Mansfield
District Council

# Local Plan (2013-2033)

## Green Infrastructure Study






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Mansfield
District Council

Contents



# 1 Summary

**1.1** Green infrastructure (GI) is an inter-connected living network of both natural and managed green spaces supporting a range of benefits for people and wildlife. This study recognises that the green infrastructure networks within the district provide a range of environmental and social functions and services, for example:

- open spaces and recreational green corridors with walking and cycling trails support health and well-being and sustainable transport networks
- woodlands, urban trees, rivers and high grade agricultural soils provide important environmental services such as clean air and water and food
- ecological networks support wildlife and their habitats
- settings of historic sites and events support place shaping
- important view points and valued landscapes help to define sense of place and provide amenity
- river catchments, woodlands and urban green spaces support climate chance resilience and mitigation.

**1.2** Green infrastructure underpins sustainable development and healthy communities, making it as important as other forms of infrastructure such as roads, doctors surgeries and schools.

**1.3** Along with housing, employment, retail and leisure development, making sure that there is sufficient suitable land to support green infrastructure protection is important. Additionally, good quality, well-connected and adaptable GI is needed to ensure that important GI services function as they should, so that environmental

risks and financial costs can be avoided. This is essential for providing sustainable development in accordance with national priorities and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012).

**1.4** Planning for green infrastructure is import at all landscape scales - district-wide down to site-specific scale - when planning for new development. A positive and proactive approach to GI is required to enable everyone involved in its protection, improvement and planning to make best use of the land and provide tangible benefits for residents, businesses and visitors to the district.

**1.5** Based on the multiple benefits that the district's townscape and countryside green spaces provide (or have additional opportunity to provide), strategic GI areas have been identified and mapped. This paper forms a key source of evidence for the Mansfield District Local Plan (2013-2033) helping to inform policy approach, policies map and policy guidance. It broadly sets out:

- how strategic green infrastructure networks have been identified
- descriptions of, reasons for designation and recommended actions for conserving and improving each strategic GI network
- background information used to identify the district's strategic GI networks
- broad functions and services that the the district's strategic GI networks provide and
- cross-boundary connections.



# 2 Introduction

## 2.1 Green infrastructure - why it matters

**2.1** The pressure for new development, means that protecting green spaces and the countryside require a creative and fresh approach; one that is not only strategic but also considers the multiple functions and benefits of green spaces alongside land development, regeneration and built infrastructure planning. This approach is supported by national planning guidance and best practice.

**2.2** Just as growing communities need to improve and develop their grey infrastructure (e.g. roads, school, employment sites), green infrastructure needs to be protected and enhanced in line with growth. Green infrastructure must also be viewed as an important asset that can be strengthened through and integrated with development.

**2.3** Green infrastructure (GI) is made up a range of different types of green and blue spaces, varying in size, shape and function. This includes a wide spectrum of infrastructure including, for example: formal parks, protected sites, wildlife habitats and networks, river corridors, areas of countryside, sustainable drainage systems, historic settings and other green heritage assets, countryside, and green corridors with walking and cycle routes. It includes important 'natural capital' for supporting healthy communities and the natural environment.

**Natural Capital**

This is a term that includes the world's stocks of natural resources which include geology, soil, air, water and all living things. It is from this natural capital that humans benefit from a wide range of important services, often called ecosystem services. These help make human life possible and include, for example: pollination of crops, clean air and water, flood alleviation, $CO_2$ storage, food, etc.

**2.4** Central to our understanding of GI is its interconnected nature. It is a concept rooted in sustainable development and is set within, and contributes to, a high quality natural and built environment. A well-connected GI network is essential for enhancing the quality of life for present and future residents and visitors. GI also provides a framework that can be used to guide future growth, land development and land conservation decisions.

**2.5** Well-designed and integrated green infrastructure networks can deliver a range of benefits that have a considerable and measurable impact on quality of place and sustainable growth at a local level. Planning for integrated green infrastructure networks is essential for:

- protecting and enhancing what we have

- providing sustainable approaches to development and
- maintaining and supporting a district in which everyone can thrive.

**Green infrastructure - in brief:**

- it includes networks of linked natural and managed green and blue areas and trails within urban, urban edge and rural settings
- it provides multiple benefits for people and wildlife - including social, environmental and economic benefits
- it supports sustainable communities and
- it contributes to reducing $CO_2$ and adapting to climate change.

## 2.2 Developing an evidence base

**2.6** Green infrastructure includes many different types of green and blue assets, but it's the multiple benefits that these provide and the relationships between these assets that define the council's strategic green infrastructure network.

**2.7** Identifying a combined strategic green infrastructure network has involved a considerable amount of data input and analysis. It has also been based on national policy guidance, review of best practice examples, consultation with organisations and neighbouring authorities, and collection of local knowledge.

**Summary of steps involved**

**2.8** Below is a summary of the general actions taken to help inform this evidence document:

- identification of broad benefits and functions green infrastructure provides in the district through partnership approach and computer-based mapping of key components (typologies) e.g. habitats, open space, trails, river corridors, designated sites, etc.
- council adoption of Interim Planning Policy Guidance Note 11: Green Infrastructure (April 2009)
- mapping the strategic GI network and identification of specific functions and services, and protection and enhancement needs (see Section 4 for more detail)



- publication of Green Infrastructure Technical Paper (December 2015) to inform the Local Plan Consultation Draft (2016), including the policies map
- consideration of consultation comments of the 2016 Local Plan Consultation Draft and
- publication of Green Infrastructure Study 2018.

The Green Infrastructure Study 2018 explains how the council identified its strategic areas of green infrastructure for the Mansfield District Council Local Plan. It also shows where strategic GI areas are located and identifies broad actions required to protect and enhance the functionality and connectivity of these networks.

**The evidence document - in brief**

**2.9** Below is a summary of what this evidence document sets out to do:

- explains the rationale behind the mapped strategic green infrastructure networks
- gives a context to the Local Plan policy on green infrastructure (IN2)
- responds to the requirement in the National Planning Policy Framework for local planning authorities to set out a strategic approach in their local plans to plan positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks for biodiversity, green infrastructure and valued landscapes (NPPF 2012, paragraph 114) and
- sets out a framework for any future local plan policy guidance (e.g. supplementary planning document).

It is important to note, that at the time of writing this document, the NPPF (2012) was currently being revised. There are no known significant changes, as per the draft NPPF (consultation proposals 5th March 2018), that pertain to green infrastructure that would affect the content of this assessment. Section 3.2 sets out the NPPF requirements and relevant paragraphs.

## 2.3 Green infrastructure and development

### Green infrastructure-led design

**2.10** To be truly effective, green infrastructure (GI) should be integrated into the design of development from the early stages (i.e. design and layout process) and in consultation with the council, local communities, and key organisations like wildlife trusts, Natural England and the Environment Agency. This will ensure that it is integrated as effectively as possible, ensuring that existing features are protected and enhanced through the creation of new GI connections and/or their quality improved.

**2.11** A green infrastructure approach to development, including its the protection and enhancement, reflects the fact that green spaces can perform a number of functions, often simultaneously. One site may provide several functions, providing us with various social and environmental benefits. This approach also recognises relationships between nearby green spaces, identifying interconnected networks or larger green hubs. For example, river corridors often include recreational green corridors for walking and cycling. They also provide areas for wildlife to move and adapt; include historic landmarks, such as mills, and archaeology; and mitigate the impacts from flooding.

**2.12** By viewing green spaces in relation to one another and the functions/benefits they provide on an area-wide scale (i.e. site-level to landscape scales), we are able to plan for effective sustainable development in a proactive, rather than a reactive way. The GI approach to land use planning, design and management enables development to deliver more from the land and its associated natural features and systems - one which is attractive, healthy, resilient and adaptive.

**2.13** The table below lists some of the benefits that well-planned for and managed green infrastructure can deliver.

**Investing in GI planning and management provides many benefits:**

- supporting inward investment, such as attracting higher quality business, supporting uptake of new homes, retaining a skilled workforce and creating opportunities for new commercial activity, such as tourism and conservation.
- underpinning healthy ecosystem services such as clean air and minimising the impacts of flooding.
- improving our physical and mental well-being through increased opportunities for exercise and recreation, contributing to community cohesion and enhancing quality of place
- assisting with neighbourhood regeneration providing a framework for improving the quality and attractiveness of the local environment
- providing areas of tranquillity and quiet contemplation and
- shaping local identity and instilling a sense of pride in where we live.



## Proposed development within areas of strategic green infrastructure

**2.14** Whilst overall the emphasis is to protect and enhance strategic green infrastructure, it is recognised that there may be some areas where development can take place, provided that it protects and maintains key green assets and their function(s) and connectivity of the strategic GI network, and delivers suitable quality enhancements whilst demonstrating GI gains and minimising adverse impacts on sensitive areas. Thus, the approach should be one which protects, reinforces and enhances the important assets and their functions, the connectivity (through and to) green corridors, and the interconnected relationships between the green assets that make up these networks.

**2.15** In practice this may mean, for example, but not limited to:

- buffering and linking to important wildlife areas and priority habitats through habitat creation
- designing in landscape solutions to avoid harmful impacts on sensitive wildlife areas
- buffering amenity nuisances from adjoining uses
- creating new accessible open space and local walking and cycling trails that link up with nearby strategic green corridors, other trails and open space
- adapting and mitigating impacts from climate change by providing urban trees/woodland, incorporating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS), or providing opportunities to improve the natural qualities of river corridors
- enhancing and conserving the settings of heritage assets and landscape character or
- improving and avoiding vulnerability to poor air quality by providing landscaped buffers adjacent to the highway network.

**2.16** Section 3 of this paper discusses in more detail the green infrastructure within the planning policy context.

**2.17** The picture below demonstrates inter-connective nature of green infrastructure and its integration as part of new development.

**Designing in green infrastructure**



# 3 Context

**3.1** This section sets out the background of the green infrastructure approach taken forward in the emerging Mansfield District Local Plan (2013-2033) and covers the following:

- wider strategic focus on green infrastructure including key national and local drivers
- national planning policy approach as supported through the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 (NPPF) and policy guidance and previous work undertaken.

## 3.1 National context

### National and local drivers

**3.2** Placing green infrastructure (GI) within the context of the local planning system provides an excellent opportunity to plan for a healthier environment and communities alongside other infrastructure. It also seeks to ensure that the delivery, protection, enhancement and creation of environmental resources, e.g. landscape features and habitat networks, are central to local planning decisions.

**3.3** Green infrastructure is a key concept referred to in the Government's Natural White Paper (June 2011) which, in turn, has influenced key government objectives and policies such as the National Planning Policy Framework.

**3.4** GI is recognised as a key planning concept by the Royal Town Planning Institute and the Landscape Institute. National bodies such as the Forestry Commission, Natural England, Landscape Institute and the Environment Agency also champion green infrastructure protection and enhancement through their work and encourage local authorities to adopt a green infrastructure approach in planning for future development.

**3.5** *Biodiversity 2020: a strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)* stressed the importance of moving from net loss to net gains in biodiversity, and supporting essential ecosystem services which provide social and economic benefits. Adopting a green infrastructure provides a means of ensuring these services are considered, protected and enhanced where necessary. Defra has produced a planning guide to valuing ecosystem services (*An introductory guide to valuing ecosystem services, 2007*) which aims to ensure that ecosystem services are taken account of in the planning system.

**3.6** As one of its commitments in the Natural White Paper (2011), Central Government set out to establish local nature partnerships (LNPs) in order to help implement its environmental priorities. The role of the LNPs is to coordinate with local areas, such as district and county councils, in a joined up and strategic way to

help manage the natural environment to produce multiple benefits for people, the economy and the environment. This includes a key focus on maintaining and enhancing areas of green infrastructure.

**3.7** The district of Mansfield falls within the Lowland Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Local Nature Partnership area. They are currently establishing their approach to GI and relationship with local planning authorities. Part of this work includes identifying key natural capital assets which are the building blocks of green infrastructure.

## 3.2 Planning policy

### National Planning Policy Framework

**3.8** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) emphasises that local plans should positively plan for the protection, creation and enhancement of networks for biodiversity and green infrastructure (NPPF 2012, paragraph 114).

**3.9** It also recognises that green infrastructure (GI) plays a key role in helping us adapt to climate change. Paragraph 99 states that '*when new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable [to flooding], care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through the planning of green infrastructure*.'

**3.10** The protection and enhancement of green infrastructure is an important material consideration for achieving and ensuring the delivery of sustainable development, as it addresses a combination of environmental, social and economic needs.

**3.11** Paragraph 180 also requires that local planning authorities should work collaboratively on strategic planning priorities to enable delivery of sustainable development in consultation with Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships.

**3.12** In addition to the roles that green infrastructure plays in sustainable development above, the recent NPPF consultation draft (2018), emphasises the importance of GI's role in improving and mitigating impacts from poor air quality (paragraph 179) and enabling and supporting healthy lifestyles through the provision of accessible GI (paragraph 92).

**3.13** There is also an emphasis on the need for strategic sites, in particular, to provide green infrastructure (paragraph 20).

### Mansfield District Local Plan (1998)

**3.14** The existing approach to protecting and enhancing green infrastructure assets, as set out in the Mansfield District Local Plan 1998, was based on separate but related policies addressing the natural environment, recreation, sustainable transport, design and the historic environment. These have included, for example:



- Protection of open breaks, green wedges and mature landscape areas (NE4, NE5, NE8)
- Protection of the Sherwood Forest Heritage Area (NE6) and the Sherwood Forest Special Landscape Area (NE7)
- Protection of heathland (NE15)
- Protection of woodland (NE9 and NE10)
- Greenwood Community Forest (NE11)
- Protection of designated sites and other ecological resources (NE13 and NE14)
- Protection of footpaths, bridleways, byways and cycle routes
- Protection of strategic routes for walkers
- Protection of the setting of conservation areas and scheduled ancient monuments and areas of archaeological interest (BE8, BE9, BE11 and BE12)
- Protection of recreational open spaces (e.g. LT1, LT2, , LT3, LT4, etc.)

**3.15** This approach to protecting and enhancing the environment was focused on addressing environmental issues, such as designated protected open space, wildlife sites or woodland, separately. It addressed green spaces based on their primary uses, rather than recognising the relationships between surrounding green spaces or that green spaces can often have more than one function or value.

**3.16** We are now in the process of replacing the 1998 Local Plan. As part of this, we now have the opportunity to identify key areas of strategic green infrastructure and ways in which it can be protected, where it is vulnerable and/or vital for the well-being of people and wildlife. We can also identify areas in which development may help fund improvements and strengthen the function and benefits that green infrastructure provides.

## Mansfield District Local Plan (2013-2033)

**3.17** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires every local planning authority in England to have a clear, up-to-date local plan, which conforms to the framework, meets local development needs, and reflects local people's views of how they wish their community to develop. It should also be based on well researched and up-to-date evidence, of which this assessment is one of them.

**3.18** Mansfield District Council is preparing the Local Plan Publication Draft which will guide development across the district up to 2033. This will include a vision, objectives and policies which are reflective of the need for new homes and jobs and their associated infrastructure, like open space, required to sustain this growth. The

Local Plan will set out the spatial strategy for the district, including the level of growth and where new homes and jobs will be located. It will contain policies to improve the natural and built environment which aim to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors, like policies related to open space, outdoor recreation, green infrastructure and designing healthy neighbourhoods.

**3.19** Once adopted, the Local Plan (2013-2033) will replace the existing Mansfield District Local Plan (1998).

**3.20** This evidence paper supports the Local Plan (2013-2033) publication draft and its subsequent submission by identifying the strategic GI networks/areas, why these areas were identified, what functions they provide and protection and enhancement needs.

**3.21** This work supports where some areas of the strategic green infrastructure network which, if allocated for development in the emerging Local Plan, have the potential to deliver important recreational, social and/or ecological enhancements to the GI network, whilst protecting key functions. It also provides strategic green infrastructure areas for inclusion on the policies map. GI also played a key role in informing the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Scoping Report at various stages of the local plan (e.g. consultation draft 2015, preferred options, 2017, publication draft 2018, etc.).

**3.22** The importance of providing a good quality green infrastructure network and connections for people and wildlife has been a key component shaping the Local Plan's vision and objectives. This also informed the selection of preferred development sites for the Preferred Options stage of the Local Plan (2017).

**3.23** Other related Local Plan evidence documents underpin related policy approaches to sports pitches, green infrastructure and a local green space designation:

- MDC Playing Pitch Assessment and Strategy (2015)
- MDC Community Open Space Assessment (2018)
- MDC Local Green Space Technical Paper (2015)
- MDC Landscape Character Assessment (2010) and its subsequent Addendum (2014)
- MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and its subsequent Addendum (2018) and
- Mansfield Central Area Flood Risk Review (2018).



## 3.3 Previous work undertaken

**3.24** Mansfield District Council set out an interim planning guidance approach to green infrastructure in 2006-2007 when green infrastructure was identified as an important planning consideration. An Interim Planning Guidance Note (IPG) 11: Green Infrastructure was adopted by elected members in April 2009. Link: http://www.mansfield.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=7092&p=0.

**3.25** This document defined green infrastructure, its benefits and its components. It also set out a strategic framework for informing the identification of green infrastructure networks, so that it could be planned for in an integrated way. IPG Note 11 was informed through a partnership approach involving stakeholders from local authority and voluntary sectors. These included: Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, Greenwood Community Forest, Nottinghamshire County Council, and Mansfield District Council's parks and planning policy teams.

**3.26** Since that time, areas of strategic green infrastructure have been identified and mapped based on the framework set out in the Green Infrastructure IPG. This is discussed in more detail in Section 4.

## 3.4 Consultation and cross boundary connections

**3.27** Building on positive work done through the Green Infrastructure Interim Planning Guidance (IPG) Note 11 in 2007, consultation with neighbouring authorities and other organisations, elected members and members of the public has shaped the strategic green infrastructure network.

### Neighbouring authorities

**3.28** Informal discussions with neighbouring local authorities have informed the identification of the strategic GI networks. These include discussions with the following local authorities.

- Ashfield District Council: planning policy and projects team
- Newark and Sherwood District Council: planning policy team
- Bolsover District Council: countryside rights of way team and consultant on behalf of the planning policy team
- Nottinghamshire County Council: Landscape and Nature Conservation teams

**3.29** Discussions included the identification of cross boundary green infrastructure linkages with strategic green corridors, ecological corridors and enhancement needs. Other cross boundary comments in relation to GI were also received as part of the Local Plan (2013-2033) Public Consultation Draft in 2015; these were incorporated into Section 5 and Appendix A.

## Ecological network

**3.30** Additionally, in 2011, Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group (BAG) members were consulted with regards to mapped habitats and identifying habitat opportunity areas for creating a bigger and better joined up habitat network. Consultation was extended to the Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group which is made up of local experts and active practitioners in the area of nature conservation. Comments received were all useful and informative. Overall, comments were positive and suggestions were incorporated accordingly. The habitat mapping work has informed the mapping of the district's ecological network which underpins the identification of the strategic GI network (Appendix C).

## Consultation with elected members (2010)

**3.31** The planning policy team held an elected Mansfield district and Nottinghamshire county council member local plan working day in 2010 which included asking district and county councillors to identify areas which they considered to be green infrastructure. This feedback was integrated into the identification of strategic GI areas.

## Local Plan (2013-2033) Public Consultation Draft (2015)

**3.32** Public consultation on the Local Plan (2013-2033) Consultation Draft version took place in 2015 and included strategic GI on the policies map and policy NE2 (Green Infrastructure).

**3.33** A range of comments regarding GI were received from statutory organisations like Natural England, Nottinghamshire County Council the Environment Agency, other voluntary organisations, developers and landowners, community groups, and individual members of the public. Overall, the comments were supportive of the draft policy (NE2) and the inclusion of the strategic GI network on the policies map.

**3.34** Some issues raised included:

- the importance of recognising blue infrastructure as part of the strategic GI network
- the current GI approach was considered to be 'too holistic' and failed to note the individual attributes of parcels of land within each zone
- support for policy NE2 which recognised the benefits of Green Infrastructure (GI) and encourages the provision of multi-functional GI and enhancement of the overall network
- support from neighbouring local authorities for the strategic GI network and the recognition of cross-boundary linkages and also the need to recognise additional cross-boundary linkages



- need to strengthen policy wording to make clear the importance of protecting key functions/benefits
- need for new development to contribute towards enhancing existing areas and/or create new linkages to result in a permanent net benefit to the network overall
- recommendations were made for additional areas to be included within the stratetgic GI network as shown on the policies map
- the need to recognise that increased accessibility (i.e. for recreation) to the GI network needs to also address potential adverse impacts on the natural environment
- the need to recognise irreplaceable assets as part of the GI network and the need to buffer sensitive sites and habitats
- the need to monitor impacts, individually and collectively over time and
- clarification sought to help understand why some developments were located within areas of strategic GI.

**3.35** In response to these comments the following actions were taken:

- strengthening of policy wording for the publication draft
- recognition that strategic green infrastructure also includes 'blue infrastructure'
- additional areas added to the strategic GI network
- a more concise breakdown of the 13 strategic GI networks, identifying key functions that require protection and also enhancement needs to address improvements to the quality and connectivity of the GI assets/resources, as shown in this evidence paper (see Appendix A)
- recognition of additional cross-boundary strategic linkages through diagrammes and wording in this evidence base as it relates to the 13 strategic GI areas (see Section 5 and Appendix A) and
- where development sites are allocated within the strategic GI network, to use the GI evidence to inform of policy wording for these sites, especially strategic sites.

## Preferred Options consultation (2017)

**3.36** Public consultation on the selection of preferred housing and employment sites and also on a revised Local Plan vision and objectives took place in October-November 2017. This is known as the Preferred Options Consultation.

**3.37** The proximity to and opportunities to connect with and enhance the strategic green infrastructure network informed the selection of preferred development sites. Green infrastructure was viewed as playing a positive role in supporting health and well being, adapting to climate change, and supporting biodiversity.

## Consultation with organsiations and community groups (2018)

**3.38** A further informal consultation was held as part of Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) evidence to inform infrastructure requirements. The consultation involved asking questions with regards to the 13 strategic GI networks that had been broken down into smaller component sections (See Appendix A). Comments were sought to assist with the identification of key GI assets (e.g. trails, open space, habitats, heritage/archaeology, cross boundary connections, etc.), the functions that these assets provide and any enhancement needs. Stakeholders were asked if any existing assets or enhancement/protection needs needed including or if they were aware of any future plans or aspirations for these GI component areas making up the 13 strategic networks. Key stakeholder organisations with a strategic overview of green infrastructure in the district were contacted, including:

- Natural England
- Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Nottinghamshire County Council - Landscape, Ecology, Minerals, Archaeology, Cycling/Transport
- Ashfield District Council
- Bolsover District Council
- Newark and Sherwood District Council
- Bassetlaw District Council
- Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
- Greenwood community Forest
- Sherwood Forest Trust
- Woodland Trust
- RSPB
- Local Nature Partnership
- Nottighamshire Biodiversity Officer



- Forestry Commission
- Various Friends Groups
- Sustrans and Ramblers
- Sherwood Archaeology Society
- Warsop and Rainworth Parish Councils

**3.39** Responses have helped inform the tables in Appendix A, identifying the key assets that make up the strategic GI network, existing functions that require protection and specific and broad enhancement needs. Some of the more detailed comments touching on, for example, management, funding and community involvement were not included but are useful for informing any future action planning and/or supplementary planning guidance.

# 4 How was strategic green infrastructure identified?

## Key principles

**4.1** The district's green infrastructure networks are made up of various '*green assets*'. These include a wide spectrum of infrastructure including, for example: formal parks, protected sites, wildlife habitats and networks, river corridors, areas of countryside, historic settings and heritage assets, countryside, green corridors, walking and cycle routes. These represent important *natural capital* that are required to support important functions and services (e.g. clean air, water and soil; healthy communities; adapting to climate change; etc.).

**4.2** Identifying the district's strategic green infrastructure (GI) areas has been guided by two key principles. To be included (i.e. mapped) as part of a strategic GI network, it is important that these *green assets* are:

1. geographically connected and/or related in some form (e.g. for mitigating flood risk or providing an ecological corridor) and

2. support one of the five key GI function categories as detailed below.

**4.3** When identifying strategic green infrastructure networks/areas, the most up-to-date information (where available) was used. This was generally a desk-based mapping exercise, but it was also informed through site visits, consultations and discussions with local experts, adjoining local authorities and elected members. Key data sets used to inform the identification of green assets are included in Section 4.1.

## Key GI function categories

**4.4** As previously discussed, green infrastructure networks are made up of a range of *green assets* that provide a range of benefits for people and wildlife. This study simplifies these benefits or *functions* into five main categories. Overall, these GI function categories have helped to group the key *green assets* used to inform the identification of the wider strategic GI networks. These function categories were informed by previous GI IPG Note 11 (2007) work.

**4.5** The five green infrastructure function categories were chosen as they capture the most important environmental services provided by green infrastructure. Some environmental functions/services are not included, such as soil quality and contamination, water quality, and minerals requirements. This was due to a either a lack of available data or data analysis that would have required a much more finer-grained assessment. They also don't address specific protected/priority species requirements as these are very diverse. Rather, the '*nature conservation*' GI function category captures the need for green spaces to support the movement of wildlife through better connected and more coherent ecological networks (e.g. as part of a river catchment or proximity to other habitats and designated sites).

**4.6** It is recognised that some *green assets* may provide multiple functions based on their primary and/or secondary uses or their proximity to other green assets. For example, a park that is near to a river corridor and a strategic trail network supports formal recreation as an open space (primary function) but may provide water attenuation during times of flooding, a gateway onto the nearby trail network and form part of a wildlife corridor within the river catchment.

**4.7** These green assets, functions and enhancement needs are detailed for each of the 13 strategic GI networks within Appendix A.

**4.8** The table below shows which green assets and services were considered as part of each GI function category and examples of the benefits and services they provide.

| GI function category | Green assets | Primary benefits/services examples of |
|---|---|---|
| Recreation | • open spaces (e.g. parks, amenity spaces, natural green space, outdoor sports provision)<br>• restored mineral railways and collieries supporting recreation<br>• cycle trails<br>• walking trails (public rights of way and other non-statutory routes)<br>• local walking/cycling linkages providing connections to/between district and local centes (e.g. shopping), employment areas and schools<br>• long distance (strategic) trail / green corridors | • supporting healthy communities: physical and mental well-being, through exercise, healthy eating and areas for social cohesion<br>• providing commuting routes to schools, employment areas and local and district centres<br>• providing areas of tranquility and quiet contemplation<br>• supporting local distinctiveness and identity |



| GI function category | Green assets | Primary benefits/services examples of |
|---|---|---|
| | • green space along walking and cycling trails that provide amenity along these routes, including urban and countryside/arable *green* spaces<br>• green spaces providing 'gateways' or further recreational connectivity for accessing strategic trail / green corridors along green corridors or for accessing the countryside from urban areas<br>• allotments<br>• recreational 'hubs' that represent key destination areas<br>• accessible woodland | |
| Nature conservation | • European, national and locally designated nature conservation and geological sites: special sites of scientific interest (SSSI), local nature reserves (LNR), local wildlife siets (LWS), local geological sites (LGS), special areas of conservation (SAC), national nature reserve (NNR)<br>• Sherwood possible potential special protection area (ppPSA)<br>• broad areas of underlying geology - Sherwood Sandstone and Magnesian Limestone<br>• existing habitats categorised into the following habitat groupings: heathland and acid grassland; calcareous and neutral grassland; mixed and broadleaved woodland including parkland; coniferous woodland; and wetlands<br>• green spaces/areas that provide additional opportunities for further habitat creation or re-creation e.g. green SuDS priority areas (see section 4.1)<br>• restored/re-naturalised mineral sites<br>• ancient woodland<br>• river corridors/catchments<br>• reservoirs and other areas of water | • supporting ecological networks/corridors for the movement of wildlife<br>• opportunities to provide further net gains in biodiversity through further habitat connections<br>• supporting ecological communities and their habitats |
| Climate change | • tree coverage for $CO_2$ mitigation (woodland and areas with significant urban trees)<br>• areas of flood risk from rivers and surface water<br>• areas with low soil permeability<br>• green spaces/areas adjoining busy roads (A roads) and where air quality is currently being monitored<br>• culverts identified for enhancement in the MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and Addendum (2018) | • mitigating and adapting to climate change<br>• mitigating and minimising flood risk<br>• mitigating and minimising poor air quality<br>• providing sustainable transport for commuting to local and district centres, jobs and schools |

| GI function category | Green assets | Primary benefits/services examples of |
|---|---|---|
| | • river corridors/catchments<br>• reservoirs and other areas of water<br>• cycle lanes and walking trails | |
| Historical importance | • Scheduled Ancient Monuments<br>• conservation areas<br>• ancient woodland<br>• green space associated with war memorials and other historic landmarks<br>• historic graves (outside of cemeteries)<br>• historic parks and gardens (national importance) and other parks/gardens of recognised local importance<br>• restored mineral sites (e.g. collieries and mineral railway lines)<br>• listed buildings<br>• areas identified for potential archaeological importance in consultation with Nottinghamshire County Council archaeologist<br>• historic pathways (as shown on Sanderson's Map)<br>• historic field boundary patterns (as shown on Sanderson's Map)<br>• ancient hedgerows (where known) | • supporting district's heritage<br>• supporting local distinctiveness and identity |
| Landscape | • landscape character policy zones<br>• landscape character area policy zones<br>• trees, woodland, heathland, hedgerows<br>• green space with key view point areas<br>• open areas providing separation between distinct settlements<br>• green space/areas along walking and cycling trails that provide amenity along these routes, including urban and countryside/arable *green* spaces<br>• restored/re-naturalised mineral sites<br>• river corridors and other bodies of water | • providing areas of tranquillity<br>• supporting local distinctiveness and identity<br>• providing visual amenity |



**4.9** Some areas of green space (e.g. school playing fields, areas of open countryside, landscaping around civic or employment areas) aren't specifically included in the table above, but they may form part of the strategic GI networks where they provide a key function above and are physically connected to the neighbouring green assets. For example: recognised as having surface water flooding issues, serve an amenity role along/near to recreational open space or trails, have historic importance, or provide an opportunity to create/re-create habitats.

## 4.1 Key GI functions

**4.10** Further to Table 4.1, the following gives an insight into how the green assets were considered and mapped as part of the strategic GI network.

### Recreation

**4.11** This primarily takes into account green assets along walking/cycling trails/multi-user trails, publicly accessible open spaces, allotments, restored mineral sites/railways, accessible woodland and other *green assets* where they are:

- physically connected to form a recreational (strategic or local) recreational green corridor
- physically connected to provide amenity, access and connectivity along walking and cycling trails
- act as a key recreational 'hub' and/or
- act as physical 'gateway' providing access to the above (or have the opportunity to).

**4.12** ***Recreational green corridors*** follow existing public rights of way (PRoW) trails, and local routes & strategic routes (i.e. long distance) with walking, cycling and multi-user trails. These typically follow strategic trails, river corridors and restored mineral railways. Strategic green corridors hold district-wide, county and/or national importance. Locally significant green corridors provide local connections between neighbourhoods/villages, and access to local and district centres, schools and employment areas. Strategic routes within and linking to the district include:

- Timberland Trail - Kings Mill Reservoir to Vicar Water Country Park
- Mansfield Way - Racecourse Park to and through Rainworth Village (links to Neward and Sherwood district)
- Meden Trail - Pleasley to Meden Vale (links to Bolsover district in Derbyshire and Bassetlaw district)
- Dukeries Trail - Shirebrook train station to Sustrans cycle network (links to Sherwood Forest in Neward and Sherwood district and Shirebrook in Derbyshire)

- Clipstone to Warsop Trail - Newlands (Spa Ponds) to Market Warsop
- Sustrans (National Route 6) Cycle Route (links to Neward and Sherwood district)
- Thynghowe Viking Heritage Trail, east of Market Warsop (links to Neward and Sherwood district)
- Teversal Trail (Ashfield district)
- Archaeological Way (Derbyshire)

**4.13** ***Recreational gateways***, include open spaces and other accessible green spaces that allow for (provide) access onto a r*ecreational green corridor* (or have the potential to do so), even if it is separated by a busy road. These also include public rights of way, other walking routes and cycle trails connecting to recreational green corridors and/or connect urban areas with the wider countryside. Green spaces with potential to improve access to and along recreational green corridors or between accessible green spaces were also included.

**4.14** Green corridors of local, neighbourhood importance were generally only included as part of strategic GI network where they provide or have the potential to provide wider connections to strategic trails/green corridors and the countryside.

**4.15** ***Recreational hubs****,* include larger areas of green space that act as key recreational destination areas (e.g. large open spaces of district importance). Most recreational hubs have multiple access points providing access to these green spaces, allowing access for a fairly wide catchment area.

**4.16** Field boundaries or visual envelopes along strategic trails, public rights of way, other walking routes and cycle trails were used to define the extents of the strategic GI areas, as best as possible. These extents were, generally, defined by which ever was the shortest distance.

## Nature conservation

**4.17** This includes all *green assets* that make up an ecological network in the district and which connects across neighbouring local authority boundaries. The ecological networks are made up of European, national and local (district and county) designated nature conservation sites, irreplaceable habitats (ancient woodland), plantation woodland, priority habitats and potential opportunity areas for creating and restoring priority habitats set within a landscape-scale approach, as supported by the National Planning Policy Framework (2012). The combined ecological network is shown in Appendix C.

**4.18** Information used to help identify green assets making up the ecological network include:



- designated nature conservation sites including: Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI), Local Nature Reserves (LNR), National Nature Reserves (NNR), Special Areas of Conservation, Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), and Local Geological Sites (LGS)
- Natural England mapped areas of ancient woodland
- priority habitats as referenced in Section 41 of the NERC Act from various sources (see below)
- OS MasterMap and aerial photography mapping
- Sherwood possible potential Special Protection Area (draft boundary from Natural England)
- local knowledge and site visits and
- habitat opportunity areas identified from various sources and in consultation with Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group partners (see below).

***Priority habitats*** and ***plantation woodland*** were mapped and combined into a digital resource. These were drawn from a variety of sources, including but not limited to:

- computer-based modelled mapping combining digitised Phase 1 county habitat surveys and Ordinance survey maps
- previous habitat mapping work in Warsop Parish (1998)
- designated local wildlife site (LWS) descriptions
- Natural England habitat mapping
- Sherwood Forest Trust heathland mapping
- RSPB heathland mapping
- Forestry Commission national inventory of trees and
- local knowledge, aerial photography analysis and site visit were used to confirm and check against mapped areas.

Together these mapped habitats were combined into broad habitat assemblages - heathlands/acid grassland, calcareous/neutral grassland, deciduous and mixed and coniferous woodland, wetland habitats[()].

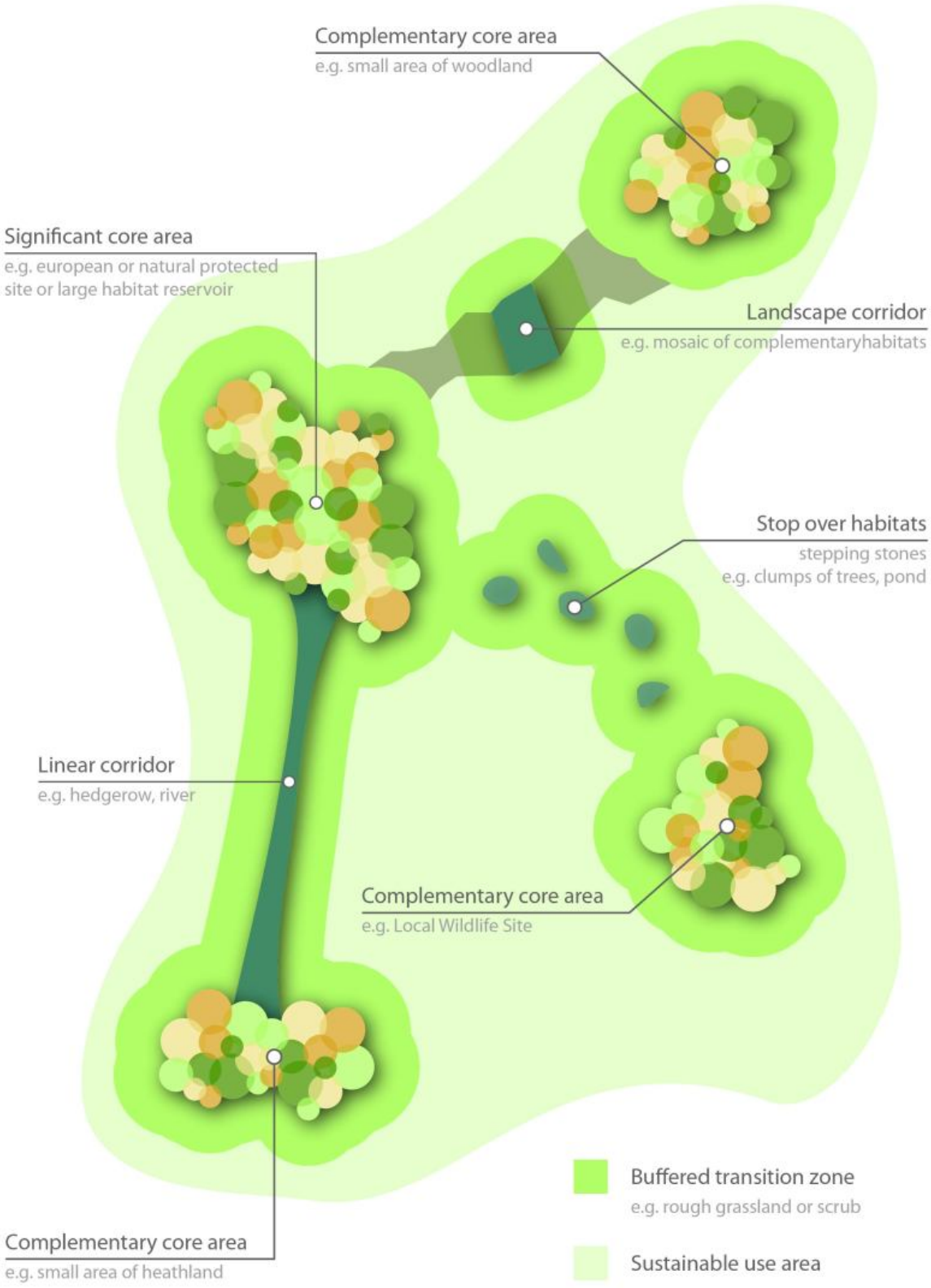
***Habitat opportunity areas*** are areas (green or post-industrial) with the potential for creating or re-creating semi-natural habitats. Identifying these areas is important for helping biodiversity move and adapt to change (e.g.climate change) and address the need to move from a 'net loss to net gains in biodiversity'. The overall principle, or goal, is to provide the right physical (i.e. habitat) connections movement through a variety of means, including through:

- buffering existing natural and semi-natural habitat areas/designated sites (core habitat area) - this provides bigger areas that are more resilient to change and increases suitable living conditions for wildlife to thrive

- creating linear corridors or clusters ('stop-over') of habitats connecting with similar or complementary habitats. This is important where habitats have been lost and to help reduce barriers to movement (e.g. culverted/modified water courses; open arable land or urbanised areas).

Habitats were mapped based on RSPB biodiversity mapping methodology: An Assessment of the Value and Practicality of Habitat Re-creation Opportunity Mapping - A pilot study covering East Dorset, Purbeck and Christchurch, November 2007.

Green infrastructure study



These habitat opportunity areas were identified using a variety of sources based on the following, for example:

- identified areas based on relevant studies/local plan evidence documents and available partnership data, including:
- underlying geology and landscape character policy zones (e.g. Sherwood Sandstone or Magnesian Limestone)
- active and restored mineral sites
- adjoining existing habitats and designated sites
- Historic areas of semi-natural grassland and heathland/furze areas (Sandersons Map 1835), but not currently supporting these habitats
- RSPB heathland opportunity areas
- coniferous/plantation woodlands (some areas within these may provide opportunities for heathland creation)
- Nottinghamshire Heathland Re-Creation Plan (1998)
- public open spaces
- Unimproved grassland / pasture land
- soil type (e.g. freely draining lime-rich loamy soils, sandy-loamy soils, loamy and clayey floodplain soils with naturally high groundwater)
- river corridors and flood risk areas (flood zones 2 and 3 and surface water run-off areas)
- areas in the Mansfield District Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2008 and Addendum 2018, identified as Green SuDS (sustainable drainage systems), Low Flow Areas and culverted areas with restoration potential and
- historic water meadow areas (Duke of Portland).

**4.19** Identifying and mapping habitat opportunities areas were based on best practice methods, for example:

- English Nature. 2006. Planning for biodiversity – opportunity mapping and habitat networks in practice: a technical guide: Report Number 687
- RSPB. (2004). An Assessment of the Value and Practicality of Habitat Re-creation Opportunity Mapping: A pilot study covering East Dorset, Purbeck and Christchurch.



The habitat assemblages and opportunity areas were mapped based on the best available mapping at the time. The Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group partners were consulted on these in 2011 and the mapping was updated accordingly. As more detailed mapping data becomes available, the areas may be updated following the same or similar methodology.

## Climate change

**4.20** This GI function considers how and where green infrastructure can address both mitigation (reducing $CO_2$ emissions) and adaptation (improving resilience) to climate change. This includes identifying the folowing:

- key sustainable transport routes - based on existing cycling and multi-user trails
- areas susceptible to flooding from water courses and surface water run-off - based on Environment Agency flood zones 2 and 3 and surface water flooding areas and other areas of flood risk (e.g. areas with low soil permeability, areas of historic flooding)
- woodlands (countryside and urban)
- existing renewable energy (e.g. solar farm) areas
- areas near to busy roads with known air quality issues and
- other areas important for urban cooling/$CO_2$ mitigation (e.g. urban trees).

**4.21** Information used to help in identifying these areas included:

- Environment Agency flood risk maps (river and surface water flooding)
- findings from the Mansfield District Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and Addendum (2018)
- local knowledge of commuting routes
- connecting urban green spaces and
- green spaces within/adjacent to areas monitored by Mansfield District Council's Environmental Health Team (e.g. Pleasley Hill and Debdale Lane).

## Historical importance

**4.22** This GI function component combines areas of archaeological significance, conservation areas, industrial heritage and important landscape features (e.g. ancient woodland, historic field enclosures). It also includes the settings for historic buildings, estates and events. The following sources of information were used to identify areas of and setting of historic importance. These included:

- 1835 Sanderson maps
- Nottingham County local historic asset register
- Natural England Ancient Woodland mapping
- Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre records on ancient hedgerows
- Historic England listed buildings and historic sites (e.g. Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens)
- Mansfield District Council Conservation Area Management Plans
- Nottinghamshire County Council's Historic Land Characterisation study (1998 - 2000)
- local knowledge regarding the location of historic landmarks (e.g. Parliament Oak, war memorials, parks and open space, graves, etc.) and
- consultation with the Mansfield District Council's Conservation Team and the Nottinghamshire County Council archaeologist.

**4.23** These helped to identify relationships between locally and nationally significant historic buildings and estates, archaeological remains, important field patterns, historic trails and historic parks and gardens.

## Visual and landscape character

**4.24** This GI function component takes into account existing natural landscape features (e.g. rivers, woodland, hedgerows, etc.), restored mineral sites, open breaks between settlements and important viewpoints and vistas. For the most part, these are identified within Appendix A, which breaks down the 13 strategic areas into smaller areas, but the assets listed in this table aren't exhaustive.

**4.25** Rather the Mansfield Landscape Character Assessment Addendum (2010) and Addendum (2014) provides landscape policies zones (LPZ) with further identified features that make these areas distinct.



**4.26** Two areas are identified (GI Area 1: Warsop and Meden Vale) that contribute to the separation between settlements (between Market Warsop and Church Warsop & between Church Warsop and Meden Vale).

## 4.2 Protection and enhancement needs

**4.27** In order to help inform what is needed to sustain and strengthen the existing green infrastructure resource in the district, protection and enhancement needs have been identified. This is important for informing future development and funding decisions.

**4.28** Section 5 sets out broad policy actions for 13 strategic green infrastructure networks which are defined as:

- **Conserve**: protect areas functions, features, connectivity, and/or distinctiveness (e.g. water quality, historic setting & recreational and visual amenity) of the strategic GI network.

- **Create**: prioritise the creation or re-creation of features or areas where existing features have been lost and where there are current gaps in in the GI network (i.e. where there is a lack of connectivity).

- **Enhance**: emphasis is placed on improving the quality or function of key features or areas within a strategic GI network. This could be through the creation of bigger, better quality and more-connected areas for wildlife.

- **Restore**: actions should focus on repairing or re-establishing features are in a state of decline.

**4.29** These actions have been informed by landscape character assessment work undertaken by Nottinghamshire County Council. The Mansfield Landscape Character Assessment (2010) and its addendum (2014) are available on the Mansfield District Council website (http://www.mansfield.gov.uk/localplanevidence).

**4.30** Appendix A provides more detailed information for each of the 13 strategic GI networks, breaking these into smaller, more manageable areas. This table is intended to inform more site-specific actions in relation to the protection of key assets and functions and further enhancement needs, including the creation of new recreational and ecological linkages. It includes:

- a description of the area and identifies key assets/natural capital which are important to identification of the strategic GI, which will need protecting;

- identification of key GI functions that contribute to a strategic GI network's unique benefits and ecosystem services that these provide for people and wildlife, which will need protecting; and

- identification of key enhancement needs required to help ensure that a strategic GI network's overall quality and key functions are sustained, strengthened and improved.

**4.31** It is important to note that Section 5 and Appendix A actions aren't exhaustive. Related evidence documents provide further guidance on key assets and protection and enhancement needs, including, for example:

- The Mansfield Landscape Character Assessment (2010) and its Addendum (2014) - landscape policy zone features and actions

- Community Open Space Assessment (2018) - quality and provision improvements

- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and Addendum (2018) - ecological enhancements to the rivers Maun and Meden

- Heritage Impact Assessment (2018) - key heritage assets

- Mansfield Central Area Flood Risk Review (2018) - enhancement needs along the River Maun

**4.32** Additionally, consultation with the Mansfield District Council and relevant organisations (i.e. Natural England, Environment Agency, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, etc.) will be needed to inform the design and layout of new development within and adjacent to strategic GI networks. This should take place early on in the planning process. This may involve writing a GI Management Plan which can help with:

- considering all relevant green assets, functions and enhancement needs

- ensuring schemes are appropriately designed to protect, connect with and enhance GI functions/ ecosystem services

- planning for future maintenance and management and

- promoting the development.

**4.33** Further to the policies in the Local Plan (2013 - 2033), a Biodiversity Green and Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is likely to be needed in order to take forward these recommended policy actions and refine them where appropriate.



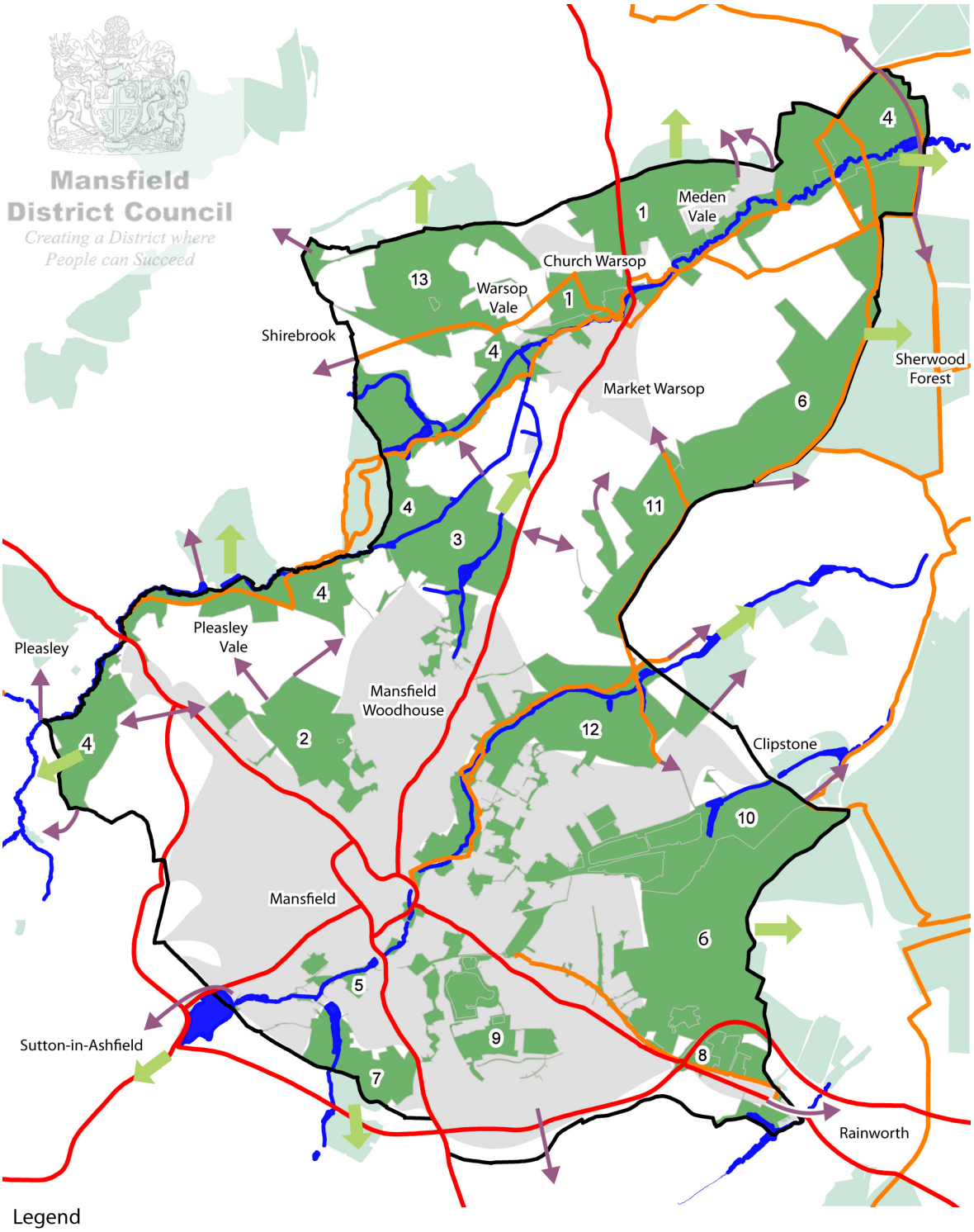
# 5 Stategic green infrastructure networks

**5.1** The following section broadly sets out, for each of the 13 strategic green infrastructure networks or areas within the Local Plan (2013-2033):

1. an overall description and identified key features/areas
2. reason for inclusion
3. broad protection and enhancement actions.

