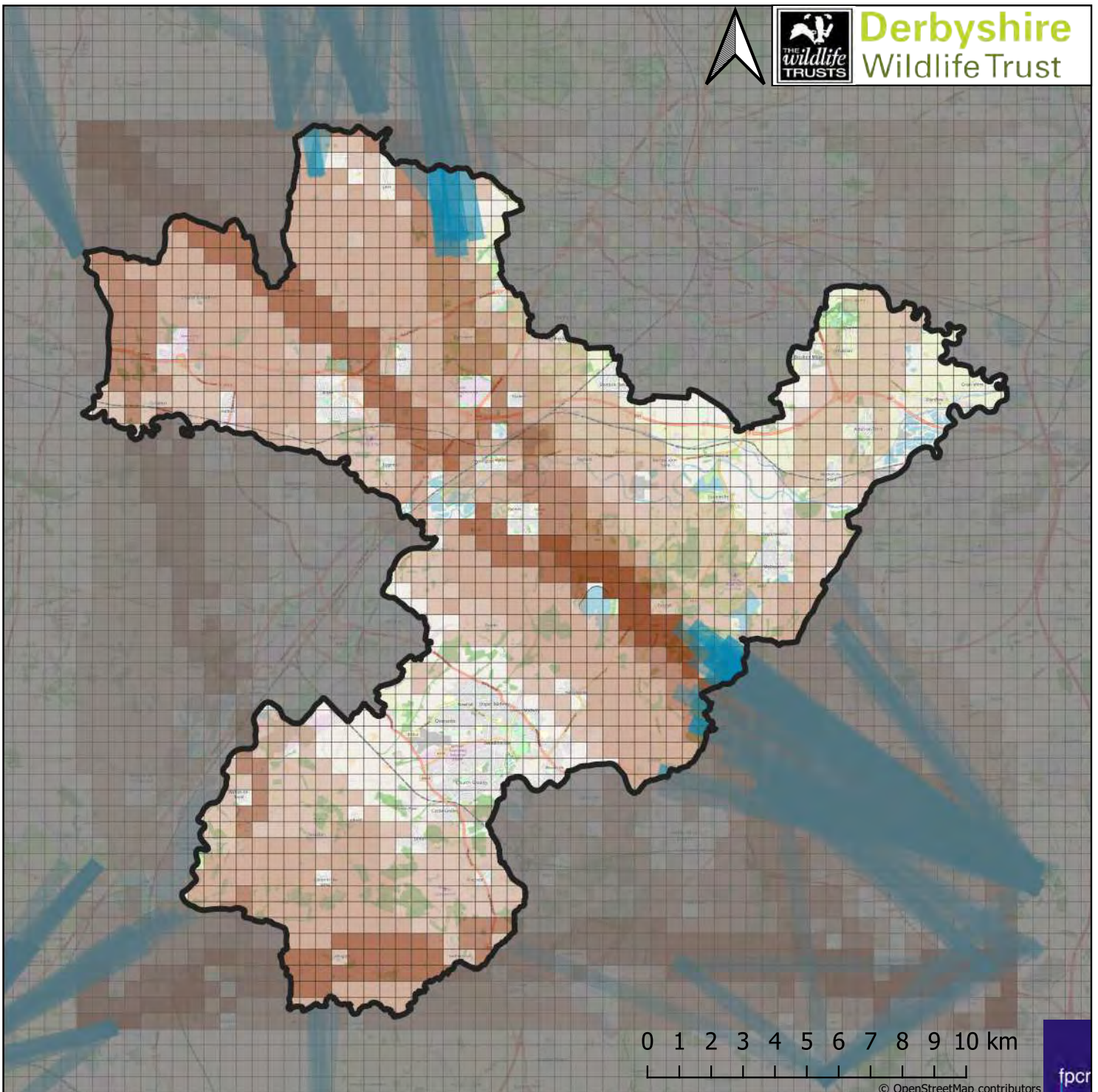
The Condatis modelling for grassland habitat is of lower accuracy than the woodland or wetland networks given the grassland data; the CEH Land Cover mapping cannot differentiate between modified grassland and neutral/acid/calcareous grassland with ecological interest. The modelling was based solely on priority habitat grasslands from Derbyshire Biological Records Centre and therefore a number of unidentified grasslands that still provide habitat connectivity and species dispersal will have been omitted. Including modified grasslands within the modelling, given the abundance of agricultural land, provides an inaccurate map so this data was removed. Without more widespread habitat survey data for the district this is the most meaningful output, however, its limitations should be kept in mind.

The model indicates that to increase the flow of grassland species through the landscape in both North-South and East-West directions, the areas around Calke and Foremark offer the greatest habitat creation opportunity. The River Mease catchment area ranks high for opportunities to increase East-West dispersal, while the North-South dispersal would benefit from increased grassland resource around the Burnaston and Radbourne areas and linking to Kedleston Park beyond the district boundary. There are two main bottleneck areas for grassland species dispersal; Calke Park and Radbourne Park. These grasslands are of greater importance because they offer a core grassland habitat within an area of limited grassland supply. This makes them very vulnerable and any loss or degradation would severely impact species population health and dispersal. Grassland creation or enhancement is of high strategic importance around these existing grassland areas to increase stability and resilience of the habitats and species populations.

#### Strategic Significance


Using habitat cover, connectivity and buffers, the mapping highlights the most strategically beneficial habitat creation or enhancement areas would be around Calke Park and Staunton Harold reservoir, the outskirts of Swadlincote, along the Trent Valley, particularly around Willington and Witch's Oak water and around Radbourne Park and Drakelow. There are smaller, more fragmented strategic areas, however, those that increase the grassland resource of existing larger habitat areas would be a priority as they offer greater value to the overall habitat network.





## Grassland - Bottlenecks and Opportunities

### Legend

 South Derbyshire Boundary

 Condatis Bottlenecks

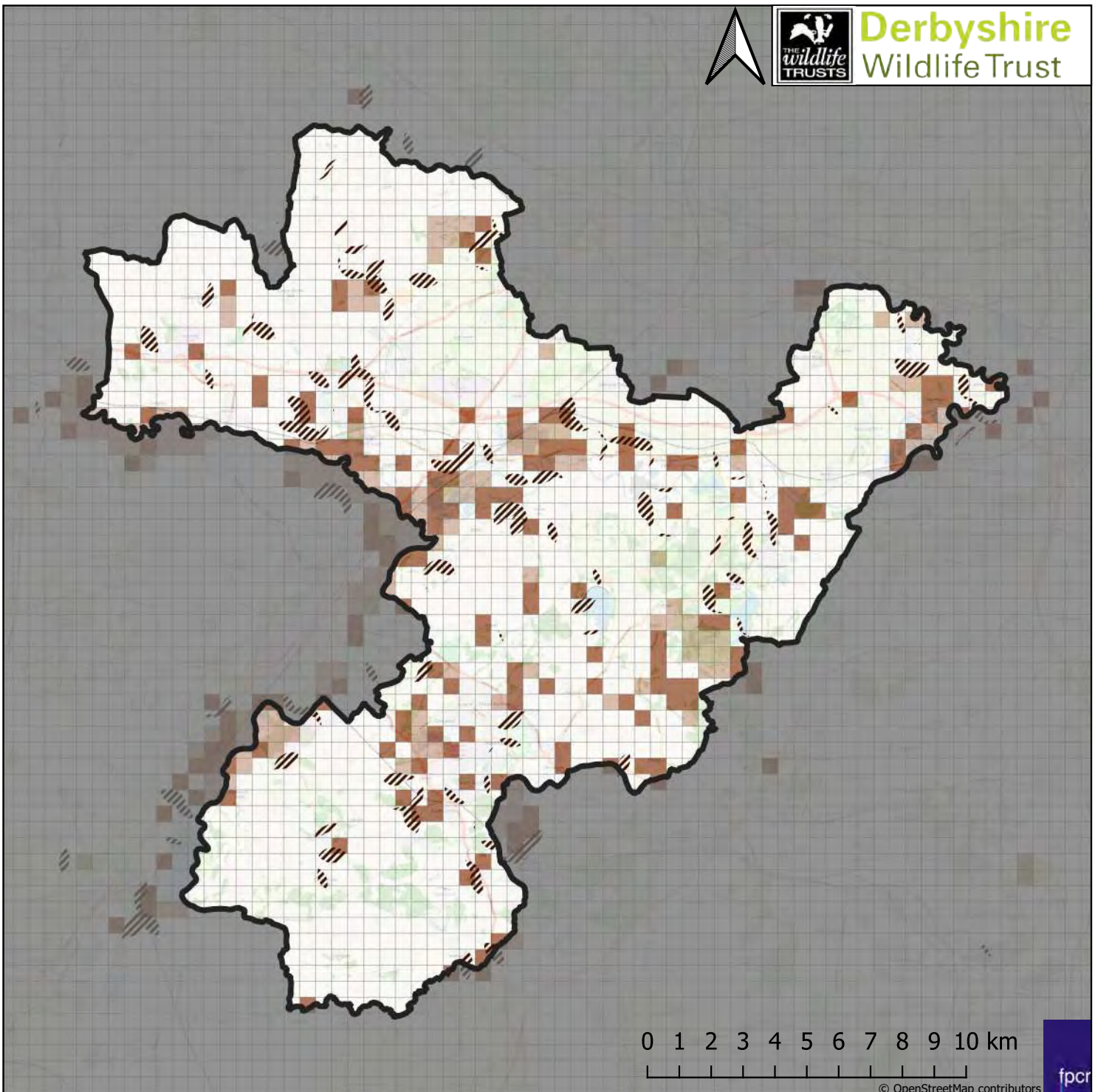
### Opportunity Rank

 Low

 Moderate

 High





## Grassland - Strategic Significance

### Legend



South Derbyshire Boundary

#### 250m Connectivity Opportunity Areas



Areas Lying Between 250m and 500m from Grassland (Excluding Modified Grassland)

#### Strategic Significance



High Strategic Significance (5-20% Cover)



Moderate Strategic Significance (>20% Cover)



Not Strategically Significant (<5% Cover)



