

**Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment**  
**Idle Lowlands: IL PZ 04**

**Idle Lowlands**

**Policy Zone 04: Everton**

**POLICY: CONSERVE AND REINFORCE**

**Character Summary**

The Policy Zone encompasses Harwell village and Everton, along with Scaftworth located at the western edge. Each of these settlements have largely retained their traditional form and vernacular architecture. Bawtry Road [A631] bisects the area east to west. The Chesterfield Canal runs along part of the eastern edge, this is crossed by Eel Pool Road which bounds the area further south. The River Idle forms part of the western boundary adjacent to Scaftworth.

The rounded landform is quite steeply undulating in the south becoming more gentle as it rises towards the higher ground of Barrow Hills in the north. Open views are afforded to both the east and west and towards wooded skylines in the north and south.

Arable farmland dominates the Policy Zone with small pockets of pastoral, and areas of rough grazing associated with an equestrian centre in the west. Woodland is a prominent feature throughout and comprises Barrow Hills Plantation [including the Disused Barrow Hills Sand Pit [SSSI], adjacent to Harwell], Lings Wood and Warren Plantation, all of which are designated SINCs. Field boundaries are predominantly well maintained hawthorn hedgerows. A nursery is located at the edge of Everton containing a small willow coppice and Christmas tree plantation. Several isolated farms are dotted across the Policy Zone.

## Idle Lowlands – Policy Zone 04: Everton

### PHOTOGRAPH



### CONTEXT

Policy Zone: IL PZ 04  
Land Cover Parcel[s]: IL19, IL20

#### Condition

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

Low                      Moderate                      High

#### Sensitivity

### CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Largely traditional settlement areas; Harwell, Scaftworth and Everton.
- Open views
- Intensive arable landscape with pockets of pasture and rough grazing.
- Well maintained hedgerow field boundaries.
- Large scale woodland blocks, some designated SINC's.
- River Idle and Chesterfield Canal [SINC] corridors.
- Red brick farmhouses.

### LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

#### Condition

The landscape condition is good. Within the Policy Zone is a coherent pattern of elements and few detracting features, namely the A631 and low voltage power cables. Overall the area is **visually unified**.

Belts of deciduous woodland connect into hedgerows which create well defined field boundaries to predominantly arable fields. Some pastoral land and rough grazing is also evident. Fences occur around settlements and grazed fields. Farmsteads are mostly of the traditional red brick construction with some metal agricultural buildings replacing more traditional ones. These are evident on higher ground and form a detracting feature from some locations within the Policy Zone. Isolated farm buildings are dotted along the roadside. Modern residential development occurs at the fringes of Everton, Scaftworth and Harwell, however both Everton and Harwell boast a vernacular core. The overall cultural integrity is **variable**.

Ecological designations comprise Barrow Hills Sand Pit [SSSI] and three SINC's which are woodland/plantation and contribute to the large areas of mixed woodland are located in both the north and south. Planting becomes more ornamental around Everton, Scaftworth and Harwell. The ecological integrity is described as **moderate** which overall gives a **coherent** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually unified** area combined with a **coherent** functional integrity gives a **good landscape condition** overall.

#### Sensitivity

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

Visibility is assessed as **moderate** due to the undulating landform which is considered **apparent**. A **moderate** sense of place with **moderate** visibility results in **moderate landscape sensitivity** overall.

### SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

#### Condition

**Good**

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

#### Sensitivity

**Moderate**

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

### LANDSCAPE ACTIONS

#### Conserve and Reinforce

##### Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the hedgerow pattern and **reinforce** with new planting where these are gappy/in poor condition and to replace fencing. Seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern/boundaries where these have been lost and introduce further hedgerow trees where appropriate.
- **Conserve** permanent pasture and seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral.
- **Conserve** and **reinforce** the ecological diversity of the River Idle corridor, Barrow Hills Sand Pit [SSSI] and other designated SINC's, enhancing where appropriate.

##### Built Features

- Enhance visual unity and soften built development through additional woodland and landscape planting; this applies to both the existing settlement of Everton, Scaftworth and Harwell, and new development.
- **Conserve** and **reinforce** the rural character of the Policy Zone by concentrating new development around the existing settlements of Harwell, Everton and Scaftworth.
- **Conserve** and **reinforce** the historic field pattern by containing new development within historic enclosed boundaries.
- **Conserve** the local brick built vernacular and reinforce this in new development.
- **Conserve** the architectural features of the Chesterfield Canal.
- Sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.