**5.2** The figure below identifies the 13 individual strategic green infrastructure networks/areas and key recreational and ecological linkages within the the district and also important connections with adjacent local authority areas.

## Areas of strategic green infrastructure




Legend

- MDC Boundary
- Main Road
- Strategic Trails
- Rivers and Streams
- Key Ecological Network Link
- Recreational Link
- Urban Areas
- GI Outside the District
- **Strategic Green Infrastructure Network**
- 1. Warsop and Meden Vale
- 2. Oxclose Woods
- 3. Woodhouse
- 4. Meden Valley
- 5. Timberland Trail
- 6. Sherwood
- 7. Cauldwell
- 8. Mansfield Way
- 9. Berry Hill
- 10. Vicar Water
- 11. Clipstone to Warsop
- 12. Maun Valley
- 13. Warsop Vale



## 5.1 Warsop and Meden Vale (GI Area 1)

### Description

**5.3** This strategic green infrastructure (GI) network includes combined areas of arable land and recreational open space, important to the setting of the Market Warsop, Church Warsop and Meden Vale villages within Warsop Parish. This area includes two important two breaks that separate 1) Church Warsop and Market Warsop and 2) Church Warsop and Meden Vale.

**5.4** It is separated into two main areas 1) Church Warsop and Market Warsop and 2) Church Warsop and Meden Vale, as described below.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Meden Valley (GI network - 4)<br>• Warsop Vale (GI network - 13) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • Restored Welbeck colliery at Meden Vale now recreational open space - Bassetlaw district<br>• Various public rights of way (PRoW) - walking trails |

#### Church Warsop and Market Warsop

**5.5** This area is an important physical and visual break between Market Warsop and Church Warsop which sets the two settlements apart and also places them within a rural setting, enhancing the overall character of the two settlements. This setting is also an important part of the Church Warsop Conservation Area.

**5.6** It includes arable/pasture land, a historic churchyard, community open space and a network of public rights of way which are well-used commuting pathways between Church Warsop and Market Warsop, also connecting the urban areas with open countryside.

#### Church Warsop and Meden Vale

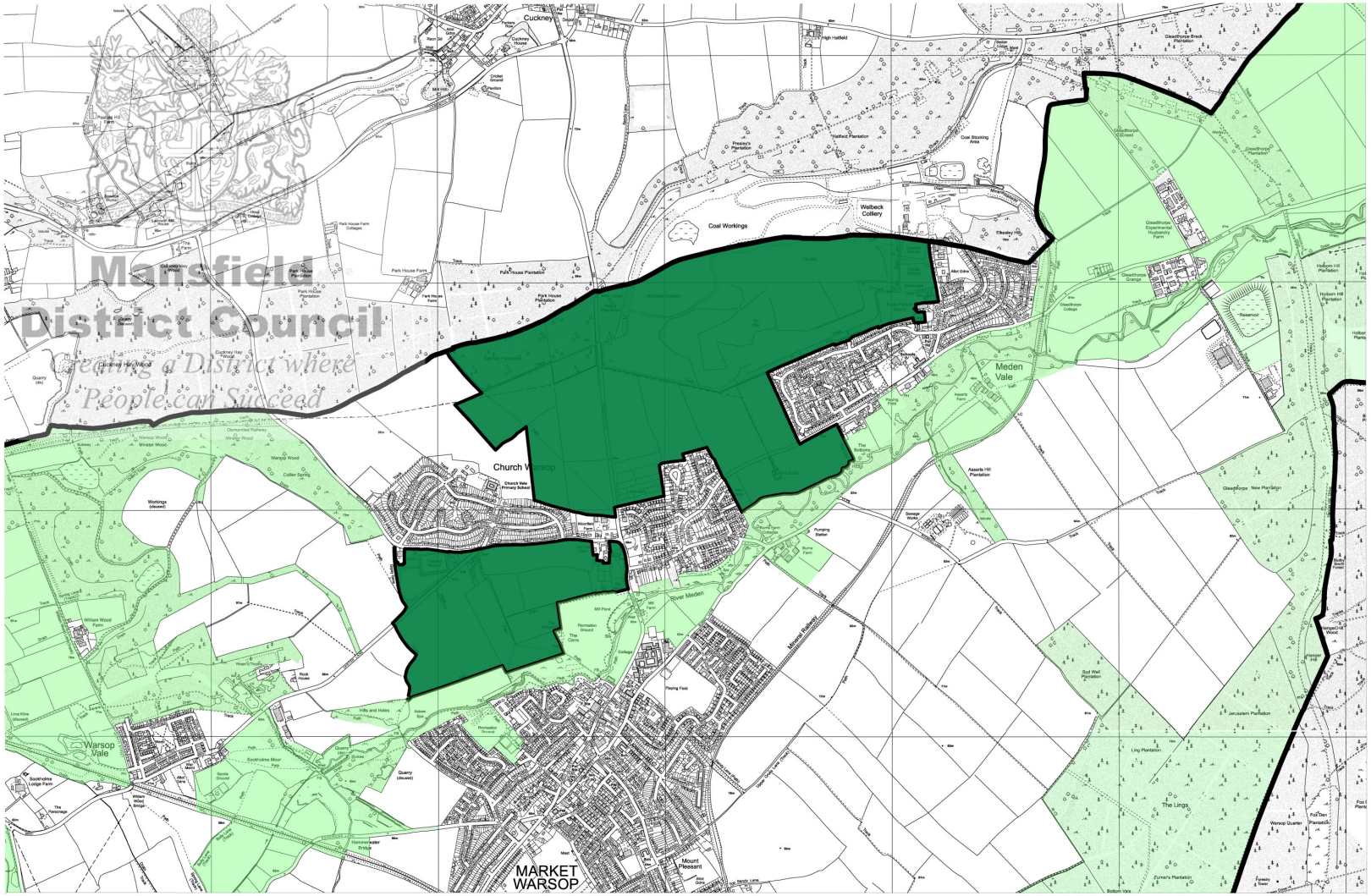
**5.7** This area is made up of arable land, plantation woodland, a solar farm, community open space, historic public rights of way and the restored Welbeck colliery, which offers walking trails in a county park-like setting. It acts as a physical and visual break between these two settlements.

**5.8** The restored Welbeck colliery is a dominant landscape feature and an important recreational and ecological resource. The southern half is located in Mansfield district and the northern half is located in neighbouring Bassetlaw district. The southern half of the colliery has been susceptible to surface water run-off originating from the steep slopes from the restored Welbeck Colliery, according to the Mansfield District Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA 2008). A solar farm is located on the south-side of the former colliery, put in place in 2012. The north-side of the former colliery was restored as a public green space with re-created habitats. Public rights

of way go around and through this area of Meden Vale. Opportunities to support additional walking linkages to these would improve access to the countryside and the restored colliery for residents. Narrow strips of woodland contribute positively to landscape character and visual amenity. Further woodland creation to link smaller areas of woodland together would improve ecological connections within this strategic GI network and beyond the district boundary northwards (e.g. Ekesley Wood and adjacent plantation woodland).

**5.9** It is also documented in the SFRA 2008 that arable land south of Netherfield Lane is within an area of low soil permeability but there is low flood risk to existing properties. Due to its location adjacent to the flood plain and The Bottoms Local Nature Reserve, the site is likely to be important for habitat re-creation, helping to link with a wider wildlife (ecological) network in this area of the district.

## Strategic GI area 1 - Warsop and Meden Vale




**Legend** GI Area 1 Green Infrastructure





## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Includes a variety of publicly accessible walking trails between the settlements of Market Warsop, Church Warsop and Meden Vale and northwards across into Bassetlaw district.<br>• Public rights of way between Church Warsop and Market Warsop act as important recreation and commuting routes between the two areas which provide additional recreational linkages to nearby community green spaces (e.g. The Carrs recreation ground and Local Nature Reserve) and the National Cycle Network.<br>• The area includes walking trails around and to the restored Welbeck Colliery where recent restoration work includes recreational trails in district of Bassetlaw.<br>• Other historic public rights of way link to areas of plantation woodland between Mansfield district and Bassetlaw district.<br>• Community open spaces in Meden Vale and Church Warsop are currently of average quality and accessibility. |
| **Nature conservation** | • In combination with strategic GI network 4, GI network 1 forms part of a wider ecological corridor stretching from Pleasley Vale to Meden Vale along the River Maun.<br>• The open break area between Market Warsop and Church Warsop includes intact hedgerows allowing for the movement of bats, invertebrates and small mammals close to urban settlements.<br>• Plantation woodland, including narrow strips of woodland adjacent to restored habitat areas and woodland (Ekesley Wood and restored Welbeck Colliery).; opportunity to improve ecological connections. |
| **Climate change** | • There are key areas of green space, woodlands and open countryside within/adjacent to urban settlements that support climate change adaptation (e.g. cooling, biodiversity and flood water attenuation benefits) and mitigation.<br>• Source of non-car (sustainable) transport used for recreation and commuting (between Church Warsop and Market Warsop). |
| **Historical importance** | • Includes areas of former mining history, listed building, war memorial, historic rights of way, and field and land use patterns dating back to Sanderson Map of 1835. |



| | |
|---|---|
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Important open breaks preventing coalescence between settlements. Includes locally valued visual amenity settings between historic settlements. The current landscape policy zones (LPZ) actions are: *conserve* (LPZ SH29); *conserve and create* (LPZ ML24); and *conserve and reinforce* (LPZ ML25). |

## Policy actions

**5.10** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE and ENHANCE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect the historical and visual settings between and around Market Warsop and Church Warsop and Church Warsop and Meden Vale, in order to ensure these areas do not coalesce and the Market Warsop Conservation Area Management Plan is respected.<br><br>2. Protect recreational and commuting (walking and cycling) routes and their settings that connect Church Warsop and Market Warsop, the Meden Strategic GI Area 4, and the National Cycle Network. Continue to provide access to the open countryside and green spaces between these two settlements.<br><br>3. improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to Hills and Holes SSSI (e.g. interpretation)<br><br>4. Ensure existing recreational trail linkages within and around Meden Vale to key green space destinations, including The Bottoms LNR and Welbeck Colliery (restored), are protected and integrated effectively with new development.<br><br>5. Protect view points and vistas from visual impacts from surrounding development e.g. screening via appropriate landscaping, building design and construction material use, and integration of green roofs, where possible. |
| **Create** | 1. In addition to action 4 above, create better recreational linkages to the Meden Valley strategic GI area (#4) in order to improve multi-user, off-road access along the River Maun and Meden Trail. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | 2. Create new habitat linkages for biodiversity between existing areas of woodland and 'gap up' hedgerows. Create new open habitats (e.g. neutral grassland) and small-scale woodland, on existing arable land and wetlands within the Meden river corridor.<br><br>3. When addressing flood risk, prioritise creation of green sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) in areas of flood risk and areas of low permeability. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Ensure hedgerows are maintained and managed for biodiversity and visual amenity.<br><br>2. Improve habitat quality through appropriate management.<br><br>3. Improve quality of and access to community open space within Meden Vale and Church Warsop.<br><br>4. Where appropriate, improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter), especially between Church Warsop and Market Warsop. |
| **Restore** | No specific actions identified at present. |



## 5.2 Oxclose Woods (GI Area 2)

### Description

**5.11** This strategic green infrastructure network acts as a recreation hub on the edge of Mansfield's urban area, connecting residents to the open countryside near to Pleasley Vale and Mansfield Woodhouse. The main publicly accessible green space within this area is Oxclose Woods, the restored former Sherwood Colliery. It acts as a 'green lung' bringing larger areas of green space into the urban areas. It includes smaller areas of community open space within the residential area east of Queen Elizabeth School and near to Rebecca Addlington Swimming Baths.

**5.12** This GI network also includes important walking and multi-user trails (walking and cycling) providing connections for local residents, including Sherwood Rise and Bull Farm, to nearby open space (Chesterfield Road Park and Oxclose Wood), sustainable transport (bus and cycle lanes along Chesterfield Road and Mansfield Woodhouse train station); and wider walking routes. The wooded trails surrounding Millennium Business Park provide a visual amenity and access to Oxclose Woods and the countryside.

**5.13** In addition to community open space, it includes the following private areas of green space: Queen Elizabeth school playing fields including sports pitches, Debdale Hall (listed building and historic surroundings), and pasture land. Oxclose Woods offers important view points and vistas of the surrounding townscape and countryside.

**5.14** It supports recognised areas of ecological importance at Oxclose Woods and Debdale Local Wildlife Site. Buffering of and creating new north-south wildlife corridors to existing habitat areas (grasslands and woodland) and designated sites would restore ecological connections and improve visual amenity, especially within the areas of Radmanthwaite and Queen Elizabeth school playing fields. The former is currently grassed grazed and represents poor quality neutral grassland.

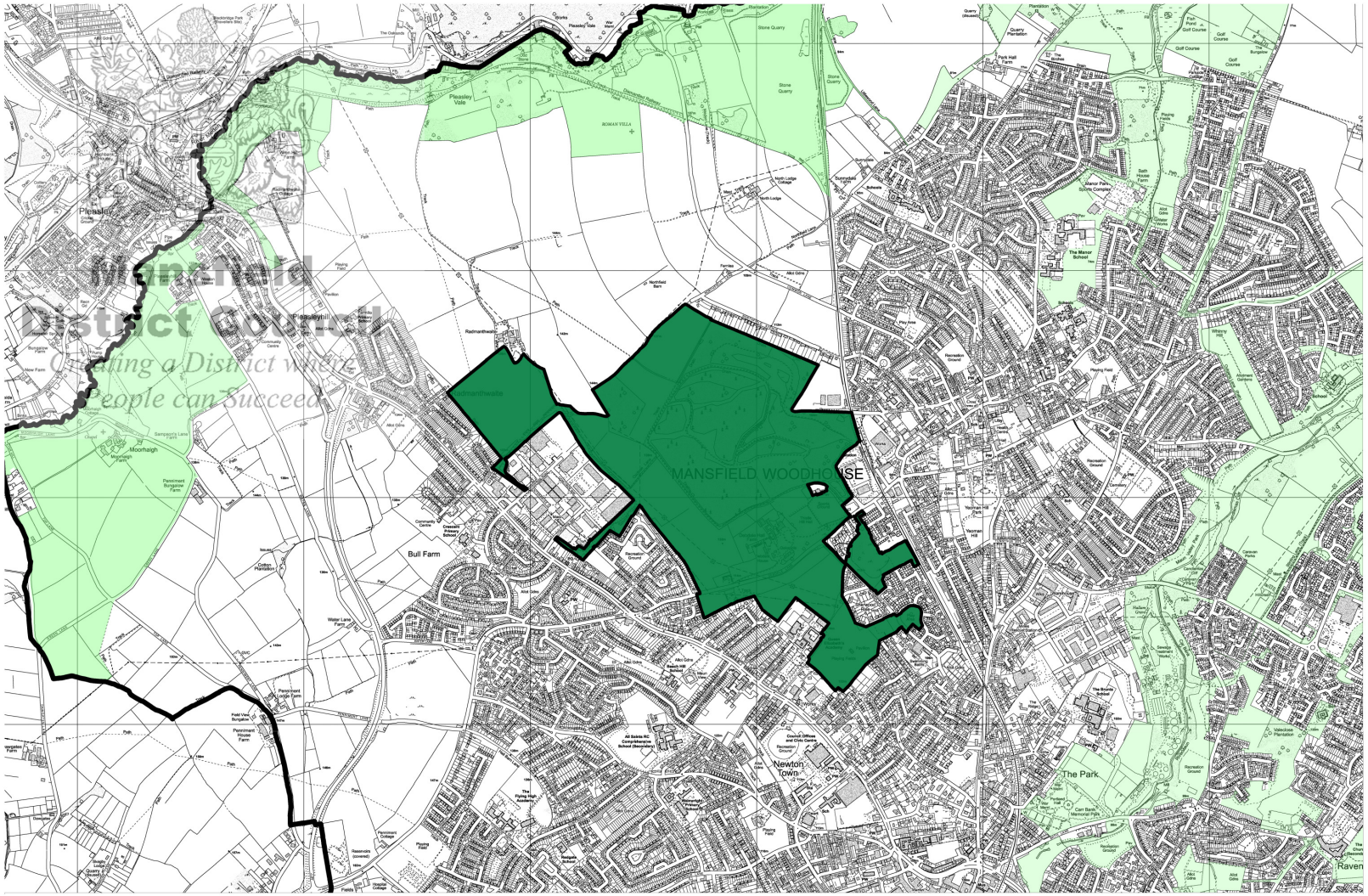
**5.15** Debdale Hall and its surrounding area, retains its landscape and historic importance. This area is likely to have Medieval origins and to support traces of caves and fissures supporting important archaeology. The wooded area shows a similar area plans dating to Sandersons 1835 maps.

**5.16** Green spaces along Debdale Lane, a busy commuting road between Mansfield and Mansfield Woodhouse, offer important visual amenity benefits and buffer impacts from reduced air quality.

**5.17** Land at Radmanthwaite is susceptible to surface water flooding. Public rights of way link to strategic GI network 4 - Meden Valley.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Meden Valley (GI network - 4) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • None |

## GI network 2 - Oxclose Woods




**Legend**

GI Area 2

Green Infrastructure



## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Mixture of informal and formal community open space, including a restored colliery site (Oxclose Woods).<br>• Acts as a 'green lung' bringing the countryside into the urban area through public rights of ways, linking with Radmanthwaite, Mansfield Woodhouse and Pleasley Vale.<br>• Wide range of trails offering circular and local routes linking to the wider countryside, accessible woodland, nearby open space, train station and bus and cycle routes. |
| **Nature conservation** | • Identified local areas of biodiversity importance within designated local wildlife site and priority habitats (neutral grassland and woodland).<br>• Potential to further strengthen ecological linkages to and between habitats and designated sites and restore habitats (e.g. neutral grassland). |
| **Climate change** | • Debdale Lane is a busy commuting route in the district and an area subject to local air quality monitoring due to its reduced air quality.<br>• There are also green spaces identified within localised areas of surface water flooding, potentially mitigating more serious flooding impacts. |
| **Historical importance** | • Area includes historically listed building and grounds. The wooded area shows a similar area plans dating to Sandersons 1835 maps.<br>• Possible Medieval origins and to support traces of caves and fissures supporting important archaeology.<br>• Oxclose Woods is symbol of Mansfield's former history, now regenerated to community green space. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Area of landscape importance (overall action suggested in landscape policy zone (LPZ) is to '*conserve and restore*' - LPZ ML27).<br>• Key viewpoint of Mansfield's town scape and surrounding areas from atop Oxclose Woods. Conifer planting on Oxclose Woods mostly screen surrounding development, giving a feeling of seclusion. Views from atop Oxclose Woods of adjacent Millennium Business Park detract from views and experience of naturalness.<br>• Woodland and green open areas along Debdale Lane and surroundig Millennium Business Park provide important visual amenity. |

## Policy actions

**5.18** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE AND ENHANCE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Ensure access linkages (trails and entrance points) from residential areas to adjacent public rights of ways and community open spaces are maintained, protected and integrated within new development; this includes Debdale LaneSherwood Rise and Bull Farm estates and any new development.<br><br>2. Protect view points and vistas from visual impacts from surrounding development. Ensure that new development adjacent to Oxclose woods does not detract from the experience of naturalness as viewed from Oxclose Wood (e.g. screening via appropriate landscaping, building design and construction material use, & integration of green roofs).<br><br>3. Protect the historical surroundings/setting of Debdale Hall and integrate with surrounding landscape.<br><br>4. Archaeological significance<br><br>5. Protect and create habitat buffers adjacent to local wildlife sites (Debdale).<br><br>6. Conserve field boundary hedges, and encourage the restoration of fragmented sections. Increase numbers of hedgerow trees whilst maintaining the open character. |
| **Create** | 1. Create new grassland habitat buffer areas adjacent to Debdale local wildlife site (LWS) in order to create bigger and better connected habitats, for supporting biodiversity and link into the wider ecological network as supported by the NPPF (especially to the south of the LWS within Queen Elizabeth school playing fields).<br><br>2. Create new areas of woodland near to existing woodland edges) to improve ecological linkages to Oxlcose Woods.<br><br>3. Improve and reinforce access (connectivity) between existing open spaces and trails via the creation of new green routes (north-south linkages).This Ideally, this would be integrated through new green infrastructure corridors within new development. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Improve existing trails to support multi-user access (walking and cycling). |



| | |
|---|---|
| | 2. Improve safe access to Oxclose Woods for nearby residential areas AND from Oxclose Woods to nearby countryside e.g. improve trail maintenance/management (surfaces and viability) and better pedestrian crossings across Debdale Lane and Chesterfield Road.<br><br>3. Enhance flood risk, where applicable. |
| **Restore** | No specific actions identified at present. |

## 5.3 Woodhouse (GI Area 3)

### Description

**5.19** This strategic GI network is within Mansfield Woodhouse and extends from Manor Park and Park Hall northwards towards Spion Kop. It includes Manor Park recreation area, open parkland surrounding Park Hall and Nettleworth Manor (dating back to 1500s), arable fields, private fishing ponds, private sports grounds and golf course, and a network of public rights of ways (PRoW). Existing 'desire line' footpaths connecting to PRoW indicate that the area is a well used resource by local people. Local green corridors south of Manor Park provide neighbour-scale walking routes, linking to Manor Park which in term provides wider access to PRoW towards Park Hall and beyond. Some pathways may benefit from re-establishing entrances points/routes.

**5.20** Includes three local wildlife sites (LWS) and priority habitats including: open parkland (internationally rare habitat), woodlands, neutral grassland and wetland habitats. There is evidence (Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre) that the area supports a variety of protected species. There are adjacent areas of ancient woodland to the northwest within GI network 4. Creating new habitats areas between existing habitats and also to designated sites would reduce habitat fragmentation, ultimately strengthening ecological connections and providing net gains in biodiversity.

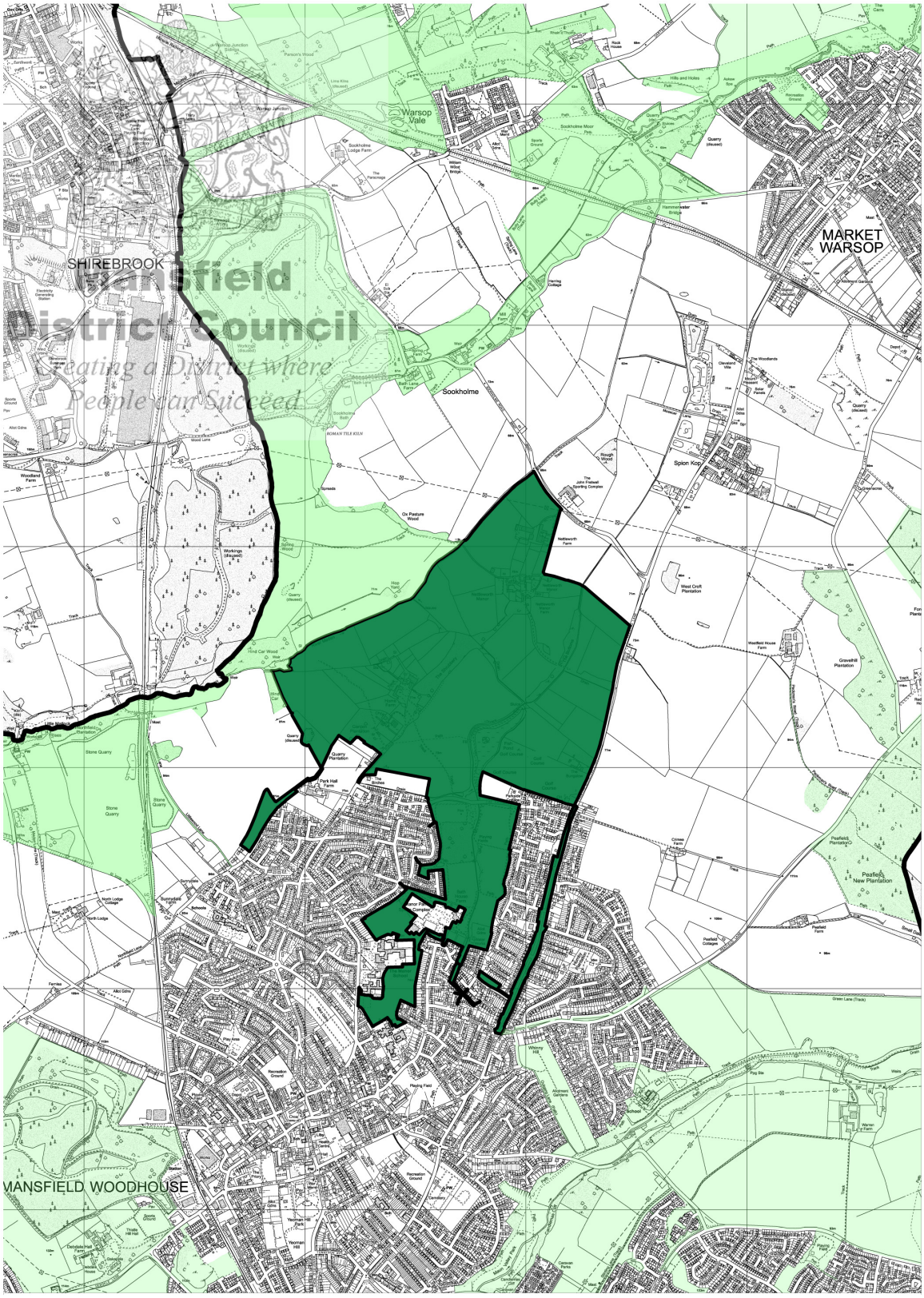
**5.21** This area has many archaeological finds/sites of local importance, including a sunken medieval village near Nettleworth Manor, historic estates, listed buildings, and locally listed historic assets. The tree-lined section of the A60 Leeming Lane North (extending from Greenholme Park to Sandgate Road) demarcates the extent of the estate and provides important visual amenity and local character along this busy road.

**5.22** Public and private areas of green space and arable land may help to mitigate the effects of surface water flooding, particularly around Manor Park and school playing fields to the south.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Meden Valley (GI network - 4)<br>• Maun Valley (GI network - 12) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • None |



## Strategic GI network 3 - Woodhouse




**Legend** GI Area 3 Green Infrastructure

## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Area acts as a 'green lung' bringing the countryside into the urban area with recreational linkages between Mansfield Woodhouse and open countryside, through a network of interconnected public rights of way and other walking trails.<br>• Manor Park and Sports Complex acts as a recreational *hub* and *gateway,* providing a formal play and sports provision as well as walking routes around this park and also linking residential areas to the wider countryside.<br>• Local routes to the south of Manor Park and Sports Complex extend access to the wider countryside |
| **Nature conservation** | • Key area of biodiversity importance, esp. wetlands and open parkland habitats.<br>• The area would benefit from linking areas of woodland together through adjacent woodland creation, prioritising creation of new woodland adjacent to ancient woodland and local wildlife sites. |
| **Climate change** | • The presence of local green spaces within/adjacent to urban settings are key towards addressing climate change adaptation (cooling, biodiversity and flooding). |
| **Historical importance** | • Includes a large number of historical buildings and other archaeological landmarks/sites and their settings. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Area of landscape importance as the overall landscape policy area (LPZ) action is to 'conserve and reinforce'.<br>• Urban woodland along and connecting to Leeming Lane provides important visual amenity and historic boundary. |

## Policy actions

**5.23** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE ENHANCE AND RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Conserve and enhance the parkland landscape character adjacent to Park Hall and Nettleworth Manor.<br>2. Protect and strengthen recreational access (walking, cycling paths) from residential areas to areas of open countryside and Manor Park recreation area. |



| | |
|---|---|
| | 3. Protect sites of historical/archaeological importance and their settings.<br><br>4. Protect woodland and wetland Local Wildlife Sites, priority habitats and ancient woodland.<br><br>5. Conserve open views and rural-like setting across the landscape. |
| **Create** | 1. Create cycle routes along Leeming Lane North (A60) from Mansfield Woodhouse northwards to Spion Kop and Market Warsop and to Peafield Lane. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Effectively manage and improve the quality and connectivity of priority habitats especially parkland, neutral grassland, wetland and woodland habitats and the species they support. Focus efforts to extend new habitat linkages (through habitat creation) from existing core habitat areas (i.e. bigger, better quality and better connected for a more resilient biodiversity resource).<br><br>2. Improve resilience to flood risk where necessary. Enhance flood mitigation and ecological linkages through the creation of green sustainable drainage systems (SuDS). |
| **Restore** | 1. Restore habitats, especially woodland and wooded parkland so that these connect with existing areas of ancient woodland and local wildlife sites.<br><br>2. Restore access along existing trails south of Manor Park/Sport Complex - re-establishing and improving better connectivity of walking/cycling routes. |

## 5.4 Meden Valley (GI Area 4)

### Description

**5.24** This is the longest green corridor in the district and follows the River Meden from the Derbyshire border south of Pleasley, through Pleasley Vale, the restored Shirebrook colliery, Market Warsop and the Bottoms Local Nature Reserve in Meden Vale.

**5.25** This green corridor connects with other key recreational linkages (walking and cycling trails) including:

- Teversal and Skegby Trails in Ashfield district
- the Archaeological Way in Bolsover district
- the Thynghowe Trail and Viking heritage area (south of Meden Vale and east of Market Warsop) in Mansfield and Newark and Sherwood districts
- Sustrans National Cycle Network Route 6 and
- other public rights of way and multi-user trails.

**5.26** Pleasley Vale is a natural limestone gorge with exposed rock faces used by local climbers. The Pleasley Vale Activity Centre operates from Pleasley Mills offering outdoor activity programs, in adjoining Bolsover district.

**5.27** Key green space hubs within and connected to this strategic GI area include:

- The Carrs local nature reserve (LNR) and recreation ground and Carr Lane Park
- The Bottoms LNR
- Shirebrook Colliery
- Pleasley Vale conservation area and
- Pleasley Park and Pleasley Pit Country Park (outside the district in Derbyshire).

**5.28** It includes two SSSIs, three Local Nature Reserves, two Conservation Areas, one Scheduled Ancient Monument and areas of ancient woodland. Areas of wildflower rich Magnesian limestone and unimproved neutral grasslands can be found mainly around Hills and Holes SSSI and along areas of the Meden Trail. The River Meden has rich wetland habitats and also rare lime tree woodland. The Mansfield Strteigc Flood Risk Assessment has identified important opportunities for ecological

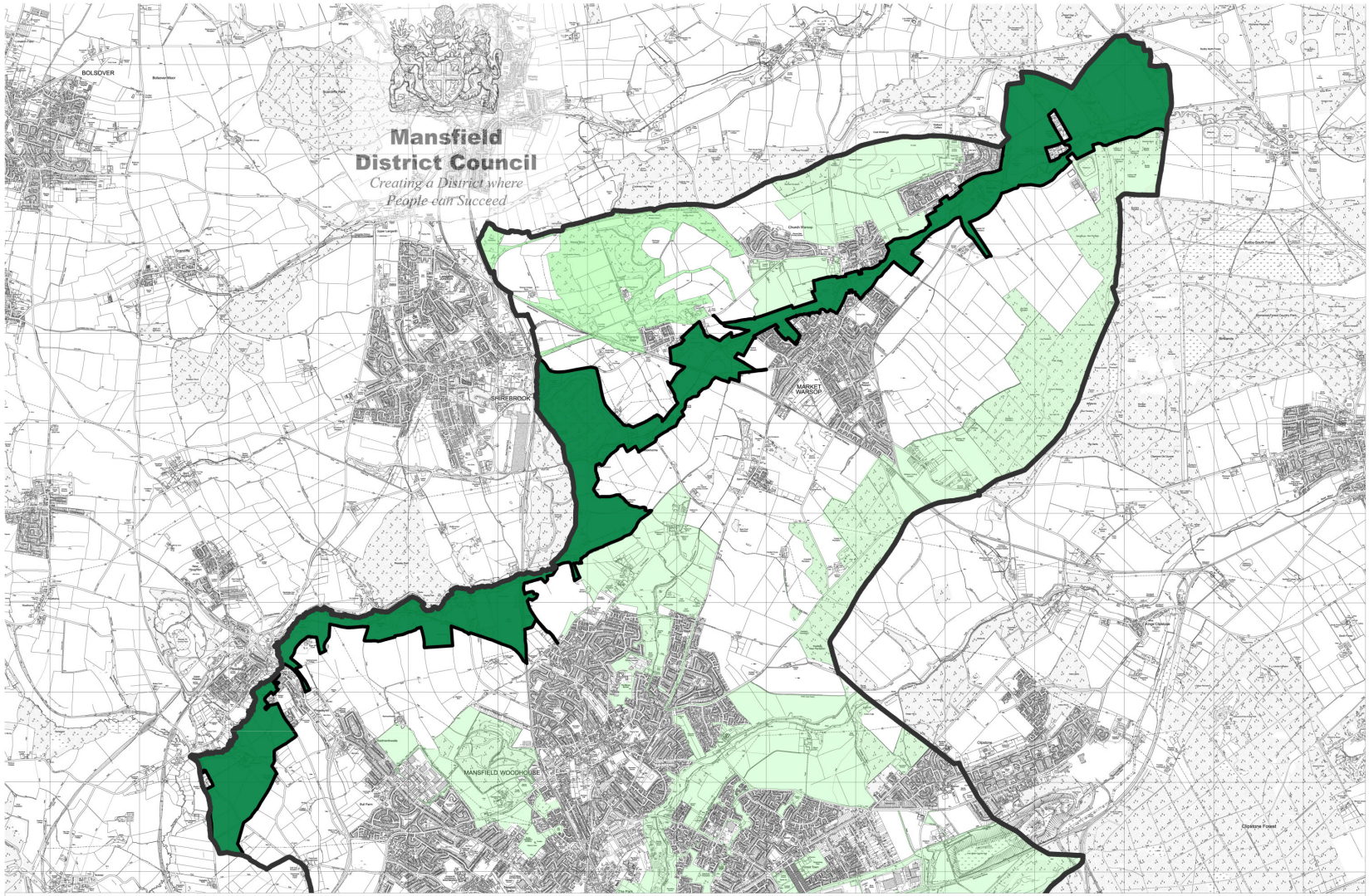


enhancements along the stretch of the River Meden between Hills and Holes and Sookholme Brook SSSI and The Carrs LNR. The primary purpose is to restore water vole habitat.

**5.29** It represents a substantial resource of historical settlements, estates, ancient woodland, archaeological finds (e.g. prehistoric and Roman) and the county's manufacturing and mining heritage.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Warsop and Meden Vale (GI network - 1)<br>• Oxclose Woods (GI network 2)<br>• Woodhouse (GI network 3)<br>• Sherwood (GI network 6) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • Sustrans National Cycle Network (Route 6) - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• River Meden - Newark and Sherwood district, Ashfield district & Bolsover district (Derbyshire)<br>• Archaeological Way and Meden Valley - Bolsover district<br>• Teversal Trail and other walking routes - Ashfield district<br>• Pleasley Pit Country Park - Bolsover district<br>• Pleasley Vale Conservation Area - Bolsover district<br>• Ancient woodland (Peasley) - Bolsover district<br>• Accessible woodland (restored Shirebrook Colliery) - Bolsover district |

## Strategic GI network 4 - Meden Valley





## Reason for designation

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|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • The green corridor follows a well-established, long-distance route (primarily for walking but also multi-user in sections) with links to other established long-distance walking routes and includes green space destinations of county and local importance.<br>• There are strong links with other strategic trails and green space destinations just outside the district.<br>• The Pleasley Vale Activity Centre operates from Pleasley Mills offering outdoor activity programs.<br>• Allows excellent access to the countryside from urban areas and also sets urban green spaces within a wider landscape setting.<br>• Contains a large number of recreational hubs and gateways to adjacent accessible open space (see above in network description). |
| **Nature conservation** | • Important biodiversity corridor along the River Meden including a high proportion of designated sites of national and local significance.<br>• Clusters of ancient woodland and high concentration of priority habitats<br>• Area of geological significance (Pleasley Vale & Hills and Holes SSSI). |
| **Climate change** | • River corridor and area of flood risk protection (flood zones 2 and 3 and areas of surface water flooding).<br>• Important wildlife corridor along the River Meden for water voles, otter and fish species.<br>• River relatively unmodified.<br>• There are recognised flooding issues within Market Warsop at The Carrs, Pleasley and the MARR (A617). |
| **Historical importance** | • Area of combined historical importance including: ancient woodland; textile industry; mining heritage (restored to green spaces); well-preserved evidence of roman settlement (e.g. Roman Villa); Palaeolithic caves/gorge; historic settlements (e.g. Sookholme), listed buildings; and buildings of local historical significance and their settings. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Area of unique landscape/visual importance (overall landscape policy zone actions 'conserve', 'conserve and create', 'conserve and restore' & 'conserve and reinforce'. |

## Policy actions

**5.30** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE and RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect this green corridor, its strategic links and its function as a recreational and ecological resource.<br><br>2. Conserve existing ecological networks of designated sites and priority habitats.<br><br>3. Protect important historical assets and their settings.<br><br>4. Protect the setting and green spaces within the Pleasley Vale and Church Warsop Conservation Areas (also see the relevant Conservation Management Plan).<br><br>5. Improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive sites and habitats. |
| **Create** | 1. Create new areas of calcareous and neutral grasslands within former mineral sites (e.g. Littlewood Quarry), along disused railway lines, pasture land and parks. Prioritise creation of new areas of habitat adjoining areas of designated sites and existing areas of similar habitat.<br><br>2. Create areas of new woodlands. Prioritise creation of new areas of habitat adjoining areas of existing habitat, esp. ancient woodlands. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Effectively manage and improve the condition and connectivity of priority habitats esp. magnesium limestone (calcareous) grassland, neutral grassland, semi-natural woodlands & wetlands. This may include scrub removal, addressing areas that have become nutrient enriched and creating new habitat areas to buffer and link to existing ones. Prioritise improving connectivity to designated sites (Local Wildlife Sites, LNRs, SSSIs) and areas of Ancient Woodlands.<br><br>2. Improve trail linkages to Oxclose Wood (2) and Woodhouse (3), prioritise multi-user trail use.<br><br>3. Improve access along the Meden Trail northeast of The Carrs LNR, creating new and improving recreational existing links so that the trail follows along the river corridor, whilst minimising impacts on the environment (section East of The Carrs LNR at Church Rd).<br><br>4. Improve ecology of The Carrs LNR through the restoration and creation of new habitat on adjacent green space. |



| | |
|---|---|
| | 5. Improve flooding mitigation across Church Road in Market Warsop and at The Carrs LNR and Recreation Ground.<br><br>6. Improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function strategic trail and linkages into Bolsover and Ashfield districts. |
| **Restore** | 1. Prioritise creation of green sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) between the Hills and Holes and Sookholme Brook SSSI and The Carrs Local Nature Reserve (LNR), as identified in the Mansfield District Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) to help restore water vole habitat. |

## 5.5 Timberland trail (GI Area 5)

### Description

**5.31** This green corridor follows the Timberland Trail from Kings Mill Reservoir to Race Course Park (north of Southwell Road West) and then joining with the rest of Timberland Trail leading to Vicar Water Country Park (Strategic GI network 10). It joins together areas of informal and formal recreation including Hermitage and Quarry Lane Local Nature Reserves, Titchfield Park, Fisher Lane Park, Forest Road Recreation Ground & Racecourse Park. The trail follow the River Maun from Kings Mill Reservoir to the town centre and also sections of disused railway lines. The trail links together adjoining, inter-connecting green spaces but there are sections of the trail that follow main roads. It is recognised that access through some green spaces could be allowed or improved such that the Timberland Trail can be diverted away from busy roads and awkward routes (e.g. south of King Edward Primary School). The area between Kings Mill Reservoir and Titchfield Park provides an important *recreational hub* supported by local friends groups, providing access to nature. This includes three local nature reserves (LNR) which is unique for the district- Hermitage LNR, Quarry Lane LNR, Oakham LNR (in part).

**5.32** On the north end of Racecourse Park (Eakring Road), the Timberland Trail stops following green spaces and instead follows cycle routes on the road. Here safe road crossings and improvements to cycle lanes are needed. There are areas of the Timberland Trail that suffer from anti-social behaviour (e.g. fire and fly-tipping) that need addressing.

**5.33** Access improvements from an amenity green space south of Forest Road Recreation Ground/Berry Hill Lane are needed in order to improve recreational access for residents in this area of the district to the Timberland Trail. Currently there is no access point on the south end of Forest Road Recreation Ground; it is fenced off and overgrown with vegetation. Creating access points and better pathways would improve health and well-being opportunities.

**5.34** This GI network links to the Mansfield Way (8), Strategic GI Area 9 (Berry Hill) at Cobblestone Drive in the Berry Hill/Kingswalk area, and the continuation of the Timberland Trail leading to Vicar Water Country Park (10) and the National Cycle Network (Sustrans Route 6). It also connects with cycle routes to Sutton-in-Ashfield. The viaduct between Hermitage Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Kings Mill Reservoir is a scheduled ancient monument.

**5.35** This strategic GI network includes:

- two LNRs (Hermitage & Quarry Lane LNRs)
- links to with Oakham LNR), four Local Wildlife Sites (including Kings Mill Reservoir) and
- a number of UK and Nottinghamshire priority habitats.



**5.36** Opportunities exist for creating heathland within urban green spaces in order to improve habitat linkages between Racecourse Park and along the Mansfield Way (#8), leading to the wider Sherwood Forest habitat area (6). This would also likely improve the green corridor's amenity value.

**5.37** Opportunities also exist to address quality quality and flood risk issues along the river Maun between Littleworth / Ratcliffe Gate (A6191) and St Peters Way / Great Central Rd. The MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and the Environment Agency, recognise that there are limited opportunities to link existing habitats but naturalisation of this area and de-culverting sections (Field Mill Pond and Littleworth) would improve recreational amenity and ecological quality of the River Maun within this area.

**5.38** Some areas along the trail are effected by nutrient enrichment (in the form of dog fouling), thus causing the deterioration of priority habitats; this needs addressing in order to ensure long-term quality and sustainability of priority habitats and Local Wildlife Sites.

**5.39** As identified in the Mansfield District Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2008 (SFRA), there are areas of poor water quality and flooding issues along the River Maun (e.g. From Kings Mill Reservoir to Titchfield Park).

| | |
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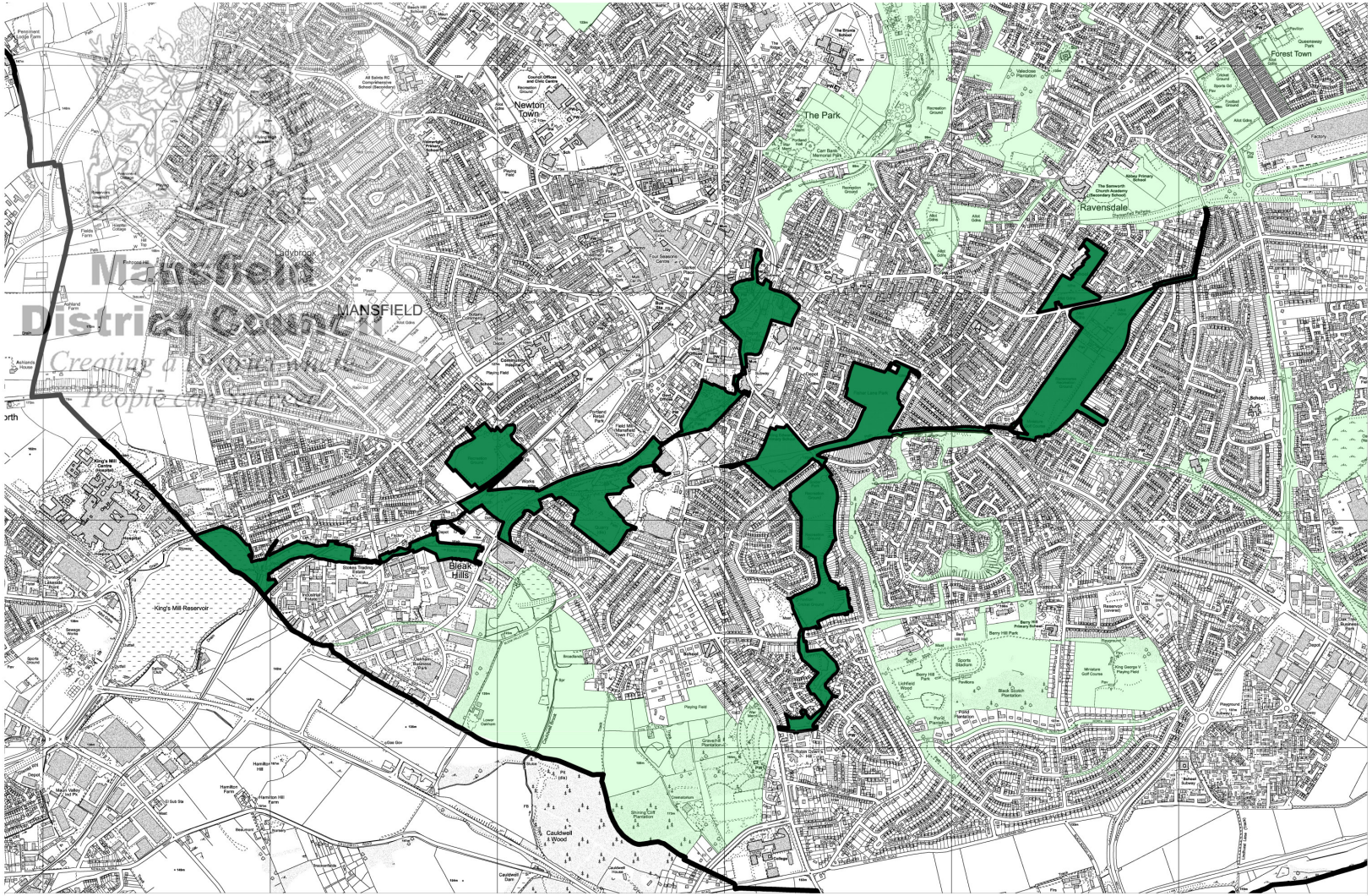
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Cauldwell (GI network - 7)<br>• Mansfield Way (GI network 8)<br>• Berry Hill (GI network 9)<br>• Vicar Water (GI network 10) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • Kings Mill Reservoir. local wildlife site and Activity Centre - Ashfield district<br>• Cycle lanes - Ashfield district<br>• River Maun - Ashfield district |

## Strategic GI network 5 - Timberland Trail




**Legend** GI Area 5 Green Infrastructure



## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Green corridor following a well-established long-distance trail network joining a variety of informal and formal green and open spaces.<br>• Recreational hub from Kings Mill Reservoir to Titchfield Park, including three local nature reserves (LNR) and further linkages to Oakham LNR and Kings Mill Activity Centre.<br>• Allows for access from the urban areas to the open countryside. This is a multi-user route supporting both walking and cycling. This recreational corridor offers unique access to nature on people's doorstep.<br>• There is a recognised area that requires new multi-user trail linkages to provide better walking and cycling routes off the main roads, effectively 'gapping up' sections where links are missing (between Baum's Lane and Littleworth Avenue). |
| **Nature conservation** | • Includes designated nature conservation sites (local wildlife and local nature reserves) and priority habitats (including: lowland heathland, various wetland habitats, lowland acid grassland and wildflower rich neutral grassland).<br>• Important wildlife corridor along the River Maun and network of green spaces, within an urban setting, connecting green spaces and their associated habitats; most notably heathland, wetland, woodland and acid grassland habitats. |
| **Climate change** | • Includes areas of strategic flood risk importance. Also, identified as an area for flood/wetland improvements (Mansfield SFRA 2008).<br>• Provides a locally important non-car commuting route to schools and businesses with also connections to the Mansfield town centre.<br>• Includes a brownfield area (Riverside regeneration area) between Littleworth / Ratcliffe Gate (A6191) and St Peters Way / Great Central Rd. Here the River Maun is mainly concealed under tarmac and roads and passes through culverts. Enhancements to the river, including removing culverts and re-naturalising the river could help minimise and manage flooding. |
| **Historical importance** | • Areas of historical importance include: Kings Mill Viaduct (Scheduled Ancient Monument), Hermitage Mills (Listed Building), Titchfield Park (Victorian park). |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • This green corridor provides some degree of tranquility - a chance to 'escape' and experience nature within the urban area. |

## Policy actions

**5.40** The overall policy direction is to**:** CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE AND RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect the network of trails, green spaces and designated sites that make up the Timberland recreation and ecological green corridors.<br><br>2. Protect and strengthen recreational linkages to Sutton-in-Ashfield, the Mansfield Way, and neighbourhood access points.<br><br>3. Protect existing heathland, wetland and woodland habitats and designated sites as part of a combined corridor for people and wildlife.<br><br>4. Protect the setting and green spaces within the Nottingham Road Conservation Area (also see the relevant Conservation Management Plan).<br><br>5. Protect heritage assets and their settings |
| **Create** | 1. Create new areas of heathland/acid grassland along the Timberland Trail Green Corridor and adjoining green spaces, most notably at: Racecourse Park, Fisher Lane Park, and Forest Road Recreation Ground.<br><br>2. Create recreational linkages along sections of the Timberland Trail, so that that they pass through green space instead of following the road (i.e. providing off-road access where possible), most notably: a) make land accessible as part of Timberland Trail network between Baum's Lane and Littleworth Lane (south of King Edward Primary School playing fields) and b) improve access to the disused railway line opposite Crown Farm Way/South of The Samworth Church Academy School.<br><br>3. Create access points and improve trails from the amenity space south of Forest Road Recreation Ground/Berry Hill Lane to allow continued access to the Timberland Trail. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Seek opportunities to improve flood management whilst improving the ecology and water quality most notably at: a) Hermitage LNR, b) Titchfield Park and c) Field Mill Pond (at Bath Street). |



| | |
|---|---|
| | 2. Ensure all pedestrian/cycle access points are marked and safe (including installing signage & road crossings where the trail crosses over roads).<br><br>3. Appropriately manage and improve heathland and woodland habitats along the Timberland Green Corridor, especially managing dog fouling and re-creating heathland and acid grassland habitats that have been lost to improved/amenity grassland. |
| **Restore** | 1. Restore water quality of the River Maun and naturalise/enhance key sections where the river is heavily culverted/modified. |

## 5.6 Sherwood woodland and heathland (GI Area 6)

### Description

**5.41** This strategic GI area has been identified primarily for its role in supporting heathland, oak-birch woodland habitats and plantation woodland. It has has high potential for re-creating heathland and acid grassland habitats. It is divided between two main areas: 1) an area stretching north of Rainworth to the Sherwood Forest Golf Course and 2) Thynghowe viking heritage area east of Market Warsop and Meden Vale.