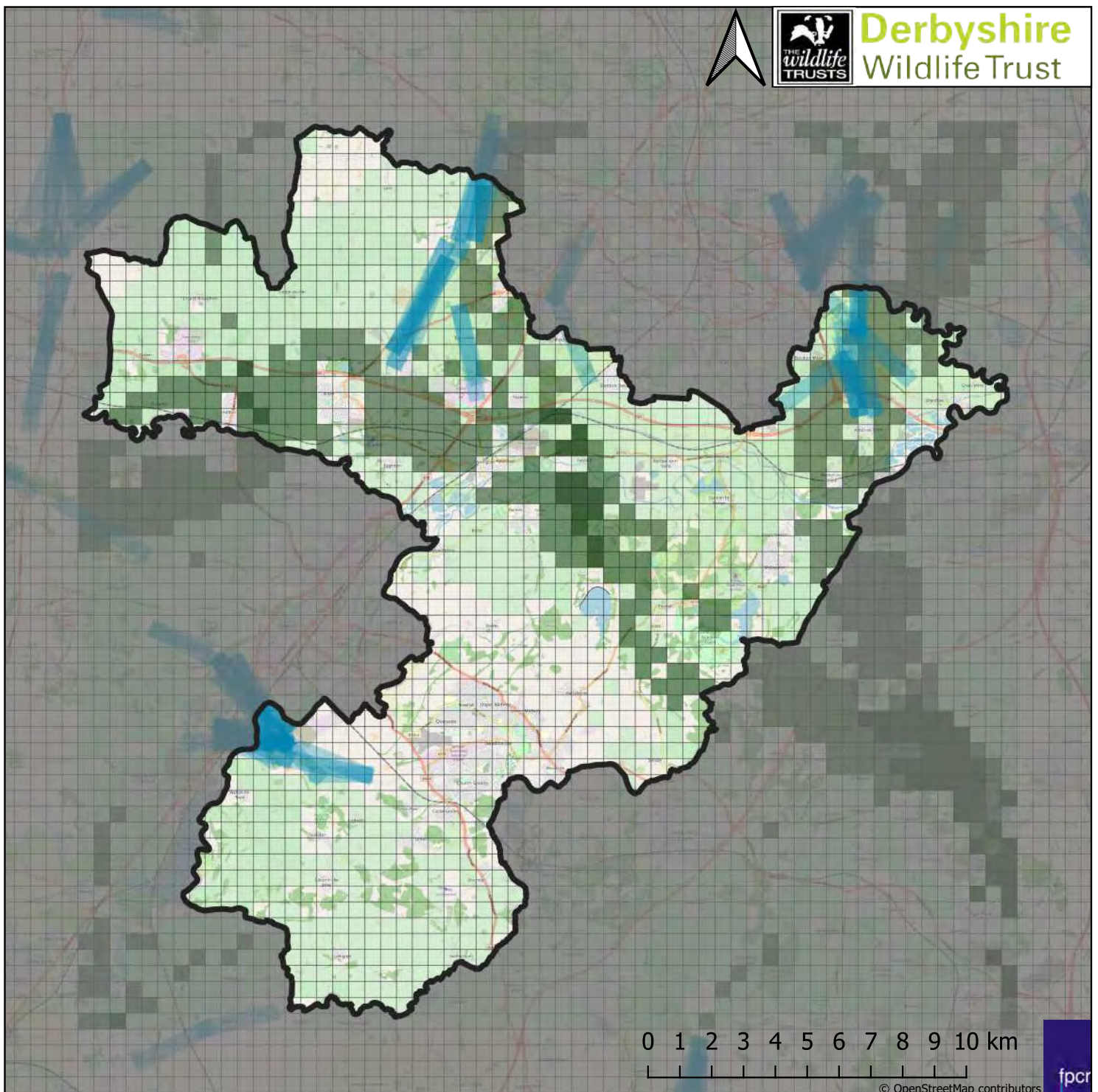
## Woodland Network

### Habitat Connectivity and Bottlenecks

The model indicates that to increase the flow of woodland species through the landscape in both North-South and East-West directions, the areas around Swarkestone Quarry extension, Foremark, Milton and Twyford offer the greatest habitat creation opportunities. Broadly speaking, East-West connectivity is prioritised along the Dove Valley and through the National Forest, while North-South flow focuses on connecting the National Forest either side of Derby city to Locko Park and Kedleston Park beyond the district boundary. A long-term aim of connecting the National Forest with woodlands along the Derwent Valley and eventually to the Northern Forest would create landscape scale connectivity and ensure viable habitats for species such as Pine Martin. There are three main bottleneck areas for woodland species dispersal; Drakelow, Elvaston and Radbourne Park. These woodlands are of greater importance because, as woodland is a relatively restricted resource in these areas, the loss or degradation through chance environmental events, inappropriate management or land use changes, may seriously hinder or prevent the flow of woodland species through the wider landscape. It is therefore, especially important to augment the existing resource around these areas to increase stability and resilience of the habitats and species populations.


### Strategic Significance

There are many areas identified as being strategically significant for woodland creation, which shows the abundance of woodland in the district. However, the modelling highlights that many of these sites are fragmented and habitat creation is required to fill the gaps and improve connectivity. The main larger blocks of strategic habitat creation opportunities exist around Toyota, Willington, Swarkestone Bridge, Walton Woods and Witch's Oak water. Much of the moderate strategic woodland creation opportunities revolve around the National Forest and linking the smaller woodlands. This is one of the main objectives of the National Forest Company, however, significant landowners are likely to be key players in any landscape scale habitat creation including Severn Trent, National Trust, Woodland Trust and Forestry England.



## Woodland - Bottlenecks and Opportunities


### Legend

 South Derbyshire Boundary

 Condatis Bottlenecks

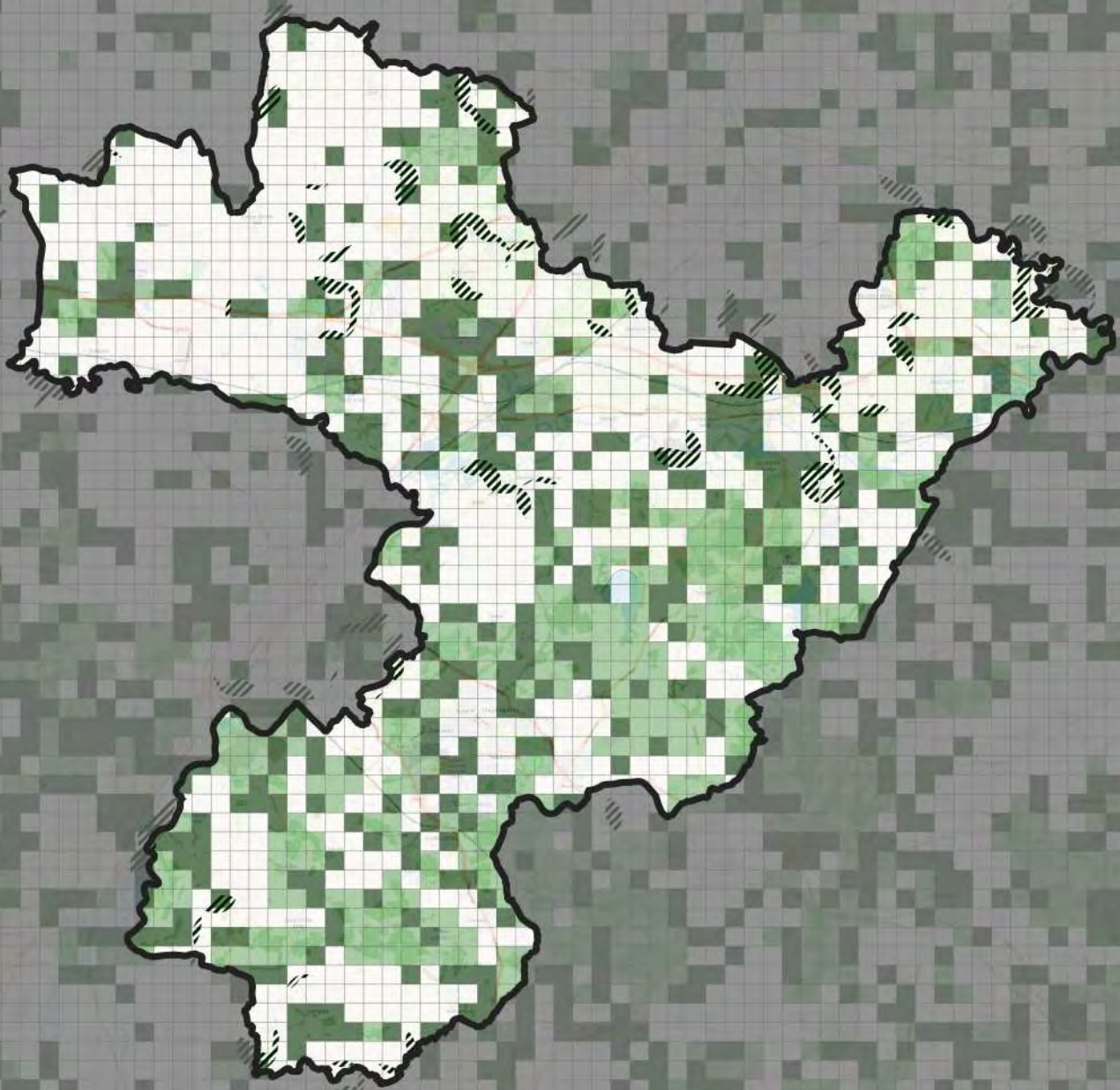
### Opportunity Rank

 Low

 Moderate

 High





0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 km

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fpcr

## Woodland - Strategic Significance

### Legend



South Derbyshire Boundary

### 250m Connectivity Opportunity Areas



Areas Lying Between 250m and 500m from Woodland

### Strategic Significance



High Strategic Significance (5-20% Cover)



Moderate Strategic Significance (>20% Cover)



Not Strategically Significant (<5% Cover)

## Wetland Network

### Habitat Connectivity and Bottlenecks

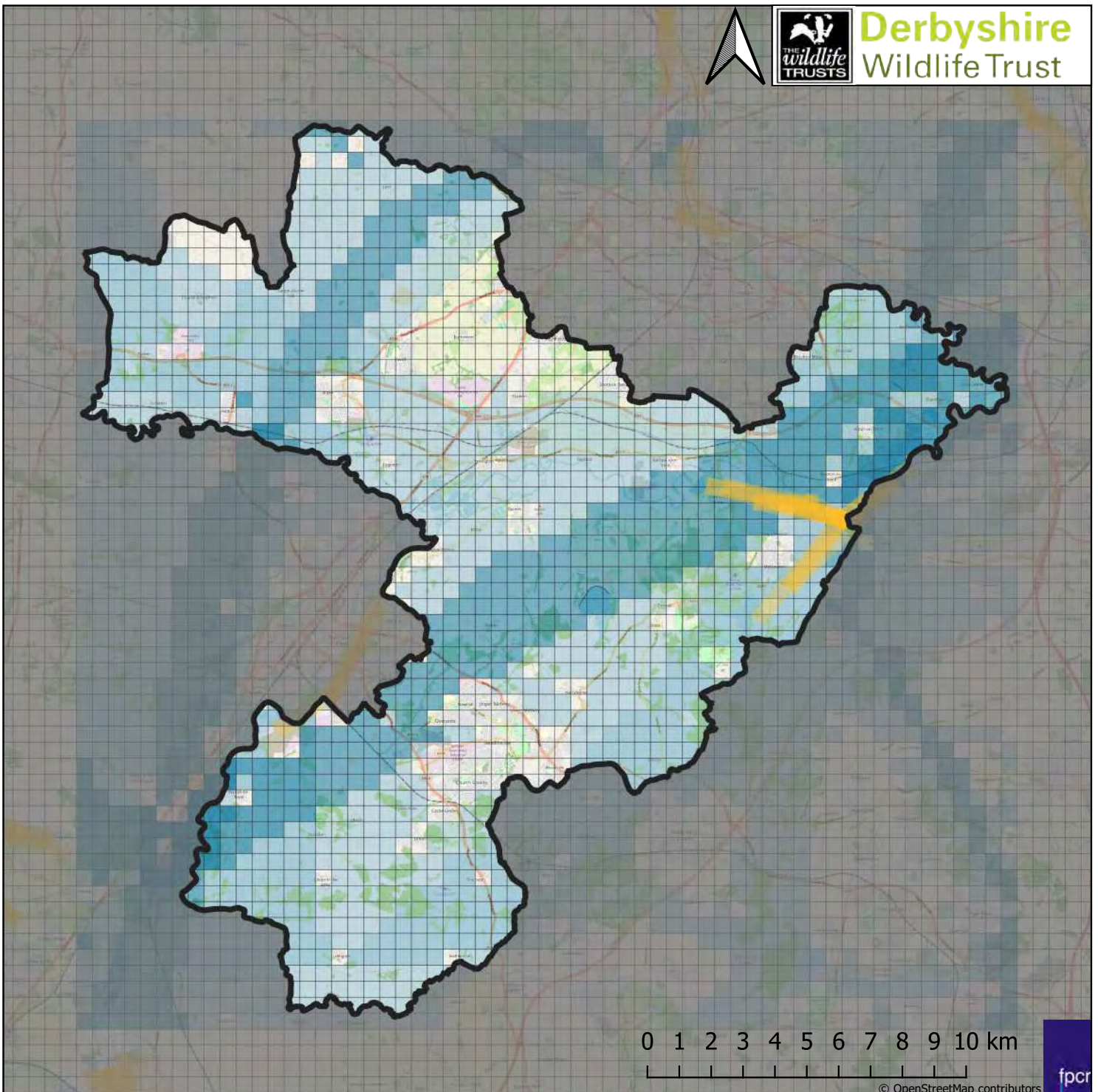
The model indicates that to increase the flow of wetland species through the landscape in both North-South and East-West directions, the areas around the River Trent at Barton-under-Needwood Quarry, Witch's Oak water and Elvaston Quarry offer the greatest habitat creation opportunity. There is one main bottleneck on the River Trent where it exits the district east in to North-West Leicestershire and a smaller bottleneck on the Staffordshire boundary on the River Trent near Drakelow. These wetland areas are of greater importance because any degradation may prevent the flow of wetland species through the wider landscape. It is therefore, especially important to enhance riparian habitats along these sections of rivers to increase stability and resilience of the habitats and species populations.

### Strategic Significance

The strategically significant areas for wetland habitat restoration or creation are, unsurprisingly, along the River Dove, River Trent and River Derwent. Strategic mineral extraction and subsequent restoration along the Trent Valley provides a key opportunity for this. Furthermore, extension of habitats around major waterbodies including Foremark reservoir, Staunton Harold reservoir and Swadlincote golf course offer high strategically significant areas for wetland habitat creation. Creation of ponds around these sites would act as stepping stones to smaller waterbodies in the wider landscape.


