

**Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment
Magnesian Limestone Ridge: ML PZ 05**

Magnesian Limestone Ridge

Policy Zone 05: Langold

POLICY: CONSERVE AND RESTORE

Character Summary

The area is located immediately west of Langold and the A60. It is bisected east-west by Rotherham Balk.

Landform is gently undulating and rounded, rising south of Rotherham Balk and north towards Langold Farm. Views are relatively restricted by woodland in the north but open up towards Rotherham Balk in the south.

Three distinct elements are contained within the area; Langold Country Park, a former pit heap and arable farmland. Woodland blocks are dominant throughout and include part of Dyscarr Wood, a designated SINC and SSSI. A number of recreational facilities are afforded at the Country Park which has a partial municipal character. It is dominated by an extensive central lake, Langold Lake, also a SINC. The pit heap at the centre of the area is a prominent feature and generally has an engineered appearance. This has been restored but the coniferous and broadleaved plantation is still young. Arable landscape in the south is largely flat and open and is of medium scale.

Broadleaved woodland is mainly contained in the north of the area and associated with the historic park.

Magnesian Limestone Ridge – Policy Zone 05: Langold

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Langold Country Park and Lake [SINC].
- Former pit heap, now restored.
- Medium scale arable landscape.
- Wet woodland/ Species-Rich Woodland/Calcareous Woodland – all designated.
- Mature deciduous woodland and young plantation woodland.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is moderate. The pattern of elements is incoherent with few detracting features, namely high voltage power lines. Overall there is a **coherent** visual unity.

Langold Country Park is a dominant element of the Policy Zone and is of historic significance locally, the lake is apparent on Sanderson's map. Intensive arable landscape in the south follows the historic field pattern in part, however much of this has been removed. Where hedgerows occur they generally have oak standards within them. The pit heap at the centre of the area is a more recent feature with a partial engineered appearance. The overall cultural integrity is **variable**.

There are three SINC's associated with Langold Country Park [including the recreational lake] which form a prominent link right across the Policy Zone. Dyscarr Wood is another designated SINC and also a SSSI. The planting is mostly mature, although the restoration plantation covering the pit heap is still quite young. The ecological integrity is defined as **moderate** which overall gives a **coherent** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually coherent** area combined with a **coherent** functional integrity results in a **moderate landscape condition** overall.

Sensitivity

Langold Country Park and the former pit heap are some of the features which give the area local distinctiveness are **unique/rare** to the Magnesian Limestone region and the continuity/time depth is **historic** [post 1600] giving a **strong** sense of place.

The **dominant** landform and relatively wooded nature of the area affords **moderate** visibility. A **strong** sense of place with **moderate** visibility gives **high landscape sensitivity** overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS

Conserve and Restore

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the character and setting of the Country Park and **restore/enhance** individual features as necessary.
- **Conserve** the historic field pattern by restoring and replanting hedgerow field boundaries where necessary, seeking opportunities to recreate where lost.
- **Conserve** the SINC's and SSSI and **restore/enhance** where appropriate.
- Seek opportunities to **restore** arable farmland to pastoral.

Built Features

- **Conserve** historical built features associated with the Country Park and **restore** as necessary.

CONTEXT

Policy Zone: ML PZ 05
Land Cover Parcel[s]: ML05

Condition

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

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition

Moderate

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

Sensitivity

High

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