**5.42** Historically, much of this area was covered by heathland and native oak-birch woodland as they were used as royal hunting grounds. The area still has a strong network of interconnecting blocks of deciduous woodland, coniferous plantations, patches of heathland and scrub providing good ecological networks, but further opportunities exist for creating a better connected network of heathland and woodland on a larger landscape scale across the wider Sherwood area extending into neighbouring Newark and Sherwood and Bassetlaw districts.

**5.43** It includes three Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI), one Local Nature Reserve (LNR) at Oak Tree Heath and various Local Wildlife Sites. It is adjacent to the Birklands and Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve (NNR) and four SSSIs all within Newark and Sherwood District Council. This strategic GI area supports Nightjar and Woodlark populations and is currently being considered as part of a UK-wide review of European Natura2000 sites (possible potential Special Protection Area) subject to Natural England standing advice.

**5.44** It includes a wide network of public rights of way (PROW) that connect to:

- the National Cycle Network (Sustrans Route 6)
- the Robin Hood Way
- Timberland Trail at Vicar Water Country Park
- Sherwood Forest Country Park, Sherwood Pines and
- other publicly accessible woodlands and open access land.

**5.45** Access to wildlife habitats is sometimes in conflict with nature conservation and must be managed sensitively. PRoW mostly run in a north-south direction.

**5.46** The area has been shaped by a rich historical past: Sherwood Forest Royal hunting grounds, Viking assembly site (Thynghowe area), WWII, agriculture, commercial forestry and mineral extraction.

**5.47** In addition to the above description, the southern section also includes:



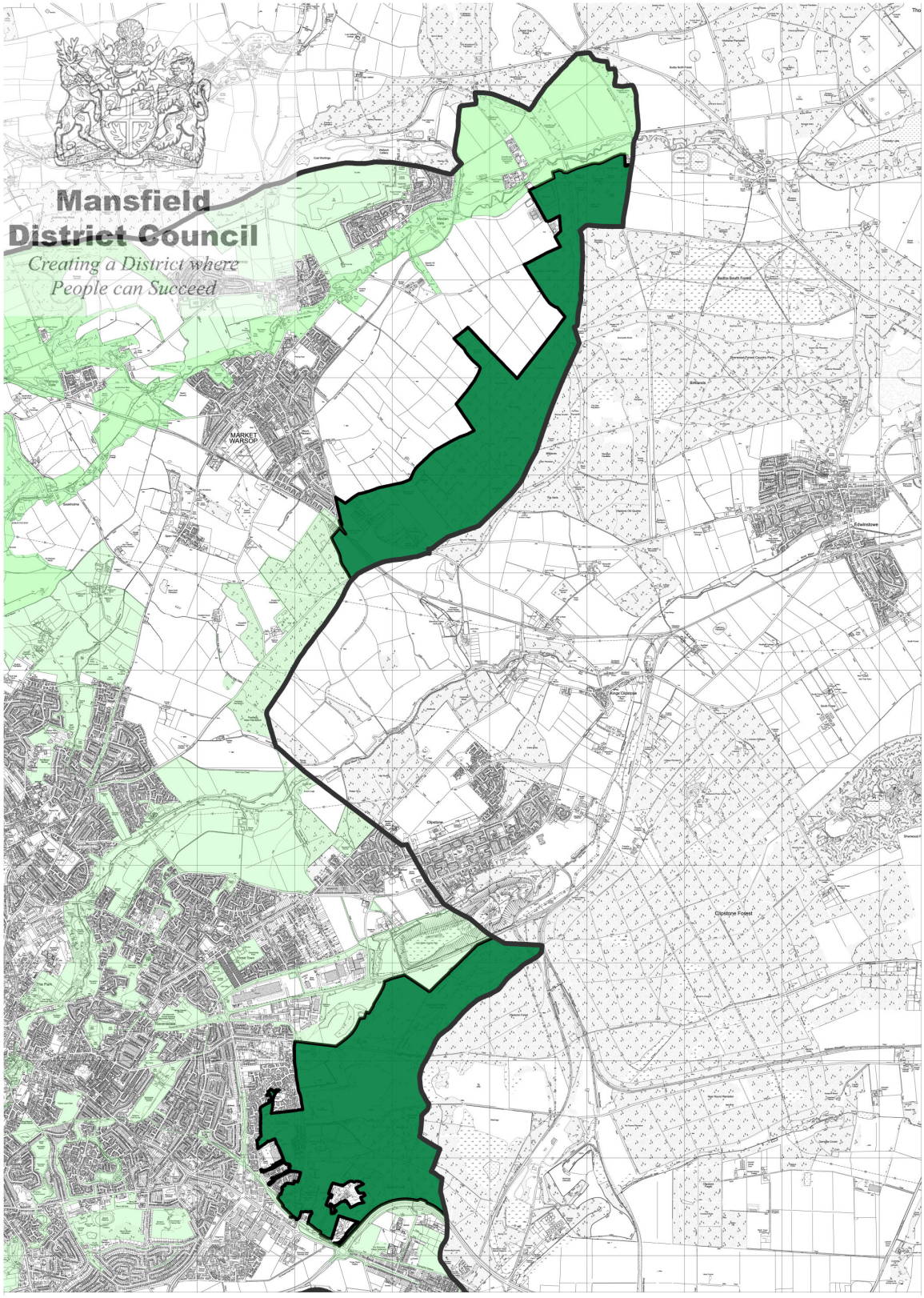
- two private golf courses Sherwood Forest Golf Course (a SSSI) & Mansfield Family Golf Course
- a private rugby ground; public open space
- an active sand quarry (Ratcher Hill Quarry) and
- Ransom Wood Business Park set within surrounding woodland.

**5.48** The northern section includes areas of arable land adjacent to Forestry Commission land. Future restoration of Ratcher Hill Quarry, if and when quarry activity ceases, has good potential for also creating wetland habitats.

**5.49** Rainworth village straddles both Mansfield District and Newark and Sherwood District; there is a need to ensure Rainworth remains a distinct settlement in its own right.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Meden Valley (GI network - 4)<br>• Mansfield Way (GI network 8)<br>• Vicar Water (GI network 10)<br>• Clipstone to Warsop (GI network - 11) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • Sustrans National Cycle Network (Route 6) - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Sherwood Forest habitats and European and national designated nature conservation sites - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Walking and cycling routes to - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Vicar Water Country Park - Newark and Sherwood district |

## Strategic GI network 6 - Sherwood





## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Area of combined formal and informal recreation with a strong network of public rights of way (PRoW), cycle routes and a gateway to long-distance trail networks (walking and cycling) e.g. Sustrans National Cycle Network 6, Timberland Trail & Mansfield Way.<br>• Network of publicly accessible woodland, open countryside and open access land.<br>• Links residents to nature through networks of urban green spaces linking to the wider countryside.<br>• Thynghowe Viking heritage trails |
| **Nature conservation** | • Includes large areas of biodiversity importance (especially heathland and native oak-birch woodland mosaics).<br>• A priority area for connecting together smaller areas of heathland, acid grassland and oak-birch woodland, through the creation and re-creation of new habitat areas as part of an overall landscape-scale approach.<br>• Area supports rare birds, Nightjar and Woodlark and other nationally and internationally rare species.<br>• Linkage with the Birklands and Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation located just across the border in Newark and Sherwood district.<br>• Strong network of sites designated for their nature conservation value.<br>• Opportunities to enhance ecological linkages through additional habitat creation (e.g. current and former mineral sites) |
| **Climate change** | • Large areas of woodland are likely to support climate change mitigation. |
| **Historical importance** | • Includes historic royal hunting grounds of the Sherwood Forest, the Thynghowe Viking heritage area and restored areas of former mining heritage. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Area of unique landscape/visual importance (overall landscape policy zone (LPZ) actions are to 'conserve', 'conserve and reinforce' and 'restore and create'. |

## Policy actions

**5.50** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE and RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect the existing network of designated sites, heathland, ancient woodland and oak-birch woodland.<br><br>2. Protect the existing network of public rights of way and cycle network and connections with recreational trails within strategic GI networks 8 and 10.<br><br>3. Protect core areas of historical importance including: Viking Heritage (Thynghowe) and Sherwood Forest royal hunting grounds.<br><br>4. Ensure impacts from development on Nightjar and Woodlark populations and their habitats are avoided and/or mitigated. |
| **Create** | 1. Seek opportunities to improve biodiversity linkages between existing areas of heathland, acid grassland, wetland and oak-birch woodland through additional habitat creation. Encourage the creation/re-creation and management of heathland and acid grassland on the following: Mansfield Family Golf Course, Ratcher Hill Quarry, Ransom Wood, within woodland clearings and urban green spaces.<br><br>2. New development near to urban fringes must respect the landscape character through sensitive and appropriate design and support appropriate habitat creation providing linkages to nearby ecological networks.<br><br>3. Create new multi-user trails linking to strategic GI networks 8 and 10. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Maintain distinctiveness between Mansfield and Rainworth village through the creation of a green ‘gateway’ between the two areas, including distinct landscaping, civic realm art and signage.<br><br>2. Effectively manage and improve the condition of priority habitats especially, heathland, acid grassland, and oak-birch woodland through a landscape-scale approach. |
| **Restore** | 1. Restore heathland and oak-birch woodland habitats, re-creating larger and better connected ecological networks of good quality. |



## 5.7 Cauldwell (GI Area 7)

### Description

**5.51** This area acts as a green wedge between Oakham business park and nearby residential areas. It is characterised by arable land, semi-natural grasslands and woodlands, accessible natural green space, wetlands, private fishing ponds, a cemetery, and forestry plantations.

**5.52** The area includes both public and private recreation areas, including: private fishing ponds, Oakham Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Shining Cliff Woodland (a Forestry Commission publicly accessible woodland).

**5.53** It links to other accessible Forestry Commission woodlands in the south (Cauldwell Wood and Stonehills Plantation), within Ashfield District. All three woodlands are accessed from the MARR/A617. There is a lack of public trails between Oakham LNR and publicly accessible woodlands to the south and safe pedestrian crossing between the two woodlands. Oakham LNR provides an important recreational linkage to the Timberland Trail and also multi-user trails connecting residential and employment areas (I-Centre and Oakham Business Park).

**5.54** It is an important area for mitigating the effects of flooding and for prioritising the creation of green sustainable drainage systems (SuDS). The green spaces surrounding Cauldwell Brook likely mitigate impacts from flooding. Silting from surrounding developments and culverts have compromised the water quality and ecology of Cauldwell Brook. This area is identified as a Green SuDS Priority Area in the MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008). This includes specific enhancements to improve habitat connectivity and for protected species. The culvert at Cauldwell Brook (Hamilton Way/Sheepbridge Lane area) was identified as having high potential for restoration (in whole or part of) to facilitate linkage improvements for water voles and white-clawed crayfish.

**5.55** This strategic GI network includes one LNR (Oakham) and two Local Wildlife Site (Cauldwell Brook and Mansfield Cemetery) and supports protected species (white clawed crayfish and water voles) and wetland & farmland birds. Oakham LNR is a rich area of neutral grassland. Historical maps show that most of the area was once unenclosed heathland. Opportunities for heathland creation may exist within areas of coniferous plantation woodland, linking with existing areas of heathland to the south (Coxmoor golf course).

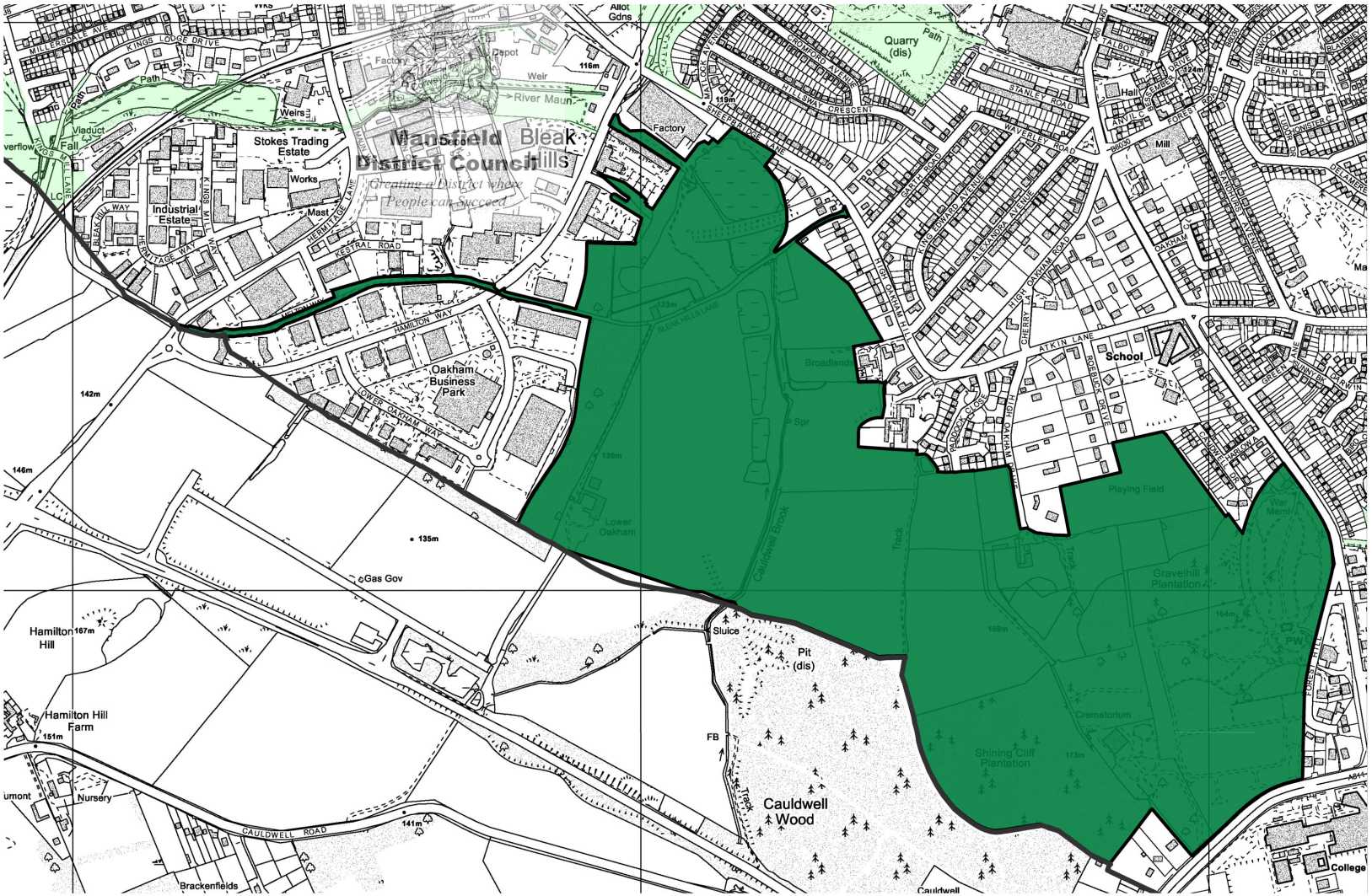
**5.56** The area also includes large areas of agricultural land with field boundaries still intact since at least 1835, of which may have medieval antecedents. Fields are generally screened by high hedgerows and woodland.

**5.57** It also includes listed buildings and historic estates with significant archaeological potential with Medieval antecendents that warrant further study (e.g. High Oakham, Lower Oakham and Broadlands). The field boundaries remain very similar to Sanderson's map. Broadlands is identified as a historic park/garden through

Nottinghamshire County Council's historic landscape characterisation studies. Mansfield cemetery is set within a woodland/parkland setting and is a designated Historic Park and Garden.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Timberland Trail (GI network - 5) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • Cauldwell accessible woodland - Ashfield district<br>• Cauldwell Brook water way and local wildlife site - Ashfield district |

## Strategic GI network 7 - Cauldwell








## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • It is an important recreational gateway and corridor connecting with the Timberland Trail strategic GI corridor (5) and the I-Centre and Oakham Business parks.<br>• Includes accessible woodland linking to the Mansfield cemetery and Timberland Trail strategic GI corridor (5) via a public walking trail across the A60 (Nottingham Road). |
| **Nature conservation** | • Key area of biodiversity importance (wetland, woodland and neutral grassland habitats and protected species).<br>• Historic records and soils lend opportunity to re-create areas of heathland.<br>• Recognised water quality issues that require improvements as recognised in the Mansfield District Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008). |
| **Climate change** | • Includes areas of strategic flood risk importance. In addition, identified as area for flood/wetland improvements (SFRA 2008). |
| **Historical importance** | • Area retains listed buildings, historic field patterns, a Registered Historic Park and Garden, locally registered historic assets and potential archaeological significance. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Area of landscape importance - the overall landscape policy zones action suggested in Landscape Character Assessment is to 'conserve and create'. |

## Policy actions

**5.58** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE and RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect designated sites, priority habitats and the species they support and strengthen ecological linkages to these through management and habitat creation (see below).<br>2. Conserve the wooded landscape.<br>3. Protect and strengthen existing public accessible green spaces and walking and cycling trails. |



| | |
|---|---|
| | 4. Discourage the creation of harsh urban edges adjacent to existing green infrastructure through the use of green space and habitat buffers.<br><br>5. Ensure new development does not compromise risk of flooding, water quality and ecology of Cauldwell Brook and River Maun.<br><br>6. Protect local and statutorily recognised historical assets and their settings. |
| **Create** | 1. Seek opportunities to create new areas of neutral grassland, wetlands, woodland and heathland in areas adjacent to existing and nearby complimentary habitats and designated sites.<br><br>2. Encourage the creation of public access routes from the Timberland Trail at Oakham LNR to accessible woodlands and public rights of way to the south. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Improve trails to support multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) |
| **Restore** | 1. Prioritise the creation of green SuDS along Cauldwell Brook in order to restore the ecology and improve water quality for white-clawed crayfish and water voles.<br><br>2. Address flood risks re: culvert between Cauldwell Brook and River Maun whilst seeking ecological improvements for protected species. |

## 5.8 Mansfield Way (GI Area 8)

### Description

**5.59** This strategic GI network includes the Mansfield Way recreational green corridor with multi-user walking and cycling trails used for recreation and commuting purposes (i.e. to school). It mostly follows a disused railway line linking with the Timberland Trail at Racecourse Park (Strategic GI areas 5 and 10). From Racecourse Park, this GI network continues south-east towards Rainworth and at Third Street links with other trails in Newark and Sherwood District, allowing for further linkages to Sustrans National Cycle Network (Route 6). There are many local gateways from residential and employment areas onto the Mansfield Way, as such the trail provides both recreational and commuting (e.g. to work, shops, leisure centre and school). This includes a green corridor extending along Oak Tree Lane towards the local centre at Oak Tree. Exsiting cycle lanes along the MARR (A617) also link with the Mansfield Way strategic trail.

**5.60** Recreational improvements to this green corridor include: improvements to busy road crossings, sinage and continued access into Newark and Sherwood District, especially across the MARR (A617).

**5.61** This strategic green corridor includes several Local Wildlife Sites representing heathland, rich grasslands and native oak-birch woodland; this includes areas along the Mansfield Way and adjoining Ransom Wood. There is potential (due to soil and location) for creating additional areas of heathland, grassland and woodland habitats.

**5.62** It also includes arable land, north of Rainworth and south of the A617 MARR route, with existing surface water flooding risk and historic Sherwood habitats (e.g. acid grassland/heathland). This area offers potential for restoring ecological linkages within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area, through habitat creation and recreation of heathland and acid grassland and oak-birch woodland. Creating habitat buffers and corridors adjacent to existing designated sites and habitats will likely enhance overall biodiversity of this area.

**5.63** The south side of the A617 contains a heathland and woodland buffer. Continued management of this area is needed to address scrub and tree encroachment on this area of heathland.

**5.64** Some areas along the trail are effected by anti-social behaviour including: dog fouling (which causes nutrient enrichment and habitat degradation), fires and fly-tipping.

**5.65** This area also includes Rainworth Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI), local wildlife site (LWS), Foul Evil Brook and adjacent woodland, creating an ecological hub consisting of woodland and wetland habitats. The area also contains Public Rights of Way that extend from Rainworth Village to the south along the lakes. This

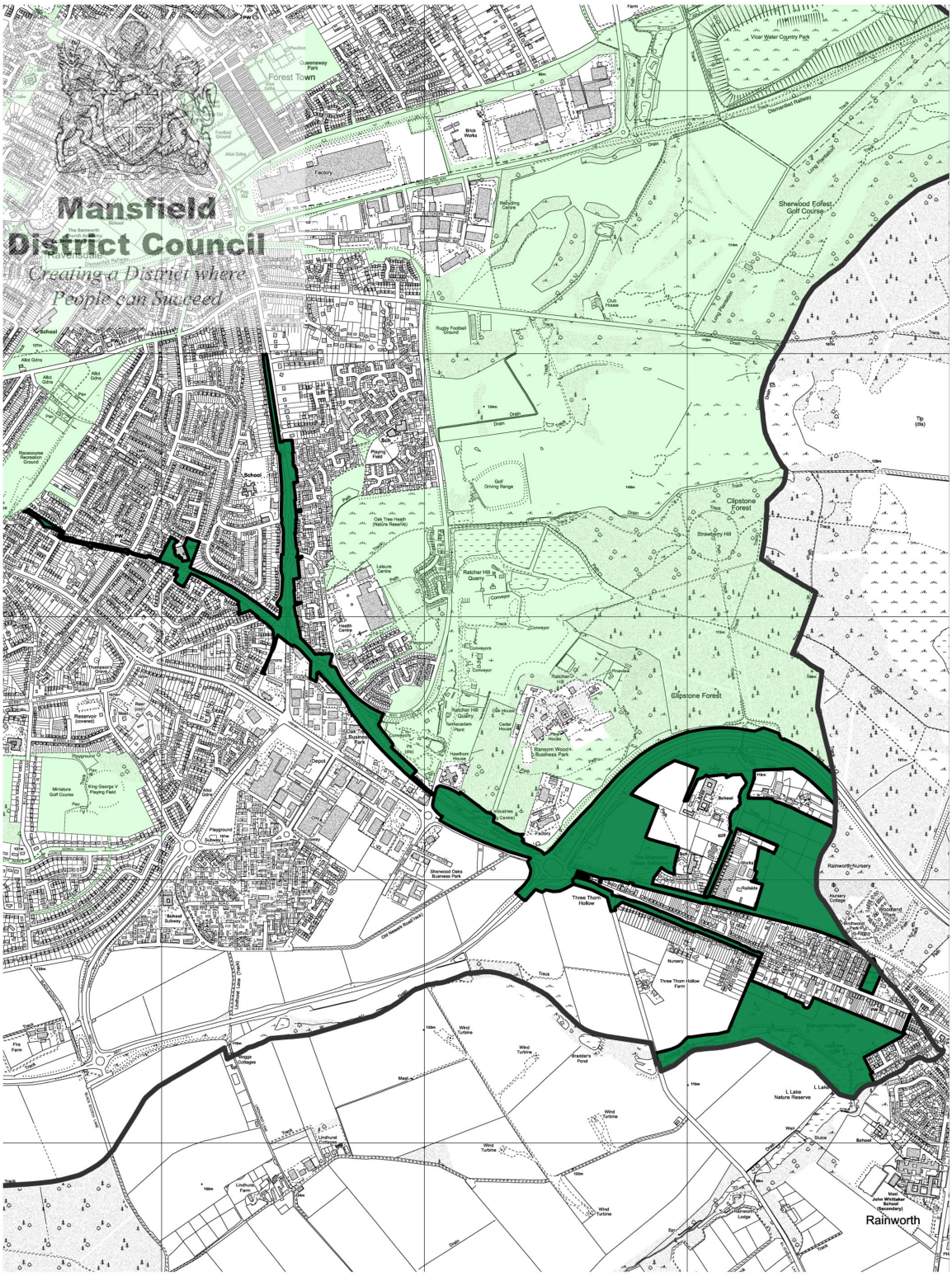


includes a local link adjacent to Rainworth Lakes SSSI from Rainworth Village and the wider countryside. Access is located off Southwell Road East and from Lake Farm Road.

**5.66** Foul Evil Brook runs through this area and has poor water quality issues created by low flow conditions. further opportunity to improve water levels, restoring flows and also improved water quality of Foul Evil Brook and wetland habitats within Rainworth Lakes SSSI. Restoring the natural channel will enhance biodiversity and achieve Water Framework Directive improvements.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Timberland Trail (GI network - 5)<br>• Sherwood (GI network - 6) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • Sherwood forest area - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Rainworth Village - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Sustrans National Cycle Network - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Rainworth L Lakes Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Foul Evil Brook watercourse - Newark and Sherwood district |

## Strategic GI network 8 - Mansfield Way





## Reason for designation

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|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Area of combined recreational and natural importance following an established green corridor joining together green spaces within the urban environment<br>• Multi-user routes used for walking, cycling and commuting along and connecting to the Mansfield Way and MARR (A617)<br>• Opportunities to improve multi-user trail connections, including creating better cycle routes (e.g. Oak Tree Lane). |
| **Nature conservation** | • Includes key areas of biodiversity importance priority habitats (heathland, acid grassland and oak-birch woodland) and nationally and locally designated nature conservation sites.<br>• Acts as an important habitat corridor, linking Mansfield's urban green spaces with Sherwood Forest heathlands and woodlands.<br>• Evidence of habitat deterioration but also recognised opportunities for improving and creating heathland/acid grassland habitats along Mansfield Way and adjoining urban parks.<br>• Foul Evil Brook and Rainworth (L-Lakes) SSSI and adjacent habitats and recognised enhancement needs. |
| **Climate change** | • Important access route for non-car (sustainable) travel to employment areas such as Ransom Wood and Sherwood Oaks business parks, schools and other publicly accessible green spaces.<br>• Wildlife corridor enabling movement and adaptation to climate change.<br>• Recgonised areas of surface water flood risk along the Mansfield Way which may be mitigated by existing green spaces. |
| **Historical importance** | • Restored mineral railway line, now a recreational green corridor. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Connects areas of natural green space within easy access of urban areas.<br>• Area of landscape importance - overall landscape policy zones (LPZ) actions suggested in Landscape Character Assessment is to 'Restore and Create' and 'Conserve and Create' which cover a much larger area. |

## Policy actions

**5.67** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE and RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect the existing recreational green corridor along and connections to the Mansfield Way.<br><br>2. Protect the ecological network of priority habitats and designated sites within this strategi Gi network (Sherwood and Rainworth Lakes areas).<br><br>3. Protect and maintain (and create where appropriate) pedestrian and cycle access linkages from housing and employment areas to the Mansfield Way and adjoining publicly accessible green spaces.<br><br>4. Ensure impacts from development on Nightjar and Woodlark populations and their habitats are avoided and/or mitigated. |
| **Create** | 1. Seek opportunities to create new areas of heathland, acid grassland, oak-birch woodland and wetlands within urban green spaces and new developments adjacent to this green corridor. Also see Strategic GI Areas 5 and 6.<br><br>2. Connect the Mansfield Way walking and cycling corridor in Rainworth to trails connecting Bilsthorpe disused railway lines/public rights of way and the National Cycle Network in adjoining Newark and Sherwood District. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Improve multi-user access along the Mansfield Way, by ensuring all pedestrian/cycle access are marked and safe (including installing signage & road crossings). Key areas to focus on include: a) providing safe crossing at the Roundabout on the A617 (MARR) at A6191/B6020 (Southwell Rd West to Southwell Rd East); and b) continuing the Mansfield Way at Rainworth Village along the disused railway connecting with Kirklington Road at 3rd Avenue (this would enable the Mansfield Way to continue off-road and better connect with Public Rights of Way (PROW) leading to the Southwell Trail/Blidworth Way. |
| **Restore** | 1. Appropriately manage and improve heathland/acid grassland and woodland habitats along this green corridor, especially managing dog fouling and re-creating heathland and acid grassland habitats that have been lost to improved/amenity grassland and scrub encroachment. |



| | |
|---|---|
| | 2. Manage anti-social behaviour in order to improve the image of the area, perceived safety issues, and deterioration of natural and semi-natural habitats due to dog fouling.<br><br>3. Restore water quality of Foul Evil Brook. |

## 5.9 Berry Hill (GI Area 9)

### Description

**5.68** This strategic green infrastructure network combines formal parks (Berry Hill, King George V, and Kings Walk) with smaller areas of woodland and amenity spaces to the south and north of Berry Hill Park. It allows for residents to connect to the Timberland Trail (5) and the Mansfield Way (8) long distance trails via local green space networks, multi-user trails and areas of accessible urban woodland. There is a good network of cycle routes extending from Berry Hill Park through the Berry Hill quarry development.

**5.69** It offers access to accessible woodland and natural green space within the urban area at Berry Hill and King George V parks and woodland south of The Avenue and east of Litchfield Lane. Tree lined roads along The Avenue and North Park provide visual amenity, ecological linkages with nearby woodland and define the character of the area. Local multi-user routes are located south of Berry Hill and King George V parks. By connecting with these parks, these routes provide local connections northwards to Kingswalk open space and then onto the Timberland and Mansfield Way strategic trails via further wooded trails.

**5.70** This strategic GI area contains three local wildlife sites (LWS) with woodland, acid grassland and heathland habitats. These are in need of quality improvements through improved and sensitive management. The cliff-top areas surrounding the Berry Hill quarry development also support important wildlife. A network of urban woodland extends from a small area near The Avenues, then continues north to Berry Hill Park, to the cliff tops surrounding the former quarry, and then to the woodlands along the Timberland Trail. Given its good connectivity, It may act as an important wildlife corridor within this area of the district.

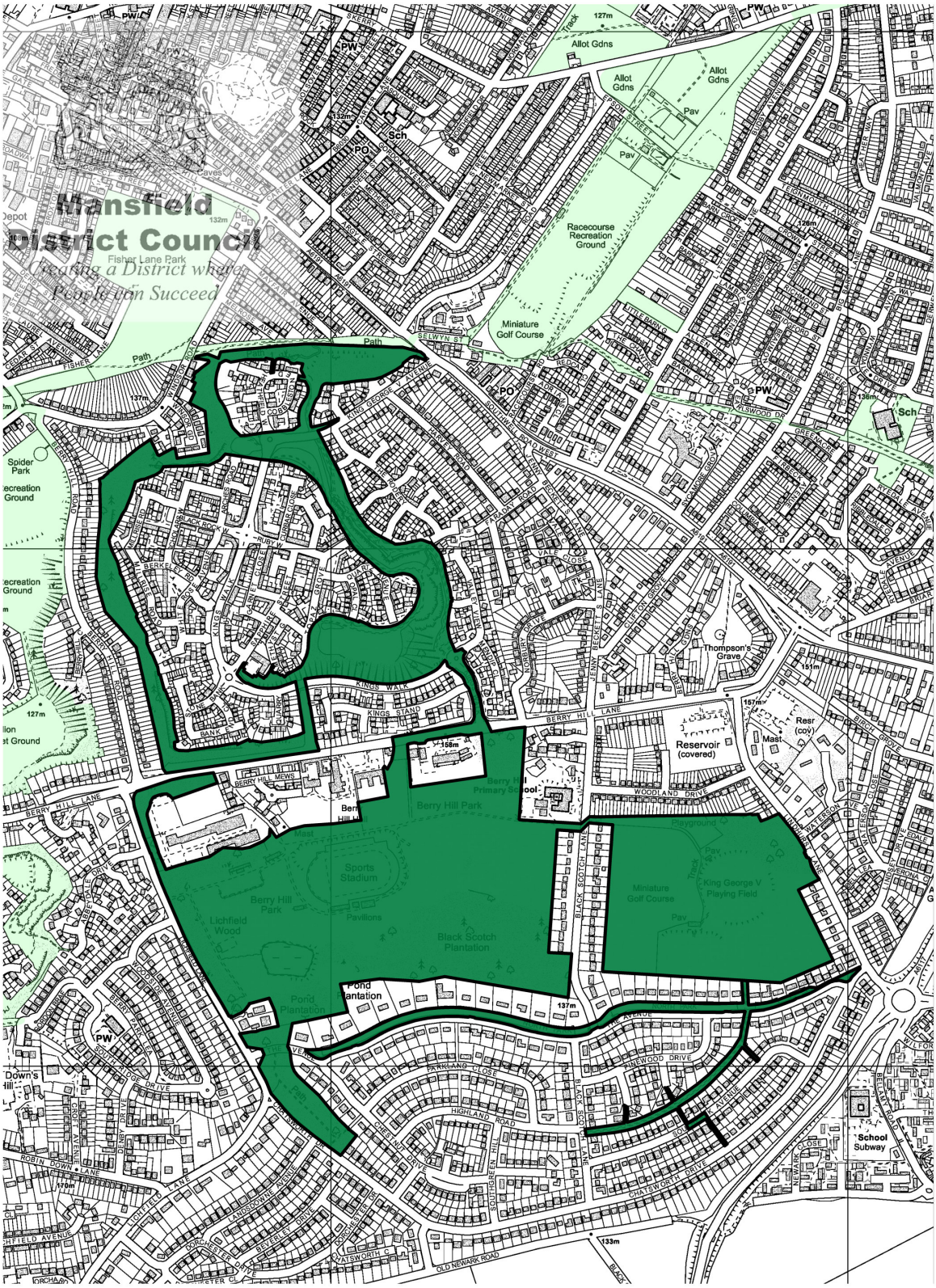
**5.71** Whilst serving as a local park and wildlife site, Berry Hill is also a historic park, former estate and military hospital.

**5.72** There are surface water flooding concerns throughout this area in which urban green spaces may play a key role in mitigating more adverse impacts.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Timberland Trail (GI network - 5)<br>• Mansfield Way (GI network - 8) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • None |



## Strategic GI network 9 - Berry Hill



## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Network of accessible woodlands and open space.<br>• Important multi-user trail connections to the Timberland Trail to the north through open spaces. |
| **Nature conservation** | • Serves as a good wildlife resource including rare heathland and acid grassland habitats and a woodland corridor, connecting to other strategic GI networks in the district.<br>• There is an opportunity for better management and further creation of heathland and acid grassland within Berry Hill and King George V parks, such that ecological networks are strengthened and quality improved. |
| **Climate change** | • Urban green spaces may help mitigate flood risk, improve urban cooling and allow for wildlife movement. |
| **Historical importance** | • Berry Hill Park is a historic Victorian park and former estate. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • The collection of urban green spaces, urban tree-lined roads and pathways and woodland add to the character and feeling of naturalness within the Berry Hill area. |

## Policy actions

**5.73** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE and RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect the network of recreational green and open spaces and multi-user access throughout.<br>2. Conserve and strengthen Local Wildlife Sites and UK and priority habitats (woodland, heathland and acid grassland). |
| **Create** | 1. Create and re-create new areas of woodland, heathland and acid grassland to link with existing areas. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Improve the flood resilience within and around green spaces through appropriate sustainable drainage systems. |
| **Restore** | 1. Improve the quality of existing Local Wildlife Sites through appropriate management. |



## 5.10 Vicar Water (GI Area 10)

### Description

**5.74** This strategic green corridor extends along a former mineral railway line south of Samworth Academy (access from Abbey Road/Abbey Court in Ravensdale) to Vicar Water Country Park (the western section within the Mansfield district boundary). It combines:

- Queensway and Kingsway parks and connecting trails
- the Timberland strategic trail and public rights of way and local multi-user routes
- cycle routes along Crown Farm Way and Newlands Road and from Racecourse Park
- larger areas of natural green space at the restored Mansfield Colliery and Vicar Water Country Park
- other smaller amenity green spaces and
- private fishing ponds west of Vicar Water Country Park.

**5.75** It offers wider connections to the Timberland Trail (strategic GI area 5), the National Cycle Network (Sustrans Route 6), Old Clipstone/ King John's Palace, and Sherwood Pines. The eastern half of Vicar Water Country Park is within Newark and Sherwood District and the whole of the site is managed by Newark and Sherwood District Council.

**5.76** There are sections along this green corridor that require access improvements. These include:

- Additional access points and improved trail surfacing along the former mineral railway line south of Samworth Academy
- Improved trail surfacing, crossings and sinage along Crown Farm Way and Newlands Road
- Additional access points and improved trail access to a section of former mineral railway between the Violet Hill roundabout and former mineral railway line south of Samworth Academy
- Improved trail surfacing allowing for safer and better quality access through the restored Mansfield colliery
- Improved safety, maintenance and trail surfacing for a section of amenity space linking Crown Farm industrial estate to the restored Mansfield colliery

- Improved access around and function of the amenity space north of Kilton Avenue and
- creating multi-user trails through former allotments between Sandy lane and Sherwood Close, along a former mineral railway line - this will improve linkages from the Maun Valley Trail (GI network 12) and for residents living to access the Timberland Trail.

**5.77** Overall, safer road crossings and sinage are needed to improve the quality, place shaping and usability the Timberland Trail and adjoining recreational linkages. There are some areas that suffer from anti-social behaviour (e.g. fire and fly-tipping) that need addressing.

**5.78** The ponds south of Newlands Farm are connected to the water/wetlands of Vicar Water Country Park and identified in the Mansfield Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2008 report as a priority area for improving low flows and water quality. There are ground and surface water flooding issues associated with the area surrounding the former Mansfield Colliery and the Mansfield Family Golf Course.

**5.79** Enhancements to the former Mansfield Colliery are needed to improve this area as a recreational resource including:

- landscape screening of Crown Farm Industrial Estate
- management of ground water flooding near Mansfield Family Golf Course
- improving the area for biodiversity through heathland, woodland and acid grassland creation.

**5.80** Some enhancements have been made but enhancements are needed to improve its place shaping, recreation and wildlife value.

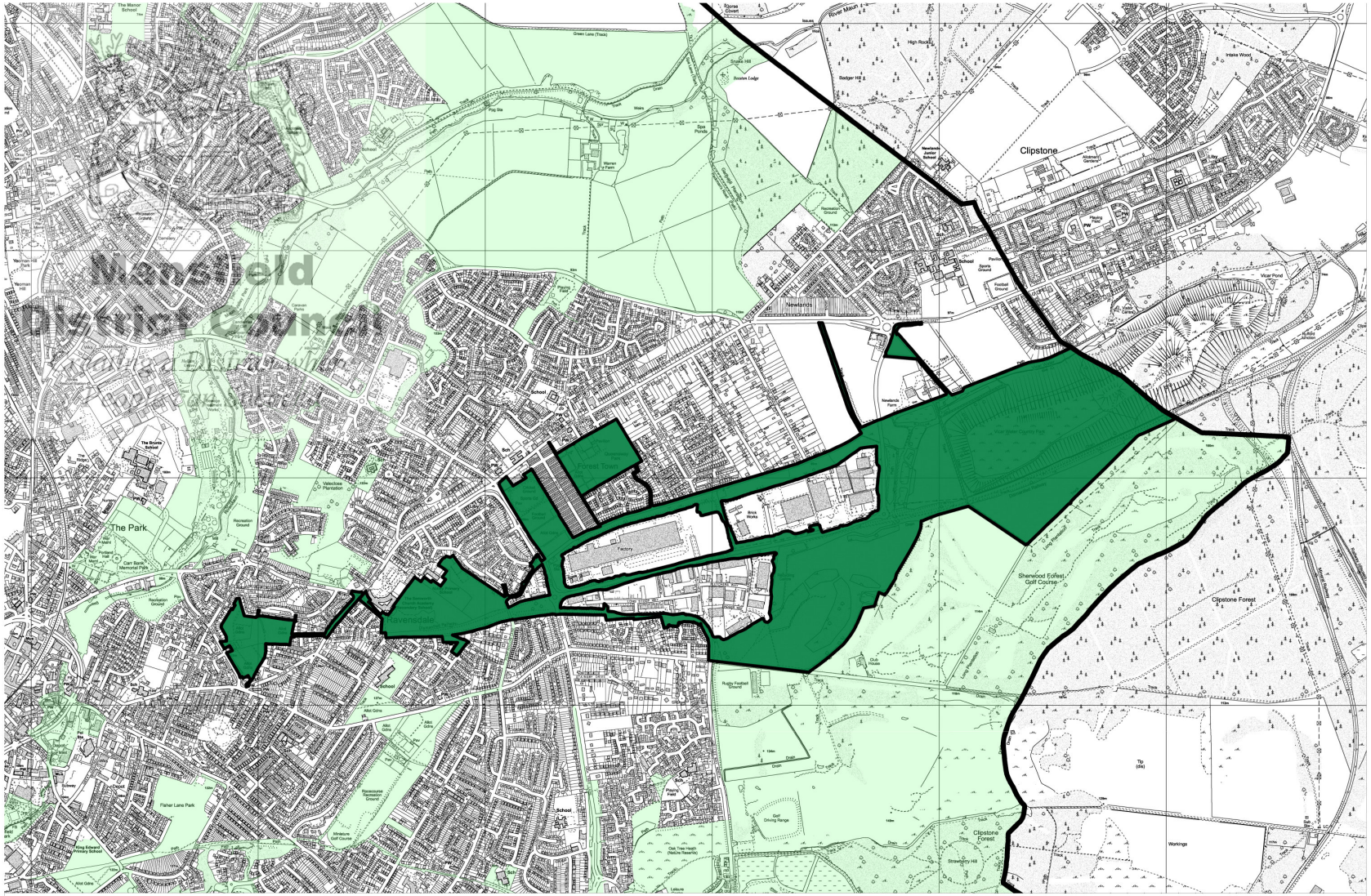
**5.81** This strategic GI area includes three large Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), in and around Vicar Water Country Park, that also link to other LWSs outside the district. It also borders Sherwood Forest Golf Course SSSI, designated for its heathland habitats. This strategic GI area has important habitat connections to the Sherwood Forest and its heathland (strategic GI area 6).

**5.82** Both Vicar Water Country Park and the restored Mansfield colliery represent Mansfield's mining heritage.

| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | Timberland Trail (GI network - 5)<br>Sherwood (GI network - 6)<br>Clipstone to Warsop (GI network - 10)<br>Maun Valley (GI network - 12) |
|---|---|

| Cross boundary connections | |
|---|---|
| | • Sustrans National Cycle Network - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Vicar Water Country Park - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Sherwood habitats - Newark and Sherwood district |

## Strategic GI network 10 - Vicar Water





## Reason for designation

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|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Extension of the Timberland Trail and Maun Valley green corridors (GI areas 5 and 12) linking with wider strategic walking/cycling routes such as the National Cycle Network and Mansfield Way. Includes large areas of publicly accessible green space, including Vicar Water country park.<br>• Opportunity area for improving existing recreational linkages within key areas (see description above), extending multi-user access to Timberland Trails and other existing walking and cycling trails. |
| **Nature conservation** | • Includes key areas of biodiversity importance (heathland and acid grassland) and designated sites.<br>• Strong links to the Sherwood Forest woodlands and heathlands with further opportunities to strengthen ecological networks. |
| **Climate change** | • This is an opportunity area for addressing flooding issues (surface and river) and water quality as identified in the Mansfield District Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA 2008). There is a need to improve water quality and low flows around Vicar Water Country Park.<br>• Is a local resource for non-car travel and also a wildlife corridor. |
| **Historical importance** | • Restored mining heritage including interpretation signs and displays at Vicar Water Country Park. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Overall Landscape Character landscape policy zone (LPZ) action is 'restore and create'.<br>• Important views and vistas from Vicar Water Country Park of surrounding area. Vicar Water is also a prominent landmark. |

## Policy actions

**5.83** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE and RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect priority habitats and designated sites. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | 2. Protect and maintain recreational links along and to Vicar Water Country Park, Timberland Trail and former Mansfield Colliery.<br><br>3. Screen existing and new development through appropriate landscaping, considering views from the Timberland Trail, restored Mansfield Colliery, Vicar Water Country Park and other view points. |
| **Create** | 1. Seek opportunities to strengthen existing ecological networks including: heathland, acid grassland, wetland and oak-birch woodland through additional habitat creation. Prioritise habitat creation/recreation adjacent to existing priority habitats, designated sites (e.g. Local Wildlife Sites & SSSIs), & former mineral sites/railway lines.<br><br>2. Improve access to and along the Timberland Trail as detailed in the area description above. Also, improve safe crossings and way markings. |
| **Enhance** | No specific actions identified at present. |
| **Restore** | 1. Prioritise improvements as detailed in the Mansfield district Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA 2008) regarding areas of low flows and water quality.<br><br>2. Improve recreational, landscape and biodiversity quality of former Mansfield Colliery (on-site and surrounding areas). Prioritise heathland/acid grassland and woodland creation, designed with wider landscape-scale habitat linkages in mind (also see strategic GI area 6).<br><br>3. Manage anti-social behaviour in order to improve the image of the area, perceived safety issues, and deterioration of natural and semi-natural habitats due to dog fouling. |



## 5.11 Clipstone to Warsop (GI Area 11)

### Description

**5.84** This green corridor follows the long-distance trail from Clipstone to Warsop. It extends along a public rights of way from Clipstone Drive (Newlands) to Coach Road (Market Warsop), connecting areas of oak-birch woodland with areas of plantation woodland. Additional public rights of way (PRoW) link into this green corridor at Warren Farm, Peafield Farm and other areas leading to Spion Kop, Market Warsop and areas of the Sherwood Forest. This includes Packman's Road which is a bridleway (PRoW) and historic trail. The trail connects to the Clipstone to Warsop long distance trail via busy Peafield and PRoW bridle way to the south of Peafield New Plantation.

**5.85** This strategic trail also crosses the Maun Valley Green Corridor/strategic trail (strategic GI network12) at Spa Ponds. Spa ponds falls within flood zones 2 and 3 along the River Maun. Spa ponds is identified as an area at risk of surface water flooding.

**5.86** Oak birch woodlands and hedgerows connecting with surrounding plantation woodlands and natural/semi-natural woodland extending from Garibaldi Plantation to Peafield New Plantation (south of Peafield Road).

**5.87** Historical areas of importance include: Medieval fishing ponds at Spa Ponds, Duke of Portland water meadows (north of Spa Ponds) and Parliament Oak (meeting place in which the foundations of the Magna Carta were laid). There are also historic packmans' trails leading to Spa Ponds and Westfield House Farm. This area also provides a historical setting and also context to the wider Sherwood Forest. It holds potential archaeological significance (e.g. Medieval origins as per consultation with Nottinghamshire County Council Archaeology) and includes a scheduled ancient monument at Beeston Lodge. Improved understanding of (and interpretation of) the area's archaeological significance is needed to protect and enhance this area's heritage value.