The assessment of strategic significance using the buffer method shows a number of areas that would be suitable for habitat creation. Many of these are in areas where the wetland habitat is not large enough to be picked up in the percentage cover (less than 10% cover) therefore likely to represent ponds. Focusing pond creation in these hatched areas would provide vital stepping stone ponds for species such as Great Crested Newts and could be looked at for use in the district level licencing.





## Wetland - Bottlenecks and Opportunities

### Legend

 South Derbyshire Boundary

 Condatis Bottlenecks

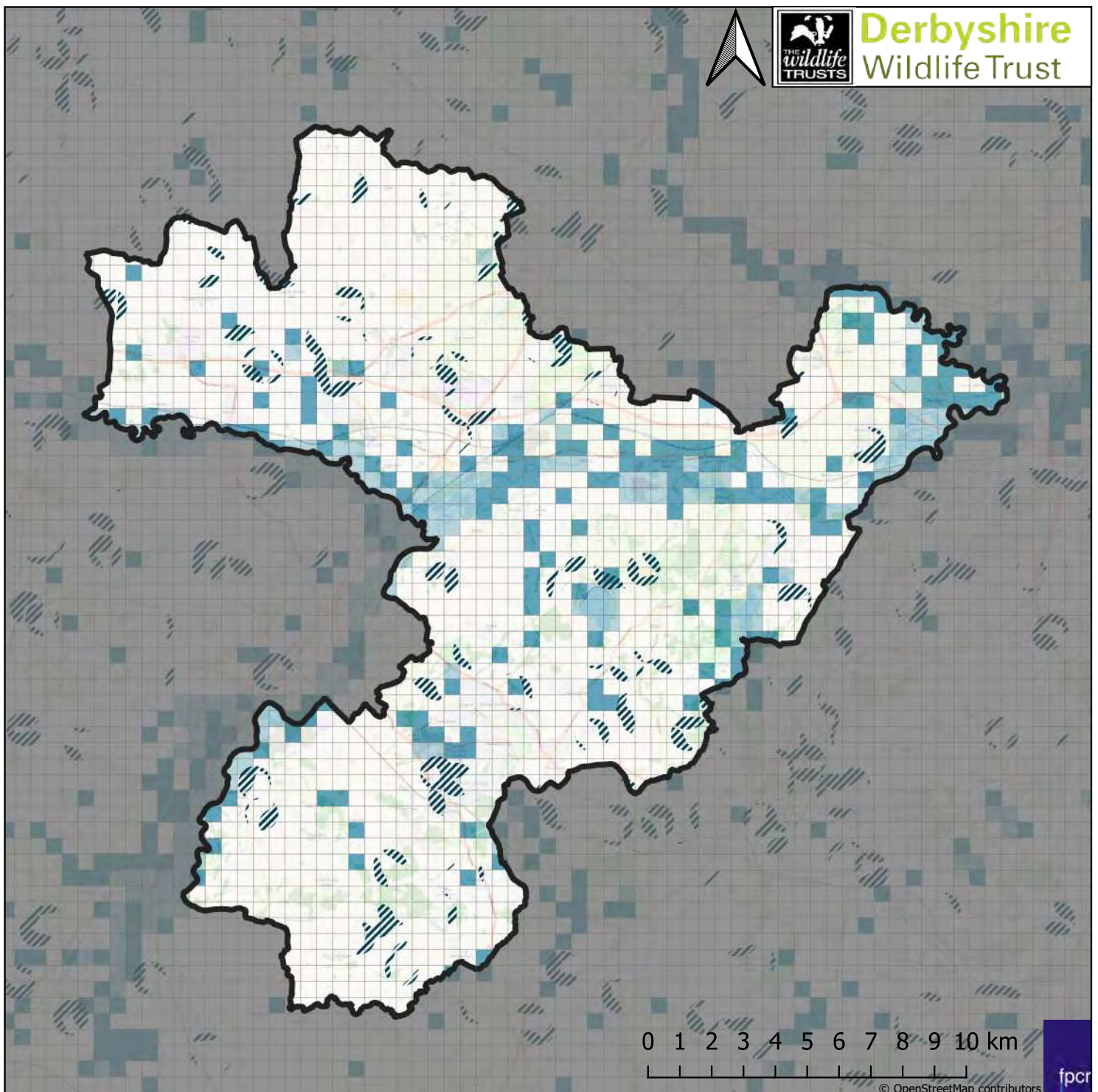
### Opportunity rank

 Low

 Moderate

 High





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fpcr

## Wetland - Strategic Significance

### Legend



South Derbyshire Boundary

### 250m Connectivity Opportunity Areas



Areas Lying Between 250m and 500m from Wetland

### Strategic Significance



High Strategic Significance (5-20% Cover)



Moderate Strategic Significance (>20% Cover)



Not Strategically Significant (<5% Cover)

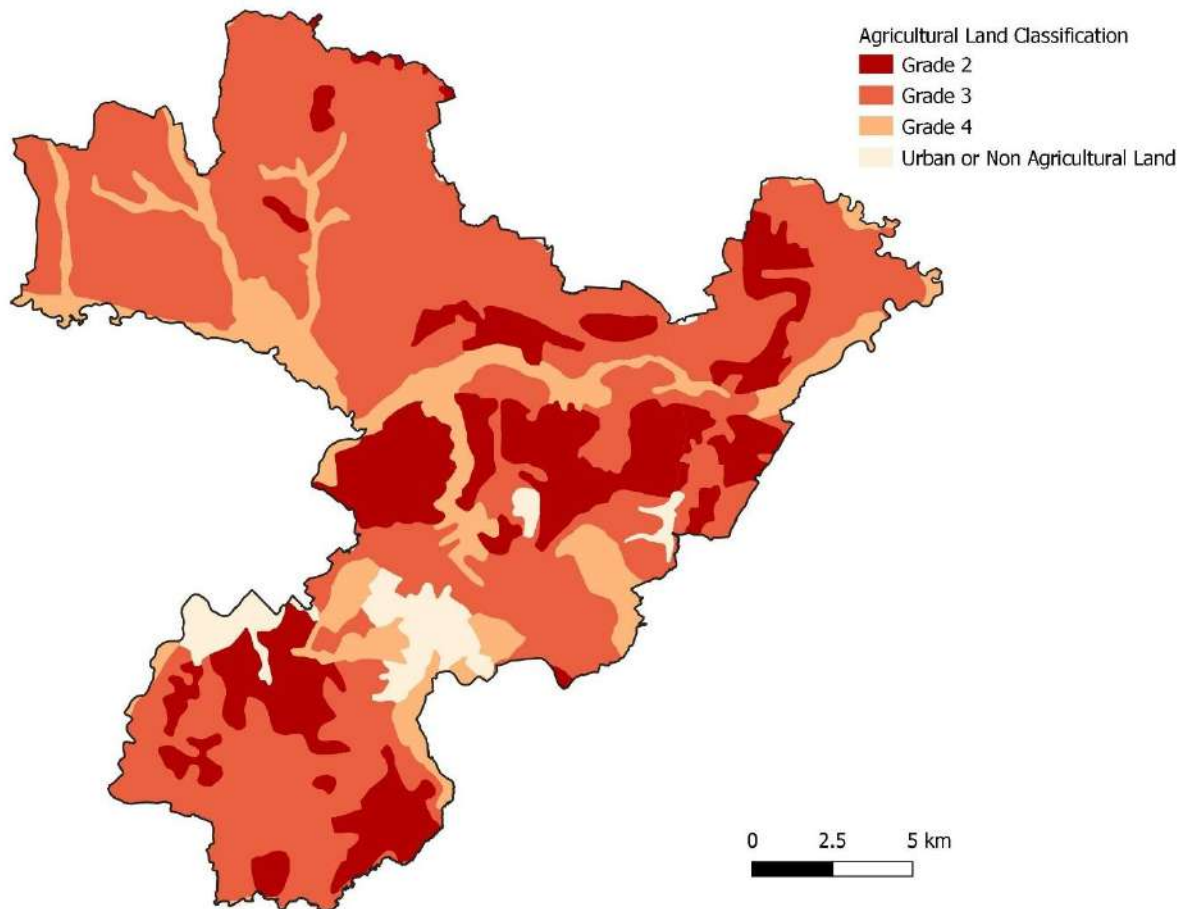


## Agricultural Land Classification

The quality of land for agriculture is a determining factor when considering strategic spatial opportunities and the likelihood of sites to be released for Biodiversity Net Gain enhancements. The Agricultural Land Classification system classifies land into five grades according to the extent to which physical or chemical characteristics impose long term limitations on a site for food production. Factors include climate (temperature, rainfall, aspect, exposure, frost risk), site (gradient, micro-relief, flood risk) and soil (depth, structure, texture, chemicals, stoniness).

- Grade 2: Very good quality agricultural land
- Grade 3: Good to moderate quality agricultural land
  - Subgrade 3a: Good quality agricultural land
  - Subgrade 3b: Moderate quality agricultural land
- Grade 4: Poor quality agricultural land

**Figure 7: Agricultural Land Classification**



Grades 1 to 3a are classified as Best and Most-versatile land and the National Planning Policy Framework guidance prioritises keeping these areas for agricultural production. The classification identifies the areas of poor agricultural land (Grade 4) predominantly in the flood zones of the major watercourses and their tributaries including the Trent Valley, Dove Valley and Derwent Valley, with Foston Brook, Bent Brook, Sutton Brook, Etwall Brook, Hilton Brook and Repton Brook. Where agricultural land is less productive there is a higher likelihood of uptake of the BNG system by farmers. This would provide a number of vital ecosystem services such as reduced flood risk, reduced erosion and sedimentation and cleaner water, as well as enhanced habitats and biodiversity along a strategic connective corridor.

## Network Opportunities

The habitat mapping and modelling clearly displays the locations within the district that would be strategically significant for habitat creation or enhancement. The summary table below provides an analysis of the baseline data and habitat modelling to show the strategic opportunities that should be prioritised going forward.

**Table 6: Network Opportunity Summary**

	Broad Habitat		
	Grassland	Woodland	Wetland
<b>Key Habitats</b>	Lowland meadows, road verges, field margins, gardens, woodland rides, habitat mosaics on brownfield sites	Woodland, scrub, hedgerows, veteran trees, urban tree planting	Rivers, streams, ponds, wet grassland, wet woodland, riparian zones, reedbed
<b>Key Species</b>	Dingy skipper Grizzled skipper	Oak polypore Dormouse (R) Pine martin (R)	Great crested newts White clawed crayfish (WCC) Otter Water vole Beaver (R)
<b>Threats</b>	Agricultural intensification, development, poor/ lack of management	Non-native invasive species, pest and diseases, intensive hedgerow management or removal of hedgerows for development or agriculture,	Mineral extraction, development, agricultural run-off, non-native invasive species, increased flood events, poaching, soil erosion and sediment run-off.
<b>Opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to identify LWS's and encourage landowners to carry out conservation management.</li> <li>Ensure up-to-date management plans are written and regularly reviewed.</li> <li>Talk to farmers about increasing field margin size.</li> <li>Assess grassland parcels for their potential for restoration, or the creation of wildflower</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage the creation of woodland for parcels that form the network, either through BNG scheme or tree planting under the Woodland Creation grant.</li> <li>Talk to farmers about appropriate hedgerow management (including timing) and allowing a margin of unmanaged land for scrub growth.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mineral site restoration.</li> <li>Increase the use of SUDS through planning system.</li> <li>Use BNG or developer contribution from the River Mease SAC to acquire or change management of a 20m buffer from the SAC and tributaries.</li> <li>Encourage farmers to fence rivers and streams to prevent</li> </ul>

	<p>meadows on agricultural land under the BNG scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review management policies of road verges and amenity areas.</li> <li>• Encourage developers to use green roofs and green infrastructure in new developments using BNG and changes to council policy.</li> <li>• Encourage residents to change lawn management to allow wildflowers to flower and set seed, using the 'Team Wilder' project as a spring board for engagement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage PAWS restoration as soon as financially viable.</li> </ul>	<p>erosion and run-off from grazing animals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with partners to eradicate signal crayfish and increase WCC ark sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Key partnerships/ stakeholders</b>	<p>Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Farmers Parish Councils</p>	<p>National Forest Company Forestry England Woodland Trust National Trust Farmers</p>	<p>Trent Rivers Trust Environment Agency Severn Trent Derbyshire Wildlife Trust</p>
<b>Key ecosystem services</b>	<p>Crop pollination, carbon storage, health and wellbeing</p>	<p>Flood reduction, carbon storage, health and wellbeing</p>	<p>Flood reduction, water quality, health and wellbeing</p>
<b>Key areas for strategic creation or enhancement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outskirts of Swadlincote town</li> <li>• Trent Valley particularly around Willington</li> <li>• Radbourne Park area</li> <li>• Drakelow area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Forest</li> <li>• Trent Valley – particularly Toyota, Willington and Swarkestone Bridge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trent Valley, Dove Valley and Derwent Valley</li> <li>• Extension of habitats around major waterbodies including Foremark reservoir, Staunton Harold reservoir and Swadlincote golf course</li> </ul>

## South Derbyshire District Action Plan for Nature

<b>Bottleneck areas</b>	Radbourne Park Calke Park	Drakelow Elvaston Radbourne Park	River Trent - Swarkestone Bridge and Donnington. Drakelow
<b>Key areas for increasing species dispersal (relieving bottlenecks)</b>	Calke Park Foremark	Swarkestone Quarry extension Foremark Milton Twyford	Witch's Oak water Elvaston Quarry Dove Valley (key areas in Staffs.)