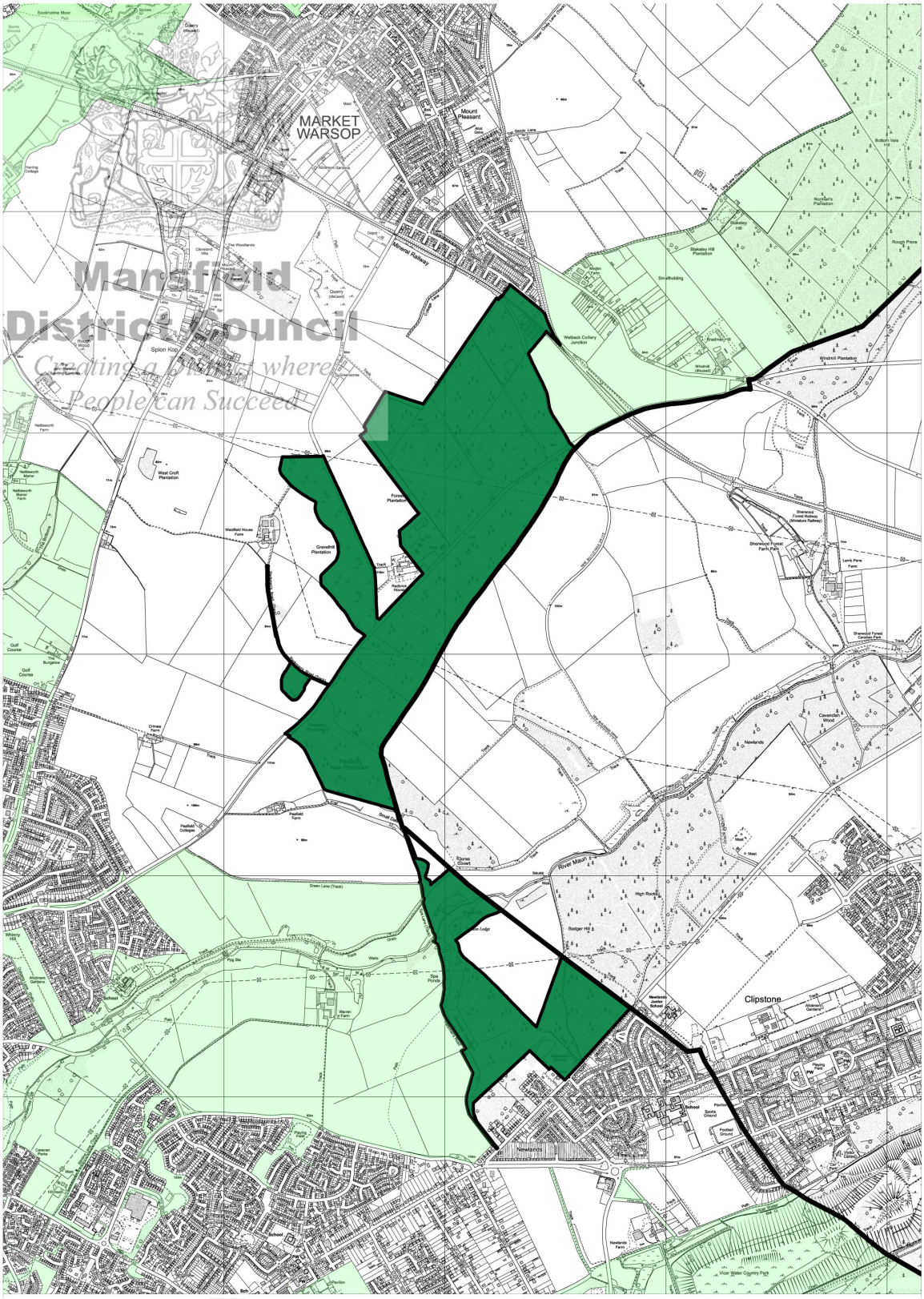
**5.88** Nearby local wildlife sites (LWS) include an area of heathland (railway siding near Market Warsop) and Spa Ponds wetlands. Amongst larger areas of arable land and conifer plantations, pockets of natural/semi-natural oak birch woodland can be found along this green corridor, giving one a sense of being in the Sherwood Forest area (thus offering a strong sense of place). Large areas of private plantation woodland also add to this sense of place, of which there are very few large areas of woodland in Forest Town remaining. This area may support important ground nesting birds, Nightjar and Woodlark.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Timberland Trail (GI network - 5)<br>• Sherwood (GI network - 6) |

| | |
|---|---|
| | • Vicar Water (GI network - 10)<br>• Maun Valley (GI network - 12) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • trails along the River Maun- Newark and Sherwood district<br>• River Maun corridor and its habitats - Newark and Sherwood district<br>• Sherwood habitats - Newark and Sherwood district |



## Strategic GI network 11 - Clipstone to Warsop



## Reason for designation

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|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Established long-distant green corridor.<br>• Other Public Rights of Way connect to this green corridor, offering wider access to open countryside and nearby settlements/neighbourhoods (and vice versa). |
| **Nature conservation** | • Includes key areas of priority habitats (e.g. wetland, oak-birch woodland and other mixed woodland) and species.<br>• Potential opportunity area for creating and re-creating additional priority habitats (namely wet woodland, oak-birch woodland and heathland) within a wider landscape-scale conservation approach. |
| **Climate change** | • Woodlands, and surrounding green spaces, may play an important role in mitigating climate change. |
| **Historical importance** | • Key features of historical importance include: Spa Ponds, oak-birch woodland, Parliament Oak, historic Packman trails and the Duke of Portland water meadows.<br>• Beeston Lodge is a scheduled ancient monument. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • The remaining natural and semi-natural woodland are essential for conserving the character of the Sherwood Forest. The larger scale blocks of woodland plantation (Newlands and Peafield) reflect the historic tree coverage shown on the Sanderson Plan of 1835.<br>• Area of landscape importance (overall action within the Landscape Policy Zones is to 'conserve and reinforce' and 'restore and create'). |

## Policy actions

**5.89** The overall policy direction is to**:** CONSERVE, CREATE and ENHANCE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect public access along and to designated public rights of way within this green corridor, including trail links to urban settlements, Maun Valley trail and Thynghowe trails.<br>2. Minimise impacts on Nightjar and Woodlark habitat, balancing and managing recreational pressures.<br>3. Protect historical assets (including oak-birch woodland) and promote their importance. |



| | |
|---|---|
| | 4. Protect the woodland setting and expand woodland creation, where possible.<br><br>5. Protect Local Wildlife Sites and priority habitats (namely wet woodland, oak-birch woodland and heathland).<br><br>6. Ensure impacts from development on Nightjar and Woodlark populations and their habitats are avoided and/or mitigated. |
| **Create** | 1. Seek opportunities to improve biodiversity linkages through the creation of appropriate habitats (wetland, heathland and woodland) nearby existing habitat areas.<br><br>2. Encourage the creation of additional recreational linkages to this green corridor, appropriate, whilst managing impacts on Nightjar and Woodlark habitat. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Enhance the quality of the trails and entrances onto this area, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming. |
| **Restore** | No specific actions identified at present. |

## 5.12 Maun Valley (GI Area 12)

### Description

**5.90** This strategic green infrastructure network follows the River Maun from the former Metal Box site to Spa Ponds/Garibaldi Plantation in Mansfield Woodhouse. It combines urban parks, networks of multi-user trails, local nature reserves (LNRs) and local wildlife sites (LWS), the river corridor, woodlands and countryside. Urban green spaces include:

- Carr Bank Park
- Rainer's Field Recreation Ground (Sandy Lane)
- Barringer Road Recreation Ground
- Peafield Park and Whinney Hill Woods
- Rushpool open space
- open spaces within Sandlands development
- Larkhills open space and
- local nature reserves (Maun Valley and Ravensdale LNRs).

**5.91** In addition to the River Maun corridor, areas of adjacent open countryside (arable and pasture land) are also included and extend from Old Mill Lane eastwards towards Spa Ponds and southwards to New Mill Lane. These open areas of countryside provide important visual amenity creating a general open view and rural character on the edges of (and between) Mansfield Woodhouse and Forest Town. The river corridor also provides areas of tranquility within built up areas.

**5.92** These areas provide good access to the countryside, through a network of public rights of way (walking) and multi-user trails (walking and cycling). The main trail is the Maun Valley Trail, acts as a spine along this strategic GI network following the River Maun and connecting together areas of accessible green space. This is a long distance (strategic) trail connecting the Timberland Trail (strategic GI network 5) with trails within Newark and Sherwood leading to the Sherwood Forest. Together the Maun Valley Trail, Maun Valley LNR, Ravensdale LNR and adjoining green spaces provide a recreational hub for residents to access. Tree-lined Leeming Lane North (A60) connect with Outgang Lane leading to the Maun Valley Trail.

**5.93** There is generally good access to this green corridor from adjacent residential areas. Important gateways onto the network include, for example:

- Carr Bank Park



- Rainer's Field
- Barringer Road recreation space
- Lark Hills open space
- Peafield Park
- Outgang Lane
- Ravensdale LNR
- Stinting Lane and Sandlands open spaces and
- various amenity open space connecting with the Maun Valley LNR.

**5.94** Additionally, safe pedestrian and cycle access improvements are needed from the Forest Town side, especially across busy roads: Old Mill Lane and New Mill Lane. In particular, access along Old Mill Lane is unsafe for cyclists and pedestrians where is bends sharply. This area would benefit from a new connecting green infrastructure corridor including multi-user walking and cycling access between New Mill Lane and Leeming Lane South. There are also no public access points to Ravesdale LNR for residents living to the east and south of this green space, thus blocking access through to the Maun Valley green corridor. As such, additional access points and green routes are needed to improve access to this strategic GI area.

**5.95** This strategic GI network also includes the trails and hedgerows along Stinting Lane which is a public rights of way (PRoW). Stinting Lane links with open space within the Sandlands residential area to the southeast at Sanderling Way and Eagle Way. It also provides walking route connections with pathways across Old Mill Lane, leading to the Ravensdale LNR, Maun Valley LNR and Barringer Road open space. This area also includes open pasture land, providing amenity along Stinting Lane. The Landscape Character Assessment (2010) and its Addendum (2015) identifies actions such as creating new areas of woodland and heathland.

**5.96** This strategic GI network is rich in biodiversity. This is reflected in the designation of two Local Nature Reserves (LNR) and five Local Wildlife Sites. It is also an area of historical importance including one Conservation Area (The Park), historic mills and areas of archaeological significance (historic Duke of Portland water meadows and Hallam's Grave). Areas of urban woodland, woodland scrub and heathland connect between landscaped areas surrounding Sandlands development and adjoining retail area, ASDA superstore, and Rushpool open space. This provides an ecological network within the urban area.

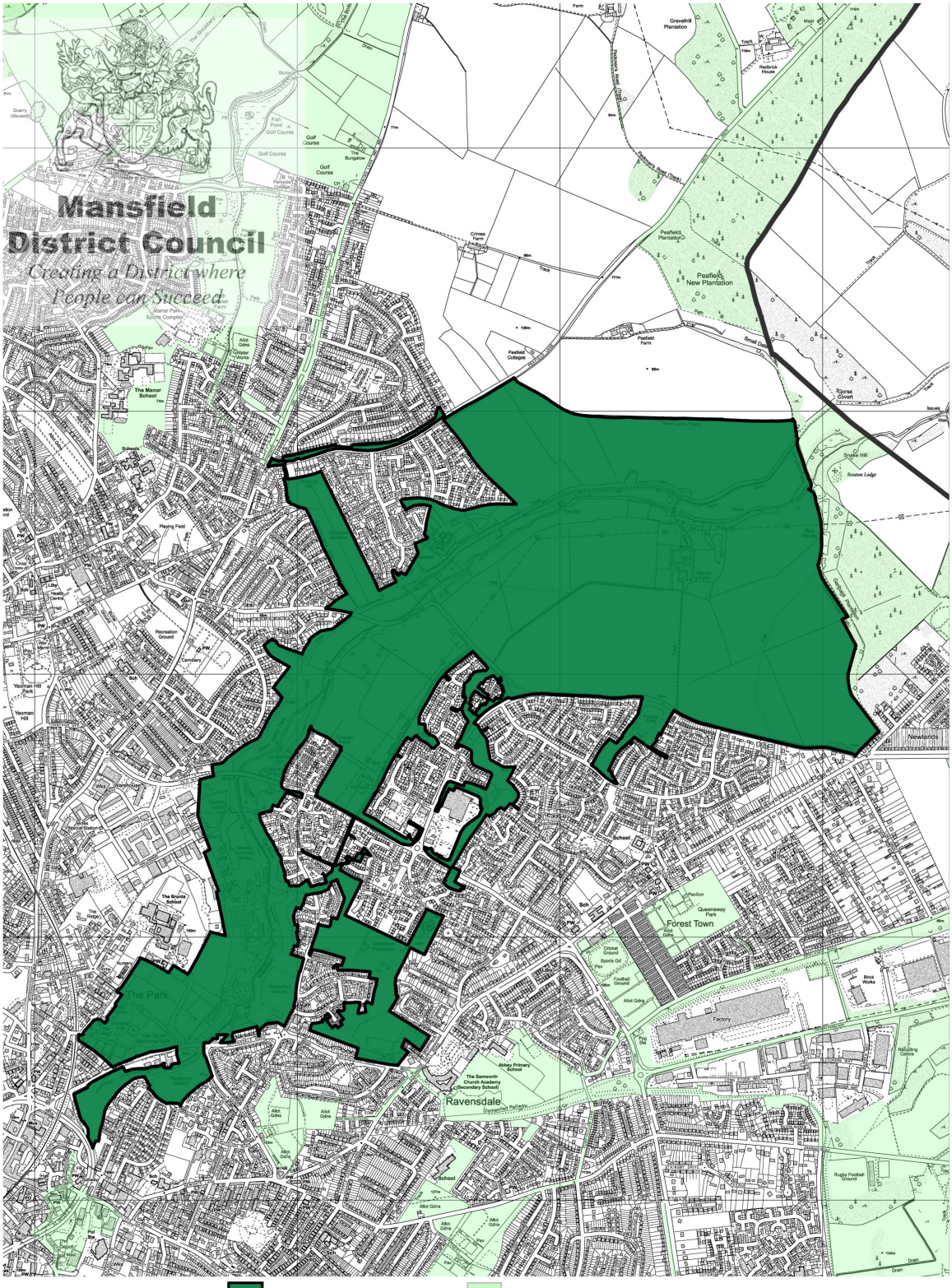
**5.97** This strategic GI area incorporates Flood Zones 2 and 3, including a sewage works. It includes the area between the former Metal Box site, Rainer's Field, Carr Bank Park and Old Mill Lane - a key priority area for the mitigating flood risk,

renaturalising areas of the river where it disappears underground through culverts and through the creation of green sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to improve habitat linkages for wildlife. These enhancements are identified in the Mansfield District Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and its Addendum 2018.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Woodhouse (GI network - 3)<br>• Timberland Trail (GI network - 5)<br>• Clipstone to Warsop (GI network - 11) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • trails along the River Maun- Newark and Sherwood district<br>• River Maun corridor and its habitats - Newark and Sherwood district |



## Strategic GI network 12 - Maun Valley



## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Continuous area of publicly accessible recreational green space and other green space with high visual amenity value.<br>• GI network acts as a 'green lung' and recreational hub bringing the countryside and access to nature into the urban area.<br>• multiple trails and access points link into this recreational hub/corridor.<br>• multiple networks of walking and cycling routes, linking to the wider countryside.<br>• Links with trails outside the district leading to the Sherwood Forest. |
| **Nature conservation** | • Key area of biodiversity importance (esp. wetlands and oak-birch woodlands), of which are designated Local Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves.<br>• Area offers further potential for creating and recreating additional woodland and heathland habitats.<br>• Opportunity to improve habitats connections along the River Maun through creation of green SuDS and re-naturalising sections that are heavily modified. |
| **Climate change** | • Identified as important area for minimising flooding and also opportunities for flood/wetland improvements. |
| **Historical importance** | • Includes The Park conservation area and sites of local historic and archaeological significance, including historic mills, and Duke of Portland water meadows. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Area of landscape importance (overall landscape policy zone (LPZ) is to 'conserve and reinforce' and 'restore and create'). |

## Policy actions

**5.98** The overall policy direction is to: CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE and RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect designated sites, priority habitats, areas of open space providing gateways onto the GI network, trails, hedgerows, historic assets and their settings, and urban woodland/trees.<br>2. Protect the network of trails throughout this strategi GI network. |



| | |
|---|---|
| | 3. Protect access points linking to the Maun Valley Trail (e.g. adjacent open spaces).<br><br>4. Conserve open views and amenity along walking and cycling trails.<br><br>5. Protect the historic setting and green spaces within The Park conservation area (also see the relevant Conservation Management Plan), e.g. Carr Bank Park and adjacent fields. |
| **Create** | 1. Create safe cycle and walking routes between Ravensdale Road through to New Mill Lane along the Maun Valley river and recreational corridor.<br><br>2. Ensure that new development creates and integrates local green infrastructure corridors and access points, as part of its design, linking to the existing recreational network.<br><br>3. Create access points and green routes to the Ravensdale LNR for residential areas to the east and south of the LNR. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Improve path surfaces and the design of trails through the Maun Valley LNR, as they are prone to flooding and erosion.<br><br>2. Enhance all trails such that the support multi-user access and provide safe crossing across busy roads for pedestrians and cyclists.<br><br>3. Effectively manage, expand and improve the extent and condition of priority habitats esp. neutral grassland, wetlands and oak-birch woodlands. Create new habitat areas to buffer and link to designated sites and priority habitats.<br><br>4. Ensure that new development maintains a balance of wooded enclosure and openness within and adjacent to the River Maun corridor.<br><br>5. Enhance the ecology of the River Maun and improve flood resilience by re-naturalising modified sections and creating green SuDS south of Carr Bank Park and along the River Maun LNR, as identified in the Mansfield SFRA 2008. |
| **Restore** | 1. Improve water quality, river morphology (e.g. restoring culverts, weirs & river channel to a more natural state), wetland ecology and habitat connectivity (e.g. to allow movement of wildlife) along the River Maun corridor. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | 2. Restore historic Duke of Portland water meadows near to Spa Ponds.<br><br>3. Improve the management of habitats that have become nutrient enriched and non-native species removal, especially within the Maun Valley LNR. |



## 5.13 Warsop Vale (GI Area 13)

### Description

**5.99** This strategic GI network includes a combination of publicly accessible green space, recreational trails, the restored Warsop colliery and ancient woodland in and around Warsop Vale. Areas of agricultural and pasture land are also integral to the landscape where they add to the visual amenity along public rights of way, capture areas of surface water flood risk, and/or preserve historic field patterns. It also area includes cross-border linkages with areas in Bassetlaw (ancient woodland and public rights of way), and Shirebrook in Bolsover District (a green corridor leading to the Shirebrook railway station, public rights of way, Archaeological Way trail and woodlands).

**5.100** The former pit tip has been restored to neutral and calcareous grassland and woodland areas but more work is needed to further improve the quality of these habitats and place shaping value. Desired biodiversity improvements include:

- creating additional areas of woodland adjacent to existing ancient woodland and
- creating additional areas of calcareous and neutral grassland between Warsop Vale and Shirebrook and near the Hills and Holes special site of scientific interest (SSSI).

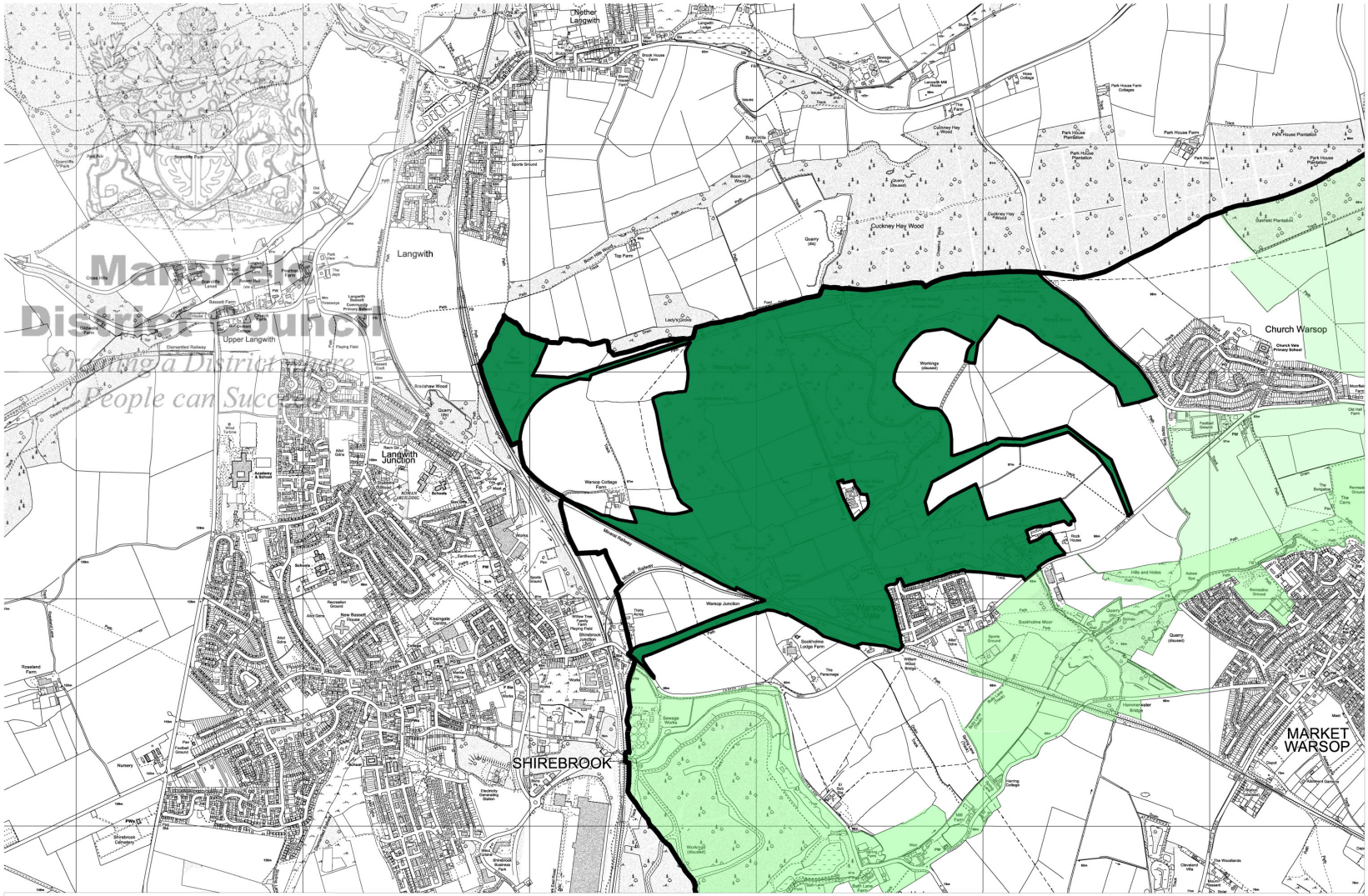
**5.101** There are public rights of way (PRoW) and cycle trails joining with Shirebrook train station, Church Warsop and Market Warsop, and publicly accessible woodland and open countryside. These are part of the Dukeries trail network. They also provide further linkages to the National Cycle Network (Sustrans Route 6) east of Meden Vale.

**5.102** This strategic GI network includes four designated ancient woodland sites, 10 designated Local Wildlife Sites and the Rhein-o-Thorns section of the Hills and Holes SSSI (also see strategic GI network 4). This area has the highest density of ancient woodland in the district.

**5.103** Its historic importance is reflected in its mining heritage, connection to the Dukeries estates and a high concentration of ancient woodland.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Adjoining strategic GI networks** | • Warsop and Meden Vale (GI network 1)<br>• Meden Valley (GI network - 4) |
| **Cross boundary connections** | • trails along the River Maun- Bolsover district (Shirebrook station and Archaeological Way) and Bassetlaw district (various public rights of way)<br>• ancient woodland - Bassetlaw district |

## Strategic GI network 13 - Warsop Vale




**Legend** GI Area 13 Green Infrastructure



## Reason for designation

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recreation** | • Due to its relatively isolated location, this area provides important local access to public transport (Shirebrook train station), non-car commuting links to the National Cycle Network, and the settlements of Church Warsop and Market Warsop. This is also part of the Dukeries trail network.<br>• The restored colliery provides a large area of publicly accessible green space and access to open countryside and accessible woodland for local residents. |
| **Nature conservation** | • It is an important biodiversity reservoir with ancient woodland and restored habitats (neutral grassland, calcareous grassland and woodland).<br>• There is a further need for habitat creation and management in and around Warsop Vale. |
| **Climate change** | • Important resources for sustainable (non-car) transport.<br>• Green spaces in and around Warsop Vale are likely to mitigate the effects from surface water flooding. |
| **Historical importance** | • Industrial mining heritage at Warsop Vale and the colliery.<br>• It is part of the Dukeries heritage and recreational area.<br>• Large concentration of ancient woodland. |
| **Visual and landscape character** | • Area of unique landscape/visual importance (overall action suggested in Mansfield Landscape Character Assessment is to conserve and reinforce). |

## Policy actions

**5.104** The overall policy direction is to**:** CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE and RESTORE.

**Recommended actions**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Conserve** | 1. Protect areas of existing publicly accessible green space, cycling/walking routes to Shirebrook train station and other routes to Church Warsop and Market Warsop and the National Cycle Network) whilst improving the quality of these areas.<br>2. Protect ancient woodland and priority habitats and expand the extend of these habitats where possible. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | 3. protect designated sites and the habitats connecting to these (ecological network)<br><br>4. Protect the natural/green setting of Warsop Vale.<br><br>5. Minimise negative recreational impact on key biodiversity areas, especially ancient woodland and SSSI. |
| **Create** | 1. Create areas of new habitat in order to improve the quality and connectivity with existing habitats (e.g. neutral grassland, calcareous grassland and woodlands), principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. |
| **Enhance** | 1. Improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance connections to and along the Dukeries trail and adjoining walking and cycle trails. Enhance this area as a recreational resource for local residents.<br><br>2. Improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |
| **Restore** | 1. Restore natural and semi-natural grasslands and woodlands into favourable conservation management between Warsop Vale and Shirebrook station greenway (area surrounding Warsop Junction disused railway line and Parson's wood).<br><br>2. Improve the place shaping quality of the green spaces in and around Warsop Vale.<br><br>3. Improve the management of existing habitats. |



## 5.14 Lindhurst

**5.105** Lindhurst is an area to the south of Mansfield where planning permission for a large urban extension has been granted. This includes 1,700 dwellings, 23 hectares of employment land and other commercial development.

**5.106** Plans for this area include also green infrastructure corridors, a new country park (in Newark and Sherwood district) and various urban green spaces.

**5.107** The area is adjacent to Harlow Wood, a Forestry Commission managed ancient woodland which supports Nightjar. Design and management measures are scheduled to be put in place in order to minimise disturbance of this European important bird species and its habitat. Lindhurst also borders the Rainworth Lakes SSSI, of which the Mansfield Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) has identified needs to improve the flow and water quality of these wetlands.

**5.108** This area is not a formally identified strategic green infrastructure area but it is recognised that there are planned networks of green infrastructure here that covers a large area. It is likely to form part of the district's strategic green infrastructure in the future.

## 6 Conclusion and future delivery

**6.1** This paper gives an overall context to the identification of the 13 different strategic green infrastructure (GI) networks in the district in order to inform the Mansfield District Council Local Plan (2013-2033). It meets the national planning policy framework (NPPF) requirements, to identify and map multi-functional green infrastructure networks and ecological networks (NPPF 2012 and emerging amendments 2018). These include identifying existing networks and opportunities to strengthen connections to and with in these networks.

**6.2** Key sections in this document include:

- Section 5 and Appendix A identify the key assets that make up the 13 strategic GI networks, the functions/services these provide and related enhancement needs/actions

- Appendices B and C also provide further context to these strategic green infrastructure networks, showing a maps of the identified *green assets* that make up the GI resource and

- Section 5 shows maps with the locations of the 13 strategic GI networks.

**6.3** A Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is further recommended to assist with the implementation of green infrastructure and related policies in the Local Plan. This will likely need to provide guidance on the planning, design, enhancement and management of components of the strategic green infrastructure network and the delivery of these.



Key principles for delivering effective green infrastructure in new development

**6.4** In addition to the discussion in Section 2.3 on the importance of delivering green infrastructure within new development, the table below sets out seven key principles associated with its effective delivery.

| Planning for green infrastructure in new development |
|---|
| **1: Plan for green infrastructure early in the design stage of the planning application process.**<br><br>New development should integrate green infrastructure provision as early as possible into the scoping and application process, rather than be considered as an afterthought. GI planning should take into account existing features and sites, as well as, identify key areas for enhancement and creation, in accordance with guidance. |
| **2: Linkage is key.**<br><br>The desired outcome for green infrastructure planning and design is physical and functional connectivity. It is vital that individual green spaces and trails function as part of wider GI networks. Connections should be identified, enhanced and created on both strategic (district, and where possible, across district boundaries) and local (neighbourhood and individual site) levels. Wildlife corridors and stepping stones are essential for facilitating movement and ability for wildlife to adapt to change (e.g. climate change). It is important that connectivity is maintained so that key environmental benefits (e.g. flooding, water quality, etc) are conserved and enhanced. |
| **3: GI should be designed to reflect and enhance an area's distinctive character**<br><br>GI should incorporate and enhance local landscape character, habitats and historical features. It should also aim to support community priorities and strategies. Design should aim to promote a sense of place for residents and visitors. |
| **4: Multiple benefits**<br><br>A well-planned green infrastructure should identify and integrate combined environmental, social, and economic benefits, where appropriate. |
| **5: Green Infrastructure is grounded in environmental and land-use planning policies and principles.**<br><br>GI planning and design should, where possible, incorporate ecological principles and open space standards. |
| **6: Planning for green infrastructure involves diverse stake holder involvement.**<br><br>GI planning and design should engage partnership working including a diverse group of stake holders including representatives from the environmental, regeneration, planning, parks/leisure and community sectors. The creation of new GI and enhancement of existing GI should also be implemented through co-ordinated planning, delivery and management. |

| Planning for green infrastructure in new development |
| --- |
| **7: Investment for the future.**<br><br>Green infrastructure is an important public investment in which everyone can benefit. GI should be designed with future maintenance and adaptation in mind, including, for example, reducing anti-social behaviour and adapting to climate change. In addition to capital and maintenance contributions and management should inform planning agreements. |

## Funding green infrastructure improvements

**6.5** Working with key partners, developers and the community will be important for the securing the funding, delivery and management of green new GI assets and improvements.

**6.6** This paper highlights broad areas in need of improvement within each strategic green infrastructure network. Funding for green infrastructure improvements will need to come from a variety of sources that may be developer, local authority and/or community led, utilising Section 106 or grant funding sources.

**6.7** Possible sources include, but are not limited to:

- creation and management of new green infrastructure and linkages to existing green infrastructure, as part of new development
- developer contributions to support enhancements to existing green infrastructure (e.g. Section 106 and/or CIL)
- funding from external grants through various developer, local authority, government and community partnerships and/or
- improvements through environmental stewardship.

**6.8** Funding for GI improvements will need to be subject to a development viability assessment. It may be possible to combine green infrastructure enhancement needs as part of related Planning Obligation requirements e.g. flooding, sustainable transport and open space.

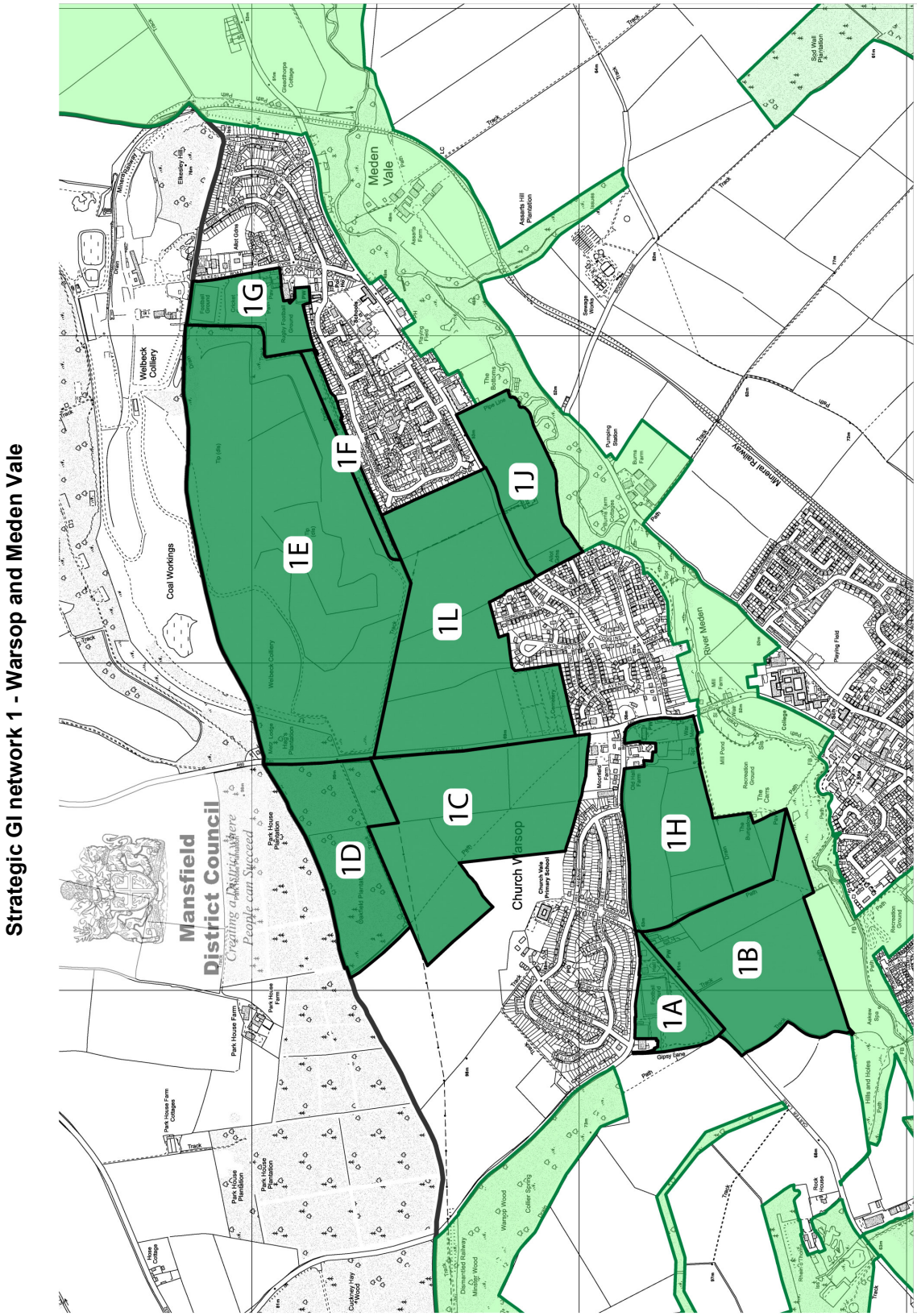


## Appendix A- Strategic GI networks: assets, functions and enhancement needs

The following maps and tables identify existing GI assets, functions and enhancement needs that make up each strategic GI network. These are identified within smaller GI component areas. The information in the tables complement the broader policy actions identified in Section 5 for each strategic GI network.

Please note that the '*recognised enhancement needs'* identified in the tables below may not be exhaustive; therefore, these may require further work at a more site-specific level to inform actions and potential development or other funding requirements. The key assets and functions identified are important to the overall functioning of the district's green infrastructure network. As such, these assets and their functions will require protection.

## Strategic GI network 1 - Warsop and Meden Vale





## Strategic GI network 1 - Warsop and Meden Vale

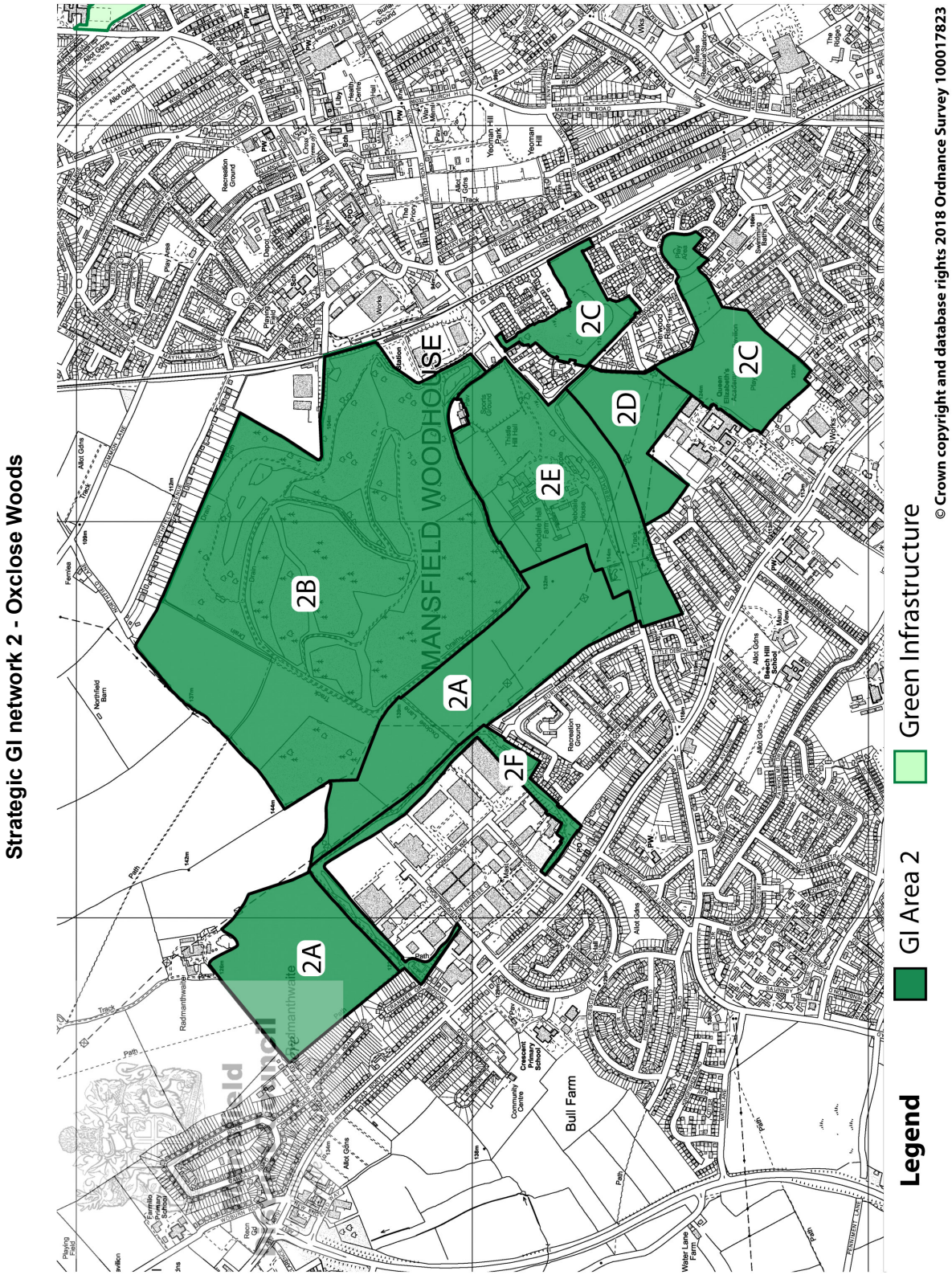
| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1-A | **Former Miners Welfare and Doorstep Green - Church Warsop:**<br><br>Includes Public Rights of Way (PRoW) at Gypsy Lane adjacent to the Miners Welfare (Church Warsop). The PRoW crosses Carter Lane, extends southwards towards Hills and Holes Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) and then east to The Carrs Recreation Ground. These PRoW and surrounding green spaces provide recreational green corridors connecting settlements. Improvements to trails that would help establish multi-user trails connecting Church Warsop to Market Warsop would enhance commuting routes between these settlements.<br><br>Area also includes open spaces associated with former Miners Welfare and Church Warsop Doorstep Green. | • Recreation/ commuting route – walking and cycling trails and open space. Access to countryside | • Recreation/ commuting route - improve quality of existing open spaces<br><br>• Recreation/ commuting route - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter)<br><br>• Recreation and nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to Hills and Holes SSSI (e.g. interpretation)<br><br>• Nature Conservation - habitat creation to improve ecological linkages to ancient woodland, hedgerows and semi-natural grassland habitats (e.g. hedgerow and wildflower meadows creation) |
| 1-B | **Bishops Walk and Carter Lane Trails**<br><br>Includes surrounding countryside and Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and cycle route linkages from Bishops Walk (Church Warsop) leading to The Carrs Recreation Ground / LNR.<br><br>Also includes PROWs leading from Carter Lane towards Hills and Holes Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the Meden Trail. These PRoW and surrounding green spaces provide recreational green corridors connecting settlements and also allow access to the National Cycle Network east of Meden Vale.<br><br>Improvements to trails that would help establish multi-user trails connecting Church Warsop to Market Warsop would enhance commuting routes between these settlements.<br><br>The trails noted here are part of the Dukeries long-distance trail. | • Recreation/ commuting route - walking & cycling trails between Church Warsop and Market Warsop. Access to countryside | • Recreation/ commuting route - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter)<br><br>• Recreation/ commuting route - better integrate existing trails in this GI Area with trails at The Carrs (GI Area 4I)<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to Hills and Holes SSSI (e.g. interpretation) |
| 1-C | **Cuckney Hill and walking links:**<br><br>Includes surrounding countryside and Public Rights of Way (PRoW) starting at Cuckney Hill (north of Church Warsop) travelling northwest towards Oakfield Plantation. Links to PROW and woodland within Bassetlaw district council.<br><br>Includes countryside south of Oakfield Plantation and west of Cuckney Hill towards Church Warsop. | • Recreation – walking trails. Access to countryside<br><br>• Nature Conservation – interconnected network of hedgerows | • Nature Conservation - habitat creation to improve ecological linkages to adjacent woodland (GI Area 1D) (e.g. hedgerow and woodland planting)<br><br>• Recreation/ commuting route – enhance access to trails |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1-D | **Oakfield Plantation:**<br><br>This is a mixed plantation woodland (north of Church Warsop). Adjoins existing contiguous area of plantation woodland to the north, east and west and restored Welbeck colliery.<br><br>This area of woodland is likely to mitigate for climate change. | • Nature Conservation - woodland<br>• Landscape - woodland<br>• Climate Change - woodland | None identified. |
| 1-E | **Restored Welbeck Colliery and recreational linkages:**<br><br>Includes the restored Welbeck Colliery and associated Public Rights of Way (PRoW) starting at Cuckney Hill.<br><br>Includes Hags Plantation and other areas of mixed semi-natural woodland. The connecting section of this former mineral site is located in Bassetlaw district, where habitat restoration has taken place and recreational trails have been established.<br><br>Area includes the restored Welbeck Colliery which includes solar farm, identified areas of surface water run-off and opportunity to restore habitat linkages with the rest of the restored colliery to the north. | • Recreation – walking trails. Access to countryside<br>• Climate Change –surface water flood risk<br>• Nature Conservation – woodland. Also adjacent to restored habitats within northern section of the restored colliery<br>• Heritage – former mining heritage<br>• Landscape – view points, woodland, and restored mineral site | • Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance linkages to improve access to connecting trails and open space within Bassetlaw district and Meden Vale.<br>• Nature Conservation - habitat creation to improve ecological linkages to adjacent heathland, semi-natural grassland and woodland (e.g. heathland, acid grassland, woodland creation) |
| 1-F | **Local walking links to restored Welbeck Colliery:**<br><br>Local recreational links allowing access from Meden Vale to the restored Welbeck Colliery e.g. Egmanton Road and Carburton Ave. | • Recreation – walking trails. Access to countryside | • Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance linkages to improve access to connecting trails and open space |
| 1-G | **Meden Vale sports pitches:**<br><br>Elkesley Road open space and PROW east of the restored Welbeck Colliery. | • Recreation – outdoor sports fields | • Nature Conservation - habitat creation to improve ecological linkages to adjacent heathland, semi-natural grassland and woodland (e.g. heathland, acid grassland, woodland creation) |
| 1-H | **Visual break between Market Warsop and Church Warsop:**<br><br>Open countryside offers a visual and character break between Market and Church Warsop – this area provides open views of the surrounding countryside contributing to the character of Church | • Landscape – visual open break between Church Warsop and Market Warsop | • Nature Conservation/Landscape - reinforce field boundaries through hedgerow and woodland planting. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Warsop and Market Warsop. Where appropriate, impacts on coalescence will need to be minimised by maintaining a balanced green wedge between settlements and reinforce field boundaries through hedgerow and woodland planting.<br><br>Includes land surrounding (i.e. setting of) St Peter and Paul Church and war memorial.<br><br>Includes countryside located between Bishop's Walk at Church Warsop, Church Road and footpath extending south from carter Lane/ Bishop's Walk and The Carrs LNR.<br><br>Also includes interlinked networks of hedgerows | • Nature Conservation – integrated network of hedgerows<br><br>• Heritage – St Peter and Paul Church and war memorial | |
| 1-I | **Visual and character break between Meden Vale and Church Warsop:**<br><br>Open countryside offers a visual and character break between Meden Vale and Church Warsop. Where appropriate, impacts on coalescence will need to be minimised by maintaining a balanced green wedge between settlements and reinforce field boundaries through hedgerow and woodland planting.<br><br>Opportunity to create and reinforce habitat links with restored colliery and nearby woodland.<br><br>Includes countryside and cemetery east of Cuckney Hill, south of Welbeck Colliery, north of Church Warsop and west of Meden Vale. | • Landscape - visual open break between Church Warsop and Meden Vale | • Nature Conservation - habitat creation to improve ecological linkages to adjacent restored colliery at Meden Vale (e.g. woodland and open habitats such as neutral grassland) |
| 1-J | **Countryside south of Netherfield Lane:**<br><br>Includes countryside south of Netherfield Lane, including allotment gardens, substation and arable land.<br><br>Offers visual and character break between Meden Vale and Church Warsop. Where appropriate, impacts on coalescence will need to be minimised by maintaining a balanced green wedge between settlements and reinforce field boundaries through hedgerow and woodland planting.<br><br>MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment identifies area within an 'area of low soil permeability' and within Flood Zones 2 and 3.<br><br>Area offers opportunity to provide new habitat linkages as it is adjacent to the River Meden, The Bottoms Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and local wildlife sites. | • Landscape - visual open break between Church Warsop and Market Warsop<br><br>• Climate Change – fluvial and surface water flood risk | • Nature Conservation/Climate Change - habitat creation to improve ecological linkages to adjacent river corridor and woodland (e.g. wetland and woodland creation) and mitigate flood risk |