## Biodiversity Gaps and Opportunities

Gaps in biodiversity can be separated into three areas; spatial gaps in habitats and species, gaps in the provision of overall habitats and gaps in the condition of existing habitats.

### Habitats and Species

There are major gaps in the provision of important habitats that have been reduced, lost or fragmented due to development or intensification of agriculture. A number of habitats have been identified as being priority for expansion within the district. Likewise, key species that are threatened by habitat loss and/or degradation and declining within the district are highlighted as a priority for action. The tables below show these priority habitats and species for the district which have been reviewed and summarised from each of the Local BAP action areas.

**Table 7: Priority Habitat expansion targets**

Habitat Creation	South Derbyshire Areas			District Wide Total
	Trent and Dove	National Forest	The Claylands	
Deciduous woodland	—	150 ha	20 ha	<b>170 ha</b>
Lowland meadow	14 ha	20 ha	15 ha	<b>49 ha</b>
Ponds	25 ponds	25 ponds	—	<b>50 ponds</b>
Orchard	1 site	10 sites	10 sites	<b>21 sites</b>
Wet woodland	8 ha	8 ha	—	<b>16 ha</b>
Reedbed	15 ha	—	—	<b>15 ha</b>
Hedgerows	—	7 ha	7 ha	<b>14 ha</b>
Floodplain grazing marsh	—	10 ha	—	<b>10 ha</b>
Dry acid grassland	—	5 ha	5 ha	<b>10 ha</b>
Rush pasture	5 ha	—	—	<b>5 ha</b>
Heathland	—	0.5 ha	—	<b>0.5 ha</b>
Wood pasture and parkland	—	1 site	—	<b>1 site</b>



**Table 8: Priority Species range expansion**

Species	South Derbyshire Areas			Range expansion method
	Trent and Dove	National Forest	Claylands	
Great crested newt	Y	Y	Y	Pond creation
Otter	Y	Y	Y	Habitat enhancement
Water vole	Y	Y	Y	Mink control
Dingy skipper	—	Y	Y	Habitat enhancement
Grizzled skipper	—	Y	—	Habitat enhancement
Dormouse	—	Y	—	Reintroduction programme
White-clawed crayfish	—	Y	Y	Creation of ark sites
Oak polypore	—	Y	Y	Veteran tree protection and management
Beaver	Y	—	—	Reintroduction programme
Pine Martin	—	Y	—	Potential future reintroduction programme

These tables provide a useful assessment of the types of habitats that should be being considered for enhancement and creation within any future projects. This, combined with the habitat modelling, gives a broad but strategic overview of what and where conservation work should focus.

However, one factor not picked up by the modelling is the existing condition of core sites. The Lawton principle strives to ensure that the existing valuable habitats are in **better** condition before considering making habitats **bigger, more and joined up**. This is a failing of new schemes such as BNG and there is often a lack of funding and resources for appropriate management of these sites resulting in degraded habitats.

## Recreational Facilities

A number of SDDC managed land parcels have community and recreational value and significant changes to their management for nature conservation purposes is not feasible. However, changes to council procedures to reduce mowing regimes, where viable, should be made a priority. Management recommendations that can be implemented on small areas of land surrounding playgrounds, playing fields or sport pitches would add up to make a huge overall biodiversity improvement. Recommendations for these areas are shown in Table 9.

**Table 9: General management recommendations for SDDC recreation sites**

Management recommendation	Biodiversity enhancement	Ecosystem service
Reduce mowing regime wherever feasible to a two-cut management approach (March and September to allow wild flowers to seed).	Wild flower and insect species diversity.	Improved crop pollination, improved carbon storage and water holding capacity (due to increase surface roughness).
Native tree planting. Consider fruit trees or Miyawaki woodlands for small and/or urban areas.	Species diversity, mainly insects and birds.	Carbon storage, improved crop pollination, soil health, water holding capacity.
'Rewilding' – small corners of sites left unmanaged to increase scrub cover and to create ecotones between different habitats.	Diversification of habitats and species.	Carbon storage, improved crop pollination.
Dig small scrapes to create ephemeral shallow pools.	Species diversity, mainly insects and amphibians.	Water storage – flood reduction.
Create habitat piles – small compact piles of logs, twigs, moss, leaves or the by-products from habitat management activities.	Creation of microhabitats suitable for moss/fungi growth and hibernacula or shelter for reptiles, small mammals and insects.	Improved crop pollination, carbon storage.

## Road Verges

With the exception of motorways and A roads, road verges are managed by the district or parish councils through agreements with Derbyshire County Council. They provide important habitat for grassland species, with 45% of plant species supported by this habitat. With thousands of miles of rural roads in the district, verges provide a great opportunity to increase valuable habitats for wildlife, pollination, flood reduction, pollution reduction and mental wellbeing.

Two smaller road verges have been formally recognised as being of biodiversity interest in South Derbyshire district and non-statutorily designated as road-side nature reserves. These are at Rosliston (RV32) SK3242172 and Staunton Lane (RV33) SK350350, detailed in Appendix F.

Although only two verges have been formally recognised, there are likely to be many more that are of current biodiversity value and have not been identified, or that have the potential to provide high biodiversity value through small changes in management. General conservation management principles can be applied to all council managed road verges where there is good road visibility. Where verges require additional cutting for visibility purposes, cutting frequency and area should be minimised. The following general management principles should be adopted within the Councils policy.

### Road Verge Management Principles

- Undertake a full cut in late-Feb/ March prior to the nesting bird season. Increasing the height of cutter bar slightly will also lower the risk to small mammals and amphibians.
- Allow wildflowers to set seed prior to the second annual cut in September/ October.
- Ensure all arisings are collected and removed, either off-site or to a sacrificial area of the verge to create a compost or habitat pile. This prevents nutrient enrichment and increases botanical diversity.
- Where additional cuts are required for safety purposes, cuts should avoid the main flowering period (July-Aug) where possible.
- All verges should be monitored for litter and litter picks undertaken where necessary to reduce the risks to wildlife and increase the aesthetical value of the verges. Where it is safe to do so, it might be possible to engage local residents in volunteer litter picks.

## Opportunities for Habitat Creation and Enhancement

### Mineral Extraction

Within the NPPF the continued extraction of mineral resources is of national importance; the Local Aggregate Assessment has identified the need for 19.62 million tonnes of sand and gravel from Derbyshire between 2019 and 2036. There are already permitted reserves of 8.85 million tonnes and additional provision will have to be made for around 10.77 million tonnes. All of the proposed sites are located within South Derbyshire, along the Trent valley floodplain. Whilst the extraction of minerals is likely to cause loss of habitats and potential operational impacts on wildlife, these will need to be appropriately mitigated and compensated as part of any planning application.

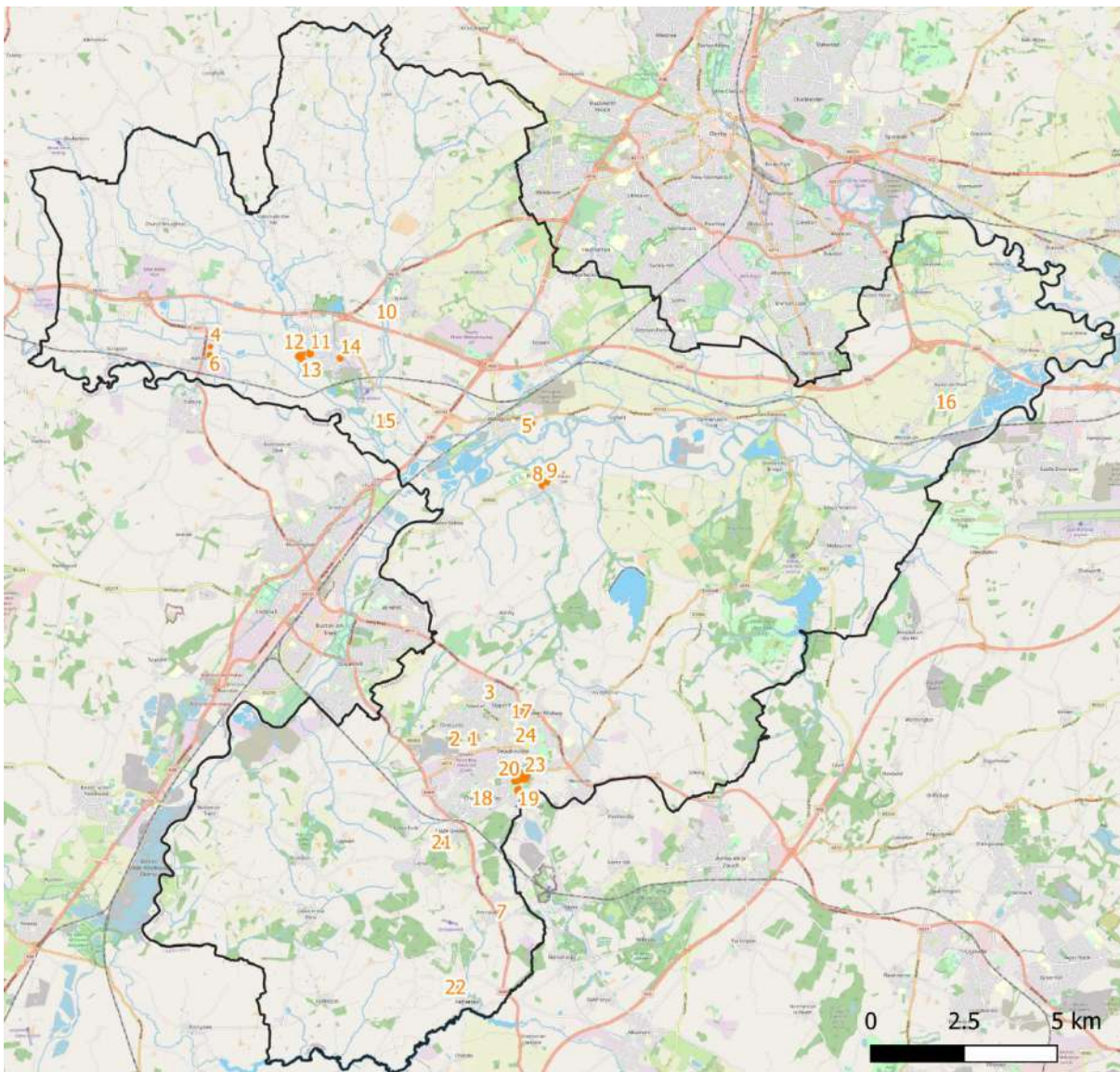
Through the incorporation of minerals sites with their long-term mineral restoration plans, into the Nature Recovery Network, this should be seen as a major opportunity to restore the riparian habitats along the river that, in most cases, would have otherwise remained as low productivity pasture with no betterment for river ecology. The sites will also be subject to the planning requirement for Biodiversity Net Gain. It is likely that the metric used to quantify net gains and losses will incorporate a strategic significance multiplier, whereby the units gained receive an uplift where they occur in opportunity areas or those that are otherwise of benefit, therefore restoration to wetlands, as identified in the wetland strategic mapping, would deliver higher BNG units. There is great opportunity for partnership working on these sites, particularly where they sit adjacent to existing nature reserves and can expand and connect the network of well-managed sites. Site specific opportunities have been identified on Figure 9 in the Stakeholder Consultation section.

### Local Green Spaces and Council Managed Land

The majority of Local Green Spaces are owned and managed through the parish or district councils and therefore there is a high degree of control over their protection and potential enhancement. These sites are seen to provide a high priority opportunity for the registration for Biodiversity Net Gain. Through the council policy LGS2: Enhancement of Local Green Space, *“the Council will work positively with stakeholders to ensure the appropriate management of local green spaces. Opportunities will be sought to enhance local green spaces that could include: Improvements to the long-term management of spaces through changes to site management regimes and the development of site management plans; ...registration of local green spaces as ‘receptor sites’ with the Environment Bank (or other provider) to allow financial contributions to be used to compensate for impacts on development sites elsewhere through habitat creation or management.”*

A number of sites have been identified as having potential to be suitable Biodiversity Net Gain receptor sites given the lack of recreational facilities, designations for nature conservation or proposed planning applications. The majority of these sites are either owned or managed by SDDC or currently adopted/ proposed to be adopted on the Local Green Space plan. Given the nature of these sites, being small (under 4ha) and located within urban settlements, they provide a good opportunity to enhance the stepping stones sites that wildlife relies on. A number of these have undergone a baseline assessment to ascertain their enhancement suitability. An overview of sites is provided in Figure 8 and Appendix F. Sites providing some enhancement potential have been assessed with the results provided in Appendix G. Those with little to no potential for enhancement have not been included but full survey results are available on request.

**Figure 8: SDDC land with BNG potential**





## Brownfield Sites

Brownfield sites are often high priority for re-development as they offer available and accessible land in urban areas, with existing facilities such as roads and shops. There is often pressure to 'tidy' these sites to prevent fly-tipping or anti-social behaviour and are favoured, in national and local planning policy, over greenfield sites to prevent urban sprawl. However, where brownfield sites have been disused for a number of years they are often of high biodiversity value, particularly for species requiring a mosaic of habitats. The lack of fertilisers and thin soils make them a haven for diverse plant communities, with the abundance of invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, bird and mammals that is associated with these diverse habitats. Conversely, many greenfield sites are intensively managed agricultural land of little biodiversity value.

Many brownfield sites are allocated in the Local Plan. However, a shift in opinion and policy surrounding these sites would be beneficial to protect the habitats and their contribution to the wider biodiversity network. It is recommended that, where brownfield sites have existing biodiversity interest, such as those that qualify habitats of principle importance as *open mosaics on previously developed land*, there redevelopment should be carefully considered, if not avoided, although this should be informed by up-to-date baseline survey work. If left to nature these sites can offer the important 'stepping stone' habitats for wildlife, as well as reducing flood risk and improving pollination. They also provide a great opportunity to increase the number and accessibility of open green spaces, contributing to improved mental health and well-being.



## Funding Opportunities

### Biodiversity Net Gain

Biodiversity Net Gain provides access to funding from developers to create or enhance habitats and put them into long-term management. When choosing sites to include in BNG schemes priority should be given to those that are strategically positioned within the habitat network, to increase the core site connectivity. The types of sites listed in Table 11 are likely to be the most feasible and/or achieve the largest biodiversity gain.

**Table 11: Potential Net Gain sites**

Sites	Justification	Practical application
SDDC owned sites	Sites are already in ownership and can be put into long-term management. <b>(BETTER)</b>	Ensure the cost of land is taken into account in BNG project costs to ensure continued acquisition of land for BNG.
LWS's / pLWS's	Ensures LWS's / pLWS's are in appropriate long term management. <b>(BETTER)</b>	Increase capacity for LWS survey to ensure continued and regular monitoring of sites. Carry out BNG assessment alongside LWS survey to create a bank of suitable projects.
Private farm land	The largest gains can be made from agricultural land as it has low baseline units. Farmers will often receive more financial incentive than Countryside Stewardship schemes, although this may change with the move to new agri-environment schemes. <b>(MORE)</b>	Put an 'expression of interest' call out to farmers. DWT and other landowner stakeholders to talk to adjoining farmers about the potential to acquire land or encourage BNG. <b>(BIGGER)</b>
	Poor agricultural land offers potential to be adopted as it has low food production value.	
	Land where multiple benefits can be achieved such as flood reduction.	Prioritise farmland along the Trent Valley for wetland restoration.
Stakeholder sites	Existing core sites that require enhancement <b>(BETTER)</b> or habitat creation on agricultural parcels within the site boundary <b>(BIGGER)</b> .	

## Payments for Ecosystem Services

Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) is the process of users of ecosystem services providing payment to the providers of ecosystem services. There are several examples of where there is funding available for these services, shown in Table 12. Following Brexit, Defra has announced the proposed format for England's replacement for CAP based agri-environment schemes, which will be based on the principle of public funding for public goods, a type of PES scheme.

**Table 12: Payment for Ecosystem Services**

Funding potential	Ecosystem Service	Opportunity
NHS green prescribing	Health and wellbeing, recreation,	Green space habitat management.
Agricultural subsidies  1. Sustainable farming 2. Local Nature Recovery 3. Landscape Recovery	Flood risk, water quality	Increase area and biodiversity value of habitats in agricultural areas.
FC Woodland Grants	Carbon capture	Tree planting.
Nature for Climate Fund	Carbon capture	Tree planting on community sites.
STEPS – Severn Trent Environmental Protection Scheme	Water quality	Biodiversity grants for farmers in catchment areas to reduce the environmental impact of agricultural activities.
Local Authority Treescapes fund	Carbon capture	Tree planting and natural regeneration in local communities.
Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund	Carbon capture, water quality	Nature projects which tackle climate change, create and restore habitats, or improve water quality.

## Policy Opportunities

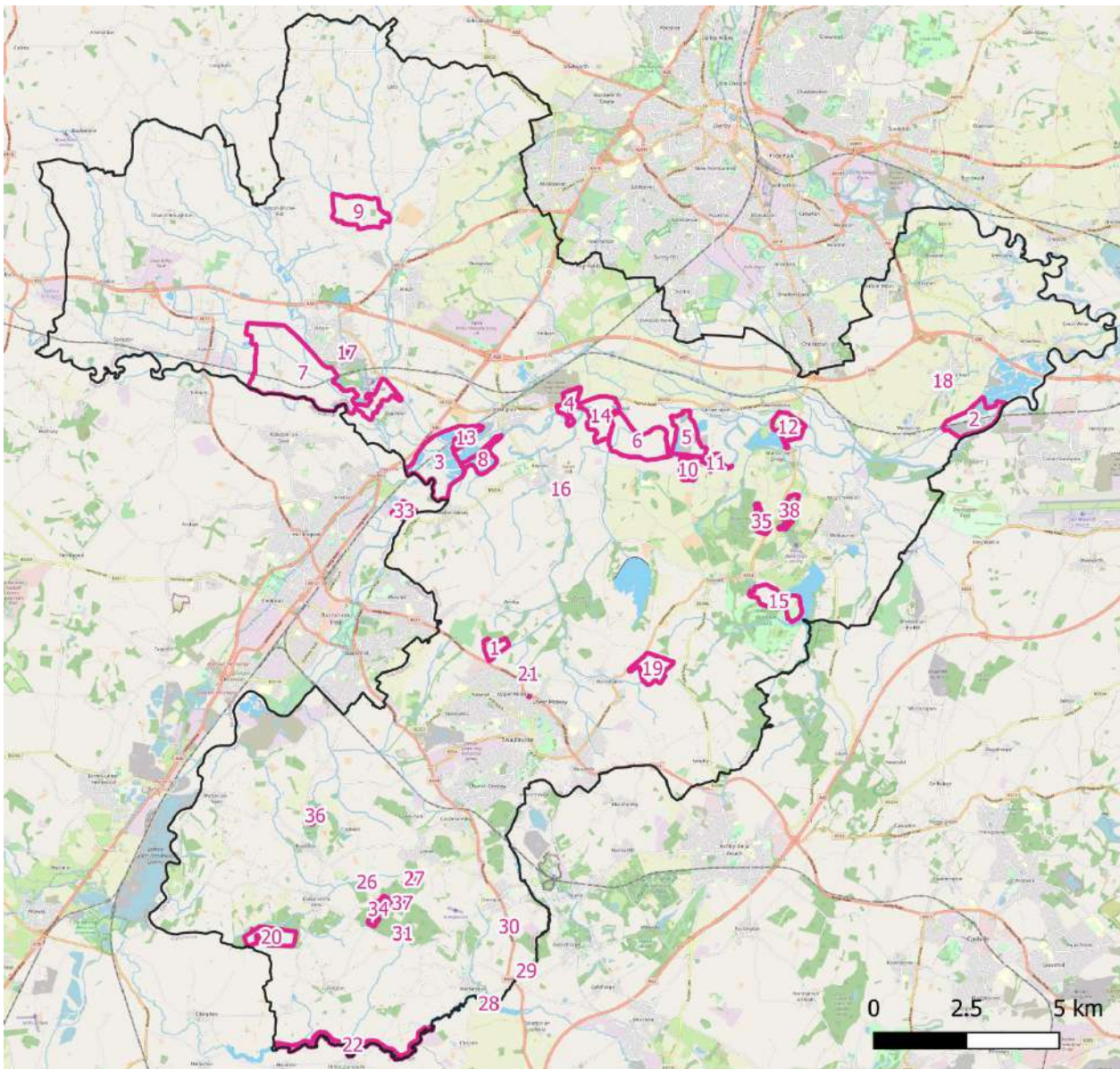
There are a number of factors that impact biodiversity and climate change that are often determined by policy and industry drivers. This is where changes to policy at a local government level could have major positive environmental impacts.

- Changes to habitat management policy e.g. mowing regimes;
- Inclusion of Blue/Green Infrastructure or Nature Recovery strategy into the Local Plan;
- Inclusion of Biodiversity Banks in local plans funded by BNG offsets/contributions from developers;
- Increase focus within the Local Plan on environmentally sustainable development using nature-based solutions;
- Inclusion of a 'wild belt' designation to provide statutory protection from development on areas recovering for nature;
- Inclusion of mandatory bird boxes/ swift bricks within all building design;
- Recognising and sharing the value of brownfield sites for biodiversity and reducing the number included within the Local Plan.

## Stakeholder Consultation

The results of the stakeholder meetings have been analysed and are shown on Figure 9, with reference numbers identifying the opportunity and associated stakeholder in Appendix G. This includes opportunities identified by the author during the process of this report. There are also a number of identified opportunities that are not location specific or the location details can't be shared at this stage, as well as a small number of potential constraints identified by stakeholders, shown in Appendix I and J.

**Figure 9: Stakeholder Identified Opportunities**



The meetings with stakeholders identified a number of biodiversity opportunities, including existing 'on-site' biodiversity projects, adjacent landowner interest or areas likely to offer potential enhancement given the existing land use or agricultural grade. These were focused around the Trent Valley, National Forest and River Mease catchment. The meetings highlighted that the majority of landowner organisations in the district have biodiversity objectives and there are many potential projects, however, a lack of funding and resources often meant these were not prioritised. The biodiversity projects that are undertaken are often, understandably, driven by finance and feasibility, rather than strategically planned. The opportunities identified were mostly focused around making stakeholder sites better and highlighted little cross boundary working, for obvious and understandable reasons. However, this will mean there are always relatively small pockets of good habitat with abrupt boundaries, lack of ecotones and limited connectivity. While partnership working was highlighted with most stakeholders, it is clear that landscape scale conservation would benefit from much more collaborative working than is currently the case. With landscape partnerships working together towards the same strategic Nature Recovery Network, it is much more likely to be achieved.



## Potential Challenges

It is recognised that we are in uncertain times politically and environmentally, with Brexit, the Environment Bill, the climate crisis and a world-wide pandemic causing major disruption to our natural world. Some of the challenges that are likely to have an impact on the recovery of nature in South Derbyshire and implications on local planning are highlighted below.

### Biodiversity Net Gain

The mandatory requirement of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain in the upcoming Environmental Bill presents huge opportunities for the Nature Recovery strategy. However, the system has constraints and there will be challenges which should be taken into consideration when planning its implementation.