# Strategic GI network 2 - Oxclose Woods





## Strategic GI network 2 - Oxclose Woods

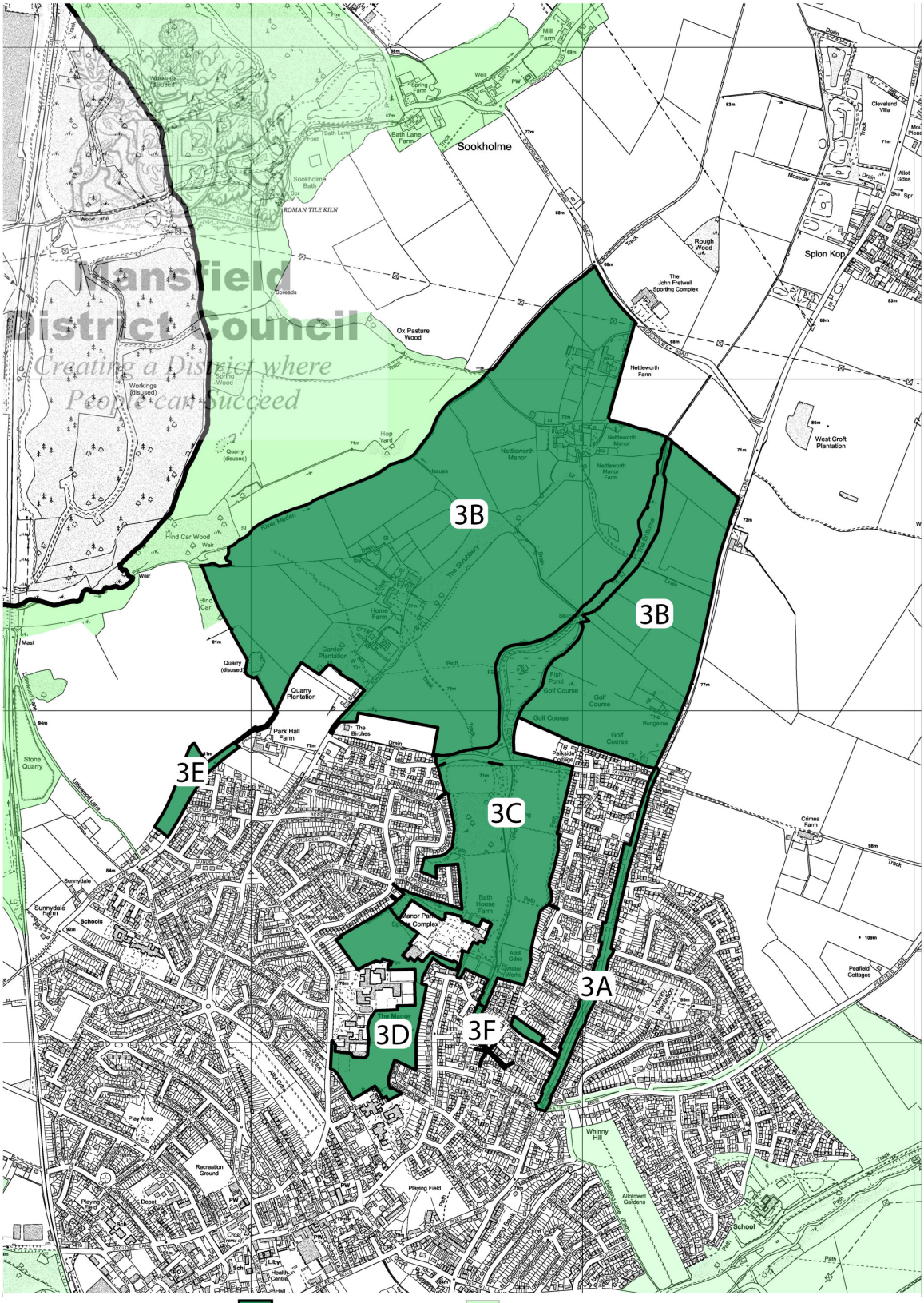
| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2-A | **Recreational links to Oxclose Woods and Radmanthwaite:**<br><br>Various local access routes leading to Oxclose Woods (and adjacent fields) including:<br><br>• Oxclose Lane<br>• Radmanthwaite Rd<br>• Enterprise Rd<br>• Concorde Way<br>• Balmore Dr<br>• Burlington Dr<br>• Debdale Lane<br><br>These facilitate access to public woodland and wider countryside from surrounding urban areas and Millennium business park.<br><br>Adjacent arable land includes Radmanthwaite and an existing solar farm. Arable fields add to the amenity along the PROW and from atop Oxclose Woods to the surrounding area.<br><br>The field at Radmanthwaite also shows increased risk of surface water flooding. As its greenfield land, this may mitigate impact on the surrounding area. This area includes a narrow strip of woodland/hedgerows connecting with Oxclose Woods. | • Recreation – local walking and cycling trails and linkages to accessible woodland. Access to countryside<br><br>• Nature Conservation – linear woodland and hedgerows<br><br>• Climate Change – surface water flood risk | • Recreation/ commuting route - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter)<br><br>• Climate change - mitigate flood risk<br><br>• Nature Conservation - habitat creation to improve ecological linkages to Oxlcose Woods (e.g. create woodland near to existing woodland edges)<br><br>• Recreation – improve access to this GI Area for local residents (e.g. safe pedestrian crossings across Chesterfield Rd North) |
| 2-B | **Oxclose Woods:**<br><br>Oxclose Woods and routes leading from Oxclose Woods to wider countryside to the north via PROW towards Pleasley and the Meden Vale trail network (GI Area 4) AND from the Mansfield Woodhouse train station to Oxclose Woods.<br><br>This GI Area acts as an important recreational and ecological hub.<br><br>This area also includes adjacent arable land with public rights of way (PRoW) leading to Pleasley Vale. | • Recreation – walking trails and open space. Access to countryside<br><br>• Nature Conservation – woodland, neutral grassland and wetland habitats<br><br>• Heritage – restored former mineral site<br><br>• Landscape - view points, woodland, and restored mineral site | • Recreation/ commuting route – improve trail quality.<br><br>• Recreation- improve access to Oxclose Woods for nearby residential areas AND from Oxclose Woods to nearby countryside.<br><br>• Nature Conservation – improve management of habitats.<br><br>• Nature Conservation – habitat creation to improve ecological linkages to Oxlcose Woods (e.g. create woodland near to existing woodland edges) |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2-C | **Queen Elizabeth School playing fields (south) and surrounding pathways and green spaces:**<br><br>This strategic GI area includes: Queen Elizabeth School playing fields (south) and surrounding pathways and green spaces that link together to provide local green corridors. Also includes access linkages at:<br><br>• Pheasant Hill<br>• Highfield Ave<br>• Sherwood Rise/Dunsil Rd open spaces<br>• Sherwood Rise (x2)<br>• Sherwood Rise/Blackshale Rd<br><br>These pathways and green spaces provide important local green corridors for residents to Chesterfield Road (e.g. buses, Town centre) and also to Oxclose Woods, train station and the wider countryside.<br><br>Also include open space and natural area east of Sherwood Rise / south of Debdale Lane. This is an important habitat link to Oxclose Wood, local wildlife site and adjacent wooded area in GI linking areas 2B and 2E. It also provides access to nature and recreational resources linking into nearby Oxclose Woods, Public Rights of Ways and open spaces. | • Recreation/ commuting route – walking and cycling trails and open space.<br><br>• Landscape – located within landscape character policy zone | • Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) & improve recreational amenity along existing trails<br><br>• Recreation –improve and reinforce access (connectivity) between existing open spaces and trails via the creation of green routes (north-south linkage linking with 2D and east-west via existing trails)<br><br>• Nature Conservation - habitat creation to create wildlife corridors and to improve and restore ecological linkages to habitats in adjacent GI Areas (2D , 2E and 2B) (e.g. woodland, hedgerows and wildflower-rich neutral grassland) |
| 2-D | **Queen Elizabeth playing fields (north):**<br><br>This area includes Queen Elizabeth playing fields (north) which is likely to include important neutral grassland habitat and regenerating woodlands. It has the potential to improve the management of this grassland area for biodiversity and to create new habitat linkages. This acts as a habitat buffer to Debdale Local Wildlife Site (LWS). The area is currently grazed by horses.<br><br>This area of land also includes public rights of way linking through to the LWS and adjacent which offer an important recreation link through to nearby open space and Chesterfield Road through adjoining fields with PROW. This public pathway off the main road (Debdale Road), facilitates access to nature for nearby residents. | • Nature Conservation – neutral grassland<br><br>• Recreation – walking trails | • Recreation/ commuting route – improve trail quality.<br><br>• Recreation –improve and reinforce access (connectivity) between existing open spaces and trails via the creation of new green routes (north-south linkage linking with 2C and east-west via existing trails)<br><br>• Nature Conservation - habitat creation to create wildlife corridors and to improve and restore ecological linkages to habitats in adjacent GI Areas (2E and 2B) (e.g. woodland, hedgerows and wildflower-rich neutral grassland)<br><br>• Recreation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to adjacent local wildlife site (e.g. boundary management and interpretation) |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2-E | **Debdale Hall and associated woodlands and local wildlife site:**<br><br>Fields and woodlands along Debdale Road (north and south) and areas surrounding Debdale Hall (south of Oxclose Woods):<br><br>This area is multi-functional as it supports the setting of listed building (Debdale Hall Farm), important archaeology, a local wildlife site (LWS) and other key habitat areas (woodland/ wood pasture and important grasslands), public rights of way/access links and Debdale sports ground.<br><br>This area is likely to have Medieval origins and to support traces of caves and fissures supporting important archaeology. The wooded area shows a similar area plans dating to Sandersons 1835 maps.<br><br>The area also provides enhanced visual amenity and may act to mitigate air pollutions impacts along Debdale Road.<br><br>Recreational access links include:<br><br>• Access through to Hollyhock Dr/Little Debdale Ln from existing pasture fields south of Debdale Rd<br><br>• Access from Debdale Rd through the LWS<br><br>• Access to Queen Elizabeth playing fields and adj fields from LWS<br><br>• Access to Queen Elizabeth playing fields from Sherwood Rise<br><br>• access point and path linking Sherwood Rise residential area to Oxclose Woods near to Debdale Sport Ground | • Nature Conservation – local wildlife site, woodland and grassland habitats<br><br>• Climate Change/ Air Pollution – area monitored for impacts on air quality. Urban woodland.<br><br>• Recreation – walking trails and outdoor sports pitches<br><br>• Heritage – heritage assets and potential archaeological significance | • Recreation – improve and reinforce access (connectivity) between existing open spaces via green routes (north-south linkage linking with 2D and 2B)<br><br>• Recreation– improve trail quality<br><br>• Recreation - improve pedestrian crossings across Debdale Road such that access to and from these areas are safer and better connected.<br><br>• Recreation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to adjacent local wildlife site (e.g. boundary management and interpretation)<br><br>• Climate Change - enhance visual amenity and pollution issues through additional sympathetic and biodiverse planting along Debdale Road<br><br>• Heritage - enhance the heritage setting of Debdale Hall and surrounding fields and woodlands.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - strengthen ecological connections so that habitats and designated sites are better connected through appropriate habitat creation and habitat management.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated. |
| 2-F | **Pathways around Millennium Business Park**:<br><br>This pathway provides an important recreational links to Oxclose Wood and surrounding area.<br><br>This area of urban woodlands also is important in relation to mitigating the effects of climate change, offering a visual and sound buffer between nearby residential areas and the business park.<br><br>It also provides an ecological link to Oxclose Woods. | • Recreation – walking trails<br><br>• Nature Conservation - woodlands<br><br>• Climate Change - urban woods<br><br>• Landscape – visual buffer to industrial business park | • Recreation - improve trail and visual amenity of this local green corridor and provide better integration with the Millennium Business Park.<br><br>• Nature Conservation – improve management of woodlands |

# Strategic GI network 3 - Woodhouse





## Strategic GI network 3 - Woodhouse

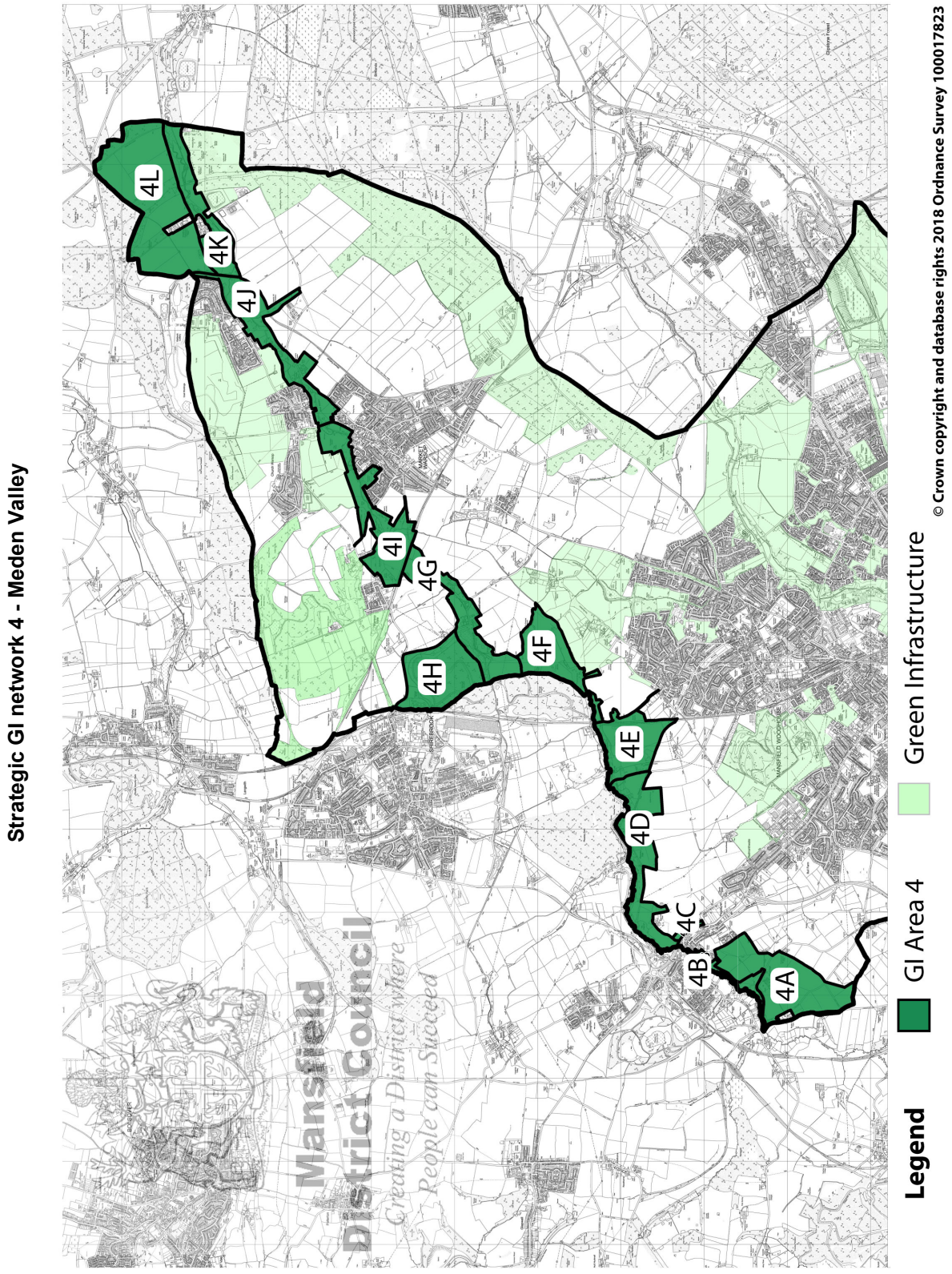
| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3-A | **Leeming Lane:**<br><br>Section of Leeming Lane North / A60 from Sangate Rd to St. James Gardens – existing tree-lined route. May have potential for cycle route enhancements along this section of the A60.<br><br>Links to GI Area # 12 (Maun Valley).<br><br>This area demarcates the nearby historic estates of Park Hall and Nettleworth Manor.<br><br>Includes wooded area providing visual amenity along Kingsley Avenue and a wooded habitat linkage within this strategic GI area (i.e. street trees along Leeming Lane and Manor Park wooded areas). | • Recreation and Commuting – multi-user route<br><br>• Heritage – likely demarcates Park Hall historic estate<br><br>• Landscape - amenity<br><br>• Nature Conservation - urban woodland<br><br>• Climate Change - urban woodland | • Recreation – improve trails for cycle use and connections northwards toward Spion Kop and eastwards along Peafield Lane (A6075).<br><br>• Landscape - enhance street trees and other landscaping along this route, including planting trees to extend the existing tree line (e.g. southernmost section of this route – south of Kingsley Ave).<br><br>• Nature conservation – manage and reinforce habitat linkages with Leeming Lane and Manor Park. |
| 3-B | **Historic estates and woodland from Park Hall to Nettleworth Manor:**<br><br>Area of historic estates, woodland, interlinked hedgerows and open parkland from Park Hall to Nettleworth Manor. Provides ecological linkages to nearby ancient woodland (Hind Car Wood) and other areas of woodland and parkland habitats (Strategic GI Area 4 and GI Link 3C. Includes designated nature conservation site - local wildlife site.<br><br>Also includes a golf course and arable fields – these demarcate fields boundaries similar to historic boundaries (at least up to 1835).<br><br>Includes localised areas at risk of surface water flooding and has low permeable soils.<br><br>Park Hall Rd Public Rights of Way linking through the Shurbery and Nettwleworth Manor– links residential areas to woodland and the wider countryside.<br><br>PROW leading to/from Nettleworth Manor from Leeming Lane - links to GI Area #11 (Clipstone to Warsop) on the other side of Leeming Lane.<br><br>Other non-definitive walking routes used by local residents. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats and ecological linkages to ancient woodland, local wildlife site<br><br>• Heritage – historic estates, listed building setting; potential areas of archaeological significance; historic field boundaries<br><br>• Landscape – parkland, woodland, hedgerows, enclosed views<br><br>• Recreation – walking trails, golf course, trail linkages to GI Area 11<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk, low permeable soils, woodland | • Nature Conservation –recreate, create and manage woodland and parkland habitats, such that existing habitats are better joined up with and increased in size within and adjacent to this GI Area.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - Protect and restore existing hedgerows.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated.<br><br>• Climate Change - Improve resilience to flood risk where necessary. Enhance flood mitigation and ecological linkages through the creation of green SuDS.<br><br>• Heritage - enhance historic assets and their settings (including woodland) relating to the historic estates of Park Hall, Nettleworth Manor and Home Farm, including historic field boundaries.<br><br>• Recreation – improve the connectivity of walking routes such that they provide recreational green corridors and maintain access to the nearby accessible green space the wider countryside (e.g. Park Hall through to The Shurbbery and Nettleworth Manor). |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3-C | **Manor Sports Complex to The Bottoms**:<br><br>This areas includes Manor Sport Complex and recreation ground, Fish Pond local wildlife site and fishing pond, and The Bottoms.<br><br>This is within flood zones 2 and 3 and includes local wildlife sites, woodland and tributary of the river Meden.<br><br>This area likely acts as a 'green storage' area for flood water within the urban environment.<br><br>Manor Park acts as a recreational hub and also a gateway for local residents into this GI corridor. It supports a wider range of recreational pursuits including Park Run events, football, and other formal sports activities. It is the largest publicly accessible park in this area of the district.<br><br>Includes local links from residential areas to nearby Manor Park including:<br><br>• Kingsley Ave.<br>• Worcester Ave (x 3)<br>• Long Meadow (x2)<br>• Former pathway at Park Hall Road<br><br>Area also includes an allotment gardens and water works (southeast corner).<br><br>This section includes potential areas of archaeological significance. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats, local wildlife site<br><br>• Climate Change - flood risk (river and surface water), informal river storage area<br><br>• Recreation – open space as recreational hub and gateway to wider countryside; walking trails; key recreational local links to Manor Park; allotments<br><br>• Heritage - potential areas of archaeological significance<br><br>• Landscape – river, woodland | • Nature Conservation and Climate Change - Enhance flood mitigation and ecological linkages through the creation of SuDS.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - create of new appropriate habitats to provide better ecological connections between local wildlife sites, surrounding woodland and the water environment.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated.<br><br>• Recreation - enhance Manor Park's role as a recreational hub and GI gateway for residents, especially for those living nearby. Also see GI connection 3B above.<br><br>• Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter)<br><br>• Recreation - enhance entrances and routes around and to Manor Park and Manor Complex. Explore opportunities to re-establish the recreational pathway extending from Park Hall Road to Manor Park/Complex. |
| 3-D | **The Manor Academy playing fields:**<br><br>This area at risk of surface water flooding (low permeable soils).<br><br>Provides physical green connection to Manor Park. Opportunity to increase woodland and parkland habitat linkages northwards to Manor Park.<br><br>Includes localised areas at risk of surface water flooding. Opportunity area to improve the resilience to flooding through creation of green SuDS. | • Climate Change - surface water flood risk | • Climate Change - Enhance flood mitigation and ecological linkages through the creation of green SuDS<br><br>• Nature conservation (opportunity area) - create habitats to provide better ecological connections with local wildlife sites, surrounding urban woodland and the water environment |
| 3-E | **Small arable area along Scotswood Road:**<br><br>This area includes arable land extending to the west and north of Scotswood Road. It is susceptible to surface water flooding. | • Climate Change - surface water flood risk | • Climate Change & Nature Conservation - enhance flood mitigation and ecological linkages through the creation of green SuDS |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Representative of historic field boundaries (1875) and contributes to the amenity affording views of the wider countryside for nearby residents. | • Heritage - historic field boundaries (1875)<br>• Landscape – open views | |
| 3-F | **Local pathways extending from Manor Park:**<br><br>Existing and former local pathways extending from Manor park at Kingsley Avenue towards Kingsley Close, Wells Close and Tewkesbury Avenue.<br><br>Includes areas of woodland and scrubland.<br><br>Also includes waterway extending from Manor Park. | • Nature Conservation - woodland<br>• Recreation – walking trails | • Nature Conservation - enhance habitat connections urban woodland<br>• Recreation - improve existing pathways and explore opportunities to re-establish recreational pathways within this area so they may allow improve access to Manor Park as a local green (walking) corridors. |

## Strategic GI network 4 - Meden Valley





## Strategic GI network 4- Meden Valley

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4-A | **Baxter Hill/Moorhaigh Lane and Dawgates Lane area**:<br><br>Area extending along the district boundary near to Baxter Hill/Moorhaigh Lane and follows Dawgates Lane, extending to a public rights of way to the south of and along Green Lane.<br><br>Includes arable land surrounding Moorhaigh Farm, Pleasley Hill Farm and Sampson's Farm.<br><br>Along with the GI Linkage below (Meden River Valley), it acts as a gateway between the wider Pleasley Valley, Teversal trails and the Phoenix Greenways within Derbyshire at Baxter Hill and Moorhaigh Lane. It also connects with Public Rights of Way (PROW) south of Green Lane.<br><br>Also includes PROW extending from Water Lane towards Moorhaigh Lane and Sampson's Lane. These provide wider linkages with the Meden Trail to the east and Phoenix and Teversal trails to the west.<br><br>It includes areas of historical significance including areas of archaeological interest and settings for listed buildings.<br><br>This area provides an opportunity for habitat creation linking with nearby local wildlife sites with wider links to the Teversal SSSI and LNR. Includes one local wildlife site south of Moorhaigh Lane.<br><br>*Please note, that the wider archaeological / historical significance, recreational and ecological linkages extend wider that this mapped GI area. The PROW and Green Lane was chosen as a defensible boundary as it relates mainly to the River Meden corridor. This area relates as a multi-functional area with recreational linkages connecting with the Teversal Trail, its historical significance and as an opportunity area to create a more coherent ecological linkages with nearby local wildlife sites and SSSI.* | • Recreation – walking, cycle and multi-user trails. Gateway trails leading to trails and open space extending into Bolsover and Ashfield districts<br><br>• Heritage – historic estates, listed building setting; area of Regional archaeological significance; historic field boundaries | • Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function as a gateway to the wider countryside and strategic trail networks within Mansfield and Ashfield district, such as Teveral Trail and the Phoenix Greenway.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - Protect and enhance existing hedgerows.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - Create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland and woodland pasture.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats |
| 4-B | **Meden River Valley (Pleasley area):**<br><br>Extending along the Meden River valley from Newbound Mill north of Moorhaigh Lane area to the A617. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats and local wildlife sites | • Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Area includes Pleasley Hill Pastures local wildlife site (LWS), areas of species rich grassland, wood pasture and the active floodplain.<br><br>Meden Square at Pleasley Hill has been historically flooded. The river goes through a culvert as it passes under the A617.<br><br>Area holds archaeological potential as it follows the River Meden. | • Climate Change - flood risk (river and surface water)<br><br>• Heritage - archaeological significance | combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland, wetland habitats.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated.<br><br>• Climate change - minimise flood risk along this section of the River Meden and surface water flood risk by putting in place appropriate enhancement measures. For example: addressing capacity limitations of the weir and arch opening at Pleasley Square Road Bridge. |
| 4-C | **Chesterfield Road Woodland:**<br><br>Existing strip of broadleaved woodland bordering Chesterfield Road North (A617) near Pleasley. This provides important visual amenity function along this busy road and ecological linkage to the wider Meden Valley corridor.<br><br>The area along Chesterfield Road North experiences high levels of pollution. This area may mitigate impacts and allows for off-road walks away from the highway network.<br><br>Includes public rights of way (PRoW) trails that provide a gateway to the wider countryside towards Radmanthwaite and Pleasley Hill area (northeast and south east of Chesterfield Road) which links through to an extensive network of pubic rights of way and the Meden Valley green corridor. | • Nature Conservation - woodland<br><br>• Climate Change - woodlands<br><br>• Landscape - visual amenity along Chesterfield Road and open viewpoints<br><br>• Recreation – walking trails and gateway to wider countryside (Pleasley Vale and Radmanthwaite) | • Nature Conservation - increase woodland cover and complementary open habitats (e.g. neutral grassland) adjacent to this area of woodland.<br><br>• Recreation – improve walking trails so that they provide more accessible linkages onto the Meden Trail / Archaeological Way and surrounding countryside. |
| 4-D | **Pleasley Vale and River Meden from Warren Farm to Common Lane:**<br><br>Large area along the River Meden between A617 (Chesterfield Rd North) east of Pleasley Hill and Common Lane at Pleasley Vale.<br><br>This area serves multiple functions as it includes the Pleasley Vale Conservation Area, an Ancient Monument, clusters of archaeological finds, historic mills, a SSSI, Local Nature Reserve (LNR), local wildlife site (LWS), ancient woodland, small pockets of isolated woodland, public rights of way and the Meden trail, limestone cave, limestone dry-walling, and areas of calcareous/neutral grassland. | • Nature Conservation – SSSI, local wildlife site, local nature reserve, ancient woodland, priority habitats<br><br>• Geological – area of county significance<br><br>• Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor and other connecting walking trails leading to trails and accessible | • Nature Conservation – Create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland and woodland pasture.<br><br>• Nature Conservation – improve hedgerows connections between woodland areas.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LNR, SSSI, LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | The Meden Trail is a strategic (long distance) walking trail and connects with other public rights of way (PRoW) trails and strategic trails within Bolsover district (Archaeological Way and Phoenix Trails). | • woodland within Bolsover district; local nature reserve<br><br>• Heritage – Conservation Area, listed building setting, ancient woodland, industrial heritage; limestone cave/cliffs<br><br>• Climate Change - flood risk and woodlands | • Heritage – support actions identified in the Pleasley Vale Conservation Area and Management Plan.<br><br>• Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function strategic trail and linkages into Bolsover district.<br><br>• Recreation - enhance the Meden Trail such that is provides improved recreational linkages between the surrounding open countryside (outside strategic GI) and also into Derbyshire<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats |
| 4-E | **Pleasley Vale and River Meden from Common Lane to Little wood Lane:**<br><br>Section of this strategic GI corridor along and adjacent to the River Meden from Common Lane (Pleasley Hill area) to Littlewood Lane (including Littlewood Lane towards Northfield Lane, Mansfield Woodhouse).<br><br>This area includes: local wildlife sites (LWS), section of the Meden Trail connecting to Derbyshire at the restored Shirebrook colliery, public footpath along Littlewood Lane, a working stone quarry, area of local geological significance, pockets of natural/semi-natural woodland and neutral grasslands, and listed buildings. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats, woodland, local wildlife sites<br><br>• Geological – area of county significance<br><br>• Recreation– strategic trail/green corridor and other connecting walking trails leading to trails and open space within Bolsover district<br><br>• Heritage – restored mineral railway (now part of the Meden Trail), mining heritage<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (river and surface water), woodland | • Recreation - enhance the Meden Trail such that is provides improved recreational linkages between the surrounding open countryside (outside strategic GI) and also into Derbyshire<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br><br>• Nature Conservation – Create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland and woodland pasture.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated. |
| 4-F | **Ancient woodland:** | • Nature Conservation - priority habitats, | • Nature Conservation – Create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Section of this strategic GI corridor stretches along the River Meden from the Robin Hood railway line eastwards in the direction of Nettleworth Manor/Sooholme Road AND also northwards to Ox Pasture Wood (Ancient Woodland).<br><br>This area includes: ancient woodland, local wildlife sites (LWS), the River Meden, natural springs and arable land. | ancient woodland, local wildlife sites<br><br>Climate Change – flood risk (river) and woodland<br><br>Heritage – ancient woodland | and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland and woodland / wood pasture.<br><br>Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated. |
| 4-G | **Sookholme:**<br><br>Section of this strategic GI corridor stretches from area north of Ox Wood Pasture towards Shirebrook Pit Wood and the historic settlement of Sookholme and along Sookhome Brook (part of Hills and Holes SSSI) to the mineral railway line south of Warsop Vale.<br><br>This area includes a section of the Meden Trail connecting to public rights of way including links to: 1) the Shirebrook Pit Wood (Mansfield and Derbyshire) connections and 2) through Sookholme 3) Sookholme Lane in Market Warsop.<br><br>This area also includes: local wildlife sites (LWS), Sookhome Brook (also a SSSI), the historic settlement of Sookholme, public rights of way connecting to Warsop Vale and Hills and Holes, cluster of archaeological finds (e.g. Roman tile kiln), listed buildings and neutral grassland.<br><br>Fluvial and surface water flood risks are considered high within the area of Sookholme. This is also due to soils with low permeability. The Mansfield District Council Strategic flood Risk Assessment identifies the need for enhancing ecological connections for water voles and other wildlife through the creation of green sustainable drainage systems (SuDS). | Nature Conservation - priority habitats, local wildlife site<br><br>Climate Change – flood risk (river and surface water)<br><br>Heritage – listed building setting, historic settlement, archaeological significance<br><br>Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor and other connecting walking trails leading to trails and open space within Bolsover district | Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor and linkages into Bolsover district, the wider countryside , and access to Market Warsop . A link to the Shirebrook Pit Wood car park on Longster Lane is also required. Improved safety measures along the part of the Meden Trail between Bath Lane and Sookholme Lane that involves walking along a section of Sookholme Road with no footway.<br><br>Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br><br>Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland, wetlands and woodland / wood pasture.<br><br>Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated.<br><br>Climate Change - sensitively mitigate flooding, where necessary and prioritise creation of green SuDS along Sookholme Brook |
| 4-H | **Shirebrook Pit Wood**:<br><br>Northern half of Shirebrook Pit Wood (the restored Shirebrook Colliery) and adjoining disused mineral railway (also a LWS) to the | Recreation – open space and walking trails; linkages into | Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor and linkages into Bolsover district, the wider |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| | north. The LWS is owned and managed by Nottinghamshire County (NCC) Council. Shirebrook Pit Wood is managed by NCC and the Forestry Commission.<br><br>The Shirebrook Pit Wood affords excellent views across Mansfield and Bolsover districts. It is a large area comprising of: local wildlife sites (LWS), networks for walking trails, car park (off Longster Lane), wetlands, semi-natural woodland and neutral grasslands. The southern half of this recreational and ecological area (i.e. hub) extends into Derbyshire. This is over 100ha in size and provides an area of accessible woodland.<br><br>There are significant areas of low soil permeability, surface water flooding and fluvial flood risk within Shirebrook Pit Wood. Also contains sewage works. | Bolsover district; accessible woodland<br><br>Nature Conservation – local wildlife site and priority habitats<br><br>Climate Change – flood risk (river and surface water)<br><br>Heritage – mining heritage (restored colliery) | countryside, including car parking facilities. Improve safety measures along the part of the Meden Trail between Bath Lane and Sookholme Lane that involves walking along a section of Sookholme Road with no footway. A link to the Shirebrook Pit Wood car park on Longster Lane is also required.<br><br>Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br><br>Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland, wetlands and woodland / wood pasture.<br><br>Climate Change - Sensitively mitigate flooding, where necessary. prioritise creation of green SuDS. |
| 4-I | **Hills and Holes SSSI and The Carrs:**<br><br>This section includes Hills and Holes SSSI and connecting green spaces and countryside. It extends from the mineral railway line (perpendicular to Sookholme Lane to the south of the SSSI) to the Carrs Local Nature Reserve/ Recreation Ground.<br><br>This area is also multi-functional in nature and includes:<br><br>three areas of open space (Warsop Vale, Carr Lane and The Carrs);<br><br>Hills and Holes SSSI;<br><br>the River Meden flood zone<br><br>The Carrs local nature reserve (LNR)<br><br>local wildlife sites (LWS) | Nature Conservation – designated nature conservation sites (SSSI, LNR, LWS); priority habitats<br><br>Geological – area of county significance<br><br>Climate Change – flood risk (river)<br><br>Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor and other walking, cycle and multi-user trails; | Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor and linkages into the wider countryside and to Market and Church Warsop<br><br>Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br><br>Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland, wetlands |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| | • amenity spaces extending from Stonebridge Lane to The Carrs recreation group along the River Meden<br>• the Meden Trail and associated public rights of way (PROW)<br>• A Conservation Area and other heritage assets<br><br>This area facilitates access onto the Meden Trail for residents in Market Warsop via the following gateways:<br>• Sookholme Lane<br>• Stonebride Lane<br>• Carr Bank Park<br>• PROW off Carter Lane at Warsop Vale Sports ground and south of 'Rock House' east of Warsop Vale<br>• The Carrs Recreation Ground<br><br>The Carrs LNR and Recreation Ground offer a number of user-friendly access routes.<br><br>This section of the Meden Trail consists of dirt pathways which, in some areas, would benefit from multi-user surfacing. Better signage and improved landscaping along this section of the Meden Trail would improve its usability and function as a green corridor. This may also help 'absorb' recreational use away from the SSSI if integrated as part of an access management plan.<br><br>The section of the Meden Trail through the SSSI follow non-definitive route, permissible by landowner. This could be susceptible to increased recreational impacts.<br><br>The SSSI and LNR/LWS are separated by open amenity grassland which would benefit from habitat creation to improve ecological linkages along the river corridor, prioritising the creation and re-creation of wetland habitats. The same is true for adjacent recreation grounds. The section of the river that runs through the SSSI to The Carrs LNR has been identified as an opportunity to improve connectivity for water voles through the creation of green SuDS (SFRA 2008). Habitat enhancements (re-creation) within and adjacent to the flood zones need prioritising. | • open space; local nature reserve<br>• Heritage – listed building setting; archaeological significance; Conservation Area | and woodland. For example: create complementary wetland and open grassland habitats on Carr Lane Park and The Carrs Recreation Ground.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LNR, SSSI, LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - Restore this section along the River Meden such that it provides improved habitat connectivity for water voles and otter.<br><br>• Nature Conservation and Recreation - create and re-create wet meadows/neutral grassland and improve recreational pathways along existing amenity grassland between Stonebridge Lane and Carr Lane Park that runs parallel to the River Maun.<br><br>• Heritage – Provide enhancements in line with the Church Warsop Conservation Area and Management Plan.<br><br>• Climate change - sensitively mitigate flooding, where necessary and prioritise green SuDS, where feasible. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| | The Carrs sits within Church Warsop Conservation Area and contributes to the setting of nearby listed buildings. Sookholme Lane and Hammerwater bridge are of archaeological interest. | | |
| 4-J | **River Meden from Church Road to Meden Vale:**<br><br>Section along the River Meden from Church Road (Church Warsop) to the mineral railway east of Meden Vale.<br><br>This area is mostly wooded as it follows the River Meden from Church Warsop through Meden Vale. It includes The Bottoms LNR, local wildlife sites, amenity space, Church Warsop Conservation Area, areas of neutral grassland, arable land and playing fields.<br><br>The river's improved water quality in this area within recent years suggests that it has better ability to support water vole and otter populations. The river also meanders more freely suggesting that it may have the capacity to support higher levels of biodiversity.<br><br>The Meden Trail deviates from the river corridor at Manor Road and then re-joins at Manor Close as it follows an amenity space and then re-links with Manor Road and public rights of way at Assarts Farm to the mineral railway line. Manor Road also provides additional recreational linkages to the wider countryside near to Market Warsop, Church Warsop and Meden Vale. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats, local nature reserve, local wildlife site<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (river) and woodland<br><br>• Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor and other walking, cycle and multi-user trails; open space<br><br>• Heritage – listed building setting; archaeological significance; Conservation Area; restored mineral railway line | • Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor and linkages into the wider countryside and to Market and Church Warsop<br><br>• Recreation – improve recreational access onto the Meden Trail from The Carrs Recreation Ground (i.e. area between Church Road/Burns Lane).<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br><br>• Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/calcareous semi-natural grassland, wetlands and woodland.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LNR and LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated.<br><br>• Heritage – Provide enhancements in line with the Church Warsop Conservation Area and Management Plan.<br><br>• Climate change - sensitively mitigate flooding, where necessary and prioritise green SuDS, where feasible. |
| 4-K | **River Meden at Meden Vale to Hanger Hill:**<br><br>Section of the River Meden extending eastwards from the mineral railway at Meden Vale to the district boundary connecting with Newark and Sherwood district. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats<br><br>• Climate Change - flood risk (river) | • Recreation – improve multi-user trail connections to the Sustrans Route 6 (National Cycle Network) and wider countryside<br><br>• Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| | This includes the Meden Valley Trail via public rights of way (PROW) extending eastwards from Assarts Farm and northwards towards the wider countryside and the district of Bassetlaw (see GI section below).<br><br>Two other PROWs connect with Strategic GI Area # 6 (Sherwood) from Netherfield Lane. Sustrans Route 6 (National Cycle Network) is included in this area located on the far eastern edge boarding Bassetlaw district.<br><br>The river's improved water quality in this area within recent years suggests that it has better ability to support water vole and otter populations. The river also meanders more freely and has increased in area due to subsidence suggesting that it may have the capacity to support higher levels of biodiversity. Woodland is confined to the river banks but patchy in its coverage.<br><br>This area, particularly from Hanger Hill Drive, provides an opportunity to prioritise the enhancement of habitat connectivity through further habitat creation and the promotion of sensitive management. Where appropriate, the creation of heathland, wetland and woodland habitats should be prioritised.<br><br>According to historic maps dating back to 1875, very little has changed in relation to landform and buildings. Heritage significance as it is the site of the 4th Duke of Portland's water meadow scheme. | ·Heritage – historic field boundaries, potential archaeological significance<br><br>Recreation – walking trails and Sustrans Route 6 (National Cycle Network) | and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/acid semi-natural grassland, heathland, wetlands and woodland.<br><br>Nature Conservation - ensure that the creation of habitats and their management is sensitive to Nightjar and Woodlark and other notable species within the Sherwood area.<br><br>Climate change - sensitively mitigate flooding, where necessary and prioritise green SuDS, where feasible. |
| 4-L | **Gleadthorpe and Woodlands:**<br><br>Section contained within the following boundaries:<br><br>mineral railway at Meden Vale to the west<br><br>district boundary to the north<br><br>Netherfield Lane to the south<br><br>Inclusive of Kingston Drive Plantation/district boundary to the east | Nature Conservation - woodlands<br><br>Recreation – walking trails and Sustrans Route 6 (National Cycle Network)<br><br>Climate Change - flood risk (river) | Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral/acid semi-natural grassland, heathland, wetlands and woodland.<br><br>Nature Conservation - ensure that the creation of habitats and their management is sensitive to |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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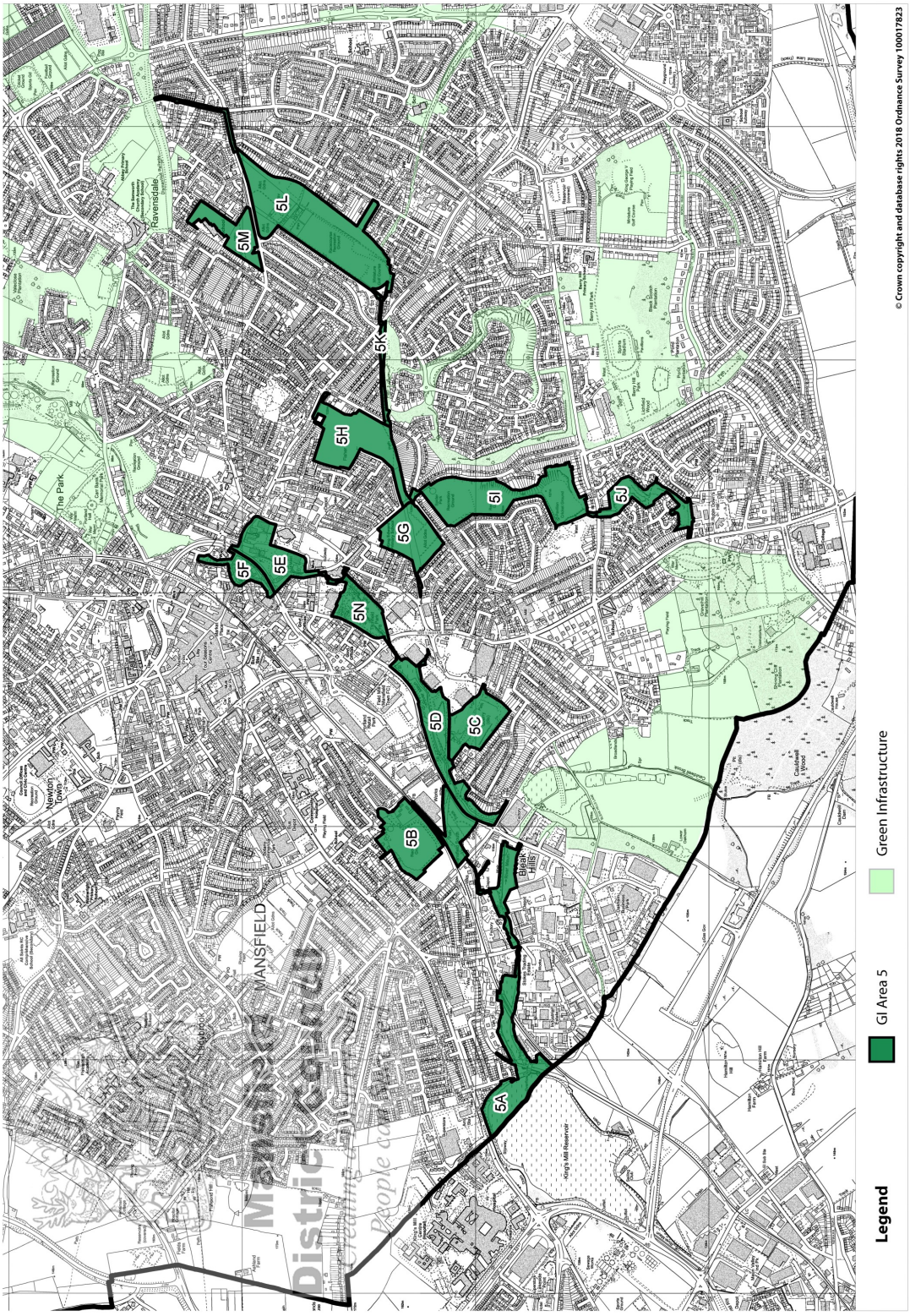
| | This section includes public rights of way (PROW) that provide connections to the wider countryside, including woodland and to Sustrans National Cycle Network following Budby Drive track. These PROW are accessed from three locations off of Netherfield Road. The Sustrans Route connects with Sherwood Forest and Sherwood Pines (to the south) and to Clumber Park (to the northeast).<br><br>The area contains plantation woodland (Kinston Drive Plantation, Gleadthorpe Screed and Gleadthorpe Planation) connecting to larger areas of plantation woodland in Bassetlaw district to the north.<br><br>A local wildlife site (Kinston Drive Plantation) is located on the far eastern edge of the district whilst Elkesley Hill LWS sits adjacent to this strategic GI area but outside the district. Given the location near to Sherwood Forest, surrounding plantation woodlands and LWS, this area offers a good opportunity to expand woodland and heathland cover in order to further strengthen existing ecological connections. | | Nightjar and Woodlark and other notable species within the Sherwood area.<br><br>• Recreation – improve multi-user trail connections to the Sustrans Route 6 (National Cycle Network) and wider countryside. |