**Table 15: Constraints and challenges of Biodiversity Net Gain**

Constraint or challenge	Potential Impact	Example
The metric is based on adding value to a habitat and does not consider potential future decline due to lack of management.	Sites in moderate but declining condition are likely to be overlooked. Increase in poor condition habitats.	Local Wildlife Sites are often of good quality habitat but not necessarily under appropriate management. It is vital to secure long-term management on these sites to avoid habitat decline. However, the BNG metric does not favour the maintenance of habitats of existing value or adding value to an already good quality habitat.
Increasing demand for land for habitat enhancement or creation.	Lack of available land. Soaring costs and competition for land.	Realisation of potential financial incentives to BNG causing higher competition for land.
Potential failure to adhere to the mitigation hierarchy on the basis that impacts can be compensated off-site.	Increase in valuable habitats lost to development.	Planning is granted for a development that could have avoided habitat loss on the basis that they are measured and off-set.
Does not apply to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.	Habitat loss	HS2 and other NSIPs continue to threaten habitats without measurable compensation.



## ‘Planning for the Future’ White Paper

The Planning White Paper is likely to present both opportunities and challenges. The new system proposes that land is identified under three distinct categories; **Growth areas** suitable for substantial development; **Renewal areas** suitable for some development; and **Protected areas** where development is restricted. If the identification of protected areas is based on areas identified in Nature Recovery strategies then this will make the planning system much more strategic and hopefully protect a much larger area than is currently; statutory designated sites only. However, the growth area is proposed to be subjected to much less scrutiny in order to speed up the process and outline approval would be automatically secured for the types of development specified in the plan. It is proposed that planning permission will be rule-based, rather than the case-by-case judgement of environmental experts. This has the potential to threaten habitats or species e.g. removal of a section of hedgerow that forms a key connective corridor.

## Other Challenges

**Table 16: Other Environmental Challenges**

Challenge	Description	Details
<b>Brexit</b>	The challenges faced by exiting the European Union are undetermined until the details are known. However, changes to the laws and regulations that govern environmental protections could have major consequences for Natures Recovery.	<p><b>Legal</b> – potential loss or weakening of EU species and habitat protection laws;</p> <p><b>Trade</b> - Changes to import and export regulations (threats to food supply and increased demand for intensive agriculture);</p> <p><b>Devolution</b> – coordinating and maintaining minimum standards to the environmental law across the UK.</p>
<b>Covid-19 Pandemic</b>	Further contributing to climate change and impacts on biodiversity.	<p>Increased single use plastics and waste</p> <p>Reduction in recycling</p> <p>Avoidance of public transport</p>

## Evaluation

The different components of this strategy have been reviewed to create a table of actions. These are recommendations for nature recovery. Their priority or even suitability for adoption into local plans and policies and further action will be determined by a range of factors such as finance and resources, land availability and organisational priorities.

**Table 17: Plan of Actions**

Action	Detail	Who?
Use the strategic significance maps	Use these maps to prioritise land for habitat creation or enhancement. Incorporate areas of low strategic significance in the Local Plan. Avoid, where possible, development on areas of importance for the network.	SDDC
Change road verge management	Where appropriate, manage road verges for biodiversity.	SDDC
Change recreational site management	On areas surrounding recreational facilities consider managing for biodiversity. Change mowing regimes of amenity sites to increase diversity, using mown footpaths to allow access.	SDDC
Increase ecological features on recreational or amenity sites	Consider the creation of ponds, scrapes, tree planting and habitat piles to increase the sites stepping stone connectivity.	SDDC
Use green space sites in BNG schemes	Appropriate green space sites without designations or recreational facilities should be offered up to BNG schemes to increase their ecological value.	SDDC
Continue to acquire/ adopt land for BNG enhancement or habitat creation	Ensure a continuation of BNG sites by adding a 'land acquisition' cost to off-setting schemes to allow for further purchase of land.	SDDC
Put a call out to landowners for available land	Create a bank of BNG sites for off-setting development schemes within the LPA.	SDDC

Set up a biodiversity action group	Utilise the increased ecological resource and knowledge (appointment of a district ecologist in 2021) to create an action group involving all the major stakeholders.	SDDC and stakeholders

## Conclusion

To conclude, the Action Plan for Nature should provide the basis for nature's recovery in South Derbyshire. Protection and enhancement of existing core sites, such as Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and SSSI's is vital to maintain the district's biodiversity hotspots, however, nature needs more than these sparse and fragmented areas. There must be improvement in the stepping stone sites and corridors to enhance connectivity, using the strategic mapping to prioritise areas. Creation and improved management of hedges, road verges, field margins, ponds and streams will contribute significantly towards the recovery. Finally, the recovery network should be used to safeguard key areas and connections, using Plans and Policies to strengthen the network of habitats using funding opportunities and biodiversity net gain schemes appropriately, steering development away from the key recovery areas and encouraging nature friendly development and farming.

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## Appendix A GIS Datasets

Dataset	Source
Statutory designated sites – SAC, SSSI, NNR, LNR	DEFRA – Natural England
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust reserves	DWT
Non-statutory designated sites – LWS, pLWS	Derbyshire Biological Records Centre
Local BAP Action Areas	Derbyshire Biological Records Centre
Section 41 Priority Habitats (NERC), TPO trees	Derbyshire Biological Records Centre
Species Records - EPS, Section 41 species, notable species	Derbyshire Biological Records Centre
Land allocations, planning applications, settlement boundaries	SDDC
Local Green Spaces	SDDC
Grounds Management Polygons	SDDC
National Forest Inventory	DEFRA – Forestry Commission
National Character Areas	DEFRA – Natural England
Environmental Stewardship Scheme Agreements	DEFRA – Natural England
Ancient Woodland and Planted Ancient Woodland	DEFRA – Natural England
Agricultural Land Classification Grades Post 1988 Survey	DEFRA – Natural England
Flood Map for Planning – Rivers and Sea Flood Zone 3	DEFRA – Environment Agency
River Catchment Data	DEFRA – Environment Agency
Crop Map of England	Rural Payments Agency
England Land Cover Map 2019 - vector	Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Open Zoomstack	Ordnance Survey

## Appendix B Land Cover Map Habitat Classifications

Aggregate Class	Broad Habitat	Target Class	Number	Description
Broadleaf woodland	Broadleaved, Mixed and Yew Woodland	Broadleaved woodland	1	Broadleaved woodlands are characterised by stands >5 m high with tree cover >20%; scrub
Coniferous woodland	Coniferous Woodland	Coniferous Woodland	2	Coniferous Woodland includes semi-natural stands and plantations, with cover >20%. This includes new plantation and recently felled areas.
Arable	Arable and Horticulture	Arable and Horticulture	3	This includes annual crops, perennial crops such as berries and orchards and freshly ploughed land. Orchards with a ground flora are hard to distinguish.
Improved grassland	Improved Grassland	Improved Grassland	4	Improved grassland is distinguished from semi-natural grasslands based on its higher productivity, lack of winter senescence and location and/or context.
Semi-natural grassland	Neutral Grassland	Neutral Grassland	5	Neutral Grassland is mapped spectrally, however, the inclusion of layers for slope and distance to rivers is expected to improve the classification on flood plains. These habitats should be treated as having the potential to be 'Neutral grassland' as for a conclusive classification field survey is required to make a determination based on botanical composition.
	Calcareous Grassland	Calcareous Grassland	6	Calcareous Grassland is mapped spectrally, however, the inclusion of layers for slope and distance to rivers is expected to improve the classification in some cases. These habitats should be treated as having the potential to be 'Calcareous grassland' as for a conclusive classification field survey is required to make a determination based on botanical composition.
	Acid Grassland	Acid Grassland	7	Acid Grassland is mapped spectrally. Bracken can be mapped, but it depends on image timing so for consistency it is assigned to 'Acid Grassland'.
	Fen, Marsh and Swamp	Fen, Marsh and Swamp	8	Fen, Marsh and Swamp includes fen, fen meadows, rush pasture, swamp, flushes and springs.



Mountain, heath, bog	Dwarf Shrub Heath	Heather	9	Dwarf Shrub Heath is divided into two classes, depending on the density of Heather, producing 'Heather' and 'Heather grassland' classes respectively.
		Heather Grassland	10	
	Bog	Bog	11	Bog' includes ericaceous, herbaceous and mossy swards in areas with a 17 peat depth > 0.5 m. 'Bog' forms part of an ecological continuum covering 'Acid Grassland', 'Dwarf Shrub Heath' and some types of 'Fen, Marsh and Swamp' and the separation of these habitats can be difficult,
	Inland Rock	Inland Rock	12	This covers natural and artificial exposed rock surfaces which are >0.25ha, such as inland cliffs, caves, screes and limestone pavements, as well as various forms of excavations and waste tips such as quarries and quarry waste.
Built-up areas and gardens	Built-up Areas and Gardens	Urban	20	Urban and suburban built up areas and gardens.
		Suburban	21	

## Appendix C Stakeholder Contacts

Organisation	Name and Job Title	Contact
Trent Rivers Trust (TRT)	Emma Smail – River Mease Project Manager	<a href="mailto:emma@trentriverstrust.org">emma@trentriverstrust.org</a>
Environment Agency (EA)	Tracey Doherty – Biodiversity Technical Officer	<a href="mailto:tracey.doherty@environment-agency.gov.uk">tracey.doherty@environment-agency.gov.uk</a>
National Forest (NF)	Sam Lattaway	<a href="mailto:slattaway@nationalforest.org">slattaway@nationalforest.org</a>
Forestry England (FE)	Adrienne Bennett – Environment Manager	<a href="mailto:adrienne.bennett@forestryengland.uk">adrienne.bennett@forestryengland.uk</a>
Forestry Commission (FC)	Charles Cuthbert – Woodland Officer	<a href="mailto:charles.cuthbert@forestrycommission.gov.uk">charles.cuthbert@forestrycommission.gov.uk</a>
Woodland Trust (WT)	David Logan – Central England Site Manager	<a href="mailto:davidlogan@woodlandtrust.org.uk">davidlogan@woodlandtrust.org.uk</a>
Severn Trent Water (STW)	Zara Turtle – Senior Biodiversity Coordinator	<a href="mailto:zara.turtle@severntrent.co.uk">zara.turtle@severntrent.co.uk</a>
RSPB	Carl Cornish – Conservation Officer	<a href="mailto:Carl.cornish@rspb.org.uk">Carl.cornish@rspb.org.uk</a>
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT)	Matt Buckler (MB) – Head of Nature's Recovery	<a href="mailto:mbuckler@derbyshirewt.co.uk">mbuckler@derbyshirewt.co.uk</a>
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	George Bird (GB) – Living Landscape Officer	<a href="mailto:gbird@derbyshirewt.co.uk">gbird@derbyshirewt.co.uk</a>
	Kieron Huston (KH) – Biodiversity Planning and Policy Manager	<a href="mailto:khuston@derbyshirewt.co.uk">khuston@derbyshirewt.co.uk</a>
South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC)	Bernard Sheridan - Open Spaces and Facilities Manager	<a href="mailto:bernard.sheridan@southderbyshire.gov.uk">bernard.sheridan@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a>
	Kevin Exley – Planning Policy Officer	<a href="mailto:kevin.exley@southderbyshire.gov.uk">kevin.exley@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a>

## Appendix D National Character Areas

Character Area Name	Overview	Environmental Opportunities		
Melbourne Parklands	This is a landscape of rolling farmland, ancient and plantation woodland and landscaped parklands with grand country houses, including Calke Abbey which has been designated a National Nature Reserve (NNR), and contains many notable ancient and veteran trees. One-quarter of the NCA is within The National Forest and 10 per cent is woodland. The NCA is predominantly rural, although there are strong contrasts with the urban areas on its peripheries. Two valleys have been dammed to create large reservoirs; Foremark and Staunton Harold Reservoirs	Manage the new planting of The National Forest and restore the characteristics of the historic parklands and woodlands. Conserve and manage the hedgerows and hedgerow trees, preserving the field patterns of early enclosures.	Promote sustainable agricultural practices to help protect and manage areas of semi-natural habitat and, where appropriate, link these areas together to create a coherent and resilient habitat network.	Protect the important water resource in the NCA to safeguard the quality of public, private and agricultural water supplies, and to improve its contribution to biodiversity and recreation.
Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coalfield	This NCA has a developing woodland character, heavily influenced by work of The National Forest that covers the majority of the NCA and which aims to link the remnant ancient forest landscapes of Melbourne Parklands NCA in the north with those of Charnwood NCA in the east and Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands NCA in the west. The River Mease Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) forms part of the boundary with the Mease/Sence Lowlands NCA in the south-west.	Protect and manage the area's riverine and flood plain environment, its manmade and natural wetland habitats, especially the River Mease for its internationally and nationally important species and range of river plants, for the benefit of biodiversity.	Manage and conserve ancient and plantation woodland and plan appropriately scaled new woodland cover. Restore and reinstate hedgerows and hedgerow trees.	Balance the needs of forestry, commercial, industrial and agricultural growth with the developing visitor economy and maintain a high level of public access.
Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands	This NCA is predominately a rolling plateau that slopes from the southern edge of the Peak District to the valley of the River Trent in the south-west. Also in the south are frequent plantations and ancient woodlands of the former Forest of Needwood. Elsewhere, the extensively hedged and pastoral landscape is dominated by mixed farming. Hedgerow trees contribute to the wooded character of this NCA. Part of The National Forest is situated on the eastern side of the NCA.	Conserve and enhance the character of mixed farm landscape including hedgerow trees and varied hedgerow types	Manage woodlands, veteran trees, wood pasture and parklands to safeguard their biodiversity value. Plan for new opportunities to plant woods and new areas of wood pasture to expand existing sites; and create short rotation coppice to reduce habitat fragmentation.	Manage and enhance the network of rivers, flood plains and wetlands, increasing the landscape's ability to naturally and sustainably manage flood and drought risk and provide other ecosystem services such as water supply and food provision, while recognising the needs of individual species and habitats.
Trent Valley Washlands	This NCA comprises the river flood plain corridors of the middle reaches of the River Trent's catchment. It is a distinctly narrow, linear and low-lying landscape, often clearly delineated at its edges by higher ground, and it is largely comprised of the flat flood plains and gravel terraces of the rivers.	Carefully plan and manage new development within this NCA to ensure that ecosystem services are strengthened and woodland and the hedgerow networks are enhanced.	Manage and enhance the river and flood plain landscape to combine its essential provision and regulation of water role with landscape enhancement, nature conservation and climate regulation.	Join up and expand areas of pasture and associated attributes and habitats, to preserve enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.
Mease/Sence Lowlands	This NCA is a gently rolling agricultural landscape centred around the rivers Mease, Sence and Anker. The National Forest extends into the area north of the River Mease. The NCA contains one Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – the River Mease, and has 139 ha of nationally designated SSSI, including the Ashby Canal SSSI. Important habitats include neutral grasslands, wet meadows, parkland, wet woodlands, rivers and stream.	Protect and appropriately manage this important network of natural and manmade rivers, streams, ponds, canals and other wetland habitats for its internationally important populations of white-clawed crayfish, spined loach and bullhead fish.	Manage and conserve the woodland habitat of the landscape and plan to expand appropriately scaled woodland cover, particularly in The National Forest.	Protect and appropriately manage the features of this landscape, in particular its ancient woodlands, veteran trees, landscaped parklands and areas of archaeological interest, including ridge and furrow.

## Appendix E Roadside Nature Reserves

Verge	Description	Species	Current status
Rosliston Road Verge RV32	Situated on a sweeping bend the site is formed by a narrow verge, adjacent small ditch and a main area of grassland beyond these features. Drainage grips facilitate surface water drainage from the road into the ditch.	Field Wood-rush, Pignut, Yarrow, Cat's-ear, Lesser Stitchwort and Bush Vetch, locally areas are more acidic with Sheep's Sorrel and Harebell. In the ditch and drainage grips species indicative of damper conditions include Hard Rush and Toad Rush.	The main area although previously recorded as being botanically diverse, was species poor at the time of last survey. The reason for this decline is likely to be attributable to past management of one late season annual cut with the cuttings left in-situ – resulting in nutrient enrichment.
Staunton Lane Verge RV33	The south west verge supports unimproved neutral grassland grading to damper conditions with tall herbs. Locally, seasonally wet ruts create small microhabitats. A ditch separates the grassland from a species rich hedgerow. The northern verge, whilst still of interest, is less species rich. The verges are located on a straight section of carriageway with good visibility.	Common Knapweed, Meadow Vetchling, Lesser Stitchwort, Greater Stitchwort, Goat's-beard, Tufted vetch and Bush Vetch. In the tall herb areas species indicative of damper conditions include; False Fox-sedge, Hairy Sedge, Tufted Hair-grass, Great Willowherb and Great Burnet.	Inspection in spring 2006 suggested that the south verge was mown when the neighbouring landowner cut the adjacent hedge during the winter.




## Appendix F BNG Assessment Overview


Map Ref	Site Name	Size (Ha)	Assessed	Notes	Suitability for BNG enhancement or creation
1	Meadow Lane	2.3	Yes	Some of this is already designated as LWS. Planning application in covering this land parcel.	Site not suitable for BNG due to existing value of habitats.
2	Oversetts Road	2.4	Yes		Could provide 4.93 units through 1.6ha of grassland enhancement.
3	Cavendish Close	0.9	Yes	General purpose land. Protected through LP2 BNE8 Local Green Space.	Could provide 2.52 units through 0.7ha of grassland enhancement.
4	Eaton Close	0.07	No		
5	Sealey Close	1.3	Yes	General purpose land with half located in flood zone 3b, therefore offered some protection.	Could provide 6.29 units for 1.1 ha neutral grassland creation and 0.2 ha ponds.
6	Hassall Road	0.19	No		
7	Daisy Lane	0.65	No		
8	Askew Grove	0.3	No		
9	The Crescent	0.3	No		
10	Old Station Close	0.6	No		
11	Humber Street - Hilton Memorial	0.95	Yes	Managed by the Parish. Assessed for LWS but doesn't meet criteria. Designated as pLWS.	No - memorial tree planting land and already of existing value.




12	Hilton Derby Road	0.85	No		
13	Hilton Brook	1.2	Yes	Local Green Space Designation so policy protection from BNE8. Flood risk area.	Could provide 1.06 units but most of site not suitable as already of existing value.
14	Orwell Road	0.3	No		
15	Elmhurst	0.6	No		
16	Aston Bowling Green	0.8	No	Potential to enhance grassland around the outside of recreational areas.	
17	Sandholes	3.7	Yes	Already allocated for BNG.	Yes - receptor for Woodville Link Road.
18	George Street	1.5	Yes	Already allocated for BNG.	Yes - receptor for Woodville Link Road.
19	Common Road	0.7	Yes	General purpose land.	Could provide 1.23 units through 0.7ha of grassland enhancement.
20	Park Road	1.5	Yes	General purpose land. Protected from development through policy INF9 of LP1.	Could provide 5.94 units through 1.5ha of neutral grassland creation.
21	Arthur Street	0.8	No	Housing/general purpose land. Historical interest in delivering affordable housing.	
22	Hunts Lane	0.7	No	Located in settlement boundary - potential for future development.	
23	Coppice Side	2.5	No	Large area of amenity grassland. Could be enhanced with footpath cut through to keep recreation value.	
24	Midland Road	1	No	Large area of amenity grassland. Could be enhanced with footpath cut through to keep recreation value.	

## Appendix G BNG Site Assessments

<b>Site Name:</b> Cavendish Close		<b>Location:</b> SK 29303 21241 <b>Planning Authority:</b> SDDC		<b>Size:</b> 0.9 ha	
<b>Description:</b> An area of improved grassland with small pockets of tree and shrubs at the intersection of Edgecote Drive and Cavendish Close in Swadlincote.					
<b>Habitat connectivity:</b> Low Situated in a housing development in Swadlincote. A few other small green spaces and gardens provide stepping stones to nearby arable and improved grassland habitat.					
<b>Main habitat type(s):</b> Modified grassland  Broad-leaved plantation woodland			<b>Habitat condition:</b> Poor – Score 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Abundant ryegrass</li><li>Regularly mown</li></ul> Moderate – Score 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Few very young/old trees</li><li>No deadwood</li></ul>		
<b>Habitat enhancement or creation potential:</b> Medium <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Potential to enhance species diversity of grassland but only a small area and practical issues from the amount of scrub and trees on-site.</li></ul>			<b>Location Map</b> 		
<b>Strategic significance</b>	Low	<b>Potential net unit change delivered through habitat enhancement or creation</b>		<b>2.52</b> Creation of moderate neutral grassland on 0.7ha	
<b>Spatial Risk Category</b>	Inside LPA				
<b>Approximate baseline habitat units</b>	2.2				
<b>Post-intervention units</b>	4.72				


<b>Site Name:</b> Common Road		<b>Location:</b> SK 30077 18628 <b>Planning Authority:</b> SDDC	<b>Size:</b> 0.7 ha
<b>Description:</b> An area of semi-improved grassland south of Common Road in Swadlincote that is bordered by native tree species.			
<b>Habitat connectivity:</b> Medium South of Maurice Lee Memorial Park and close to other recreational and woodland sites.			
<b>Main habitat type(s) (UKHAB):</b> Modified (semi-improved) grassland  Broad-leaved plantation woodland		<b>Habitat condition:</b> Poor – Score 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presence of undesirable species</li> </ul> Good – Score 3	
<b>Habitat enhancement or creation potential:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential to control undesirable species and enhance species diversity of grassland.</li> </ul>		<b>Location Map</b> 	
<b>Strategic significance</b>	Low	<b>Potential net unit change delivered through habitat enhancement or creation</b>	<b>1.23</b> Enhancement of grassland from poor to moderate condition, reducing undesirable species and increasing wildflower diversity.
<b>Spatial risk category</b>	Inside LPA		
<b>Baseline habitat units</b>	3.08		
<b>Post-intervention units</b>	4.31		

<b>Site Name:</b> Hilton Brook		<b>Location:</b> SK 24243 30061 <b>Planning Authority:</b> SDDC	<b>Size:</b> 1.2ha
<b>Description:</b> An area of semi-natural habitat south of Derby Road in Hilton at the intersection with Welland Road. The site is bounded by Hilton Brook to the north-west and there is no public access. The north-western end of the site is more diverse with scrub, trees, ponds and more herb-rich grassland. The southern end of the site is poor semi-improved grassland. Much of the site has large patches of nettle and bramble.			
<b>Habitat connectivity:</b> High Surrounded by arable and pastoral farmland. Mease Meadow is adjacent to the site, situated to the north of Derby Road. Connectivity via Hilton Brook.			
<b>Main habitat type(s) (UKHAB):</b> Modified grassland  Scrub  Ponds  Tall Ruderal		<b>Habitat condition:</b> Poor – Score 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undesirable species at 25%</li> </ul> Moderate – Score 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missing ages classes (over mature)</li> <li>High cover undesirable nettles</li> </ul> Good – Score 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet all criteria</li> </ul> [Assessed under Grassland criteria]	
<b>Habitat enhancement or creation potential:</b> Moderate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential to enhance grassland and manage scrub</li> </ul>		<b>Location Map</b> 	
<b>Strategic significance</b>	Low	<b>Potential units delivered through habitat enhancement or creation</b>	<b>1.06</b> Most of site not suitable for enhancement as already of existing value. Enhancement of poor condition grassland to moderate condition could provide a single unit.
<b>Spatial risk category</b>	Inside LPA		
<b>Baseline habitat units</b>	11.01		
<b>Post-intervention units</b>	12.07		

<b>Site Name:</b> Oversetts Road		<b>Location:</b> SK 28398 19977		<b>Size:</b> 2.4 ha	
		<b>Planning Authority:</b> SDDC			
<b>Description:</b> An amenity area situated to the south of Oversetts Road in Newhall, Swadlincote consisting of semi-improved grassland and planted woodland copses. Paths criss-cross the site which is bounded by hedges to the north-east, and fringed by scrub and tall ruderal to the west and south.					
<b>Habitat connectivity:</b> Medium Bounded by semi-natural habitat on three sides – improved grassland to the east, semi-improved grassland and woodland to the west and Swadlincote Family Golf Centre to the south.					
<b>Main habitat type(s) (UKHAB):</b> Other neutral grassland      Broadleaved plantation woodland      Scrub (dense, lower distinctiveness)   <					



<b>Site Name:</b> Park Road		<b>Location:</b> SK 30065 18893 <b>Planning Authority:</b> SDDC	<b>Size:</b> 1.5 ha
<b>Description:</b> An area of improved grassland south of Park Road in Swadlincote. A line of native trees borders all but the northern edge. It may be used as the location for a fairground.			
<b>Habitat connectivity:</b> Medium The site is north of Maurice Lee Memorial Park in Swadlincote, with recreational grassland and woodland to the east and housing to the north.			
<b>Main habitat type(s) (UKHAB):</b> Modified grassland  Scattered trees		<b>Habitat condition:</b> Poor – Score 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abundant ryegrass and white clover</li> </ul>	
<b>Habitat enhancement or creation potential:</b> High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diversify grassland using green hay or over-seeding.</li> </ul>		<b>Location Map</b> 	
<b>Strategic significance</b>	Low	<b>Potential units delivered through habitat enhancement or creation</b>	<b>5.94</b> Creation of moderate condition neutral grassland over 1.5 ha.
<b>Spatial risk category</b>	Inside LPA		
<b>Baseline habitat units</b>	3.3		
<b>Post-intervention units</b>	9.24		