# Strategic GI network 5 - Timberland Trail





## Strategic GI network 5 - Timberland Trail

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| 5-A | **Recreational and ecological green corridor stretching from Kings Mill reservoir to Hamilton Way (Bleak Hills), along the River Maun:**<br><br>Provides ecological and recreational connections along the River Maun and into Ashfield District.<br><br>Identified in the MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) as a 'green SuDS priority area' with potential to facilitate improved ecological linkages for key species.<br><br>As an ecological hub, this area includes:<br><br>• Kings Mill Reservoir is a local wildlife site<br>• Hermitage Local Nature Reserve (LNR)<br>• the north-western part of Oakham LNR and<br>• network of woodland and wetland habitats outside non-designated sites.<br><br>Overall, these support nationally and locally important species. Includes a mosaic of wetland, woodland and wet and neutral grassland habitats.<br><br>Hermitage LNR, Oakham LNR and Quarry Lane LNR – this combined area is also an important recreational 'hub'. Supported by an active Friends' Group.<br><br>Includes Scheduled Ancient Monument (viaduct) within the LNR.<br><br>Also includes amenity spaces and woodland on either side of the listed viaduct boarding the Hermitage LNR (to the west). These would benefit from safety and quality improvements.<br><br>Local access points from residential and employment areas onto the Timberland Trail/ green corridor provide gateways onto this trail include:<br><br>• Hermitage Lane<br>• Hamilton Way<br>• Public Rights of Way extending from Hermitage LNR and across industrial yard travelling north and east over Sheepbridge Lane. | • Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor including multi-user walking and cycling trails; connections to Ashfield district and access to Kings Mill Reservoir; local nature reserve<br><br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitats, local wildlife site, local nature reserve<br><br>• Heritage – scheduled ancient monument, former mineral railway<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk | • Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor and linkages to Ashfield district<br><br>• Recreational and heritage - promote and integrate the heritage, recreational and ecological benefits as a resource for local residents and visitors through better interpretation and signage.<br><br>• Climate Change and nature Conservation - improve the water quality and reduce flood risk through appropriate measures, for example: improve culvert capacity, improve weirs by addressing blockages for wildlife and naturalise the river channel.<br><br>• Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. These would likely be a combination of neutral grassland, wetlands and woodland (e.g. within amenity areas).<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LNR and LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| | from Kings Lodge Drive<br>• Kings Mill Lane (extending from Sutton Road)<br>• Bridle way from Ashfield district from disused railway line connecting to Bleak Hill Way. | | |
| 5-B | **Woodland, allotments and local connections**:<br><br>Section includes Woodland, Quarry Lane allotments and Public Rights of Way (PROW) east of Sheepbridge Lane and connecting with Moor Lane park and recreation ground at Moor Lane/ Victoria Street / Princess Street. Connects residents to the Timberland Trail. Quality of the PROW is very industrial in nature.<br><br>Woodland provides an ecological linkage with woodland along the highway network and Quarry Lane LNR to the southeast | • Recreation – open space and walking trails, connecting to the Timberland Trail<br>• Nature Conservation – urban woodland<br>• Climate change – urban woodland | • Recreation – improve multi-user trail use and quality of amenity along trails, especially between Moor Lane Park and pathways to the Timberland Trail<br>• Nature Conservation - within the allotments, maintain and enhance green connectivity through appropriate uses.<br>• Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network (e.g. woodland and/or wildflower meadows within open space and amenity areas). |
| 5-C | **Former Gregory's Quarry**:<br><br>This area consists of woodland and scrub which has colonised the former quarry. It is designated as a local wildlife site.<br><br>This site is identified as an area prone to surface water flooding, but seems to be currently localised. It has also suffered from anti-social behaviour (i.e. illegal encampments).<br><br>There is potential for creating a recreational linkage from Nottingham Road (A60) to the Quarry Lane Nature Reserve.<br><br>Greggory's quarry was the source of Mansfield Stone used in building the houses of parliament. | • Nature Conservation – local wildlife site, urban woodland<br>• Heritage – former mining heritage<br>• Climate Change - flood risk (surface water), urban woodland | • Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network.<br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated.<br>• Recreation - improve multi-user recreational access between A60 and the Timberland Trail, where feasible. Improve safety of the area.<br>• Climate Change mitigate flood risk, as appropriate. |
| 5-D | **Quarry Lane LNR and Field Mill Pond**: | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats, local | • Recreation – improve multi-user access to and along the Timberland Tail such that key crossing points are safe and the surface is accessible. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| | This area includes Quarry Lane LNR and adjacent woodland. The LNR acts as an outdoor classroom and recreational hub. It includes, pond dipping platforms, fishing platforms, picnic area and interpretation boards.<br><br>As recognised in the MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and the Environment Agency flooding is a key issue within this area, as Field Mill is close to crest level of the embankment due, mostly to increased silt and sediment levels and a need to improve the function of the culverts at Nottingham Rd. This has a additional impact on water quality within this section of the River Maun.<br><br>Additionally, culverts at Field Mill Pond act as barriers to movement for wildlife.<br><br>This area includes key recreational access points onto the Timberland Trail/Maun Valley Corridor:<br><br>• Quarry lane<br>• Sheepbridge Lane<br>• Matlock Avenue<br>• Nottingham Road (A60). | • wildlife site, local nature reserve<br><br>• Geological – area of county significance<br><br>• Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor with multi-user trails (walking and cycling), local nature reserve; recreation hub and gateway<br><br>• Climate Change - flood risk (river) | • Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for which they have been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation – create new habitat buffering and linkages between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network.<br><br>• Climate Change and Nature Conservation - improve the water quality, reduce flood risk and address biodiversity enhancements through appropriate measures, including: a) improve culvert capacity; b) reduce barriers for wildlife and c) restore the natural channel conditions of the River Maun. |
| 5-E | **Riverside**:<br><br>This is a brownfield area between Littleworth / Ratcliffe Gate (A6191) and St Peters Way / Great Central Rd. Here the River Maun is mainly concealed under tarmac and roads and passes through culverts.<br><br>It is a potential regeneration site that offers opportunity to restore the River Maun to more natural conditions, including opening up culverted areas. As recognised in the MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and the Environment Agency, there are limited opportunities to link existing habitats but naturalisation of this area would improve recreational amenity and ecological quality of the River Maun within this area.<br><br>Also includes a small area of urban woodland adjacent to St Peter's Way. This may help mitigate effects from air pollution and provides amenity value. May also provide habitat linkages with St Peter's Church (historic building and wooded features) e.g. for bats. | • Climate Change - flood risk (river) | • Nature Conservation - restore this section of the River Maun in order to improve this area's ecological and recreational functions, including re-naturalising the river channel, where opportunities arise.<br><br>• Climate Change and Nature Conservation - improve the water quality, reduce flood risk and address biodiversity enhancements through appropriate measures.<br><br>• Recreation – create recreational trails through this area to improve connections to the Timberland Trail and Titchfield Park and residential areas. |
| 5-F | **River Maun at St Peter's Way and St Peter's Church**: | • Nature Conservation – urban woodland | • Nature Conservation - Restore this section of the River Maun in order to improve this area's ecological |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| | This area is part of a designated Conservation Area and includes St Peter's Church (listed building) and surrounding landscaped grounds. Area may also provide habitat linkages with small urban woodland to the south e.g. for bats.<br><br>As recognised in the MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) and the Environment Agency, there is a need restore the River Maun here to more natural conditions, including opening up culverted areas. There are limited opportunities to link existing areas but naturalisation of this area would improve the ecological quality of the immediate area. | • Climate Change - flood risk (river)<br><br>• Heritage – listed building setting | and recreational functions, including re-naturalising the river channel, where opportunities arise.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - Enhance the ecological functions, where appropriate, of these landscaped areas surrounding the church. |
| 5-G | **Timberland Trail between Baum's Lane and Littleworth Avenue**:<br><br>This includes a section of cycle path that serves businesses and local residents between Baum's Lane and Forest Ave. (including Ferndale and Blackthorn Drive). This path ends at Blackthorn Dr, preventing access along an existing section of former mineral railway (south of King Edwards Primary School) and connecting with Timberland Trail at Fisher Lane Park.<br><br>This former railway line can be accessed from Littleworth Ave. but is not open to through-traffic at Blackthorn Drive.<br><br>The playing fields of King Edward's primary school and the Forest Rd Allotments offer opportunities to connect with the Timberland trail and to create complementary habitat within the school grounds such that this ecological corridor is further enhanced. | • Recreation – open space<br><br>• Nature Conservation – scrub and semi-natural grassland<br><br>• Heritage – restored former mineral railway line | • Recreation - create multi-user trail connecting section with the Timberland Trail such that is connects with Fisher Lane Park and the retail park at Nottingham Rd. This would include creating a new access point at Blackthorn Drive, multi-user surfacing and designing in safety measures for this section (e.g. lighting, clear visibility).<br><br>• Nature Conservation – create new habitats within playing fields at King Edwards Primary School and the Forest Rd Allotments to connect with existing urban trees and open grassland along this former mineral railway line. |
| 5-H | **Fisher Lane Park and the Timberland Trail:**<br><br>This park includes a section of the Timberland Trail and facilitates access onto this green corridor for nearby residents; thus, it acts as a key gateway onto this green corridor. It has relatively good network of pathways around the park. Access points include:<br><br>• Littleworth Lane<br>• Fisher Lane<br>• Windsor Road<br>• Rock Hill<br>• Mount Milner/ Mountview Close<br>• | • Recreation – open space and strategic trail/ green corridor with multi-user trails<br><br>• Nature Conservation – urban woodland, wildflower meadow and diverse hedges | • Recreation - improve trails for multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor<br><br>• Recreation - ensure that local entrances onto Fisher Lane Park are enhanced such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - create new woodland such that it provides an extension to existing areas of woodland. Create new open habitat areas such as wildflower meadows to benefit wildlife and the amenity of the open space. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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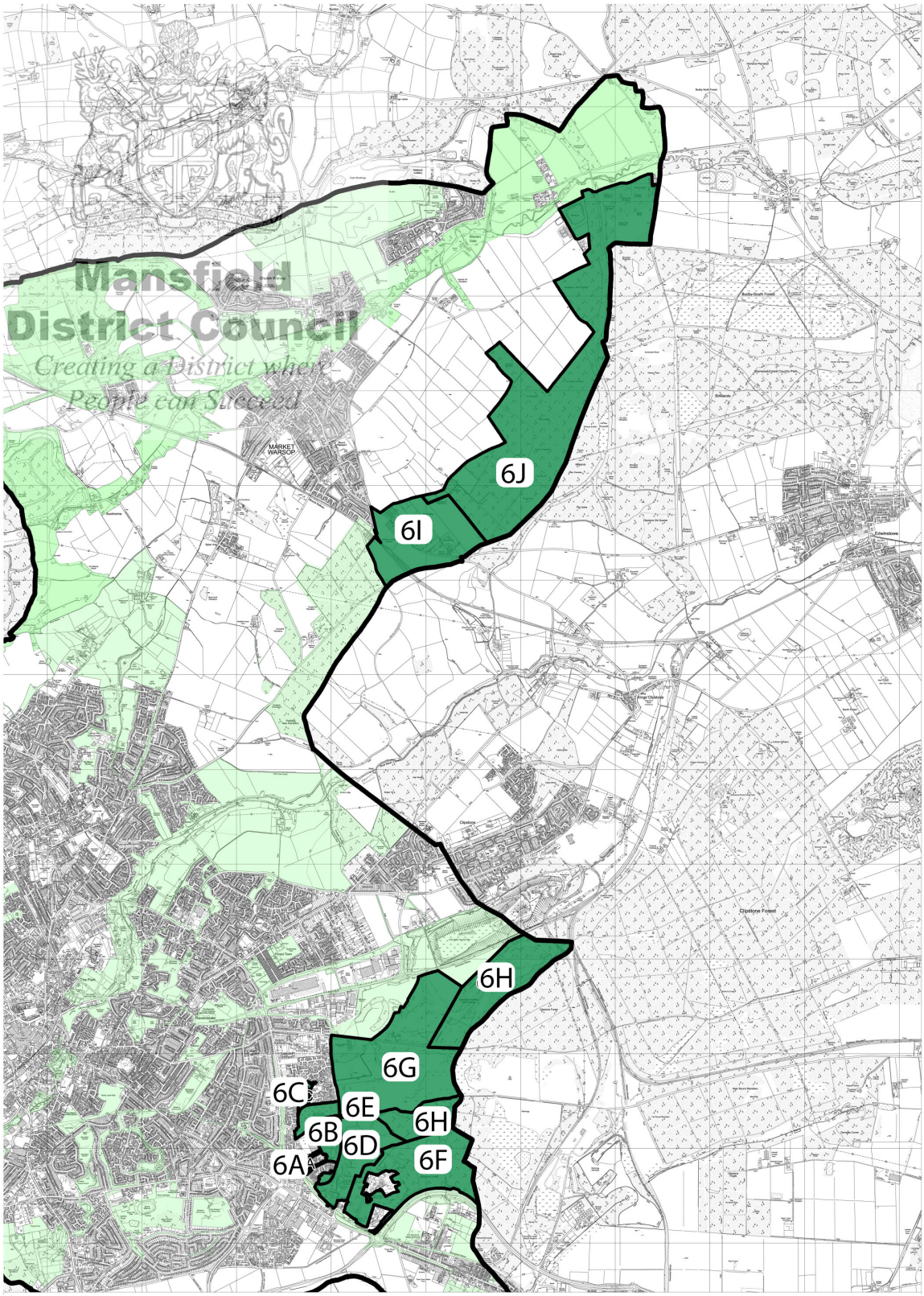
| | The park includes small areas of urban woodland, wildflower meadow and diverse hedges which provide ecological linkages to the wider green corridor. | | |
| 5-I | **Forest Road Recreation Ground:**<br><br>This park facilitates access onto the Timberland Trail green corridor for nearby residents; thus, it acts as a key gateway onto this green corridor. Local access points include:<br><br>• Berry Hill Rd<br>• Delamere Drive<br>• Forest Road / Windsor Road<br><br>It also serves as an extension to the Timberland Trail as it has relatively good network of pathways around the park.<br><br>Access from Berry Hill Lane onto Forest Road Recreation Ground is blocked due to fencing, landownership and topography. If access was allowed thru, this would facilitate better access onto the Timberland Trail green corridor to the north.<br><br>This green space also includes a Local Wildlife Site (LWS) along its eastern cliff/slope, an urban orchard, and tree/shrub landscaped margins. There is potential to create additional habitat buffers to the LWS through woodland, heathland and wildflower meadow creation. | • Recreation – open space<br><br>• Nature Conservation – local wildlife site; urban woodland; priority habitats; and community orchard<br><br>• Geological – area of county significance<br><br>• Climate Change – urban woodland | • Recreation – create new multi-user recreational pathway (linkage) across Berry Hill Lane to improve north-south access from GI area 5J to the Timberland Trail (GI Area 5H) at Fisher Lane Park.<br><br>• Nature Conservation – create new habitats within playing fields at Forest Road Recreation Ground to connect with existing urban woodland, orchard and wildflower meadows. |
| 5-J | **Amenity space and local green corridor from Nottingham Rd (A60) at Mansfield Cemetery and Berry Hill Lane**:<br><br>This area acts as a local green corridor connecting with strategic GI network # 7 (Cauldwell) at Mansfield Cemetery. It facilitates local access to the A60 Nottingham Rd (main transport route) and Berry Hill Lane which both have cycle lanes. Access points include:<br><br>• Johnson Drive<br>• Nottingham Rd (A60)<br>• Abbeydale Dr.<br><br>Additionally, these link further with the wider green corridor and cycle lanes within the former Berry Hill quarry area (residential area and local centre) and the Timberland Trail green corridor to the north (Strategic GI Area # 9 Berry Hill). | • Recreation – open space, multi-user trails and connection between GI Area 7F (Cauldwell)<br><br>• Nature Conservation – urban woodland | • Recreation – create new multi-user recreational pathway (linkage) across Berry Hill Lane to improve north-south access to GI Area 5I leading to the Timberland Trail (GI Area 5H) at Fisher Lane Park.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Recreation - enhance the amenity and positive social inclusivity of this site by enhancing its place shaping qualities e.g. benches, landscaping<br><br>• Nature Conservation – enhance the ecological quality and amenity of this site through appropriate habitat creation and management |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Access from Berry Hill Lane onto Forest Road Recreation Ground is blocked due to fencing, landownership and topography. If access was allowed thru, this would further facilitate better access onto the Timberland Trail green corridor.<br><br>Potential for trail improvements (e.g. multi-user surfacing and design and lighting).<br><br>Area has potential for improved habitat quality (e.g. heathland and acid grassland creation). | | (e.g. heathland and acid grassland) to improve ecological linkages with existing habitats. |
| 5-K | **Timberland trail between (east of) Fisher Lane Park and (west of) Racecourse Park**:<br><br>This includes a section of the Timberland Trail between Windsor Rd and Southwell Rd West (A6191) which is a multi-user trail for walking and cycling. This section provides access on the Timberland Trail green corridor for local residents with access points at:<br><br>• Windsor Rd<br>• Southwell Rd<br>• Heathfield Way (Berry Hill Quarry)<br>• Melrose Ave.<br><br>Access from Mayfair Avenue is not possible due to fencing and vegetation.<br><br>This former mineral railway line provides a wooded wildlife corridor linking to other areas of existing woodland to the south, east and west. | • Recreation – Strategic trail/green corridor with multi-user trails (walking and cycling)<br>• Nature Conservation – urban woodland<br>• Climate Change – urban woodland | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br>• Nature Conservation and Recreation – sensitively manage this wooded corridor for wildlife and amenity. |
| 5-L | **Racecourse Park**:<br><br>This park acts as a strategic gateway for access onto the Timberland Trail and the Mansfield Way green corridors. Access points include:<br><br>• Eakring Rd<br>• Epsom Street<br>• Budby Ave.<br>• Racecourse Rd.<br>• Selwyn St.<br><br>It includes a Local Wildlife Site (LWS), woodland, woodland scrub, heathland and acid grassland. | • Recreation – open space; allotment; strategic trail/green corridor; sports pitches (football, tennis)<br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitats and local wildlife site<br>• Climate Change – flood risk (surface water) | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br>• Nature Conservation - enhance the ecological quality of this site through appropriate habitat creation and re-creation within this site, especially such that it provides an extension and/or |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | It also has recreational provision (play area, tennis courts, football pitch and bowling green).<br><br>There are also significant areas of surface water flooding that pass through the park (as per Environment Agency mapping), suggesting that this site may mitigate flood risk on nearby built-up areas. | | • complements the existing LWS and areas of heathland / acid grassland.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for it has been designated.<br><br>• Climate Change - ensure that flood risk from surface water flooding is positively addressed and complements the existing habitats and recreational use. |
| 5-M | **Allotments and former school playing fields adjoining and near to Racecourse Park:**<br><br>These areas add to the amenity and physical connectivity to the wider GI network<br><br>There are also significant areas of surface water flooding that pass through the allotments directing adjoining to the north of Racecourse Park (as per Environment Agency mapping), suggesting that this area may mitigate flood risk on nearby built-up areas. There are other areas of surface water flood risk adjacent to the school playing field and allotments.<br><br>Area provide an opportunity to create new habitat areas linking with Racecourse Park heathland and woodland. | • Climate Change (flooding)<br><br>• Recreation - allotments | • Climate Change - ensure that flood risk from surface water flooding is positively addressed.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - create new areas of complementary habitats in order to provide new ecological linkages with Racecourse Park. Maintain green connectivity through appropriate uses. |
| 5-N | **Titchfield Park and the River Maun:**<br><br>This area acts as an important hub and gateway within the wider Timberland Trail corridor. It is an extension of the Water Meadows leisure centre and includes both informal and formal recreation provision (e.g. play area, outdoor gym, Pentaque, MUGA, amphitheatre and sensory garden). It connects with Quarry Lane LNR and along Littleworth Lane (shared cycle path).<br><br>All of the park is within Flood Zone 2 and most within Flood Zone 3; hence this green space acts as a 'green sponge', potentially mitigating flood risk nearby. The river channel is restricted as it is canalised. This reduces its ability to support wildlife. Re-naturalising this section of the River Maun would be positive.<br><br>It is also within the Nottingham Road Conservation Area. | • Recreation – open space; strategic trail/green corridor and GI hub and gateway to rest of GI Area; sports pitches; close proximity to Water Meadows Leisure Centre<br><br>• Nature Conservation – River, urban trees<br><br>• Heritage – historic park<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (surface water); informal flood storage area | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Climate Change and Nature Conservation - enhance the function of this green space to mitigate flood risk, whilst exploring opportunities to re-naturalise sections of the River Maun in order to improve connectivity for wildlife (e.g. re-naturalising sections of the river, culvert improvements, habitat creation and management). Also see GI Area 5E. |

## Strategic GI network 6 - Sherwood





## Strategic GI network 6 - Sherwood

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6-A | **Oak Tree Tesco/health centre and Sawley Drive/Sandown Road green ways**:<br><br>Local routes near to the Oak Tree Tesco parallel to Sawley Drive/Sandown Road and leading to the recreation ground between Tesco and Jubliee Way South. Access points include:<br><br>• Sandown Road / Teal Avenue<br>• Sawley Drive<br>• Tesco car park<br>• Jubilee Way South<br><br>Together with the open spaces, these pathways create local green corridors that connect to Oak Tree Heath LNR. They provide key green links between residential areas and the local centre at Oak Tree.<br><br>These corridors include woodland and scrub that provide ecological linkages with adjacent playing fields, the Mansfield Way and Oak Tree Heath LNR/SSSI/LWS. | • Recreation – multi-user trails and gateways to rest of GI Area; link to GI Area 8 (Mansfield Way) and local centres<br><br>• Climate Change – urban woodlands<br><br>• Nature Conservation – woodland; ecological corridor to local wildlife sites | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Nature conservation - sensitively manage these green corridors to support biodiversity. Where feasible, create pockets of heathland. |
| 6-B | This section includes:<br><br>• recreation grounds / playing fields and amenity space at the rear of Oak Tree Tesco/Leisure Centre and south of Oak Tree Heath LNR/SSSI. It is bordered to the east by Jubilee Way South. Access points include: 1) local green ways parallel to Sawley Drive and 2) Winster Way. | • Nature Conservation – woodland; ecological corridor to local wildlife sites; local wildlife site<br><br>• Recreation – open space; playing pitches; | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • amenity space north of Jubilee Way South accessed from: 1) Sandalwood Close, 2) Sandfield Close, 3) Teal Avenue and 4) Turnstone Crescent.<br>• Ratcher Hill Cutting local wildlife site and adjoining woodland parallel to Jubilee Way South.<br><br>These include areas of dense wood and scrub edges. These spaces provide an opportunity to create additional heathland habitat to provide an ecological linkages with Oak Tree Heath LNR/SSSI/LWS. | • multi-user trails linking to Oak Tree Heath LNR<br>• Climate Change – urban woodland | • Nature Conservation - enhance the ecological quality of this site through appropriate habitat creation and re-creation within this site, especially such that it provides an extension and/or complements the existing LWS and areas of heathland / acid grassland and gorse.<br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the local wildlife site for the features it has been designated. |
| 6-C | **Longmoor Walk Amenity Space and Roston Open Space**:<br><br>These open spaces provide important local gateways onto this strategic GI area with access to Oak Tree Heath LNR, Oak Tree Leisure Centre and local shopping centre and the wider countryside. Access points include:<br>• Morton Close<br>• Melbourne Court<br>• Littleover Avenue<br>• Fritchley Court<br>• Foston Close<br>• Jubilee Way North<br>• Edale Road<br><br>These areas also provide opportunities to provide further ecological linkages with adjacent designated wildlife sites. | • Recreation – open space; local multi-user trails/green corridor (walking and cycling) which together with GI Area 6H, link together open space and local centres | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br>• Nature Conservation - enhance the ecological quality of this site through appropriate habitat creation within open spaces, especially such that it provides an extension and/or complements the existing SSSI and Sherwood habitats (e.g. heathland / acid grassland and gorse). |
| 6-D | **Ratcher Hill Quarry:**<br><br>This area is currently a working quarry but there are plans in the near future to cease work. This section can be divided into two areas: | • Nature Conservation – cliff-edge habitats and restoration plan to restore part of area for biodiversity; adjacent to nationally and locally | • Nature conservation – enhance the ecological quality of this site through appropriate habitat creation within open spaces, especially such that it provides an extension and/or complements the existing SSSI, LWS and Sherwood habitats (e.g. heathland / acid grassland and gorse). |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Existing and planned habitat restoration area as part of a mineral restoration plan (e.g. heathland). This will provide habitat linkages to existing habitats and designated sites by further strengthening ecological networks in the Sherwood Area. A sustainable management plan will be key to supporting high quality nature conservation enhancements.<br>• amenity space surrounding existing employment area.<br><br>These are significant areas of surface water flood risk and existing areas of open water.<br><br>This area is located adjacent to existing Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Local Wildlife Site (LWS). | • designated wildlife sites (SSSI and LWS) ; part of possible potential Special Protection Area<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk | • Climate Change and Nature Conservation– mitigate and mange surface water flooding and where feasible, enhance biodiversity.<br><br>• Landscape – restore mineral site in accordance with landscape character and enhance overall amenity of area<br><br>• Recreation – complement existing nearby recreational trails to the south (Mansfield Way) through new recreational trails. |
| 6-E | **Green corridor leading to Strawberry Hill Heaths SSSI**:<br><br>This follows along an existing PROW between Oak Tree LNR/SSSI and Strawberry Hill Heaths SSSI; located south of Mansfield Golf Club and Driving Range.<br><br>Walking routes should be encouraged to the north of Strawberry Hills Heath SSSI, but exclude access into Strawberry Hills Heath SSSI such that recreational impacts on sensitive species and their habitats are avoided and minimised as appropriate.<br><br>It also acts as an ecological corridor between the two SSSIs. | • Recreation – walking trail<br><br>• Nature Conservation – ecological corridor between SSSIs; part of possible potential Special Protection Area | • Recreation and Nature Conservation - enhance the recreational function of this route as a local green corridor linking: Oak Tree Heath; surrounding residential area; and pathway to the north of Strawberry Hills Heath SSSI. Exclude access into Strawberry Hills Heath SSSI such that recreational impacts on sensitive species and their habitats are avoided and minimised as appropriate.<br><br>• Recreation – improve multi-user access along trail, as appropriate.<br><br>• Nature conservation – enhance the ecological quality of this site through appropriate habitat creation, especially such that it provides an extension and/or complements the existing SSSI, LNR, LWS and Sherwood habitats (e.g. heathland / acid grassland and gorse). |
| 6-F | **Ransom Wood, Clipstone Forest and MARR Route**:<br><br>This section includes a large area of interconnected woodland and heathland areas that adjoin to Strawberry Hill | • Recreation – walking trails and accessible woodland | • Nature conservation – enhance the ecological quality of this site through appropriate habitat creation, especially such that it provides an extension and/or complements the existing SSSI, |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Heaths SSSI from the MARR route (A617) extending northwards through Ransom Wood and Clipstone Forest. This provides an ecological link as part of a wider Sherwood 'habitat hub'. This area is a designated local wildlife site.<br><br>Public rights of way through Clipstone Forest provide a recreational link to: 1) Strawberry Hill Heaths SSSI and 2) Rainworth Village and the Mansfield Way long distance trail network (GI Area 8: Mansfield Way). Also provides wider recreational connections into Newark and Sherwood district.<br><br>This area of woodland is likely to mitigate for climate change. | Climate Change - woodland<br><br>Nature Conservation – priority habitats; local wildlife sites; woodland; part of possible potential Special Protection Area | LNR, LWS and Sherwood habitats (e.g. heathland / acid grassland and gorse).<br><br>Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the local wildlife site for the features it has been designated.<br><br>Recreation and nature Conservation - Ensure that habitat and recreational access management practices are sensitive to Nightjar and Woodlark and other notable species within the Sherwood area. Where feasible, create open habitat within woodland such as heathland to provide linkages to surrounding heathland areas.<br><br>Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats |
| 6-G | **Mansfield Golf Club and Driving Range and Mansfield Rugby Club**:<br><br>This is a large open area which includes existing sports grounds (Mansfield Golf Club and Driving Range and theMansfield Rugby Union Football Club). This includes some small areas of gorse, heathland and acid grassland.<br><br>This area was identified in the Habitats Regulations Scoping study (2015) as an area with potential to provide further habitat linkages between surrounding SSSIs (Oak Tree, Strawberry Hills Heath, and Sherwood Forest Golf Course) and also adjacent local wildlife sites (LWS).<br><br>There are areas of surface water flood risk and existing areas of open water. | Nature Conservation – priority habitats; located adjacent to SSSIs; part of possible potential Special Protection Area<br><br>Recreation – playing pitches, golf course, walking trails<br><br>Climate Change – flood risk (surface water flooding) | Nature Conservation - create and restore key habitat linkages so that they can better provide functional habitat corridors between sites designated for nature conservation (SSSIs and LWS) and other priority habitats (heathland, acid grassland and oak-birch woodland) outside of designated sites. Enhance the ecological integrity of the wider Sherwood Forest area.<br><br>Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access sensitive habitats<br><br>Recreation – improve walking and cycling provision with the surrounding area, including new multi-user trails through the restored Mansfield colliery and Jubilee Way North, linking with |

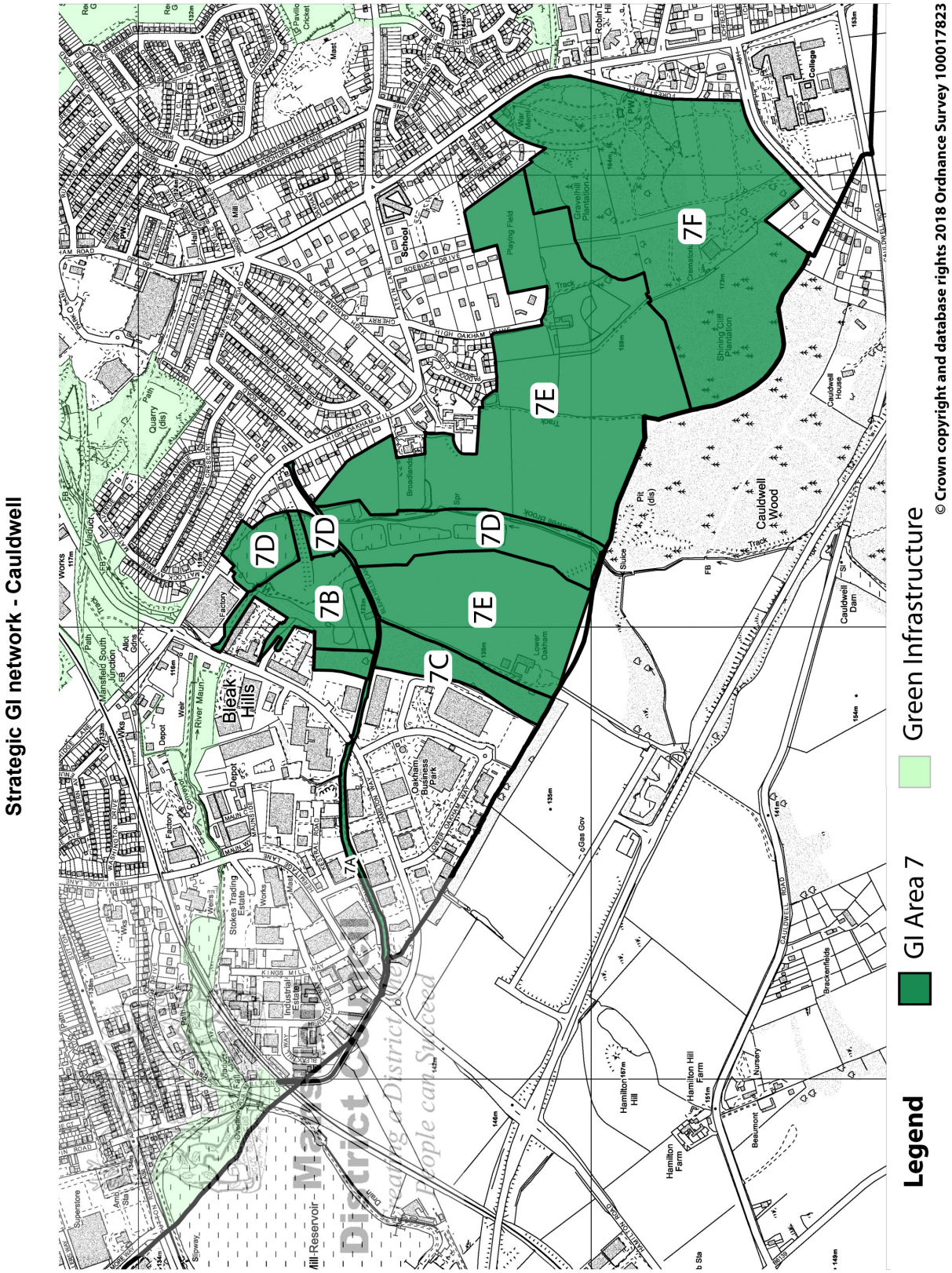


| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Vicar Water Country Park, Timberland Trail and the existing cycle network.<br><br>Climate Change – mitigate and manage surface water flooding and where feasible, contribute to enhancing biodiversity. |
| 6-H | **Strawberry Hill Heath SSSI, Sherwood Forest Gold Course SSSI/LWS and Oak Tree Heath LNR/SSSI/LWS:**<br><br>This section includes a large area of interconnected woodland and heathland designated as: Strawberry Hill Heath SSSI, Sherwood Forest Gold Course SSSI/LWS and Oak Tree Heath LNR/SSSI/LWS. This area provides an ecological 'hub' as part of the wider Sherwood Forest area.<br><br>Oak Tree Heath LNR is also a recreational hub which provides access to nature within an urban setting for local residents. Access points include:<br><br>• Jubilee Way South x2<br>• Oak Tree Leisure Centre<br>• Oak Tree Recreation ground and playing fields<br>• Roston Open Space<br>• Thornton Close<br>• Roston Close<br>• Mappleton Drive | • Nature Conservation – designated sites: LWS, LNR and SSSI. Provides an ecological 'hub' as part of the wider Sherwood Forest area. Part of possible potential Special Protection Area<br><br>• Recreation – multi-user trails (walking and cycling) and other walking trails; recreational hub for this area of the district<br><br>• Heritage – Town and Village Green | • Nature Conservation - enhance the ecological integrity of these sites within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the designated sites for the features they have been designated.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats<br><br>• Recreation - improved recreational integration with the surrounding area, including linkages with (GI area 6C – Roston Open Space and GI Area 5B) and the wider Sherwood Forest. Improve the safety of road crossings (Jubilee Way South). |
| 6-I | **Habitat opportunity area Southeast of Market Warsop**:<br><br>This section includes:<br><br>• local wildlife sites along the Welbeck Colliery Junction railway line | • Nature Conservation – local wildlife site; priority habitats; part of possible potential Special Protection Area | • Nature Conservation - create and restore key habitat linkages so that they can better provide functional habitat corridors between areas of woodland and other priority habitats (e.g. create heathland, acid grassland and oak-birch woodland). Enhance the ecological integrity within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • arable land between Peafield Plantation and Blakeley Hill Plantation (Meden Farm and Bradmer Hill area).<br>• public rights of way trails extending from Forest Road towards Blakeley Hill Plantation and Norman's Plantation<br>• It excludes existing developed area (e.g. residential and employment areas).<br><br>This area was identified in the Habitats Regulations Scoping study (2015) as an area with potential to provide further habitat linkages between adjacent local wildlife site (LWS) and plantation woodland.<br><br>It also includes public rights of way (PROW) which provide access into the Thynghowe Viking Heritage area. There are two points of access off Forest Road: 1) Meden Farm and 2) near junction with Mansfield Road (A6075).<br><br>This section also includes a historic boundary of the historic Clipstone Park. | • Recreation – walking trails<br>• Heritage – Viking heritage site and archaeological significance | • Nature Conservation - restore existing hedgerows. Where feasible, buffer these to create wider ecological corridors linking to existing wooded areas.<br>• Recreation - buffer existing built up areas in order to ensure the amenity of existing recreational trails are enhanced.<br>• Recreational and heritage - promote and integrate the heritage, recreational and ecological benefits as a resource for local residents and visitors through better interpretation and signage. |
| 6-J | **Thynghowe heritage area and woodlands**:<br><br>This section includes a network of trails in and around plantation woodland west of Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve and Special Area of Conservation. It includes plantation woodland extending from the River Meden (Gleadthorpe) to Forest Road (Marekt Warsop). Includes PROWs with access points from:<br>• Forest Road/B6035 southeast of Market Warsop<br>• Mansfield Road/A6075 southeast of Market Warsop<br>• Netherfield Lane near Gleadthrope, east of Meden Vale and<br>• Bridle way extending from Broomhill Lane south of Meden Vale. | • Nature Conservation – local wildlife site; priority habitats; adjacent to National Nature Reserve and Special Area of Conservation; part of possible potential Special Protection Area<br>• Recreation – walking trails<br>• Heritage – Viking heritage site and archaeological significance<br>• Climate Change - woodland | • Nature Conservation - create and restore key habitat linkages so that they can better provide functional habitat corridors between areas of woodland and other priority habitats (e.g. create heathland, acid grassland and oak-birch woodland). Enhance the ecological integrity within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area.<br>• Nature Conservation - restore existing hedgerows. Where feasible, buffer these to create wider ecological corridors linking to existing wooded areas.<br>• Recreational and heritage - promote and integrate the heritage, recreational and ecological benefits as a resource for local residents and visitors through better interpretation and signage. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | It has been identified as an area of archaeological importance for its significant Viking heritage interest known as 'Thynghowe'.<br><br>It also includes designated local wildlife sites. There is further opportunity to create areas of heathland within the existing plantation woodlands. This area of woodland is likely to mitigate for climate change. | | • Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the designated sites for the features they have been designated.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites. |

# Strategic GI network 7 - Cauldwell





## Strategic GI network 7 - Cauldwell

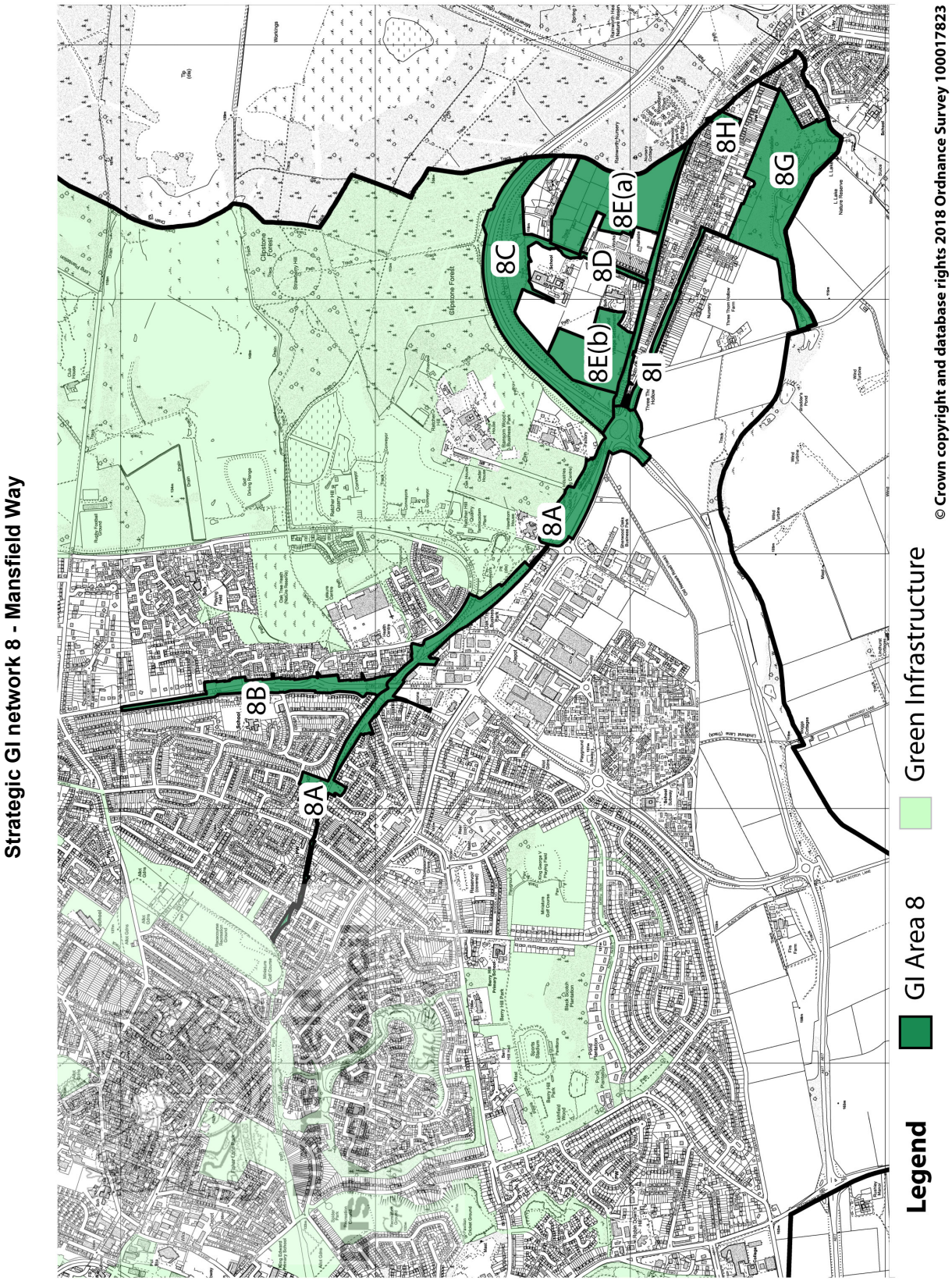
| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7-A | **Gateway to the Timberland Trail**:<br><br>Gateway to the Timberland Trail extending from Ashfield District to Oakham LNR. This section follows the Timberland tail along a public rights of way (PROW). Network Rail is in the process of re-routing the PROW that currently extends from the Robin Hood Railway line along<br><br>This is a historic route dating back to at least 1835 (Sanderson's maps). | • Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor and GI hub and gateway to rest of GI Area<br><br>• Heritage – historic route<br><br>• Nature Conservation – woodland and adjacent to local nature reserve | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br><br>• Recreation – enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming. |
| 7-B | **Oakham Local Nature Reserve (LNR)**:<br><br>This area includes recreational gateways onto the Timberland trail and trails leading to the trails along the River Maun. Gateways are located at: Hamilton Way and High Oakham Hill.<br><br>It includes a section of Cauldwell Brook near to Hamilton Way.<br><br>This area provides ecological and recreational connections between Heritage Lane LNR and Oakham LNR.<br><br>Restoration of the existing culverts at Cauldwell Brook would help to facilitate better habitat links for water vole and white-clawed crayfish. | • Recreation – local nature reserve; strategic trail/green corridor<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (river)<br><br>• Nature Conservation – local nature reserve; local wildlife site; priority habitats | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LNR for the qualities for it has been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation and Climate Change – mitigate flood risk and facilitate biodiversity enhancements through the partial removal/modification of the existing culvert (Hamilton Way). |
| 7-C | **Woodland and other habitats between Oakham and I-Centre Business Parks, Oakham LNR and Bleak Hills:**<br><br>This area includes section of scrubland habitats as part of I-Centre landscaping and also wide linear blocks of woodland between Oakham Business Park and Bleak Hills/Oakham LNR. | • Nature Conservation – woodland and ecological linkage to Oakham LNR<br><br>• Landscape - amenity buffer between employment | • Nature Conservation – create new woodland to increase the woodland edges to the east into Bleak Hills, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | This acts as an amenity and habitat buffer between Oakham Business Park and nearby residential areas and Bleak Hills / Oakham LNR. It also provides an ecological link to Oakham LNR. | • area and residential areas/LNR<br><br>• Climate Change - woodland | |
| 7-D | **Cauldwell Brook and Bleak Hill Ponds:**<br><br>This area includes Cauldwell Brook extending eastwards from Hamilton Way and then southwards to Bleak Hill Ponds towards Cauldwell Wood. It also includes associated woodland/ woodland scrub in between adjacent arable fields to the east and west.<br><br>It includes designated local wildlife site and supports protected species.<br><br>Identified as a Green SuDS Priority Area in the MDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008). This includes specific enhancements to improve habitat connectivity and for protected species. The culvert at Cauldwell Brook (Hamilton Way/Sheepbridge Lane area) was identified as having high potential for restoration (in whole or part of) to facilitate linkage improvements for water voles and white-clawed crayfish.<br><br>It is located within flood zones 2 and 3.<br><br>Cauldwell Brook also has significant archaeological potential that warrants further study. | • Nature Conservation – local wildlife site; priority habitats<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (river and surface water)<br><br>• Heritage – potential archaeological significance | • Nature Conservation and Climate Change - enhance the ecological function of Cauldwell Brook such that it continues to support key wetland habitats and protected species. Where possible, improve the ecological connectivity for protected species by addressing culvert improvements and creating new habitat areas so that they can effectively buffer designated sites and provide new habitat linkages.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the local wildlife site for the features it has been designated.<br><br>• Climate Change – mitigate and manage flood risk |
| 7-E | **Arable land and playing fields between Bleak Hills and Mansfield Cemetery:**<br><br>This area consists mainly of arable land with some wooded Parkland areas and connecting hedgerows. Also includes a school playing field.<br><br>It includes listed buildings and historic estates with significant archaeological potential with Medieval antecendents that warrant further study (e.g. High Oakham, Lower Oakham and Broadlands). The field boundaries remain very similar to Sanderson's map. Broadlands is identified as a historic park/garden through Nottinghamshire County Council's historic landscape characterisation studies.<br><br>The area provides an amenity buffer between the industrial estate at Oakham Business Park and residential areas to the east. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats<br><br>• Heritage – listed building setting; potential archaeological significance; historic field boundaries and garden<br><br>• Landscape - hedgerows and parkland | • Nature Conservation - create and restore key habitat linkages so that they can better provide functional habitat corridors between areas of woodland and other priority habitats to complement Sherwood Forest habitats, essentially creating a bigger, better and more resilient ecological resource.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - restore existing hedgerows. Where feasible, buffer these to create wider ecological corridors linking to existing wooded areas.<br><br>• Recreation - create new recreational green corridors, connecting with existing |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | This area also offers further opportunity to improve habitat connectivity between existing wooded areas (see 2D above and 2F below) and also the Oakham LNR.<br><br>In addition, creating new recreational green corridors would improve linkages with Oakham LNR and accessible woodland to the south. These should be located away from sensitive areas along Cauldwell Brook. | | resources (Oakham LNR and accessible woodland) and providing new recreational open space. |
| 7-F | **Shining Cliff Plantation, Mansfield Cemetery and adjoining woodlands**:<br><br>These are grouped together as they represent historic woodland area and act as an ecological hub.<br><br>This area includes recreational access points to Shining Cliff Plantation (a Forestry Commission publicly accessible woodland) - access from A611 adjacent to Mansfield Cemetery.<br><br>This area holds significant archaeological potential with possible Medieval origins.<br><br>Shining Cliff Plantation has potential for heathland re-creation and improved ecological connectivity to nearby heathland and potential restoration areas (Ashfield district).<br><br>Mansfield Cemetery and areas to the north hold potential for supporting nationally significant flora. Mansfield Cemetery is a designated Registered Park and Garden. | • Recreation – accessible woodland, walking trails<br><br>• Nature Conservation – woodland; local wildlife site; and ecological links into Ashfield district<br><br>• Heritage - archaeological potential, designated Registered Park and Garden | • Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the local wildlife site for the features it has been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - enhance the ecological integrity of existing areas through appropriate heathland creation. |

# Strategic GI network 8 - Mansfield Way





## Strategic GI network 8 - Mansfield Way

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8-A | **Mansfield long-distance trail and various gateways:**<br><br>The Mansfield Trail extends from Racecourse Park (Eastern side) to Third Avenue in Rainworth Village.<br><br>Gateways (access points and recreational green linkages) into the Mansfield Way trail include:<br><br>• Racecourse Park<br>• Little Barn Lane<br>• Big Barn Lane<br>• Wynndale Primary School<br>• Amenity space at Ryedale Ave.<br>• Oak Tree Lane<br>• Oakwood Rd<br>• Ransom Wood Business Park/ Ratcher Hill Quarry<br>• MARR route roundabout and connecting cycle trails linking to cycle trail further along the A617.<br>• Helmsley Rd (Rainworth)<br>• Third Ave (Rainworth)<br><br>Mansfield Trail also acts as a key biodiversity corridor including connected designated local wildlife sites (LWS) and habitats of principle importance (e.g. heathland). These provide further habitat connections to the Sherwood Forest (GI # 6) and outside the district. The site would benefit from more consistent management and funding to maintain areas of heathland.<br><br>It also represents the district's mining history (former mineral railway line). | • Recreation – strategic trail/ green corridor with multi-user trails (walking and cycling)<br><br>• Nature Conservation – ecological corridor; priority habitats; local wildlife sites<br><br>• Heritage – restored mineral railway (mining heritage)<br><br>• climate change - urban woodland | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming. Create additional gateways onto this strategic trail from employment and residential areas, where feasible.<br><br>• Recreation – improve safety of crossing points along the strategic trail, especially across MARR (A617).<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWSs for the qualities for they have been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - create and restore key habitat linkages so that they can better provide functional habitat corridors between areas of woodland and other priority habitats (e.g. create heathland, acid grassland and oak-birch woodland). Enhance the ecological integrity within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area. |
| 8-B | **Oak tree Lane Green corridor**:<br><br>Green corridor along Oak Tree Lane with existing tree-lined route (to The Links) connecting residential areas to the Oak Tree | • Recreation – off-road walking pathways and | • Nature Conservation and Recreation - create additional street trees and enhance the |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | local centre and the Mansfield Way trail. May have potential for cycle route enhancements along this section.<br><br>Local pathways (existing PROW and cycle link) connecting residential areas near to Oak Tree Lane and the Oak Tree local centre.<br><br>Connects with the wooded/heathy ecological corridor along Mansfield Way via street trees and landscaping. Further heathland creation would enhance the ecology and amenity along this area and connect with the wider Sherwood Forest area.<br><br>Trees and vegetated areas may mitigate impacts form air pollution along this busy section of road. | • local connections to Oak Tree Centre<br><br>• Climate Change – street trees<br><br>• Nature Conservation – street trees and heath-like amenity planting along Oak Tree Lane (A6117) provides ecological linkages to the Sherwood Forest area | • heath-like character through new landscaping along areas of amenity grassland.<br><br>• Recreation – improve cycle lane provision extending along Oak Tree Lane (A6117) and to the local centre at Oak Tree through the creation of new routes. |
| 8-C | **Heathland Linkages – MARR and Rainworth Village:**<br><br>This includes heathland and woodland along the southern section of the MARR (A617) route and connecting woodland along Helmsley Road.<br><br>Area also includes cycle routes along the MARR connecting to Helmsely Road and the Mansfield Way.<br><br>Trees and vegetated areas may mitigate impacts form air pollution along this busy section of road. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats and ecological corridor linking to wider Sherwood Forest area<br><br>• Recreation – cycle and walking trails<br><br>• Climate Change - urban woodland | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor connecting with Rainworth Village and Oak Tree.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites.<br><br>• Nature conservation – sensitively manage existing areas of heathland along the MARR. |
| 8-D | **Local walking and cycling links – Helmsley Road and Clipstone Forest:**<br><br>Walking and cycling link along Helmsley Road connecting the Mansfield Trail with cycle links along the MARR and further walking links to Clipstone Forest. | • Recreation – connects with cycle trails to the north and south and along the Mansfield Way strategic trail. | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor connecting with existing cycle and walking trails along the MARR and Mansfield Way. |
| 8-E | **Ecological hub Rainworth Village**:<br><br>This is an area between Rainworth Village and the MARR (A617) consisting of a local wildlife site (LWS), arable/pasture land, school playing fields, woodland, acid grassland and hedgerows. | • Nature Conservation – local wildlife site, priority habitats and ecological | • Nature Conservation - create and restore key habitat linkages so that they can better provide functional habitat corridors between areas of woodland and other priority habitats (e.g. create heathland, acid grassland and oak-birch |