<b>Site Name:</b> Sealey Close		<b>Location:</b> SK 30250 28325 <b>Planning Authority:</b> SDDC	<b>Size:</b> 1.3 ha
<b>Description:</b> An amenity area of improved grassland south of Sealey Close in Willington. The entire area appears to be regularly mown. There are a few trees scattered along the edges.			
<b>Habitat connectivity:</b> Medium Immediately bound by housing and arable farmland but close to the River Trent and areas of semi-natural habitat.			
<b>Main habitat type(s) (UKHAB):</b> Modified grassland		<b>Habitat condition:</b> Poor – Score 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent rye-grass and white clover</li> <li>Mown regularly</li> </ul>	
<b>Habitat enhancement or creation potential:</b> High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blank canvas for creation of species-rich grassland, scrub, woodland or ponds.</li> </ul>		<b>Location Map</b> 	
<b>Strategic significance</b>	Low	<b>Potential units delivered through habitat enhancement or creation</b>	<b>6.29</b> Creation of 1.1 ha neutral grassland in moderate condition and 0.2 ha ponds in moderate condition.
<b>Spatial risk category</b>	Inside LPA		
<b>Baseline habitat units</b>	2.86		
<b>Post-intervention units</b>	9.15		

## Appendix H Stakeholder Identified Opportunities

Map Reference	Identifier	Lawton Principle	Opportunity
1	DWT - MB	More	Link three LWS by designating whole site and improving farmland management and connectivity
2	DWT - MB	More	Extension to Witch's Oak nature reserve
3	DWT - MB	More	Restoration of minerals site and management being handed over from Cemex to DWT
4	DWT - MB	More	Central Electricity Generating Board wilding site
5	DWT - MB	More	Swarkestone quarry restoration
6	DWT - MB	More	Swarkestone quarry extension and future habitat restoration
7	DWT - MG	More	Talk to landowner about converting agricultural farmland from Environmental Stewardship into BNG scheme
8	DWT - KL	Better	Talk to Derbyshire County Angling Club about improving the management for biodiversity or allowing DWT to manage as part of the reserve
9	DWT - MG	More	Talk to landowner about converting agricultural farmland from Environmental Stewardship into BNG scheme
10	DWT - MG	More	Talk to landowner about converting agricultural farmland from Environmental Stewardship into BNG scheme
11	DWT - MG	More	Talk to landowner about converting agricultural farmland from Environmental Stewardship into BNG scheme
12	DWT - MG	More	Talk to landowner about converting agricultural farmland from Environmental Stewardship into BNG scheme
13	DWT - GB	Bigger	DWT in talks with landowner about taking on management of this land or potential to use land for BNG
14	DWT - MG	More	Talk to landowner about converting agricultural farmland from Environmental Stewardship into BNG scheme
15	DWT - MB	Bigger	Link Staunton Harold with Calke park by enhancing farmland through BNG and managing cohesively

16	DWT - MG	More	Unmanaged area of land potentially suitable for enhancement through BNG
17	DWT - MG	More	Unmanaged area of land potentially suitable for enhancement through BNG
18	DWT - MG	More	Unmanaged area of land potentially suitable for enhancement through BNG
19	DWT - MG	Bigger	Talk to landowner about BNG woodland creation to link two existing large areas of woodland
20	DWT - MG	Bigger	Raddle Farm - potential interested party - approach regarding BNG woodland creation to connect surrounding woodland areas
21	DWT - MG	Bigger	Talk to landowner about BNG woodland creation to connect surrounding woodland areas
22	DWT/ EA	Bigger	Buffer the River Mease by 20-50m using developer contributions or BNG to create riparian habitats
23	SDDC - BS	Better	Remove vegetation from quarry to uncover nesting sites for Sand Martins
24	TRT/EA	Better	Landowner at Raddle Farm - Rural SUDS work close to Pessal Brook
25	TRT/EA	Better	River restoration at Home Farm Clifton Campville
26	TRT/EA	Better	Woodland Trust - Penguin Wood - wet woodland enhancement, river restoration and silt trapping
27	TRT/EA	Better	Woodland Trust - Top Wood - silt trapping, opening piped channel, wet woodland enhancement
28	TRT/EA	Better	Yew Tree Farm river restoration
29	TRT/EA	Better	Seale pastures rural SUDS
30	TRT/EA	Better	Overseal Road flood alleviation - silt trapping
31	TRT/EA	Better	Landowner at Grangewood Farm - rural SUDS
32	WT	Bigger	Grangewood Farm - potentially interest party - approach regarding BNG potential
33	STW	Better	Claymills water treatment - lagoons biodiversity project
34	WT	Bigger	Woodland creation, grassland enhancement
35	FE	Bigger	New land acquisition to be planted with a broadleaf and conifer mix.

36	FE	Better	Review mowing regime of the 37% of Rosliston that is amenity grassland. Consider enhancement through seeding or green hay where appropriate and necessary.
37	WT	Better	Landowners considering natural flood management options to alleviate flooding on the track.
38	FE	Better	Large areas of open space - potential for grassland and pond enhancement

## Appendix I Non-spatial Stakeholder Opportunities

Stakeholder	Opportunity	Details
Severn Trent Water	Great Big Nature Boost	Nature based solutions to water quality
Severn Trent Water	Grants for partnership working	National Forest partnership – working with communities and schools.
Trent River Trust	Agricultural land Biodiversity Net Gain potential	Raising awareness of Biodiversity Net Gain with farmers within the River Mease catchment. Potential to DWT or SDDC ecologist to attend the Farmers Facilitation meeting to discuss opportunities.
Environment Agency	River Mease developer contributions	Bespoke projects to remove phosphate from the River Mease Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and its tributaries.
Forestry England	GCN licences - pond restoration and creation	Through the GCN district level licencing there is opportunities to restore existing ponds on FE land with potential for pond creation in the future. Existing wet areas or hollows already being noted for their suitability and would provide natural flood management and increase aquatic habitat.
Forestry England	Ecosystem services agenda	Projects with an ecosystem service benefit such as improving natural flood management, improving soil health or increasing health and wellbeing are high on Forestry England's agenda and are prioritised for any partnership working. One of the first organisations to carry out natural capital accounts.
Forestry England	Biodiversity improvements through the 10-year forest planning	The Rosliston and Robin/Repton forest plans include biodiversity improvements through management. 'The water courses will be actively managed moving back the tree line to allow more light onto the water course and open space for a diverse aquatic and riparian zone to develop into. Individual trees with good crowns will be retained within these areas and provide cover for birds.



		<p>The rides within the mature woodlands will be gradually opened up during thinning operations and subsequent restocking, creating a wide woodland edge where an understorey of trees and shrubs will develop to link the herbaceous vegetation associated with forest roads to the forest canopy. In both mature and new woodlands, the edge effect will be gradually broken up through harvesting and new planting to remove straight edges and create a more irregular edge. This will in turn increase the woodland edge habitat and increase sheltered sunny glades especially on the north side of rides which will receive more sunlight. This will benefit the ground flora and increase the available breeding and feeding habitats for the woodland fauna’.</p>
National Trust	50-year vision of habitat enhancements	<p>The National Trusts plan for habitat enhancement will be announced in their 50-year vision. This is currently confidential until all stakeholders have been informed.</p>

## Appendix J Stakeholder Constraints

Stakeholder	Constraint	Details
Severn Trent Water	Biodiversity Net Gain land potential	Leased agricultural land unlikely to be offered for BNG purposes due to potential to be required for development or their own net gain in the future.
Trent Rivers Trust	Biodiversity Net Gain time commitment	Farmers potentially wary about committing to 30 years of management.
Forestry England	Timescales for Planted Ancient Woodland (PAWS) restoration / conflicts with economic value	A number of FE woodlands are PAWS and currently consist of mature conifer species. These will be restored to native broadleaf species which will increase their biodiversity value, however the timeline for restoration is not specified. As stated in the Forestry Commission practise guide 'In general, restoration is best done via several cycles of thinning, with the whole process taking a decade or even much longer. Although it is desirable for sites to be restored as soon as possible, waiting until economic maturity of the present stand is usually acceptable'.
Various	Time, staffing and financial resources	Various stakeholders expressed the difficulty in initiating projects or working collaboratively due to time, financial resources or limited staffing. It is hoped that an increase in funding for green jobs due to the climate crisis or Covid-19 recovery might increase these opportunities.

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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 13</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY)</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>DEMOCRATIC SERVICES 01283 595848/5722 <a href="mailto:democraticservices@southderbyshire.gov.uk">democraticservices@southderbyshire.gov. uk</a></b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: G</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

1.1 That the Committee considers and approves the updated work programme.

## **2.0 Purpose of Report**

2.1 The Committee is asked to consider the updated work programme.

## **3.0 Detail**

3.1 Attached at Annexe 'A' is an updated work programme document. The Committee is asked to consider and review the content of this document.

## **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 None arising directly from this report.

## **5.0 Background Papers**

5.1 Work Programme.

## Environmental & Development Committee – 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021 Work Programme

Work Programme Area	Date of Committee meetings	Contact Officer (Contact details)
<b>Reports Previously Considered by Last Three Committees</b>		
Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024: Performance Report Q3	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Clare Booth Corporate Performance & Policy Officer (01283) 595788
Street Trading – Revision of Street Trading Policy	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Nigel Marston Senior Licensing Officer (01283) 595716
Safeguarding Training for Private Hire Drivers	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Nigel Marston Senior Licensing Officer (01283) 595716
Air Quality Strategy	21 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	Matt Holford Head of Environmental Services (01283) 595856
Enforcement & Regulatory Annual Report	27 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Matt Holford Head of Environmental Services (01283) 595856

Climate and Environmental Action Plan Annual Review	27 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Matt Holford Head of Environmental Services (01283) 595856
Derbyshire Strategic Planning Framework Statement of Common Ground	27 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Karen Beavin Planning Policy Team Leader (01283) 595749
Corporate Plan 2020-24 Performance Report Quarter 4	27 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Clare Booth Corporate Performance & Policy Officer (01283) 595788
<b>Provisional Programme of Reports To Be Considered by Committee</b>		
Local Environmental Quality Survey Results	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	Adrian Lowery Head of Operational Services (01283) 595764
Corporate Plan 2020-24 Performance Report Quarter 1	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	Clare Booth Corporate Performance & Policy Officer (01283) 595788
Action Plan for Nature	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	Allison Thomas Strategic Director (Service Delivery) (01283) 595775
Local Plan Part 1 – Five Year Review	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	Karen Beavin Planning Policy Team Leader (01283) 595749

Climate and Environment Strategy and Summary and Summary Action Plan	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	Matt Holford Head of Environmental Services (01283) 595856
Electric Vehicle Charge Point Infrastructure	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	Matt Holford Head of Environmental Services (01283) 595856
Removal of Recycling Centres	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	Adrian Lowery Head of Operational Services (01283) 595764
Department for Transport National Night Flight Policy Consultation	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	Richard Groves Planning Policy Officer (01283) 595738
East Midlands Airport Airspace Redesign Consultation (changing the flight paths)	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021	Karen Beavin Planning Policy Team Leader (01283) 595749
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Report	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021	Karen Beavin Planning Policy Team Leader (01283) 595749
Statement of Community Involvement	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021	Karen Beavin Planning Policy Team Leader (01283) 595749
Environmental Services - commercialisation business plan	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021	Matt Holford Head of Environmental Services (01283) 595856



Corporate Environmental Sustainability Group Activity	11 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Matt Holford Head of Environmental Services (01283) 595856
Corporate Plan 2020-24 Performance Report Quarter 2	11 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Clare Booth Corporate Performance & Policy Officer (01283) 595788
Service Base Budgets 2022/23	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2022	Vicki Summerfield Head of Finance (01283) 595939
Corporate Plan 2020-24 Performance Report Quarter 3	3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022	Clare Booth Corporate Performance & Policy Officer (01283) 595788
S106 Developer Contributions Protocol	TBC	Karen Beavin Planning Policy Team Leader (01283) 595749
Local Development Scheme	TBC	Karen Beavin Planning Policy Team Leader (01283) 595749