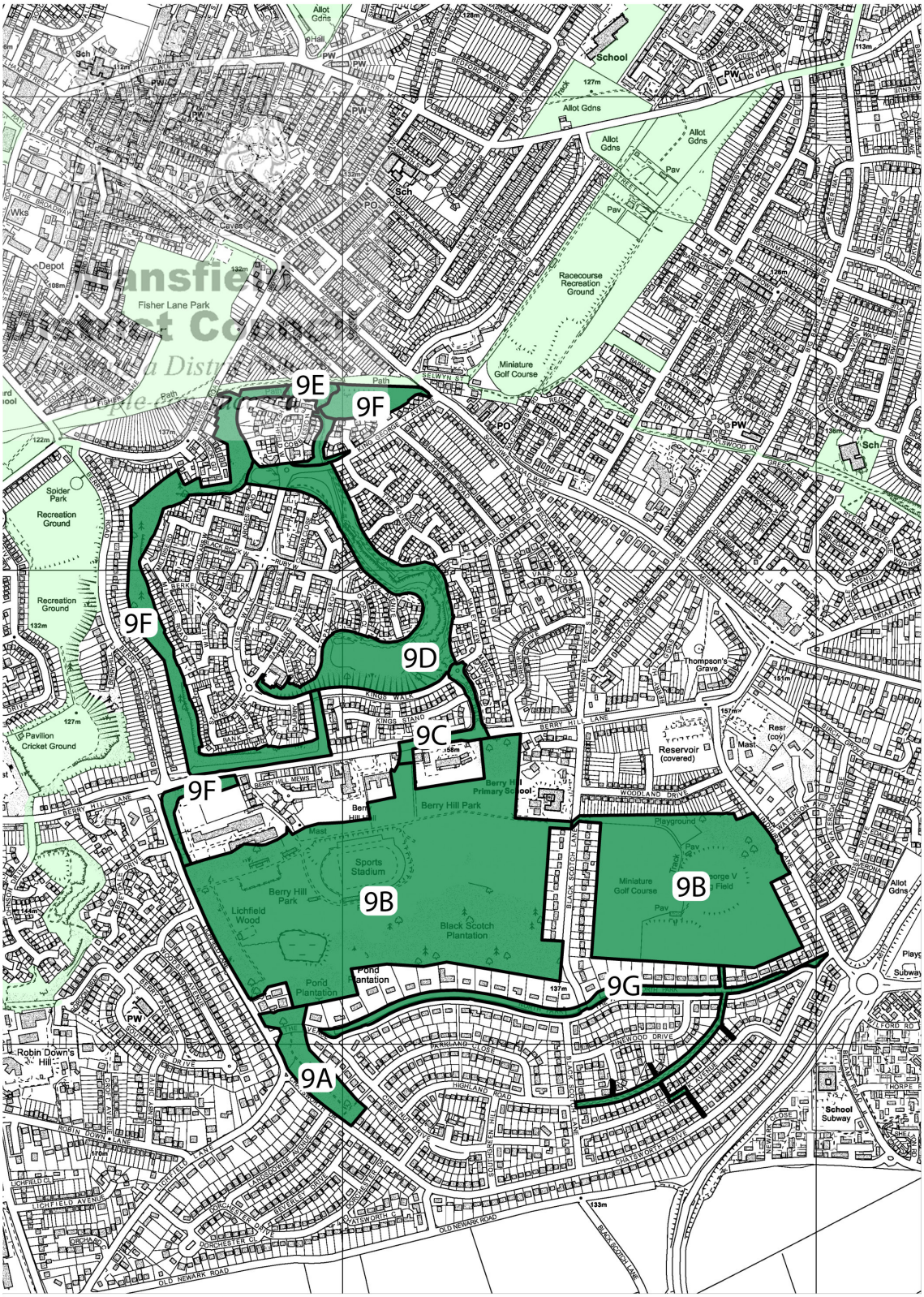


| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Significant surface water flood risk is present on the arable fields just north and adjacent to the Mansfield Way and east of Helmsley Road.<br><br>This area offers potential for restoring ecological linkages within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area, through habitat creation and recreation of heathland and acid grassland and oak-birch woodland. Creating habitat buffers and corridors adjacent to existing designated sites and habitats will likely enhance overall biodiversity of this area. | • connections with wider Sherwood Forest area<br><br>• Climate change - flood risk (surface water) | • woodland). Enhance the ecological integrity within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the local wildlife site for the features it has been designated. |
| 8-F | **Local Links with Newark and Sherwood district:**<br><br>Local links (x2) to Lake Farm Road between Mansfield and Newark and Sherwood districts. These are joined by an amenity space on the Newark and Sherwood side. Allows for quicker (shorter walking and cycling journeys) to the Mansfield Trail and main road in Rainworth. | • Recreation – walking and cycling access points/recreational links through existing area of open space. | • Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto these green spaces such that these access points are multi-user, safe and welcoming. |
| 8-G | **Rainworth SSSI, Foul Evil Brook and adjacent woodland ecological hub**:<br><br>This area consists of Rainworth Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI), local wildlife site (LWS), Foul Evil Brook and adjacent woodland, creating an ecological hub consisting of woodland and wetland habitats.<br><br>This Foul Evil Brook has been identified as an area affected by low flows in the Mansfield Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008). As such, there is further opportunity to improve water levels, restoring flows and also improved water quality of Foul Evil Brook and wetland habitats within Rainworth Lakes SSSI. Restoring the natural channel will enhance biodiversity and achieve Water Framework Directive improvements.<br><br>The ecological connections between the SSSI and adjacent woodland provide an important ecological network with adjacent habitats within Newark and Sherwood district and within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area.<br><br>The area also contains Public Rights of Way that extend from Rainworth Village to the south along the lakes. This includes a local link adjacent to Rainworth Lakes SSSI from Rainworth Village and the wider countryside. Access is located off Southwell Road East and from Lake Farm Road. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats; SSSI, LWS; important wetland/woodland ecological network<br><br>• Recreation – walking trails<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk | • Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the SSSI/ local wildlife site for the features they have been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - create an appropriate (wooded and/or wetland) additional transitional habitat buffer along the western boundary of this GI area and to the north along Foul Evil Brook.<br><br>• Nature Conservation and Climate Change - improve the water environment such that water levels, are restored, water quality improved and natural channel restored to provide further gains for biodiversity. Seek Water Framework Directive improvements.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites. |
| 8-H | **Rainworth Park:**<br><br>There is limited open space in and around Rainworth Village and, as such, it is important to protect and enhance this resource. | • Recreation – open space | • Nature Conservation and Recreation - improve this park's natural character so that is links better with the adjacent ecological corridor along the Mansfield Way. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | This park physically links to the ecological corridor extending into Newark and Sherwood District Council. This area offers potential for restoring ecological linkages within the context of the wider Sherwood Forest area, through habitat creation and recreation of heathland and acid grassland and oak-birch woodland. Creating habitat buffers and corridors adjacent to existing designated sites and habitats will likely enhance overall biodiversity of this area. | | |
| 8-I | **Central median and landscaped urban tree-lined amenity strip along the highway network**:<br><br>This section includes urban trees and linear amenity areas along Southwell Road East (B6020) through Rainworth. It extends from the roundabout at the MARR and Southwell Road West (A6191). This provides visual amenity for people entering Rainworth and along cycle routes.<br><br>There is opportunity to further enhance the entrance into Rainworth Village such that its distinctiveness is recognised and to improve sense of place.<br><br>There is potential to further enhance nearby ecological corridor with the local wildlife sites along the Mansfield Way. | • Recreation – multi-user trails (walking and cycling); importance link with nearby cycle lanes and Mansfield Way strategic trail<br><br>• Nature Conservation – urban trees/woodland<br><br>• Climate change - urban woodland<br><br>• Landscape – visual amenity and local distinctiveness | • Recreation - enhance the recreational and amenity functions of this corridor in order to improve Rainworth's distinctiveness and sense of place.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - plant new trees or heathland to provide ecological linkages with existing designated sites and habitats. |



# Strategic GI network 9 - Berry Hill



## Strategic GI network 9 - Berry Hill

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9-A | **Litchfield woodland and pathway**:<br><br>This urban woodland located between Chatsworth Drive and The Avenue provides recreational and commuting link for local residents. It links across The Avenue to Berry Hill Park, as such is provides wider recreational linkages with the Timberland Trail. The linkage to Berry Hill to the north of The Avenue requires improvements to pathways and access points to ensure these are accessible for all. Access points include:<br><br>• Chestnut Drive<br>• The Avenue<br>• Chatsworth Drive<br><br>Also provides recreational linkages to pathways along North park/The Avenue.<br><br>It also contributes to the local character of Berry Hill and provides shade and valuable access to woodland within an urban setting.<br><br>This is a former copse and provides ecological linkage to Pond Plantation and Black Scotch Plantation local wildlife site and woodland surrounding Berry Hill Park. | • Recreation – accessible woodland/open space; multi-user trails connecting with Berry Hill Park and with wider connections with the Timberland Trail and pathways along North park/The Avenue<br><br>• Nature conservation – woodland with ecological connections with adjacent woodland.<br><br>• Climate change - urban woodland | • Nature Conservation and recreation - enhance the function of this woodland's ecological and recreational connectivity with Berry Hill Park and other areas of urban woodland.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage Litchfield woodland such that is continues to provide an important amenity resource for the local area and positively support biodiversity.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space and in association with nearby walking/cycling routes such that these access points are multi-user, safe and welcoming. |
| 9-B | **Berry Hill and King George V parks**:<br><br>Together these parks act as an important recreational hub and also a gateway to the Mansfield Way and Timberland Trail long-distance routes (to the north). They support formal sports events, local walking routes, play space and provide access to nature within an urban setting. The athletics track is identified in the Mansfield District Council Playing Pitch Strategy as strategically important resource.<br><br>They also provide east-west and north-south recreational linkages for local residents. Key access points into this recreational hub and gateway include:<br><br>• Gateway to King George V Park at Lindhurst Lane – allows access through to Berry Hill enabling further connections north to the Timberland Trail (GI Area #5). | • Recreation – open space; accessible woodland; multi-user trails connecting with Chatsworth Drive woodland and with wider connections with the Timberland Trail and pathways along North park/The Avenue; recreational hub/gateway<br><br>• Nature Conservation – local wildlife site; priority habitats with ecological connections with adjacent woodland | • Nature Conservation and recreation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and LWS by creating new areas of woodland, as well as open habitats (e.g. species rich grassland and heathland) that effectively buffer existing local wildlife sites and provide new habitat linkages, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the local wildlife sites for the features they have been designated. Positively manage the local wildlife site and recreational spaces to complement each other.<br><br>• Recreation – improve recreational access provision, through improved pathways |



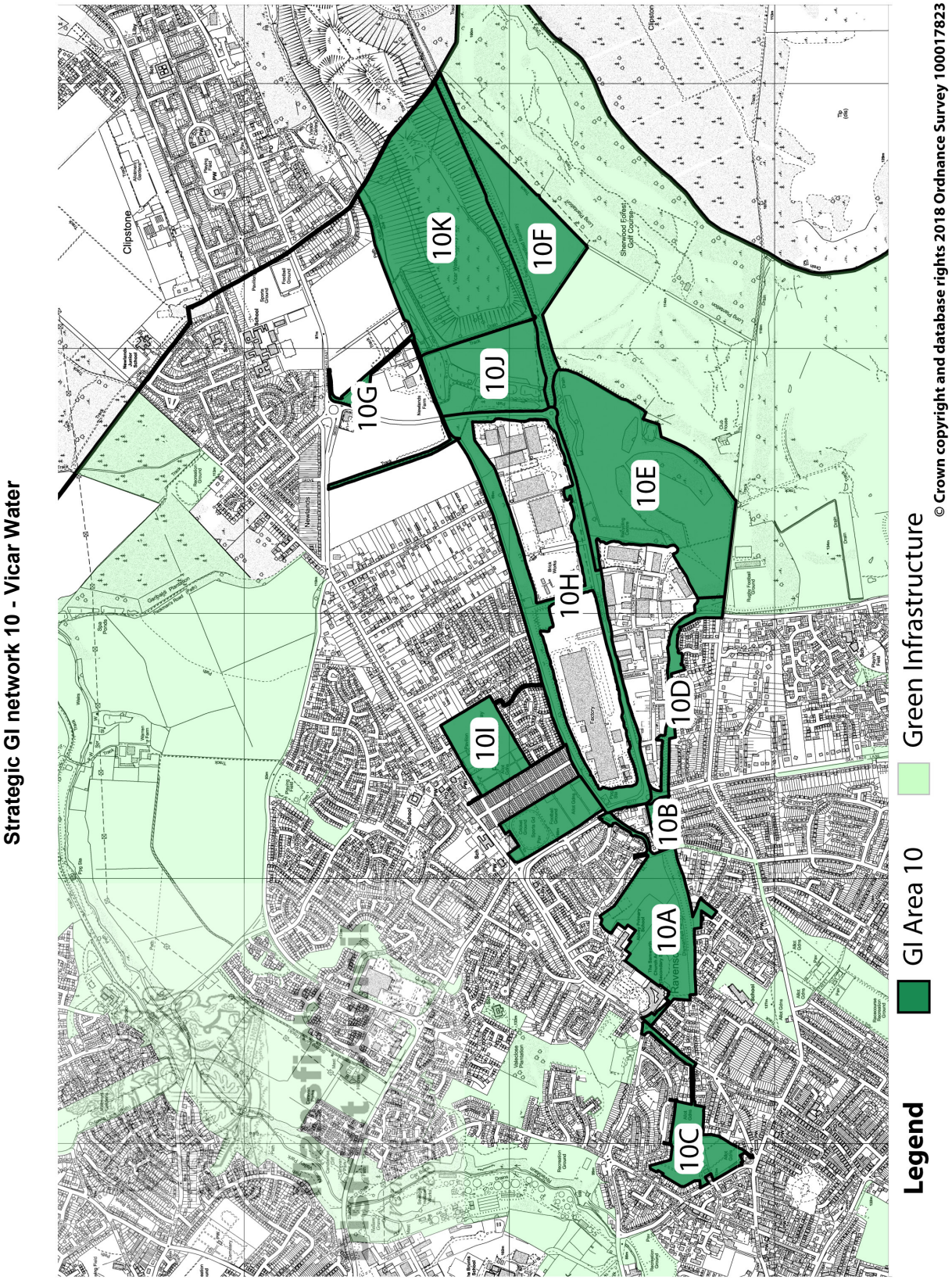
| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Gateway to Berry Hill Park at Litchfield Lane (x2) – allows access through to Berry Hill enabling further connections north to the Timberland Trail (GI Area #5).<br>• Gateway between Berry Hill and King George Blackscotch Lane – allows access through these parks enabling further connections north to the Timberland Trail (GI Area #5).<br><br>Both parks contain local wildlife sites with woodland, heathland and acid grassland.<br><br>Berry Hill Park is historically important as it formed part of an estate to Bury Hall (1730 to 1920s). The park was included in the grounds to the hall when it became a rehabilitation hospital in the 1920s. The existing shape of the park has changed very little. It was donated by the miners' union for the recreation of Mansfield and surrounding area.<br><br>Section includes small areas of surface water flood risk. | • Climate Change - urban woodland; flood risk (surface water)<br>• Heritage – historically important open space | • leading from Chatsworth Drive open space woodland to Berry Hill Park (southwest corner) off The Avenue.<br>• Climate Change - Improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS.<br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space and in association with nearby walking/cycling routes such that these access points and trails are multi-user, safe and welcoming. |
| 9-C | **Kings Walk cycle/walking link between Berry Hill Park and Kings Walk open space**:<br><br>This section is a cycle and walking route along Kings Walk that enables local walks between these open spaces and also further connections north to the Timberland Trail (GI Area #5) and Mansfield Way (GI Area #8). | • Recreation - multi-user trails connecting Berry Hill Park with Berry Hill Quarry residential allowing wider connections with the Timberland Trail | • None identified. |
| 9-D | **Kings Walk recreation ground and adjacent amenity space**:<br><br>This section includes Kings Walk recreation ground and adjacent amenity space at King George V Avenue. Together these provide a recreational and ecological GI hub and also a gateway to long-distance routes: walking and cycling linkages connecting Berry Hill to the Timberland Trail (GI Area #5).<br><br>Key access points onto this part of the strategic GI network include:<br>• Kings Walk off Berry Hill Lane<br>• King George V Avenue<br>• Faraday Road<br>• Sapphire Street/Kings Walk | • Recreation – open space; multi-user trails connecting Berry Hill Park with Berry Hill Quarry residential allowing wider connections with the Timberland Trail<br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitats; local wildlife site<br>• Climate Change – urban woodland and flood risk (surface water) | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter)<br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the local wildlife site for the features it has been designated. Positively manage the local wildlife site and recreational spaces to complement each other.<br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and LWS by creating new areas of |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Topaz Grove<br>• Valley View<br><br>Part of Kings Walk Open Space is designated as a local wildlife site and includes other natural areas providing access to nature within an urban setting. It provides linear ecological linkages with Berry Hill and wooded sections along the Timberland Trail and Mansfield Way.<br><br>Section includes significant areas of surface water flood risk. | | woodland, as well as open habitats (e.g. species rich grassland) that effectively buffer existing local wildlife sites and provide new habitat linkages, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |
| 9-E | **Woodland gateway to the Timberland Trail and Mansfield Way**:<br><br>Section includes urban woodland and walking trails providing recreational links from Berry Hill Quarry residential to the Timberland Trailand Mansfield Way. This also joins up with Kings Walk Open Space. It provides access to nature within an urban area. Access points into this area include:<br><br>• King George V Avenue<br>• Heathfield Way<br>• Cobblestone Drive<br><br>It also provides ecological linkage to adjacent woodland along the former quarry edge and the Timberland Trail. | • Recreation – multi-user trails leading to the Timberland Trail/green corridor<br><br>• Nature Conservation – urban woodland<br><br>• Climate change - urban woodland | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance function this strategic trail/green corridor connecting with Rainworth Village and Oak Tree.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this green space, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming. |
| 9-F | **Urban woodland linkages: linking to Berry Hill Quarry residential area, open space and the highway network**:<br><br>This section includes urban woodland and linear amenity areas. Its extends southwards from the Timberland Trail to the eastern ridge above Berry Hill quarry residential area (parallel to Berry Hill Road) and Windsor Road). It includes woodland bordering Berry Hill adjacent to Litchfield Lane and Berry Hill Lane.<br><br>It also includes a linear wooded amenity strip between North Park and The Avenue.<br><br>It acts as an ecological corridor linking with Berry Hill Park woodlands and the woodlands along the Timberland Trail (GI Area #5). | • Nature Conservation – urban woodland<br><br>• Landscape - amenity<br><br>• Climate change - urban woodland | • Nature Conservation – sensitively manage woodland such that it continues to provide amenity and nature conservation benefits.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - provide wooded linkages with existing areas of woodland, including highway trees, for example: amenity strip between North Park and The Avenue beginning at the junction of North Park and Black Scotch Lane and mown grassy edge of Berry Hill Park, to link to a small isolated woodland adjacent to Berry Hill Primary School. |
| 9-G | **Local recreational and commuting green corridor linking to King George V Park:** | • Recreation – multi-user trails linking with King | • Recreation –enhance trails through and entrances onto this local green corridor, where |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | This section includes residential green corridors that provide off-road access to King George V Park. Access points to this corridor include:<br>• Chatsworth Drive<br>• Southpark Avenue<br>• Blackscotch Lane<br>• The Avenue<br>• North Park<br>• Oakfield Close<br>• Pinewood Close<br>• <br>This local green corridor provides important access to King George V Walk and the wider strategic GI network. | George V Park and wider connections leading to the Timberland Trail/green corridor<br>• Landscape - amenity | necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br>• Nature Conservation - plant trees to provide ecological linkages with nearby urban woodland and improve the amenity of this green corridor. |

# Strategic GI network 10 - Vicar Water





## Strategic GI network 10 - Vicar Water

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10-A | **Local trail along former mineral railway line and Samworth Academy:**<br><br>This section provides an important recreational green corridor. It includes a local trail which follows the former mineral railway south of Samworth Academy. It connects to the Timberland Trail at Pump Hollow Lane/Princess Avenue. It is also accessed from Abbey Road/Abbey Court, Ascot Drive and Samworth Academy. The path is overgrown in places but is well used by local residents.<br><br>Includes a section of the Timberland Trail/public rights of way (PROW) leading to Vicar Water Country Park – includes local cycle link and adjacent amenity areas.<br><br>It crosses Pump Hollow Road linking to cycle lanes along Crown Farm Way and Newlands Road.<br><br>This area also provides an important wooded ecological corridor connecting other sections in this GI network (e.g. along Crown Farm Way. A section of woods south of the disused railway line includes areas of surface water flood risk.<br><br>Samworth Academy playing fields and disused playing fields include areas of surface water flood risk. This area also provides an opportunity to provide further access points connecting to the recreational green and as a habitat opportunity area to buffer and link with existing urban woodland. | • Recreation – walking trails liking with the Timberland trail along restored mineral railway line; part of strategic green corridor<br><br>• Nature Conservation – woodland and ecological connection with adjacent woodland bordering Crown Farm industrial estate<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (surface water) | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance connections along this strategic trail/green corridor connecting the Timberland Trail and the existing cycle network.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this greenway, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - create new habitat linkages on the adjacent Samworth Academy playing fields and disused playing fields to this wooded corridor, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network typical of the Sherwood landscape character (e.g. new woodland and wildflower meadows).<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |
| 10-B | **Former mineral railway line connectionwest of Violet Hill**:<br><br>Former mineral railway line physically connects to 'A' above situated between Pump Hollow Lane/Princess Avenue and Violet Hill.<br><br>Site currently doesn't have a usable trail, but has potential to link with the Timberland Trail and the rest of the former mineral railway (now a green corridor) to the west.<br><br>Existing wooded area and further potential for enhancement through active management. | • Nature Conservation – urban woodland<br><br>• Climate Change - urban woodland | • Recreation – if feasible, create recreational linkage with adjacent GI Area (10A) and provide safe crossings improvements to facilitate access across Violet Hill and connections to cycle lanes along Crown Farm Way.<br><br>• Nature Conservation and Recreation- sensitively manage this woodland such that it contributes to the overall ecological network and amenity. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
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| 10-C | **Former Allotments between Sandy lane and Sherwood Close**:<br><br>This section includes former allotments and former mineral railway line. Used as a local cut-through.<br><br>Some access points are currently blocked off (e.g. Sherwood Close). Provides opportunity to create open space and local green corridors.<br><br>Provides an opportunity to deliver improved recreational (walking and cycling) access to Timberland Trail and the Maun Valley Trail strategic recreational green corridors for local residents with access from:<br><br>• Alcock Avenue<br>• Sandy Lane with connections to existing cycle lanes along Hibbert Road<br>• Pecks Hill/Skerry Hill<br>• Sherwood Close<br>• Bilborough Road<br><br>GI Area also includes areas of surface water flood risk. | • Recreation – allotments and walking routes<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (surface water) | • Recreation - improve recreational linkages to the Timberland Trail and Maun Valley Trail strategic trails/green corridors through new/improved walking routes.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |
| 10-D | **Linear area of woodland extending from Violet Hill eastwards to Earkring Road south of Crown Farm industrial estate:**<br><br>This forms a buffer between residential development and the Crown Farm industrial estate. It also provides a wooded linear habitat corridor connecting GI links A and B above towards the Sherwood area.<br><br>Also includes amenity open space at Tapton Park. | • Nature Conservation - woodland and ecological connection with adjacent woodland<br><br>• Recreation – walking/cycling pathway between Crown Farm industrial estate and Jubilee Way north | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) |
| 10-E | **Restored Mansfield Colliery and recreational connections**:<br><br>The restored Mansfield Colliery currently provides permissive (but not definitive) recreational access throughout the site and acts as a recreational walking link between Earking Rd and Crown Farm Way. Access points/linkages into this area include: | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats and local wildlife site; ecological linkages with nearby designated nature conservation sites; Sherwood | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance connections to existing cycle provision and strategic trail trail/green corridor (Timberland Trail)<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Crown Farm Way (access from existing cycle lanes and public rights of way)<br>• Crown Farm Industrial Estate (Ratcher Way) to Eakring Road local green corridor<br>• Earking Road<br>• Badger Way<br><br>The site acts as an important amenity buffer between existing industrial estate at Crown Farm and residential areas and the restored colliery recreational area.<br><br>It is a designated local wildlife sites and also provides an ecological linkages to the Sherwood Golf Course SSSI, Oak tree heath SSSI/LNR, adjacent local wildlife sites (LWS) and wider Sherwood Forest habitats. It includes restored habitats such as acid, neutral grassland, regenerating woodland and a balancing pond. It is also recognised that the habitat quality of this area could be improved to create new areas of heathland and acid grassland and wetland. It is located within the Sherwood possible potential Special Protection Area.<br><br>It is recognised in the council's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment that Vicar Water and its surrounding are experience periods of low flow, effectively leading to poorer water quality and linkages for wildlife. Improvements within this GI Area, may help address.<br><br>This area is underlined by low soil permeability and surface water flood risk. | • possible potential Special Protection Area<br>• Recreation – informal walking route connecting to Vicar Water Country Park and the Timberland Trail<br>• Climate Change – flood risk (surface water)<br>• Heritage – former mineral site<br>• Landscape – restored mineral site and view points | • Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the local wildlife site for the features it has been designated. Positively manage the local wildlife site and recreational spaces to complement each other.<br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and designated sites by creating new and re-stored habitats (e.g. heathland), principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network with the wider Sherwood Forest Area.<br>• Climate Change and Nature Conservation- improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS to also enhance low flows at Vicar Water.<br>• Landscape - enhance the visual amenity along routes and viewpoints, through creating new landscaped buffers adjacent to the employment/industrial area and the highway network, in order to soften visual and sound impacts from the Crown farm Industrial estate.<br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites. |
| 10-F | **Off-road walking and cycling recreational connection from Crown Farm Way to Vicar Water Country Park and beyond:**<br><br>This section includes walking and off-road cycle tracks extending eastwards from Crown Farm Way along pathways south of Vicar Water Country Park (dismantled railway).<br><br>Also includes public rights of way (PRoW) which extend southeast from the former mineral railway cycle track leading towards and also running adjacent to Sherwood Forest Golf Course.<br><br>This area is also designated as a local wildlife site and provides an important link with Vicar Water Country Park and the wider Sherwood ecological networks. | • Recreation – walking trails<br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitats and local wildlife site | • Recreation - enhance walking and cycling provision connecting with Vicar Water Country Park and the National Cycle Network.<br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for it has been designated.<br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and LWS by creating new and re-stored habitats (e.g. heathland), principally creating |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | A triangular section of arable land in between the above PROW trails provides existing amenity along these PROW trails and also an opportunity to create habitat linkages with the Sherwood Forest SSSI and woodland and heathland along the former mineral railway cycle track. | | a bigger and better connected ecological network with the wider Sherwood Forest Area. |
| 10-G | **Recreational pathways from Newlands Road towards Vicar Water Country Park:**<br><br>This GI section includes:<br><br>• Pubic Rights of Way and parallel hedgerows from Clipstone Road East / New Mill Lane to Newlands Road leading to Vicar Water Country Park.<br><br>• Public Rights of way, local path and parallel hedgerows and pasture land along Newlands Road connecting Clipstone Road East with Timberland Trail / Vicar Water Country Park. | • Recreation – walking trails<br><br>• Nature Conservation - hedgerows | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance connections to existing cycle provision and strategic trail trail/green corridor (Timberland Trail)<br><br>• Recreation – enhance road crossings and entrances leading onto these pathways, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming. |
| 10-H | **Timberland Trail network (Newlands Road and Crown Farm Way) and surrounding landscaping along Crown Farm industrial estate**:<br><br>This includes two parallel walking and cycling routes along the Timberland Trail:<br><br>• walking and cycling routes along Crown Farm Way<br><br>• walking and cycling routes along Newlands Road<br><br>These provide important recreational linkages with Vicar Water Country Park and the National Cycle Network. These routes are also prone to surface water flooding.<br><br>Also includes gorse and scrub landscaping in and around Crown Farm Industrial estate which provide important habitat linkages to adjacent local wildlife sites and Vicar Water Country Park. It is located within the Sherwood possible potential Special Protection Area. | • Recreation –Timberland Trail strategic trail/green corridor including multi-user trails (walking and cycling)<br><br>• Nature Conservation – urban woodland and priority habitats; located within the Sherwood possible potential Special Protection Area<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (surface water) | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance connections to existing cycle provision<br><br>• Recreation – enhance road crossings and entrances leading onto these trails, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage habitats in the context of the wider Sherwood Area.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS in the context of a wider ecological network. |
| 10-I | **Forest Town gateways and linkages to the Timberland Trail**:<br><br>This section enables access to the Timberland Trail via public rights of way (PROW) and open spaces which also provide both physical green linkages and add to the amenity along the local pathways connecting the wider green corridor. It includes: | • Recreation – open space; walking trails linking to the Timberland Trail and cycle lanes<br><br>• Climate Change/Landscape – amenity along busy road | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance connections to existing cycle provision<br><br>• Recreation – enhance road crossings and entrances leading onto these trails, where |

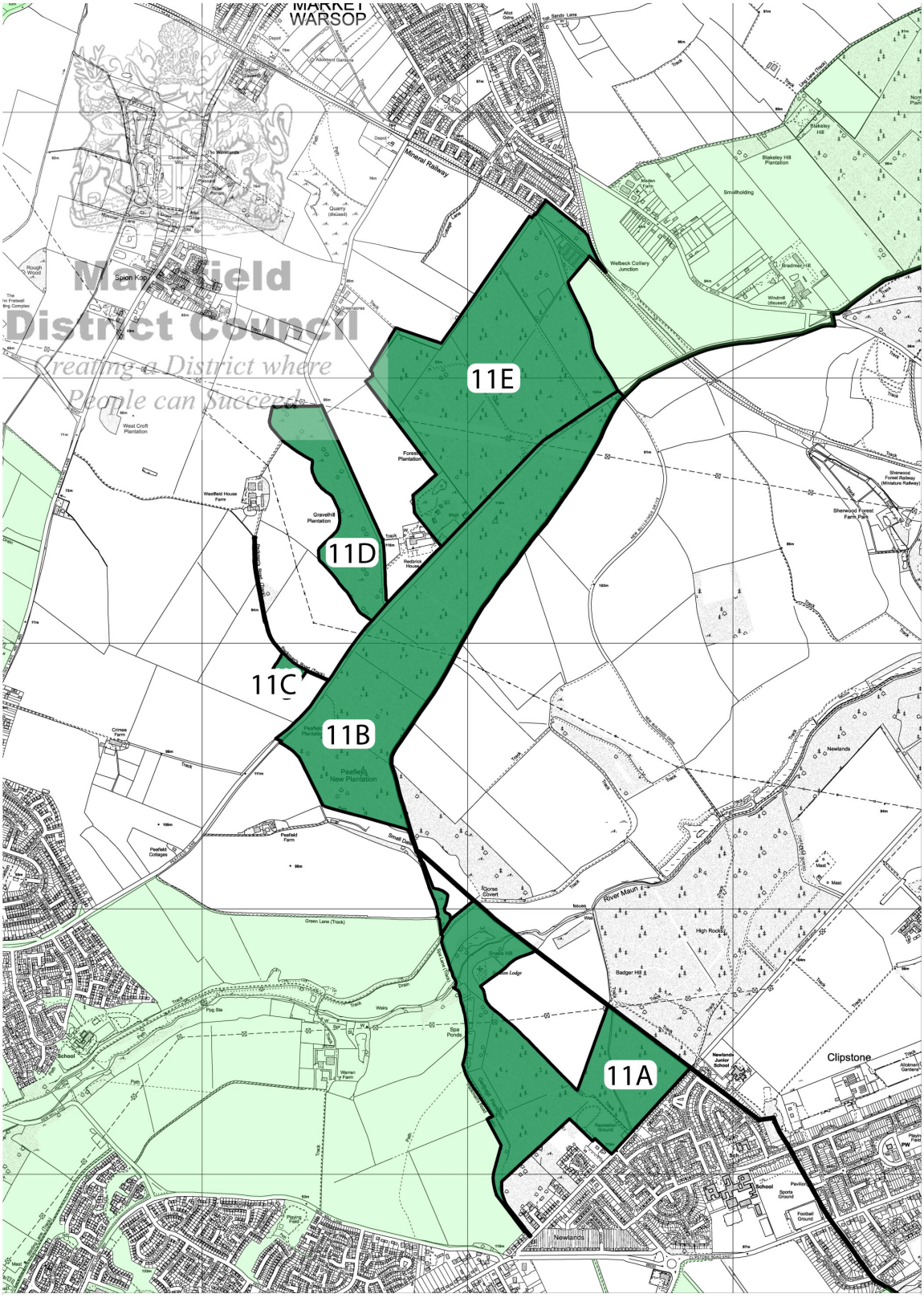


| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Queensway Park,<br>• Kingsway Park (Forest town Miners Welfare) allotments and<br>• PROW (two on either side and parallel to Main Avenue) between Clipstone Road West and Newlands Road<br>• Grizedale Close/Epping Way leading to Newlands Road<br>• Landscaped sections along Pump Hollow Road.<br><br>The two open spaces also provide opportunity areas to create complementary habitats to the Sherwood ecological network.<br><br>This local pathways help provide local connections leading to Vicar Water Country Park and the National Cycle Network.<br><br>Kingsway park and the former allotments parallel to Pump Hollow Road may, to some extent, mitigate amenity and air quality impacts from this busy road. Maintaining a green buffer, in some form is necessary to retain this ecosystem service. | | necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Climate Change and Landscape – enhance local amenity along Pump Hollow Road<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats by creating new habitats within open space (e.g. heathland, woodland), principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network with the wider Sherwood Forest Area. |
| 10-J | **Newlands Farm**:<br><br>This area is identified in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment as an area in need to restoring low flows to help restore water levels to support water voles and other wildlife.<br><br>This may also include sensitively re-profile banks, removing scrub, addressing excess silting and managing this area to avoid rapid fluctuations in water levels.<br><br>This area is located within the Sherwood possible potential Special protection Area. | • Climate Change – flood risk<br><br>• Nature Conservation – wetlands; Sherwood possible potential Special protection Area | • Climate Change and Nature Conservation - restore low flows and enhance biodiversity value for wildlife. |
| 10-K | **Vicar Water Country Park**:<br><br>This section includes the southern western part of Vicar Water County Park linking to the other half in Newark and Sherwood district.<br><br>It includes 2 local wildlife sites and other important habitats supporting a range of wildlife.<br><br>This area is identified in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment as an area in need to restoring low flows to help restore water levels to support water | • Recreation – Country Park; part of Timberland Trail strategic trail/green corridor including multi-user trails (walking and cycling) | • Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for it has been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and LWS by creating new and re-stored habitats (e.g. heathland), principally creating |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | voles and other wildlife. This may also include sensitively re-profile banks, removing scrub, addressing excess silting and managing this area to avoid rapid fluctuations in water levels.<br><br>The Country Park as a whole provides an important recreational resource to local residents (Clipstone, Forest Town) and also people from farther afield, as it offers car parking, a visitor centre, refreshments and good pathways. Important therefore for family groups and health. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats and local wildlife site<br>• Climate Change – flood risk<br>• Heritage – mining heritage<br>• Landscape – restored mineral site and viewpoints | • a bigger and better connected ecological network with the wider Sherwood Forest Area.<br><br>• Climate Change and Nature Conservation - restore low flows and enhance biodiversity value for wildlife. |



## Strategic GI network 11 - Clipstone to Warsop



## Strategic GI network 11 - Clipstone to Warsop

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11-A | **Spa Ponds, Snake Hill and Beeston Lodge**:<br><br>Area extends northwards from Clipstone Drive along public rights of way (PRoW) through to Spa Ponds, Beeston Lodge/ Snake Hill area and part of the River Maun corridor.<br><br>It provides important wetland and woodland habitats which link with the wider Maun Valley ecological corridor and includes a local wildlife site.<br><br>It also connects as a recreational resource. The access point at Clipstone Drive is a key gateway to:<br><br>• Spa Pond<br>• long-distance trail leading north to Warsop and<br>• long distance trail leading east-west along the Maun Valley and to east to the Kings Clipstone.<br><br>This area also provides a historical setting and also context to the wider Sherwood Forest. It holds potential archaeological significance (e.g. Medieval origins as per consultation with Nottinghamshire County Council Archaeology) and includes a scheduled ancient monument at Beeston Lodge. Improved understanding of (and interpretation of) the area's archaeological significance is needed to protect and enhance this area's heritage value.<br><br>Falls within flood zones 2 and 3 along the River Maun. Spa ponds is identified as an area at risk of surface water flooding. | • Nature Conservation – local wildlife site, priority habitats, woodland; river corridor<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (river); woodland<br><br>• Heritage – scheduled ancient monument; Sherwood Forest heritage; archaeological significance<br><br>• Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor (Clipstone to Warsop) with walking trails and linkages to trails outside the district; open space. | • Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the qualities for it has been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and LWS by creating new and re-stored habitats (e.g. heathland), principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network with the wider Sherwood Forest Area.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS in the context of a wider ecological network.<br><br>• Recreation - improve quality of trails and enhance connections to nearby walking trails.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites. |
| 11-B | **Peafield New and Garibaldi Plantations and connecting woodlands**:<br><br>Oak birch woodlands and hedgerows connecting with surrounding plantation woodlands and natural/semi-natural woodland extending from Garibaldi Plantation to Peafield New Plantation (south of Peafield Road).<br><br>Includes a section of public rights of way (PROW bridle way) extending north and northwest from the Maun Valley trail towards Peafield Lane; just outside this woodland. Also includes section of the Clipstone to Warsop long-distance trail south of Peafield New Plantation extending northeast towards Peafield Lane. | • Nature Conservation – priority habitats; Sherwood possible potential Special protection Area; veteran tree<br><br>• Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor (Clipstone to Warsop) with walking trails and linkages to trails outside the district | • Recreation - improve quality of trails and enhance connections to nearby walking trails.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites. |

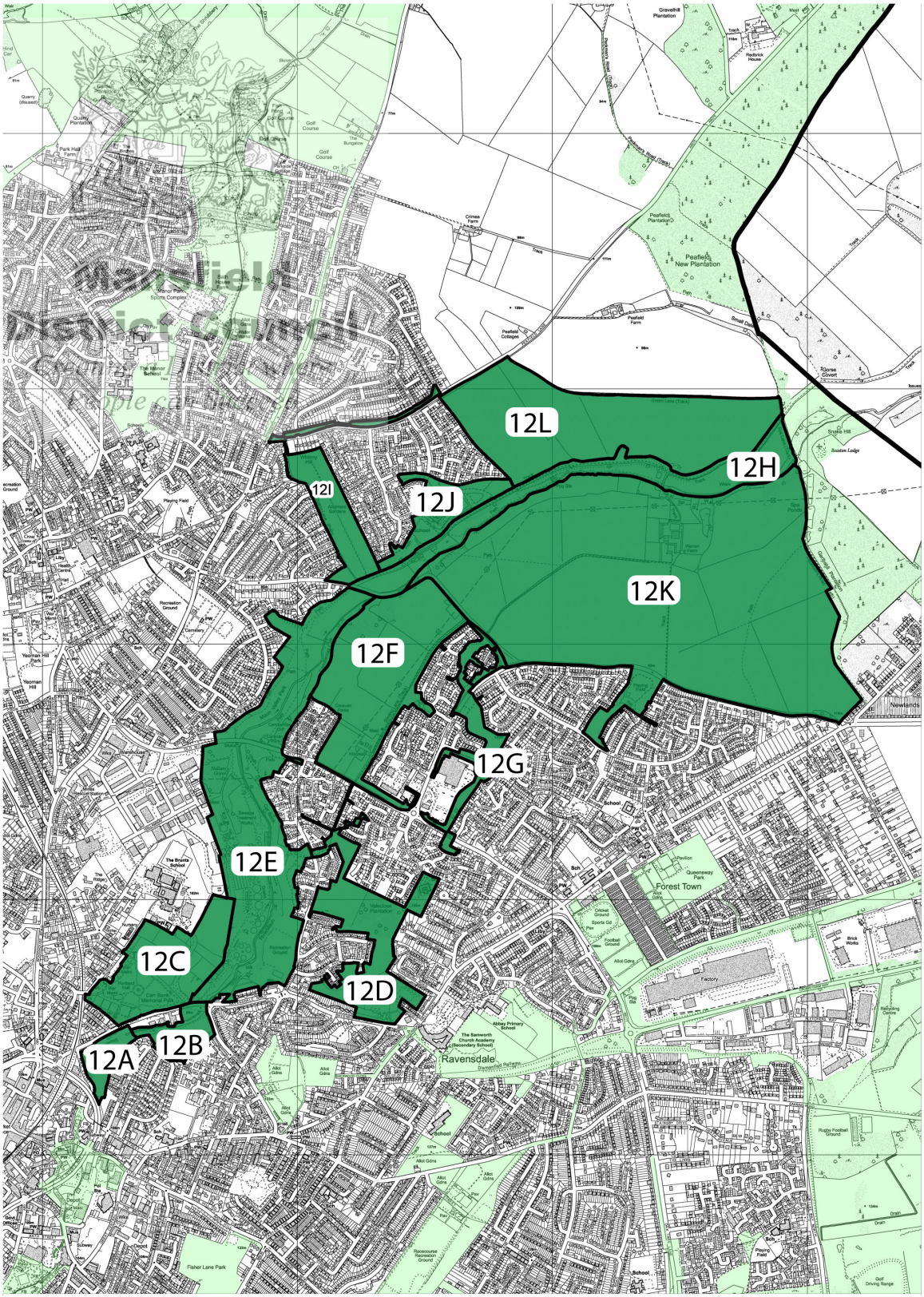


| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Includes Parliament Oak tree- a heritage landmark and includes interpretation sign. This has significant importance associated with medieval origins of the Sherwood Forest (royal hunting grounds and governmental meeting point).<br><br>The Clipstone to Warsop trail crosses Peafield Lane to join the rest of the trail north to Market Warsop. | • Heritage – heritage tree/landmark<br>• Climate Change - woodland | • Nature Conservation - enhance the ecological integrity of existing areas through appropriate heathland creation.<br>• Heritage - enhance the function of Parliament Oak tree as an historic and cultural landmark, including enhancing interpretation. |
| 11-C | **Packman's Road trail and woodland**:<br><br>Includes Packman's Road which is a bridleway (PRoW) and historic trail. It connects to the Clipstone to Warsop long distance trail via busy Peafield and PRoW bridle way to the south of Peafield New Plantation.<br><br>It offers wider connections to GI Strategic Area 3 (Woodhouse) west of Westfield House farm.<br><br>Also includes pocket of plantation woodland. | • Recreation – walking trail with connection to Clipstone to Warsop strategic trail<br>• Nature Conservation - woodland<br>• Heritage – historic trail<br>• Climate Change - woodland | • Nature Conservation - enhance the ecological integrity of existing areas through appropriate heathland creation. |
| 11-D | **Recreational link and Gravelhill Plantation**:<br><br>Includes public rights of way (PROW) east of Gravelhill Plantation. Connects with the Timberland Trail and Spion Kop with this trail via public rights of way.<br><br>Includes hedgerows and connecting area of woodland (Gravelhill Plantation. | • Recreation – walking trail with connection to Clipstone to Warsop strategic trail<br>• Climate Change - woodland<br>• Nature Conservation - woodland | • Nature Conservation - enhance the ecological integrity of existing areas through appropriate heathland creation. |
| 11-E | **Forest Hill Plantation and Clipstone to Warsop Trail along Coach Road (Market Warsop):**<br><br>Includes plantation woodland (Forest Hill Plantation and connecting woodland) north of Peafield Lane and northeast of Redbrick House.<br><br>Includes public rights of way (PROW) and Clipstone to Warsop trail extending along Coach Road (Market Warsop).<br><br>Also includes small area of woodland at Robin Hood Ave in Market Warsop – provides a link with the adjacent local wildlife site and habitat corridor extending along the mineral railway line. | • Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor (Clipstone to Warsop) with walking trails and linkages to trails outside the district<br>• Nature Conservation – woodland; Sherwood possible potential Special Protection Area<br>• Climate Change - woodland | • Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats by creating new habitats within open space (e.g. heathland, woodland), principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network with the wider Sherwood Forest Area.<br>• Recreation - improve quality of trails and enhance connections to nearby walking trails.<br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites. |



## Strategic GI network 12 - Maun Valley




**Legend** GI Area 12 Green Infrastructure

## Strategic GI network 12 - Maun Valley

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12-A | **Former Metal Box site:**<br><br>This area includes the former Metal Box site, surrounding woodlands and section of the River Maun corridor.<br><br>This is an area recognised by the Environment Agency as an opportunity area for restoring the River Maun and addressing flood risk by naturalising sections and nearby restoring culverts. This will help provide habitat links along this section of the River Maun. The wooded cliffs link with adjacent woodland along the Maun. There are also significant areas of surface water flood risk.<br><br>The wooded areas provide habitat links with woodland along the River Maun corridor and surrounding areas (e.g. Car Bank Park and the Maun Valley LNR).<br><br>The cliff within the eastern edge of the former Metal Box site is an important geological feature within the district and the county. | • Nature Conservation – urban woodland<br><br>• Geological – area of county significance<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (river and surface water) | • Nature Conservation - enhance and restore the River Maun to address flood risk and ecological improvements (e.g. naturalisation of the river corridor, incorporation of SuDS and removing or modifying existing culverts to support biodiversity improvements.<br><br>• Nature Conservation – mange the area of urban woodland as it relates to the ecological network along the Maun River Valley corridor.<br><br>• Recreation – provide walking/cycling linkages to nearby open space and cycle provision |
| 12-B | **Sandy Lane Playing fields (Rainer's Field) and River Maun:**<br><br>This open space provides a gateway to the River Maun recreational green corridor and to Brunts Academy for nearby residents living to the south. Improvements to paths and place shaping qualities are needed as recognised in the MDC Community Open Space Assessment work. Key access points include:<br><br>• Bath Lane<br>• Garratt Avenue<br>• Sandy Lane<br><br>This area includes the River Maun corridor. Environment Agency surface water flood maps indicate that the area is at risk of flooding from Garratt Avenue to the north west corner of the open space leading to the River Maun. Surface water flooding may be able to be managed through the creation of SuDS within this open space.<br><br>This area also includes woodland and amenity space adjacent to Rainer's Field. It provides an opportunity area for providing ecological enhancements and address flood risk as it relates to the wider Maun Valley ecological network (e.g. through tree planting and wildflower meadow creation). This GI Area is located within close proximity to the maun Valley local nature Reserve (LNR). | • Recreation – open space; strategic GI gateway onto the Maun Valley Trail<br><br>• Nature Conservation – woodland, urban trees and river corridor | • Recreation – improve access to and through this open space in order to enhance function of this open space as a gateway onto the Maun Valley strategic trail/green corridor. Improve multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter).<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and the Local Nature Reserve by creating new habitats within open space creating a bigger and better connected ecological network within the Maun Valley ecological network.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS in the context of a wider ecological network. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12-C | **Carr Bank Park and adjacent fields:**<br><br>This area includes Carr Bank Park and nearby pastureland and Brunts Academy school playing fields.<br><br>Carr Bank Park provides a gateway to the River Maun recreational green corridor for residents living to the south and west of the park. Although it's an urban park, its landscaping (i.e. urban trees) provides habitat linkages along the Maun Valley ecological corridor. Key access points include entrances off of:<br><br>• Bath Lane<br>• Windwill Lane<br>• Nursery Road<br>• Clipstone Ave<br>• The Park.<br><br>Carr Bank Park and adjacent pasture fields are located within The Park conservation area supporting the district's local heritage. Together, the pasture fields also provide important visual amenity along the road to Brunts Academy. This GI Area is located within close proximity to the maun Valley local nature Reserve (LNR).<br><br>The pasture fields and playing fields at Brunts Academy also provide an opportunity area for creating and restoring habitats as it relates to the wider Maun Valley ecological network (e.g. through tree planting and wildflower meadow creation). Historically, the school playing fields were classified as neutral grassland (County Phase 1 Survey 1997/98). | • Recreation – open space; multi-user trails (walking and cycling); strategic gateway to Maun Valley Trail<br><br>• Nature Conservation – urban trees and landscaping; priority habitat<br><br>• Heritage – conservation area; historic park; setting for historic mill<br><br>• Climate Change – urban trees/woodland<br><br>• Landscape - amenity | • Recreation – improve access to and through this open space in order to enhance function of this open space as a gateway onto the Maun Valley strategic trail/green corridor. Improve multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter).<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and the Local Nature Reserve by creating new habitats within open space, school playing fields and arable land creating a bigger and better connected ecological network within the Maun Valley ecological network.<br><br>• Heritage – enhance the conservation area in line with the 'The Park Conservation Area Management Plan'. |
| 12-D | **Ravensdale open space and LNR, connecting access paths and adjacent school playing fields:**<br><br>This section includes the Ravensdale open space and Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and connecting access paths and school playing fields (Hetherley Primary School and former Ravensdale School site).<br><br>The Ravensdale open space and LNR provides a gateway to the River Maun recreational green corridor for residents living nearby. Key access points include:<br><br>• Sanders Avenue / Austin Close | • Recreation – open space and local nature reserve; multi-user trails (walking and cycling); strategic gateway to Maun Valley Trail<br><br>• Nature Conservation – local nature reserve, | • Recreation – improve access to and through this GI Area in order to enhance its function as a gateway onto the Maun Valley strategic trail/green corridor, especially from the former Ravensdale school site. Improve multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) throughout.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Mossdale Road<br>• Barringer Road<br>• Newtondale Avenue<br>• Alder Close<br>• Almond Rise<br>• Wensleydale Close<br>• Maun Leigh<br>• adjacent Heatherley Primary School (additional educational function linkage with the LNR)<br>• former Ravensdale School playing fields<br><br>Recreational linkages from the former Ravensdale School playing fields are in need of protection and enhancement in order to provide access to the LNR and to the wider Maun Valley Corridor for existing and any new residents.<br><br>The LNR is also a designated local wildlife site (LWS) and contains habitats characteristic the wider Sherwood Forest (e.g. woodland, acid grassland).<br><br>This GI section also provides an opportunity to create new habitat areas (e.g. oak/birch woodland, acid grassland and heathland) and to restore areas of heathland, including on adjacent school playing fields (existing and former). | • local wildlife site, priority habitats | • discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and the Local Nature Reserve by creating new habitats within open space and school playing fields (existing and former) creating a bigger and better connected ecological network within the Maun Valley ecological network. Restore areas of heathland.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LNR and LWS for the features it has been designated. |
| 12-E | **Maun Valley LNR and green SuDS priority area:**<br><br>This GI section includes:<br>• the Maun Valley LNR (north and south sections) stretching from Ravensdale Road to New Mill Lane<br>• sewage treatment works<br>• historic Hallam's grave<br>• Historic mills and adjacent land<br>• Ravensdale allotments<br><br>The section performs a variety of functions including: | • Recreation - open space and local nature reserve; multi-user trails (walking and cycling); strategic GI hub for the Maun Valley Trail<br><br>• Nature Conservation - local nature reserve, local wildlife site, priority habitats; green SuDS priority area | • Recreation - enhance this area as a recreational hub such that open space provision is for nearby residents is multi-functional (e.g. outdoor gym).<br><br>• Recreation - improve pathways for multi-user access throughout the LNR, whilst ensuring impacts on sensitive areas are avoided.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances and road crossings onto this area, where necessary, such that these access points are safe and welcoming, especially at Old Mill Lane, new Mill Lane and Barringer Road. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Recreational hub bringing the countryside into the urban area. Visual impacts from urban form are minimal.<br>• Provides a tranquil oasis within an urban setting<br>• Provides nearby access to open space and the wider recreational green corridor for residents living nearby<br>• River Maun corridor including flood zones 2 and 3.<br>• Identified as an opportunity area, in the MDC SFRA (2008), to address flood risk and to restore areas of the River Maun, in order to facilitate improved habitat linkages for water voles (i.e. Green SuDS Priority Area). This includes the LNR, adjoining sewer works and Hallam's grave, former mill, Barringer Rd open space and allotments at Ravensdale Rd.<br>• Acts as an ecological network along the Maun Valley corridor linking wetland and woodland habitats and local wildlife sites. Includes one local wildlife site (LWS) – southern section.<br>• Bath Mill (historic), Hallam's grave and surrounding area including nearby allotment have historical significance including potential important archaeological significance. Better understanding of the area's archaeological significance is needed.<br><br>Key access points onto the Maun Valley recreational green corridor include:<br>• Ravensdale Road<br>• Barringer Road (x2)<br>• Deepdale Rd<br>• Longdale Rd<br>• Blenheim Close<br>• Farrendale Close<br>• Fernleigh Rise<br>• Old Mill Lane<br>• New Mill Lane<br>• | • Climate Change – flood risk (river)<br>• Heritage – historic grave and setting for listed building | • Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites.<br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and the Local Nature Reserve by creating new habitats within amenity spaces, creating a bigger and better connected ecological network within the Maun Valley ecological network.<br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LNR and LWS for the features it has been designated.<br>• Nature Conservation and Climate Change - enhance the water and ecological quality of the river environment by linking fragmented habitats through the creation of green SuDS. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Arun Dale<br>• Hamble Close<br><br>Key to the enjoyment of this area is its protected views from development, thus it is important that its amenity value is protected by ensuring visual impacts from nearby development are avoided and minimised.<br><br>As this GI Area acts as an important recreational hub, the LNR would benefit from 1) improved path surfacing as some become water logged and to improve cycle route connections to connect with existing cycle lanes and 2) formal recreational provision such as green gym or play provision. | | |
| 12-F | **Land from Stinting Lane to Candlemas Cliff (including Stinting lane)**<br><br>This section includes:<br><br>• land adjoining Stinting Lane within the Sandlands residential development at Sanderling Way and Eagle Way<br>• landscaping along New Mill Lane extending around the local retail park<br>• Stinting Lane and hedgerows<br>• Woodland and local wildlife site above the Maun Valley LNR / Candelmas Cliff<br>• Camping and caravan fields and pasture land between New Mill Lane and Old Mill Lane<br><br>Stinting Lane is a Public Rights of Way (PROW) and includes an Important Hedgerow, as defined by the Hedgerow Act (heritage and biodiversity value). This acts as a local green corridor for nearby residents connecting with PROW to the north and south across Old Mill Lane and New Mill Lane. Stinting Lane links with open space within the Sandlands residential area to the southeast at Sanderling Way and Eagle Way. It also provides walking route connections with pathways across Old Mill Lane, leading to the Ravensdale LNR, Maun Valley LNR and Barringer Road open space. Potentially widening the area along Stinting Lane would provide opportunities to enhance the recreational value (e.g. outdoor activity trail) and ecological value (e.g. heathland). The hedgerow would need to be protected.<br><br>New Mill Lane (section from Sandlands Way to Maun Valley LNR) lacks safe walking and cycling provision. This in turn which acts as a barrier for | • Recreation – walking trails<br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitats; local wildlife site; network of hedgerows<br>• Heritage – historic lane/hedgerow at Stinting Lane<br>• Landscape – woodland and hedgerows | • Recreation – improve access to and through this GI Area in order to enhance its recreational function as a green corridor. Improve multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter).<br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, such that these access points are safe and welcoming, especially at New Mill Lane, Old Mill Lane and towards the retail centre and nearby residential area (Sandlands). Improve crossing points at busy roads to provide better connections between nearby walking routes.<br>• Nature Conservation - positively manage the hedgerow along Stinting Lane for its heritage, amenity and biodiversity importance.<br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the features it has been designated and its roles within the wider Maun valley ecological network.<br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and the LWS and LNR by creating new habitats within arable land, open space, and amenity spaces, creating a bigger and better connected ecological network with the Maun Valley ecological network. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | those living in nearby areas of to safely access Stinting Lane green corridor, adjacent countryside via public rights of way (PROW) and the Maun Valley trail / LNR. | | |
| 12-G | **Rushpool open space, open space across Sandlands Way and adjoining woodland**<br><br>This section includes Rushpool open space which also includes habitats representative of the Sherwood Forest landscape area (e.g. areas of gorse and acid grassland and lowland heathland). It provides access to nature for nearby residents within an urban setting. Access to the site is restricted to paths off of:<br><br>• The Bridleway<br>• Rosedale Way<br><br>Former access points have been subsequently blocked off.<br><br>This GI section also includes the existing woodland surrounding Asda supermarket. This provides a habitat linkage with Rushpool open space and other areas of woodland within the Manu Valley ecological corridor. This also enhances the character of the Sherwood area. It also contributes to mitigatin the effects of climate change.<br><br>This GI section also includes more recently created open space with the Sandlands development, creating a local green corridor within the north-eastern section of the development. Key access points include: Rosefinch Way, Gressingham Close and New Mill Lane. This open space also includes significant areas of surface water flood risk.<br><br>Both Rushpool and the Sandlands open space provide a green linkage to adjacent countryside to the north-east. There is further opportunity to improve the recreational and ecological linkages through new pathway and habitat creation. | • Recreation – open space<br><br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitats; urban woodland<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (surface water); urban woodland | • Recreation - enhance the recreational function of these areas so that they provide access to natural green space for nearby residents.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats by creating new habitats within open spaces and amenity spaces, creating a bigger and better connected ecological network within the Maun Valley ecological network. |
| 12-H | **Maun Valley Trail and River Valley northeast of New Mill Lane to Spa Pond Lane**<br><br>This GI section includes the wooded river valley along the River Maun north-east of New Mill Lane leading towards Spa Ponds. It acts as an ecological corridor and functional flood plain. It includes pasture land.<br><br>This area has historic importance as it was once part of the Duke of Portland water meadow system. | • Recreation – strategic trail/green corridor with walking trails<br><br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitat; river corridor | • Recreation – improve access to and through this GI Area in order to enhance its recreational function as a green corridor. Improve multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter).<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, such that these access points are safe and welcoming, especially at New Mill Lane and across the River |

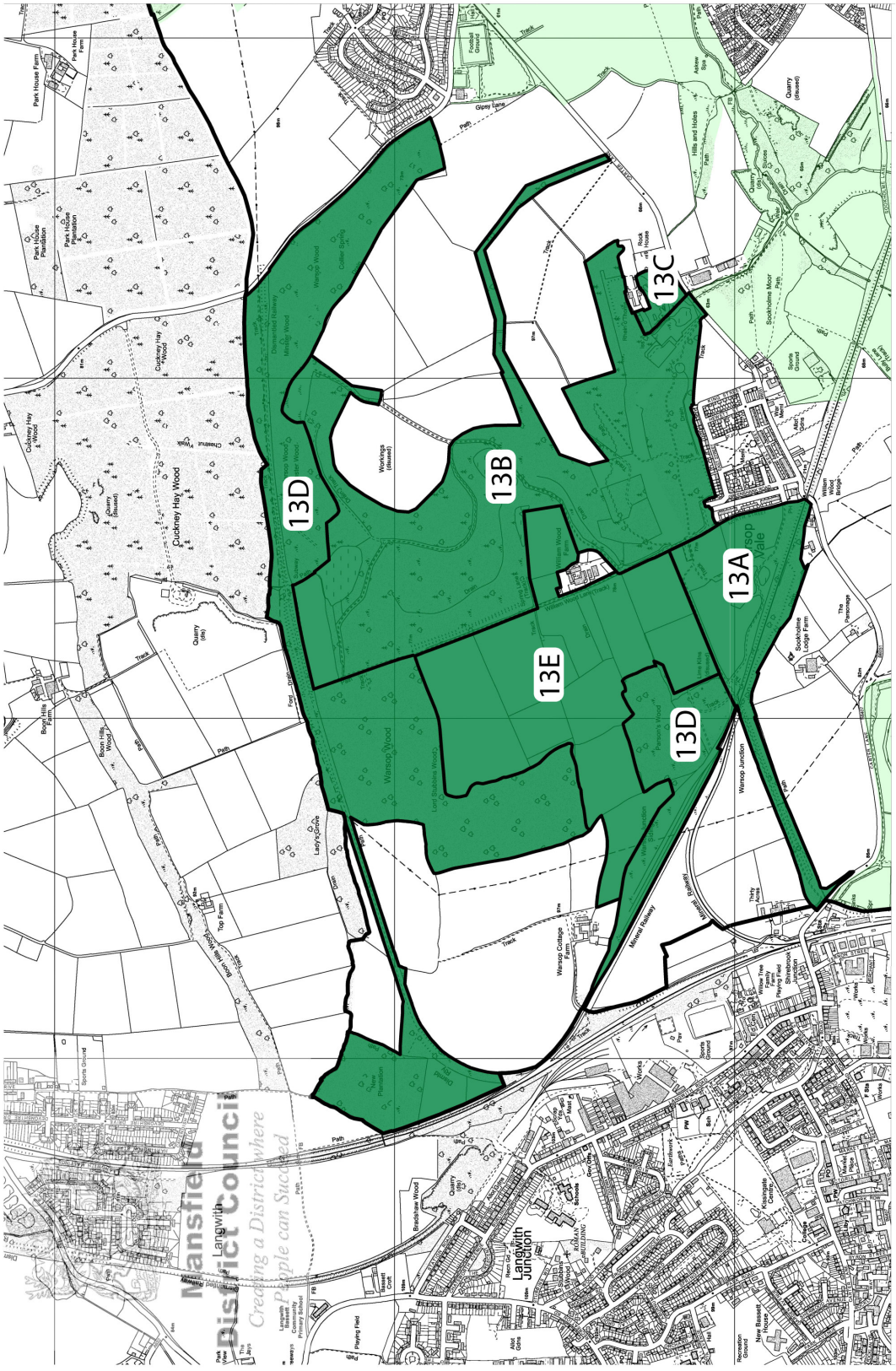
| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | It also acts a strategic recreational green corridor linking to trails beyond the district. Key access points include:<br>• New Mill Lane<br>• Outgang Lane<br>• Peafield Park<br>• Various public rights of way (PROW) to the south (Warren Farm area)<br><br>The pedestrian crossing across New Mill Lane is busy and unsafe. Improvements are needed to address this. Multi-user access along this section of the Maun Valley Trail would provide improved recreational connections to those outside the district and into Mansfield Woodhouse. | • Heritage – archaeology<br>• Climate Change – flood risk (river) | Maun. Improve crossing points at busy roads to provide better connections between nearby walking routes.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - enhance the water and ecological quality of the river environment by linking fragmented habitats. Where appropriate, expand woodland and open wetland habitats along the valley. Enhance through positive management of priority habitats and protected species (existing and potential). Also address the control of invasive species where present. |
| 12-I | **Outgang Lane Pathway and Peafield Lane:**<br><br>This GI section includes the public rights of way trail (PROW) along Outgang Lane, tree lined section of Peafield Lane and allotments and local wildlife site (LWS) adjoining Outgang Lane.<br><br>The Outgang Lane pathway links Mansfield Woodhouse at Whinney Hill to the Maun Valley recreational green corridor. Access points include:<br>• Outgang Lane<br>• Whinney Hill<br>• Kennedy Ave.<br>• Arlington Ave.<br>• Birkland Ave.<br>• Rufford Drive<br>• Windemere Close<br>• Peafield Lane<br><br>The tree-line section of Peafield Lane (north of Outgang Lane pathway) also provides a recreational link to the Maun valley for residents living nearby. This allows mainly access via pavements and roads off the highway network. The closest crossing point is at the junction of Peafield Lane and Leeming Lane. These urban trees also provide mitigation and adaptation to climate change and improved air quality along this busy road. | • Recreation – walking trails, allotment<br>• Nature Conservation - local wildlife site; hedgerows; urban trees<br>• Climate Change – urban trees<br>• Landscape – amenity of urban trees | • Recreation – improve access to and through this GI Area in order to enhance its recreational function as a green corridor. Improve multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter).<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, such that these access points are safe and welcoming, especially at Peafield Lane. Improve crossing points at busy roads to provide better connections between nearby walking routes.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - positively manage adjoining hedgerows to Outgang Lane pathway for its amenity and biodiversity value.<br><br>• Nature conservation and landscape - sensitively manage the local wildlife site based on its reasons for designation and its role in the wider ecological network.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - positively managed the tree-lined avenue along Peafield Lane. |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | The Whinney Hill allotments and LWS (north-east of New Mill Lane ) provide amenity along Outgang Lane and habitat linkages to the wider Maun Valley ecological corridor. | | |
| 12-J | **Peafield Park and Whinney Hill Woods:**<br><br>This section includes Peafield Park and adjoining green space and woodlands at Whinney Hill.<br><br>In addition to being a key recreational resource in its own right, Peafield Park and adjoining amenity spaces and woodland provide a gateway to the Maun Valley recreational green corridor for residents living in Mansfield Woodhouse. Existing urban woodland and hedgerows support wildlife and assist in mitigating and adapting to climate change.<br><br>Whinney Hill Woods and Peafield park provide nearby access to nature for people living nearby within an urban setting. Trails within the woods and park link to the Maun Valley Trail, adding to the wider Maun Valley recreational green corridor and ecological network. Key access points into Peafield Park:<br><br>• Litton Road<br>• Primrose Court<br>• Bennington Walk<br>• Foxglove Court<br><br>There is further opportunity to create new habitats within Peafield Park (e.g. urban woodland and wildflower meadows) to further strengthen the Maun Valley ecological network.<br><br>Thera are areas of surface water flood risk within Peafield Park leading form surrounding built-up development (Ashworth Drive to Primrose Court) that may need to be managed accordingly. Creating SuDS within Peafield Park may help address flood risk and provide habitats for wildlife. | • Recreation – open space; strategic GI gateway onto the Maun Valley Trail<br><br>• Nature Conservation – woodland, urban trees<br><br>• Climate Change – urban woodland | • Recreation – improve access to and through this open space in order to enhance function of this open space as a gateway onto the Maun Valley strategic trail/green corridor. Improve multi-user access (walking, cycling, mobility scooter).<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and local wildlife sites by creating new habitats within open space creating a bigger and better connected ecological network within the Maun Valley ecological network.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |
| 12-K | **Warren Farm and Lark Hills Open Space:**<br><br>This section includes a large area of open countryside in and around Warren Farm. This area stretches south from the River Maun Corridor to New Mill Lane.<br><br>This area includes many walking trails, including public rights of way (PROW) which crisscross this section and provides recreational links leading to the Maun Valley recreational green corridor, Spa | • Recreation – open space; network of walking trails with connections to Maun Valley and the Clipstone to Warsop strategic trails | • Recreation – improve access to and through this GI area in order to enhance function of this area as a gateway onto the Maun Valley strategic trail/green corridor. Improve pedestrian and cycle access and safety along New Mill Lane |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Ponds nature reserve and Clipstone to Warsop pathway. Thus providing a gateway to this strategic green corridor.<br><br>It also includes Lark Hill open space which affords open views over nearby countryside. Lark Hills open space includes areas of trees and scrub and recreational links to walking paths (including PROW) across the Warren Farm area. Access is across bust New Mill Lane.<br><br>Warren farm area is located immediately adjacent to Spa Ponds and Garibaldi Plantation A landscaped buffer may need incorporating within the design of the development site in order to adequately manage potential negative recreational impacts if this plantation is potentially suitable, or could become suitable, for nesting nightjar or woodlark.<br><br>This is also an opportunity area to create new habitat areas (heathland, woodland and grassland habitats) to further strengthen connections to the Maun Valley ecological network and nearby woodland. Increased woodland cover would further enhance connectivity to nearby woodland and support the character of the Sherwood Forest landscape area.<br><br>A significant area of surface water flooding is identified in the eastern section leading from Warren Farm to Lark Hills Open Space and near to across the south-eastern corner extending from Spa Ponds to New Mill Lane. | • Nature Conservation – local wildlife site<br><br>• Landscape Character – open views<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (river and surface water) | • Recreation –enhance entrances onto this area, such that these access points are safe and welcoming. Improve crossing points at busy roads (New Mill lane) to provide better connections between nearby walking routes.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and local wildlife sites by creating new habitats within this area creating a bigger and better connected ecological network within the Maun Valley ecological network.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the features it has been designated and its roles within the wider Maun Valley. ecological network.<br><br>• Climate Change – improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |
| 12-L | **Arable land between Maun River Valley and Peafield Lane:**<br><br>This area includes mainly arable land with public rights of way (PRoW) extending east-west along the northern and southern edges of this GI Area. These connect with the Maun Valley and Clipstone to Warsop strategic trails. Hedgerows extend along this trails.<br><br>There is potential for enhancing biodiversity within this GI Area such as to provide ecological linkages with nearby woodland. | • Recreation – walking trails<br><br>• Nature Conservation - hedgerows | • Nature Conservation - improve the ecological connectivity between existing habitats and local wildlife sites by creating new habitats within this area creating a bigger and better connected ecological network within the Maun Valley ecological network.<br><br>• Recreation – improve access to and through this GI area in order to enhance function of this area as a gateway onto the Maun Valley and the Clipstone to Warsop strategic trail/green corridors. Improve pedestrian and cycle access and safety along Peafield Lane.<br><br>• Recreation – enhance entrances onto this area, such that these access points are safe and welcoming. |

# Strategic GI network 13 - Warsop Vale






Strategic GI network 13 - Warsop Vale

Green infrastructure study

## Strategic GI network 13 - Warsop Vale

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 13-A | **Gateway to Shirebrook and the Dukeries Trail**:<br><br>This area provides important recreational hub and commuting gateway to the countryside and Shirebrook railay station. It also includes key ecological linkages west of Warsop Vale. This area connects with further recreational and ecological linkages with Strategic GI Area 4 (Meden) and sections (east and north) within this strategic area via trails and woodland.<br><br>This section includes a section of the Dukeries Trail extending from the Derbyshire boarder near the Shirebrook railway station to North Street. It follows a former mineral railway line. Also provides a link to the National Cycle Network (Route 6). Walking trails also parallel the railway line providing a local circular walk for residents. There is a car park northwest of Warsop Vale.<br><br>This area also includes wooded railway siding and other linear wooded habitat linkages. It is a rich neutral grassland habitat important for fungi and butterflies. Two small ponds also provide important habitat.<br><br>The railway siding includes areas of surface water flood risk.<br><br>Includes area of pasture land parallel to North Street providing amenity to pathways and opportunity to create additional habitat areas. | • Recreation – Strategic trail with multi-user access (walking and cycling) connecting Warsop Vale with Shirebrook Trail Station; network of multi-user trails<br><br>• Nature Conservation – local wildlife site; priority habitats; ecological connection to ancient woodland<br><br>• Geological – area of county significance<br><br>• Climate Change – woodland; flood risk (surface water) | • Recreation - improve multi-user access trails (walking, cycling, mobility scooter) and enhance connections to and along the Dukeries trail and adjoining walking and cycle trails. Enhance this area as a recreational resource for local residents.<br><br>• Recreation –enhance entrances onto this greenway, where necessary such that these access points are safe and welcoming.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - create new habitat linkages on arable land, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network typical of Magnesian limestone character (e.g. new woodland, wetland and neutral/calcareous grassland). Buffer LWS and existing habitats.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the LWS for the features it has been designated.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |
| 13-B | **Recreational and accessible woodland hub north of Warsop Vale**:<br><br>This section provides access to woodland walks north of Warsop Vale. It is part of the restored mineral workings area. These trails link into the cycle network and public rights of way leading to the Meden Trail and Market Warsop. It includes a section of the Dukeries long-distance route. Access points include:<br><br>• North Street<br>• East Street<br>• Carter Lane<br><br>This area also provides habitat linkage to ancient woodland and planted woodland to the north, east and west. | • Recreation – network of walking trails; accessible woodland<br><br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitats; local wildlife sites; ancient woodland; adjacent to SSSIs<br><br>• Heritage – former mineral site | • Recreation - enhance the recreational function (trails and access points) of this area such that it continues to provide accessible woodland walks on the edge of Warsop Vale.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the designated sites, ancient woodland for the features they have been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - where appropriate, restore areas of woodland and open habitat (e.g. calcareous and neutral grassland and ponds) to complement similar habitats and species supported by nearby ancient woodland and Hills and Holes SSSI.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to |



| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | It is bordered by North Street to the west, restored but inaccessible woodland to the north, Warsop Vale and Hills and Holes SSSI (Rein-o-Thorns section) to the south and arable land to the east.<br><br>Small areas of surface water flood risk are found within this area. | | • discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |
| 13-C | **Hills and Holes SSSI (Rein-o-Thorns section)**:<br><br>This is the northern section of Hills and Holes Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) which is separated by Carter Lane. | • Nature Conservation - SSSI | • Nature conservation - sensitively manage the SSSI for the features it has been designated. |
| 13-D | **Ancient woodland, restored woodland and recreational links with countryside walks:**<br><br>This Strategic GI area includes a relatively large concentration of ancient woodland within the district including: Parson's Wood, Lore Stubbins Wood Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI), and Minster Wood and Collier Spring. There are other areas of adjacent ancient woodlands within Bassetlaw district. This section also includes:<br><br>• areas of restored woodland (between Section B above and the boundary with Bassetlaw district) and<br><br>• local wildlife sites (LWS) including former railway sidings (Warsop Junction Siding and Cuckney Hay siding), damp meadows and woodland.<br><br>This section also provides a gateway to the wider countryside into Bassetlaw district and Derbyshire via public rights of way, connecting to the Archaeological Way long-distance route. Recreational access within this area are facilitated by:<br><br>• William Wood Lane Track and associated PROW<br><br>• New Plantation and dismantled railway near Langwith Junction<br><br>• dismantled railway running east-west at the northern edge of the district boundary<br><br>• Cuckney Hay Wood<br><br>• Wood Lane (leading to Warsop Wood/Minster Wood and Collier Spring)<br><br>• Spring Lane Track at Warsop Wood | • Recreation – network of walking trails; accessible woodland<br><br>• Nature Conservation – priority habitats; local wildlife sites; ancient woodland; SSSI<br><br>• Heritage – ancient woodland | • Recreation - enhance the recreational function (trails and access points) of this area such that it continues to provide accessible woodland walks on the edge of Warsop Vale.<br><br>• Recreation and Nature Conservation - improve access management measures to discourage harmful recreational access to sensitive habitats and designated sites.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - sensitively manage the designated sites, ancient woodland for the features they have been designated.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - where appropriate, restore areas of woodland and open habitat (e.g. calcareous and neutral grassland and ponds) to complement similar habitats and species supported by nearby ancient woodland and Hills and Holes SSSI. Prioritise the creation of new habitats by buffering and linking between existing key habitat areas and designated sites, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network. |

| GI reference | Location/description and assets | Existing GI functions and assets | Recognised enhancement needs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 13-E | **Area of arable land in between wooded areas**:<br><br>This section includes arable fields situated in between wooded areas located to the west of Warsop Vale. These enhance the amenity of the public rights of way that pass through them.<br><br>These areas also provide an opportunity to create additional habitat linkages with adjacent woodland.<br><br>Section contains areas of surface water flood risk are also found here. | • Recreation - network of walking trails<br><br>• Nature Conservation – adjacent to areas of ancient woodland, SSSI and LWS<br><br>• Climate Change – flood risk (surface water) | • Recreation - enhance the recreational function (trails and access points) of this area such that it continues to provide access to the countryside and woodland walks on the edge of Warsop Vale.<br><br>• Nature Conservation - create new habitat linkages on arable land, principally creating a bigger and better connected ecological network typical of Magnesian limestone character (e.g. new woodland, wetland and neutral/calcareous grassland). Buffer ancient woodland.<br><br>• Climate Change - improve resilience to flood risk through creation of appropriate SuDS. |



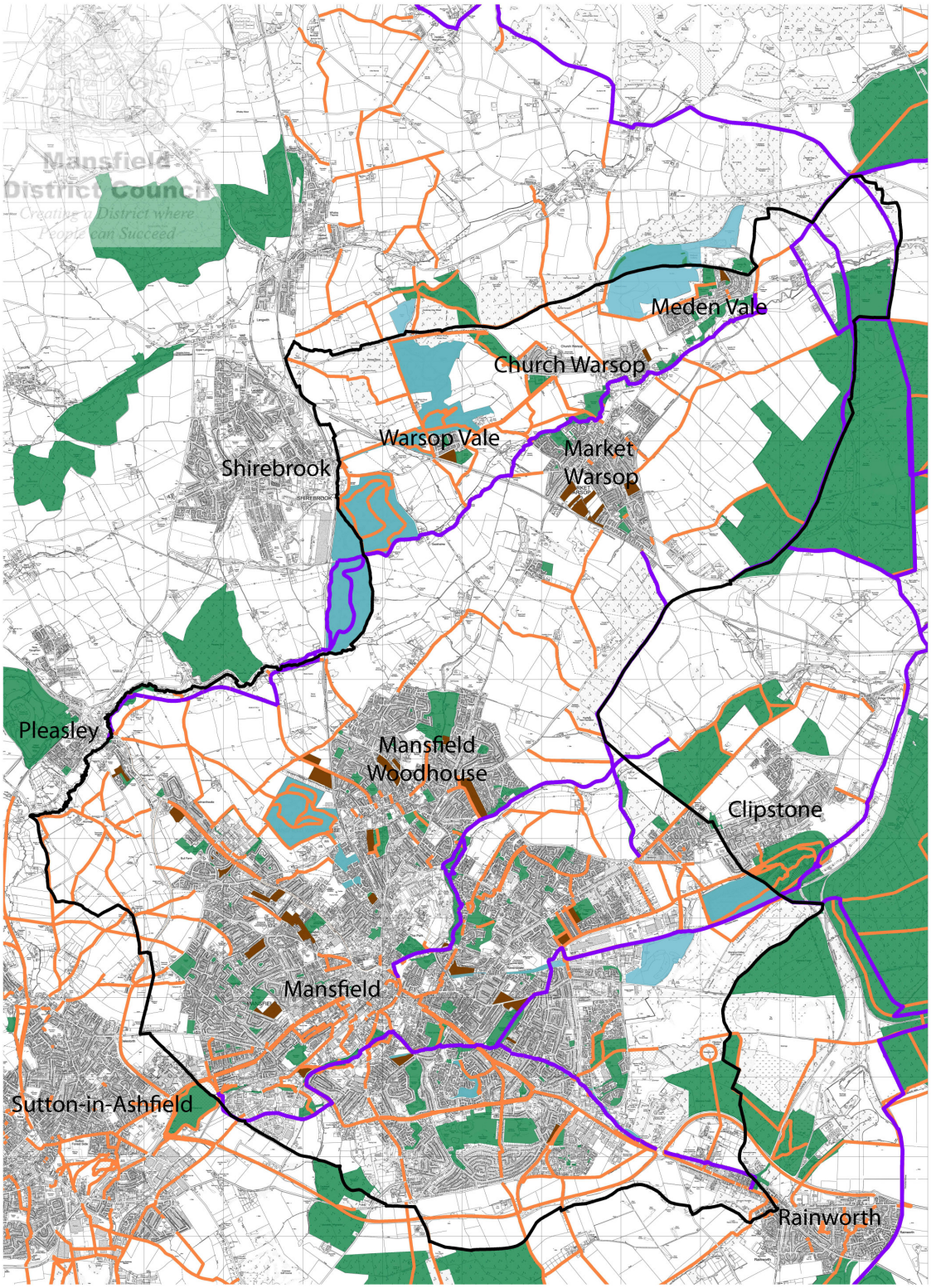
## Appendix B - Background maps

The following maps help to demonstrate the multiple benefits (multi-functionality) that underpins the district's strategic green infrastructure network. Also see Section 4 for further information.

### Recreation

These maps bring together walking and cycling trails, open space, allotments, restored mineral sites, accessible woodland and other recreational green corridors used for walking and/or cycling.

**Strategic GI background mapping - Recreation**

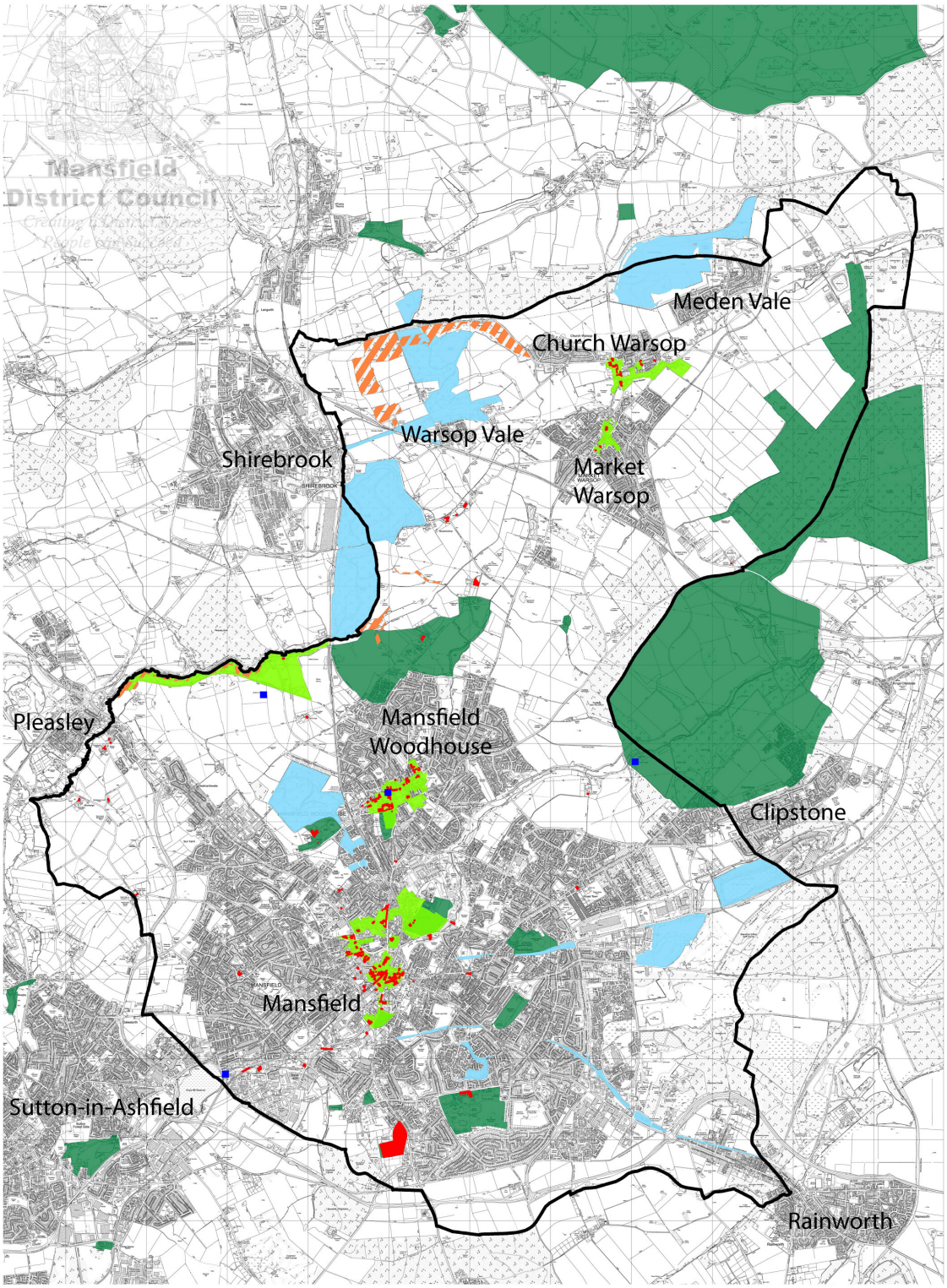




## Heritage

These maps bring together listed buildings, nationally registered/scheduled heritage assets, ancient woodland, former mineral sites, conservation areas, county recognised heritage gardens and other green spaces identified as important or potentially important archaeological interest.

**Strategic GI background mapping - Heritage**

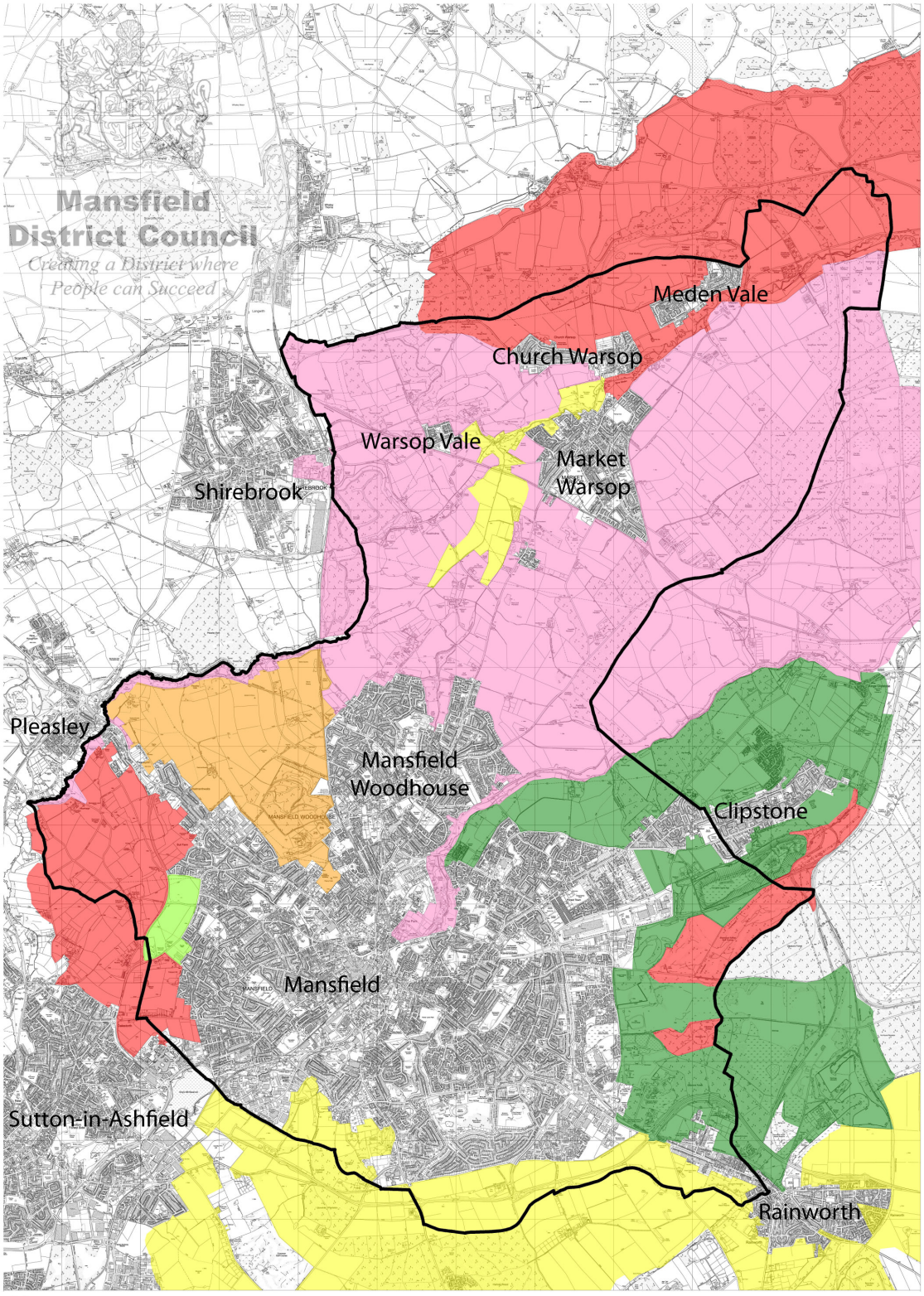




## Landscape character

These maps show the policy actions as identified in the Mansfield District Council Landscape Character Assessment (2010) and its subsequent Addendum (2015).

**Strategic GI background mapping - Landscape character**

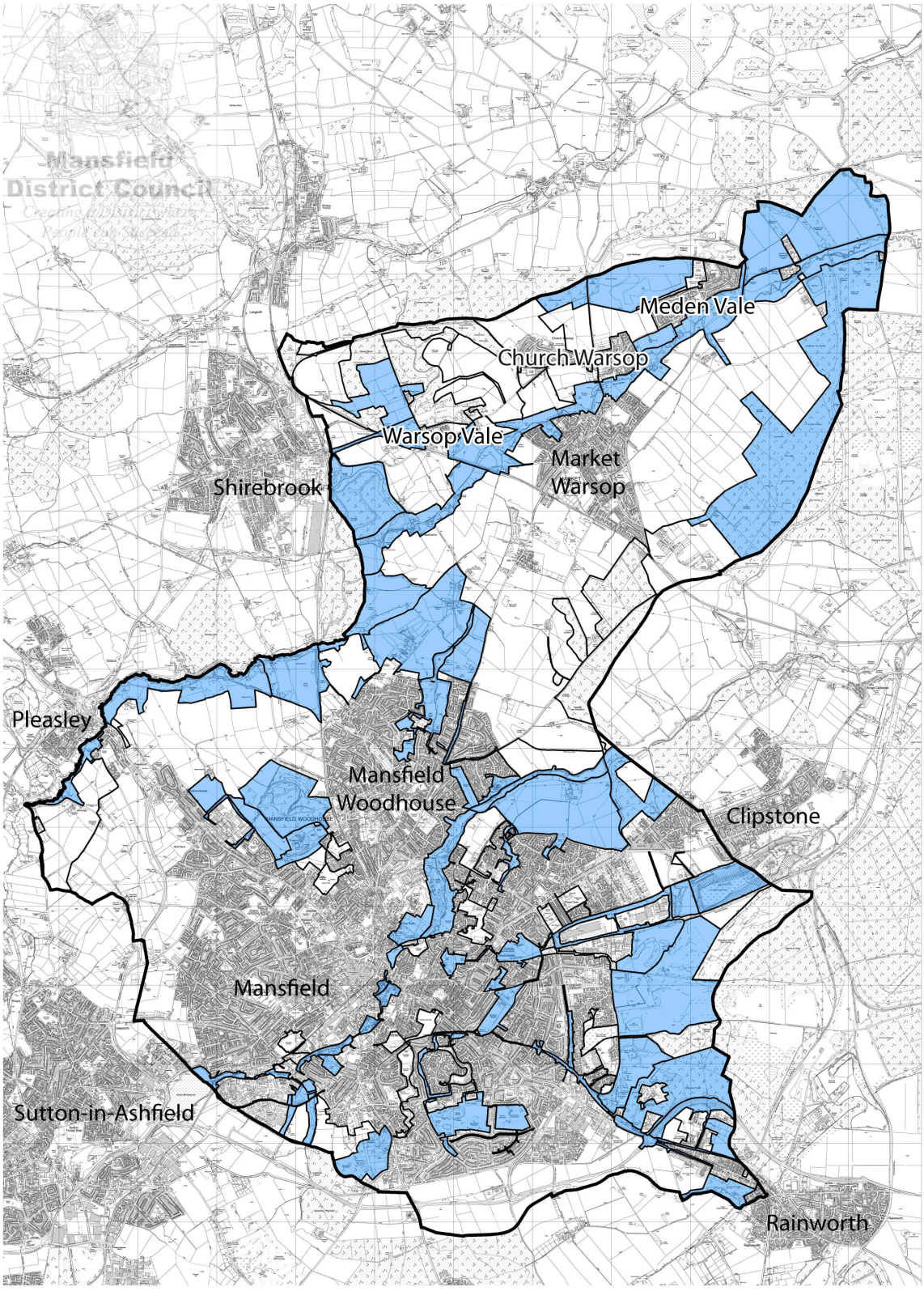




## Climate change

These maps bring together information on the Environment Agency's fluvial (river and other water body) flood risk and surface water flood risk areas, and other areas with low permeable soils and other surface water flood risk areas as identified in the Mansfield District Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA 2008) and its subsequent Addendum (2018). It also includes areas with potential (i.e. opportunity) for improving flooding and the overall health of rivers, including areas suffering poor water quality due to low flows, green sustainable drainage systems priority areas, and areas currently heavily modified (e.g. culverted). It also includes wooded areas near to urban areas which are likely to contribute to climate change mitigation and also adaptation.

**Mitigating and adapting to climate change**




**Legend** Climate Change Green Infrastructure



Maps found within Appendices Jn and Js of the Mansfield District Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA 2008) and show opportunity areas for enhancing biodiversity whist addressing flood risk.  Please refer to the SFRA 2008 and the SFRA Addendum (2018) for more information.

## Nature conservation

These maps are shown in Appendix C.

## Appendix C - Ecological network

The following background maps show the extent of the ecological network in the district and immediate connections outside the district. These include designated nature conservation sites, known areas of existing habitats and potential opportunity areas for creating and restoring habitats connections for wildlife. Please see Section 4 for more detail.

### Ecological network

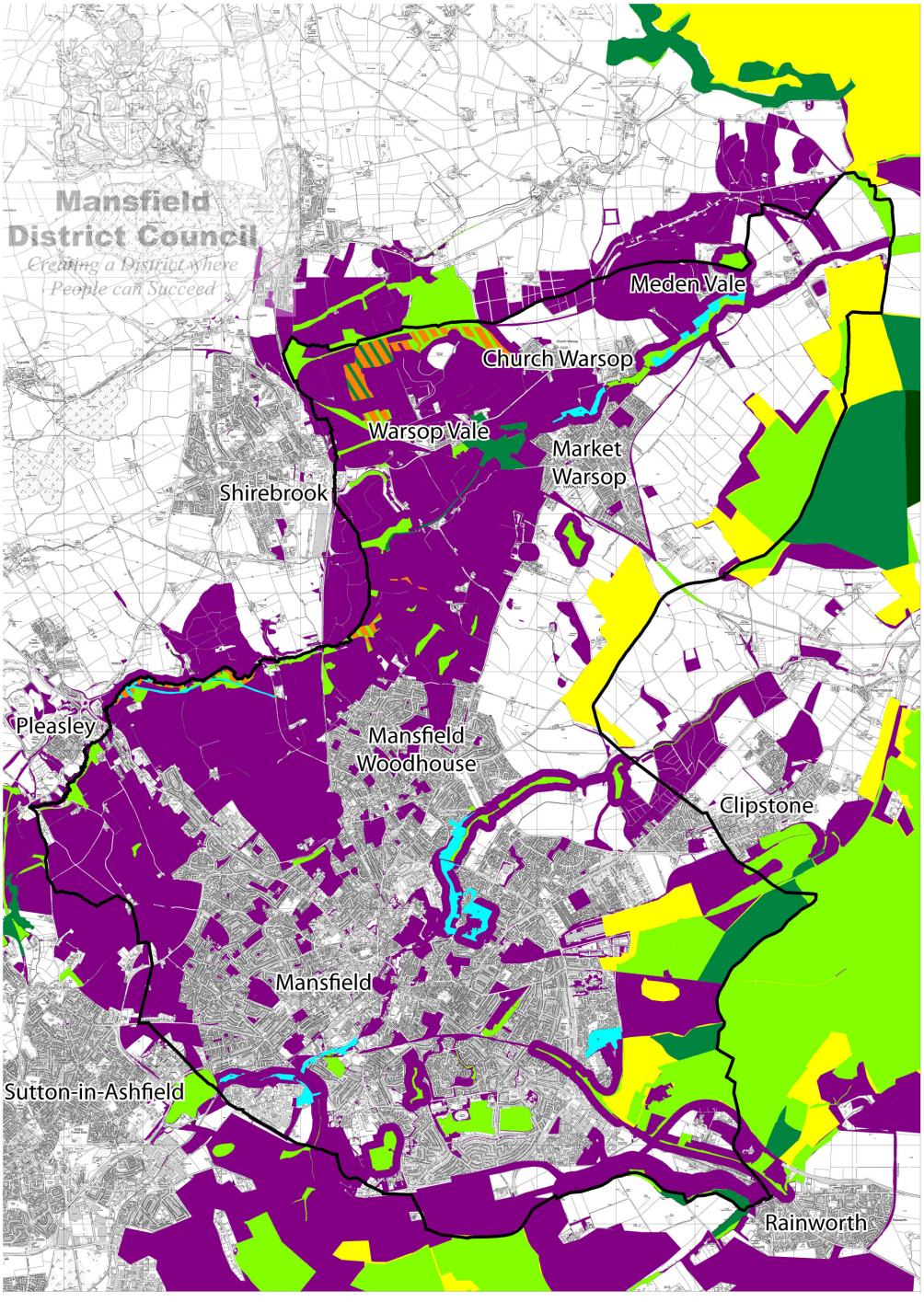
The map below shows the ecological network made up of designated sites and combined habitats / habitat opportunity areas. Together these make up the district's ecological network. Where designated site boundaries overlap (e.g. Special Site of Scientific Interest or SSSI overlaps with a local wildlife sites of LWS), the highest level of protection is shown on top. Thus, there may be more than one designation for a particular site. An exception to this is ancient woodland which is not a designation but is known as an irreplaceable habitat. Ancient woodland is shown on top of designations.

The dark purple is a combined existing habitats / habitat opportunity area (potential for creation, re-creation/restoration).

The yellow areas area habitat areas identified as important for nightjar and woodlark, European protected birds. This is **not** a designated site and the boundary is indicative, not definitive. Natural England has recognised that this area needs to be addressed through a risk-based approach. This covers a portion of the Sherwood Forest area and is currently being considered as a possible potential Special Protection Area, with regard to birds of European importance (nightjar and woodlark) that this area supports. It is referred a ppSPA. The ppSPA is greater than the extend shown on the map and instead shows through where the ppSPA isn't already covered by designated sites.



**Ecological network - combined designated sites, habitats and habitat opportunity areas**




**Key**

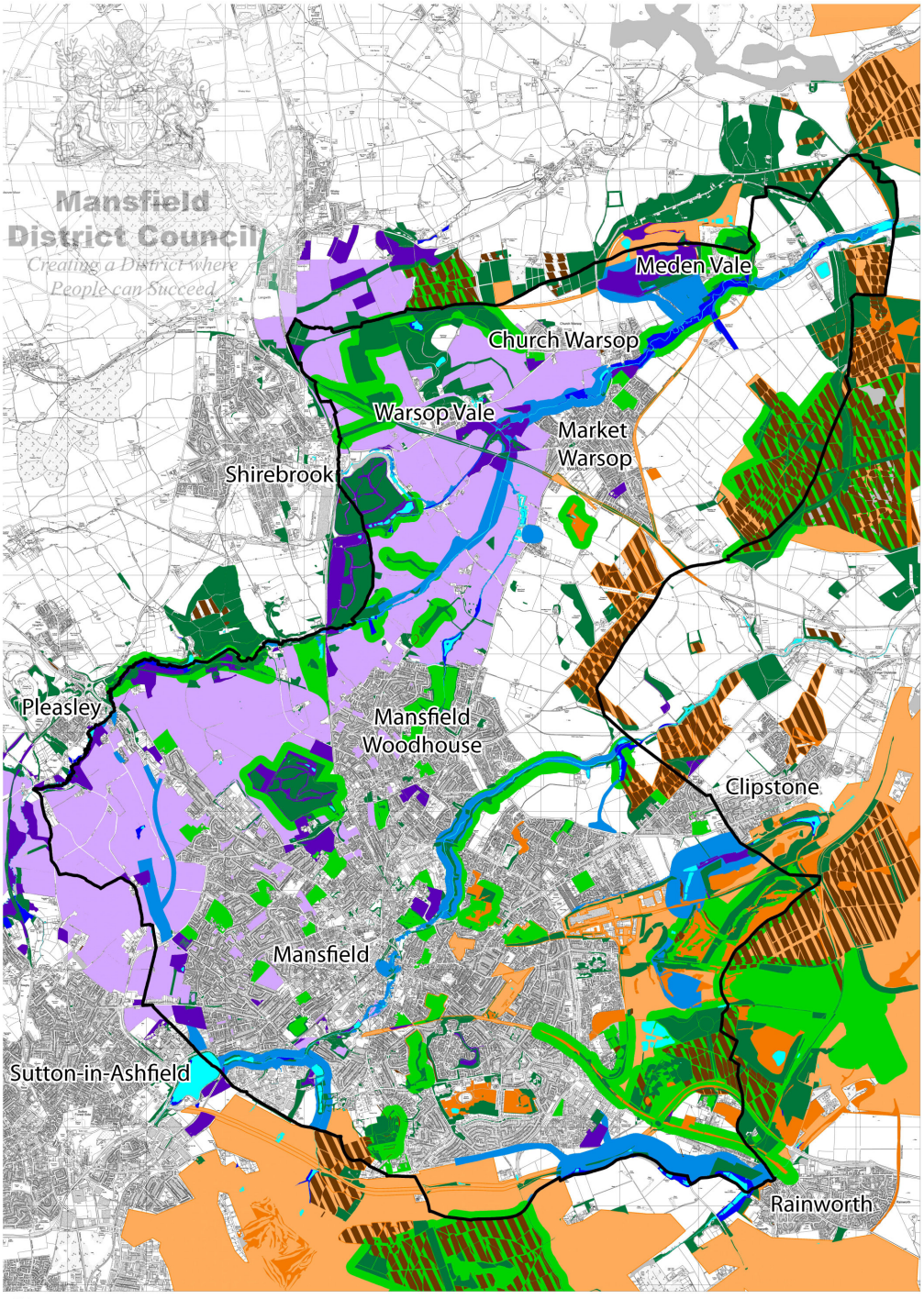
- Habitats
- Local Wildlife Site (LWS)
- Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
- Sherwood possible potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Ancient Woodland
- District Boundary

## Making and restoring connections

The map below shows existing habitats (within habitat groupings) and corresponding habitat creation/restoration opportunity areas.  Please see Section 4 for more detail.



## Existing habitats and habitat opportunity areas




**Key**

- Designated Sites
- Calcareous & Neutral Grassland (CNG)
- Heathland & Acid Grassland (HAG)
- Mixed & Broadleaved Woodland (MBW)
- Wetland
- Water
- Coniferous Woodland
- CNG Opportunities
- HAG Opportunities
- MBW Opportunities
- Wetland Opportunities
- District Boundary